

aftermath

a short film by TREVOR THOMPSON

SECOND DRAFT

SECOND DRAFT STARTED: 6/30/98

FIRST DRAFT STARTED: 6/20/98

FIRST DRAFT COMPLETED: 6/25/98

FADE IN

1

INT. DARIUS AND CAM'S HOUSE - NOON

We pan across the room to see half-filled coffee cups and half-eaten food on plates as the CREDIT SEQUENCE rolls. We hear a voice-over spoken by RANDALL KANE (21) as the opening shot and the CREDITS CONTINUE.

RANDALL (V.O)

It's an unsightly mess, I realize. But what can you do? We were in a hurry. I'm Randall and I've got a story to tell you, so listen good.

The CREDITS FINISH and we

FADE TO BLACK

CUT TO:

A TITLE CARD that reads:

aftermath

CUT TO:

INT. A SUNNY BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING

A woman named SKYE MICHIGAN (21) lies on her bed on top of the covers naked and finishes smoking a cigarette. Sighing, she looks outside the window. Her phone admits a loud RING and she becomes pays no attention to this.

INT. A BATHROOM - SAME

The phone's ringing is annoying someone though. LEON MICHIGAN (Black, 21) is in the shower and hears the phone continuously ring. It annoys him and he yells at his wife.

LEON

Skye! Answer the phone, for Christ's sake!

BACK TO SKYE:

She flicks him off, putting the cigarette out on the nearby ashtray. She leans over the edge of the bed and answers it.

2

SKYE

The fuck?!.....No, Leon's in the shower..... Darius, what the fuck is this about?

CUT TO:

INT. MOVING CAR - MEANTIME

We cut to see the aforementioned DARIUS next to his twin brother CAM in their car. They are driving down the mostly early morning abandoned roads of Ascot California. Their home.

Darius is on a cell phone with Skye.

DARIUS

Sweetheart, this is *about* as deep as I can get. If you want to make some serious cash today, you'll do what I tell you.

BACK TO SKYE:

She gets up out of bed and walks over to the table of the room and gets a new cigarette and lights it. While she does all of this, she speaks back to Darius.

SKYE

Why do I need to make some serious cash? I got plenty of money. In fact I just sold that painting last night for three grand. I'm fucking stable. Leon and I just had sex and have been up all night celebrating. I don't think I'm up to doing much today. Hold on.

She searches for her bathrobe. She eventually finds it under a big pile of clothes. She puts it on.

SKYE (cont'd)

Ya know? I wanna sleep maybe. Or do some swimming. Leon's got the next three days off and we were just gonna sit around naked and fucking.....whatever.

BACK TO DARIUS AND CAM

DARIUS

Look, since you're already up, just do me this little favor and show up at our place like at ten. Everyone else will be there. We've got a neat idea and we want y'all there. Fuck, you don't have to participate in what we do, just hear us out.

BACK TO SKYE

3

By now Skye has made her way to the kitchen and gets out a bowl and puts some Lucky Charms in it.

SKYE

Lemme make sure I am crystal clear on this one. All me and Leon gotta do is show up and you'll tell us what's up and if we don't wanna we can come back here and go to sleep and whatever?..... No fucking guilt trips from either of you?

.....Fine. When did you say? Ten?

BACK TO THEM:

DARIUS

That's right. Ten. We hope to see ya.

He turns off the phone and hands it to Cam.

CAM

They comin'?

DARIUS

Probably.

CUT TO:

A TITLE CARD that reads:

EARLIER THAT WEEK

INT. RANDALL'S HOUSE - EVENING

Randall and his girlfriend BARBARA are sitting and watching TV. We see them do this as Randall's voice-over continues from before.

RANDALL (V.O)

That's me. Randall Kane. That's my wife Barbara. She's my Barbie Doll. And as you can see we're enjoying ourselves. And it would be a pretty nice evening if fuckers left us alone.

There is a knock on the front door. Randall gets up to get it.

RANDALL

Yeah, yeah. Hang on.

He opens the door and to reveal Darius and Cam standing behind it.

4

RANDALL (V.O)

Cue the Fuckers.

RANDALL

Hey. What's up, guys?

