

Down's Gangster

By

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INT. OFFICE - DAY

A large dimly lit office - in a family house. FATHER (80's) frail, sat behind a large wooden desk. OLLY (early 30's) Downs Syndrome, sharply dressed - black suit, is standing near the window holding a GLASS SHORT.

FATHER

A business takes a lot of running.

His head still, Olly eyes his father.

FATHER (CONT'D)

There's a lot of decisions to be made. A lot of things you can get right and a lot of things you can get wrong.

Father shifts his position; in his state, comfort is vanity.

FATHER (CONT'D)

Decision making. Getting people to do things. To do right things. The way you want them done.

Olly takes sip of his short.

FATHER (CONT'D)

One day son, this whole thing... well it's going to go legit. All of it. We're going to go above board. That's the aim. That's always been the aim.

Father pulls himself forwards: a struggle.

FATHER (CONT'D)

You probably never read Marx or any of that... kinda crap.

He chuckles to himself.

FATHER (CONT'D)

Capital.

(beat)

It's all about access to capital.

Father savors the point.

FATHER (CONT'D)

You got no capital? You're poor. And you're gonna stay poor. Once you get your capital, and you keep it clean... you're gonna get rich.

Olly gazes through he window...

FATHER

You can't stay in this game too long. We got a lot of this by illegitimate means. You think that the guys who are wanting to topple you are going to play by your rules?

Father affords himself a smile.

FATHER

We've been sharks in the sea. So you can't gripe too much when the bigger shark comes bearing down on you. You wanna keep what you got? Get outta the sea. Play it legit.

INT. HOSPITAL WARD

FATHER is in bed. Olly stands next to him.

Two people nearby wear hospital whites.

Behind Olly there are two MEN and one WOMAN. Olly moves his hand over Father's face, closes Father's eyes.

INT. LOUNGE IN FATHER'S HOUSE

TEDDY (early 40's) wearing the look of a man perpetually harassed, is sitting on a large sofa.

There two other men in the room: FELIPO (late 40's) tall graying; EDDIE DUOTTI (30's) short, slightly overweight, dark hair.

Eddie stands behind Teddy, pouring drinks from the drinks cabinet. Felipo manoeuvres himself to the armchair next to Teddy.

FELIPO

So. You holding up okay Teddy? I know he meant so much to everyone. He held this family together. He was a remarkable man.

TEDDY

A lot of things are going to change now. I'm in charge of all this. A lot of people are going to feel

(MORE)

TEDDY (cont'd)
 uncomfortable. I need to be
 confident in certain individuals. I
 need people I can rely on.

 FELIPO
 Totally.

INT. SMALL COURT - WILL HEARING

The family and associates are gathered in a small court-room to hear Father's will being read. Teddy is surrounded by his people; Olly, in turn is sat near to his own people. The WILL-READER is facing the group.

 WILL-READER
 To my most precious first-born and
 first loved son, I leave \$500,000.
 To my darling and most beautiful
 daughter, Lucia, I leave \$500,000.

Murmurs from the gathered group.

 WILL-READER (CONT'D)
 To Teddy I leave \$500,000.

Members of the group look around, surprised.

 WILL-READER (CONT'D)
 To Olly, I leave the remaining
 outstanding balance, and overall
 control of the business.

Gasps from group

 WILL-READER (CONT'D)
 This surmises the business of the
 will.

Teddy rises to his feet.

 TEDDY
 (shocked)
 What?

People turn to look.

 TEDDY (CONT'D)
 What is this? How can he be left
 the business? How can he control
 anything? Doesn't anybody know that
 this guy has got a disability?

Teddy buttons his jacket, heads toward the exit.

 TEDDY (CONT'D)
 This is some kinda farce.

Teddy exits. Olly rises calmly and leaves - his posture upright and confident.

EXT. INSIDE TEDDY'S CAR - DAY

Teddy is in his car: Felipo and Eddie with him. Teddy's lips are tight and his right fist is clenched over the steering wheel.

 TEDDY
 Is it a joke? Someone tell me I
 didn't just hear what I heard.

 FELIPO
 You gotta contest this Teddy,
 there's got to be something wrong
 here.

 EDDIE
 I can't see your father having left
 almost everything to that guy. I
 mean yeah, he's your brother and
 all that, but is he going to run a
 business? You're supposed to look
 after the guy, not work for him.

 TEDDY
 Don't worry. I'm going to get back
 control of this business, whether
 the guy likes it or not.

INT. OFFICE IN FAMILY HOUSE - DAY

Olly is stood in the middle of the office holding a small WHISKEY.

Sitting behind the desk is ALF LEGATTI (50's).

LUCIA (late 30's) a smartly dressed brunette, is sitting behind Olly.

ALF is rubbing his forehead, two fingers and a thumb, firmly.

ALF
Didn't see that coming. Just didn't
see that coming.

Alf places his hands on the desk, looks straight at Olly.

ALF (CONT'D)
Did you know anything about this?

Olly takes a sip of his drink, lost in thought.

INT. OFFICE IN THE CASINO - DAY

Teddy walks in, unaccompanied. The office is large, opulent, based upstairs in the casino. Behind a desk is TERENCE MONETTO (50's) tall and athletic, thinning brown hair, round glasses.

MONETTO
Teddy. Welcome. Take a seat. Sit
down.

Teddy smiles toward Monetto and takes a seat.

MONETTO
So. Are you well?

Teddy laughs, and looks to his side and then up to the ceiling.

TEDDY
Yeah, yeah. I'm well.

Monetto nods his head knowingly.

MONETTO
Surprising.

Teddy looks directly at Monetto. He raises his eyebrows.

TEDDY
You were surprised?

MONETTO
(bored)
So you expected this. You knew it
was coming, and more than that you
prepared for it...

TEDDY
(interrupts)
...just what...

(tails off)

MONETTO

(paternally)

I've been your father's accountant
for a long time Teddy.

(pauses)

I know what matters...

(correction)

...what mattered to him.

(pause)

Teddy. I looked after your father's
money. He told me what I needed to
know.

Monetto sits back and relaxes in the chair.

TEDDY

Well maybe there was some
communication...

(beat)

...difficulty.

