

Script: The Mountain, ROLE: MALE, MID 20's TO MID 30's

ERIC

David, M'man, wanna beer?

DAVID

Naw. That's okay.

ERIC

So good to see you, man. I always knew you'd make it. I always said, "David's the one, he's got success written all over him." Motocross. Outrageous. I saw you on the cover of this magazine. The cover.

DAVID

So Eric, I think we have to talk.

ERIC

And then you come back and you're Mr. Mountain Man. Mr. David Carver, Esq. (Adopting an executive voice) Fax me the minutes of that meeting, Doris.

Eric laughs and takes a swig.

ERIC (CONT'D)

Little Davie Carver. One astonishing dude.

He toasts David.

DAVID

So what is it, Eric, you need more money?

ERIC

Well the thing is...I know that we never really talked about what happened that night. With, me, you and Gabe, out in the canyon?

And by the look on David's face, he doesn't really want to talk about it now. But--

ERIC (CONT'D)

I went to work for your Grandpa pretty much straight after it happened. And first pay envelope I got? There was a couple hundred dollars cash in there.

DAVID  
My grandfather...bribed you?

ERIC  
He never called it that then, and I ain't calling it that now. But since he died? The money's stopped. And me and Denise and the kids've really come to rely on it.

DAVID  
So... what are you saying?

ERIC  
All I'm saying is...

He stares David down.

ERIC  
Only three people know what really happened that night. One of 'em's dead. And one of 'em's me.

DAVID  
And you want money?

ERIC  
Your Grandpa was a great man. He knew how to take care. You learn that when you have kids, David. You take care. And I took care of him.

DAVID  
How did you do that?

ERIC  
It was a beautiful thing--an arrangement of mutual benefit. Every week he helped me keep the flood waters out. Helped me build a dam, every week there was a little extra. And every week I kept things that needed keeping quiet quiet. We built a silent, safe little world, your grandpa and I.

DAVID  
And now what, Eric?

ERIC  
You're family, David. I'm not going to burn you. We just keep going. Do right by each other. Stay the course--a beautiful thing.

DAVID  
(Sarcastic)  
Yeah right, a beautiful thing.

ERIC  
Look, I can see it's a lot to think  
about. So you just marinate. And  
we'll talk in the morning.

Picks up the magazine again.

ERIC (CONT'D)  
Wow man- the freaking cover!

He makes a motorcycle noise and waves the magazine.

ERIC (CONT'D)  
Rmmmmmm! Rmmmmmm! David Carver: king  
of the mountain!