

Radio music playing, sound of a moving car. Sound of the car engine turning off. Horn sounds calling Marcos attention. Sound of the car window rolling down.

Miguel:  
Hey Marcos! Marcos! Come here  
dude!

Marcos:  
Going going

Miguel:  
Hey Dude! What's up, how have you  
been?

Marcos (outside of car):  
Miguelito! All good, how about  
you? It's been a long time since  
I've seen you around here.

Miguel:  
I know, I know. Work has kept me  
away. But I'm back for the weekend  
as you can see. We can go to the  
beach like old times. Just hit me  
up whenever you are free this  
weekend.

Marcos:  
Man I wish I could. The shop won't  
manage itself, especially during a  
weekend. Now, more than ever. The  
pandemic fucked us all man. There  
are barely any businesses open  
now. I can't leave the shop alone,  
not with the increase of robbers  
too.

Miguel:  
Robbers?

Marcos:  
crime has been going up like  
crazy. It's not just occasional  
shoplifters. It's all types of  
shit now. Drugs, like heavy heavy  
drugs. Their dealers too.  
Miguel: shit man. It hurts to see  
really. I could have never thought  
this neighborhood could turn out  
like that.

Marcos:

You've been gone for too long.  
Times have changed. We can't even  
walk the streets in peace anymore  
there is always some--

**Loud police siren to a distance. Dudes running approaching**

Miguel:  
what the--

Nicolas:  
[Angry, desperate] OPEN THE DOOR!  
OPEN NOW!

Miguel:  
[nervous] Wait wait I--

Diego:  
[angry] GET OUT NOW! GET IN THE  
BACK NOW!

Miguel:  
[scared] ok ok I will just lower  
that gun man.

Marcos:  
MAN THERE IS NO REASON TO TAKE HIM

Nicolas:  
[angry][at marcos] You have 5  
seconds to run or I'm taking you  
too

Miguel:  
Just run, leave!

**Sound of running, Sound of car doors opening, the sound of  
car doors closing. AC Running**

**Sound of the car engine starting. Tires screeching,  
Inside the car, windows up.**

Miguel:  
I-- Just let me get out please. I  
won't say anything to the police.  
I won't report the car.

Diego:

You see this gun right? You bang on that window, make any movement to ask for help, and I'm putting a bullet through your head.

Nicolas:

We have to go now. shut up, just ignore him.

**Sound of the car engine starting. Sound of a car moving.**

Miguel: d

ude, just let me get down--

**Police sirens in the distance**

Diego:

\*frustrated\* shit they are following us--

Nicolas:

We can lose them on the Interstate 95 (I-95) highway, we can get down near the port.

Miguel:

where are you dropping me off?!? I don't have to be here for this.

Diego:

I told you to shut up, you are staying here with us. If things get ugly, you are our exit ticket.  
Nicolas: Call the boss, tell him we had to leave base because police raided the place.

Diego:

He is gonna be pissed.

Nicolas:

I am the one driving trying to lose the police do something fuck.

Diego:

You back there stay quiet, you know one wrong move and you are gone. Got it?

Miguel: Yes yes

**Sound of a phone ringing. MARIMBA RINGTONE**

Voice on the phone:  
hello?

Diego:  
Boss, we had to run from base,  
police raided the whole place. All  
packets were left on the ground,  
we had no time to get anything  
out.  
Voice on the phone: you idiots,  
you had one single fucking job.  
Who is with you?

Diego:  
Dave and I ran together, we don't  
know where the others went, I  
think Will got caught. Dave and I  
got into a car. I think we lost  
the police a while back.  
Voice on the phone: Do you have  
any plans?

Nick:  
We are on the highway right now, I  
think we are getting down near the  
port. We've got a hostage with us.  
We took this dude's car.  
Voice on the phone: why the fuck  
would you take someone with you?!?  
Who the fuck is he?!?

Nick:  
Dude, what's your name?

