

FACELESS

Written by

Gary Tao

writertao@gmail.com
+44 (0)7933366272
WGA: 1883901

FADE IN:

EXT. GULF OF MEXICO - DAY

The hands of a man beat paddling in thick water- fogged in erupting chaos. The water clouds up a dark red. Blood.

INT. FANCY RESTAURANT - DAY

In the ambience of soothing music and fine dining, a man wearing spectacles, dressed for an occasion- sits looking very relaxed. A dark mole grows on one side of his face.

This is MILTON MOORE (35), sophisticated and in awe of her beauty. The tempting beauty of a stunning woman.

This is ANNA TAYLOR (30's), elegant and wrapped away under a tight red dress looking like a million dollars. Milton admires the inviting spark in her eyes. Sitting opposite her.

MILTON

How about I take up these piano lessons full time?...

ANNA

And escape the designing?

MILTON

Well, it's easier on the eyes and I'll get to spend a little more time at home...

ANNA

(smiling)

I thought it was because you loved the music...

Milton is still. Anna flirts with him gently.

MILTON

Oh, I am loving the music too...

Anna has a drink of her wine from a polished glass demurely.

ANNA

Sometimes, it's good to have a change and be someone else.

A posh looking WAITER (20's), settles sizzling plates of food down onto their table. Anna's eyes move to them-

ANNA (CONT'D)

Thank you... This is a lovely place.

MILTON

And what can beat Italian cuisine. I am thirty percent Italian you know, on my fathers side...

Anna laughs with him.

ANNA

How did you work that out? Ain't it nice to just settle down and relax like this once in a while...?

MILTON

(after a drink)
I'll drink to settling down.

She waits for him to start to eat for a beat.

Milton plates up now. They eat spaghetti and meat balls.

MILTON (CONT'D)

Tastes divine...

Milton drinks his wine down with his eyes on Anna.

ANNA

How's Tom doing in school? He doesn't seem to be focused on his music lesson's lately...

MILTON

All right... Michelle's definitely got more time for him than I have at the moment... It's good to have a woman in the house...

Milton's eyes move to Anna's empty glass.

ANNA

(smiling)
Of course. Will you fill me up?

MILTON

My pleasure...

He fills her glass with the red, then pours himself another.

MILTON (CONT'D)

Happy birthday, Anna.

Their glasses touch. They drink with eyes on one another. Anna's sensual gaze rests on his loving eyes locked onto her.

ANNA

You know we've been seeing one another like this for some time now. And you keep spoiling me...

Milton enjoys the taste of his food staring at her.

MILTON

You only live once. Enjoy, Anna. I want you to come to my place afterwards, for something a little special.

(beat)

Well, how about it?

Anna says nothing accepting with a smile. They hold a stare.

EXT. MANSION GROUNDS - DAY

An expensive- polished luxury car rolls onto pristine white gravel grounds.

INT. LUXURY CAR - MOVING

Anna sits as a passenger, in awe of the surroundings of fine green lawns complimented by a water fountain.

Milton drives.

ANNA

(smiling curiously)

What are you up to?...

MILTON

I know you like it here.

Anna's warm emotional gaze settles on the house. Milton slows, parks. A passionate silence fills the car. They stare at one another. An excited love.

They exit the vehicle and move quickly to escape the cold-

EXT. MANSION GROUNDS - CONTINUOUS

Anna skips following Milton to the door. She stands, rubbing herself in the Spring chill. Milton opens the unlocked door, they both enter-

INT. MANSION HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The large entrance foyer appears small, crowded densely with people- all looking joyful and excited.

ANNA

-- Oh, my god...

An exploding CONFETTI BOMB now drapes around them with enthusiastic clapping welcoming. Smiles all around-

Anna stumbles in on some fifteen guests. Their friends.

FRIENDS

Surprise!

Anna walks to LINDA (30's), a tenacious mom. They embrace.

LINDA

Girl, you look stunning...

ANNA

Thank you everyone, for coming to see me at Milton's home...

Her eyes move to him. Milton looks pleased with himself.

EXT. MANSION GROUNDS - CONTINUOUS

Another MAN, the gardener- MARCO (30's), chiselled and dark, looks to them through the crowd. He SNIPS away with a SHARP cutter- shaping a green BUSH beside the window.