MONETTO

He told me everything. At least...
well now I know. Somebody must have
known. I simply don't believe he
didn't tell anyone.

(pause)

But.

(pause)

That is the situation that we are
in. Teddy, I've spoken to people.
I've talked, I've asked around.
And... nothing. There's never
nothing, Teddy.

Looks right at Teddy.

MONETTO (CONT'D)

Never. Except here. There may not
be nothing, but if there was
something, well, I didn't hear it.
Now. What's that all about?

TEDDY

There's two choices here. One, we
contest it.

Teddy folds his legs and raises a clenched thumb to Monetto.

TEDDY (CONT'D)
We fight it through the courts.

Monetto tips his head to one side.

MONETTO
It's possible. But it's going to
take one heap of money, and, well,
there's no guarantee.

TEDDY
Then two, the guy's in control, and
he's like a... you know?

Teddy looks at Monetto for a hint.

TEDDY (CONT'D)
Basically, we can still control
this. He's like, a figure head.
But, behind the scenes, we're
pulling all the strings.

MONETTO
He's not going to be difficult to
control. We both know that.
(firmly)
And that's not going to cost...

EXT. GIUSEPPE'S CAFÉ BAR - DAY

Giuseppe's: dated looking Italian café bar. Felipo and Eddie
are visible in the bar from the exterior. Eddie is stood at
the bar. Felipo is buying cigarettes.

Another man, in almost identical attire, walks into
Giuseppe's: ANTONIO ANDRETTO (40's).

INT. GIUSEPPE'S - DAY

GIUSEPPE (50's) balding, remaining hair almost shoulder
length, greasy; he needs a shave, is sallow, like he never
practiced being happy. Giuseppe is cleaning a glass behind
the bar. He holds it up to the light.

GIUSEPPE
Clean.

Eddie hands over a currency note. Giuseppe takes it.

GIUSEPPE (CONT'D)

You not getting these guys a drink?
What are you too selfish? Do 'em a
favor - they've had a day of it too
you know.

Felipo turns round to see the Antonio walking into the café,
and a large grin breaks across his face.

EDDIE

(to Antonio)

Hey...

(to Giuseppe)

Yeah get him whatever, no, take one
on that, his usual.

(to Antonio)

You having something? I'll get you
something in.

ANDRETTO

Oh. Coffee.

Andretto gives Eddie's hair a bit of a shake, and has a
small grin on his face, as much a smirk.

ANDRETTO

So what did you make of that. Quite
a turn, hu?

EDDIE

You know, I think the old man must
have lost a little something when
he made that decision, like a few
marbles here and there, like a few
box-fulls of the things.

Felipo returns from buying his cigarettes, stands next to
Eddie.

FELIPO

You girls gonna sit your butts
down, or you gonna just stand there
chatting' each other up all night?

EDDIE

(to Antonio)

Let's get a seat.

They sit.

Felipo takes a CIGARETTE out, and offers them around. Eddie
takes one and accepts a light.

Gracious murmurs are emitted.

Felipo taps his cigarette on the table.

FELIPO

So we have a little thinking to do here. We could have a little problem, some minor issues.

(leans forward)

We all saw what happened today, and it knocked every single one of us off our chairs.

Felipo looks at each of the other guys.

FELIPO (CONT'D)

Now we know that Teddy ain't gonna be happy. Not in the least.

Felipo lights his cigarette.

FELIPO (CONT'D)

We also know that Teddy's been a bad boy.

The guys grin, shake their heads.

FELIPO (CONT'D)

...and is getting up to stuff that he thought Daddy didn't know about. And then this.

Felipo uses his cigarette to lightly jab around toward the faces of the guys.

FELIPO (CONT'D)

So maybe Daddy knew a little more that we thought.

Felipo sits back and drags on the cigarette.

FELIPO (CONT'D)

Teddy's gonna want control. Not only, but he's gonna be pretty confident that he's gonna get it. And that's a problem for us all.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF GIUSEPPE'S - NIGHT

A light drizzle falls. The streets are quiet.

Eddie and Antonio leave Giuseppe's. They are the last to exit. They begin to walk down the road. Eddie moves into a doorway to light a cigarette. Antonio joins him in the shelter.

EDDIE

Have you any idea of just how much money we can take through some of our operations?

ANDRETTO

(inquisitive)

Uh hu?

Eddie points his cigarette at Antonio.

EDDIE

Screw this legit nonsense. We got a guy who brings in 4 or 5 kilos of the white stuff. You hear me?

ANDRETTO

I'm listening.

EDDIE

We pass it on to a couple of good guys we got who get it on the street. You know the mark up on that crap? 200%.

Eddie and Antonio study each other.

ANDRETTO

200%? That's a mark-up.

EDDIE

And you know the best part?

Eddie draws on his cigarette and exhales over Antonio's head.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

It's easy money.

(pause)

We get other people to do all the hard work.

Eddie takes in the concentrated expressions of his audience.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

Any problems, they get the exposure. We don't touch the stuff.

Eddie draws in on his smoke.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

We got a guy who brings it in, and moves it on to a paid hand, no

(MORE)

EDDIE (CONT'D) (cont'd)
 relation to the firm. No money
 changes hands at that point, so
 there's never any issues. We pay up
 front, separate transactions.

Eddie raises his hand to offer assurance.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
 Once the stuff's handed over, the
 hand checks it, and then
 distributes it out to guys that he
 uses regular. They pay up front to
 the hand. So even after the middle
 men, we still rake in 200%, and
 anyone gets busted, we got our
 hands clean.

Eddie smiles and looks at his colleague.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
 Sound like a good deal to you?
 Sound like we want to give that
 kinda thing up? You want to go
 legit after that? What are you
 going to be? A restaurant manager?
 Is that what you want?

Antonio studies Eddie, takes it all in.

ANDRETTO
 There's a couple of things that I
 ain't totally clear about?

EDDIE
 I'm listening.

ANDRETTO
 It's the money. The whole money
 thing. How's it working? I don't
 see it.

Eddie rolls his eyes and looks skywards briefly.

EDDIE
 It's the casino. It all goes
 through the casino.

ANDRETTO
 How? Clear it up for me.

