

TW: Minor violence with bats and knives + violence towards a cat but off screen and separate from the bats and knives

EXT. SHADY ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Dark, instrumental punk-funk music plays. A neon sign saying "bar" (or something similar) is reflected in a puddle, but then it's disturbed by a footstep. EDWARD, 30+ threatening looking man, walks past with a baseball bat.

He reaches the end of the alley, looking out at the street, nursing a cigarette. It's too short, running out, and he flicks it to the ground, grinding it to ash beneath his shoe (what a bad boy).

He sighs, cracking his knuckles and neck, & he turns back to where he came. The music swells, and—

LOUIS

Hey, that's a cool jacket, sir.

The music cuts, Edward startles, jumping, before glaring at the kid (LOUIS, 17+yo flacito).

EDWARD

God, kid. Buzz off, I'm busy.

Music returns. Ed tries to crack his knuckles again, but this time they won't go.

EDWARD (CON'T)

Tonight... *they're* gonna pay.

Eyes narrow. Music cuts out again.

LOUIS

Who, sir?

EDWARD

What— why do you care? I thought I told you to go.

LOUIS

Go where?

EDWARD

Just anywhere! Go on, shoo!

Louis sighs, walking away. Music comes back as Edward brushes himself off, tough-guy stomping up to the doors. The bouncers move to stop him, but he shoves them out of his way with minor grappling. A car skidding sound occurs.

LOUIS (O.S.)

Oh, OH NO! Someone please, someone
come help!

Ed has the bouncers knocked out, but stalls from going in, distracted. Louis comes back, running.

LOUIS

Sir, please! I just saw a cat get
hit, but they're still alive! They
need help!

EDWARD

What? No, I'm busy.

Louis takes out a granola bar from his pocket, throwing it and nailing Edward in the eye.

EDWARD

Ow, God, do you just keep that in
your pocket?

LOUIS

How could you? A life goes above
whatever you could be busy with.

EDWARD

Funny you talk about lives... just
what I'm dealing with now,
actually...

A second granola bar hits his other eye.

EDWARD

What the hell?

LOUIS

I get hungry!

EDWARD

FINE, fine, I'm coming.

Edward goes over to the cat, and Louis snatches Edward's jacket to swaddle the cat.

LOUIS

It needs, like, food or something...

EDWARD

Yeah, whatever, take my jacket I guess, but now I'm GOING.

The music comes back. Edward stomps up to the bar, throwing the door open. Inside is a hopping bar scene, untz untz untz untz and everything, but it all skids to a stop as everyone looks at Edward. He grins.

EDWARD (CON'T)

I'm here...

He lifts his bat.

EDWARD (CON'T)

...to repay some debts.

Louis bursts in.

LOUIS

Does anyone here have first aid supplies?

Edward jumps again, leaning against a wall.

EDWARD

I thought you left already! Go. Away!

LOUIS

It's for the cat, sir, please!

Edward glares, before turning to the crowd.

EDWARD

You heard him, someone get the
first aid. And... someone else,
point me in the direction of *the*
head of this establishment.

When no one moves, he swings the bat at the wall, and people
scramble and point. He heads to the back where he's directed.
The door is locked, but he bashes the door down. Inside, NOEL
startles.

EDWARD (CON'T)

We meet again.

NOEL

Who are you?

EDWARD

You took the head of my family,
but now it is me... and I demand a
rematch.

Noel grins, pulling out a knife.

NOEL

Oh, did I beat your family? You
want to lay with them too, now?

Edward raises his bat in war cry, and they rush at each other,
but Louis appears, throwing the jacket at Noel. It knocks his
knife out a window? Or just out of reach.

LOUIS

Hey! TIME OUT!

He makes a T shape with his hands.

NOEL

My knife! I-

Edward more so jabs Noel in the stomach rather than swinging, so
Noel is just winded as he falls. He sighs, turning to Louis.

EDWARD

WHAT? *What* do you want now?

LOUIS

Sorry about your jacket, sir, I
just came to say the cat'll be
okay, thank you, but then I saw
him comin' at you with a knife so...

He sidles up to Edward, speaking behind his hand in a
false-whisper, pointing.

LOUIS (CON'T)

Who's this guy?

Edward stares into the distance.

EDWARD

This is my enemy, the man who
killed my family... my friends...

NOEL

'T's just business...

EDWARD

Yeah? Well, not anymore. And when
you die, I want you to remember my
father's name.

He points his bat at Noel.

EDWARD (CON'T)

Die, remembering the name Rupert
Felton.

LOUIS

(quietly)

Wasn't that an actor in Harry
Potter?

Noel shakes his hands.

NOEL

Hey, wait wait wait wait. I never killed no Rupert.

EDWARD

Tch. You're a *monster*, you don't even remember your victim's names.

NOEL

No, no, for real! L-look, when did he die? I've been out of town lately, was it recent?

EDWARD

It was *last week*.

Noel snaps his fingers.

NOEL

Hey hey, I was in Fiji last week! C'mon, man, check my camera roll!

He holds up a finger, pulling out his phone. He finds the photo, showing an image of him in a Hawaiian shirt and hugging a palm tree.

NOEL (CON'T)

Boom. Timestamp, a week ago. Were you... hm, well, the Callaghan family has been on a rampage lately, could've it been one of them?

Edward is shocked.

EDWARD

I. Well, do any of them look like you? I found you just showing a grainy photo around...

NOEL

Liam Callaghan! Hate that guy, and he just got my exact haircut—about my height, similar style? He wants to be me so bad...

Edward narrows his eyes, pointing.

EDWARD

If this isn't my guy, I'll find you again. You know I will.

Noel waves him off.

NOEL

Yeah, yeah man! Don't worry I understand. Like I said, just business.

He winks. Edward just scoffs, turning to Louis.

EDWARD

C'mon kid. Show me that cat.

The two of them head to the bar, and Edward picks up the cat from the bar counter gingerly.

LOUIS

He really seems alright now, his leg is a little odd, but—

A knife *shing's* past them, and Edward hisses and reaches for his ear where a new notch has formed.

NOEL

You think you can just come into my bar, beat the place up, & get away with it? Prepare to die!

He charges with more knives in hand, and Edward has to skitter away.

EDWARD

Calm down, man! You'll hurt the
cat!

NOEL

Damn the cat!

Edward & Louis gasp, making eye contact. Ed puts the cat down,
adjusting his grip on the bat and narrowing his eyes.

EXT. BAR ENTRY DOORS - CONTINUOUS

EDWARD and LOUIS walk out of the bar, covered in red. Louis is
holding the cat in his arms. They walk out of the alley
together.

LOUIS

So, what should we name him?

End.