The Death of Johnny Inevitable

Ву

PS King

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EXT. JOHNNY INEVITABLE'S APARTMENT - DAY

JOHNNY INEVITABLE (mid-20's), a good looking guy in a LEATHER JACKET and TIGHT JEANS stands at a short distance from his APARTMENT WINDOW, at an angle where those inside the apartment are unlikely to see him if they turn their heads.

TRAVIS (early 30's) is within Johnny's sightline, sitting in the living room, in an old THRIFT STORE RECLINER.

BEE MAN (early 20's) walks up to Johnny with a sort of hipster sway. He puts his hand on Johnny's shoulder. The touch surprises Johnny, and he cringes a bit.

BEE MAN

Johnny!

JOHNNY INEVITABLE Shhh...Bee Man...quiet. Shut the fuck up.

BEE MAN

(whispers)

What's the deal, man?

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

You ever see a dead man?

BEE MAN

I mean, not in person...

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

You're looking at one. Check it out. Come a little closer.

Bee Man comes a few steps closer, side by side with Johnny. He tries to walk further, but Johnny reaches out a hand and forces Bee Man to stop.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Look through that window, Bee Man.

Bee Man cranes his neck to look through the window.

BEE MAN

Who's Travis talking to?

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

The girls, man. He's letting them know I'm dead. Brutal car crash, man. Terrible stuff.

INT. JOHNNY INEVITABLE'S APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Across from Travis, on an OLD AND DIRTY COUCH sits MANDY and SCARLETT, women who are both in their early 20's. They've been crying. Mandy is dressed far more conservatively than Scarlett, wearing JEANS and a BLOUSE. Scarlett has quite a few TATTOOS and wears an old white TANK TOP with no bra.

TRAVIS

Anyway, I don't know why you had such a hard time believing me.

MANDY

Well, I don't know, let's see...because you're a liar?

SCARLETT

(to Mandy)

Don't forget he's an asshole, too.

TRAVIS

Oh, come on. I'm trying to be serious for once.

SCARLETT

Goddamn it.

TRAVIS

His mom's gonna call soon. She's gonna give me the details on the funeral.

MANDY

I thought for sure he was going to overdose. A car wreck. A fucking car wreck.

TRAVIS

He liked speed.

SCARLETT

No he didn't, Travis, you idiot. He was a K-head. His thing was all about slowing things down.

Travis stands up, walks over to the couch. He puts his hand on Scarlett's thigh.

TRAVIS

If you need anything, anything at all...

Scarlett pushes Travis' hand off her thigh, smacks him.

CONTINUED: 3.

SCARLETT

You're disgusting.

EXT. JOHNNY INEVITABLE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Johnny smiles, claps his hands together in excitement and backs up.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Looks like they're winding things up, Bee Man. We've gotta go.

Johnny grins almost sweetly at Bee Man and walks away. Bee Man follows.

BEE MAN

Ah, shit, man. You for real? What the fuck, Johnny? I mean, what the fuck?

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Nobody ties Johnny Inevitable down, Bee Man. Well, commitment-wise at least.

Johnny grins slyly.

BEE MAN

Jesus, man, they didn't want to marry you. And even if they did --

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Yeah, but they were getting clingy. You know the deal, Bee Man...

BEE MAN

Well...

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Oh yeah, right, I forgot you're in one of those committed relationships.

Johnny makes air quotes as he says "committed relationship."

BEE MAN

I still don't understand...there are other ways to get women out of your life.

CONTINUED: 4.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE
You're starting to live up to your
nickname, Bee man, just always
buzzing around my ear. Listen, all
three of us work at the movie
theater, you know? When Scarlett
and Mandy found out about each
other, they freaked out. But, man,
not at me. They freaked out on each
other. And so there we were, right?
Every day this weird tension in the
place and you know 'ol Johnny
Inevitable, man, I just want to
have some fun. Get my dick wet. All
that stuff.

BEE MAN

Johnny, man, you're not this cruel.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE
You know, faking your death is
surprisingly easy. First you find
yourself a sociopath asshole like
Travis who can convincingly cry on
cue, then you make up a weird story
about getting into your pal Bee
Man's car, who likes to go a little
fast sometimes, the two of you get
into a car wreck and...

BEE MAN So I'm dead, too?

JOHNNY INEVITABLE Nah. Just mutilated beyond recognition.

BEE MAN

Well, fuck.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE You got any Special K?

BEE MAN

Right now?

JOHNNY INEVITABLE Why not, man? It's what you do, right?

BEE MAN

Yeah, sure. It's what I do, Johnny.

