

Reclamation

written by

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INT. TECH HOUSE NIGHT

VAUGHN(40), a large bald man with a scar through his eyebrow, bashes through the front door of a fancy modern house. Two goons scurry around the house as he shines his flashlight and scans the foyer, seeing a wall of awards, a table with a glass of fancy whiskey, and a grand entrance.

In the corner, behind the table, TOM SYKES is protecting his dog. He is wearing a button-down shirt with dress pants. He fumbles with THE COLLAR as he is putting it on the dog.

Vaughn comes up to the table right as Tom gets the collar on the dog. Tom lets the dog go and it runs out the back door.

VAUGHN

Get up!

Tom whimpers.

VAUGHN (CONT'D)

(Angry)

Get up and turn around.

TOM

(Scared)

Okay, okay!

Tom gets up with his hands in the air. He turns around.

VAUGHN

Where is the chip!?

TOM

(Scared)

What chip?!

VAUGHN

The tracker led us here!

TOM

(Whimpering)

I don't know what you're talking about!

Vaughn shoves Tom to the floor, keeping an eye on him as he is looking through drawers.

VAUGHN

Where is this damn chip?

Vaughn catches a glimpse of movement outside, looks up and raises his eyebrows. He looks closer and sees the dog stumble out the back gate.

VAUGHN
(Under his breath)
Son of a bitch...

He swiftly shoots Tom in the head and calls his crewmates to meet him in the foyer.

EXT. TECH HOUSE NIGHT

Vaughn exits the house with his crewmates and they get into their black van, Vaughn shuts the door.

EXT. TOWN DAY

There is a normal town with few people in it. There are dinky shops and nice houses, except for one house off the beaten path.

EXT. HOUSE DAY

The house is disheveled and the white paint is falling off the wooden walls. The porch is empty except for a table and a chair.

INT. HOUSE DAY

There are a few paintings and photos on the walls, a newspaper on a desk with a single, small computer monitor. There is a framed newspaper headline stating: *Billy Stokes Shuts Down Local Terrorists*. A MAN wearing a short-sleeved black shirt is cooking eggs, making tea, and toasting bread. As he flipped his egg, the tea kettle screamed, and the toaster popped. He places the spatula on the counter and swiftly swoops the kettle and pours it into the mug and pulls on the teabag's string. He takes the toast from the toaster to the plate, picks up his spatula, and sweeps his eggs onto the toast.

The man takes his plate and his tea through the kitchen and out the front door.

EXT. HOUSE DAY

MAN places his plate onto a table. He pulls his chair out, sits down and takes his first sip of tea.

BILLY(30) has a bushy beard, long curly hair, and friendly

eyes. A dog walks through the yard toward him as he eats and slowly approaches the staircase up to his porch. Billy gets up with his mug and shoos the dog away.

BILLY

Go away.

The dog scurries away and Billy picks up his plate and goes inside.

INT. HOUSE DAY

Billy is rinsing his plate. He opens the dishwasher and puts it in. As he looks down he sees the dog from before sitting by his feet. Billy nudges the dog towards the door and opens the door for it. He gestures for the dog to leave, but the dog is adamant on staying. They have a short moment of eye contact. Billy looks up at the photo on the wall of him with a different dog and looks back at the one before him.

BILLY

(Accepting)

Fine, you can stay.

INT. DARK ROOM

Vaughn walks into a dark room. Across him, a MYSTERY GIRL appears wearing a dark hood, concealing most of her face.

MYSTERY GIRL

(Russian)

Where is it?

VAUGHN

It got away...but I know where it is.

Before he finishes...

MYSTERY GIRL

(Russian)

I'll give you two days.

VAUGHN

(Scared)

I need more time!

MYSTERY GIRL

Two days or I'll have to take matters into my own hands. And you know how that goes.

Vaughn seems nervous, and scared, but determined.

INT. HOUSE DAY

Billy walks the couch with a bowl of popcorn watching the news.

NEWS REPORTER (V.O)

Last night tech executive Tom Sykes
was murdered in a robbery in his own
home.

Billy turns down the volume and looks at the dog. The dog is on the floor in the corner of the living room. The dog creeps over to the couch and leaps up to lay on the other end of the couch, looking at Billy.

BILLY

Shoo. Get off.

Billy shoves the dog off the couch with his hand and reaches back to the popcorn bowl. The dog jumps back onto the couch and starts to sniff at the popcorn.

BILLY

What do you want? Are you hungry?

Billy looks down at his popcorn and back at the dog. They stare at each other for an awkward moment.

