

IT TAKES TWO  
by  
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Logline: A corrupt police officer tries to buy his identical twin's life by offering him dirty money. Little does he know that his impoverished brother has a secret of his own.

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INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT.

INT. APARTMENT - BATHROOM - NIGHT.

An assortment of kitchen knives, big and small, spread across the counter top. Each knife has a price tag on it.

COLE ZALEWSKI, 40s, stands in front, looking in the mirror.

His slightly baggy eyes and bed-headed hair shows that he's half awake.

He looks down and scans the knives from left to right. He notices a razor and picks it up.

He mimics an act of shaving, then slides the razor to his Adam's apple.

He applies pressure and slides the blade across his throat slowly, blood pours down his neck.

COLE'S POV:

He races out of the bathroom down the--

HALLWAY

Empty and long.

Into an opened door of the--

BEDROOM

Cole sleeps in his bed.

He looks uncomfortable as his nightmare continues. Beads of sweat on his forehead.

He PANTS. Jolts up, awake.

Brings his hand to his Adam's apple, checks out the fresh scar.

He opens a night stand drawer, rummages, pulls out a wallet size picture of him with STEVE ZALEWSKI, 40s, Cole's identical twin.

Cole peers at it. Steve's neck is scarred in the same manner.

Cole reaches for a small mirror. Checks out his own scar, compares the two.

A KNOCK at the door.

STEVE (O.S.)  
Cole, it's me. Open up.

COLE  
It's open.

HURRIED STEPS in the hall. Steve barges in.

STEVE  
Kate and the kids aren't home?

COLE  
At her mother's. For a couple days.  
This place is just too small for  
all of us.

Steve looks around - the place looks rather shabby. Small,  
and filled with tattered necessities.

STEVE  
Consider yourself lucky then. They  
can afford all the places in the  
world with that money now.

COLE  
Shut up. Just shut up.

Steve's eyes fixate on Cole's neck. Steve checks his own  
scar.

STEVE  
Good job with that scar.

Cole sits up in his bed. Closes his eyes. Remains like that  
for awhile.

COLE  
The scar is too fresh - they are  
not gonna buy it.

STEVE  
We'll give it two days. When's Kate  
coming back?

COLE  
Couple days. I'll do it before  
she's back.

STEVE  
Who'll give her the money?

COLE  
I took care of it.

STEVE  
You don't want me to make sure she gets it?

COLE  
No I don't. Go home, Steve. I'll do it in two days, don't worry.

STEVE  
I'm not a criminal, Cole.

COLE  
You're a police officer, Steve. And that money has blood on it... Go home, Steve before I change my mind about this.

Steve lets out a sigh of frustration, turns around and strides out.

Cole closes his eyes.

The screen frame twirls into--

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

THE MIND OF COLE,

Who lies in bed. Comatose. Connected to a heart monitor. Tubes in his nose, an oxygen tank next to him. Eyes shut, eyelids twitching.

Steve, in a green turtleneck, that entirely covers the scar, stands beside the bed.

Bedside sits BARBARA, 40s, Steve's wife. She gives Cole a kiss on the forehead.

BARBARA  
Poor Steve. He never shared his work problems. He should've.

Steve stares at her.

Cole's eyelids twitch.

COLE (V.O.)  
There's no way to tell us apart. The only thing is that scar. WAS that scar.

Close-up on Steve. His hand touches his neck - he makes sure the scar remains covered.

STEVE

What did the doctor say, Steve's gonna live?

BARBARA

They don't know.

She readjusts his pillow. Gets up to leave. Glances at Steve.

BARBARA

You gonna stay? Is Kate coming?

Cole's hand makes a feeble move at that but no one notices.

COLE (V.O.)

Kate. Poor Kate.

STEVE

I'll stay with him, go home, Barb.

BARBARA

Funny, you called me Barb. Steve calls... used to call me Barb.

STEVE

Go home, Barbara. I'll stay with him.

BARBARA

Cole, tell Kate to let me know if something...now that Steve can't help you anymore...

COLE (V.O.)

He never helped us, Barbara... What are you planning, Steve?

Barbara moves toward the exit, grabs her purse on the way out. One last look at Cole (Steve for her) and she steps out.

The door shuts behind her.

Steve waits for the SOUND of her footsteps to fade away. Approaches Cole. Grabs an extra pillow from the couch, menace in his eyes.

STEVE

I can't let you live.

Cole moves. His head shakes "no".

STEVE  
Just as I thought, you ARE gonna  
survive. Not!

Steve thinks, tosses away the pillow - change of plans.

STEVE  
Til you tell me what you did with the  
money. Or...should I ask Kate?

Cole's hands twitch, heart rate monitor BEEPS as the heart  
rate intensifies.

Steve smiles at that.

KATE, 40s, storms in. Throws a quick glance around. Addresses  
Steve.

KATE  
I'm sorry about your brother, Cole.

STEVE  
You're back? Listen, the bag...you  
know...the money...you took care of it?

Kate's face is blank - she does not understand.

KATE  
Let's go home, Cole.

Steve grabs Kate's arm, gives it a squeeze. Kate gasps at the  
treatment.

STEVE  
Kate, it's important.

KATE  
Cole, what's going on? Stop it,  
you're hurting me.

Cole's eyes twitch. The heart monitor BEEPS.

A DOCTOR in a white robe strides in.

DOCTOR  
Everybody out. You may wait outside  
but out for now.

Kate and Steve step out into the HALL

A few nurses hurry past them, enter Cole's room busily.

Without even looking at Kate, Steve hurries away. Kate rushes  
after him.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

All is back to quiet. Cole is on his bed in the same position. His eyelids twitch.

