

# TERRENCE

18.

Theo runs towards Samoan, who gets ready to intercept him. But Theo jumps, takes a couple of parkour-like steps up the wall of a shack and grabs the CLOTHESLINES above his head.

He swings over Samoan's head, ready to jump to the other side when...

Samoan pulls out an EXTENDABLE BATON and swats Theo with it, sending 5000 volts through his body!

Theo LANDS ON THE GROUND. Hard. Ouch.

And just to make sure he won't try anything funny, Samoan tases him again with the baton.

INT. AUTOMATED SWEAT SHOP - DAY

Theo is pushed by the Thugs through a warehouse where row after row of 3D PRINTERS whir away, building all sorts of KNOCK-OFF LUXURY GOODS out of thin air: designer shoes, handbags, watches... Weightlifter opens a door and pushes Theo into the...

BACK OFFICE

At the other end of the room, a man sits in a chair with his back to us, a BARBER CLOTH around his neck. A GORGEOUS GIRL in a skimpy hairdresser outfit is carefully cutting his hair.

Weightlifter shoves Theo forward. The man in the chair glances up in the mirror in front of him and sees Theo.

**START** →

WEIGHTLIFTER

Sorry to bother you, Terrence.

TERRENCE

Who's this?

WEIGHTLIFTER

The little shit that's been selling cigarettes all over Metcalf Park.

Hearing this, Terrence raises his hand and the hairdresser immediately stops. He yanks off the cloth and gets on his feet, turning to reveal...

...a PERFECTLY TAILORED SUIT and a CAREFULLY GROOMED APPEARANCE. If it weren't for the TATTOOS crawling up his neck, we'd think he just came out of the Green Zones. Meet TERRENCE HURT (40s), ruthless crime boss and self-styled businessman.

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Terrence carefully considers the boy with steely eyes. Theo's scared shitless but does his best not to show it.

TERRENCE

I admire your initiative, boy. You can't make a buck in this world without a bit of entrepreneurial spirit and a big pair of balls.

(beat)

But if I let any punk with balls and a pack of cigarettes sell in my backyard, then pretty soon supply is going to exceed demand.

Terrence makes a gesture. Immediately, Samoan grabs Theo by the wrist and PUTS HIS HAND ON A NEARBY TABLE.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)

That creates what's called a zero-profit condition. Which isn't good for anybody. Especially me.

Terrence puts his hand inside a toolbox and produces a HAMMER. Shit.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)

(re: the hammer)

So this... this is what I like to call my strategic entry deterrence.

Theo starts hyperventilating. Shit-shit-shit-shit. This is gonna hurt.

Terrence RAISES the hammer, ready to strike when...

He notices Crew Cut behind his two mates, holding a handkerchief over his BLOODY NOSE.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)

What the hell happened to you?

Crew Cut's too embarrassed to reply. But the answer dawns on Terrence anyway. He looks at Theo, surprised, amused even.

TERRENCE (CONT'D)

You did that?

Theo stares back at Terrence. Scared, but defiant, too. Terrence mulls this over for a beat. Then:

TERRENCE (CONT'D)

Show me.

And off Theo -- huh?

 END