EDDIE

We got a guy in the casino. Works the craps table for us. Tried to rig a table up first, but they rotate the people, so it got kinda messy.

ANDRETTO

Ok.

EDDIE

So there's a middle man. Works for the Colombians. Comes in the casino. Places a bet. Wins big. Nice and easy.

ANDRETTO

Money out. So where's the money in?

EDDIE

The hand. He comes to the casino too. Lays a bet. A big one. Loses. Doesn't lay his taking of course. Just our return.

(pause)

Money in.

ANDRETTO

So you've got hired hand, you got Colombian middle man, you've got Mr craps table. You're still missing someone.

EDDIE

No I ain't. We got the accountant too. Terence Monetto. Monetto and Teddy? Closer than you and your mother.

EXT. NEON LIT CITY STREETS - LATE EVENING

There is rain. A chauffeur driven car sneaks along the sodden avenue.

INT. CAR - SAME

Olly and Alf are in the rear seats. There is a distance between them. They do not talk. Alf reads documents.

EXT. CASINO FRONTAGE - NIGHT

The car pulls up in front of the casino. A doorman gets the car-door, hold a broolly aloft. Olly exits. Alf exits. Olly walks toward the casino door, dressed in his black suit. Holds his right hand over the middle buttons: he is assured and confident. Glances over his left shoulder; Alf follows.

The casino door is opened by a concierge.

FATHER (V.O.)
You want some advice? Some real
advice? Keep your mouth shut.

Olly and Alf walk in.

FATHER (V.O.)
The less you say, the better.

Through the casino, negotiating punters, machines, flashing lights.

FATHER (V.O.)
And then let's face it... even if
it does sound... off...
(beat)
...you don't sound so bright.

And upstairs.

FATHER (V.O.)
So put your head up, dress smart,
and keep it tight.

Two, then three casino employees join them as they continue.

FATHER (V.O.)
What you do is create a silent
serenade to authority.

A door is opened: they do not knock.

FATHER (V.O.)
You listen. To whatever they have
to say. And then you do, you act.
You talk if you have to.

Olly walks in, Alf follows; the hangers-on loiter in the doorway.

FATHER (V.O.)
And only if you have to.

Olly takes a seat. He is comfortable.

MONETTO

Olly. Welcome in. A pleasure to see you. I hope you are well. To what do I owe the pleasure?

OLLY

I need the books.

(pause)

All the books.

Olly fixes his gaze on Monetto. Monetto moves subtly in his chair. Thinking quickly, acting calmly.

MONETTO

What books might they be?

(pause)

May I ask?

Olly remains still.

OLLY

The accounts, Monetto. In full. Above board, and below deck. Give them all to me.

Monetto now just thinking quickly.

MONETTO

Of course. I'll have them sent over to you by... first thing in the morning.

OLLY

Accompany them.

MONETTO

With pleasure.

Alf adjusts his position.

MONETTO (CONT'D)

Olly. So, have you thought much about, future... positions? There may be strategies...

(struggling)

...directions that you wish for the organization to take.

Olly rises and makes towards the door.

OLLY

I have.

Olly exits.

EXT. CASINO CAR PARK - SHORT TIME LATER

Expensive cars line up in bays. Behind each of them a sign reading: RESERVED.

A light rain falls.

Monetto has his suit collar flipped up and hunches his shoulders against the weather. He carries a leather brief and a mobile.

MONETTO
 (to mobile)
 Teddy? Yeah, we got problems.
 (listens)
 Uh hu. Wants the books. All of
 them.

Monetto reaches his car and struggles to get his key into the door.

MONETTO (CONT'D)
 By tomorrow.
 (listens)
 Morning.
 (opens car door)
 You sure?

INT. CAR - SAME

Monetto sits on the car seat, drops the baggage on the passenger seat and wipes his brow with a handkerchief.

MONETTO (CONT'D)
 I wouldn't do that, if I were you
 Teddy.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - OPEN FIRE, GENTLE LIGHTING

Teddy is sat on the edge of a sofa. Stares ahead.

TEDDY
 There's a lot of information, that
 could lead us into a whole lot
 of...

MONETTO
 (to phone)
 It's not going to be an issue
 Teddy. This is under control.

Teddy puts the phone down. He continues to stare ahead.
Tightens his eyes.

BACK TO SCENE:

INT. CAR - SAME

Monetto bites his bottom lip. He remains still.

INT. FATHER'S OFFICE

Father is behind the desk. Olly by the window.

FATHER
Patterns, Olly.

Olly turns to look at Father.

FATHER
You like pretty patterns?

Olly returns his gaze to the window.

FATHER
Look for them Olly. All those
pretty patterns.

CLOSE UP: OLLY'S FACE SIDE ON.

FATHER (O.S)
In what people do, and in what
people say.
(pause)
Look for them where the money is.

Olly takes a sip on his drink.

FATHER (O.S)
You'll find them. If you look hard
enough.

EXT. CASINO STREET - FURTHER DOWN - NEXT DAY - MORNING

Teddy and Felipe walk briskly side by side. Behind them,
Eddie, checking to his left and right.

Teddy and Felipe talk through tightened lips, their tones
lowered.

FELIPO

I ain't burning anything Teddy.
It's too much of a risk. It's going
to get out of control.

TEDDY

I won't have all of this fall apart
around me. Not for him. That little
creep.

FELIPO

Listen to Monetto. He's going to
smooth this whole thing over real
nice.

They reach the entrance to the casino. A concierge stand at
the door. From behind the door emerges a BOUNCER.

TEDDY

Problem?

BOUNCER

Mr Olly would like to see you both
after lunch.

Teddy begins to move forward. The bouncer remains still.

BOUNCER

So as soon as you all got yourself
eats and drinks, you make your way
back here.

FELIPO

Do you want to get out the way?

BOUNCER

Mr Olly's property will be
available for your convenience.
After lunch. Gentlemen. Enjoy
yourselves and see you all soon.

The three men eye each other, turn and leave.

INT. CASINO - NINE MONTHS PREVIOUS

Olly lounges against a craps table, hands in pocket.

Teddy ambles up to him, rolls a small dice in his hand.

