

THE VEGA BROTHERS
Present

El CHIVO

by
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(Based on, an original story by The Vega Brothers)

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FADE IN

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - SPANISH HARLEM - DAY

A couple of drunken bums...singing 'feliz-navy-da' the
THOMAS JEFFERSON PARK and crosses 114th STREET.

We see EL MERCARDO and its beautiful row of TOWNHOUSES --

INT. TOWNHOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

RAMON VASQUEZ, 50, refined, dark eyes, eats dinner with
his incredibly beautiful wife, SOFIA, 30's, money, classy
-- and his son EMILIO, 10 and daughter, MARITA, 8.

A KNOCK on the front door.

MIGUEL, 50, Ramon's bodyguard, hovering the edge of the
room, leaves to answer it.

EMILIO

Hey Daddy, Knock-knock.

RAMON

Who's there?

EMILIO

Who.

RAMON

Who. Who?

EMILIO

Is there an owl in here?

RAMON

Emilio, my son, you got a gift.
(to his wife)
Isn't he brilliant!

MIGUEL (O.S.)

He's in the middle of dinner.
(He listens. Then...)
Hold on.

EMILIO

Knock Knock!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RAMON

What else did you learn today?

Miguel politely taps on his shoulder.

RAMON

Can't you see my son is telling us
about his day?

Miguel leans down to whisper in Ramon's ear.

RAMON

What does Hector want?

MIGUEL

He would not say.

He stands.

RAMON

Sorry Emilio, I'll be right back.

EMILIO

Ok, papa.

Ramon exits the room and Miguel holds the door.

INT. RAMON'S TOWNHOUSE, ENTRYWAY - NIGHT

HECTOR stands, nervous. Ramon enters followed by Miguel.

RAMON

Hector, Miguel tells me this can
not wait until tomorrow. This
better be good.

HECTOR

Sorry Ramon. I thought I should
tell you in person.

RAMON

Tell me what?

HECTOR

EL Chivo is out.

Ramon's face contorts in contempt when hearing that name.

HECTOR

He just landed at JFK.

EXT. JOHN F KENNEDY AIRPORT - DAY

We see planes landing and taking off with the NYC skyline in the back ground.

INT. PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRLINES - BAGGAGE CLAIM - DAY

ARRIVALS

It's BUSY -- as an AIRPORT SECURITY OFFICER directs a Dominican family to a carousel of moving luggage --

CAROUSEL 2

The Dominican family is taking their luggage off the moving carousel -- more people grabbing their luggage.

We see a large bag -- we see the tag on the bag: EL CHIVO as it moves along the carousel.

A HAND comes into FRAME and grabs the large bag.

EL CHIVO, 30, rugged, strong jawed with a mix of bravado and vulnerability as he and the crowd exit the airport.

EXT. JFK - AIRPORT - BUS STOP

On a BUS, A sign reads NEW YORK CITY port authority.

Last in line, El Chivo sweats, carries his suitcase in one hand, suit coat over his shoulder in the other as he makes his way to the bus door. Just as he gets there.

The bus is full and the old bus driver shouts.

BUS DRIVER

Sorry, sir. All full. There's another bus in thirty minutes.

The doors close and El Chivo watches the bus drive off.

A small Chinese boy smiles wide-eyed at El Chivo and the doors close and the two faces just smile.

FLASH BACK:

PRISONERS exercise, talk in small groups, and enjoy the sunshine. El Chivo plays cards with three other inmates.

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Chi reads on a concrete bench across the yard. Three SKINHEADS approach him.

SKINHEAD 1

Hey, Jap-boy! You're sitting on our bench. For Aryans only.

Chi doesn't look up. Skinhead 2 slaps him. This gets the attention of the PRISONERS. Chi calmly stands.

CHI

I have no interest in fighting you. You're making a mistake.

SKINHEAD 2

We're makin' a mistake?

CHI

Yes. I'm Chinese, not Japanese.

Skinhead 2 raises his hand to slap him, again. This time Chi pokes him in the gut hard, doubling him over.

Skinhead 1 pulls out a shank.

Skinhead 2 and Skinhead 3 go after Chi and get a hold of Chi's arms and legs as Skinhead 1 stabs Chi in the side.

El Chivo runs into the fray and punches the skinheads off of Chi. Now, they surround him.

SKINHEAD 1

This ain't your fight. You a race traitor, bitch?

He takes a swing at El Chivo, who head-butts him.