MOMENTS LATER

Milton approaches Anna now, stands close to her. She places a hand onto his chest with affection. They hold a look.

MICHELLE

That's a beautiful dress. I got this for you and Milton...

MICHELLE (20's), hands Anna a bottle of wine and chocolates. She's curly fair, a combination of attractive and innocent.

ANNA

Thank you sweetie. This is all too much.

Michelle's sincere eyes move to Milton. Her face is unreadable.

Milton stands observing everyone with a wide smile on his face. He moves closer to Anna- she looks up to him- turns- embraces Milton with a decorous kiss.

Teasing whistles warm the lobby. They cheer him on.

MILTON
 (holding his face to hers)
 I have to tell you, I am in love
 with you, Anna.

Milton excited, removes a small black box from his pocket, opens it and hands it to Anna, and places a diamond ring next to Anna.

ANNA
 I think I am going to cry...

Her polished nails move onto the dark box. She tilts the ring as it glimmers into her eyes.

ANNA (CONT'D)
 ...It's beautiful, really

MILTON
 -What is it?... You don't like it?

ANNA
 (emotional)
 -- No, it's lovely. I... wasn't
 expecting this.

Milton holds Anna's head gently. His eyes lock into hers-

MILTON
 What are you doing for the next
 fifty years?...

He moves down onto one knee, looking up at her as his friends roar the marble halls to life.

Anna catches a tear, trying not to spoil her face...

ANNA
 Are you asking me to marry you?

MILTON
 Will you?

Milton sees his quiet but wise son TOM (8) come forward beside Michelle. He grants his father a polite smile now.

ANNA
 Yes, I'd love to...

Milton holds Anna. They kiss passionately.

LINDA
(emotional laughter)
He finally did it... dirty devil.

She laughs. Anna's tearful eyes move into hers.

MARCO- cleaned up now is inside the house. He reaches to the drinks cabinet, inside is a bottle of Champaign. He POPS it open- bubbly SPLASHES everywhere, happy cheers fill the room.

Marco hands Milton a glass.

MILTON
(looking at everyone)
He's not just an amazing Gardener.

Everybody laughs.

Marco with eyes locked onto Anna, hands her a glass of fizz. She takes it smiling at him.

MILTON (CONT'D)
Let's bring some happiness into
this home again.

Anna's eyes and thoughts move onto the people around her.

EXT. SCHOOL GROUNDS, ROADSIDE - LATER

The luxury car is parked. The rain comes down heavy.

INT. LUXURY CAR - CONTINUOUS

Milton sits glancing up at the rain. Anna prepared and bundled up sits beside him.

MILTON
When was the last time you had a
vacation?

ANNA
-I can't even remember. Years ago.

Milton's eyes locked on Anna, slide to his Rolex-

MILTON
I'll go and get Tom. Will be right
back. When I return, I have
another surprise for you.

ANNA

This is all too much...

Milton stares back at Anna, then exits the vehicle and paces past the car with a spring in his step.

EXT. SCHOOL GROUNDS, ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Round at the belly, Milton jogs through the rain shined metal gates of the school. His eyes fall onto Tom who's in a soccer outfit.

MILTON

Come on son...

Tom watchfully crosses the road and paces to his father.

TOM

Are you going dad?

MILTON

Yes, but Anna doesn't know yet.

Tom thinks for a moment, then looks up at his father.

MILTON (CONT'D)

I want Anna and us to be happy,
because I know how much your mother
would have loved this... For the
two of us, son.

Tom blinks a sigh and smiles at Milton.

INT. LUXURY CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Milton excited, climbs into the car. Regains his breath.

MILTON

We're going on a cruise for our
honeymoon Anna, after the wedding.
Start packing your bags.

ANNA

It's all so perfect Milton.

They kiss. Milton pulls Tom closer to him now. He hugs his father, then closes his eyes. Milton's hand combs into Tom's hair.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

The pristine auditorium is decorated with friends and family.

FLOWERS and BALLOONS flaunt vibrant colors amongst the white and black attire of the occasion and people.

Milton and Anna face one another, holding hands.

An auspicious PRIEST (50's), stands looking at the couple.

PRIEST

And do you Anna, take this man
Milton, to be your lawfully wedded
husband?

ANNA

Yes, I do.