INT. JOHNNY INEVITABLE'S APARTMENT, BEDROOM - NIGHT

A very clean room, minimally decorated with a couple BLACK BEAN BAG CHAIRS, a few books stacked in various places, a well made mattress on the floor.

A cute REDHEAD (early 20's) lay in his bed, smiling as Johnny stands at the foot of the bed wearing a pair of old jeans, his chest bare, jokingly shaking his hard, almost perfect body in a weird sort of mock-dance.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

You like it? I call it my retarded snake dance.

REDHEAD

Come here.

Johnny jumps like he's going to do a belly flop, but he lands to the redhead's side. She laughs.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

I saw you sitting across that bar and I knew. I just knew it was you. Is this love? Well, shit, I don't know, but it's close. What about you? Can you feel it?

REDHEAD

(laughs)

No. But come here anyway.

Johnny rolls over and kisses the redhead. More kisses, very passionate. They close their eyes. But when they both open them at the same time, Johnny is stunned by something he sees in her eyes and he rolls off of her.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Why'd you look at me like that?

REDHEAD

Like what?

Johnny sits up on the side of the mattress, turning his back to her.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Get out.

REDHEAD

The fuck?

CONTINUED: 6.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Get out.

REDHEAD

You're an asshole.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

(softly)

You think I don't know that?

INT. JOHNNY INEVITABLE'S APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Johnny sits on the floor, his back propped against the wall, barely conscious. His eyes close a little, open halfway, close a little more before shutting completely.

Bee Man and Travis sit on the couch, smoking a joint.

Travis watches Johnny moving in and out of consciousness.

TRAVIS

(to Bee Man)

He gonna be okay?

BEE MAN

Down in the K-hole, man. He's been there before. He's an old pro, really.

TRAVIS

You hear he's gonna tell the girls?

Bee Man shrugs.

BEE MAN

They would have found out soon enough anyway. It's not like they weren't gonna run into one of us eventually.

TRAVIS

Look at him...

BEE MAN

I'll admit, it doesn't look very good. And one day he's not even gonna have his looks. What then?

Heavy-lidded, Johnny opens his eyes a bit, looks up at Bee Man and Travis, tries to smile. A little drool at the corners of his mouth.

CONTINUED: 7.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

It's all

crazy...so...fucking...crazy...

TRAVIS

He's a mess. You think after one of the girls murders him, they'll come to me for support?

BEE MAN

Only if they suddenly figure out they're attracted to cockroaches.

Bee Man takes a long hit on the joint, smiles at Travis, who looks pissed.

EXT. SCARLETT'S APARTMENT - DAY

A run-down apartment complex in a shitty neighborhood. A couple screams at each other from a nearby apartment.

Drunk and wobbly, Johnny knocks on the door.

A few seconds pass. Johnny stares at the door, wobbly, smiling like a fool.

Scarlett opens the door. A moment of shock, then she shakes her head in disappointment.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Hey beautiful...

She punches him in the throat. He falls to his knees, gasping.

SCARLETT

(laughs)

Oh shit, you okay?

She helps him up.

SCARLETT

It's good to see you, Johnny.

She takes his hand and leads him into her apartment.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Hands in pockets, cigarette in mouth, walking with a too-cool strut, Johnny is in the lead as Travis and Bee Man walk close behind.

Johnny pulls out a FLASK, takes a big gulp, swallows and smiles. He stares straight ahead, nodding and smiling at a cute BRUNETTE as she passes by. She grins a little, shaking her head. Johnny passes the bottle to Bee Man, who gags a sip down and passes the flask to Travis.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE
Beautiful day, boys. Beautiful
fucking day. I've got one of my
girls back. And, hoo-boy, is she
back. Next up is Mandy, then all
will be right with the world.

BEE MAN

Well, maybe you can get your job back, too. You owe me some cash.

TRAVIS

But you're just gonna get tired of them again, Johnny. What then? I mean, now that faking your death is off the table? Heh, I mean, you gonna kill them or something?

Johnny turns around and looks at Travis like he's an idiot.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE Motherfucker, give me that whiskey.

Travis reluctantly hands Johnny the bottle.

TRAVIS

Johnny...come on, man...

JOHNNY INEVITABLE Now get out of here, fuckwad.

TRAVIS

Johnny!

JOHNNY INEVITABLE Git! Git, you dumb fool! You simpleton!

TRAVIS I'm sorry, Johnny.

CONTINUED: 9.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Git!

Bee Man laughs.

BEE MAN

You might want to get going.