EL CHIVO

Who you calling bitch?

Before more SKINHEADS can attack, the GUARDS come running out, WHISTLES BLOWING. Guards grab everyone.

El Chivo and Chi share a look. Chi falls and is bleeding out. El Chivo sees the spurting blood from his side.

EL CHIVO

This is going to hurt.

El Chivo sticks his finger into Chi's wound, stops the bleeding. Their eyes meet.

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

El Chivo sits back on the bench, a car pulls up. HONK!

Ramon's bodyguard, MIGUEL, steps out of the passenger side of a massive BUICK REGAL.

El Chivo spots Miguel and the two make eye contact -- he exits the car and hugs El Chivo.

EL CHIVO
Miguel, how'd you know?

MIGUEL
We hear things. People talk. Glad I found you.

EL CHIVO
Interesting man and cool, yo.

MIGUEL
Should have called. I have to hear it from the street, the cops, from your sister? Come on man -- Ramon sent me to find you.

HECTOR, 25, big as a house, sticks his fist out to EL Chivo and they bump fists.

HECTOR
EL Chivo, the king is back!

They bump fists as El Chivo sits in the back.

EL CHIVO
Ramon is the king, I am just a loyal servant.

HECTOR
Word.

Hector gets in, closes the car door and they pull away.

INT. BUICK REGAL - BROOKLYN, QUEENS EXPRESSWAY - DAY

Miguel rides in the back with El Chivo and Miguel looks out the window at the Manhattan skyline as the drive.

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EL CHIVO

I can not tell you all the times I have dreamed of this very moment. It's like heaven, the city.

MIGUEL

More like hell, these days. Your cousin for Christ's sakes, he is big time now since you went away! He has had the lower east side and now Spanish Harlem and he's in Boston and Rhode Island.

(then)

I wish we knew you were getting out. Why didn't you call me? I'da picked you up!

EL CHIVO

Oh, I just figured all those times you didn't visit me, you were just too stupid to read a goddamn map.

MIGUEL

The jail is in Florida and picking you up is different than visiting... Jails makes me nervous. And, my brother, it's good to have you back in the city.

EL CHIVO

How is Ramon?

Miguel hesitates and sees El Chivo is being sincere.

MIGUEL

He is good, my friend. He is a real family man now and he wants peace. We're having a few problems with some gangs moving in but we're handling things.

EL CHIVO

I am always here to help Ramon.

Miguel throws a few playful punches and jabs at El Chivo.

MIGUEL

...Good to have you back, you crazy bastard.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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MIGUEL (CONT'D)

Ramon has missed you. I have missed you! And, New York is your home. Welcome back.

EL CHIVO

It's good to be welcomed anywhere.

Miguel puts his hand on El Chivo's shoulder.

MIGUEL

Your grandfather passed away two years ago.

EL CHIVO

Ramon sent me a letter. I know.

MIGUEL

I am sorry. It was hard on Ramon and that you are here. It will be good. Your grandfather's apartment is still vacant and Ramon wants me to take you there after you meet with him. Ramon bought the place and he said you're the only person he wants going inside.

EL CHIVO

Ramon is all about family and I am so appreciative to him for this.

MIGUEL

What a great day!

El Chivo looks out the window.

EL CHIVO

Can we stop by the cemetery before we see Ramon.

MIGUEL

Your cousin is waiting.

EL CHIVO

My cousin will understand.

EXT. CEMETERY - NIGHT

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We PAN across the grave yard and see the CITY in the background. The wind is unsettling.

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THE BUICK is off the side as EL Chivo kneels at his grandfather's headstone, he says a prayer and kisses his hand and puts it on the headstone.

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EL CHIVO

You always said if we wanted something we had to take it. I didn't know what that was gramps... I want you to know I do now. Thank you for raising me.

He does a sign of the cross and walks back to the car.

EXT. RAMON'S TOWNHOUSE - NIGHT

HECTOR exits the front door and holds it as. Ramon exits and comes down the steps and hugs his cousin.

El Chivo and Ramon hold eye contact. Long lost brothers.

RAMON

I can't believe my eyes. It really is you.

EL CHIVO

I can't thank you enough for always making sure I had something on my can. It was unexpected.

RAMON

We are not cousins, we are brothers. Without you El Chivo, this family would be at a great loss. After all, we are now the only men left in this family here in America.

EL CHIVO

I went to visit grandfathers grave before we came here. You buried him in a beautiful resting place.