DARIUS

Hey, Rand. Mind if we come in?

RANDALL

Yeah. Get your asses in here.

They walk in and sit themselves by Barbara on the couch.

RANDALL (cont'd)

What brings you guys out here?

DARIUS

Well, we want to ask you something.

RANDALL

Shoot.

DARIUS

Well, it aint that simple. We wanna ask you this.....in private.

Looks at Barbara.

BARBARA

Fuck you, I'm watching Leno. You guys can go in the dining room and talk.

Darius looks back at Randall who shrugs.

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Randall has been in here with Darius and Cam for a while, as it shows because he is trying to make sense of what he's hearing. Darius paces around him while Cam sits next to Randall.

RANDALL

You guys have finally flipped out. That's all there is to it.

5

DARIUS

No we haven't, Randall. It's perfect. We haven't flipped out. In fact, we're actually thinking clearly. Think about how easy it would be. Cam, explain.

RANDALL

Yes, Cam. Explain.

CAM

Think about it. What's the one thing that always gets bank robbers into trouble?

RANDALL

The fact that they broke the fucking law?

CAM

The fact that they were seen on camera. The security cameras!

RANDALL

The smart ones wear masks.

DARIUS

No. The dumb ones wear masks thinking that no one will be able to make a description. But guesss what? Those assholes are in jail. Anyone can describe what you look like with a mask on. I look at Cam and I say, big guy, olive skin, he had blonde hair coming out of his mask, big nose. You look like you with a mask on. But not if you don't look like you. Mask or no mask.

RANDALL

Okay, so what? You guys want to get some other assholes to do our job for us?

CAM

No. Then they'd want a cut of the money.

DARIUS

Yeah, and we may not make enough to please all of us.

RANDALL

“All of us”?

DARIUS

Yeah. We're planning on using Skye and Leon, and Chet..... and you.

RANDALL

Why me?

6

CAM

You have contacts to people that we don't.

DARIUS

Yeah. We need guns and shit. You know Craig and Mike and we don't, plus you know more about guns than we do so we were hoping that you could set us up?

RANDALL

Why Leon and Skye?

CAM

Leon, because he's good with strategy. Motherfucker could take that bank apart and tell you where they hide the pornos within a week.

DARIUS

Skye because she has a nice pussy.

RANDALL

You know you can't get Chet. His wife....what's-her-name?.....

CAM

Rachel.

RANDALL

.....is a fucking cunt-rag. Aint no way she's gonna loosen the grip she has on his balls.

CUT TO:

A TITLE CARD that reads:

A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO THE BIG EVENT

CUT TO:

INT. CHET'S HOUSE - NOON

CHET WALKER (22) is paking a bag and going back and fourth from his bed and his closet while his wife RACHEL walks back and fourth and talks in his ear.

RACHEL

You never told me anything about any business trip, Chet.

CHET

I know. It came up just today. I gotta go away for a couple of weeks and that's all there is to it.

RACHEL

Why do I get the feeling your lying to me?

CHET

Why would I lie to you?

RACHEL

Probably because there's something you're hiding from me.

CHET

Something I'm hiding from you. Something I'm hiding from you. Well, I'd be glad to hear what it is you think that I'm hiding from you. Feel free to cut loose, Rache.

RACHEL

You're afraid of me.

CHET

I'm afraid of you?

RACHEL

You're afraid of me.

CHET

Okay, does this argument have any solidity or is it just another attempt on your part to pick at a fictitious ripple in our relationship, thus making an epic story out of our otherwise drab life?

RACHEL

I wouldn't bring this up if I didn't feel it necessary grounds for discussion, and besides I do not try and make the relationship more epic.

CHET

Please, last year you thought I was fucking my secretary.

RACHEL

And I had good reason.

CHET

Good reason? I have good reason to smack you upside the head.

8

RACHEL

Look, that proves nothing as far as what you have to say goes.

CHET

Anyway....

RACHEL

Anyway what?

CHET

Anyway, I'm afraid of you because.....

RACHEL

You're afraid of me because I'm an upstanding woman and that frightens most men. I assert myself and that contradicts their implanted traditional view which is that a woman's place is in the kitchen.

CHET

That reminds me, could you make me a sandwich?

