

Reign Hellfire

By

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EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE - NIGHT

PAN up to the door of the house.

MICHAEL, a family man, walks outside his house to dump garbage in his trash bin. He hears the door to the house creek slightly but figures it is only the wind.

He goes inside, a cold hand covers his mouth while a distorted, filtered voice talks.

???

Don't move, don't scream. Just listen.

Michael is scared now but controls his temper. Through muffled talking, he complies, and the mouth uncovers his face. He turns around to see a figure in a dark blue metallic suit.

??? (CONT'D)

You're Michael Chambers, right?

MICHAEL

Y-y-yes, I am...

???

I saw what happened to your wife Isinia yesterday. I send you my dearest condolences.

Michael starts tearing up. He looks at a picture of him and Isinia.

CLOSE UP ON ISINIA AS GUNSHOT ECHOES IN THE BACKGROUND

MICHAEL

Please, don't. I can't take it anymore. All I have left are my kids. Please don't take them. What do you want from me?

???

I want your blessing for something.

Michael perked his ears and wiped his tears. He became focused

??? (CONT'D)

Got your attention, do I?

MICHAEL

Yeah, I don't understand. Are you a cop or something, cause I can't take any-

???

Trust me, I'm not a nark. What kind of cop sports a mechanical suit? I'm sure not even the military has this type of tech.

MICHAEL

Yeah, no cop would wear that or even deserve to. But why are you here?

???

I know what it's like to lose a loved one. I used to live a couple blocks from here. During the riots 25 years ago, I was orphaned for a time until my extended family came for me. My parents were killed during that time.

Michael eases his tensed body listening to the mysterious figure

??? (CONT'D)

Unlike you though, I couldn't get proper justice for their deaths. But I'm giving you that choice now.

MICHAEL

What choice?

The mysterious figure inhales and exhales deeply as the tension builds in the room. The silence is deafening.

???

Let me ask you something, be completely honest with me.

MICHAEL

I will, I will. Just please don't hurt me.

???

I won't. I can tell you're already broken; I'm not trying to crumble your spirit into more shards. What do you want done to that officer?

MICHAEL

I... I want him taken to jail...
forever.

???

Is that all? Does a part of you
want him... dead?

MICHAEL

Excuse me?

???

I said what I said. You heard that
correctly. Do. You. Want. Him.
Dead?

MICHAEL

Yes. I do, but I'm not a murderer,
I can't kill someone. My wife
wouldn't want me to stoop that low,
no matter how much the cynical part
of me wants him 6 feet under.

???

You wouldn't have to. You can still
get your desires fulfilled and
respect your wife's wishes because
I'd do it.

MICHAEL

Oh no, I can't ask you to do that.
But I mean, how would you be able
to?

???

With these.

The mysterious figure starts flaunting its weapons. Michael
is about to scream from fear but is shushed by the mysterious
figure again. They give the warning not to scream, and
Michael quickly calms down.

??? (CONT'D)

So, are we good to go? I won't
force you to give me the green
light to kill him. But I promise,
he WILL NOT get off free. The
choice is yours.

Michael contemplates for a second. Out the corner of his eye,
he sees family portraits involving Isinia and his kids.

MICHAEL
 (Regrettably)
 Lord forgive me for what I'm about
 to do. Alright, I accept.

???

I thought you would. Everyone
 deserves to be avenged and no one
 should have that option revoked by
 the system. I promise that any
 spilled blood is on me, not you.
 Besides, I know I'll love the
 attention.

The mysterious figure sticks their hand out for a handshake.

??? (CONT'D)
 I'll make sure the message to the
 public is clear.

Michael lets out a sigh of worry and relief. He clenches his
 eyes shut and opens them as he shakes their hand. As they
 finish, a car pulls up in the driveway. It's his kids coming
 back from their jobs.

???

I'll head out through the back. If someone finds out, you're
 screwed, and I have other people to help.

Michael understands and helps the mysterious figure by
 escorting them to the back of the house. They prepare to take
 off, but Michael grabs their arm.

MICHAEL
 Forgive me, but I have to ask you
 something.

???

Clocks ticking.

MICHAEL
 I know, but who are you and why are
 you doing all this?

The mysterious figure nudges Michael's hand off their arm and
 turns their back toward him. They exhale briefly.

???

Why am I doing this? Well, I hate
 it when wild animals aren't kept in
 check, so sometimes I feel you just
 have to put them down. So no other
 lives are harmed. They're just
 sheep in wolves' clothing.

MICHAEL

I see...

???

As to who I am? Call me... Azrael.

Michael's eyes widen. He hears the front door lock starts to turn and is on alert.

AZRAEL

Stay safe Michael. For them.

AZRAEL takes off and leaves the premises. Michael takes a second to process what has happened. The front door opens, and both of his sons come inside the house. They ask if he's ok and Michael assures them everything will be fine.

THE END