PRIEST

Do you promise to love him and
comfort him, honor him and keep
him. For better or for worse, for
richer or for poorer, in sickness
and in health. And be faithful to
him as long as you both shall live?

ANNA

Yes, I do.

Milton places the diamond ring on Anna's finger.

Flowers climb UP THE AIR amongst elated celebrations.

The newly married couple hold a long kiss as red flower petals scatter the floor and drift with the air.

INT. MANSION HOUSE, LOUNGE - LATER

Milton carries his Anna through into the sitting area. His eyes fall onto a beautiful piano. Anna's reading eyes move into his. Anna finds her feet now.

MILTON

You know, I fell in love with you,
watching you play...

Anna walks to the cherry piano, looking flawless. She lifts its lid, looking at Milton with a teasing smile, sits down gently and begins playing 'Feelings' by Richard Clayderman.

ANNA

Your favourite.

Milton walks closer to her now, gazes into her eyes looking up at him- as she plays. He takes one side with a hand. They finish the final notes in together. In perfect union.

Anna pants close to Milton as though for the first time. She stands closing the lid of the piano gently.

Milton leans towards her.

MILTON

I got you in the end...

ANNA

Me too.

A tear rolls down her face. Milton unfastens the lace of Anna's dress slowly.

INT. MILTON'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - MORNING

Anna dressed, prepares breakfast on the table. She places two fried eggs into a plate with some mushrooms.

Someone is standing behind her, unseen. Her eyes change.

MARCO (O.S.)

Is it the white or red?... Flowers
for when you return home...

Anna freezes- in thought.

ANNA

Make them white... That'll be
appropriate.

She walks past him.

Marco moves closer to her catching a smell of her hair. His face acknowledges her look. He leaves quickly.

Anna listens as the door closes. She takes a new PICTURE from their WEDDING, from the work-top and looks at it deeply.

Milton appears now.

MILTON

What is it, honey?...

Anna turns to him-

ANNA

Nothing. I just really love you...

Milton walks closer to her, looks into her eyes. They stand close. Milton's eyes fall onto the PICTURE.

MILTON
Are you feeling alright?

ANNA
My hormones are getting the better
of me...
(whispering)
I think I am pregnant...

MILTON
What?... Oh my god, that's amazing
news... honey, that's just perfect.

Milton in thought, kisses Anna's neck. She smiles. He places his hand on her stomach.

ANNA
Here, just the way you like it.

He takes his plate of breakfast to the table.

MILTON
Come here. Get some food into that
precious stomach of yours.

Anna sits beside him, watching him eat now.

Tom enters- stretching. His eyes move to Milton and Anna.

ANNA
Come, sit. Breakfast's ready
sweetie.

TOM
I jus want cereal, Anna.

ANNA
-- What only cereal?... okay.

Anna leaves the table to bring Tom his breakfast.

MILTON
Mom, will be more appropriate now,
son.

Tom looks at his father, sits down onto the table beside him.

TOM
Okay, dad.

Anna places the bowl near Tom, then bends kissing his cheek.

ANNA
Shout, if you want anything else.

TOM
Thanks, mom.

Tom smiles up to her, looks to his father. Milton eating, smiles back. His eyes find Anna again.

MILTON
Are you dead set on staying home
then son. You sure you don't want
to come along...

Suddenly-

The glass of orange juice falls onto the ground- GLASS
SHATTERS across the tiles. Juice DROWNS around the shards.

ANNA
Oh, shit...

MILTON
You sit down... I'll get it.

Anna looks to Tom, then Milton. She settles down on a chair.
Silence fills the room as Milton cleans it.

ANNA
I'm fine, really.

Tom takes a glass with uncertainty. He pours in his drink
looking at Anna now. His caring eyes move to his father.

EXT. LEISURE MARINA - SUNNY DAY

Milton and Anna, with their fingers clasped together, walk
along the dockside surrounded by all variations of sailboats.

MILTON
I sailed out in a speedboat like
that... three years ago.

Milton's hand points out.

ANNA
Was she still with you then?

MILTON
Who, Laura?...

Anna nods a "Yes" with calculating eyes on him.

MILTON (CONT'D)

She was. I've never sailed since.

ANNA

It's time to make new memories.

