

INT. UNDERGROUND POKER ROOM - NIGHT

John, with a bruised eye courtesy of Tony's earlier punishment, sits at the poker table, surrounded by a tense atmosphere. The poker pot grows, and John's fortune changes. He WINS a substantial amount of money, more than enough to pay off his debts and live comfortably.

John's FRIENDS celebrate his victory.

VINNY  
(slapping John's back)

You did it, man! You're rich now!

DANTE  
(raising a toast)  
To John, our lucky star!

But just as the joy fills the room, Tony EMERGES from the shadows, his presence sending a shiver down everyone's spine.

LOAN SHARK  
(calmly)  
Well, John, looks like Lady Luck is on your side tonight.

JOHN  
(nervously)  
Tony, I've got the money, I swear!

LOAN SHARK  
(smiling)  
I'm in a good mood tonight, John. If you've got the money, there won't be any trouble.

John reaches for his winnings, but his face turns pale. The money is GONE. Panic sets in.

JOHN  
(stuttering)  
I had it right here! I don't understand, it was... it was right here!

Tony's smile fades, replaced by a cold, unforgiving stare.

TONY  
(sighs)

Well, John, it seems your luck ran out as quickly as it came. My heart bleeds for you.

He signals to his menacing associates, who surround John.

TONY  
(grimly)  
But you know the deal, John. No money,  
and we'll have to take a little trip  
to the lake.

Fear grips John as the realization sinks in. Without the money, the ominous threat of the lake looms once again.

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The room falls silent as Tony's ominous presence looms. John, helpless and desperate, realizes that his chance to pay off his debt has vanished along with the stolen winnings. Tony grabs John's arm forcefully, his grip unyielding.

TONY  
(grimly)  
Time to go, John.

John's friends look away, unwilling to intervene, as Tony drags John out of the poker room. The dimly lit alley outside becomes the setting for John's impending fate.

EXT. DIMLY LIT ALLEY - NIGHT

Tony continues to drag John deeper into the alley, his face marked by a cruel determination. John's pleas and struggles are in vain.

JOHN  
(desperate)  
Tony, please, there must be some other  
way!

TONY  
(coldly)  
You had your chance, John.

As they disappear into the shadows, the alley is left empty, the echoes of John's pleas fading into the night. The fate of a man who couldn't repay his debts, now sealed, remains shrouded in darkness.