

INT. A RUNDOWN AND VERY SHABBY LOOKING OFFICE - DAY

We are in a very rundown looking office. A door and a long window leads towards the street. Under the window a worn out leather sofa, by the opposite wall a large man is sitting behind a desk. He looks out of the grimy window. It is raining hard and continuously outside. On the desk is half empty bottle of cheap whiskey and a large gun. The man holds an empty glass in his hand. The room is dimly lit by the light coming through the partition.

ALEX HUNT (V.O)

The rain hadn't stopped all week. Maybe the city is crying because of me; and the failure I have become.

The Man closes his eyes for a moment.

ALEX HUNT (V.O)

Just a little shut eye. Then work. Bills gotta be payed. Another degrading job. These husbands need their proof. The woman is cheating, the woman is always cheating.

Pictures with long lens of women eating dinner and kissing. They all have younger lovers. Suddenly a shadow in the frosted glass moves towards the door. Alex reaches for the gun, he hides it under the desk.

The door bursts open and a tall young looking girl rushes through it. The girl is wearing a very tight, skimpy leather dress and mini-skirt. She also is splattered with blood and is holding a gun.

Her eyes are frightened and wild. Alex seeing the gun, charges his weapon. The girls is disoriented, suddenly she becomes aware of Alex, and as a reflex she aims a small pistol at him.

ALEX

What the hell!

The girl stops for a moment and looks confused.

MAXINE

Ar. Ar. Alex Hunt?

The girl is shaking with fear.

ALEX

You don't know and yet you point that at me. Thats not smart, girl.

Under the desk Alex aims his much larger gun at her. Her

aim wavers a little.

MAXINE
Are you Alex Hunt?

ALEX
You tell me.

MAXINE
Please tell me you are Alex Hunt!

ALEX
Girl, what the hell happened to you? You shouldn't play around with things like that. Someone might get hurt.

MAXINE
(Crying)
Someone did get hurt! So tell me!
Are you Alex Hunt? Answer!!

The girl is shaking. She walks insecure around the room. She checks the windows with short looks. Alex looks at her for a long time. Alex's gun is still trained on her as she moves.

ALEX HUNT (V.O)
Better play this one cool. From the looks of it, she's had a rough night. Besides, it would be a shame to blow her away. So young, so,

MAXINE
Take off your shirt!

ALEX
What is this some kind of come on? I'm not turned on by that kinky stuff girl.

MAXINE
Take off your shirt! I'm not asking mister.

ALEX
Okay, okay. Take it easy. It's coming off.

Alex holds his gun with his knee towards the top of the desk. He looks at the girl and takes off his shirt. A long scar and several bullet wounds on his chest comes to view. She drops her gun and storms up to him. He grabs his gun and gets up. She jumps him like he is her savior, sobbing uncontrollably. Alex is caught by surprise. He throws her on the ground. Confused she looks up at him.

Alex looks at her for a few moments as if unsure what to do next. Then he realizes he still has his gun trained on her. His hand is shaking. Slowly he un-cocks the gun and carefully puts it back down on the desk. He takes a long swig from the bottle and then walks over to the still sobbing girl. He towers over her. Alex grabs the girl on the floor up by her arm.

ALEX
Your no killer.

MAXINE
(sobbing)
I didn't kill him.

ALEX
Yes that's what I said, your no killer.

MAXINE
The gun didn't stop him, he just kept on coming. He got her and he's going to...

ALEX
What are you talking about. Make sense, woman!

Maxine just keeps on sobbing. Alex shakes her. He raises his arm as if to slap her, but then stops. He lets go of her and steps back.

ALEX
Why me?

Alex leans against his desk and takes another swig from the bottle. Maxine looks up at Alex. Her sobs start to die down.

MAXINE
I work the streets and...

Alex looks at her as if to tell her he already knows that.
(no shit)

MAXINE
She said this job would pay well...But I knew he was trouble...he...he. I could feel it. I feel stuff like that.

Maxine starts to sob again. Alex sweeps up the bottle and steps towards Maxine. She flinches. Alex offers her the bottle. She looks at it for a few seconds and then grabs it and takes a long swig. She shudders as the drink goes down. The sobs die down again.

ALEX

Who said the job paid well?

MAXINE
(As if it is clear)
Crystal!

Alex looks at her, not showing any compassion.

MAXINE
She works the same street.
She...she this guy was good
money. He came in a limo, but,
his eyes, so cold. Not human, his
smile, he always smiles. There
were three of us. He...he took us
and another...Anna, her name was
Anna! Oh my God!

Maxine breaks down in tears again.

