

DURING THE RAIN

By

Aleksandar Lahtov

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FADE IN

Young MAN is sitting on the armchair. His hands are bloody and he stares in a dot for a few seconds.

Police sirens are heard in the background.A thunder echoes.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

EXT-SUBURBAN HOUSE-NOON

Rainy afternoon. Thunder echoes through the sky.A rain is pouring.

There is a house with a huge garden planted with many flowers and beautiful kitchen garden full of vegetables.On the front side of the house, there is a wide balcony on which bald middle-aged MAN (40) is standing.

It is DRAGAN, respectful lawyer.He enjoys the sight in front of him, breathing in, breathing out. He smokes cigar glued on the top of his mouth.Because of the heavy rain, he withdraws inside the house.

EXT-HOUSE BALCONY -DAY

A door in front of the entrance of the house balcony.A hand shows up ringing on the door bell.

INT-THE ROOM-DAY

Dragan takes a nap on the armchair, opens his eyes slowly and looks towards the door. The ringing repeats several times.

He gets up and walks towards the door. He opens it and sees a MAN in green, long raincoat.Dragan looks at the man with a frightened face. The man takes off the hood from its head and smiles.

It is ALEKSANDAR, middle-aged man like Dragan, with exhausted face and short hair.

DRAGAN

(surprised)

Aleks, my cousin, is that you?

ALEKSANDAR

It's me, Dragan.Surprised you see me, cousin?

DRAGAN

You scared the shit out of me!!!! Where are you going after this storm?! Come on, get inside quickly!!! Don't you just

stand there!!

Aleksandar gets inside.

INT-THE HALLWAY-DAY

Aleksandar takes off his raincoat.

DRAGAN

(to Aleksandar)

What's up, my cousin?!!

They hug each other and walk into the living room.

INT-LIVING ROOM-NOON

Aleksandar looks the inner space of the living room. He sees the family portrait of Dragan with his wife and kid on the wall. The whole space is well designed with a huge dinner table and wide wooden upholstered chairs. Big LCD screen is hanging on the other side of the wall.

DRAGAN (O.S.)

Would you like something to drink ?

ALEKSANDAR

No, thanks. I am just passing through.

Aleksandar continues to stare around the living room.

They both sit on two comfortable armchairs with a small table between. While they talk, rain pours outside with thunder.

DRAGAN

We haven't seen each other for a long time. Since you went to Germany, we lost contact.

(beat)

How's life there? Do the German girls fuck good?

Dragan gesticulates with the middle finger. Aleksandar only smiles to his reaction.

ALEKSANDAR

(calmly)

It's beautiful everywhere for a man who knows how to live.

Dragan makes a sad face.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)

I see, you have renovated the house.

Dragan smiles.

DRAGAN

Well.... Yeahh!!!You know...I got this house from my father.

ALEKSANDAR

(relaxed)

Well.... Cousin!!!This house has its own history. Own story.

DRAGAN

(confused)

I don't understand.What history? What story?

ALEKSANDAR

Don't you know? Your father didn't tell you?

DRAGAN

Tell me what?

ALEKSANDAR

(ironically)

This house, cousin, is built on the back of the many innocent people that your father has put in jail just like that.

(beat)

My father was on his list,too.

Dragan can't believe what is hearing.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)

Your father was a respectful chief of police until he connected with the mafia. He became the money slave, forgot about the justice and has released the biggest criminals of the underground.I

Dragan reacts.

DRAGAN

Heeeyyyy!!!! Take it easy, cousin!!!We are talking about my father. That's not true.

Aleksandar just cynically smiles.

ALEKSANDAR

(calmly)

My uncle planted drugs into my father's apartment and he ended up in prison. Tell me why? Haaaaahaa!!! Whyyyyyy!!!!

Dragan is totally confused.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)

I'll tell you why. To provide an easy and comfortable life for his little boy.

(beat)

I knew he sold himself out, but i wasn't quite sure for how much.

Dragan nervously hits with his hand on the table.

DRAGAN

(angry)

That's a lieeee!!! You're fucking liar, cousin!!! My old man would've told me!!! He wouldn't hide such things from me.

(beat)

No.... It's a fucking lie!!! It's all lie!!!

Aleksandar raises himself from the armchair and looks his cousin straight into the eyes.

ALEKSANDAR

That's why... Cousin.... I came....

DRAGAN

(confused)

What!!?

ALEKSANDAR

To make things right.

Aleksandar pulls a gun behind his back and puts it on the table. Suddenly, thunder strikes outside. Dragan looks frightened when he sees the gun. Aleksandar leans back on the armchair.

DRAGAN

(frightened)

Heyy... Cousin!!! What are you up to? Take it easy!!! Heyyy...!!!

(beat)

But.... but... You know... I have nothing to do with it...

ALEKSANDAR

Very strange... It's so hard to shoot a man in the head when he looks at you straight into the eyes.

Aleksandar looks at his cousin with despise. Dragan, frightened looks at the gun, he grabs it and points it to Aleksandar. His hand shakes.

