

~~Birdman smiles and walks to the wall pulls down old faded photo of him surrounded by Earl, Cicero, Pompey and a baby Brucey-B.~~

~~A different and happier time it seems from the photo.~~

~~Birdman goes to a drawer pulls out chrome gun with wings on it.~~

BIRDMAN
Be careful.

~~Birdman hands Brucey the gun.~~

~~CUT BACK TO~~

~~INT. THE ROMAN HOUSE - DINING ROOM NIGHT~~

~~The Roman family is seated but Earl is not there.~~

~~Eric sits at the head of the table.~~

~~Minny serves a hot dinner, her hands are shaking slightly but noticeably.~~

~~Erica raises her glass.~~

ERICA ROMAN
To new beginnings.

MINNY ROMAN
To the lord bringing my baby home.
Safe.

EARL ROMAN (O.S.)
To making sure he stays out this time.

~~Earl enters from the hallway. He stares at Eric, no smile.~~
~~Eric rises, unsure.~~

~~Earl gives Erica a kiss on the cheek and looks at Minny.~~

EARL ROMAN (CONT'D)
Excuse us we going on the porch for a few ticks.

MINNY ROMAN
But Earl, dinner is about done.

EARL ROMAN
Wont be long. Promise.

Start

CUT TO:

EXT. THE ROMAN HOUSE - PORCH - NIGHT

Earl and Eric are both seated together.

Earl lights his cigar.

ERIC ROMAN
No welcome home, son? I miss you son? Nothing like that huh?

EARL ROMAN
(laughs)
Save the dramatics, son. You my flesh and blood. You know where we stand. The Roman family was basically born in jail.

Earl opens his arms. They hug and break the tension

EARL ROMAN (CONT'D)
Let's skip all that and get right to it. That righteous religious bullshit you was talking about in the clink ain't going work now. The streets changed. And if you running with ya old man again gotta be fierce. That bible shit can't help for what we gotta do.

ERIC ROMAN
I know last time we talked and I told you I was out you was furious. You tried so hard to keep me off the streets and I know it was my choice to get involved. Right before I went to prison I seen what I became and who you really were. And at that very moment I knew something was going to happen. Death or jail. Amen I got arrested that same night. Pops I need another way. And it can be off our own peoples back. Im sorry.

EARL ROMAN
Our own peoples back? Let me refresh your memory or history I should say.
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