

Brothers

By

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FADE IN

EXT. WOODS DAY

An old, bearded man, SID, stands behind a tree holding a rifle. He slowly peers out and raises his gun.

BLACK

A gun fires.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

SID sits alone by a campfire.

Another man of the same appearance, DUKE, approaches from the black of the night. He sits across from Sid as they share silence for a few moments.

DUKE

Whatchu doin' out here?

Sid doesn't respond.

DUKE (CONT'D)

Huh? Whatchu doin'?

Sid's gaze is fixed on the fire.

SID

Thinkin'.

Duke turns to the side and spits.

DUKE

'Bout what?

SID

You know what.

DUKE

Oh. Talkin' 'bout earlier.

Sid looks up at Duke.

SID

(irritated)

Yeah, I'm talkin' 'bout earlier.

DUKE

You can't dwell on it. 'Specially out here by yourself.

(CONTINUED)

SID  
I'll handle it my way, you handle  
it yours.

Duke reaches to his side and pulls out a bottle of whiskey.  
He takes a swig.

DUKE  
Way ahead of ya.

Silence for a few moments.

DUKE (CONT'D)  
So, that's it then. You don't wanna  
talk about it. Just hopin' the  
fire's gonna burn your memory?

SID  
What is there to say?

DUKE  
Well, for starters, it ain't like  
it was a deer. Be a little easier  
ta handle for ya if it'd been a  
deer or somethin'.

SID  
The hell are you talkin' about?

DUKE  
Just sayin'. I feel like we should  
express our feelings on the matter.

SID  
It was a deer.

Duke takes another swig.

DUKE  
Ha. Sure. You want some?

He gestures the bottle towards Sid. Sid shakes his head.

DUKE (CONT'D)  
So, you just gonna sit out here all  
night? Thinkin'.

SID  
Yeah, maybe.

DUKE  
(impatient)  
Look, we should talk about this.  
It's only natural to talk about it.

SID  
Will you just shut up? You're  
pissin' me off. Why don't you just  
go?

DUKE  
Shit man, I'm tryin' ta help here.

SID  
I think you just want to talk about  
it. It's botherin' you more than it  
is me.

DUKE  
Well shitchea I wanna talk about  
it! I'd like to know what you're  
thinkin' right about now!

Sid stares back at the fire, silent. We see a rifle laying  
at his feet.

Sid begins to sob softly, his head down.

DUKE (CONT'D)  
Alright, alright.

Duke allows Sid some silence.

DUKE (CONT'D)  
So what exactly happened?

SID  
(recovering)  
I don't know. I saw the doe, clear  
as day! Then...

DUKE  
Yeah?

SID  
Then I shot.

DUKE  
Well, you didn't hit the doe, I can  
tell ya that.

SID  
I know! I know what happened!

DUKE  
Then how am I still here?

(CONTINUED)

SID

What?

DUKE

How are you talking to me right  
now?

Sid looks up, and Duke is gone.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Sid and Duke walk through the woods together, both holding rifles and wearing camo. We drift in and out of them as they walk.

They separate. We follow Duke for a few moments.

We see Sid creeping up through some brush. He posts behind a tree. Same shot as before. He hears a sound in the distance. He slowly peers out and raises his gun.

END FLASHBACK

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Sid sits alone at the campfire.

SID

Duke? Duke!?

He gets up and begins to walk toward the woods.

SID

DUKE!? DUKE!?

He moves back to the fire and picks up his rifle. He begins to pace.

SID

(sobbing)

Duke, where are you? Where'd you  
go? Please...where are you?

He sits down by the fire, his gaze fixed on the flames. He raises the gun to his mouth.

FADE TO BLACK

A gun fires.

END