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SEQA 745

Length: 55 Pages

Target Audience” Adults 18+

1. Opening Image (1):

Carlo walking along the streets of New York with his partner, “Itch”. Imagining his rough upbringing.

2. Set-Up (1-5):

Carlo and his partner, “Itch”, an idiot nephew of one of the bosses and a manic depressive with an unhealthy appreciation for 2x4’s, set out on a typical rainy, New York evening. Their target, an Irish immigrant, Ricky O’Connell, a lazy drug addicted deadbeat, with a debt of over \$10,000 which was owed a week ago.

3. Theme Stated (3):

He had a rough upbringing under the house of a drunk, abusive father and drug addicted mother. They were the kind of family that had a nice, church going exterior to their friends and family, but six out of the seven days of the week was absolute hell for Carlo. He turned to a life of crime when he was just thirteen. Carlo never finished school, and the only work he felt motivated to do was criminal work. . However, he doesn’t particularly like what he does. Carlo knows what he is doing is wrong and constantly fights off an ever increasing sense of guilt in the back of his mind and has longed for a way out of the life.

4. Catalyst (6):

“Itch” loses his composure. He slams the wooden board right in the back of O’Connell’s head. “Itch” proceeds to beat him mercilessly. Carlo tells “Itch” that it’s time to move on. “Itch” doesn’t listen and continues to beat the dead man. Carlo looks up and sees a girl, no older than six years old, watching in horror at her father’s body getting beaten into oblivion. “Itch” notices the girl too, and makes a motion towards the girl. Carlo takes out his pistol and shoots “Itch” in the back of the head, immediately killing him. The girl runs screaming out of the apartment, waking the neighbors and Carlo panics, and runs out of the apartment, leaving the money.

5. Debate (6-12):

Carlo makes it to his apartment and decides to call his childhood friend, Lou for help. Lou agrees to help Carlo, and tells him to come over. Carlo arrives at Lou’ apartment, and immediately takes him through the paces. Lou takes his picture, works his magic, and presents Carlo with a new ID card and passport with the name, Nicholas Gonzalez, a legal immigrant from Oaxaca, Mexico. Lou gives Carlo a wad of cash, and takes him to the airport right away. In the airport, Carlo breaks down in a restroom stall in a fit of panic, not knowing what to do. In the end, Carlo buys the cheapest ticket to Norway he could get, to a small city called Floro. While waiting for his flight, Carlo sees a news report about the evening’s incident with the police escorting the girl to safety, removing the bodies and confiscating the money.

6. Break into Two (12)

During the flight across the ocean, Carlo meets a priest named Father Hagen. Carlo, introduces himself as Nicholas Gonzalez, and the priest, who introduces himself as Father Hagen, begin talking with each other. Carlo tells Hagen that he's "decided to get away for a while" and that he doesn't exactly know where he's going. Story flashes over to the mob bosses in a secluded New York restaurant watching the same news story. They tell their cronies to "find Carlo".

7. B Story (15):

"If you need some work, come by my church at the top of the hill", Hagen's parting words to Carlo. Carlo finds a local tavern that he finds comfortable to hang out at several nights a week and gets to know the owner, Lars, and his daughter, Kari, the bartender. As the nights go by, his bond with the Lars and Kari grows into a very strong friendship.

8. Fun and Games (15-27):

Hagen tells Carlo that he needs someone to help fix portions of the roof that have worn down over the years from brutal winter weather. Over the next year, Carlo earns a little bit of money doing these small jobs and eventually starts taking up odd jobs at the tavern in the evening to earn even more money on top of his duties at the church.

One night Carlo takes the trash out the backside of the tavern and catches a teenager, who is about 13 years old, spray painting the back wall. Carlo confronts the troubled youth, named Leif, and brings him to Lars. Carlo feels like he can relate to the young man and pleads Lars to let him work off the damage. Lars reluctantly agrees. Leif and Carlo start working with each other doing the small odd jobs and start a mildly awkward relationship that forces them to communicate through a language barrier. Carlo is never able to tell Leif about his past, but begins to feel like a father figure to him from afar.

Carlo comes to Father Hagan and tells him about Leif. Hagan tells Carlo he is proud of him for taking a troubled young man and giving him a chance at a legitimate life. Hagan tells Carlo to focus on his life at the tavern, but Carlo promises to keep helping Hagan with the church's Sunday brunches.

