I'm Old, So Kill Me

by Jordan Imiola

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FADE IN:

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

LOSSON, 88, an adorable old man with short white hair and old people freckles. He stands on a rooftop with a revolver pointing to his head ready to commit suicide.

INT. SENIOR LIVING CENTER - LOSSON'S BEDROOM

A knock is heard at the door. With each knock, the door cracks open. EMILY, 25, a nurse, brown hair, incredibly sweet, and has a wholesome quality to her, walks in.

EMILY

Grandpa, are you home?

She finds a suicide note on Losson's bed and unfolds it. She begins to read the note out loud.

EMILY (CONT'D)

To everyone here I still love. I've come to a point in my life where I can't go on. I can't find anything worth living for. So I'm ending my life tonight. But please know this is for the best. Over the past year, my heart and soul have taken too much to carry on...

ON LOSSON

The gun is cocked open. Losson takes a bullet from his pocket and loads it.

INT. SENIOR LIVING CENTER - COMMON ROOM

Emily is in a panic and yelling to DEBBIE, 90, (Betty White) an old lady with a hunch, and XAVIER, 82, black, with a grey beard, a modern day Fred Sanford.

EMILY

He's gonna kill himself!

DEBBIE

Sweetheart, slow down. Who's gonna kill himself?

DEBBIE (CONT'D)

My Grandpa! Losson! Read the note!

Emily gives Xavier the note and he reads it.

ON LOSSON

Losson looks at the revolver and puts it to his chest. He takes a deep breath. His hand starts to quiver.

INT. SENIOR LIVING CENTER - COMMON ROOM

Everyone is flustered looking for Losson including SARAH, 28, another nurse, brown hair and muscular, and CORNELIUS, Debbie's husband, 78, skinny, a Mexican Morgan Freeman.

SARAH

Did he say how he was gonna kill himself?

EMILY

No...Oh God, please don't let it be too late.

ON LOSSON

Losson stands on the ledge. His back is facing the parking lot. With the gun still to his chest, Losson closes his eyes and takes a deep breath out.

INT. SENIOR LIVING CENTER - COMMON ROOM

More senior citizens try to find Losson including CORNELIUS, 96, a Mexican Morgan Freeman, and ABRAHAM, 85, Chinese, his hair is dyed blonde from Just For Men. He uses a walker to move.

CORNELIUS

Did you check Jebediah's room?

ABRAHAM

Yeah, he's not there. We checked every room on the floor.

SARAH

Did you check outside?

ON LOSSON

Losson starts to breath heavier and is trying to build the courage to shoot himself. The voices of his friends and granddaughter can be heard yelling his name. Cornelius and Emily open the doors to the senior living center.

EMILY

Grandpa!! Grandpa!!

They get outside and look to the roof. Emily gasps as Losson pulls the trigger.

FADE TO BLACK.

The gun goes off and Losson's body falls to the ground.

ONE YEAR AGO...

FADE FROM BLACK:

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - EVENING

JOANNA, Losson's wife, 87, she's in a hospital bed, she's very kind, but severly ill. Losson is with her. The NURSE puts a tray of food in front her. She unveils one of two metal covers. Joanna looks at the food for a moment.

JOANNA

What the fuck is that?

NURSE

Uhm...I think it's meatloaf.

JOANNA

You think it's meatloaf? That looks like gravy poured on top of cat shit.

LOSSON

Who the hell cooks this food, Satan?

NURSE

Well, maybe you can just eat the vegetables.

LOSSON

Those vegetables look like the Green Giant took a shit and forgot to flush. You're gonna feed my poor sick wife that?

JOANNA

Every time we come here, the food gets worse. It's like their trying to make me kick the bucket.

NURSE

Well, maybe you can just eat the desert.

JOANNA

As long as it's not Jell-O. They've given me Jell-O the past five days. My turds wobble out of my ass when I poop I eat so much Jell-O.

(beat)

When I looked at my shit this morning, it was the most transparent shit I ever shit before.

LOSSON

It's true. She made me look at it.

The nurse takes the cover off the other plate to reveal green Jell-0.

JOANNA

Awe damn it.

A knock is heard at the door. Emily walks in with a greasy brown bag.

EMILY

Hi Grandma and Grandpa!

JOANNA

Oh praise the lord, my granddaughter brought me real food. What did you bring this time?

