

Show On The Road

by

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Cast of Characters

<u>COBY:</u>	25
<u>BRYAN:</u>	22
<u>ROBBY:</u>	50's

Place
Motel

Time
Morning

Setting: A motel built in the 1970's and although it has never been renovated, it seems to be well kept and somewhat modern.

At Rise: Bryan sits on the edge of the bed drinking beer. Coby enters the hotel room after having been searching for him all morning.

COBY: Yo, Bry, where you been, bro, looking all over for you?

BRYAN: Yo, whattup, bro? Been here.

COBY: Oh, yeah? And what are you doing in room 27?

BRYAN: Chillin'.

COBY: Chilling...you're drinking.

Bryan laughs.

Really not that funny, bro.

BRYAN: Just a few beers to start my day.

COBY: You know we have inspection today, right?

BRYAN: I know.

COBY: So, why you drinking?

BRYAN: I was thirsty.

COBY: Couldn't wait till' after they left, bro?

BRYAN: Nah, man, it was just one or two beers. Nothin' I can't handle.

COBY: You look like you drank more than one or two beers, Bry.

BRYAN: I'm good, I'm good bro, I swear.

COBY: You know mom is depending on us to run things. You can't be getting drunk all the time.

BRYAN: I can still do everything.

Bryan gets to his feet and wobbles.

COBY: Did any customers see you drinking?

BRYAN: Nah.

COBY: You had the door wide open.

BRYAN: Nobody---oh, there was this little boy who walked past, but I don't think he noticed I was drinking and even if he did, what's he gonna do?

COBY: That little boy can go and tell his parents and we can get in a lot of trouble.

BRYAN: They'd think I'm a customer.

COBY: You're supposed to be a co-owner.

BRYAN: That's what I got you for, bro, to co-own with me. Like having two legs. If one is injured the other one can hop.

COBY: Inspection is coming within the hour, but it can be any minute. They like to spring up. Why don't you take a cold shower, have some coffee---I'll go make you some coffee while you shower, alright?

BRYAN: I'm tired, bro.

COBY: I'm tired too, but my ass is working. I still have to vacuum the pool from the rain we had last night.

BRYAN: It rained?

COBY: Fucking hurricane man, where have you been?

BRYAN: No shit.

COBY: Yo, wake the fuck up, Bryan. Get your ass in the shower---

BRYAN: Yo, don't yell at me and give orders.

COBY: I'm not trying to yell at you.

BRYAN: You're yelling at me!

COBY: Bry, listen, please, the inspectors are on their way, if they get here and see you flopping around drunk, it's bad news for us.

BRYAN: Can't I just sleep in?

COBY: Sleep in, where?

BRYAN: I wanna skip out, like school man.

Bryan laughs.

COBY: You think this is funny?

BRYAN: Yeah, man, seeing you get all stressed out is really funny to me, I don't know why, but it is---

COBY: Is it gonna be funny when they put locks on the doors to our motel and slap us with a bunch of fines? Is that the kind of funny you're talking about?

BRYAN: No, man.

COBY: Then get it together. Mom needs us.

BRYAN: Why don't you visit him, man?

COBY: Don't start your shit now---

BRYAN: Why don't you---

COBY: It's not the time----

BRYAN: He asks for you and----

COBY: Not now.

BRYAN: Wants to see you---

COBY: Damn it, Bry, we gotta move and get shit done first. I'll see him when I see him!

BRYAN: You're fucked up, bro.

COBY: I'm not the one who's fucked up.

BRYAN: Family's family.

COBY: That's right.

BRYAN: When you gonna see him?

COBY: When I feel like seeing him.

BRYAN: He's sending Robby down.

COBY: Why?

BRYAN: To collect.

COBY: When?

BRYAN: Today.

COBY: Out of all days? TODAY?!

BRYAN: Them guys don't care what we have going on, you know that.

COBY: Doesn't dad know inspection is today?

BRYAN: I told him. Said he don't care. Robby's coming.

COBY: How much?

BRYAN: Two g's.

COBY: Shit. We just fixed the boiler.

BRYAN: We don't have it?

COBY: Got half.

BRYAN: Yeah, Robby won't be happy.

COBY: Neither am I!

BRYAN: Dad won't be happy, either.

COBY: I'll talk with Robby. Hope he doesn't come around when---

ROBBY: Beep! Beep!

BRYAN: UNCCCLE ROBBIEEEEE!

Bryan and Robbie laugh and hug with excitement. Bryan hands Robby a beer.

ROBBY: What's doin', boyz?

COBY: Robby, I only have a thousand to give you.

ROBBY: That's no way to greet your dear old Uncle Robby, is it?

COBY: Follow me to the office, I'll give it to you now. We have inspection coming.

ROBBY: What's inspection?