RACHEL

Fuck you. Look, all I'm saying is that because I assert myself, that's grounds for you to cower, and you're afraid that if I know what you're really up to I would be one to blow things out of proportion and get on your ass about it.

CHET

But you're on my ass about this and it's sounding ten times less grave than whatever story it is that you're inventing. Why must you assume the worst?

RACHEL

Why must you lie to me?

CHET

I'm not! I'm just..... I'm fucking--

He drops whatever may be in his hands and puts his face into them. She may be a bitch, but she can read him like a book.

RACHEL

You're fucking someone?

9

CHET

No! I need to get away for a little while. I can't tell you anything now. I will let you know where I am and what the hell I'm doing as soon as I know. I will be back. I promise you.

A few beats pass.

RACHEL

Is it because I wouldn't go down on you last night?

Chet laughs and then puts Rachel's face in his hands.

CHET

I love you.

He kisses her on the forehead and then walks off-screen. She eyes him for a moment, sighs, and then joins him off-screen.

BACK TO RANDALL'S HOUSE

We cut back to the same situation as before. Randall is asking Darius and Cam what's up.

RANDALL

Alright. Now, how about all this 'not looking like you' shit? What did you guys mean by that?

DARIUS

Well, that's where our past jobs come in.

CAM

'Member when me and Tweedle-dumb were working at that Haunted House thing?

RANDALL

Yeah?

CAM

We totally jacked all of their latex facial applications and wigs!

DARIUS

We used those to make my ugly brother even uglier as the wolfman, and we figured if we could add features to him, like larger foreheads, noses and shit we could make us just look like different people.

10

RANDALL

Hence, us not looking like ourselves, is that what you're getting at?

DARIUS

He's a fast learner. Well, can we expect to see you at our place on that fine sunny Saturday?

A few beats.

RANDALL

Sure. I'll be there.

They start to cheer happily.

RANDALL (cont'd)

But only to listen!

DARIUS

Yeah, yeah, yeah. Details.

The other two continue to cheer whilst Randall appears to have that "What have I done?" look.

RANDALL (V.O)

And with that there was no going back.

CUT TO:

INT. DARIUS AND CAM'S HOUSE - THAT SATURDAY
MORNING

We pan around the room to see everyone gathered in the living room paying full attention to Darius and Cam.

DARIUS

Alright. Enough bullshit. I know me and my brother have been dicking you guys around all week. We been callin' ya and whispering sentence fragments in your ears like "get rich quick" and "make a lotta money" and all sorts of incoherent phrases with obscure little adjectives.

CAM

Jesus, you sound like a fucking English teacher.

11

DARIUS

Bitch, shut the fuck up before I whack you upside the head with my dangling participle.

Brief laughter erupts from the group.

DARIUS (cont'd)

Anyway, all that shit about us being maundering is over. Here's what's going on.

I aint gonna mix words. We are gonna rob a bank, and before another word is said, I understand that there are probably some contradicting views. So let's hear them.

CHET

Well, it's been nice chatting with you guys, but I have a wife who's three weeks pregnant. There are plenty of dead-beat dads in this world, and my child doesn't need one.

Chet gets up and starts to walk out.

CHET (cont'd)

See ya guy's later.

DARIUS

Wait a minute, Chet. Hear us out.

CHET

No.

Chet walks outside and Darius turns to Randall.

DARIUS

Randall go get him.

Randall gets up and follows Chet outside.

EXT. DARIUS AND CAM'S HOUSE - SAME

Chet is well on his way to his car, parked somewhere off-screen.
Randall runs out and stops him.

RANDALL

Chet wait up!

12

CHET

Fuck you, Randall. I'm leaving.

RANDALL

Look, Chet. This is gonna be cool, alright? I am the only one other than Darius and Cam that knows about this thing. They been planning this out for a while. I was let in on it about three weeks ago.

CHET

So you knew about this?

RANDALL

Well.....yeah.

CHET

You knew about this, and you didn't tell me? You made me lie to my wife, and tell her that I was going away, and that it wasn't her fault?

RANDALL

C'mon, Chet. I didn't make you do that.

