

HEARSE BUDDIES
by

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EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Someone on is running towards a parked hearse.

Gun shots

He ducks behind the vehicle and leans to the side with gun in hand. Ready to defend.

This is David, mid 30's, favourite leader jacket. A man with enough brains to get himself out of a bad situation but not good enough to stay away from one.

He leans over and fires his gun

FILM PAUSE

LEROY (VO)

This is David. A man you can trust.
You are probably wondering how did
we got in this situation?
(continue)

Frozen in time, wearing their sunglasses are The Twins.
Each with an Uzi gun in hand.

LEROY

(count) It all begin with a phone
call. It's so easy to get a hold of
people these days. (Continues)

On the ground kneeling with his hands behind his head is Leroy - 30's. A small man but always with a big plan in the making. Easy to start the problem and easier to hide when it is too hard to handle.

LEROY

(count) Well I... I just really
missed my friend.

FILM RESUME

DAVID

I hate you, Leroy!

INT. LEROY'S FLAT - DAY

You wouldn't believe that a 30 year old man lives in this

place - empty beer cans, take away containers and cigarettes, newspapers and old laundry. But among the trash we notice framed picture of two masked man.

Leroy is sat on the edge of the bed - cargo trousers and thank top.

He picks up the phone and dials a number

INT. DAVID'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

On a small coffee table we see a phone that starts to ring.

A few rings pass and someone picks it up - "Hello?"

INT. LEROY'S FLAT - DAY

He doesn't know how to react at first. He has never done that before

LEROY

Well, well, well. I'd be damned.
Isn't this my good old friend. How
have you been lately?

DAVID (V.O.)

Who is this?

LEROY

C'mon now cookie. You know who is
I.

DAVID (V.O.)

Well you'd be damned I say. How's
your ass hanging, Leroy.

LEROY

You know. Same old, same old.

DAVID(V.O.)

Are you in or out these days?

LEROY

In. Out. Some time out when I
should be in, others in when I
should be out. It is all a big
circus. I heard you got fired.
That's shit.

DAVID (V.O.)

Yea. Two weeks now.

LEROY

Shit.

DAVID

Yea.

There is a short pause that almost feels like heavy cream sinking in hot coffee.

LEROY

So... David. I was wondering if you can help me out on something.

DAVID

I can't do that Leroy.

LEROY

No, nothing like that maty. Look. I've got a job now. Work in a bar. It's shit but I've got a good thing going here. I just need to move a few things and need some help. Turns out... It's hard to find people to help you.

DAVID

Leroy. I can't do anything that casts shade, bro. I've got the girl now.

LEROY

Quick and clean. I promise, cookie.

Beat

DAVID(V.O.)

Where is it?

EXT. TRAVEL MONTAGE

David gets in his hearse and drives to meet Leroy.

EXT. BACK STREET - DAWN

David's hearse turns the corner onto a back street. The type of back street that you expect old newspapers, rats, and that strange residue on the walls that has dark olived colour.

He parks the car and sees Leroy pulling a very large cooler.

DAVID
HEY! What you doin there?

LEROY
(jumps) Huh? Nothing. Shit. David!
Scared the shit out of me.

Leroy leaves his activity to go and welcome his old friend.

The two stare off for a moment. David looking mad, Leroy confused. Than they both break in a smile and embrace.

DAVID
Such a long time, you, old
nutcracker.

LEROY
It's been ages.

But there is nothing else they can think to say to one another and a short pause between them.

LEROY
Come and give me a hand with those
things. Hurry.

DAVID
Do you ever do anything in normal
hours.

INT. THE HEARSE - SAME

Leroy is waiting in the car. David shuts the boot.

The vehicle is comically long for someone to be sat alone.

David climbs in and shuts the door and starts the car.

They don't say much.

LEROY
How is life with you these days
than?

DAVID
Well you know - same old, same old.
Lost my job two weeks ago so that's
been hard but I know that something
will happen soon.

LEROY

Yea, that sucks man. What did you do before?

DAVID

(pause) I drove a hearse?!

LEROY

Right. Right. (pause) I mean for parties or something?

DAVID

What? In the cemetery you idiot. I drove the hearse with the coffins to the graves.

LEROY

Oh, yea. I get it.

beat

LEROY

How is the family?

DAVID

Vanessa left me about an year ago. She took Ivory with her. I get to see her every other weekend. Growing so fast. What about with you?

LEROY

Same. She left lest summer. Never saw her again. Did a few different things for a while. Worked for some characters for a bit. But now I got a little job - running the bar in the evenings. Nothing special but at least gets me talking with the chicks.

beat

LEROY

You hungry?

INT. 80'S AMERICAN DINER - DAY

A young WAITRESS is working the place today. The type of young girl that would not even bat an eye if the kitchen explodes but will tell you that, she told you so a week ago, asked if she knew about the gas leak.

