

DURING THE RAIN

By

Aleksandar Lahtov

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[siralex26@yahoo.com](mailto:siralex26@yahoo.com)

FADE IN

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

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

FADE OUT

EXT-SUBURBAN HOUSE-NOON

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

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

This 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, eyes opened, looking 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.

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

DRAGAN  
(surprised)  
Alex, my cousin,is that you?

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

DRAGAN  
You scared the shit out of me!!!! Where  
you're heading after this storm?! Come  
on, get inside quickly!!! Don't you just  
stand there!!

Aleksandar gets inside.

INT-THE HALLWAY-DAY

He 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 hangs on the other side of the wall.

DRAGAN (O.S.)  
Would you like something to drink ?

ALEKSANDAR  
No, thanks. Just passing through.

He 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  
Damn it!!! We haven't seen each other for a long time. Since you went to Germany, we lost contact.  
(beat)  
How's life there? German chicks fuck good?

He 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've renovated the house.

Dragan nods.

DRAGAN  
Well.... Yeahh!!! Got this house from my

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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)

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

(beat)

My father was on his list,too.

Dragan startles.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)

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

DRAGAN

Heeyyyy!!!! Take it easy, cousin!!! You talk about my father here. That's not true.

Aleksandar just cynically smiles.

ALEKSANDAR

(calmly)

My uncle planted drugs into my father's apartment ending up in prison. Tell me why? Haaaahaa!!! Whyyyyy!!!!

Dragan's 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 wasn't

quite sure for how much.

Dragan nervously slams 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 glancing at his  
cousin straight into the eyes.

ALEKSANDAR

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

DRAGAN

(confused)

What!!?

ALEKSANDAR

To make things right.

Then he pulls a gun behind his back and puts it on the table.  
Thunder striking 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)

You know... Got 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.

He glances at his cousin with despise. Dragan grabs the gun and  
points it to Aleksandar. Hand shaking.

DRAGAN

Now we'll see if that's true, you dumb  
fuck!!!

Aleksandar slowly reaches in his pocket. Dragan watches confused  
as he holds the gun straight towards him.

DRAGAN (CONT'D)

Heeyyy... Heyyyyyy!!! Heyyyyy!!!

ALEKSANDAR

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

He takes out his cell phone slowly, dials a number and puts the phone on the table. 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?!! Daddyyy....Where are you,daddy?  
Help me, Daddy!! Come and get me,  
please!!!

Dragan trembles, startled.

DRAGAN

(upset)

Marko....!! Marko...!!Where are you,  
son?? You all right? Are you hurt?

Aleksandar turns the speaker and cell phone off.

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.

He still points the gun at Aleksandar,but hesitating.

Aleksandar pushes the table towards Dragan. Table hits Dragan in the knees as he falls back,screaming in pain.

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He catches Dragan's arm with the gun as he grabs his neck with the other hand.

Dragan clutches Aleksandar's face with his free hand.

As he tries to point the gun at Aleksandar's head, Aleksandar manages somehow to throw the gun away from his arm.

The gun fires a shot towards the ceiling, falling down on the ground few meters away.

Aleksandar hits Dragan in the genitals. As he bends, Aleksandar grabs his ears, hitting him in the head.

Dragan falls back on the armchair. Nose bleeding. Aleksandar attacks again.

Dragan seems dazed, but uses his leg, throwing Aleksandar away as he falls back on the armchair.

INT-LIVING ROOM-NIGHT

Dragan looks for the gun. Sees it and with the speed of light throws himself on the floor.

Aleksandar reacts fast, gets up, heads towards Dragan and grabs him for the shoulders behind.

He turns, spins around and hits Aleksandar in the face, using his elbow.

He stumbles and falls on the ground. Dragan grabs the gun again. Aleksandar stands up. His nose bleeding. Glancing at Dragan and laughs.

ALEKSANDAR (O.S.)

Now what? You piece of shit!!! What's ya gonna do??

Dragan aims the gun at Aleksandar.

DRAGAN

(yelling)

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

Aleksandar says nothing and heads to the door.

DRAGAN (CONT'D)

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

He stops and slowly turns to Dragan. His hand shaking. Sweating.

Aleksandar looks at his cousin. Dragan puts down the gun.

DRAGAN (CONT'D)

(exhausted)  
Where is my son ? Tell me...!!Where is  
he?

Aleksandar just smiles.

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

Dragan gets nervous raising his gun again towards Aleksandar.

He pulls a knife from the sleeve and runs to Dragan as he throws  
the gun away from Dragan's arm with his leg and stabs the knife  
into his stomach.

Dragan's face trembles. Aleksandar whispers him quietly.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)  
(on Dragan's ear)  
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 on the floor. 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'em go!!!

INT-LIVING ROOM-SAME TIME

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

Aleksandar turns to Marko as he 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)  
Hey, kiddo!!! 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 staring in a dot for a few seconds. Police sirens are heard in the background.

A thunder echoes.

FADE OUT

15 YEARS LATER

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, eyes opened, heading to 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.)

Wanna drink something?

MARKO

No, thanks. 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.. Been waiting for you.

Marko glances at Aleksandar with despise.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)  
Before you shoot me,want you to know  
that I am really sorry for your father.  
I mean it. I did my time. Been in prison  
15 years for the crime I commited.  
(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  
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. Though, 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..Noooo..... Listen to me, you god damn son of a bitch....The truth is that you killed my father!!

Marko raises himself from the armchair.

MARKO (CONT'D)

Who do you think you are? Ha?!! What makes you think you're so special?

ALEKSANDAR

(ironically)

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 !Hahah!??

ALEKSANDAR

(stone cold)

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... Can't forget those words you said to me that night.... 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 shaking. Hesitating. Thunder echoes. Aleksandar  
looks at him.

ALEKSANDAR (CONT'D)

(loud)

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

(beat)

(cinically smiles)

I knew it. 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

