

Deep

by

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FADE IN:

OVER BLACK:

We hear the sound of a seatbelt being tugged at repeatedly.

INT. HUGH'S FORD EXPLORER- NIGHT

HUGH (34) panics as he tugs on his seatbelt. The seatbelt is stuck in place. He sweats profusely while on the verge of tears. The inside of his car is almost pitch black, only a hint of blue light shines through the windows. Hugh, frustrated, lets go of the seatbelt and slams his fist on the console with his head down. Hugh's smartphone light begins to shine as he receives a phone call. Hugh picks up the phone and slowly lifts it to his ear.

HUGH
Hey... Hello?

DANIEL (O.S.)
Hey man, this is Daniel- you know,
your best friend up until like
three weeks ago..

Hugh doesn't immediately respond. He rests his fist against his chin as he listens.

DANIEL (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Um... look man. I'm not exactly sure
how to say this... we've had each
other's backs for years now and I...
um... just don't want our little
screaming session to ruin it all.

INT. NICE APARTMENT ROOM KITCHEN- NIGHT

DANIEL leans against a counter in his kitchen as he looks out the window at a city.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
I know you've been going through a
lot and I should have respected
that. I had a sip too much to drink
at that party. That of course isn't
an excuse- I just want you to know
my intentions weren't bad.

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INT. HUGH'S FORD EXPLORER- NIGHT

Hugh scratches his head as he listens.

DANIEL (O.C.) (CONT'D)
If you're interested, I'd like to
take you to coffee soon- on me of
course.

Hugh takes a moment to reflect.

HUGH
Yeah man- that sounds good.

DANIEL
Uh... great! Awesome. I'll... uh... let
you know. Alright? See ya man!

HUGH
Bye Daniel.

Hugh puts his phone on the console and contemplates. His eyes
widen as if he has an idea.

Hugh picks up his phone and dials a number.

INT. MORETTI'S OFFICE- NIGHT

Moretti sits in his office as his phone begins to ring.

MR MORETTI
Hello?

Hugh attempts to use his car key to cut into the seat belt as
he talks.

INT. HUGH'S FORD EXPLORER- NIGHT

HUGH
Mr Moretti! I know this is not a
call you were expecting but-

MR MORETTI
The answer is a definite no Hugh.
There has never been an employee of
mine who has not been fired after
storming out of work.

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INT. HUGH'S FORD EXPLORER- NIGHT

HUGH

Sir, I completely understand. I just want to apologize. I would certainly not keep someone on that acted out like that. I just want you to know that the things I said... I fully regret. You have been a wonderful boss and you are a respectable man- I just had to tell you that.

There's a pause before Moretti speaks.

INT. MORETTI'S OFFICE

MR MORETTI

Take care of yourself Hugh.

INT. HUGH'S FORD EXPLORER- NIGHT

Hugh looks disappointed as Mr Mortteli hangs up the phone. He swings his head to the right as a small crack appears on the passenger seat window.

Hugh scrolls through his contacts and calls a number. He calls his contact labeled, Dad. He waits... No answer. Hugh's head drops for a moment. He picks out a new contact labeled, Mom. He waits.

MOM

Hello? Is this my son?

Hugh's eyes widen in excitement. He also begins to hit the seat belt buckle with his shoe.

HUGH

Mom! I need to tell you a few things! First off-

MOM

Sorry Hugh! The connection- It's-

The phone hangs up. Hugh's body goes limp. A tear trickles down his expressionless face. He sits in silence. The only noise is faint echoes from outside the vehicle.

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He looks up at the picture taped to his car mirror. It's a picture of him kissing a woman. He dials a number on his phone. Hugh picks up his key again and digs at the seatbelt. A crack on the front window appears. Hugh's eyes move back and forth rapidly as he waits for the call to go through.

ELEANOR (O.S.)

Hello?

HUGH

Hey El.

INT. ELEANOR'S HOUSE- NIGHT

ELEANOR

You don't sound good- please tell me you're alright?

INT. HUGH'S FORD EXPLORER- NIGHT

HUGH

I'm fine honey... look... there's so many things I need to say- things you deserve to hear from me-

Hugh hears the sound of slowly cracking glass.

HUGH (CONT'D)

But I'll have to tell you most of it later... I've been... off... for a while now. The company's plummeting financially, the mortgage, I've been meaning to fix the brakes on this car...

INT. ELEANOR'S HOUSE- NIGHT

Eleanor listens intently.

INT. HUGH'S FORD EXPLORER- NIGHT

HUGH (CONT'D)

I could go on. But in all this mess- through all the chaos, I've forgotten the actual reason any of this matters to me.

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INT. ELEANOR'S HOUSE- NIGHT

Eleanor nods, tearfully.

INT. HUGH'S FORD EXPLORER- NIGHT

The cracks in the windows grow and spread

HUGH

I... I really have to cut this short-
I'm so sorry- but I need you to
know. That the reason I wake up in
the morning- the reason I've made
it even close to this far in my
life, is because I get to share my
days- these stressful, miserable,
taxing days with someone like you.

Both Hugh and Eleanor, though separated by location, pour out
tears together.

HUGH (CONT'D)

Just never forget- through all my
mistakes... my love does, and always
will, run deep for you. Deeper than
you could know.

INT. ELEANOR'S HOUSE- NIGHT

Eleanor takes a moment to cry. She regains composure.

ELEANOR

Will I be seeing you tonight?

INT. HUGH'S FORD EXPLORER- NIGHT

HUGH

I'll text you when I'm on my way.
Love you.

ELEANOR (O.S.)

Sounds great! I love-

Connection is lost. Hugh drops his car keys and lays back on
his seat. He smiles. At peace, he watches a fish swim past
his window as the sounds of windows cracking grows louder.

FADE TO BLACK