DRAGAN

Now we'll see if that's true. Hmmmm... Cousin!!!

Aleksandar slowly reaches in his pocket. Dragan watches confused

and reacts. He holds the gun straight towards Aleksandar.

DRAGAN (CONT'D)  
Heeyyy... Heeyyyy!!! Heeyyy!!!

ALEKSANDAR  
Take it easy, OK?! It's my cell phone.  
Just be cool...All right??

Aleksandar takes out his cell phone slowly, dials a number and puts the phone on the table. He turns the speaker on. A VOICE answers the call.

VOICE (V.O.)  
Yes?

ALEKSANDAR  
Put him on the line!!!

The voice of a little KID is heard.

KID'S VOICE (V.O.)  
Daaad?!! Daddy...Where are you, daddy?  
Help me, Daddy!! Come and get me,  
please!!!

Dragan is astonished.

DRAGAN  
(upset)  
Marko...!! Marko...!! Where are you,  
son? Are you all right? Are you hurt?

Aleksandar turns the speaker and cell phone off. Dragan is pissed and angry.

DRAGAN (CONT'D)  
(in anger)  
What did you do to my son? You  
bastard!!! He's got nothing to do with  
this. Let him go!!!

ALEKSANDAR  
Don't you worry, cousin. He is safe. For  
now.

DRAGAN  
You fucking bastard!!! Let him go or  
I...

ALEKSANDAR  
Or you what? Shoot me?! And you'll never  
see your son again.

DRAGAN  
If something happens to my little boy, I

swear to God, I'll kill you.

Dragan still points the gun at Aleksandar, but he hesitates.

Aleksandar pushes the table towards Dragan. The table hits Dragan in his knees and he is all in pain. Aleksandar gets up and catches Dragan's arm with the gun and grabs his neck with the other hand.

Dragan catches Aleksandar's face with his other hand. A fight is going on between two of them. Dragan tries to point the gun at Aleksandar's head, but Aleksandar manages somehow to defend himself. The gun fires a shot towards the ceiling and during the fight Aleksandar throws the gun away from Dragan's hand.

The gun falls down on the ground few meters away. Aleksandar hits Dragan with his knee in the genitals. Dragan bends and Aleksandar grabs his ears and hits him in the head with his knee.

Dragan falls back on the armchair. His nose bleeds. Aleksandar attacks him. Although, Dragan is dazed, he throws Aleksandar away with his leg, hits him and Aleksandar falls back on the armchair.

INT-LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

Dragan looks for the gun. He sees it and with the speed of light throws himself on the floor. Aleksandar reacts fast, gets up and heads towards Dragan. He grabs Dragan for the shoulders behind, but Dragan hits him with the elbow in the face.

Aleksandar stumbles and falls on the ground. Dragan grabs the gun, gets up and points it to Aleksandar. Aleksandar stands up, too, his nose bleeds. He looks at Dragan and laughs.

ALEKSANDAR (O.S.)

Now what, cousin!!??? What are you gonna do?.... Hahaa....?

Dragan aims the gun towards Aleksandar.

DRAGAN

Where's my son? Tell me, where is he?!!

Aleksandar says nothing and heads to the door.

DRAGAN (CONT'D)

Cousin!!! I'll shoot...I swear to God!!!  
I'll shoot...

Aleksandar stops and slowly turns to Dragan. Dragan's hand shakes. He is all in sweat. Aleksandar looks at his cousin cold blooded. The trigger of the gun shows closer. Dragan puts down the gun.

DRAGAN (CONT'D)  
(exhausted)  
Where is my son ? Tell me...!!Where is  
he?

Aleksandar laughs ironically.

ALEKSANDAR  
That's what I thought.You've been always  
soft.You're just like your father.

Dragan gets nervous and raises his gun again towards  
Aleksandar.Aleksandar pulls a knife from his sleeve and runs to  
Dragan.He throws the gun away from Dragan's hand with his leg  
and stabs his knife into Dragan's stomach.

The moment of aiming the gun towards Aleksandar and his run to  
Dragan goes in slow motion.

Dragans'face trembles. Aleksandar looks at his eyes.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)  
If you wouldn't have pulled the gun  
first, I would've spared your life.The  
suffering would've been easier for both  
of us.

Dragan kneels in front of Aleksandar. His stomach bleeds.  
Aleksandar drops down the knife.Dragan screams helpless.

DRAGAN  
Cousinnnnn!!!!

Dragan falls down on the ground dead.His blood spreads all over  
the floor.Aleksandar dials a number from his cell phone. A voice  
is heard.

VOICE (V.O.)  
Yes?

ALEKSANDAR  
Let him go!!!

INT-LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

A few minutes later, the door opens. A child enter. The child is  
MARKO (6), Dragan's son.

Aleksandar turns to Marko.Kneels in front of him. Marko looks at  
him so innocent.Aleksandar wants to touch him, but because of  
the blood on his hands, he withdraws.