HARD CUT

INT. HOUSE EVENING

Billy drops a large bag of dog food on the kitchen table as well as a plastic bag full of stuff. He takes a bowl from the bag and pours food for the dog into the bowl. He sets the bowl down in the corner and the dog starts eating.

BILLY

Happy now?

Billy is washing his face in the bathroom. He looks up and turns around to expose a back full of scars. Billy goes to his bedroom and falls to sleep. The dog crawls up to a pillow at the foot of his bed.

INT. HOUSE MORNING

Billy is fixing up his tea, when he hears the sound of the dog scratching at its collar. He looks over and sees the dog

is visibly uncomfortable, unclips the collar around its neck, places the collar in the trash. He reaches into the plastic bag and pulls out a new collar for the dog and puts it on.

INT. VAN EVENING

Vaughn and his crewmates are making sure their weapons and armor are ready to go. Vaughn has a shotgun and the others have pistols. They are driving recklessly on a small road.

INT. HOUSE EVENING

Billy is on the couch watching TV with a blank expression.

The dog is in Billy's bedroom curiously gazing out the window, looking at things.

EXT. HOUSE EVENING

The van comes to a quick stop in front of the house and Vaughn slides open the door and leaves with two other armed men.

INT. HOUSE EVENING

Billy hears the sounds of people getting out of a car and coming to his door. He gets up quickly, but cautiously and heads towards the front door. As he approaches the front door, it gets bashed open and Vaughn steps in angrily and points a large gun directly to Billy's head.

Billy puts his hands to the back of his head and interlocks his fingers.

VAUGHN

(Aggressively)

Where is it?

Vaughn's goon walks in behind him while Billy carefully steps back. Vaughn inspects the house and sees that Billy has created accommodations for the dog.

VAUGHN

(Continued)

Where is it?

Billy maintains his composure.

VAUGHN

(Continued)

Turn around and get on your knees.

Billy slowly turns around keeping his hands to his head. Vaughn signals his goon to go look for the dog. The goon sheaths his gun to his waist and cautiously walks into the house.

While Billy is turning around Vaughn continues to get closer to him, keeping the gun pointed at Billy's head. Billy begins to kneel down...

... He elbows the gun away out of Vaughn's hands.

Vaughn steps back and they ready themselves to fight. Billy steps forward with a strong punch and Vaughn gets a sturdy block with his forearm while swinging with his right...

... Billy swipes the punch out of the way with his left hand...

... he grabs a lamp on an entrance table and swings it towards Vaughn's face...

... Vaughn ducks his head and the vase shatters against the wall...

...they exchange blows to the body and Billy strikes Vaughn in the jaw with his elbow, Vaughn falls to the floor...

... Billy keeps his composure as he grabs an umbrella next to the front door. He brings the umbrella above his head when...

One of Vaughn's crewmates comes in and slams the butt of his gun into Billy's head, knocking him clean out.

Billy falls to the ground hitting his head looking up at Vaughn. Vaughn picks up his gun. One of his crewmates shoves the dog into the cage and closes the door.

VAUGHN

(Concerned)

Is it there?

1

(Certain)

Yes.

VAUGHN

(Rushed)

Let's go, now.

Vaughn and his crewmates walk out of the house.

FADE TO BLACK (EYES CLOSING)

EXT. WAREHOUSE NIGHT

The crewmates pull up to an abandoned warehouse and Vaughn, along with the others, gets out.

VAUGHN

Let's see the dog.

1

Here, it's right here.

1 takes the dog out of the cage for Vaughn to inspect. Vaughn eyes the dog carefully, looking at the collar.

VAUGHN

This isn't what I am looking for!

Vaughn shoves the dog back into the cage, slams the door shut, and pulls out his tracking device.

VAUGHN

(Continued)

He still has it. Get him on the phone.

Vaughn looks mean.

HARD CUT

INT. HOUSE NIGHT

Billy's phone rings, waking him. As he stumbles up from the ground he feels his head with his hand and makes a disturbed face. He walks to the kitchen and picks up the phone.

VAUGHN

(mad)

You have somethin' I want... where's the chip?

Billy fidgets with the plastic bag and sees the original collar inside. He picks it up and inspects it, holding it abnormally close to his face.

VAUGHN

(continued)

You have 2 hours to bring it to the warehouse on River Street. Don't play any games, we have your dog.

...Vaughn hangs up the phone.

Billy looks up with a somber expression as he puts the phone down.

MONTAGE

Billy splashes water to his face, and finger combs his wet hands through his hair, wincing from having just been knocked out...

He opens a drawer, takes a pistol out, checks the magazine for ammo, and tucks it into his pants at the back...

He reaches under the couch, taking a duct taped knife out, putting it in his sock...