TEDDY

Hey Olly. How are you doing?

Olly does not flinch.

TEDDY (CONT'D)
 Father wants to see you. Upstairs.
 He's in the office.

 OLLY
 I'll be up in five.

Teddy saunters off, and casts Olly a glance over his shoulder.

 TEDDY
 Don't keep Father waiting Olly.
 That's not nice.

Near distance. A craps table. A man approaches: Plays. Wins big. Collects. Grins, leaves.

EXT. CASINO STREET - FURTHER DOWN - TODAY

Teddy, Felipo, and Eddie have found an eatery: DONATELLO'S CAFE. They look out of the window toward the casino as they take their seats.

A waitress gets their table and they order.

 TEDDY
 What's he up to?

 EDDIE
 Is he faking something? I mean, is he just trying to freak us or something? Make us break our cover?

 FELIPO
 Nah.

 TEDDY
 So what's he doing, Felipo?

 FELIPO
 He ain't playing the cards. I can tell you that for nothing.

 EDDIE
 So who's the dealer? Somebody's got to be dealing him a good hand.

 TEDDY
 Damn casino's mine. Belongs to me. He's just walking in and taking it off me.

FELIPO
There's only one person it can be.

INT. CASINO OFFICE - SAME

Monetto is seated, relaxed.

Tangential to him, Olly: pacing, head down, hands in pockets.

ALF (O.S.)
Does Teddy know?

MONETTO
Teddy?

ALF (O.S.)
Yeah. Teddy?

MONETTO
What does Teddy have to know?

ALF (O.S.)
I think that's it's fairly obvious
what Teddy needs to know.

MONETTO
Teddy's not an accountant. He's
an... action guy. He likes to go
out there and do things. That's why
he has me. I'm an accountant.

OLLY
What does Teddy like to do?

MONETTO
Oh Teddy like to do lots of things.
He likes business. He likes to meet
people.

Olly glances toward Alf.

ALF
You've come accustomed to dealing
with dumb people. At least people
who don't like to look at the
books.

Monetto gives Alf a weak smile.

INT. DONATELLA'S CAFE - HALF AND HOUR LATER

Teddy, Felipo, and Eddie are out their seats; wiping their mouths with serviettes. They leave money for the food, deliver gratitude's and leave.

EXT. DONATELLA'S CAFE - SAME

The guys head toward the casino.

TEDDY

I want to get this little idiot sorted out. I want it doing today. I'm not going to be played around like this.

FELIPO

I'd take it a little easy, if I were you.

Teddy throws a glance toward Felipo, incredulous.

TEDDY

Easy? Felipo, I'm beginning to think that something has got into you...

FELIPO

Teddy, I think someone maybe playing you.

TEDDY

Felipo, I've lived with the guy all my life. He's my little brother, I helped to raise the little git.

FELIPO

That's not the point.

TEDDY

If there's one thing that I know, it's that there ain't an awful lot going on between those cute little ears of his.

FELIPO

Someone could be playing you and him, Teddy. Like we said. He ain't so hard to control.

Teddy's brows furrow a little; he glances toward Felipo.

FELIPO (CONT'D)

Father was ill for a while. They could have seen it coming and started working on the guy.

The four men arrive at the casino. Bouncer is there.

TEDDY

You going to let me in to do my job now, meat-head?

BOUNCER

I'd like to welcome you both in; why don't you go make yourselves comfortable.

FELIPO

Because we have jobs to do.

They scowl toward the bouncer and enter the casino.

INT. CASINO OFFICE - SHORT TIME LATER

Teddy is sat in the same chair that Monetto sat in. Olly is pacing behind him as before.

Teddy is looking uncomfortable He glances behind him toward Olly, look toward Alf who is sat behind the main desk.

TEDDY

Anyone going to fill me in here? I'm kind of busy today, so if we could move this forward.

OLLY

Talk to me Teddy.

TEDDY

Yeah, it's kind of difficult with you pacing around behind me and all that.

ALF

Money. And manipulation.

Teddy squints at Alf.

TEDDY

What?

ALF
 There's a lot of it going on here
 Teddy.

TEDDY
 I'm sorry.

ALF
 That's ok.
 (pause)
 But we need to...
 (pause)
 ...tighten up our procedures
 somewhat.

Teddy shifts in his chair.

EXT. ANY STREET - LATER THAT EVENING

Felipo strolls and stops close to the sidewalk.

A car drives up. The window pulls down.

MONETTO
 Let's go and talk Felipo.

INT. CAR - SAME

Monetto drives.

MONETTO
 So how are you doing, Felipo?

FELIPO
 Let's just get to the point,
 Monetto. I'm a little tired to go
 dancing right now.

MONETTO
 There's been a lot going on, the
 last few days, hu?

Teddy looks at his watch, and checks out of the window.

MONETTO (CONT'D)
 Okay, okay. So there's little power
 struggle going on at the moment.

Monetto looks across to Teddy.

MONETTO (CONT'D)

There's people behind Olly, and
there's people behind Teddy. We're
taking sides.

FELIPO

And who's side are you on?

MONETTO

Felipo?

(laughs)

Wow. Didn't expect that. You're a
little cynical today, hu?

FELIPO

Look, I'm going to be straight with
you. I need convincing that you got
Teddy's interests in hand. Father
ain't watching over you anymore,
and that kind of concerns me.

MONETTO

A lot of people are concerned,
Felipo, these are uncertain times.
Whoever gets control over this
business is going to take it in
their own direction, and that isn't
so good for those who loose out.

Monetto pulls up outside an apartment block.

FELIPO

You're in a powerful position. You
got a lot of control over the
finances. But remember. I'm still
your boss.

Monetto laughs. Felipo looks at him.

MONETTO

Relax, Felipo. I know exactly which
hand is feeding whom.

Felipo exits the vehicle.

INT. CASINO OFFICE - EARLIER

Teddy is in the chair, Alf behind the desk, Olly pacing
behind.

ALF
What's your job, Teddy?

TEDDY
Sorry?

ALF
Your role, occupation...

TEDDY
(laughs)
What is this...
(pause)
Oh. Okay. Yeah, I get it. I see
what's going on. Control, hu.
Framing it up?