Defeated, Travis puts his hands in his pockets, turns around, and walks away. He walks off a few steps. Then he stops and turns around.

TRAVIS

I'll see you later, Johnny.

In answer, Johnny delivers an expert karate HOPPING SIDE KICK, getting within inches of Travis's stomach. Travis shrugs it off, turns around, and walks away.

Bee Man laughs hysterically.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Shoo...you fucking insect...shoooo, shoooo...

A little more laughter, then the smile fades from Bee Man's face.

BEE MAN

So when you gonna see Mandy?

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Tonight, Bee Man. Tonight.

BEE MAN

Hey, listen, seriously, I'm supposed to take Alicia out tomorrow. I could use some of that money you owe me.

Johnny hands Bee Man the bottle of whiskey.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Drink up, Bee Man. This represents the last of my disposable income. Maybe I can borrow something from the lady-friend. Know what I mean? Yeah, you know.

BEE MAN

I--I don't even like whiskey! Come
on man!

CONTINUED: 10.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

All in due time, Bee Man. All in due time.

EXT. MANDY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

A much nicer neighborhood. Johnny stands wobbly in front of the door to Mandy's apartment, drunk as hell.

He taps his finger on her door as if he was a woodpecker.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Come on out, golden hair.

Mandy opens the door, sees Johnny. She's shocked.

MANDY

Jesus, Johnny.

He smiles at her. Slowly, deliberately.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

I was just clowning, baby. Trying to get a rise out of you.

MANDY

Clowning.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

It was all a big joke! I'm alive!

MANDY

My tears weren't a joke.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Lemme in.

MANDY

You smell like rubbing alcohol.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Ah, you know, Scarlett bought me some shit. I'm out of dough. Could you lend me some cash?

MANDY

Scarlett knows?

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Yeah, we're good now. I love that girl. Don't you love her? How are things going at work?

CONTINUED: 11.

MANDY

I don't know, Johnny. Past few days we've been waiting to hear about your funeral.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE Yeah? Everyone excited?

MANDY

They're sad, Johnny. You know, you're not a very nice guy, but people can't help fall for you...I don't know why...

Johnny doesn't hear her. He leans against the door frame, pretending to hold himself up.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE I'm falling, Mandy. Gonna be a long drop, Mandy.

Mandy thinks for a second, sighs.

MANDY

Come in. I'll make you some coffee. Then you're on your way. Okay?

JOHNNY INEVITABLE Coffee. Let's do it.

INT. MANDY'S APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A very clean, well-organized place. NURSING TEXTBOOKS on the COFFEE TABLE. One book is open and a TYPED PAPER lay between its pages.

Woozy, wobbly, Johnny tries his best to sit upright at the couch. He's having a hard time getting his head to stay up.

Mandy sets a CUP OF COFFEE on the table in front of him. Johnny just stares at it.

MANDY

Everyone warned me about you. They said you were a narcissist. Someone even called you a sociopath...

Johnny makes a silly sort of shrug.

MANDY

I'm not sure either of them were wrong.

CONTINUED: 12.

Johnny grins.

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

I ain't dead, sweetheart. See?

MANDY

That true?

Johnny shrugs, smiles.

MANDY

You get by on your good looks. Your charm. But it all comes so easy to you. You just sort of coast, don't you?

JOHNNY INEVITABLE

Come on, baby. I miss you. Come here. Sit next to me.

Any sympathy in Mandy's eyes disappears. She reaches down, grabs the coffee cup from the table and in one quick motion, tosses it in his face. Johnny screams. She shakes her head at him in disappointment.

MANDY

Get out.

EXT. PARK - DAWN

Johnny lay on the ground underneath some MONKEY BARS. He has a few BLISTERS on his face from the coffee Mandy tossed.

Bee Man and his girlfriend ALICIA (early 20's) walk through the park, drinking coffee out of PAPER CUPS.

Bee Man sees Johnny and waves, takes a sip from his cup.

He gets closer, looks at Johnny's face.

BEE MAN

Holy shit. You look terrible, Johnny.

(to Alicia)

This was the guy I was telling you about.

ALICIA

Is he always so gross?

CONTINUED: 13.

BEE MAN

Неу...

(to Johnny)

Listen, man, I hate to be a prick about this, but I really need that money you owe me. The Deadmau5 concert's tonight. I want to treat Cynthia, you know. Hey, you really look like shit. What happened, man? You okay, Johnny? Listen...

Bee Man's voice trails off as Johnny closes his eyes. It fades out entirely as the screen goes dark and finally the only sound we hear is Johnny's heavy, machine-like breathing.

END.