Miguel:  
\*nervous\* Miguel

Criminal 2:  
Miguel what!?

Miguel:  
Miguel Perez. Listen just let me  
get down, I swear I won't go to  
the police--

Voice on the phone:  
You two are idiots. You just made  
everything worse. Why the fuck  
would you take him?!? Now you'll  
have 3 times the amount of police  
behind you!!

Diego:

No civillian saw us take him, who the fuck will report him missing now? It's only been a few minutes, it's impossible that someone would have alerted the police.

Voice on the phone: and what the fuck do you want me to tell my boss? That the two of you took some random idiot on the street, are on the run, and lost all the packages at base?

Criminal 1:

He already knows we have him. He seemed hesitant at first but still didn't say anything when we told him to leave.

Voice on the phone:  
did you see anyone being into him?

Criminal 2:

not at all, he was in his usual post.

Voice on the phone: I'm not dealing with your shit. I might have brought you two on board, but you deal with him now. Call him immediately. Ask him for instructions on what to do.

**Sound of a call being hung up.**

Criminal 1: alright, call him now. The sooner we have instructions the better.

**Dials number**

Criminal 2: Hey

Marcos (on the phone): Where did you guys go?

Criminal 1: We are still on the highway. I have a feeling the police are catching up.

Marcos (on the phone): Is the guy still with you?

Miguel: what the--

Marcos (on the phone): Can he hear me?

Criminal 2: yeah he can, you are on speaker.

Marcos (on the phone): You two couldn't have picked anybody else right? God, you never do one thing right.

Miguel: Marcos!? What--

Criminal 1: We told you to be quiet!!

Marcos (on the phone): No no, let him speak. Miguel? Are you there?

Miguel: Marcos? Dude is it you?

Marcos (on the phone): yes, listen I know this doesn't make sense right now but--

Miguel: Man what the fuck just happened? How do you know these people? Are you in on this because--

Marcos (on the phone): Miguel shut up I just--

Miguel: no no I don't get it. What are they going to do with me? I don't know--

Marcos (on the phone): Hey!! Calm down. Yes, it's me. Yes, it makes no sense. But, I need you to listen to me now, ok? I know you are confused, but the police are going after the whole car and they don't know you are inside yet.

Miguel: Marcos, you have to get me out of here. I promise you I won't say anything. But, please--

Marcos (on the phone): I know I know. Listen to me carefully, I promise I will explain everything later. For now, I need you to comply with the two idiots in the car. Their job now is to get you out of there. I won't let my childhood best friend go down like this . You know this right? Did I ever break your trust?

Miguel: no no you never did. But--

Marcos (on the phone): no buts. Just comply with them.

Miguel: Ok ok I will. You know I trust you man.

Marcos (on the phone): ok so you two, I need you to keep driving until you reach the dumpsters near the end of the port. Don't take the mainstreet towards the canal.

Criminal 1: Do you have any reports on the police that are following us?

Marcos (on the phone): Not yet, there is a live stream happening now about the whole thing. Did you leave all packages at base?

Criminal 2: yes, we did. Listen boss, I know we are new and all but we swear we only escaped because we managed to take the car. We didn't even know we were running to your post.

We just--

Marcos (on the phone): That does not matter now, we will have this conversation later. Our entire central base is down, half of our team is on the run and the other half is most likely captured already. The cherry on the cake would have to be you idiots taking my childhood best friend as your hostage.

Criminal 1: Boss we swear to you we had no idea. (chuckling to himself silently)

Marcos (on the phone): Your responsibility now is to get him back to me safely. Not a single scratch on him ok? I will deal with the rest later.

Criminal 1: Got it. Do you have the exact coordinates of where you want us to take him already?

Marcos (on the phone): no, not yet. I'm still on the move as well. Expect them once I'm relocated. For now, drive to the port.

Criminal 2: Got it, boss. We're on our way. Let us know as soon as you have some intel on the pigs?

Marcos: Aight Bye.