Teddy turns round to Olly.

TEDDY (CONT'D)
This guy pulling all the string is
he? Telling Olly what to do and
when. I'm your brother damn it.
Don't you think that I care about
you? About what happens to you?

Olly paces. Teddy shakes his head, rolls his eyes, and turns
back to face Alf.

TEDDY (CONT'D)
Well, I'm sorry guys, sorry to
disappoint you.

Teddy gets up.

TEDDY (CONT'D)
But I got better things to do than
sit around here and chat all day.

Makes his way toward the door.

TEDDY (CONT'D)
See you around Olly.

Teddy exits.

OLLY
Lucia here?

ALF
Yeah. I'll give her a call. She's
downstairs.

EXT. STREET - SAME

Eddie walks along the street, and crosses the road in front of GAMBDETTI'S Restaurant Wine Bar.

He enter Gambdetti's.

INT. GAMBDETTI'S - SAME

The bartender sees Eddie, and nods his acknowledgment. He moves off, speaks to Antonio Andretto who is standing nearby.

Andretto smiles and moves over to greet Eddie.

ANDRETTO

Hey, how are you doing? Come through.

They move through the restaurant to a door at the rear, marked: 'PRIVATE: MEMBERS ONLY'.

INT. CASINO OFFICE - SAME

There is a knock at the door.

OLLY

Yup.

A door opens, a bouncer's hand gripping the handle. Lucia walks in.

LUCIA

Hi Olly.

OLLY

Hi sis.

They peck on the cheek.

LUCIA

Hi Alf.

ALF

Lucia.

Olly offers Lucia a seat on the sofa, pours her a drink, and hands it to her. Lucia takes the glass and raises it to Olly.

INT. GAMBDETTI'S - SAME

The men walk through a functional corridor; there is an occasional door to the left and to the right.

Further along, a bouncer stands guarding a door... he moves aside as he sees the three men approach, opening the door as he moves.

INT. GAMBLING ROOM - GAMBDETTI'S - CONTINUOUS

A dimly lit room. There are tables; some have punters sitting around them.

Andretto shows Eddie to a table with two men chatting: BRUNO BARACOLLI and CARLOS CHINELLI. Baracolli and Chinelli turn and look to the men.

BARACOLLI

Guys. You took your time.

CHINELLI

Welcome in, take yourselves a seat.

They sit.

ANDRETTO

You going to have a drink?

EDDIE

Yeah, whiskey.

Andretto moves away.

BARACOLLI

(to Chinelli)

You going to deal?

Chinelli begins to dish out the cards.

Andretto return with drinks, and sits.

EDDIE

They're closing you down.

ANDRETTO

(suprised)

Says who?

EDDIE

Says me.

ANDRETTO

You got anything to base that on?

Eddie looks at Andretto.

EDDIE

He always wanted to go legit. That was his dream.

ANDRETTO

We got a legitimate front end here. I don't see what the problem is.

EDDIE

Back end, that's your problem. You make as much up front as you do here? I don't think so.

CHINELLI

There's been a little talk about about your...

(pause)

...alternate operations.

EDDIE

And?

ANDRETTO

And I'm interested. But you have to maintain control of the casino. Is Teddy going to be able to do that?

EDDIE

He got it all under control.

BARACOLLI

That's not what I heard.

EDDIE

What are you talking about? What have you heard? Who the hell are you?

BARACOLLI

They're talking at the casino. Some of the guys. Saying that Teddy's under pressure.

EDDIE

He ain't nothing of the kind.

INT. CASINO OFFICE - SAME

Olly is on his feet. Alf behind the desk. Lucia sipping at the drink.

OLLY
Talk it through between yourselves.
The two of you.

LUCIA
Between the two of us?

OLLY
Yeah.

Lucia looks at Alf.

LUCIA
Okay. From the top.

INT. GAMBDETTI'S - SAME

The men are gathered round the table.

ANDRETTO
There's a big risk to getting
involved with what you're doing.

EDDIE
Antonio. There's a risk to
everything. Look at what you're
doing. You trying to tell me
there's no risk there?

ANDRETTO
There's a risk okay, no doubt. But
us? We've only got the law against
us. You? You've got the law and the
business hunting after your
backsides.

EDDIE
I'm talking about a complete split.
We clean our ass on face value.

ANDRETTO
Ass about face?

EDDIE
We keep on running the casino, like
no-one thinks nothing is wrong. The
operation keeps running in the

(MORE)

EDDIE (cont'd)
background. We just separate, nice
and slow, drift off to
independence. Set up in new
areas...

ANDRETTO
(laughs)
Teddy isn't going to want to get
rich in the background. He wants
full control of the business. He
got no interest in going legit, no
desire, not with the potential with
outside operations.
(beat)
...and anyway. How do we fund a
split? You any idea how much that
kind of thing is going to cost?

INT. CASINO OFFICE - SAME

Olly paces. Lucia sips her drink. Alf is composed.

ALF
It's the Monetto problem really. He
thinks he runs the company.

LUCIA
So who does?

ALF
(laughs)
Olly's still here.

Alf and Lucia look at Olly. He sees them looking and gives
and embarrassed grin.

OLLY
Get on with it.

ALF
Teddy wants to run it. That's his
aim. Monetto wants Teddy to think
he's running it, because Monetto is
pulling Teddy's strings...

LUCIA
...pulling his strings..?

ALF
(pause to think)
Okay. Not a great choice of words.
We've seen the accounts. They're
(MORE)

ALF (cont'd)
pulling money in and then pulling
money out.

LUCIA
...for?

ALF
...well, financial purposes...

OLLY
Alf.

ALF
Okay. Okay.
(beat)
I don't know. An operation. The
cash flow, the money they're
putting in and taking out is
regular. But then Monetto is
messing around with the figures.

LUCIA
I'm not following you.

ALF
Monetto has a system. A method for
massaging the figures. Most of it
is directed towards Teddy.
Traceable to Teddy. But then he's
lining his own nest on top of that.
And Felipe doesn't know a thing
about it.

LUCIA
So Monetto is screwing Felipe.

ALF
Absolutely.

