

THE BREAK-IN

Written by

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INT. HONDA CR-V - NIGHT

Nightfall consumes the well-kept, affluent suburb of Shaker Heights, Ohio.

ANDY, at 17 years old, is in his anxious and nerdy years hoping to get into his dream school, Yale. Dressed in a navy collared shirt and dark khaki pants, he sits in his car outside his classmate BUSTER's house.

Buster's house is one of the less nicer ones in the neighborhood. It is a ranch house that needs a lot of landscape work and a new roof.

Buster, also 17, exits his house in all black attire, right down to the eye black.

Andy has a CROWBAR that sits on the passenger seat of the car and a BLACK HAT. Before Buster enters the car...

ANDY

I can't do this. Yale isn't that important, right? What the hell am I saying. Yes, Yale is my life, but what am I going to major in? Ugh. I can do this.

(beat)

I. Can. Do. This.

Buster approaches Andy, opens the car door, tosses the crowbar in the back seat and then gives the hat to Andy. He sits down.

Andy is completely flustered. Buster puts on his seatbelt.

BUSTER

Did you bring the knife?

ANDY

What?? No. I I can't do this Buster. I'm done. The crowbar is too much for me.

BUSTER

Relax buddy. I'm kidding. Do you really think this is that intense? And besides I told you to bring the crowbar for the windows man, nobody's getting hurt.

ANDY

Are you sure this is going to work?

BUSTER

Yes, you know Alex from our class?
I helped change his grade on a math
test and it got him into National
Honor Society.

Andy attempts to put the gear shift into drive but keeps
skipping over the "D".

BUSTER (CONT'D)

You got it?

After several attempts he is able to get the car into drive
mode.

ANDY

Yeah, I'm fine lets just go.

CUT TO:

INT. HONDA CR-V - NIGHT

Still in the car, Andy and Buster arrive on Mr. Goodman's
street. It is a dimly lit cul-de-sac with only a few houses
built.

Andy turns onto the street.

BUSTER

OK, turn your headlights off and
you'll follow my lead. We'll get
out of the car, walk to the
backyard and find an open window,
OK?

ANDY

You sure that's what we should do?

BUSTER

Yes, positive and then...

Andy pulls over to the side of the street about a house away
from Mr. Goodman's when all of a sudden he tries to make an
abrupt U-turn and speed away.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

What? What's wrong now? Stop the
car. You suck dude.

Andy makes the U-turn and is still on the same street so he
pulls over to the other side of the cul-de-sac and lets
Buster talk to him.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Kid, grow a pair and lets do this.
I don't know what the big deal is.
Don't you dare wuss out. Would mom
and dad be proud....no, so c'mon.

ANDY

Don't bring my parents into this.

BUSTER

What? That wasn't the point. You're
way too uptight.

ANDY

Ugh! Fine you wanna do this? It'll
only take five minutes?

BUSTER

Yes, you big scaredy-cat I've done
this a million times

ANDY

OK expert.

(beat)

Wait how many times have you done
this?

BUSTER

A bunch trust me you'll be fine in
my hands. No need for the sass.

ANDY

Fine, fine. OK. I'm sorry.

BUSTER

You hired me for a reason.

(beat)

Now turn your car off and lets go.

Buster gets out of the car and slowly closes his door.

EXT. NEIGHBOR'S YARD - NIGHT

Buster walks into the neighbor's yard and motions for Andy to
get out of the car and follow him to the backyard.

BUSTER

(loud whisper)

Come, quick. Lets move.

Andy gets out of the car, grabs the crowbar and hat, puts his
keys in his pocket and ever so slightly closes the car door.

He puts the hat on and jogs over to Buster.

EXT. GOODMAN'S BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

BUSTER

Here, give me the crowbar.

Andy gives it to him and Buster tries to pry a few windows loose but no luck.

BUSTER (CONT'D)

Check and see if any of the other windows are unlocked.

Andy checks a few more windows and doors but does not find one that is unlocked. He then stands next to the house in the back and watches Buster attempt to find a working window.

Buster tosses the crowbar into the grass yard and breaks a garden gnome accidentally.

ANDY

Dude you can't do that.

BUSTER

It's fine Mr. Goodman's out of town anyway at a conference...remember?

ANDY

OK fine.

After several tries Buster starts moving Mr. Goodman's PICNIC TABLE towards the brick on the house.

BUSTER

All right we're gonna have to use this table to get to the roof. Help me move it.

ANDY

Are you kidding?

BUSTER

Yeah, you weak shit. I can't find an open window so we'll have to search up there.