MAXINE
I thought it was some kind of RP,
doctor patient or something.
Then he pulled out this knife
and; ..it was Anna first. He cut
her...she...she, he enjoyed it.

ALEX
So you shot him?

Maxine nods.

ALEX
Where did you get the gun.

MAXINE
They were watching, his
spectators, they like it like
that, sick bastards. He was going
to shoot me, but he dropped the
gun, I kicked him. I shot the
bastard with the knife. Four
times I shot him...but he just
didn't stop. I couldn't stop him.
Crystal and Anna, they're still
there. We've got to help them.

Alex has the look of a man knowing what she is talking
about. Yet, he remains cool.

ALEX
Mmmm, some hookers make a bad
choice and get mixed up with some
sort of psychopath. Great. If you
want protection, go to your pimp.
There is nothing I can do for
you.

Alex sits back down at his desk and puts his feet up on it. Maxine still stands there. Maxine just stands there giving Alex and cold hard stair.

MAXINE

She said you would help. She made it sound like you where some kind of hero.

ALEX

Ah! Not any more, that sort of thing doesn't pay well enough. Is this Crystal, telling you this?

MAXINE

Yeah, she worships you! She said that if anything bad ever happens, she would go to you, and only you.

ALEX

Sorry girl, you've got me mixed up. I don't know any Crystal. You have gotta go!

Maxine is in shock and in desperate fear.

MAXINE

NO! They will find me! No! You have got to help me! You gotta help them! Crystal told me about the scars, she knows you!

ALEX

Well she doesn't know me so as she thinks then.

Alex get's up. He takes the gun. He walks towards her. It is clear that he feels guilty about what he is doing.

ALEX

Sorry, It's not my problem. Go to the police. They are the ones who should help you out.

MAXINE

What! He owns the police, don't you see! Crystal told me that I should always go to you if there was trouble. She said you are a good man!

Alex puts a blanket around her. He lifts her up and pushes her towards the door.

ALEX

That might have been true. But people change. No one works for

free anymore. So why should I?

Maxine is in shock. She is crying and fighting in order to stay inside. She fights with Alex, who is much bigger. He takes her gun and opens the door. He pushes her outside.

ALEX

I'm sorry. I wish I could help,
but I'm over my head in bills.
You know child support,
electricity, gas. All that.

MAXINE

They will kill me! You gotta help
me Alex! What about Chrystal and
Anna. They will kill them. They
are videotaping it!

Alex rolls down the curtain. Only the shadow of the desperate girl can be seen. Alex is faced away from the door. He seems to have a hard time.

In the distance thunder rumbles.

MAXINE

She has a bracelet! She says it
is from you! A thin silver
bracelet.. It has a little glass
teddy bear on it.. A little green
glass teddy bear!

Alex face reacts, the thinks for a while, then he opens the door again. The girl is all wet again, exhausted and crying.

MAXINE

On her left hand, a bracelet. She
says she got it from you.

ALEX

What dose she look like, Crystal?

Maxine is tired. She is just about to give up.

ALEX

What does she look like!

MAXINE

She's blond. Pretty. Green eyes.
So pretty.

Alex's eyes open wide and he lets go of Maxine. He stumbles backwards almost as if he's been hit. Alex closes his eyes and wipes his forehead.

ALEX

Where did he take you!

MAXINE

A bar down town.. The Falcon,
it's just...

ALEX

I know where it is.

Alex throws open the door to his office.

ALEX

Your coming with me. We have to
save her.

Maxine hesitates.

ALEX

Now, woman and bring the gun your
going to need it.

INT. ALEX'S CAR

We are in Alex' car driving down the rain soaked streets.
Next to him sits Maxine. She is wearing the trench coat
again and has her pistol lying on her lap. Alex has the
look of a man on a mission. His eyes are cold and focused.

ALEX (V.O)

Just when I though my day had
reached rock bottom, this
happens. Maybe the night was
darkest before the dawn. Maybe
this was that second chance I'd
dreamed of getting for a the last
4 years.

They drive in silence, Maxine seems uncomfortable with
this. She looks at the gun and carefully picks it up.

ALEX

You shot the guy four times
right?

Maxine seems startled by the sudden break in the quiet.
She drops the gun back on her lap. Alex shakes his head
slightly.

MAXINE

Yes.

ALEX

So you've got two rounds left.
With your aim you would not even
be able to kill your self.

MAXINE

How the hell do you know if I can
shoot or not, you don't even know

me.

ALEX

I know your not a killer. And believe me thats a good thing. And I know you can't shoot. You said you shot the guy four times and he kept coming. You missed four times.