### **End of call**

Criminal 2: How long until we get to the port zone?

Criminal 1: Not long. I think 3 more exits.

Criminal 2: Hey! How do you happen to know the boss? He keeps calling you his best friend like a pair of high school kids.

Miguel: We were best friends all throughout our childhood. I left for college and we lost connection. I swear I had no idea this is what he was doing now. (Surprised)

Criminal 1: Times are tougher than ever. We all have our reasons to be in this shit.

Miguel: I guess, I really don't know--

Criminal 2: Wait, just got a text back from the boss. He said the police, same as the other times, are still chasing after us. They got held up on the highway entry.

Criminal 1: Ok ok ok. Did he say how close to us they are?

Criminal 2: He didn't. He just said to hurry.

Criminal 1: Maybe we should get down in an earlier exit.

Criminal 2: Yeah, I don't know how else we can lose them here.



### **Police sirens**

Criminal 1: shit, they are closer and closer.

Criminal 2: I can see them from the rear view mirror.

Criminal 1: How close are they getting?

Criminal 2: GO GO GO NOW JUST STEP ON THE GAS!!

Criminal 1: I'M STEPPING ON THE GAS YOU IDIOT I CAN'T GO  
FASTER.

Criminal 2: they are going to get us damn I don't know what  
to do.

Miguel: Dude let's just all calm down we need to--

### **Car horn noise**

Criminal 1: SHUT UP! Shit I almost knocked that car over

Miguel: dude we are going to crash just slow down (says a  
little louder this time)

Criminal 2: We can't slow down, are you crazy?

Miguel: HEYYY LOOK OUT IN FRONT!!!

### **Loud car horn followed by tires screeching**

Miguel: OH SHIT

### **High pitch sound**

### **Continuous white noise.**

**Blurred vision, faint echoes of sirens and people shouting.**

### **White noise phases to heart beat monitor**

### **Heart beat machine beeping.**

Nurse: oh, you are finally awake. Can you hear me?

Miguel: What happened? Where am I?

Nurse: You are at the central hospital. You were involved in a car accident. Don't move, it's ok. I'll call your doctor. You are fine, don't worry. You only have a concussion. The police do want to talk to you, but they can wait until you feel a little better. I'll be right back.

**Nurse walks away. Door opening and closing.**

Miguel: Oh god, what am I supposed to do now? (He whispers to himself)

**Door opens and closes. Footsteps approaching.**

Marcos: Hey, how are you feeling?

Miguel: Marcos, what are you doing here?

Marcos: I told you I was going to make sure you came out of this fine. This is me doing that.

Miguel: You didn't have to come, the police are here. What if they recognize you?

Marcos: They have no idea I'm involved in anything. I'm clean as far as I know. My men are all over the hospital right now anyway. I wouldn't have come here if I was not sure I could walk out uncasted. Your nurse let me in. (with humor) I told her I was your brother.

Miguel: I mean, that's not far from the truth. Is it?

Marcos: I mean, a long time ago, yes. Way before you left.

Miguel: I didn't mean to cut you out.

Marcos: I know, don't worry. You were aiming for higher things. You were always the smart one, the one with the ambition to be someone important, to escape this hellhole. (Says with a smile and laughs lightly.) Everyone always saw the potential in you. God, I still remember your mom's face

when she found out you got that full ride for a university  
out of state.

Miguel: I know, you two were always there by my side.

Marcos: I'm sorry she didn't get to see you become what you  
are now. A real businessman. Everyone around here talks  
about you, a real CEO. Your mom would be so proud.

Miguel: Thank you man... I think she was the reason I never  
came back. After she died, a couple of months into my first  
semester away, I couldn't bring myself to come here. To  
come home knowing she wasn't waiting for me.

Marcos: No one blames you for that. We all had to move on  
with our lives. Some in different ways than others.

Miguel: Marcos, I won't assume to know what kind of person  
you are now, and I don't want to ask you questions because  
I know I won't like the answers. But, my friend, my  
brother, would have never been involved in whatever this  
is.