ALEKSANDAR  
(to Marko)  
If you decide someday to come after me,  
I'll be waiting for you..

Marko just nods his head and kneels over the body of his father Dragan.

Aleksandar sits on the armchair. His hands are full of blood. He stares in a dot for a few seconds. Police sirens are heard in the background.

A thunder echoes.

FADE OUT

15 YEARS LATER

FADE IN

EXT- SUBURBAN HOUSE- NOON

The same house in which Dragan used to live. Now it belongs to Aleksandar. Rainy afternoon. The wind blows.

INT-ROOM-NOON

Aleksandar takes a nap on the armchair.

EXT-THE BALCONY-DAY

A hand shows up and rings on the door bell in front of the house balcony.

INT-ROOM-DAY

Aleksandar wakes up, opens his eyes and heads to the door. He opens the door.

A young MAN (21) with a green raincoat stands in front of him. He takes off the hood from its head. That's Marko, Dragan's son. Aleksandar doesn't seem so surprised to see him.

ALEKSANDAR

I was expecting you. Come in..

Marko walks inside.

INT-THE LIVING ROOM-DAY

Marko takes off his raincoat. He gets inside the living room and observes the surrounding. New painted walls, all in white, green carpet on the floor and big LCD screen on the wall.

ALEKSANDAR (O.S.)

You wanna drink something?

MARKO

No, I am just passing through.

Aleksandar shows up and they both sit on the armchairs with a

small table between. Marko takes another look of the living room.

Thunder echoes outside with heavy rain.

MARKO

(to Aleksandar)

The house hasn't changed so much since I was last here .

ALEKSANDAR

As you can see.... Yeahhh!!

(beat)

So??!!

MARKO

So??!! You know why I am here right?

ALEKSANDAR

I know.. I've been waiting for you.

Marko looks at Aleksandar with despise.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)

Before you shoot me,I want you to know that I am really sorry for your father. I mean it. I did my time. I was in prison 15 years for the crime I committed.

(beat)

But, there's something you should know about me and your father.

MARKO

OK... I am all ears.

ALEKSANDAR

When we were young,me and your father were very close.Like brothers. We did everything together. Drove same bikes, even same cars. Chased and shared the same girls.

(slowly laughs)

Can you imagine it?

Aleksandar sighs and continues.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)

But.... Times have changed. We went separate ways.

MARKO

You mean, you've changed. Into a cold blooded killer.

ALEKSANDAR

I know what you think of me. But the truth is that your grandpa has put my father in prison with no reason.

Marko reacts.

MARKO

My father had nothing to do with that.

ALEKSANDAR

Yes, he had... .As a lawyer he did nothing to stop your grandpa from sending my father in jail. Although, he knew he was innocent.

MARKO

(nervous)

Am i suppose to believe in this bullshit you're sayin?..

ALEKSANDAR

(calmly)

That's the truth.

MARKO

(moves his head in disapproval)

No....No..No fucking waaay. Just listen to me you god damn son of a bitch....The truth is that you killed my father!!

Marko raises himself from the armchair and speaks directly to Aleksandar.

MARKO (CONT'D)

Who do you think you are? Ha?! What makes you think you're so special? You think you're the center of the world? .... I'll tell you one thing.. You know what you are.. You are nobody!!!

ALEKSANDAR

The sins of the ancestors never die.

MARKO

OOOOOOOHOHHH!!!! Your dad was a saint and mine was a sinner!!! Is that what you're tryin to say to me?! Hahah!??

ALEKSANDAR

Mistakes are forgivable for those who have courage to admit them.

MARKO

(ironically)

Hahaha!!!! Come on, don't give me that

philosophical bullshit!!!

(beat)

(points a finger at Aleksandar)

You know...I can't forget those words  
you said to me that night... They still  
echoe in my head.

ALEKSANDAR

I regret every moment of it,Marko....  
Every moment!!

MARKO

Your remorse will not bring my father  
back to life!!

Marko pulls a gun and leans it on the armchair. Aleksandar  
watches his move cold blooded.

MARKO (CONT'D)

It's so hard to shoot a man in the head  
when he looks at you straight into the  
eyes.

ALEKSANDAR

So strange.... I said the same words to  
your father 15 years ago.

MARKO

Karma is a bitch, isn't it?

Marko aims the gun at Aleksandar ready to shoot him.

ALEKSANDAR

Do it.... Do it...

Marko's hand shakes. He hesitates. Thunder echoes. Aleksandar  
looks at him cold blooded.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)

(loud)

Come on!!! What you're waiting for!!! Do  
it!!!

(beat)

(cinically smiles)

I knew it. You don't have guts to pull  
the trigger. Like father,like son.

Marko pulls down the gun on the table. He gets up. Aleksandar  
looks surprised.

MARKO

(to Aleksandar)

You know what you gotta do.

(beat)

Don't you even think about it!!

Marko heads to the door. Aleksandar slowly gets up and takes the gun. Marko opens the door. Rain pours outside.

Thunder and a gun shot are heard in the same time.

FADE OUT

THE END