

White Knuckle Ride The Ending

by

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EXT. CITYSCAPE - DAY TO NIGHT

Clouds drift over the city at speed as the day rolls by. The sunlight phases into moonlight, and the traffic darts by at speed. The car lights start to phase into thick lines that light up the dark city streets below.

INT. ALEC'S CAR - NIGHT

Alec is driving down the main road towards the house, looking extremely angry. That bastard Jake has been duping him from the beginning. Twat!

He breathes deeply but remains in control. He clutches onto the steering wheel tightly and intermittently stares out of the window to his right before resuming his concentration on the road - It's an impossibly difficult task, even without the weight of a panic attack looming over him.

EXT. CALVIN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Alec's car comes to a rapid halt in the drive way.

Alec bursts out of the car and slams the door. He begins pacing towards to front door; his eyes are burning and his fists are spiked.

Jake better watch out!

INT. CALVIN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Alec places his key in the door and twists the handle. As the door frame slides out of view, a great tragedy appears before his eyes.

It's an unpleasant sight. Calvin and Cassie are sat beside each other on the sofa...
And a dead Jake rests at peace in their arms.

Alec is frozen in shock. Cassie is breaking down in tears and Calvin looks just as shocked as he is.

He begins to step forward, observing the body of Jake. By the looks of it, he's just died of a drug overdose.

Alec, surprisingly, keeps calm. He looks at Jake's body with a vacant expression - this isn't much of a surprise. In fact, it's also a kind of morbid relief.

As he looks at him, he freezes up as if he were remembering someone else lying in Jake's place...
A distant but very relevant memory.

He then steps over to Cassie, still grieving, and places his hand on her shoulder.

From afar, the lights in the house begin to fade out as we're pulled back behind the curtain, behind the window and into the cold world outside.

FADE OUT

FADE IN:

EXT. GRAVEYARD - SOMETIME LATER

THE SCENE OPENS IN COLOUR. THE SETTING IS BRIGHT BUT THE MOOD IS STILL DARK.

The headstone of 'JAKE FINN. 1998 - 2019' appears before us. The Granite stone looks so much more alive in colour - An irony in the face of death.

Cassie stands, dressed all in black, above the grave stone. Compared to the baggage trailing from her usual dresses, her attire now appears tight and tailored - Minimal effort, minimal fuse.

Behind her, a HORN TOOTS. She turns to see Calvin's car waiting to depart. Calvin watches her sympathetically.

Cassie walks away from Jake's grave. The grave stone looms in the frame.

INT. CALVIN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Calvin watches as Cassie walks among the tombstones. Calvin sits in the driver's seat wearing a pair of sunglasses, concealing himself as he always does.

Cassie enters the passenger's seat. Calvin turns to her.

CALVIN

You alright?

Cassie remains silent for a moment, her mind dwelling on Jake.

CASSIE

Yeah... I just had to see him again, that's all.

CALVIN

Well it's only been two months. These things take time.

Cassie rests her head on her hand. The grieving process is a long and painful one it seems.

CASSIE
Why did he have to die so young?

Calvin removes his sunglasses.

CALVIN
We did everything we could for him.
You know that, don't you?

Cassie looks out the window, contemplating.

CALVIN
I did warn him. Several times. He
knew all the risks and he didn't
listen.

Cassie finally turns to him. Out of the corner of his eye, Calvin notices as well. Their eyes lock on each other.

CALVIN
But the one thing I want you to
understand Cassie is that, not
once, not for one second, did I
ever stop trying to help him... And
I did all of it for you.

Cassie holds Calvin's hand. Their eyes stay locked for a few more moments before Calvin almost completely snaps out of it. He turns back to the window. So does Cassie - Other topics require discussion.

CALVIN
So how's Alec doing?

CASSIE
He's better.

CALVIN
Better how?

CASSIE
(smirking)
He's been a lot more open with me
lately. A lot more open.

Calvin nods, taking it all in. Still, he curious.

CALVIN
Did he tell you what happened to
Trinity?

Cassie chuckles when hearing the name.

CASSIE
Honestly...

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - (FLASHBACK)

Trinity walks into frame and positions himself in front of a white wall with height markings. He comes to about 180cms.

He appears smug and without regret.

CASSIE (V.O)
You mean the drug lord? Yeah, he told me... Seriously Calvin, that was months ago.