MAXINE

Ye..yes he kept on coming.

MAXINE

(beat)

I hit the bastard. The gun didn't stop him.

ALEX

Yeah right.

Maxine points to her blood splattered shoulder.

MAXINE

Who's blood do you think this is?

Alex glances at Maxine, but keeps on driving.

ALEX

Your probably right, you hit him...once.

They sit in silence for a few moment. Alex is aggressive. He observes Maxine who is looking another way.

ALEX

God damn it! How do young girls like you get mixed up with this kind of work anyhow? You're better than this, look at you! You're beautiful. You can do whatever you put your mind into!

Maxine is sad and offended. She sits in silence, looking the other way. Alex looks at the road.

ALEX

Sorry I don't even know your name.

MAXINE

It's Maxine.

ALEX

So Maxine, how long have you known Christine?

MAXINE

Er you mean Crystal

ALEX

Her name is Christine.

MAXINE

Thats why she talked about you so much. Are you one of her clients?

Alex looks at her with evil eyes.

MAXINE

About a year, she's been working this patch for that long.

ALEX

Do you know what she was doing before that?

MAXINE

No. She never really talked about that and that's not the sort of thing you ask about. If you don't talk Hm, er before...well it can't be good. Sorry.

ALEX

Yeah, I am sorry to, but right now we don't have time for sorry.

MAXINE

You really like her don't you?

Alex just casts Maxine a glance

MAXINE

And you know whats going on here don't you.

Again Alex says nothing

MAXINE

Your not going to tell me are you.

ALEX

All you need to be able to do is drive. When I come out of there, you need to be ready and waiting then you need to drive like a bat of hell. You can do that, can't you?

MAXINE

Bat out of hell. Sure

Alex nods. The car pulls by a dark alley way.

ALEX
 (whispered to him self)
 God dammit. How did things get
 this bad.

MAXINE
 How do you know
 Cryst...Christine?

ALEX
 Right, you stay here. Engine
 running. If any one else but me
 and Christine come out of that
 door, you shoot, okay.

MAXINE
 Yes! I know what to do.

Alex opens the car door.

MAXINE
 How do you know Christine? She
 never told me that was her name
 and we had been close friends for
 a long time.

Alex closes the door and starts to walk off. Maxine gets
 out and heads off after him. The rain is still poring
 down. Maxine touches Alex' shoulder. Alex turns around. He
 gathers strength to talk.

ALEX
 10 years ago i gave a bracelet
 like you described to my
 daughter.

Alex looks at her for a long time, like he wants to say
 more, apologize to her. Maxine silent. Suddenly she gives
 Alex a long hug. Alex has tears in his eyes.

MAXINE
 I...

ALEX
 Stay in the car!

Alex heads off towards a door. As he does the door opens
 and we see a figure silhouetted in the light flooding from
 the open door.

Maxine sits back in the car and checks the gun. Maxine
 looks up and Alex is gone, the door in the alleyway is now
 closed and the alley is in darkness again.

INT. A DINGY LOOKING BEDROOM

We are in a dimly lit, very run down and dirty industrial
 hall. On a rusty metal frame operation table a young girl

dressed in a very tight and skimpy denim dress is handcuffed to the frame. Three video cameras on tripods are directed towards her. Next to the bed is surgeons table with loads of nasty instruments. She is clearly terrified.

There is another girls body on a bed next to the first. She is clearly dead. These sheets are soaked in blood.

Three shots can be heard. The girl clinches her eyes in fear. A man dressed like a slaughter bursts through the door. As a lightning strike we see the silhouette of Alex in the door. Smoke comes from his gun, thunder rumbles.

The girl screams like it is her last scream.

Alex sees the girl on the bed and rushes over. She thrashes on the bed violently trying to get away from Alex. He kneels by the bed, he has blood on his fists and face.

ALEX
Christine?

She still struggles. Alex reaches out to touch her head. She pulls her head away from his hand with a whimper and closes her eyes.

ALEX
Oh Christine, Shush. What have
they done to you. It's okay
now. It's me.

Alex touches her head and gently strokes her matted hair. Her struggling against the bonds lessens now. She slowly opens her eyes. She looks at Alex with wide open eyes for a few seconds.

CHRISTINE
Daddy?

Alex hugs her, for a few moments.

CHRISTINE
I...I...couldn't...and...she

Christine breaks down in tears. Alex is deeply moved. He sees the body on the next bed.

ALEX
What have you gotten your self
into Christine.

He lets go of her and looks at her then to the hand cuffs holding Christine to the bed. He throws the surgeons table away to make room next to the bed.