LUCIA
And so Monetto would like, really
like Teddy to be in charge?

ALF
Precisely.

INT. FATHER'S OFFICE - MONTHS EARLIER

Father is behind the desk. Olly by the window.

FATHER

Simple thing is. You can't know everything. You never will, and you're can never hope to. Especially you. You got to know your weaknesses kid, and then all you got left to worry about is your strengths.

Olly look down.

FATHER

Advisers. It's all about advisers. If you don't know it, find someone who does. That's the easy bit, because if you got a little cash in your ass, then everybody's going to now the solutions to your problems.

Olly looks through the window.

FATHER

But finding the guy, or the girl, who's going have the right solution? You're half-way there.

INT. CASINO OFFICE - SAME

Lucia leans forward.

LUCIA

Tell me about this operation. We have to find out more about it...

OLLY

Drugs.

ALF

Aah...

(wags his finger at Olly)

You don't know that, Olly.

LUCIA

Why do you think it's drugs, Olly.

OLLY

The casino. The money in money out men. Colombians. Means drugs.

LUCIA

Alf?

ALF

Yeah, but the term leaping, and conclusions, spring to mind. We don't now this yet, it's a suspicion, but we have to have a lot more to go on.

LUCIA

Is Teddy making money on this?

ALF

Well, no not really. Not as much as he'd hope to. Not as much as he thinks. Monetto is taking most of the profit. That's clear from the books. But Monetto is hiding a lot of the profit in the way of overheads.

LUCIA

How's he getting away with this?

ALF

He's got people.

LUCIA

Which people?

ALF

Teddy's people.

INT. GAMBDETTI'S - SAME

Eddie leans forward, toward Andretto.

EDDIE

You do know that this place is over if puppy-dog syndrome boy gets his paws all over things.

ANDRETTO

You're so sure?

EDDIE

It's the word from Teddy. His Daddy wanted to go legit. One of the reasons he tried to take Teddy out of the picture. Knew Teddy wasn't going to play that way.

ANDRETTO

So he gives complete control
(searches for the word)
to a...

EDDIE

...Person with Downs' Syndrome. I
don't think so. He's run by the
lawyer, Father's nephew. He'd like
thing clean. Got the kid as a
figure head. Didn't think we'd
figure it out.

ANDRETTO

Tell me something. How exactly is
all this going to work? Like it or
not, the kid's legally in charge of
the business.

EDDIE

We got Teddy verses the kid, and
Monetto verses Alf.

ANDRETTO

And...

EDDIE

Then we convince them our way.

ANDRETTO

And if they are not as compliant as
we'd like?

EDDIE

Force them out.

ANDRETTO

How?

EDDIE

We run the casino into the ground.
We know every inch of the place.
We've worked there years. We could
make it the worst place to come.

ANDRETTO

He'd hire other people.

EDDIE

Who? Alf? Olly?

ANDRETTO
Whoever you want.

EDDIE
The casino business is a small
world. And a bullet says a lot.

Andretto eyes Eddie carefully.

EXT. LARGE HOUSE - NEXT DAY - MORNING.

Alf Legatti is ringing on the buzzer of a large house. The door opens. Teddy greets him.

INT. - SAME

Alf sits on a sofa, holding a small whiskey. Teddy is standing near to the fire place, also holding a small whiskey.

ALF
How long are you going to let
Monetto get away with this?

Teddy looks toward Alf.

ALF (CONT'D)
I saw you looking at those books
yesterday. Don't pretend to me
you're dumb. I know you've been in
this business for a long time.

TEDDY
The opposite in fact.

ALF
So how much is he paying your guys?

TEDDY
About two and half.

ALF
And he told you he'd need to pay
them five.

TEDDY
And he told them I'd agreed to pay
them a grand.

ALF

So he takes two and a half grand off each guy per week, while they're sat there thinking he's giving them an extra fifteen hundred to keep them sweet.

TEDDY

And he's got a whole bunch of other tricks in the cupboard.

ALF

You see, Teddy. You don't really have any support.

Teddy laughs.

TEDDY

Oh, I still got Felipo.

ALF

He's not on Monetto's books?

TEDDY

Oh no. He's Monetto's boss, you see, the Casino Manager. He hired him. And... well, he doesn't really like accountants. Doesn't trust them.

ALF

And Monetto tried to... with him?

TEDDY

Hell yeah. Came straight to me, told me all about it afterward.

ALF

So why'd you let him...

TEDDY

Monetto? He's scared. We'll get the money back. It's all in a separate account. He builds it up. Hopes to one day shoot off, disappear. But he's an outsider. Loves playing with gangsters. But he's really scared silly. If we catch him, he'll just go, oh the money's here. It's invested. It's his safety clause and his pension pot in one.

ALF

So in the mean time you just let him...

TEDDY

He's on a power trip and he's not done yet. Final act. Control of the business. Then gone. But not before. He believes he can do it.

ALF

And you're happy to take him at any time. End his little trip?

TEDDY

Oh, Felipo would do it in the blink of an eye.

(laughs)

Let's be honest here. Felipo hates the guy like every Monday at once. He'd take him today and sleep like a baby.

Alf rubs his hands together. He looks up to the ceiling. He looks down again and shakes his head.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

What's cooking?

ALF

I'm... just not falling for it. Either you're lying somewhere here... or I'm not getting it. Why so clear? Why tell me so much? You're laying too many cards on the table. There's just got to be an ace somewhere that you're not showing.

TEDDY

You see, Alf. You don't really have any support.

Alf focuses on Teddy; waves his hand at him.

ALF

You're not being...

TEDDY

I got Felipo and his boys. I got Monetto, for the time being, so I've got the casino. I got Andretto and his people. Who've you got Alf? A couple of bouncers and doormen?

Alf gives a small laugh.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

You haven't got any weight with you. No really. I admire your choice. You were so close with Father, and you understood what he wanted to do...

ALF

Teddy...

TEDDY

..but you don't have... the weight of people that matter behind you. Sometimes morals cost. You got them in abundance. But you got nothing to force them through with. You're lost Alf. You've lost.

Silence. Both men eye each other.

ALF

You got 24 hours.

Teddy laughs.

TEDDY

For what?