CHET

Well, what was I supposed to do, you asshole? Was I just supposed to tell her that my friends wanted me to do something, but that I had no clue what it was? Christ, you knew I wouldn't approve of this! You knew, and yet, you either didn't care, or it slipped your stupid mind!

Chet stops. He can't say much else.

INT. DARIUS AND CAM'S HOUSE - MEANWHILE

Same situation as before.

CAM

Alright so Leon, you will spend the next two days looking over the blue-prints we've obtained.

Skye chimes in.

SKYE

How did you obtain them?

CAM

None of your business.

13

Skye has been shut up.

LEON

Alright, and when will I get the blue-prints?

DARIUS

We'll give 'em to you today before you leave.

LEON

Cool. And how long are you giving me to get this shit done?

DARIUS

Can you do two days?

LEON

Sure.

DARIUS

Cool.

SKYE

Alright. I have two questions.

CAM

Fire away.

SKYE

One: how the hell do we plan to do this without being seen, and two: what are we going to use for weapons, if any?

Darius looks to his brother.

DARIUS

I got one, you got two.

CAM

Roger.

DARIUS

First of all, you will not be going in at all, Skye. But we: me, Cam, Randall, Leon, and Chet (possibly), will be going in disguise. After working at a year-round haunted house we stole some of their stuff, including facial

14

DARIUS (cont'd)

applications and wigs. Using these, plus some kind of semi-revealing facial wear, like the usual bank-robber mask, we will look like completely different people on the security cameras. The nice thing about them is that, while they take like an hour to be applied, it takes two seconds to tear them off. So all we have to do, is leave as fast as possible and tear them off and lose the big trenchcoats that we will be wearing. Question Two.

CAM

What was Question Two again?

SKYE

Weapons.

CAM

Oh yeah. The weapons aren't here. But they have been taken care of. That's why we let Randall in on all of this shit first. Mainly because of his connections.

SKYE

His connections?

CUT TO:

EXT. THE BACK OF A GARAGE - DAY

We see Darius and Cam standing outside, looking rather impatient. Randall eventually shows up out of the garage and walks up to them.

RANDALL

Yeah, they're here. The boss is gone.

DARIUS

Alright, well let's meet these legendary bitches.

RANDALL

Yeah.

Randall turns his head and calls to them.

RANDALL (cont'd)

Hey guys! Get your asses out here!

We eventually see the aforementioned CRAIG and MIKE show up.

15

RANDALL (cont'd)

Mike, Craig. Meet Darius and Cam.

MIKE

How can we be of service to you guys today?

DARIUS

Well, our mutual crony here, Randall says that you guys have quite an assorted marshalling of potent weaponry.

MIKE

What?

CAM

He says you have a lotta fuckin' guns.

MIKE

Well, yes we do, at that. We got everywhere from a dilly-eyed Joe to a--

CRAIG

Wait a minute. You guys aint from the N.R.A are ya?

DARIUS

No.

RANDALL

They're legit, Craig. Don't bust a nut.

Craig calms down.....for a little while. Then he suddenly grabs Darius by the shirt and shoves him up against the wall. The others try to stop him but to no avail.

CRAIG

You wearin' a wire, motherfucker? Is that what this is about? You here to take me in, cocksucker?

DARIUS

I aint got no fucking wire!

CRAIG

What did you say, cheesedick?

DARIUS

I said “NO WIRE!”

16

CRAIG

Oh.

He lets him go.

RANDALL

Jesus, Craig. Take a spaz, these are my friends. I wouldn't rat on you.

DARIUS

Goddamn.

MIKE

Craig, what the hell is a 'cheesedick'?

CRAIG

Damned if I know.

They all laugh.

RANDALL

So what you guys think? You think you can help my boys out here?
Mike?

Mike looks Darius and Cam over.

MIKE

Yeah, I think we can cut them some cake.

Mike laughs like Christopher Lambert.

CUT TO:

INT. DARIUS AND CAM'S HOUSE - SAME

Same as before. Skye and Leon are still listening to Cam tell how they got the guns and Randall and Chet are still outside.

CAM

Yup. So, we got weapons. Big ass guns, actually.

LEON

That boy Craig sounds like a character.

