

A CUP OF COFFEE

Written by

Michael Robert Myers

First Draft
MichaelRobMyers@gmail.com
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FADE IN ON:

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

A rugged hand picks up a spoon and stirs his coffee with it. He takes the coffee and gently sips. This is MARK, 43, and with a tough exterior but as cool as John Wayne.

Across from him sits a fidgety man. AARON DECK. Aaron looks down at his coffee. A creamy brown. He looks back up at Mark.

AARON

So, how's Susan?

MARK

Good. She finally opened her
haberdasher. So, she's enthralled.

AARON

That was always her dream.

Mark bleakly smiles. Awkwardness is thick in the air.

MARK

How's your dog. What's his name?
Buster.

AARON

Yeah. Buster. He died.

MARK

That's sad.

Mark starts to wander, trying to avoid this casual talk.

MARK

Look, I'll cut right to the chase.
Susan doesn't want you involved in
Beth and Derek's life anymore.

Aaron doesn't look too surprised. But he rebuts:

AARON

She can't cut me out like that.
Court says I have visitations.

MARK

She's gonna put up a case for the
judge. Now, it's better to just cut
your loses and focus on picking up
you're life. When the kids become
legal adults and if they decide
they want to see you, you can.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)
I'm sorry we have to do this but
it's best.

AARON
Can I ask a question?

MARK
Ok.

AARON
What in the world did I do?

Mark looks absolutely shocked and disgusted.

AARON (CONT'D)
Ok, yes, I did drink way too much
at that party but I am back to my
AA meetings and my therapist says I
am making real progress. I am on
the way to recover and...and
kicking me out of my kids lives
will just kill me. I wouldn't be
able to take it. Please just
convince her to reconsider.

MARK
I did, Aaron. I did eighteen months
ago when you showed up drunk to
Derek's cello recital. I talked her
out of it when you wrecked her van
because you were sauced at 3 in the
afternoon. I made her reconsider
you many times and you blew each
one. She's done with you. I'M done
with you. Our decision is final.

Aaron gets teary.

AARON
It's just been hard.

MARK
Don't do this sympathy shit. I KNOW
it's been hard since your son died.
And if anyone else knows it its
Susan and Derek and Beth. They had
to deal with it too. But your
answer to the problem was Alcohol
and it eat away until you had
nothing.

Mark starts to get up.

MARK (CONT'D)
Goodbye Aaron. You will receive a
call from our lawyer giving the
finite details.

Mark starts to leave. We leave a shot on Aaron's face as he is nearly in tears. He sorta gets himself together. He pulls out of his pocket is a six cylinder gun. He barely smiles and then....

BANG!

Mark turns around to find AARON'S BODY collapsed on the floor. His head BLASTED open from the gun shot. Blood swirling around him.

People start to get around. A woman dials 911.

CU of Mark's visibly disturbed face.

SMASH TO BLACK:

THE END