Andy and Buster move the picnic table next to the house. It takes several attempts for Andy to muster up enough strength to actually move the table.

ANDY

I can't do this, it's way too heavy. Why don't we just go home, I'll drop you off and call it a night.

BUSTER

Yeah right that's a joke. It's not gonna happen. I'm gonna get us inside, watch me.

ANDY

(under his breath)

Why is he so adamant about this?
Damn.

Buster keeps trying to move the table and Andy gives in eventually and helps again.

Once they move the table into position Buster then leaps up and grabs onto the gutter to pull himself up. He successfully gets on top of the roof. However, his phone falls out of his pocket and shatters on the ground.

BUSTER

Shit, my mom is gonna kill me.
Damn it.

ANDY

Dude this is such a cheap phone I'm sure she'll buy you a new one.

BUSTER

It's not like my family has money growing on trees like yours does. I actually need to pay for my own college unlike you so this is important to me.

ANDY

You think everything is easy for me? My parents are pressuring me to get into Yale and if I don't then it's literally the end of the world for me.

BUSTER

I don't want to hear it man. Just give me my phone.

Andy reaches down on the ground and tosses the phone up to Buster on the roof.

Buster goes to search for a window while Andy struggles to pull himself up onto the roof. He suddenly loses his grip and the gutter makes a blaring crack as Andy bends it.

ANDY

Shit.

BUSTER (O.S.)

You idiot.

Andy ignores Buster's comment.

ANDY

Buster thinks I'm a fucking fool.
Andy, you're just gonna do it. OK.

He tries for a second time to pull his way onto the roof and finally is able to muster up enough strength.

EXT. ROOF - NIGHT

Buster squats down pulling up an unlocked window. He motions for Andy to come over to him as Buster makes his way inside the house.

Buster goes into the window and Andy soon follows.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The bedroom walls are lined with crooked and broken pictures of Mr. Goodman and his wife.

BUSTER

At least we know we're at the right house.

Andy looks around the room and since there is no desk he figures that his test won't be in the bedroom.

ANDY

Lets head downstairs. I don't think it's in here there's no desk.

The two then walk downstairs. As they head down the stairs Andy asks Buster a question.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Didn't you think it was weird that they have two twin beds in the room?

BUSTER
No, not really.

ANDY
It's definitely a little strange.

BUSTER
I don't know my parents got two
beds when they had marriage stuff
going on, but now they're getting
divorced.

ANDY
Wait your parents are divorced?

BUSTER
L-Lets just move on I don't wanna
talk about it.

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

The desk is cluttered with endless amounts of disorganized papers and a laptop. Buster struggles to open the drawer as it is completely overflowing with old magazines and pictures.

ANDY
Shit, we're never gonna find it.

BUSTER
Dude stop being so negative; It's
here somewhere so start looking.

FADE TO:

BUSTER (CONT'D)
You stay here I'll go into the
other rooms and see if I can find
it.

ANDY
OK.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Buster goes into the kitchen and rummages through the stack of mail that is on the counter. No luck.

He then begins to open the drawers in search of any tests that might be there. No luck.

Afterwards he walks into the room next door, the media room, and sees a stack of papers with a red pen sitting on top of the ottoman. Buster rushes over.

He looks around the room and spots several Osama Bin Laden framed pictures lining the walls. One of them sticks out.

BUSTER

Ummmmmm, wait what? This is way too weird for me. Wait, is this one autographed? What the..

Meanwhile Andy is searching through the file cabinets but all of them are locked.

Suddenly car lights streak through the windows in the office. A car is pulling into the driveway of the house.

ANDY

(softly)
Buster?
(louder)
Buster?

BUSTER (O.S.)

What?

ANDY

(softly)
Uhhhh I think Mr. Goodman's home.
What do we do?

CUT TO:

INT. MEDIA ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Buster is able to get a quick look at the papers. They are the tests.

He grabs them all and runs into the office to find Andy.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

As Andy is putting everything back that he removed from the drawers, he has a slight panic attack.

ANDY

Oh my God we're about to caught.
This is the end. I'm dead. We're going to jail. My life is over.

BUSTER

No dude we're going to jail? Not a chance. Besides, I found your test.

ANDY

You're supposed to be the confident one here!

(beat)

Wait, so you changed the grade?

BUSTER

(lifting up the tests)

Uhhh not exactly but I have all of them right here.

ANDY

You're my savior.

Andy hears footsteps and the key entering the door and the knob being twisted.

ANDY (CONT'D)

You hear that? Shit. Shit. Quick lets go in here.

Andy rushes into the room across the hall.