17

DARIUS

Yeah. But he proved to be pretty cool once he was convinced that we were one of them. I mean, he was just paranoid. He gave us a pretty cool deal, actually.

SKYE

Cool. So what's my part in all of this?

DARIUS

Glad you asked that.

CUT TO:

EXT. ALLEYWAY - DAY (BLACK AND WHITE GRAINY FILM STYLE)

We see Skye in the alleyway sitting in her car, reading a book with the trunk open. Darius continues to explain in a voice-over.

DARIUS (V.O)

You will be sitting in your car and not doing fucking shit. You will be in the alleyway behind the bank with the trunk of your car open.

We will show up and throw the money, the guns, the facial applications, the wigs, and our trenchcoats all in the trunk of your car and will shut the trunk.

We see the trunk SLAM shut. We then see Skye looking directly forward and starting her car calmly and driving off.

DARIUS (V.O)(cont'd)

You will not look back. When you hear us slam the trunk shut, you will calmly start your car and drive off, obeying the speed limit.

Making sure just to take off slowly. We want it to appear as though you have nothing to do with the robbery that just took place. You are going to appear as though you just happened to be driving through

that alley at that time.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTLET OF ALLEYWAY ONTO THE MAIN ROAD - SAME

We see Skye's car calmly driving out of the alleyway and on to the main road. She takes off calmly.

DARIUS (V.O)(cont'd)

So you do that, and meet back at the Rendezvous point, which is yet to be determined.

18

BACK TO DARIUS AND CAM'S HOUSE:

DARIUS (cont'd)

Get it?

SKYE

That can be done.

DARIUS

Good.

Just then, Randall and Chet walk in.

RANDALL

Hey.

DARIUS

Hey. Is he in?

RANDALL

Yes. I've explained everything.

CHET

I can't believe I'm doing this.

RANDALL

Oh, Christ.

CHET

Don't "oh, Christ" me.

RANDALL

I thought you were in.

CHET

I am in. You guys want me in, then I'm in.

RANDALL

Look Chet, I told you if you didn't wanna do this you don't have to.

Chet sits down. Then he stands up again and starts pacing.

19

CHET

No, no. I can do this. I wanna help all of you. But, I am not going to help you on further robberies. Understood?

RANDALL

Yeah, it's cool, Chet. Look, you're scared, obviously. Maybe you shouldn't do this.

CHET

No, I'm fine. I just need to push the fear out.

RANDALL

Do what you gotta do.

CHET

Thanks.

Chet screams. As the scream ECHOES, we zoom down his throat.

CUT TO:

A series of title cards. With every cut to the title cards, we hear a loud GUNSHOT and we see a FLASH of light.

As the ECHO of Chet's voice deteriorates we hear the sounds of the robbery taking place.

1st TITLE CARD:

KILL OFF ANY HOPE

Over this we hear sound effects of GLASS BREAKING, and the hurried VOICES of our heroes.

DARIUS (VOICE)

Oh fuck! That son of a bitch shot Chet!

RANDALL (VOICE)

Who did? Who fucking-- CHET !

CAM (VOICE)

Grab the money! We gotta get the fuck out of here!

2nd TITLE CARD:

SFX: GUNSHOT

20

SLICE IT WITH A KNIFE

The VOICES continue.

LEON (VOICE)

Oh fuck! He's bleeding badly. He's not going to make it!

RANDALL (VOICE)

Don't say that!

LEON (VOICE)

Cam! Get over here! Get that latex and wig off of him!

CAM (VOICE)

Right. Dare! Help me out with this shit.

3rd TITLE CARD

SFX: GUNSHOT

THE PRICE YOU PAY FOR GREED

The VOICES continue.

DARIUS (VOICE)

Gimme the wig! Good. Randall! Get over here and help me with this shit.

RANDALL (VOICE)

Oh God! Oh God!

DARIUS (VOICE)

God isn't gonna help us now, Randall. We're on our own. Now get the fuck over here.

4th TITLE CARD:

SFX: GUNSHOT

MAY COST A BELOVED LIFE

The VOICES say their last words.

21

RANDALL (VOICE)

Chet! I'm sorry man! I'm sorry! Please know, I'm sorry.

DARIUS (VOICE)

Randall, no time for that. We gotta get to the car.