Carlo and Kari get to know each other at a very deep and spiritual level. Carlo eventually asks Kari out for a date. Kari excitedly agrees and their relationship blossoms over the next sixteen months. Carlo asks Lars for his permission to marry Kari and 6 months later they are married by Father Hagan at the Stave church and a large town-wide celebration ensues.

A few months later, Lars passes away from a heart attack and Carlo and Kari take over the tavern full-time with Leif taking on more responsibilities. More time goes by and Kari tells Carlo that she is pregnant.

9. Midpoint (27):

Carlo walks the streets of the waterfront market place to buy a few things for the upcoming Sunday brunch. Out of the corner of his eye he notices a man, who is clearly not a local, with slicked back hair

and a shady look, but one that looks familiar to him. He thinks it over as he buys the things he needs. As Carlo thinks it over, he remembers the man as someone he used to work with in New York with the mafia. Carlo inadvertently catches the eye of the man. Carlo panics, drops the basket, and starts walking quickly out of the market with the man in pursuit. Eventually it turns into a fight, and Carlo ends up killing the man in a blind rage. He races back to the church. Carlo confesses everything to Father Hagen. Hagen is angry but keeps his composure. He tells Carlo to leave the town for the sake of his wife and unborn child.

Carlo returns to the tavern, feeling angry and guilty. He starts to drink heavily to try and calm himself down. During the next few days, Carlo is distant with Kari. She tries getting him to open up, but to no avail. The more he thinks about it, the more he starts to admit to himself, all of the things he has been denying over the years. It was his fault that he turned to a life of crime. That good choices were in front of him, and he ignored them in his anger. All of the choices he could have made that could have saved him, but he didn't do it.

10. Bad Guys Close In (27-37):

One morning Carlo wakes up to townsfolk screaming in the streets. When he reaches the top of the hill, he can see the doors to the church cracked open, and can hear an angry voice and desperate Father Hagen pleading to someone inside. Father Hagen is on his knees as Carlo's friend Lou stands over him with a pistol pointed at the Reverend's head. Lou recounts his own tale of going into hiding in Costa Rica after the mob declared that Carlo and any known associates be "dealt with" for the killing of the nephew, "Itch" and the ten thousand dollars that was lost to the police. The mob eventually found him and offered him a deal of freedom if he led them to Carlo. Lou apologizes to Carlo, and immediately Carlo makes a move for the gun. Lou fires. Hagen is dead. Carlo tackles Lou, prying the gun from his hands. He lowers the pistol and tells Lou to get out.

11. All Is Lost (37):

Carlo picks up Hagen's body and takes it to a small graveyard in the back. Carlo, feeling guilty for his mentor's demise, spends the next few hours digging Hagen's grave, sobbing as he does it. Leif comes in to see what has happened and helps Carlo bury the priest.

12. Dark Night of the Soul (37-42):

Carlo knows it is just a matter of time before Lou brings the mafia to his doorstep. He decides to head back into town to find his wife, who is in the tavern. Carlo confesses everything to Kari about his former life. Kari is angry and shocked, because she knows what is about to happen. Carlo kisses Kari one last time and says his goodbyes to Leif. Carlo takes the pistol he pried from Lou with him and decides to spend the last hours of his life in the church. Reading from the bible, praying, lighting candles in memory of his friend. Carlo spends the night in the church.

13. Break into Three (42):

As dawn breaks, Carlo wakes. He gets up and walks to the front door. He opens it a crack. A line of mobsters, including Lou all armed with guns await him. Carlo takes a deep breath, opens the doors, and slides behind the open door. A shootout ensues. Carlo is injured but manages to kill a few gangsters with

what few bullets he has. Carlo is fatally wounded as Lou comes from behind and shoots him in the lower back.

14. Finale (42-55):

As Carlo sits on his knees bleeding out, Lou comes in front of him ready to deliver the final shot. With his last ounce of strength, Carlo uses his last bullet to deliver a fatal wound in Lou's stomach and collapses. Lou fires a few meaningless shots in anger, but Carlo is already dead. Lou crawls out of the church, bleeding out. He begs for help from what's left of his mafia cohorts, but they snicker and leave him to die.

15. Final Image (55):

Flash forward to 5 years later. Kari is now the owner of the tavern, her son, five year old, Hans sits on the bar talking to patrons, asking them questions about themselves. Leif is the bartender. A picture of Carlo, Lars and Kari from six years ago sits on the wall behind the bar.