RAMON

May you do the same for me one day shall it ever come.

EL CHIVO

Not while I'm here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RAMON

Likewise, my brother.

(then)

Walk with me.

(they do)

Now that you're out we must plan your integration into what I am up to these days.

EXT. THOMAS JEFFERSON PARK - DAY

Miguel and Hector follow the two cousins as they cross the park and sit on a bench.

EL CHIVO

EL Mercado, eh, Ramon... You always said you were going to live in EL Mercado and here you are.

RAMON

God has blessed our family and our legacy has just begun.

Ramon turns to his two bodyguards.

RAMON

Guys, I'm going to sit with my cousin and talk. Hector, take Miguel to Bloomingdale's and buy El Chivo here some new clothing.

Ramon pulls out a fat stack of cash and hands Miguel \$500 dollars. The men take the money and go.

RAMON

Loyalty. Thats what that is Cheev.

EL CHIVO

All I know, you have taught me what I needed to survive in jail for twenty years and I know if they're still with you then they are able to do as you ask.

RAMON

They do, now you're here theres so much more for us to conquer. I am going to have you take over papa's place.

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CONTINUED:

Ramon pulls out a fat blunt, sparks it and a slow drag.

EL CHIVO

I can smell it from here. Nice.

He smiles and passes it to El Chivo who inhales and listens.

RAMON

We have our own farm now in New Jersey. Got the seeds from Jamaica. We don't deal in dirt weed and Abraham Lincoln Limb is this Asian from Chinatown.

EL CHIVO

The Golden Dragons are rough.

RAMON

They are and we are dealing with them. The Dragons have been interrupting a few things because our quality is so high.

(then)

We're having some trouble in the old hood with an asian gang. They hit Anna's last week and that's after Hector warned them. So, after we get you settled and informed I want you to come to a sit down just to listen so you can see the shit I am dealing with.

EL CHIVO

What can I do for you?

RAMON

I had Hector and Miguel take care of Abraham and lets see what that does. I think they'll shit and just move back down town. Lets see.

EXT. DORCHESTER AVE - NIGHT

WE CRANE DOWN OFF A ST. MARKS AND 3RD AVE STREET SIGNS, PAST A ROW OF DIRT BIKES PARKED IN FRONT OF A STORE.

JOON (17) raps the reality of the times in NYC.

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INT. ARCADE - ST. MARK'S - SAME

Niko and Pablo play pinball. *

NIKO

Where's Little Tony?

From behind, Little Tony walks in with a slice of pizza. *

LITTLE TONY

I'm right here.

NIKO

Give me a bite of that.

LITTLE TONY

Don't take the whole thing.

Little Tony nearly cries at the size of the bite taken. Niko laughs and passes the slice to Pablo who finishes it. Pablo hands him back the crust and pulls out some cash. Little Tony stares at what's left from his slice. *

NIKO

That's the best part. Go buy us a whole pie and keep the change.

EXT. ST. MARKS - VIDEO ARCADE - DAY *

A speeding BLACK VAN bangs a U-turn, the tires are screeching. A door is opened and Hector and Miguel toss a body out, and it rolls down to the gutter. *

JOON

It's Abe!

It's Abraham Lincoln Limb, dead, his bloody shirt ripped off, a tattoo on his back reads: *ABRAHAM LINCOLN LIMB*. The van speeds away. J-Malley runs over and looks at . *

A car approaches, JOON, Asian, mean, shouts a warning. *

JOON

Tell Ramon he's dead! He is dead!
(then)

It's Abe, man! They did it, man. *

Leo Malloy, Scottie and Max, (who we'll get to meet later) hang out the car windows firing at the Golden Dragons. *

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REVERSE ANGLE on the Golden Dragons pull out their weapons and are shooting back. They hit the van, but it speeds away and Joon runs over to his gang.

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NIKO

Who was that?

JOON

Miguel and Hector. Ramon found out that Abe robbed his stash house. We got ten pounds of weed and their black book.

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KANG

They're sending us a message, man.

Niko, angrily sticks his gun into the small of his back.

*

NIKO

I'm sick of Ramon's messages. They get a piece of everything that goes down on our streets. It's time to teach those scumbags lesson!

They look at their dead friend.

JOON

Sorry, Abe.

NIKO

Yeah, sorry to leave you in the street.

The gang jumps on their motor bikes and scatter as the COPS come flying up ST. Marks and on to Third Ave, sirens blaring -- as the bikes fly right past them.

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