Marcos: I know, but we are not the same stupid kids that  
thought there was hope for everyone. When your mom died, I  
lost the only person who had ever believed in me, besides  
you of course. But, you didn't come back. The two of you  
were my only family. I needed to do something for myself,  
find a place where I didn't feel completely useless.

Miguel: So you decided what? Join the drug dealers?

Marcos: arms.

Miguel: what?

Marcos: Guns, bullets, any ammunition, you name it.

Miguel: What the hell? Marcos what is this mess?

Marcos: the one I found myself in without you. I started going around, I was fresh out of high school and I needed money. My mom never never gave a damn about me, but I couldn't do the same to her. I needed money to sustain the two of us. Working at an ice cream shop and cleaning pools don't quite give you enough to get your drug addicted mother out of the streets.

**Knock on the door, door opens and closes.**

Nurse: Hi, I see you don't look as confused now. I was telling your brother here you had nothing serious. Once we clear you up for that concussion you should be good to go home.

Marcos: Has the doctor come to see him yet?

Nurse: no, not yet. He wanted to take a look at his brain scans and the X-rays on his chest. He did take quite a hit to his chest. But, the doctor said he wasn't expecting any permanent damage.

Miguel: I do feel like it is a little hard to breathe tho.

Is that normal?

Nurse: It could be the medication we gave you wearing off.

I'll tell the doctor you are feeling that right now. But, don't worry. I'll be back, you can press the bottom at the side of your bed if you need assistance.

Marcos: got it, sweetheart. Thank you. I'll keep an eye on him.

Nurse: perfect.

**Footsteps. Door opens and closes.**

Marcos: Don't worry. It's probably also the shock wearing off.

Miguel: The nurse said the police wanted to speak with me. Help me. Marcos, you are my brother, I don't know what to do.

Marcos: Well, you said it. I'm your brother, your childhood best friend. Nothing more. You were just at the wrong place at the wrong time.

Miguel: Have you spoken to them?

Marcos: yup, they know I saw them take you away. I ran because I was scared. That's it. Listen, you can go back to your important CEO life in the big city and leave this mess behind. I promise none of my men will bother you.

Miguel: I still don't understand how you are in charge of all of this.

Marcos: You remember Jason?

Miguel: The kid who worked at the car shop?

Marcos: yup. I worked in that shop for a while. He saw me struggling, told me he knew some people who could get me a better paid job. I accepted and I still don't know how he knew them, but he introduced me to the old boss. I started running simple errands for them, the boss was impressed, the money was good, the rest I don't think you would want to know.

Miguel: And your mom?

Marcos: What about her?

Miguel: What happened to her?

Marcos: She went to a couple of the rehab sessions I paid for her. She passed away from an overdose a couple of months after that.

Miguel: Marcos, I'm sorry.

Marcos: Not your fault. She was a helpless cause from the beginning. I was just too stupid to see it.

**Knock on the door.**

Marcos: Come in.

**Door opens and closes.**

Police man: Hello, my name is Officer Johnson. I just wanted to see if you were up for giving us your statement now. The nurse said you are still waiting for your doctor.

Miguel: yeah... I actually don't feel so well right now.

It's a little hard to breathe and my head is killing me.

Marcos: Is it fine if he gives you the statement later?

Police: You are his brother right?

Marcos: yeah

Police: ok, just have someone from the front desk contact us when you feel better.

Miguel: Thank you, officer.

Police: is there anything you would like to tell me right now? Anything you consider time sensitive? We are still looking for the rest. The two men in the car with you were brought here, but don't worry. They are under arrest.

Miguel: Not that I can think of. They were just fighting between themselves in the car.

Police: Alright, just call me when you feel better.

Miguel: Got it, officer.

### **Door opens and closes**

Marcos: You have an option to walk out of this. I will deal with the two idiots later, but for now, you need to decide what you will do.