ALEX
Lay still baby, I'll get those
cuffs off. Just hold on..

He takes aim at the chain between the hand cuffs. She braces herself and looks away. So does he. Shot! She reaches for him and holds him while crying.

CHRISTINE

You came for me! Daddy. You came for me.

He holds her as well, closing his eyes not to cry.

ALEX

Darling. My darling. Are you all right? Oh Christine, I have missed you so much!

Her tear filled eyes suddenly open wide with terror.

CHRISTINE

D...dad...daddy.

Alex, facing away from the door opens his eyes. A long shadow of a man fills the room. Alex hides his gun close to his stomach.

ALEX

(Whispering in her ear)
It's okay baby.

Deep laughter fills the room. Alex turns around to face the person casting the shadow.

DEEP VOICE

The great Alex Hunt has a child. Had I known I had such a prize I would have laid on something special for both you and her.

We see the man behind the deep voice and shadow for the first time. He is dressed as a surgeon, taller and wider than Alex. He has pale skin, no hair and a huge and hideous scar down the left side of his face. His eyes are an unnatural, evil looking red. Alex draws his gun.

ALEX

Picasso. I figured you were behind this. How's your face?

The man laughs. Christine desperately tries to get her leg cuffs off.

DEEP VOICE

It's **Dr.** Picasso now, If you please. And how many times must you learn, can't kill me with that thing.

CHRISTINE

Dad, my feet! My feet are stuck!

Alex registers.

ALEX

Who said anything about killing.

He aims the gun and Picasso's searing smile but then lowers the gun just before firing a single shot in to the mans groin. Picasso looks at him surprised. And then he looks to his groin.

DEEP VOICE

Were you aiming for these?

Picasso points to a jar, containing two egg shaped objects. Alex fires another shot. This time to his chest. Picasso stops and holds to the place the bullet hits. Two shots. Picasso smiles.

DEEP VOICE

Oh, oh that tickles a little, but it won't stop me. What else have you got?

Alex empties his gun in to Picasso. He shudders with the impacts, but doesn't fall. Alex throws the gun and hurries to help Christine. He braces his legs against the frame and pulls. He strains against the small chain with all of his strength and weight. The links start to go.

CHRISTINE

Daddy, daddy.

ALEX

I...know...just a few...

Picasso reaches Alex and takes a grip on his shoulder. Alex screams as his shoulder is smashed in Picasso's fist. He gives a last pull, and chain finally gives. Alex falls backwards, pulling Christine with him.

ALEX

Run!

They both get up to escape. They head for the door. But when they get there, Picasso is already there. He stops them with one hand. Alex kicks him, and hits his face. Picasso grabs his hand and holds it.

DEEP VOICE

Bravo! Very impressive.

Picasso closes his eyes as if gathering strength. He squeezes Alex hand so he screams in pain.

DEEP VOICE

Now my turn.

Christine jumps him and starts strangling him.

CHRISTINE
 Leave my dad alone!

Suddenly he opens his eyes and looks surprised at Christine. He loses his grip on Alex. Christine is surprised, and looks at Alex, she continues to strangle him. Picasso looks down to his chest, a wooden stick points out with blood on it. He looks from Alex to Christine.

DEEP VOICE
 Wood.

Falls to the floor. Behind him Maxine is holding a the remains of a broken chair. She has the look of a wild animal, a green flicker becomes visible in her eyes as the lightning strikes. We see her sexy body in silhouette.

MAXINE
 Die bastard, Die!

Maxine kicks the fallen body of Picasso again and again. She is for a moment lost in rage. She cries and curses him as she kicks the body

ALEX
 Maxine! He's dead now, there's nothing more you can do to him.

She looks at Alex with that same animal fury for a moment and then stops kicking.

MAXINE
 Yes there is. I brought you this.

Maxine holds up a bottle of whiskey, takes a swig and reaches it to Alex.

ALEX
 Wood, how did you know?

MAXINE
 I didn't. I, I felt it.

Alex picks up his gun, walks over to Christine and holds her in his arms.

He then covers Anna's body with the sheet.

CHRISTINE
 Oh daddy, there was nothing I could do, she...

ALEX
 I know. You survived and we made him pay for everything.

Alex looks as Picasso's body. He bottle spills it over

Picasso's body. Then he takes out a zippo. And hands it to Maxine.

MAXINE

Burn in hell, bastard!

She lights it and throws it to the floor. Flames. The three of them walk out of the room together. Alex holds Maxine as well.

ALEX (V.O)

The rain hadn't stopped. I had still failed, Anna was dead but so was Picasso. And I could try to be a father again. Maybe all three of us had a second chance.