She holds the bag up in excitement.

EMILY

A six pack of Jell-O.

JOANNA

Emily, you can go fuck yourself!

EMILY

Kidding Grandma, it's chili cheese fries and a burrito.

JOANNA

Yes! This is why you're our favorite granddaughter.

EMILY

Grandma, I'm your only granddaughter.

NURSE

You can't eat chili cheese fries and a burrito in your condition.

Losson points to the food on the tray.

LOSSON

Do you eat this crap?

NURSE

No, I pack my own lunch.

Losson folds his arms.

NURSE (CONT'D)

Okay I see your point. Fine, do what you want.

The nurse leaves the room. Joanna grabs the bag of food.

EMILY

Are you feeling any better?

JOANNA

Emily, if I said yes, I'd be lying.

LOSSON

You'll recover pumpkin, you always do.

JOANNA

Losson, that's why I love you. You've always been the dreamer. Hey listen, there's something I want to tell the both of you. I want you two to make a promise.

LOSSON

Anything sweetie.

Joanna tries to say this carefully.

JOANNA

Losson, promise me that if I pass away, you'll find happiness again. I want you to be happy like you were before I got sick and your father died.

She looks over at Emily. She's talking about Emily's father and their son.

I don't want my loss to stop you from finding love again. Promise me.

Losson is puzzled.

LOSSON

I promise.

JOANNA

And Emily, I want the same thing for you. The happiest I've seen you were the four years you and Mark were together. After you broke up, I know things haven't been quite the same. I want you to find love again. I want to see your wedding day, even if I'm not alive.

EMILY

Sure grandma. I promise.

JOANNA

Good, now give me that tasty, greasy food and get this f'n Jell-O out of my face.

EXT. CEMETERY - AFTERNOON - A WEEK LATER

Joanna's funeral ceremony has just ended. Losson sits motionless in a chair five feet away from her casket. People walk up to him and say their condolences.

Not far away, Emily is crying non-stop and trying not to make a scene, but she can't hold back her tears.

JEBEDIAH, 86, a black man with a good soul gives Emily a hug.

JEBEDIAH

I'm so sorry Emily. She lived a good life.

EMILY

Thanks Jebediah.

Emily wipes her tears.

EMILY (CONT'D)

I know I'm gonna miss her, but in the back of my mind, I can't help but feel sad for my Grandpa. I may have lost my Grandma, but he's lost his wife.

Jebediah, you're his best friend, do you think he'll be okay?

JEBEDIAH

Well in the 63 years I've known Losson, we've never experienced something like this. It's gonna take some time, but I think he'll be alright.

INT. SENIOR LIVING CENTER - LOSSON'S ROOM - EVENING

Losson is lying in bed still miserable. Jebediah is doing a crossword puzzle.

JEBEDIAH

Seven letter word, that means weird, out of the ordinary.

LOSSON

I don't know why you keep asking me.

JEBEDIAH

I'm trying to get your mind off her.

LOSSON

Well, it's not working.

JEBEDIAH

Come on, let's go to eat.

LOSSON

I don't wanna go out to eat today.

JEBEDIAH

Losson, come on! I've been fighting you almost every day for past two months! Can we not waste time tonight and just go.

Losson reluctantly agrees.

LOSSON

Fine.

INT. SENIOR LIVING CENTER - COMMON ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Losson and Jebediah walk past Abraham, Debbie, Cornelius, and Xavier playing Texas Hold Em', but they don't bet money, they bet things they don't want anymore. They use post-its and each post-it has the name of an object they don't want. Beneath their seats are the objects. The first four cards on the flop are already laid out.

ABRAHAM

Hmmmm....

DEBBIE

Abraham, either fold or bet something, by the time you make a decision I'll be dead.

XAVIER

Come on old man, make a decision.

ABRAHAM

Okay, I raise a volleyball.

He lays a post it on the table that says "volleyball." Each player lays a post it on the table after their turn.

DEBBIE

A shoe kit polisher.

XAVIER

A bar of Old Spice, kinda used.

CORNELIUS

Can I bet with my dentures?

DEBBIE

No!

XAVIER

That's just gross.

CORNELIUS

Okay, a pair of nose clippers.

Debbie lifts up the fifth card on the flop.

DEBBIE

And the river is...an ace of spades.

