

Five

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1. EXT. BROOKLYN STREET - NIGHT

Quiet street of Brooklyn. Night. Only street lamps are on. Everyone is long asleep. A dark cat runs across the street and hides under a car. The car's alarms turns on. It keeps beeping and beeping changing it's tune.

1.2 INT. BROOKLYN APT - NIGHT

Inside of a bedroom we see the car outside through the shades and pan to a face of a sleeping older Latino man (40s-50s DRIVER) who not bothered by the alarm turns on the other side and keeps snoring.

2. EXT. BROOKLYN STREET - MORNING

James is walking down the street with Anna. He's 19 and she's just 7 years old. She's holding onto him, yet he just lets his hand hang down without emotions.

Anna lets go of James's hand and is staying behind.

JAMES

Anna, c'mon...!

ANNA

Mmhhh...

JAMES

What?

Anna is not answering just looking at James.

JAMES

Anna, what the fuck do you want from me? We gonna be late...

ANNA

John...

JAMES

Yes?

ANNA

Peeeee... I need to pee...

JAMES
Oh. Come...

3. EXT. BROOKLYN STREET - MORNING

DRIVER leaves his building and walks to his car. As he gets in someone throws 2 eggs that splatter on his windshield.

He gets out of the car and looks around trying to see who did it. He doesn't see anyone.

He opens the trunk and takes some rags out.

An older woman – a super – is swiping the front of the house. Driver wipes the splattered eggs with the rag.

SUPER
Morning!

DRIVER
You saw who threw the eggs?

SUPER
Eggs?

DRIVER
Someone threw eggs at me.

SUPER (somehow smiling)
And hit you?

DRIVER
No, just my car.

As he's was talking he didn't notice that he started smearing some grease on the windshield.

DRIVER (in Spanish)
Fuck!

4. INT. SMALL RESTAURANT - MORNING

James tries to open the women's bathroom in a restaurant but it's locked. He enters the men' restroom.

JOHN
Here.

4.2 INT. MEN'S RESTROOM - MORNING

James is waiting outside of the stall eating some chips. Another man enters and starts pissing looking at James waiting. John is somehow embarrassed.

Anna leaves the stall.

JAMES
Everything OK?

She nods 'yes'

The other man just finished and is about to go to wash his hands. He sees the girl and smiles to James. James walking next to him purposefully slams into him with his body. The man is surprised.

Both Anna and James are leaving. As the door is closing after them the man from inside:

MAN
Asshole...

James gives Anna the backpack he was carrying and the bag of chips.

JAMES
Go wait over there.

He quickly enters the bathroom and violently starts punching the man who by now was combing his hair.

James leaves the man is bleeding on the floor in shock.

JAMES (to Anna, looking suspiciously around)
Let's go!

5. INT. CAR WASH – MORNING

Car wash. Driver watches as the foam and the rollers hit his car.

The cycle is over.

5.2 EXT. CAR WASH – MORNING

Drivers watches young kids wiping his car. One of them while wiping around the mirrors moves it with his towel.

DRIVER
Watch it meathead!

He drives away without giving tip.

6. INT. CITY ADOPTION AGENCY CUBICLE – NOON

A black woman – a social worker – is filing out some papers. She raises her head from the paper work.

SOCIAL WORKER

That would be it.

She looks at Anna and smiles. Looking back at John.

SOCIAL WORKER

I'll go to make the copies and be right back.

She leaves.

Anna looks at James not knowing what's going on. James doesn't want to look her in the face, he just looks from the corner of his eye.

After a moment he stand up and walks behind the woman's desk and looks for a phone booth. He looks for a specific page and rips it out.

He stand there not knowing what to do.

He knells down and looks her in the face.

He stares for a moment.

She laughs and tries to wipe – what appears to be a tear – from under his eye.

ANNA

James.

JAMES

I'm sorry.... I'm sorry.

James looks to the side and see the Social Worker waiting in the doors.

He stands up and leaves.

7. EXT. BROOKLYN STREET - NOON

Driver is picking up a fare. She's a young girl (20s) wearing tight clothes.

As she's getting in, she forgets something to tell to the man standing outside.

GIRL (with one finger out)

One second...

Driver nods head taking time to stare at her ass she has to bend down and look for something in her bag.

She kisses the man and getting into the cab gives him a hand kiss, smiles and gets in.

GIRL

I'm sorry...

7.2 EXT. BROOKLYN STREET – 5 MINS LATER

On the red signal he adjusts the rear view mirror (the mirror has a small medallion of Virgin Marry) to get a better view of the girl's cleavage.

The girl feels the gaze and covering up the cleave tries to move away from his point of view.

Driver smiles sleazily.

8. EXT. CHINATOWN STREET – 1 PM

James is walking through the back streets of Chinatown. At some point 2 Asian men chase after another Asian. The other Asian slips and falls. The other two starts punching and kicking him. James looks for a moment indifferently, then starts walking in other direction.

8.2 EXT. CHINATOWN STREET – 1 PM

James is walking on another street. People are all over, yet he feels alienated. He stops next to a Chinese man drawing a portrait. The man is almost done with the drawing.