There's a bright flash as Trinity is photographed. He then turns to the side.

CALVIN (V.O)
I just mean that with him hiding his panic attacks from you, he might have preferred to keep his professional life to himself.

There's another flash of light. Trinity turns back to face the camera.

CASSIE (V.O)
Yeah, well, he can sometimes be a bit of a prick like that.

Trinity sticks his middle finger up.

CASSIE (V.O)
I still haven't entirely forgiven him.

CUT TO:

INT. CALVIN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Calvin and Cassie sit on either side of the frame. The graveyard lingers in shot through the front window.

CASSIE
I admitted it to him, you know... About the rape.

CALVIN
And I take it that by the standards of your dress, you'll be finding another job... You won't be going on anymore shopping sprees or anything?

CASSIE

Oh, never say never. But he got what was coming to him.

CALVIN

Gary his name was right?

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE ROOM - (FLASHBACK)

The photographer stands besides his camera, photographing ANOTHER MODEL.

CASSIE (V.0)

Hmmm. He won't be raping anyone else for a long time yet.

All of the sudden, the door to the room is kicked open.

Alec, along with his two fellow officers, storm through.

ALEC

Police! Put your hands in the air!

The photographer jumps out of his skin and steps away from the camera. He's all but powerless now.

THE ROOM AND EVERYONE ELSE THEREIN GO SILENT.

The two officers restrain him while Alec recites his statement of arrest.

CASSIE (V.0)

People like him don't deserve a second chance... I learnt that the hard way.

Alec and the officers escort the photographer away as his assistant, Jenna, and the model watch in utter shock. The photographer looks incredibly upset.

CASSIE (V.0)

Alec's different. At least he owned up to his mistake.

CUT TO:

INT. CALVIN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Calvin turns to Cassie.

CALVIN

Neither of us have been entirely honest with each other, have we?... Has Alec ever said how he... You know, got over his attacks... It just seemed odd to me that someone

(MORE)

CALVIN (cont'd)
could just forget something like
that.

CASSIE
I don't think he ever forgot
Calvin.
(insightful realisation)
But he learned.

The two of them turn to each other again and smile.

CALVIN
Yeah, about that... I err, well, I
realised that maybe you don't
actually need all that stuff I
bought you after all... but saying
that...

Cassie looks bewildered.

CASSIE
Yeah?

Calvin turns and reaches for a bag by the back seat. He
takes out what looks like a present, poorly wrapped by the
looks of it.

CALVIN
Well, I figured that maybe this is
the only present you really needed.

He hands the present over to Cassie. She seems to recognise
it from the last time, when Calvin insisted on showing off.

CASSIE
Oh, I wondered what that was...
Hope it's nothing cheap.

Calvin smiles at her as she unwraps it.

Cassie freezes up when she realises it's actually a picture
frame containing a rather nostalgic photograph.

It's a black and white photo of Cassie and Jake as children
- Cassie, roughly fifteen, and Jake, about twelve. The two
stand together with their arms around each other.

Cassie starts to well up at the sight of her dead brother.

CALVIN
I thought Jake may have wanted you
to have it... Accept it as a gift
from him.

Cassie runs her fingers over Jake's pretty young face.

Before Cassie has the chance to cry, she leans over to give
Calvin a hug. Calvin willfully accepts.

The two embrace for a good while before letting go - No doubt the offering of this gift has been a victory for Calvin. And maybe even a release for Cassie.

CASSIE

I'm sorry.

CALVIN

No I'm sorry Cassie. I'm sorry I wasn't good enough to be a partner to you.

CASSIE

No, but at least you're good enough to be a friend.

Calvin snorts, sarcastically.

CALVIN

Alright, let go of me before you get me worked up as well.

They both let each other go and Calvin starts the engines.

CALVIN

Let's get you back home to Alec, shall we?

EXT. GRAVEYARD - CONTINUOUS

The car sets off down a gravel road. The grave of Jake lingers in frame.

INT. CALVIN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Cassie looks at the photograph as the car pulls away. She then turns back towards the graveyard and casts a smile in the direction of Jake's grave.

As they depart, the darkness of the past seems to fade away... And a bright smile replaces it.

Cassie has been freed.

EXT. CALVIN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Calvin's car drives out of view, down a long winding road, and towards the city beyond.

In colour, it appears richer, more vibrant and more alive than ever before.

FADE TO BLACK