

THE EXCHANGE & LATER

Written by

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EXT. DESERTED PARK - EVENING

A shabbily dressed Old man sits on a bench at a corner of a park. The bench is concealed by the neglected bushes that outline the walking track of the park. The distant cacophony of various birds, hushed unclear voices and a periodic sound of a hammer striking steel is heard. The roads of the park are deserted as the sky slowly makes its subtle transition from orange to violet. The old man leans back on the backrest of the bench and hangs his head over it. The lethargy of the setting is broken by the shrill siren of a police car that passes swiftly across the road adjoining the park's periphery. The Old man stays still. He shows no movement.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD ADJOINING PARK - EVENING

The police jeep passes a mechanic fixing what appears to be a broken steel lamp post alongside the road adjoining the park. The blaring of the siren is accompanied by the sound of the mechanic's hammer striking the steel lamp post heavily. The police car leaves. The sound of the siren fades and then it is heard no more. After sometime, the striking of the hammer stops. The mechanic throws the hammer to the ground and climbs over the fence of the park.

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERTED PARK - EVENING

The mechanic walks on the walking track whistling away. The old man slowly picks up his head and sits upright. The mechanic appears from within the bushes, walks towards the old man, stands awhile in front of him(old man) silently, then swiftly seats himself beside him(old man). The mechanic lights a joint and smokes it profusely. The cacophony of the birds have become less intense and is slowly fading away. A few honks are heard now and then from a few passing vehicles, sometimes snippets of a mundane conversation between two people who are passing by. The croaks of frogs and the humming sound of insects are slowly increasing their pitch.

OLDMAN

Do you need any?

MECHANIC

Do you have any?

OLDMAN

How much do you need?

MECHANIC

One, medium. How much?

OLDMAN

200% of the old rate.

MECHANIC

Why?

OLDMAN

Didn't you hear the siren?

MECHANIC

You think, it was for you? Well,
I'll take 'em.

The old man brings out a book from underneath his shirt, places it on the bench and pushes it towards the mechanic. The mechanic repeats the same action as the old man but with money. The mechanic picks up the book and the old man the money. The mechanic flips through the first few pages of the book.

MECHANIC (CONT'D)

This will make for some good
reading. I'll need another one next
week, by then this one would be
over.

The mechanic walks away while the old man goes back to hanging his head over the backrest of the bench.

CUT TO:

EXT. DARK ALLEY - NIGHT

Dogs are barking and sounds of little disturbances here and there spring from random places. The mechanic walks down the dark alley clutching the book, his face partly visible under the dim street lights. The mechanic stops, turns to his left, opens the book, from inside he takes out a Glock and shoots a bullet through the adjacent window.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. BLACK SCREEN - NIGHT

The sounds of a few vehicles whooshing past are heard after random intervals. The humming of insects at night go on perpetually in a monotonous fashion. Static springs up abruptly and a voice crackles over the police radio.

POLICEMAN (V.O.)

There's been an interesting progress on the case. Someone has sent a package to the police headquarters that consists of, six newspaper cut outs of articles regarding the six people murdered last week and a Colt detective special.

After a brief moment of silence, static springs up abruptly and a voice crackles over the police radio.

POLICEMAN (V.O.)

A man has been reported shot through the window, nine blocks away from your position. Please, start your vehicle and proceed; you will be given rest of the information on your way.