WAITRESS

Welcome to the fling milkshake.
Where we shake our milk until it
become a heavenly cloud. How can I
help.

David is looking at Leroy. Leroy has almost a cartoon smile on.

LEROY

Breakfast, please. For two.

The waitress looks them top to bottom, exhales and grabs two menus on the way. Why is anybody making here do anything?

Both s are sat in the middle of an empty diner.

She serves the two breakfasts.

LEROY

So. A hearse, huh? Cool.

DAVID

Yea. When I got cut they let me
keep it. Turns out they don't need
it any more.

LEROY

Yea. Amazing times. Advanced meds.
The good shit. People don't die no
more.

DAVID

What? No, you idiot. Just less
people do funerals now. It's stupid
expensive and pointless.

LEROY

I would want to be a tree one day.

DAVID

What ?

LEROY

You know, when I die. I want to be
a tree.

DAVID

Are you taking drugs again? Told you back then, it ain't good for ya.

LEROY

No, no. Listen. There is that new technology. After you die they take your body, take your cloths off and stick you in a huge egg with some seeds. Enough compost and then they pack you in there. Than they go out and plant that egg somewhere and you become a tree. It's the full circle of life. From dirt in to dirt. Also you get to be something very good for the planet.

David gives him a few quick looks but keeps eating.

DAVID

Do you get to choose what tree you want to be.

LEROY

I am sure you do.

EXT. AMERICAN DINER - SAME

Black SUV ...

A character in tall platform boots and a character with a poke dot dress jump out of the car.

INT. AMERICAN DINER - DAY

Leroy keeps going on while putting extra maple syrup on his bacon.

LEROY

And no chemicals at all.

DAVID

(now interested) Really.

LEROY

Yea! Did you know that they put so much chemicals with bodies when they berry someone. It is so bad so people have worked on this non-chemical method for a while now...

Oh, fuck!

The door chime.

In view walk in The Twins - Lily in a long black coat and the platform boots, while Violet in a poke dot dress.

WAITRESS

Welcome to the flying milkshake,
where we shake our milk until
becomes a heavenly cloud. How can I
help you.

LILY

Who is driving that hearse out
there.

WAITRESS

I am pretty sure that I am not
allow to give out any customer
information to other unknown
people.

VIOLET

Listen my dear, we are looking for
a dude that ...

WAITRESS

The driver is the big dude on table
4.

They look in the diner.

Empty but one table has half finished plate with beacon.

The hearse outside is making an exit.

INT. HEARSE - SAME

David, half wearing his leader jacket. Leroy looking back
worried.

DAVID

Leroy!

LEROY

(the biggest smile) Cookie. You
know I would never lie to you
right.

DAVID

Leroy!

LEROY

We got out of there quick didn't we? Did you tip the lovely lady?

DAVID

Leroy! Who were those two?

LEROY

Those a good friends of mine. Done lot of work with them. Top sports.

DAVID

Leroy!

LEROY

I am pretty sure they said to move the ice on Tuesday.

DAVID

The ice?

LEROY

May be they were talking about next week.

DAVID

What ice?

LEROY

They found you quick didn't they. You wouldn't think that someone will suspect a hearse do you.

DAVID

What ? Leroy, what is in the box?

LEROY

That's the ice.

DAVID

God damn it Leroy, I can't do shit like that. Not now.

LEROY

But cookie, it's perfectly fine. Perfectly clean, not a worry in the world.

DAVID

Right, shut up. Here's what we are going to do. We are going to hide till late morning. Than very quietly we will go and return the

box and we will never speak of this again. Do you know where I live?

LEROY
Not exactly sure.

DAVID
Good. Where is your place ?

EXT. THE FLYING MILKSHAKE - DAY

Lily comes out of the diner following the hearse in view. She knows it can't really go away that easy.

Violet joins her with the biggest and most ridiculous drink. Lily is not amused.

VIOLET
What? They shake their milk until is heaven stuff.

Lily walks off.

VIOLET
What? Call it market research.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DUSK

The hearse pulls up. Both still in there.

DAVID
So this is your place?

LEROY
Not much but good neighbours.

DAVID
Wish they could say the same about you.

LEROY
Hey. Not nice. I've got feelings too you know.

DAVID
Get out of the car.

Leroy does.

DAVID

I will go and hid this thing and
than come to meet you. Do not do
anything stupid.

Leroy is left on the curb watching the hearse pull around
the corner. It's late. There are almost no people around,
when a large sack is pulled over Leroy's head and he is
pulled away.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - 15MIN LATER

There is a not on the lamp post stuck with a piece of pink
gum.

(We've got your cookie.
Bring our stuff and get
him back.)

David picks up the note and reads it up quick.

DAVID

Oh, you idiot.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Leroy, sack over his head, is being shoved on his knees.

LEROY

Guys. Guys. I honestly don't know
where is it. Please, guys. Let me
go. I can find it for you. Free of
charge. Guys. Guys?