MAN (to James)

Twenty-five dollar... Two, five... Twenty five. You want?

He shakes his head 'no.'

9. EXT. BROOKLYN STREET – 2 PM

Driver is honking. The sound is terrible but the driver gets some kind of internal pleasure from the loud sound. He looks to the entrance looking for his fare.

2 really drunk men are leaving the building (on of the them is Prison Official). One of them hangs onto a side of the building as if trying to vomit. His friend tries to support him and gives the sign to the driver to wait.

Driver seeing it change the gear and drives away.

The drunkards are surprised and start cursing (in Polish or Russian).

8.3 EXT. CHINATOWN STREET – 2 PM

James is walking through a small crowd of Yankee fans.

10. EXT. CHINATOWN STREET – 2 PM

(he's ready)

He sees a phone booth we walks up to it and looks for his money. He has a few dollar bills and few pennies.

He stops a passer by asking for a quarter. But the man doesn't have any. As he's about to ask another passerby he sees a policeman casually walking near by.

He crosses the street and goes to a nearby coffee shop.

11. INT. COFFEE SHOP – 2:05 PM

JAMES

Tea.

WAITRESS

Milk?

JAMES

No... 2 sugars.

(after a moment, rude)

And a donut. No... Not this one. Yeah, that one.

He seat near the window eating the donut. He's finished. He watches the policeman.

He pulls out a laundry rope from his backpack. He tries to put the rope around his hand. It's too long. From a box of dirt dished he picks up a knife. He cuts it to size.

The policeman listens carefully to a radio then looks around as if looking for something/somebody specific and starts running. James gets interested and looks after the policeman.

James is now ready. He takes the ketchup bottle and fills his glass almost emptying the bottle. He spits in there and leaves.

12. EXT. CHINATOWN STREET – 2:30 PM

Across the street he near the pay phone he pulls out the yellow page ripped earlier from the phone booth. He makes a call.

He waits.

Some time later a car service arrives. James gets in.

13. INT. CAB - DAY

James notices the camera pointing at him and taking pictures. He tries to movie to the side in the “shadow” ashamed/afraid.

He notices that the wire is cut.

They are driving. Cheater of CB radio fills the interior.

JAMES

Can we have some music?

DRIVES

What?

JAMES

Music, turn on the music?

DRIVER

What station?

JAMES

Doesn't matter. This... no, no... yes this one.

Music is playing.

JAMES

Can you close the window? It's cold.

Drives close the window half-way (more as a gesture rather than way of making James comfortable)

Driver stops.

James is surprised and looks to the front.

The driver smiling lets 2 young school girls cross the street.

They continue driving.

13.2 INT. CAB - DAY

JAMES

Here, make a left here.

DRIVER

This way is faster...

JAMES

Just make a left here.

DRIVER

Okey...

13.3 INT. CAB – DAY

JAMES

Here.

DRIVER

Where? It's not Grand yet.

JAMES

I know, just stop there.

DRIVER

Makeup your mind...

Driver is pulling up to the curb.

James jumps up and pulls the rope around the driver's neck.

The car keeps rolling and slowly stops against the curb.

The driver struggles. James with his knee pushes against the front seat tightening the grip as much as his strength allows.

The driver tries to reach the CBS radio but is unable. He's short of just a few inches. The only thing he can reach is the horn. There is a loud elongated sound.

A dog up to now roaming through the garbage gets scared and runs away.

James manages to tie some kind of knot trapping the struggling driver in his seat.

An elevated subway is passing by slowly. James gets scared and hides behind the car.

Driver exhausted looks in the back mirrors and sees nobody. Will for survival returns. He struggles with the seat trying to let himself loose (he's almost crying because of his impotence).

The train has passed. James (with a crowbar in his hand) crawls along the side of the car. He opens the door on the driver's side and starts hitting violently on the driver's head. The driver defends himself for a moment then gives in. James is now hitting a motionless dummy. With yet another blow Driver's head falls to the side looking (with blood all over) into James' eyes. James stops another blow half-way.

He stares for a moment in horror then runs to the back and brings the same old towel used earlier by the driver to wipe the eggs. He puts the towel over the driver's head and slides it to the side.

The car drives half a block. James gets out and pulls driver's body towards the bushes next to a canal.

He discovers that the driver is still alive. He tries to chuck the driver but gets blood all over. Panicking he looks around and see a big rock.

He hesitates as the driver is mumbling something then with one swing splashes his skull.

He goes over his pockets and from his wallet pulls out family photo (the driver, his wife and their daughter). He crumples it and throws it into the mud.

He sits in the front passengers sit for a moment smiling as if achieving something spectacular. He stand up and with great joy screams with New York in the bg.

14. INT. CITY ADOPTION AGENCY CUBICLE – DAY

Social worker is helping another family. She's busy over the paper work.

Her phone rings and she casually pick picks it up.

SOCIAL WORKER

Yes? ... Yes, that's me.

Waiting she continues what she was doing. Hearing the person on the other line she stops.

SOCIAL WORKER

Yes... yes... no, i understand. Mhh.... yes I'll see what i can do. ...When? 4:30. Yes.