COLE (V.O.)  
The bastard will do something to  
Kate. Shit...What happened to me  
that day?

A close-up on his forehead. The frame winds out filling up the screen.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Cole's cellphone BUZZES off. Cole reacts, answers. It's Kate.

KATE (V.O.)  
Did he leave?

COLE  
Yeah, get inside.

The sound of Kate working the keylock.

Kate walks into the bedroom. Tidies up the room.

KATE  
I won't let you kill yourself.

COLE  
Don't make me regret that I told you.

KATE  
Then Steve would pretend he's you,  
get the money and disappear. ...I'd  
rather walk the streets than put that  
money to use.

Cole gets up.

COLE  
Kate, I've made up my mind. It  
should be over in two days.

KATE  
There should be another way out.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Cole is alone in the room. Same state of coma.

COLE (V.O.)  
Oh, so I've told her. That's good.  
But I must remember. The money...  
What did I do with the money?

Cole moves his hand. Opens his eyes. Licks his lips. Reacts to the commotion in the hall, closes his eyes.

The doctor comes in with a nurse. Checks the monitor readings. Observes Cole.

The doctor pulls Cole's hand out - Cole's wrist appears bound.

The nurse hands the doctor his medical tools. The doctor starts changing the bandage.

He fingers the stitches.

DOCTOR  
Poor guy... Cut his veins. ...He's doing better.

Kate rushes in.

The doctor exits, leaving the instruments.

Kate reaches for Cole's hand. His hand responds. She notices, her eyes widen. She whispers:

KATE  
Who did it to you Cole? Is it Steve?  
He keeps looking for the money.

INT. COLE'S BEDROOM - DAY - FLASHBACK

A KNOCK at the door. Cole opens the door to Steve who wears a green turtleneck.

STEVE  
Come on. You're still alive?

COLE  
I won't do it, Steve. I can't.

He leads Steve into the BATHROOM. Points at the assortment of knives.

COLE  
I got ready, see, to make them think  
I went nuts and decided to kill  
myself. But now I think I can't.

Steve grabs Cole from the back. Grabs a knife. Cole clutches at Steve's arms but to no avail. His face turns dark red, the veins bulge out.

STEVE

Why waste good knives then. I'll make sure it looks like suicide.

Slides the knife down Cole's wrist, popping the veins open. Continues holding Cole till Cole's eyes close and knees weaken. Drops Cole to the ground.

Steve washes his hands. Walks to the window, checks out the building entrance. No one's around. He hastens out.

Cole lies in a pool of blood still dripping from his hand.

His hand moves feebly. Tries to reach into the pocket of his jeans and pull out the cell phone.

BACK TO SCENE

HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

Kate stands beside Cole.

KATE

He searched at my mother's too. Funny story, I'll tell you one day...

Cole's eyes twitch, he moves as if struggles to open them. Kate observes, then rushes out into the HALL--

KATE

Doctor, doctor. Please.

Doctor is nowhere in sight.

The elevator chimes, the doors open up, Steve exits.

STEVE

Kate? What are you doing here?

KATE

Go away, get out. I know you're Steve. I know.

Steve grabs her by the arm, drags her back into the

ROOM

Slides his turtleneck down - there's no trace of a scar.

STEVE

Laser treatment does wonders - no one will believe you. And now the moment of truth, the money. Tell me where it's at and I disappear.

Kate pauses. Thinks.

STEVE

Out of your life. Just tell me.

He squeezes her arm tighter. His angry face inches toward hers.

The heart monitor BEEPS.

Cole's hand emerges, holding a scalpel, stabs Steve in a thigh. Twice.

Steve WAILS, jerks for Cole's neck.

Medical personnel, lead by the doctor, rush into the room.

Steve looks around, his face psychotic, dashes out.

Sounds of a scuffle from the hallway and off-screen violence follow. Kate throws herself all over the body of Cole.

Medical personnel stand put and wait, their faces serene.

Cole feebly opens his eyes, locates Kate. A faint smile on his lips. The hallway is once again silent.

The BEEPING gets back to normal.

Cole's eyes are wide open. Kate stands next to him, holds him by the hand.

KATE

The police was on the floor all the time.

OFFICER GARRETT, in a police uniform, steps in.

A POLICE OFFICER

Lieutenant Zawleski? Awake? Officer Steven Zawleski was arrested and charged with corruption and attempted murder. The general looked at your file. You, as undercover, served enough. Back to police force...

KATE

Let him rest for now, willya.

Officer Garrett nods, exits silently.

COLE (V.O.)

Kate...She's beautiful...And smart.

She bends over and plants a kiss on his cheek.

COLE

(aloud)

Beautiful and smart. I'd never pull  
it off without her.

Kate laughs. Caresses his cheek.

Cole closes his eyes.

COLE (V.O.)

So I turned in the money and agreed  
to be the undercover--

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Cole hands officer Garrett the duffel bag with the money. He  
looks deep into Garrett's eyes.

COLE

Kate... I told her everything. Just  
make sure nothing happens to her.

GARRETT

I will.

Garrett examines the duffel bag. Unzips it - the bag is filled  
with stacks of neatly packed crisp hundred dollar bills.

COLE

Four million - all I got from  
Steve. And I know it's all he got.

Garrett moves toward the

HALL. Pulls the entrance door open.

GARRETT

Thanks. Stay safe. You know...  
Steve may try to...

COLE

I know.

Cole shuts the door after Garrett.

LATER: A KNOCK at the door. Cole opens the door to Steve who wears a green turtleneck.

STEVE

Come on. You're still alive?

COLE

I won't do it Steve. I can't.

He leads Steve into the BATHROOM. Points at the assortment of knives.

FADE OUT.