A Commercial BOAT SALESMEN (40's), very tidy looking, approaches the two of them, from out of his office.

BOAT SALESMEN

I'm not gonna disturb you two lovely people. Take your time. Holler when you need me...

MILTON

We will. Thanks.

The Boat Salesmen, sharp, eyes Milton's expensive watch.

BOAT SALESMEN

Weather's just perfect for sailing.

MILTON

Sure is. Well, what have you got?

The Boat Salesmen enters into their space briskly.

BOAT SALESMEN

Pretty much everything in the world of leisure sailing. Are you looking to buy or hire?

MILTON

We're looking for a week's hire of your finest boat. It's for our honeymoon.

BOAT SALESMEN

-- Wow. Is this the lucky woman?

ANNA

Yes... I sure am.

MILTON

(laughing)

Hey, I'm the lucky one...

The Boat Salesmen, leading them now and listening carefully walks to a large leisure yacht - new with all of the gear.

BOAT SALESMEN

You need a yacht... this one's prestigious.

(MORE)

BOAT SALESMEN (CONT'D)
 People can't afford it, but I can
 do a special deal for you on a
 weeks hire, if you want?

Anna beaming, places her arms around Milton- who stands in
 awe of the vessel. He smiles to Anna looking from it.

ANNA
 How many rooms does it have?

BOAT SALESMEN
 Plenty, a three bedroom, with en-
 suite facilities and two large
 living areas, one onboard the deck,
 kitchen, bathrooms, a hot tub, you
 name it this baby's got everything.

Milton looks into Anna's telling- eyes. She's very happy.

MILTON
 Sounds perfect. Let's have a look
 at her.

BOAT SALESMEN
 Right this way, sir.

INT. MANSION HOUSE - EVENING

Packed suitcases rest on the polished floor. Marco is
 loading the car outside with them.

Michelle stands, places her hair behind her ear.

MILTON
 Michelle? Did you want something?

MICHELLE
 Everything is packed for you. I've
 put your shirts into a separate
 suitcase, just how you like them.

MILTON
 Thank you. You know, I appreciate
 everything you've done since you've
 been with us, Michelle...

She looks back sensitively into his eyes.

MICHELLE
 I don't look at it as a job,
 Milton. I love it here...

Milton smiles- appreciatively.

Tom takes Michelle's hand. He looks up at her smile.

MILTON
(eyes on Tom)
You going to be all right, buddy?

TOM
Sure, dad.

MICHELLE
We're going to play lots of games
when Marty calls, and stay up til
late watching your favorite movies--

Tom smiles now.

ANNA
-- Aren't these flowers lovely?

Anna interrupting- holds a bouquet of red and white flowers.

MICHELLE
... Oh, they're gorgeous.

Michelle moves closer to Anna now, occupied with the flowers.
Tom's face changes. Michelle notices him now.

MILTON
We'll be back in a week. Be a good
boy and less of that games console.

Tom emotional gaits up the stairs.

ANNA
It's my fault.

Anna's persistent eyes follow him up.

MILTON
No... don't say that honey. He's
alright.

Michelle eyes them both and ascends the marble stairs.

INT. TOM'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Michelle is stood watching Tom dress into his sleeping-gown.

Milton enters into the room...

MILTON
Is Linda good with taking him to
school for a couple days?

Michelle looks down at Tom.

Tom's eyes glue onto a family photo- his mother and father. They stand with infant Tom. Years younger and vibrant. A beautiful petite woman stands beside Milton. It's LAURA.

MILTON (CONT'D)
What's the matter, son?

TOM
I wish my real mom was here.

MILTON
Hey... What's wrong, why are you saying that?...

TOM
(upset)
I really miss mom...

Milton bends down to him.

MILTON
Mom's in heaven now, and she's not coming back son. We've talked about this before...

Beat.

Tom sees the longing in his fathers eyes. He hugs Milton.

TOM
...I wanted to go with you dad.

MILTON
Really? You wanted to come along?...

Milton's eyes drift out of the room.

TOM
It's gonna be boring without you here...

Milton holds Tom in front of him.

MILTON
No it's not. You've got school, and Michelle's gonna do all kinds of neat things with you... Cooking, watching movies, she's even got a surprise day out -- all organized for you and Marty.

Milton's eyes move to Michelle. She smiles at him.

