

EXT. FOOD STAND - HANNA + NEIL - NIGHT

at a table. Headlights stream by to and from the airport: business people, families going on vacations, people living normal lives who have never used guns to kill people, never experienced physical violence, some who have never been stolen from and never steal. Surrounded on all sides by this flow of normalcy:

HANNA

Seven years in Folsom. In the hole for three. McNeil before that.

NEIL

Yeah.

HANNA

Was McNeil as tough as they say?

NEIL

You looking to become a penologist?

HANNA

You looking to go back? You know, I chased some crews, guys just looking to fuck up, get busted back. That you?

NEIL

You must have worked some dipshit crews.

HANNA

I worked all kinds.

NEIL

(pause)

You see me doing thrill-seeker liquor store holdups with a "Born to Lose" tattoo on my chest?

HANNA

No, I do not.

NEIL

Right.

(pause)

I am never going back.

The adversarial intensity is eye-to-eye.

HANNA

Then don't take down scores.

NEIL

I do what I do best. I take scores. You do what you do best - trying to stop guys like me.
(shrugs)

HANNA

So you never wanted a regular-type life?

NEIL

What the fuck is that? Barbecues and ballgames?

HANNA

Yeah.

NEIL

This regular-type life, that your life?

HANNA

My life? No. My life... No, my life's a disaster zone. I got a stepdaughter so fucked up because her real father's this large-type asshole. I got a wife, we're passing each other on the down-slope of a marriage - my third - because I spend all my time chasing guys like you around the block. That's my life.

NEIL

Guy told me one time: don't let yourself get attached to anything you are not willing to walk out on in 30 seconds flat if you feel the heat around the corner.

(pause)

Now, if you're on me and you gotta move when I move, how do you expect to keep a marriage?

HANNA

That's an interesting point. What are you, a monk?

NEIL

I have a woman.

HANNA

What do you tell her?

NEIL

I tell her I'm a salesman.

HANNA

So then, if you spot me around that corner, you just gonna walk out on this woman? Not say goodbye?

NEIL

That's the discipline.

HANNA

That's pretty vacant.

NEIL

Yeah, it is what it is. It's that or we both better go do something else, pal.

HANNA

I don't know how to do anything else.

NEIL

(the shared
confession)
...neither do I.

HANNA

And I don't much want to, either.

NEIL

Neither do I.

HANNA

You know, I have this recurring dream. I'm sitting at this big banquet table, and all the of victims of all the murders I ever worked are sitting at this table and they're staring at me with these black eyeballs, because they got eight-ball hemorrhages from the head wounds. And there they are, these big balloon people, because I found them two weeks after they've been under the bed. The neighbours reported the smell... and there they are, all of them just sitting there.

NEIL

What do they say?

HANNA

Nothing.

NEIL

No talk?

HANNA

None. Just... they don't have anything to say. We just look at each other. They look at me. And that's it, that's the dream.

NEIL

I have one where I'm drowning. And I gotta wake myself up and start breathing or I'll die in my sleep.

HANNA

You know what that's about?

NEIL

Yeah. Having enough time.

HANNA

Enough time. To do what you want to do?

NEIL

That's right.

HANNA

You doing it now?

NEIL

No, not yet.

HANNA

You know, we're sitting here, you and I, like a coupla' regular fellas. You do what you do, I do what I gotta do. And now that we've been face-to-face, if I'm there and I gotta' put you away, I won't like it. But I'll tell you, if it's between you and some poor bastard whose wife you're going to turn into a widow, brother, you are going down.

NEIL

There's a flip side to that coin. What if you do got me boxed in and I gotta put you down?

(beat)

'Cause no matter what, you will not get in my way.

(beat)

We've been face to face, yeah. But I will not hesitate. Not for a second.

HANNA

(smiles)

Maybe that's the way it'll be.
Or who knows...

NEIL

... or maybe we'll never see each
other again.