Miguel: I just want to get out of this. I came back because...I don't even know why I came back. But, it seems it just made a mess out of my already complicated life. I will have to give that statement and then I don't know how I am supposed to get back to my life.

Marcos: Just play dumb. The police won't know that you know me. They don't even know I'm the one in charge and I am right in front of them.

Miguel: yeah I guess (faintly) I don't know why, but I keep feeling dizzy.

Marcos: I told you it was the shock wearing off.

Miguel: I'm calm now. I just feel like there is a cloud in my head. Like I'm swallowing cotton.

Marcos: Once the nurse comes back, you can ask her for water.

Miguel: Marcos, if it comes down to me having to testify in court, what if they find out I knew you from before?

Marcos: Are you gonna tell them?

Miguel: Tell them what?

Marcos: That I'm involved in the raiding of the warehouse. That the guns were mine.

Miguel: No no no you got me wrong. I'm just asking because what if they find out and--

Marcos: if you don't tell them, how could they find out?

Miguel: I don't want to get in trouble, man. I don't want to get involved in this. I don't want to be your accomplice.

Marcos: as if you had the balls for that. I told you what to do. You act like you never found out I was involved in this. You are just collateral damage in a huge huge problem. They are breaking their heads right now trying to find who owned those guns and ran that warehouse. They'll take your statement and you can go back to your pretty suits and office life.

Miguel: Alright alright I got it.

**Door opens and closes. doctor walks in.**

Doctor: Hello Miguel. I am doctor Garcia and I'm the one who took a look at you today.

Miguel: hey doc, any news on me

Doctor: I went over your results from the general analysis. But, I still would like to do a brain scan. You took quite an ugly hit to your head and--

Miguel: My head has been spinning for a while

Marcos: I told him it might have been the shock wearing off

Doctor: In any case, I just want to make sure nothing else is going on ok??

Miguel: Got it sir

Doctor: A nurse will be here in a little while to take you for the scan

Marcos: Thank you doc

**Door opens and closes. Doctor walks out.**



Miguel: I forgot to ask him when I can be released. I have too many things to take care of at work. I can't afford to get in trouble.

Marcos: oh you'll be fine, you'll see.

**Door opens and closes. Man walks in.**

Henry: Boss, we are ready. Have you decided yet?

Marcos: Yes, don't worry. Wait for me outside and have the car ready.

Henry: Got it.

**Door opens and closes. Henry walks out.**

Marcos: Well, it seems this is where we say goodbye once again.

Miguel: You are leaving already?

Marcos: You said you have a busy life. The sooner I'm out the sooner you can get back to being your normal businessman.

Miguel: Marcos, I never wanted to leave like that--

Marcos: shut up man. It's all good. That was years ago. We are different people now.

Miguel: But you'll always be my brother.

Marcos: Of course, just as you will always be mine. I'll make sure my people here in the hospital take care of you.

Miguel: What do you mean? Do you have people working for you here?

Marcos: You'll see. I won't let my brother out of my sight.

**Door opens and closes. Marcos leaves.**

Miguel: holy shit. My god.

**Door opens and closes. Doctor 2 walks in.**

Doctor 2: Hello Miguel. How are you feeling?

Miguel: I'm ok. Still dizzy and a little nauseous now.

Doctor 2: uhmm we figure. Let me see what we can do for you. I'll just put this on your vial. You'll feel better in no time.

Miguel: thanks. God I hope that kicks in fast haha.

Doctor 2: It will, don't worry.

**Door opens and closes. Doctor 2 walks out.**

**IN THE HOSPITAL HALLWAY**

Henry: Did you do it?

Doctor 2: yes, morphine overdose, he won't know what hit him until it's too late. I had already been giving him some before he woke up. This will just tip him over.

Henry: You know the boss wants no trouble. Not after the disaster of the warehouse.

Doctor 2: Tell Marcos I got everything under control. We'll blame his head injury. The people at the morgue know what to do as well.

**THE END**

[Interlude music]