

BORDER PATROL

by

Joseph Arnone

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INT. HOUSE - AFTERNOON

JERRY is a criminal who has raised his brother's sons as his own and is taking them under his wing with his line of work.

W

Why you always calling me that?

S

Cause you smell like a bleeding---

W

Well, I don't like it.

S

And I don't like you, so there we are.

W

You call me that again, I'm liable to rip your tongue out of your throat.

S

Don't be liable and just do it then...

W pulls out knife.

JERRY

That's enough. Supposed to be brothers. Haven't I taught you boys nothing? Raising you as my own and this is the respect you show me in me own home? I oughta take you both out back and whip you to shreds. (beat) Now, they'll be coming on the south side of the bridge. Once they get the center of it, we hold them there. Jimmy will come with his and do the rest.

W

We're the border patrol, that it?

JERRY

For now.

W

He promised us a bigger role...things not moving fast enough that is.

JERRY

If it weren't for Jimmy, you'd be long gone fella.

W

That was then, this is now Jerry.

JERRY

And later will be then.

S

So we hold them boys there and that'll be all until Jimmy shows up?

JERRY

Aye.

S

What if Jimmy don't show?

W

That's right.

JERRY

Don't question Jimmy. That's the plan. He ain't there, then we handle business on our own.

W

I hope he don't show.

JERRY

He will show!

S

How long do we wait to decide whether or not he's gonna show then?

JERRY

It will be on my cue. Neither one of ya's make a move until my cue. You got it?

W

Aye.

In comes Maggie.

Aye Mother, how we doing today?

MAGGIE

Oh the bakery was spoiled.

JERRY

Spoiled?

MAGGIE

Aye, aye. There was an infestation found. None of the dough is any good. Everything's soiled. I'm sorry boys.

S

That's okay Mother.

MAGGIE

I got the stew on but the bread is just a few shards of leftovers, is all.

W

No worry Mother.

JERRY

Why don't you boys clean up. You both look filthy the pair of ya. Big day coming. Mother's stew will set you right.

MAGGIE

And what big day is that I hear?

JERRY

Oh, gonna take them fishing on the Maxie boat is all...lad time.

MAGGIE

They should be getting jobs instead. Neither one of them do any work around here.

JERRY

They doin' odd jobs here and there.

MAGGIE

Just like their father.

JERRY

Don't start in with that now Maggie.

MAGGIE

You promised me them boys was not gonna grow up crooked. Neither one of them can stand up straight as I can see.

JERRY

They are both straight as can be.  
I can't iron out what they're  
naturally inclined to do.

MAGGIE

You took an oath for your brother  
and it's his boys as your own.  
Brian was a good man. Clean.

JERRY

They're finding themselves out is  
all.

MAGGIE

Jerry, give them the guidance they  
deserve, without that, there's no  
way out for them.

Jerry exits.

Maggie tends to the stew shaking her head.

In comes S.

S

Hello Mother.

Kisses her on the cheek.

What's egging you?

MOTHER

Don't worry. I'm fine. It's you  
I worry for and your brother. The  
two of ya gonna be the death of  
me.

S

Now why you goin on saying that  
for?

MOTHER

I see it in your faces. Both up  
to no good.

S

We're fine. Everybody is fine.

MOTHER

Are you sure of it?

S

Sure, I'm sure of it.

MOTHER

More like you're full of it.

S

What's gotten into you so suddenly?

MOTHER

I've been around long enough to know you boys are not seeing any honest work? Making your money on the shipyards and alleyways in town. I may not be your mother but I am your mother in heart and I...

Mother sulks.

S

There, there...Mother.

W walks in.

W

Hey, what's going on?

S

Mother's sad for us cause you're a dirty slob.

W

Really? Well I got---

MOTHER

Oh stop it both of you! I've had it with both of ya. Can't you get along once or twice in my presence?!

Jerry walks in.

JERRY

Who's shouting?

MOTHER

Let's have a nice dinner and be done with it.

Pause.

S and W help set the table.

S and W fight over a plate. Jerry eyes them both and they stop.

JERRY

Would never know it...would simply  
never know it...

MAGGIE

Know what dear?

JERRY

Oh, uh, would never know how lucky  
we are to have this wonderful stew  
we are about to eat from the most  
wonderful cook this side of  
Galway.

MAGGIE

Don't try to butter me up. You  
know I'm upset now. Go on.

JERRY

This is the best stew on planet  
Earth.

S

The greatest.

W

We are blessed men we are.

Maggie smiles. S kisses her on the cheek. W plants a kiss  
on her other cheek. Jerry chuckles and motions to hug her.  
All three men surround her with affection.

MAGGIE

Oh stop it you, you group of  
fools. Hahaha. A swarm of bees is  
what you all are, isn't it? Go  
sit down so I can serve the lot of  
ya.

All three men sit down.