

Neo Noir

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EXT. BACK ALLEY - NIGHT

Black.

Silence as the sound of slow FAINT BREATHING starts to build.

DANIELLE (O.S)

They took us from each other once.
I refuse to let us be apart again.

DONNIE, (Black, 32) opens his eyes WIDE in shock as CUTS, BLOOD and BRUISES lay across his face.

While his body aches in pain, he slowly CRAWLS towards a nearby wall.

Once near, he pushes himself off the ground and PLOPS up against the wall. Trying to get comfortable, he reaches down to his side.

It leaks of blood from a deep cut.

With blood from the cut covering his hand, he leans his head back against the wall and lets out a slow long sigh.

CUT TO

INT. BATHROOM TUB - NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: 30 Hours Ago

Donnie sits in the tub with his head against the wall.

DANIELLE (O.S)

I refuse to let us be apart again.

As TEARS drop from his eyes, he leans forward and uses his hands to wipe them from his face.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Donnie enters into his living room.

While sipping a drink, he places an old hard drive on the table and sits on the couch.

DONNIE

Sentry go offline and analyze the
data on this drive.

SENTRY, Donnie's automated AI system that is integrated with his home and personal electronics.

SENTRY

This drive is very old, possibly corrupted. Are you sure you want to proceed?

DONNIE

Yes. Extract all data and give me a full display of the most recently added files.

SENTRY

As you wish. One moment.

Donnie sits on the couch IMPATIENTLY as Sentry uploads the FILES from the drive.

SENTRY (CONT'D)

Extraction complete. Displaying now.

IMAGES of a CRIME SCENE begin to pop up in front of Donnie in a virtual HOLOGRAM DISPLAY.

He begins to shift through the PHOTOS. Pulling some to the side and closing others.

He sets up ten photos and takes a step back to examine them thoroughly.

BLAKE (O.S)

There's a lot about your sister that you didn't know. Things she kept from you...

CUT TO:

EXT. BACK ALLEY - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Donnie stands next to his sisters car as it sits in the entrance of the alley, EMPTY.

BLAKE HENDERSON, White male, late 30's early 40's, stands beside him.

BLAKE

Kept from you to protect you. Unfortunately... that world she hid, is about to be unraveled and revealed.

A confused look creeps upon Donnie's face.

BLAKE (CONT'D)

Somebody reported the car here
thirty minutes ago, but we don't
know how long she's been missing.

Donnie begins to look around the crime scene and notices a

TRAIL OF BLOOD.

DONNIE

(still in shock and
disbelief)

Is she?

BLAKE

We're not sure. We don't know if
that blood is from her, the perp
she took out inside, or someone
else. Forensics is working on that
now.

Donnie leans against his sisters car and begins to look
inside. Glass from the rear windshield lay shattered across
the back seat.

DONNIE

None of this makes any sense. What
the hell is going on? Why is she is
missing!

BLAKE

The truth is... your sister was an
undercover agent. She isn't a Via-
tel secretary advocate like she
claimed. We have our thoughts about
what happened and we're running all
our leads. I know this is a lot to
take in at one time but you
deserved to know.

Donnie starts to walk into the alley following the TRAIL OF
BLOOD.

DONNIE

Why didn't she just tell me from
the start.

BLAKE

There's certain parameters
involving that. Things we aren't
allowed to share.

Blake takes a look at his phone.

BLAKE (CONT'D)

Look I have to get back to the precinct for debriefing. We're putting all our available officers on this. We will find her.

Blake extends his hand to Donnie as he walks up beside him.

Donnie, still in a daze about what just happened, hesitates before finally noticing the handshake gesture. He reaches out to meet his hand.

BLAKE (CONT'D)

(pulling Donnie in close)
Be careful with this. It's off the grid. No data links and encryptions. Keep it that way.

Donnie looks down and notices a small hard drive in his hand.

BLAKE (CONT'D)

Your sister told me you're one of the smartest men she knows. Hopefully you can help.

Blake walks back towards his car.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Donnie takes another sip of his drink and continues to examine the photos of the alley where his sisters car was found.

DONNIE

Sentry pull up the photos of my sisters apartment and prepare the headset for a neuro link.

SENTRY

As you wish. Neuro link will be ready in a few seconds.

Donnie puts down his drink and reaches to grab the HEADSET off of his night stand.

SENTRY (CONT'D)

Link prepared.