ABRAHAM

I raise with my brown cane.

DEBBIE

I bet my suitcase.

XAVIER

I bet my wife.

ABRAHAM

For the last time, you can't bet your wife! Nobody wants your wife! Raise something else!

XAVIER

Well how about my kids?

CORNELIUS

I've met your kids, and my dentures are a way better deal.

XAVIER

Alright, I bet my typewriter that's missing the spacebar.

Debbie lays her cards on the table, they're two jacks.

DEBBIE

So what do you old geezers got?

ABRAHAM

A queen and a jack.

CORNELIUS

A king and an eight.

Xavier puts on the table two aces.

XAVIER

Pocket Rockets.

ABRAHAM

Please, you haven't had a pocket rocket in twenty years.

XAVIER

Yeah that's true.

DEBBIE

(irritated)

Alright, you win again Xavier.

XAVIER

Yes! Hey Cornelius, I'll trade you your stuff back for my wife.

CORNELIUS

Not worth it.

INT. NURSES STATION - AFTERNOON

Sarah is showing Emily her engagement ring.

EMILY

It's beautiful. I can't believe George finally popped the question.

SARAH

I can, it's only been seven years we've been together. I told George I was gonna stab him in his sleep if he didn't ask me this year.

EMILY

I hope if I ever get married I have a ring like this.

SARAH

Speaking of your love life, anyone you're interested in? God knows when's the last time you had sex.

EMILY

It hasn't been that long.

SARAH

How long has it been? Have you had sex with anyone since Mark?

EMILY

Well, not really.

SARAH

Not really. Emily, you dated Mark three years ago. That means you haven't had sex in three years! What's wrong with you? Do your vagina a solid and get some.

EMILY

When the right guy comes around. I'll let that happen.

SARAH

When the right guy comes around?! What are you a Disney princess? There's plenty of men in this city.

INT. COMMNUNITY CENTER - SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHEON

Losson and Jebediah eat at a small table.

There's a sign that says "Every Thursday 12 - 2 Free Senior Citizens Luncheon" "2:30 - 3:30 Free Left Overs for Homeless People."

JEBEDIAH

Losson, it's been two and half months. You can't live like this for the rest of your life.

LOSSON

What do you mean?

JEBEDIAH

What do you mean what do I mean? You're depressed all the time. I don't even like hanging out with you anymore. I only do it because you're my best friend.

LOSSON

My wife died...

JEBEDIAH

Yea, but you can't let that hold you back. You don't have much time on this earth left. You should move on. Why don't we try finding you someone new?

LOSSON

I don't know. I'll think about it.

JEBEDIAH

What would Joanna want?

Losson ponders this for a moment.

INT. XAVIER'S ROOM - LATER

CAROLYN, Xavier's wife, 81, ugly, and has very large white hearing aids. She's knitting a sweater.

Xavier walks in with a clear plastic garbage bag. Inside the bag is a fish bowl, Old Spice, a volleyball, a flashlight, a typewriter, a shoe kit polisher, a pack of razors, a half open bag of Chex Mix, and Colgate Total.

CAROLYN

Did you go shopping honey?

XAVIER

You could say that.

CAROLYN

What?!

XAVIER

I said you could say that!

CAROLYN

Why didn't you take me shopping?

XAVIER

Cause I don't like you.

CAROLYN

What did you say?

XAVIER

Nothing.

CAROLYN

Uh-huh. Honey, you should be thankful I'm here for you. Be lucky I'm not Losson's wife.

XAVIER

(talking to himself) Lucky bastard.

CAROLYN

What was that?

XAVIER

Nothing, you're hearing things again!

CAROLYN

I better be.

XAVIER

Crazy bitch.

CAROLYN

What?!

XAVIER

I said I have an itch! Where the hell is that wooden fork?!

INT. NURSES STATION - CONTINUOUS

Sarah and Emily are still talking.

SARAH

Emily, you need to do something. You're twenty-five years old and you've only had one serious boyfriend. It can't hurt to go out and try to meet someone. Penises just don't fall from the sky.

EMILY

Yeah, I know.

SARAH

Me and you are going out Friday night.

EMILY

I don't know. I'm not that outgoing of a girl.

SARAH

Emily, you can't wait for Mr. Right to come out of nowhere. You have to try something.