

**HEAT**

At a table. Headlights stream by to and from the airport: business people, families going on vacations, people living normal lives who have never used guns to kill people, never experienced physical violence, some who have never been stolen from and never steal. Surrounded on all sides by this flow of normalcy:

**HANNA**

Seven years in San Quentin. In the hole for three. McNeil before that.

**NEIL**

Yeah.

**HANNA**

Was McNeil as tough as they say?

**NEIL**

You looking to become a penologist?

**HANNA**

You looking to go back? I chased some crews, the guys were lookin' to fuck up and get busted back.

**NEIL**

You must have worked some dipshit crews.

**HANNA**

I worked all kinds.

**NEIL**

(pause)

You see me doing thrill-seeker liquor store holdups with a "Born to Lose" tattoo on my chest?

**HANNA**

No, I do not.

**NEIL**

Right. And I... I am never going back.

The adversarial intensity is eye-to-eye.

**HANNA**

Then don't take down scores.

**NEIL**

I do what I do best. I take  
scores. You do what you do best  
trying to stop guys like me.  
(shrugs)

**HANNA**

You never wanted a normal-type  
life?

**NEIL**

What the fuck is that? Barbecues  
and ballgames?

**HANNA**

Yeah.

**NEIL**

This regular type life, That your life?

**HANNA**

My life no. No. My lifes a disaster zone. I got a  
stepdaughter's so fucked up because real father's a  
world classasshole. I got a wife were passing  
each other on the down slope of a marrage. My third.  
Because I spend all my time chasing guys like you around the block.  
That's my life.

**NEIL**

A man told me once:  
Don't let yourself get attached to anything  
you're not willing  
to walk out on in 30 seconds  
flat if you feel the heat around  
the corner.  
(pause)

So if you're on me and you  
gotta move when I move, how do  
you expect to keep a family?

**HANNA**

What are you, a monk?

**NEIL**

No.

(pause)

I got a woman.

**HANNA**

What do you tell her?

**NEIL**

I tell her I'm a salesman.

**HANNA**

And if you spot me around the  
corner. You gonna walk out on  
onthis woman? without even saying goodbye?

**NEIL**

That's the discipline.

**HANNA**

That's pretty vacant.

**NEIL**

It is what it is

(beat)

its that or we both better  
go do somethin' else, pal.

**HANNA**

I don't know how to do anything  
else.

**NEIL**

(the shared confession)

...neither do I.

**HANNA**

And I don't much want to.

**NEIL**

Neither do I.

**HANNA**

You know I have this uh, reoccurring dream. Im sitting at this big banquet table and all the victims of all the murders I've ever worked are sitting at this table and there staring at me with these black eyeballs because they got eight ball hemroges from the head wonds. And here they are these big ballon people because I found them two weeks after I found them under the bed. The neibhoors reported the smell and there the are all of them just sitting there.

**NEIL**

What do the say?

**HANNA**

Nothing.

**NEIL**

No talk?

**HANNA**

They don't have anything to say. They just look at each other, they look at me and that's it that's the dream.

**NEIL**

I have one where im drowning and I gota wake myself up and start breathing or ill die in my sleep.

**HANNA**

You know what that's about?

**NEIL**

Yeah. Not having enough time.

**HANNA**

Enough time to do what you wana do?

**NEIL**

That's right.

**HANNA**

You doing it now?

Both of these guys look at each other and recognize the mutuality of their condition. Hanna's light laughter:

**HANNA**

You know. We're sitting here like a coupla regular fellas. You do what you do. I do what I gotta do. And now that we've been face to face and I got to put you away.

(pause)

I won't like it. But, if it's between you and some poor bastard whose wife you're going to make into a widow, brother, you are goin down.

**NEIL**

There's a flip side to that coin. What if you do got me boxed in and I gotta put you down?

(beat)

'Cause no matter what, you will not get in my way.

(beat)

we've been face to face,

But I won't hesitate.

Not for one second.

**HANNA**

(smiles)

Maybe that's the way it'll be . Or who knows ...

**NEIL**

...or maybe we'll never see each other again.