ALF

To get out.

TEDDY

Get out of what, Alf?

ALF

Town.

TEDDY

Or?

ALF

You die, Teddy. It's as simple as that.

TEDDY

Who's running you? You?

Alf rises to a standing position.

ALF
You know who's running me, Teddy.
You always knew who was running me.

TEDDY
(whispers)
He wouldn't have the nerve.

EXT. SPAGHETTI ROAD BRIDGE - NEXT DAY

A car pulls to a stop. Two men get out. Felipo and Teddy.

TEDDY
Is this it?

FELIPO
Looks like it.

TEDDY
Check over there. Go careful.

Felipo moves forward moving near to the underneath of the bridge. Newspapers and various insignificant scraps get flung here and there by the light wind.

Felipo can see a car. He calls back to Teddy.

FELIPO
I think there's something here.

Teddy moves to join him. They approach the car together.

Inside there is clearly a man sitting slumped. As they move closer, they see a single wound to the center of the man's head, a dried trickle of blood. It is Monetto.

TEDDY
They killed Monetto.

Felipo hangs his head down, and turn away.

TEDDY (CONT'D)
Didn't think they'd do it.

Felipo looks to the car, and then looks to Teddy.

TEDDY (CONT'D)
You think I'm next?

Teddy turns to look at Felipo.

Olly sits back a little, he gets comfortable.

OLLY (V.O.)

And now they got to figure out a response. They got to figure out what their move is next.

Olly nods his heads, and his eyes follow to the right, trained on a single person.

INT. GAMBDETTI'S - SAME

Andretto enters, flustered. There are chairs upended on tables, and clean floors. He scours the room, and sights Eddie.

Eddie drinks coffee.

Andretto moves to Eddie's table; he sits, waves over to the waiter.

The waiter nods, and gathers crockery.

Andretto leans back, gathers himself.

ANDRETTO

Better be good.

EDDIE

The coffee?

ANDRETTO

Screw you.

Eddie leans back in his chair, and shakes his head. Laughs to himself.

EDDIE

It ain't good.

The barman bring a coffee to Andretto.

EDDIE

It so ain't good.

Andretto stirs his coffee.

ANDRETTO

You better start explaining things.

INT. GIUSEPPE'S - DAY - SAME

A coffee is placed in front of Olly. He waits until his provider sits.

OLLY (V.O.)

I love the look on his face. Call it a hundred things. It's the look of fear. It's the look of the hunted. Of the man who though he had it sussed, and has suddenly woken to to an almighty...

INT. GAMBDETTI'S - SAME

Eddie leans forward toward Andretto.

EDDIE

They took Monetto last night.

Andretto remains calm. He turns his head to one side slightly.

EDDIE (CONT'D)

What, you don't believe me? You think that I'm joking? He's stone dead. And this screws up with things.

ANDRETTO

(to himself)

And you didn't think that there'd be blood.

EDDIE

Not so quick, no. Not that hand. Didn't think they'd play that.

Eddie rubs his face with his hand.

EDDIE

What I mean, is that I didn't think they'd play that hand at all, and if they did, then not... it's just...

ANDRETTO

Who did it? Who took him out?

Eddie shakes his head. He looks up. Shakes his head again.

EDDIE
Felipo. Had to be Felipo.

Andretto laughs.

ANDRETTO
That's pretty... um.

EDDIE
You got someone else?

ANDRETTO
Okay. Talk me through it.

EDDIE
There isn't anybody else. Simple as that. None of their guys would do it. We got the only people who are going to take someone out. And none of our guys are going to step out of line.

ANDRETTO
What's in it for Felipo?

EDDIE
Apart from he hated the guy?

Eddie takes a breath.

EDDIE
It's just instinct. There isn't anyone else.

INT. GIUSEPPE'S - DAY - SAME

Olly takes a sip of his coffee.

OLLY (V.O.)
Even now he's still trying to figure it all out. What are we playing at? What's his next move going to be?

Teddy takes a sip of his coffee.

TEDDY
You took Monetto.

OLLY
He was an inconvenience.

TEDDY
I didn't think you'd take him out.

OLLY
It was a warning shot.

TEDDY
(laughs)
To who? Monetto?

OLLY
Everyone.

TEDDY
So am I next? Are you going to get
one of your guys to gun me down
too? I'm assuming you didn't do it
yourself, of course.

OLLY
And I'm assuming you've already
been spoken to.

EXT. CASINO STREET - NEXT DAY

There has been rain. The streets shine with the dampness.
Teddy and Felipo walk side by side. Eddie and Andretto, side
by side follow immediately behind them.

TEDDY
Things are getting a little out of
hand. They're moving a little
faster than we anticipated.

FELIPO
Cards, Felipo. It's all about the
cards.

TEDDY
Felipo. A while back you said
something.

FELIPO
Okay?

TEDDY
We were walking back from the cafe.

FELIPO
Yeah?

TEDDY

I asked who the dealer was. You said that somebody had to be dealing him a good hand.

FELIPO

Yeah, I recall that.

TEDDY

Then you said, there's only one person that it could be.

Teddy stops and looks at Felipe.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

Who were you talking about?

FELIPO

Alf, Teddy. The only person I could be talking about.

Teddy frowns for a second.

TEDDY

Alf?

FELIPO

Why is that not so obvious? Olly has the business. Alf has Olly. Who do you think is driving things, Teddy?

Teddy resumes his walk. Felipe follows.

TEDDY (CONT'D)

Alf wouldn't set up a hit. Not in his nature.

FELIPO

Nature? He's at the helm of a multi-million dollar business. That changes things. That changes a lot of things. You have to understand that.

Teddy walks on, softly shaking his head.

INT. ROOM IN FAMILY HOUSE - NEXT DAY

Alf is sat on a chair, leaning forward, scotch in his hand. Lucia is stood by the fireplace. Olly is sat on the sofa.

Alf looks at Olly.

ALF

I need to know what is going on,
Olly. I can't help you otherwise.

Olly remains still, staring ahead.

Alf sits up.

ALF

Olly.
(beat)
Did you order the hit? Did you say
anything to anyone?

Alf looks at Lucia. Lucia returns the gaze and looks at Olly.