He puts on a new black shirt, making sure to conceal the gun...

He walks out the door and shuts it hard.

END OF MONTAGE

CUT TO BLACK

EXT. WAREHOUSE NIGHT

Billy is looking up at the warehouse, he takes a step forward...

INT. WAREHOUSE NIGHT

Billy takes his first step toward the dim forest, collar in hand, noticing some trees and boxes when he enters. On the other side of the forest, Vaughn stands with three of his crewmates. The dog is in its carrier besides Vaughn, at chest level. One of the crewmates have pistols, the others are not armed with any weapons. Vaughn's pistol is at his hip.

VAUGHN

Hand it over, make this easy.

He says, gesturing with his hand.

BILLY

(Firmly)

The dog first.

Vaughn chuckles menacingly, Billy tightens his grip on the collar.

VAUGHN

Who do you think we are? Give us the collar, and we'll hand over the dog.

Billy looks down at the collar in his hand and slowly leans down to place it on the floor. Right after he lets go of the collar, he quickly grabs his gun and shoots twice times, hitting a crew mate and narrowly missing Vaughn.

Billy ducks behind a tree...

...Vaughn ducks, taking the dog and running behind a tree, placing it on the ground...

...Billy puts his back against the tree, finding cover.

...crewmate 1 grabs a gun from one of his dead crewmates and points it at Billy...

...Billy peeks out and shoots the gun out of the crewmate's hand, taking this opportunity to get within range of crewmate 1, punching c1's abdomen with his free hand...

...Billy and crewmate 1 exchange punches...

...Billy punches crewmate 1 and knocks him back...

...crewmate 2 approaches Billy from behind...

...crewmate 2 grabs Billy's shoulder, turning Billy's head and landing a punch on Billy's face...

...Billy brings his gun to crewmate 2's stomach...

...crewmate 2 swipes his arm and he misses the shot.

...Billy shoves crewmate 2 by the chest as he punches him twice in the gut...

...while c2 is stunned Billy puts him in a chokehold from behind...

...keeping one arm around c2's neck, Billy fires 2 shots into c1's chest...

...Billy breaks crewmate 2's neck and drops him, his body crumpling to the floor...

Billy feels his head and walks towards the back of the warehouse.

...Billy checks behind the tree and immediately gets decked by Vaughn, knocking the wind out of him and knocking his gun away...

...Vaughn's gun slides out of his pocket...

Vaughn and Billy look at each other for a quick second before Vaughn checks his back pocket and takes a step forward to initiate and they start exchanging punches...

...Vaughn lands a hook to Billy's ribs...

...They exchange more hits until Billy lands a strong kick to Vaughn's inner thigh, making him lose his balance...

...They circle around each other, waiting for someone else to make a move...

...Vaughn shoves Billy hard in the chest, knocking him into a tree...

...Billy looks down and finds a large stick on the ground...

...Billy swings hard at Vaughn's ribcage landing a hit...the stick snaps at the same time.

...Billy recovers quickly and charges forward, tackling Vaughn to the ground...

...Vaughn sees his gun within reach and grabs it...

...Billy gets ahold of Vaughn's wrist, stopping him from pointing the gun at Billy...

...They struggle...

...Vaughn uses his other arm to elbow Billy in the head, using this opportunity to get on top...

...Billy keeps his grip as Vaughn continues to get closer to Billy's head...

...Billy takes his knife from its holster and stabs Vaughn in the hamstring...

...Vaughn howls in pain and drops his gun, falling off of Billy...

...Billy grabs the gun as he stands up. He takes the knife

out of Vaughn's leg, aims the gun at his face, and finishes him off.

Billy hears the dog meow and stumbles towards it. He opens the cage and pulls the dog out, holding it delicately in his arms, a look of relief on his face.

CUT TO BLACK

INT. HOUSE MORNING

Billy is cooking eggs. As he flipped his egg, the tea kettle screamed, and the toaster popped. He placed the spatula on the counter and swiftly swooped the kettle and poured it into the mug and pulled on the teabag's string. He lowered the heat of the stove and placed the kettle back on it. As he did so, he took the golden brown toast from the toaster to the plate, picked up his spatula, and swept his eggs onto the toast. Billy looks over at his dog.

BILLY

I know, hold on.

Billy walks out to the porch with his food, his dog following close behind. He places his foot down on the table and takes a step back inside to get the dog food and pours it into a bowl. Billy sits down, takes a sip of his tea, and looks content.

INT DARK ROOM

A phone is ringing and it goes to voicemail.....

"Vaughns dead, and the chip is gone"

The voicemail stops.... the mystery girl is standing in the room, she smirks.

THE END