The sack over his head is being pulled and a realisation
stills on his face.

LEROY

Girls! I am so glad to see you two.

Lily punches him in the face.

VIOLET

Why did you do that for? He just
said he was glad. You will
traumatise his little head.

LEROY

Lily, Violet. I might of miss
understood you. I thought you give
me this ice.

VIOLET

See he now starts to think. That will hurt him.

LILY

Where is the cooler, Leroy?

LEROY

Honestly. Swear to God. I have no idea.

LILY

Who is the chump driving the hearse than? And where do we find him.

LEROY

Oh, David and I go way back...

DAVID (O.S.)

Shut up you idiot.

The twins turn around. Between them Leroy.

On the other end of the car park is the hearse parked sideways bathed by the street lamp.

In the shadows before the hearse is a tall man who slowly steps in to the light.

DAVID

Tell your boss that Leroy and David are back in town. If he wants his stash we are willing to work for him.

VIOLET

What are you talking about mate

LILY

Yea we run the bar not some criminal organisation.

VIOLET

Did you bring the cooler with you.

DAVID

That is in a save place until we are save.

LILY

The only ways you two are leaving tonight is by you giving us the cooler.

VIOLET

After all there is no need to hurt anyone anymore. (pulls out a gun)

LILY

And unfortunately we will have to start with the one that is not in out control.

DAVID

You girls have the wrong guys

BANG

A gun shot.

David runs over and jumps behind the hearse and the scene from the opening plays in real time.

DAVID

I hate you Leroy.

Lily looks over at Violet with a stern face.

VIOLET

What? It's called a warning shot. He's now warned.

LEROY

(freaking out) Ladies. Let's not loose track now.

LILY

Where is our cooler

DAVID

Save and it will be until you let us go.

VIOLET

Just give us the cooler and you are good.

LILY

Or your friend gets it.

Puts a gun on Leroy's head.

LEROY

Well. Now. So. About all this. May be it isn't the best thing.

Gun pushed forward on to his temple.

LEROY
Give them the coffee David.

DAVID
What? Hold on a second.

He rises behind the hearse ready to deliver an explanation.

DAVID
What is in the box Leroy.

LEROY
Some ice.

DAVID
What kind of ice, Leroy?

LEROY
Great, local ice coffee.

DAVID
So. You go me to drive 3 hours.
Forced me to steal from some twins.
Spoke to me about egg funerals. Got
yourself kidnapped. You got me shot
at. And all that for some ice
coffee?

LEROY
Well. Yes.

DAVID
(Pause) (To the twins) Yea, go a
head and shoot him now.

Climbs back in the hearse and drives off. Leaving behind
the cooler which was hidden behind the car all along.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Leroy sat on a bench drinking a Jimmies ice coffee.

His spirit has folded.

David comes and joins him on the bench.

There is a short pause between them.

LEROY

I've missed you since. I am sorry
David for everything.

Noone is in a hurry to respond in this conversation.

DAVID

I know. I've missed us too.

Leroys shoulders rise ever so slightly.

DAVID

Some times life is hard. Some times
you don't know what to do.

LEROY

And some times I keep remembering
our jobs. Remember the italians?

DAVID

How can I forget Giovanni. What a
man. He could put you in cement
only if you said anything against
his meatballs.

LEROY

Italians and food. Amazing culture.

Both a bit reminiscent, both a bit quite.

LEROY

I suppose you are leaving now. What
are you going to do?

DAVID

Well. Actually. The twins might
need some protection in that bar. I
might come back more often.

LEROY

That is nice. They are good girls.

LILY (O.S.)

Get a room you two!

The two girls are sitting on the a table outside the
American diner.

DAVID

So I suppose that we can open the
little business every once in a
while. Me and you. What you think?

LEROY

I think I would very much like that.

They both get up and start walking towards the hearse parked near by.

LEROY

(getting more excited now) Actually if you are here in 2 days we can pay a visit to the Cubans on the corner. They have a little organisation there.

DAVID

Nothing too bad Leroy.

LEROY

Oh, ok, ok. What about the bookers in town. They might need a ... Collaborator from time to time.

DAVID

May be. We will talk about it.

LEROY

We need a name for ourself. Something catchy. Are you keeping the hearse?

DAVID

Yes, why?

LEROY

Oh, I know - we can be called The hearse buddies. It's scary. It's catchy. ..

DAVID

It's stupid. You are stupid. Leave the thinking to me.

They keep driving but we are now focusing on the twins each drinking a milkshake.

VIOLET

I like those two.

Loud explosion. Violet looks after it while Lily keeps taking in the ocean in front.

We are pulled to reveal the two twins drinking the last drops of their milkshakes while on the other side is the

same waitress not boddered by anything, chewing a pink bubble gum and filling her nails.

Nothing can badder them.

THE END.