Buster does not want to follow Andy at first as he is starting to have anxiety from their adventure.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Buster, quick in here.

INT. TAXIDERMY ROOM - NIGHT

The two sprint into the dimly lit room. Buster goes to sit in the corner of the room while Andy starts to look around the room when he notices...

ANDY

Animals...dead, animals.

(beat)

Is this a little weird to you?

BUSTER

(very ditsy)

What?

ANDY

All the dead animals. This taxidermy stuff.

BUSTER

Wait, what? Dude I'm allergic to fur.

Buster starts to convulsively sneeze. He has to prop his head out farther out of the door in order to stop the allergic reaction.

ANDY

Stop stop. We're gonna get caught. Shhh.

Buster covers his mouth with his hand to mute the sound when it finally stops.

Andy gets distracted from his conversation when the garage door swings open. It's not Mr. Goodman. Another male figure enters with Mr. Goodman's wife. Their conversation is indistinguishable.

Andy props his head slightly out of the crack in the door.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Buster come here.

(beat)

It's not Mr. Goodman.

Buster walks behind Andy's crouched self and peeps his head out of the door.

BUSTER

Wait, no way. Is his wife cheating on him? Damn.

ANDY

That's his wife, right?

BUSTER

Yes one-hundred percent. I recognize her from the photos upstairs.

ANDY

That's no Mr. Goodman. Wow, I can't believe this is happening.

Mr. Goodman's wife and her lover head upstairs to the bedroom. They walk right past the room where Andy and Buster are hiding in.

Andy quickly grabs the door knob and pushes Buster back and pulls the door closed but not all the way and just barely opened.

Right as the two walk by the room to head upstairs Buster starts sneezing again.

ANDY (CONT'D)
(whispers)
Shut up. Stop.

Buster quickly puts his hand over his mouth to mute the sound again.

MR. GOODMAN'S WIFE
Did you hear that?

LOVER
What?

MR. GOODMAN'S WIFE
That noise. It sounded like someone was sneezing.

LOVER
Yeah I heard something. Which room?

MR. GOODMAN'S WIFE
It definitely came from the taxidermy room.

Mr. Goodman's wife opens the door and finds Buster and Andy crouched in the corner.

MR. GOODMAN'S WIFE (CONT'D)
Ahhhhhhhhhhh!! Who the hell are you guys? Get out! Get out now!

Petrified, Buster races across the room to one of the windows. He opens it and tosses the tests on the ground and leaps out of the house.

ANDY
Wh-wh-what are you doing?

BUSTER
Bye Andy.

MR. GOODMAN'S WIFE
What's going on here?

ANDY
I can explain.

MR. GOODMAN'S WIFE
You better.

ANDY

I'm a student of Mr. Goodman's but
I see he isn't here.

LOVER

So?

ANDY

So, I have an ultimatum for you.
Either you let me change my grade
on my test and go about my day and
I keep your secret hidden with me
or I'll go tell your husband you're
cheating on him.

MR. GOODMAN'S WIFE

Yeah right like that's gonna
happen.

ANDY

Test me.

Mr. Goodman's wife and the Lover converse briefly, discussing
what to do. They have an answer...

MR. GOODMAN'S WIFE

Fine, you little scumbag you change
your grade and *this* stays between
us, OK?

ANDY

Deal.

Andy grabs the stack of tests and searches through them
eventually finding his.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Do you have a pen?

The Lover pulls a pen out of his pocket and hands it to Andy.

BUSTER

Here.

ANDY

Thank you.

Andy changes the grade on his test from a B- to an A-.

MR. GOODMAN'S WIFE

Now its time you leave.

ANDY

Very well.

Andy hands the tests to Mr. Goodman's wife and leaves out the same window that Buster left from.

LOVER
That kid should definitely
be a lawyer.

MR. GOODMAN'S WIFE
(confused)
What?

LOVER
Hey, he convinced you didn't he.

EXT. YARD/CAR - CONTINUOUS

Andy jogs through the yard to his car where he finds Buster waiting.

BUSTER
Can you give me a lift?

ANDY
You bugged out and straight up left
me and now you want a ride?

BUSTER
I helped you the whole time. I'm
the one who got you into the house
and I'm the one who found the test.

ANDY
I'm the one who got the grade
changed.

Andy walks over to the driver seat and unlocks the door with his key so the passenger side does not unlock.

Buster furiously pulls on the passenger door handle and is unable to open the door.

Andy turns the car on and slightly rolls down the passenger window.

ANDY (CONT'D)
Peace out dude.

He begins to drive away leaving Buster in the dust.

BUSTER
You little shit.

