

The LIFE

Sides: Johnny Truong

EXT. JIMMY'S APARTMENT BUILDING - ROOF - CONTINUOUS

Johnny lights up a cigarette and gazes at the view of the city. Jimmy enters the scene.

JIMMY TRUONG

Johnny, what you doing up?

Johnny turns around.

JOHNNY TRUONG

(smoking)

What you doing up here for? Shouldn't you be getting some sleep? You got school tomorrow, go back down stairs.

JIMMY TRUONG

I'm not sleepy anymore, anyway I need to get ready for school in an hour, so there's no point of going back to sleep. I forgot how nice the view was from up here.

Jimmy and Johnny leans against the edge of the roof and are mesmerized by the view.

JOHNNY TRUONG

(smoking, contemplates and smile)

Remember how we always hang out here when we were younger? We would spit on peoples head and hide and they could never find us. Remember there was this time I dared you to spit on mom's head?

JIMMY TRUONG

(laughing)

Hahaha... yeah, I can't believe I did that, she was sooo... pissed when she got home. She said, "Whoever spit on my head, I F them and F their mother" and washed her hair for an hour! Later her head started to itch and she thought she caught a disease from the spit.

JOHNNY TRUONG

(laughing)

I know, that's mom alright. She can overreact sometimes.

JIMMY TRUONG

(laughing)

More like all the time... remember she told us not to eat pork for awhile, because of the Swine Flu? She got me and Jenny wearing a helmet and plastic garbage bags from head to toe before we went to school. That was so fucking embarrassing.

CUT TO:

INT. JIMMY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK

Mary is dressing Jimmy and Jenny up with a trash bag. She finishes with putting on an air freshener necklace on them.

CUT BACK:

EXT. JIMMY'S APARTMENT BUILDING - ROOF

JOHNNY TRUONG

You know, now I think about, she overreact sometimes, because we're all she has. And the way the economy is, money's tight. So she worries a lot, especially about money...

JIMMY TRUONG

Yeah, I know.

JOHNNY TRUONG

... but don't worry lil' bro, that's gonna be changing soon.

JIMMY TRUONG

Why what's happening? You're gonna win the lotto or something?

JOHNNY TRUONG

(smiling)

Something like that... you see the city Jimmy?

JIMMY TRUONG

Yeah, what about it?

JOHNNY TRUONG

One day, one day I'm gonna take over this city and there's not gonna be a single person that's not gonna know who I am. We're gonna move out of this shit hole, to our own house and each of us will get our own room.

JIMMY TRUONG

(excited)

No way! For real? We're gonna move to our own house? How we gonna do that?

JOHNNY TRUONG

Whatever it takes... like what Fifty said, "Get rich or die trying." Lil' bro, don't be like me when you get older. You know, I want to go to school and get a college degree, but sometimes you gotta do what you gotta do and play the cards you're dealt with. Some people are meant to go to school, get a degree and a career. And, there's people that are meant to do other things. And, I'm one of them. Promise me you'll stay and do well in school, get a college degree, and a good job and make the whole family proud, okay?

JIMMY TRUONG

Okay, but what other things are you talking about?

JOHNNY TRUONG

You know, things... sometimes certain things are just better left unsaid.

Johnny flicks his cigarette off the roof and walks away.

JIMMY TRUONG

(contemplating)

Sometimes certain things are better left unsaid? Huh, wouldn't it be better to know than not to know? What's gotten into him, he's not making any sense tonight? Hey, what'd you meant at first? You're just gonna leave me guessing? Just tell me, I thought we were bro's?

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - EVENING

Johnny, Peter Wong, Cop #1,(30's) are in the scene. The room has a table, 2 chairs, and a spotlight. Johnny is handcuffed and sitting on the chair. Peter punches Johnny the face.

PETER WONG

You work for Uncle Johnny?

JOHNNY TRUONG

I told you, I don't know who Uncle is.

Detective Mason punches Johnny's jaw and his tooth flies out.

PETER WONG

Then where you get the powder from, huh?

JOHNNY TRUONG

I found it on the streets.

PETER WONG

You know Johnny, I hate it when people insult my intelligence. You know, you telling me you found it on the street, that's insulting my intelligence. Now, I'm going to ask you one more time, where's Uncle and where does he keep his stuff?

Peter punches Johnny in the gut.

JOHNNY TRUONG

(painful)

Okay, okay. I'll tell you. Come over hear. Uncle Chan keeps his stuff... up your mama's ass.

Johnny spits on Peter's face. Peter punches his jaw and another bloody tooth flies out.

JOHNNY TRUONG (CONT'D)

(laughing)

Hahaha! I love that pissed off look on your face. You look like a fucking little bitch. I ain't telling you nothing.