She hangs up. She goes to the file cabinet and pulls up a yellow folder she's thinking trying to gather her thoughts.

15. EXT. PRISON - DAY

Social worker gets out of the car (wide shot).

She signs and and presents her ID to the prison guards.

16. INT. DEATH ROOM

A Prison Official enters the lethal injection room (a small room with a table in the middle). He turns on the lights then goes to inspects the straps. He has some problems unfastening one of them so he struggles for a moment.

Having unfastened them all he puts a new table covering. Then he taps on the microphone suspended from the ceiling to see whether it's connected.

Everything is ready. He leaves the room.

17. INT. WAITING ROOM

She's waiting in a large room looking outside. A prison guard is standing against one of the walls. She needs to wipe her nose.

SOCIAL WORKER

Do you have some tissue?

Guard gives her a few of standard rough-paper napkins.

SOCIAL WORKER

Thank you.

As she finishes wiping her nose James is being brought in.

He sees empty room with only the social worker and another guard. He hesitates as his hopes were crushed. Another guard stands up in front of him obscuring the view.

GUARD

Hands.

(taking of his handcuffs)

You be nice...

Without much emotions James moves to the table somehow massaging his wrists from a tight grip of the handcuffs. He sits down. Social work sits after him.

The guard is change by another guard and the rest of the prison officials leave the room.

JAMES

Do you have a cigarette?

Social worker pulls out a pack and gives him one cigarette.

GUARD

There is no smoking in the building.

Social worker gives him a look: 'Don't be ridiculous.'

James is smoking.

(...)

(She visits him in prison – he's on the death row. She couldn't bring the girl.)

(James talks to her – as she seems to be his only – even though unlikely – friend)

(We learn that his parents have died in an accident that he was responsible for, he chose to take care of his little sister, but juts couldn't financially pull it off).

(...)

17.2 INT. WAITING ROOM – 30 MINS LATER

Prison guard is biting his nails. Door opens and 4 guards and a prison official enter. Guard stands straight.

PRISON OFFICIAL

It's time.

Social worker looks at the "crowd" then back at James. She extends her hand and holds his. James looks at her watch showing 4:45.

He stands up and extends his hands. They put the handcuffs on. James looks back at the social worker as 2 guards hold him on his arms. They walk out.

18 INT. PRISON HALLWAY

They are walking down the prison corridor. 2 guards in front, James, 2 guards in the back. Prison official follows. They enter the injection chamber.

16.2 INT. INJECTION CHAMBER

Prison Official undoes the straps. James watches. PO is finished, the bed is ready. James starts shaking. All the sudden he flips out and starts struggling with the guards holding him.

JAMES
No, no, NO, NO!

2 more guards need to hold James down. He tries as hard as possible to get out of their hold but is overwhelmed by the strength of guards. Now each is holding him by his arms and legs carrying to the bed. He still struggles screaming.

JAMES
NO, NO, NO! I didn't... I didn't do it.

GUARD 1
Hold him!

GUARD 2
Give it! Hold.

GUARD 3
Put him down!

GUARD 1
SHIT!

They are having problems holding him down as they tighten the straps. Finally all his limbs are securely attached.

One of the guards is holding his hand. James holds onto that hand with all his power.

GUARD 4
Calm down, calm down!

Eyes wide open and still holding the hand of the guard James observes like another guard (wearing yellow latex gloves) inserts a needle into his arm.

GUARD 4 (bending over James' face)
I'm gonna have to leave now.

James isn't letting go of the hand.

GUARD 4

You have to let it go. Just calm down. You don't have to be afraid. Soon it'll be over.

James slowly releases the pressure. With a corner of his eye he sees everyone leave the chamber but the Prison Official. He looks to the side at a dark window. Then with still scared eyes tries to see the plastic tube connected to his arm. He looks to the side and looks at a wall clock counting the seconds until 5.

The PO looks at his watch then at the clock and when it's close to 5 turns on a machine. A liquid is being pressed into the tube. James watches as it gets close to him.

He's starting to cry. He also moves violently trying to snap the straps.

JAMES

NO, NO, NO, NO, Let me go! I didn't do it... I didn't do it.

The first phase is starting to take the effect as James continues to scream he slowly gets relaxed almost as if he was hallucinating.

JAMES

I didn't do it... I didn't do it... I didn't do it... I didn't do it... (it slowly fades out as his pupils dilate and a feeling of supreme calm shows up on his face.)

Another liquid is pushed into James' body. This time the only response are tiny – almost invisible – spasms of his arms and facial muscles.

The third liquid is injected. This time without any response from James. Moments later a loud continuous sound of heart beat machine sounds. James is dead.

15.2 EXT. PRISON PARKING LOT – AFTERNOON

Social Worker is walking towards her car. Next to it she start searching for her keys. She opens the door and gets in. Sitting in there she starts crying.

SOCIAL WORKER

I'm so sorry, I'm so sorry.... I'm so sorry.

As she's crying we see Anna, not understanding what's going on, with a sad face sitting in the back seat.

THE END