COBY: Means if we don't keep things legit and stable, we can lose the place.

ROBBY: No shit.

COBY: Inspectors will be here any minute and if you don't mind, I'd like to pay you and send you off.

ROBBY: Woah, woah, woah...send me off? Who the fuck do you think you're talking to now, son?

BRYAN: He's just stressed out Uncle Robby, he don't mean nothing by it.

COBY: Follow me to the office and we'll square things up.

ROBBY: I'm here for two thousand.

COBY: I said, I only have half.

ROBBY: I ain't leaving till I have the full amount.

COBY: I don't have the full amount.

ROBBY: Find it.

COBY: I can have the other half by Wednesday.

ROBBY: Find it, today.

COBY: Robby, I'm sure ya'll can give me a day or two to get the money...I'll have things fully covered.

ROBBY: I'm not gonna have to call the crew am I?

COBY: And do what?

ROBBY: Light this place wild, son.

BRYAN: Uncle Robby, for my sake can you please give us til" Wednesday...in all truth, I took the money...the other half, I went to the track and blew it, it's my fault. I'm sorry.

ROBBY: You went horse betting?

BRYAN: Yeah---

ROBBY: Without your Uncle Robby?

Robby laughs. Bryan joins him. Coby stares deadpan.

COBY: I can give you half, if you'll come with me.

ROBBY: I'm a come with you to collect what you have, but it ain't on account of *you*, it's on account of your brother.

COBY: That's fine.

ROBBY: You trying to rush me out, son?

COBY: Yes.

ROBBY: Oh, that's right, the inspectors. Ha, ha, ha. Come on, let's giddy up.

Robby downs his beer and tosses it on the bed, carelessly.

COBY: Bry, I'll be right back with that coffee.

BRYAN: Okay...

Coby and Robby exit.

Bryan enters the bathroom and gets into the shower. He starts beatboxing.

Coby enters the room with coffee.

COBY: Bry! Why didn't you shut the door man?

BRYAN: What??

COBY: I have your coffee!

BRYAN: Okay!

Coby sits on the bed and takes a sip of the coffee.

Coby gets up from the bed and looks out the window.

To himself.

COBY: Leave, you son of a bitch.

Shower is heard turning off.

BRYAN: What you say?

COBY: Coffee's getting cold.

BRYAN: Coming, I'm coming.

Bryan exits the bathroom wearing jeans and putting on a t-shirt. He takes coffee from Coby and drinks it down quickly.

This coffee taste like shit.

COBY: Made it extra strong. Wake your brain up.

BRYAN: It'll be up for three whole days now.

COBY: Good, we gotta hit the pool, rake the entire front, empty the gutters, look over all the rooms for a quick sweep and we should be good. I already did most of everything.

BRYAN: What should I start on?

COBY: Wanna hit the pool?

BRYAN: Okay.

COBY: Hey, thanks for getting Uncle Asshole off my back. That horse betting story was a good one.

BRYAN: He ain't so bad.

COBY: He's an asshole.

BRYAN: Saved our father's life.

COBY: So, he claims.

BRYAN: Dad, tells the story, too. Tells how he was jumped by five guys and Uncle Robby came to save the day.

COBY: Don't believe every myth you hear.

BRYAN: Hey, what's your problem, bro?

COBY: What do you mean?

BRYAN: Why you so heated all the time, with Uncle Robby, Dad, what's gotten into you?

COBY: There's a time when you live long enough to see the real truth about the people you love, or think you love, until you find out their truths, their secrets...there's dirt on people we've been close too for far too long, and now that dirt is rubbing off on us...problem is we didn't even know it, and now it's too late cause we're involved in the mess and the only way to get clean is by doing honest work, make an honest living, try to live with integrity and hope that if you spend a long enough time doing the right thing, sooner or later all that dirt will wash itself off.

I don't know if it ever will, Bryan, but all I know is that I'm gonna keep on trying to make good on things, show face when necessary and rebuild what's ours.

This motel, this land, this is ours, however we got here, it's ours and it's up to you and me to make things legit. I can't do it alone though, bro. I need you to wake up to what I'm saying, for Mom's sake, for your own damn sake...for me.

I don't want you mixing up with Uncle Robby and his crew. They ain't the sort of people you should be spending so much time with. You should already know this and I'm telling you now, you're not cut out for that way of life. Trust me on that, you're not.

You have a shot. Run a legit business with me, make this motel fly and live a noble life, never owing anybody anything and never having to look over your shoulder, either.

Not saying you can't have good times...but you become the company you keep, and I rather you spend some more time with me than with Uncle Robby and the circus, cause I'm the one who'd go the distance for you, remember that, none of those clowns will, alright?

BRYAN: Alright.

COBY: Alright. Let's get the show on the road!

BRYAN: Let's go!

END OF PLAY