Donnie places the headset on and begins the linking process. The headset and Donnie's eyes changes colors as the two link and BECOME ONE.

DONNIE

Scan the area for everything.
Anything from previous memories
that I might miss, I want your eyes
on it.

SENTRY

Scanning now.

Donnie starts to shift through crime scene photos from the
apartment. Examining them before swiping them away.

SENTRY (CONT'D)

The blood spatter in Image 4389
suggest that whoever swung the
blunt object was either coming from
the bedroom, or their back was
towards the bedroom. There's also
some blood that...

DONNIE

That's cool and all, but that's not
what i'm looking for. Put that to
the side and save that for
forensics. I only want things that
stand out. things that weren't
there before. Things that are...

SENTRY

Out of the ordinary.

DONNIE

Correct.

SENTRY

Do you believe this is why
Detective Blake gave you the drive?

DONNIE

He took the time to put it on a
drive that is so old, that data
links throughout the city won't
notice when it's opened. Something
is here. Something that he doesn't
want accessible on open system
channels.

SENTRY

That would indicate that he isn't
trusting of the (insert name for
futuristic police force).

DONNIE

Which is also why you're offline.
But I've scanned through all of
these photos and i'm getting
nothing. What the hell does he want
me to see? Bring up the photos from
the alley.

As Donnie swipes away another picture, Sentry stops him.

SENTRY

If I may interject sir, the last
image you cleared maybe what you're
looking for.

DONNIE

What Image? I've looked through all
of these.

SENTRY

Image 4400.

Donnie brings the image back up and expands it.

SENTRY (CONT'D)

If I may sir.

DONNIE

Fire away.

SENTRY

Even though the apartment is in
shambles, it is clear that the
writing on the far wall was not
there the last time you were.

DONNIE

That's where she keeps her notes,
that could easily change everyday.
Not that important.

SENTRY

Correct, but from your memory bank,
I believe this message at the
bottom was for you.

Sentry zooms in on the image to point out the clue for
Donnie.

Donnie stands in silence examining the photo.

Written on the board is "Find the breadcrumbs duck."

YOUNG DANIELLE (O.S)
Find the breadcrumbs duck.

DONNIE
Remember those photos I told you to
put to the side? Bring them up now.

SENTRY
And you thought they weren't
important.

Sentry displays the other images of Danielle's apartment as
Donnie scans over them. Donnie begins to select certain
images, putting them in a SPECIFIC order.

SENTRY (CONT'D)
What do you see?

DONNIE
Crumbs. Disable the neuro link,
stay offline but patch into all my
devices.

SENTRY
(sarcastically)
Going mobile while being offline.
Great.

While taking off the headset, Donnie walks over towards his
closet. Pulling out a nearby case and then walking towards
the front door.

INT. DONNIE'S CAR - NIGHT

As the car self drives, Donnie stares out the window in deep
thought.

SENTRY
Are you ok sir? Your vitals have
shifted, your body has tensed up
and the amount of chemicals your
body has released within the last
ten minutes are off the charts.

DONNIE
I'm fine. Just wondering what's
going on? What did I walk into?
From Dannie's secret life, Blake,
Dannie's note. It just seems too...

SENTRY
Coincidental?

DONNIE

Yeah.

SENTRY

I could patch into the back channels to pull up some more information and keep tabs on him.

Sentry begins to bring up some information on Blake to virtually display.

DONNIE

(looking at the tabs
Sentry
displayed)

Nah, too dangerous. The back channels have been too volatile on servers lately. I don't need them breaking down your system so they can raid it. We'll just have to figure out another way.

SENTRY

As you wish. We'll be arriving to our location in a few minutes.

DONNIE

Good.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Donnie stands by an ELECTRICAL UNIT in the stairwell. He reaches into his case, pulls out a DEVICE and places it on the unit.

DONNIE

(while tapping on his
watch)

Alright Sentry. I need a 60 second data block. I'm sure the division is monitoring her floor and the lock on her door.

SENTRY

You think that's enough time for you to hack the lock?

DONNIE

No. But we're about to find out. Initiate now.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Donnie cautiously walks down the hallway towards his sisters apartment. Once he approaches the door, he looks around to see if anyone is watching and then places a device beside the lock.

SENTRY

25 seconds remaining on the block.

DONNIE

You know trying to hack this without setting off any secondary alarm is already enough pressure. Can you keep the countdown out of my ear?

SENTRY

Just trying to keep you updated.