SFX of them dragging Chet off.

We hear a GUNSHOT and the screen FADES to PHOTO-NEGATIVE. Eventually the words deteriorate.

CUT TO:

EXT. ALLEYWAY BEHIND THE BANK - DAY

We see a GROUND SHOT of the back of Skye's car. From what we can see, we can only see the others' feet. They are dragging Chet out

(Chet is the only one we can see, because he's completely limp), while Darius takes everything and puts it in the trunk.

DARIUS

Gimme your coats, wigs, money! Everything. Randall and Leon, you hold on to Chet. Don't get any blood on your clothes.

Skye hears this.

SKYE

What the fuck happened?!

DARIUS

Be quiet Skye! Just do your job!

RANDALL

Some fuckin' security guard shot Chet!

DARIUS

Bitch, don't tell her that shit! Skye! Get going.

By now, everything has been dumped into the trunk. Cam SLAMS it shut and then turns his attention back to Chet.

SKYE

But what about Chet?

DARIUS

He's our problem. Get going.

SKYE

But--

DARIUS

Go!

21

Skye starts crying, but finds it in her to start the car and she takes off semi-slowly, however, with emotions going through her that strongly she can't help but drive sort of fast.

DARIUS (cont'd)

Let's get this ragdoll out of here.

They all pick Chet up and run off-screen to their car.

LEON (O.S)

He's fading fast.

The guys make it off-screen.

FADE TO BLACK

RANDALL (V.O)

I will never forgive myself for this. I couldn't say that enough times. It will always be there on my back. I was responsible for Chet. It's my fault he's dead.

CUT TO:

INT. RANDALL'S HOUSE (LIVING ROOM) - DAY

We see Randall looking teary-eyed and gazing off into space.

RANDALL (V.O)(cont'd)

I won't tell you what happened to us after that. We got away with it, some might say. Just because the police never caught us doesn't mean that we got away with it in my eyes.

Barbara walks up to him and puts her hand on his shoulder. She has been crying as well.

BARBARA

This may not be the best time. But, if you want to know.... I have some bad news.

RANDALL

What is it?

BARBARA

I don't think I should tell you. You may not be ready for it.

RANDALL

Dammit, Barbara just tell me!

22

BARBARA

Alright. Skye just called. It was on the news. Rachel found out last night..

Randall knows what's going to come up. He rubs his face.

RANDALL

.....and?

Barbara starts to tear up and choke on her words.

BARBARA

The police found her dead this morning. She hung herself, killing her and the unborn baby inside her instantly.

Randall starts to silently cry uncontrollably. Barbara embraces him.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DARIUS AND CAM'S HOUSE - DAY

We see everyone listening with long faces to Darius who is speaking.

RANDALL (V.O)

The police found Chet's body in the river where we dumped it, but nothing connected us to the robbery. When Rachel found out.....well, you know. As for us, we decided to go our separate ways and agreed never to make contact again.....except on the anniversary of this day...

DISSOLVE TO:

A CLOSE-UP SHOT OF A CANDLE BEING LIT

RANDALL (V.O)(cont'd)

....to light a candle wherever we are, to remember Chet, and Rachel, and their unborn child. I'm sorry Chet.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ASCOT GRAVEYARD - NOON

It is a grey day. We see Randall at Chet and Rachel's graves.

23

RANDALL (V.O)(cont'd)

We all went our separate ways. Skye and Leon moved to Sarasota. They tell me it's nice and that I should come visit, and swim in their pool. Darius and Cam went to Pennsylvania in some little out-of-the-way town called Wayne. They say they don't hate it. Me, I couldn't go very far. Barbara and I moved to a town about ten miles north of here called Hayden. The place is not very well-kept, but it's secluded. I'm doing well, I have a restaurant that I'm opening there shortly. I hope that Chet forgives me. I didn't want to move too far away so that I could visit him here at my convenience. I can't say much on the subject, just that I'm so sorry it happened, and if we do go on to someplace else, maybe a Heaven if you will, where everything is safe and warm, then I hope that that's where Chet is. Because that's what he deserves. That and my sustaining apology.

FADE TO BLACK

END CREDITS ROLL

THE END