TOM

...What kind of surprise?

MILTON

-- You're just gonna have to wait to find out. Plus Michelle's here with you. She said something about not going to bed tonight until late, like we used to with Laura...

Tom feels loved again. The enthusiasm fills his face.

Milton hugs his son, then leaves the room.

Michelle's face warms with emotion looking down at Milton.

EXT. MANSION GROUNDS - MOMENTS LATER

The car pulls away. Anna's eyes bore onto the house through the glass of the car.

MARCO

So long Milton...

Marco makes eye contact with Anna, attending to the garden. He waves them off now.

INT. CAR -

Milton passes the large electronic gates of the grounds. Drives away into the distance.

EXT. GULF OF MEXICO - DAYS LATER

A cruiser YACHT sails a sunlit amazing deep blue that's vast.

EXT. YACHT DECK - HOURS LATER

Milton, wearing sun glasses and a cap, sits on the soft leather chairs, up on deck. In luxury and class.

The long fishing line of his rod, stretches out into the sea.

MILTON

What you having, gorgeous?

Anna still in nightwear passes him.

ANNA

Had two... that's enough for me.

MILTON

What, you're not going to drink
with me?... The yachts safe, it's
anchored for the night.

Anna PULLS the lid off a beer with a bottle opener, holds it
out for Milton-

ANNA

I'm good thanks. Here you drink.

Milton takes it, brings it up to his mouth slowly. Thinking.

MILTON

Come here, sit next to me...

Anna seems a little distant. She's still. Beat.

MILTON (CONT'D)

Have I done something?

ANNA

No... I am okay, really.

Her eyes find Milton's gaze across the great expanse of
water.

SUDDENLY

Milton feels a TUG on his line- he sits up quickly, turns his
cap the other way- eyes bulging out to sea-

MILTON

Oh boy! I've got something here...

He starts REELING it in. It's a FLAPPING flounder coming up.

ANNA

Oh, god. Is there more down there?

Milton's up, looking down now- overboard into the sea.

MILTON

Without a doubt... This guy's
heavy...

Anna stands, glancing around. Apprehensive now.

Milton watches the flounder gawking at him.

He throws it back to sea now...

AT THAT MOMENT

The water CHURNS with WHITE ERUPTIONS.

MILTON (CONT'D)
Look there, a whole load of them...

Milton points out with his rod-

ANNA
(nervously)
What's happening?...

Milton leans overboard, looks closer at the water now.

MILTON
My god, Anna... they're sharks --
Look! Four or five of them...

Milton GAZES down, as the water turns RED. Flounder pieces, a HEAD, BOB- UP to the surface. Dorsal fins STIR now.

Anna- looks to her side. Gestures "NOW" with a GLARE of her eyes -- looking onto someone unseen, approaching with pace.

And then it happens.

Marco CREEPS UP behind Milton -SHOVES him with a forceful PUSH straight into the GULF SEA...

Hands WAVING- Milton FALLS overboard, with a HEART SHATTERING SPLASH- headfirst. A GLIMPSE of Anna blinks in front of him. He PLUNGES- CRASHING DEEP into the cold GARGLING WAVES.

IN THE WATER

Milton STRUGGLES, frantic- BEATING- paddling- a FIGHT through the STORMING WHITE.

It CHURNS. He WINCES horror- the SHARKS.

Confused GASPS and CHILLING CRIES spike the air as A FURY of four Bull Sharks- TWIST, TARING away at Milton. TEETH GARGLE through BEATING water. The GYSER of RED, BUBBLES through CHAOS. It settles to an empty calm now.

UP ON THE YACHT

Anna- TURNS from her stare down into the Gardeners chest.

INT. DEEP BLUE SEA - CONTINUOUS

Arms and legs try to escape the overwhelming plain of liquid in desperation.

Milton's face slips a blurred glance of Anna's silhouette standing above him. The WATER FILLS him. He sinks- with a FACE wearing the upmost horror.

A MURKY BLOOD fog. Shreds of his flesh FLOAT to the depths.

EXT/INT. YACHT DECK/CONTROL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Anna and Marco huddle together, inviting him to die.

ANNA

He can't swim... but we have to
make sure he's dead.

MARCO

Don't worry about that, those
sharks will eat every piece of him.