Alf rises, and places the remains of his drink on the cabinet.

ALF

You can call me if you need me. But
you have to be honest with me. I
need to now what is going on.

Alf exits the room.

INT. RESTROOM - CASINO

Eddie and Andretto are in the rest room. Eddie washes his hands and face, and moves to the dryer. Andretto lounges against one of the basins.

EDDIE

So what do you think? Alf's
controlling the books now. And we
were getting screwed all along by
Monetto.

ANDRETTO

That's why they took Monetto out.
Easy way of exposing what he was
doing.

EDDIE

Don't you think that's a little extreme?

ANDRETTO

He ain't family, there's no relation. He was a hired hand.

EDDIE

It's still excessive, hu?

ANDRETTO

They want us to know who's boss around here. And right now it isn't Teddy. We all thought it would be. Don't think like that now do we?

EDDIE

There's other ways of doing that than spilling blood.

ANDRETTO

If he was screwing us like Alf said, then he was probably screwing the casino too. He screwed the business, he could have screwed all of us. Had to make an example of him. Something would have had to have been done.

EDDIE

So if it ends here then we got no more moves to play. No more hands.

ANDRETTO

Or?

EDDIE

If we got any other hands, then they have to have blood on them. We have to be willing to go that far. You willing to go that far?

Eddie and Andretto look at each other.

INT. GAMBDETTI'S - NEXT DAY

Andretto, Eddie, Baracolli and Chinelli all gather round a table.

ALF (O.S.)
It's over.

Alf looks at the three men.

ALF
You got a good little business here
in the restaurant. And we'd like to
open some more. There's some good
sites in this area. Plenty of
development opportunity.

Andretto pinches his nose. Baracolli looks down, Chinelli
looks away.

ALF (CONT'D)
It's up to you guys if you want to
take that opportunity or not. But
it's a one-off offer. No ifs, no
buts, cards are on the table. But
it all goes legit.

Alf gets up.

ALF (CONT'D)
You've got until tomorrow to give
me a call.

Alf points at the three guys and exits.

EXT. GIUSEPPE'S - TWO DAYS LATER

Eddie and Andretto walk towards Giuseppe's cafe.

INT. GIUSEPPE'S - SAME

Baracolli and Chinelli are sat inside, engaged in
conversation.

The door opens. Eddie and Andretto walk in, take seats.

There are nods of acknowledgment.

ANDRETTO
So we got quite a situation here,
guys.

EDDIE
(to Baracolli and Chinelli)
Razor sharp, today, hu?

ANDRETTO

So we got an offer from Alf. Said that if we closed down the gambling, he'd fund us for more restaurants.

BARACOLLI

And you believe the guy?

EDDIE

Oh, I don't doubt that he's being straight.

ANDRETTO

He's being straight okay. It's what he wants, and he get's it easy. We're all eating out of his hand.

BARACOLLI

What about you guys? What do you get?

EDDIE

We get to keep our jobs in the business. We get a pay rise, new job titles, and the promise of the ass kicking to end them all if we stray out of line.

BARACOLLI

What about the Colombians.

EDDIE

Just ends. All of it. Right here and now.

Andretto leans forward. Looks at Eddie.

ANDRETTO

Did Alf take Monetto out?

Eddie laughs.

EDDIE

That's what Felipe wants everyone to believe.

ANDRETTO

We heard him telling Teddy so.

EDDIE

Except Teddy wasn't having it. Not a word of it.

ANDRETTO

Maybe not so stupid after all?

EDDIE

Felipo stinks of it. Stinks to high heaven.

CHINELLI

Teddy's probably the only person who doesn't think it was Felipo.

EDDIE

Took him right to the scene. Said he'd got a call. Bull. Felipo took Monetto out, and then showed Teddy his handy work. Must have loved the look of fear in his face.

BARACOLLI

Then plays like it's Alf, as if Alf has the bottle to even think like that.

CHINELLI

So what are we going to do? Take him up on his offer? Or stick this thing out?

EDDIE

We haven't got any choice. Alf basically runs the business. Made sure Felipo knew how much Monetto was screwing people over, got his hands on the books, and now he's calling the shots. He's got Olly sat on his knee, working him like a little puppet.

ANDRETTO

It ain't worth taking this any further. We answer shot for shot, a lot of people ain't going to get up up. It's a waste of time. We all got jobs, money coming in. You know the score.

EDDIE

(shouts)

Giuseppe!

(to the guys)

What you guys having, then? It's all on me.

INT. CASINO OFFICE - NEXT DAY

Olly sits behind the large main desk. He admires the lines of the wood, touches the smoothness, runs his hands up and down.

OLLY

I need an accountant.

Alf sits opposite Olly on the other side of the desk, small office chair.

ALF

I'm happy to do the books, Olly.
You know you can trust me by now.

OLLY

I need an accountant.

Alf scratches his head.

ALF

Okay Olly. I'll get you an accountant. I set up some interviews, and I'll have someone sitting behind a desk before the week's out.

Olly continues to admire the wooden desk.

OLLY

Lucia's doing that already.

Alf looks quizzically at Olly.

ALF

Okay. Any reason you're telling me, in that case?

OLLY

Just though you should know.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Large dimly lit office family house.

Olly is by the window frame. Father is behind the desk.

FATHER

Ain't much more that I can tell you really. Except I don't think I got so much longer to go now. If that

(MORE)

FATHER (cont'd)
damn doc's worth his salt that is.
Paid him to keep me alive, not tell
me when I'm going to go.

Father coughs.

FATHER (CONT'D)
You get yourself off now. Go learn
some more and get a little fun in.
You got to get a little fun in.

Olly raises his glass to Father, drinks, puts the glass down
and leaves. Exits the room.

Father thinks.

FATHER (CONT'D)
You still sure? Totally sure? It
could all be yours.

On the opposite side of the room, Felipe gets up, finishes
his whiskey, put the glass down.

FELIPO
You made the right decision.

He takes a couple of steps toward to door and stops.

FELIPO
And don't worry. I'm going to take
good, good care of him. I'm going
to watch over him. Nobody's going
to touch him.

Felipo exits.

FADE OUT:

The End