

On the Line
By Collin Jose

EXT. PARKING GRAGAEE - NIGHT

Uziman stares intently at Razor under the streetlight.

Uzi gets punches in the face.

RAZOR

You aint like you was Uziman. You
used to be feared in the streets.
Now you just another 9-5 bitch.

UZIMAN

I'm not Uziman anymore. I'm Andrew.
Get that through your thick ass
skull.

RAZOR

You used to be that guy, you
know... Andrew.

UZIMAN

You know why I'm here, Razor.

RAZOR

Na.

Razor spreads his arms and other gang members step out into
the light.

RAZOR (CONT'D)

We know why your here.

They step out of the shadows holding various weapons. (bats,
knives, guns)

RAZOR (CONT'D)

As a Steeltoe bother you have
everything! Money, fame, power,
fear, women. The fuck more could
you possibly want.

UZIMAN

I want out. I'm done with this man.
I got REAL shit on the line now. I
ain't your muscle anymore.

RAZOR

You gonna do whatever I say Uzi.

Uziman reaches for his gun. The members take a step closer.
Uzi lets go.

RAZOR (CONT'D)
You know what's on the line if you
don't cooperate right Uzi?

Razor snaps his fingers.

RAZOR (CONT'D)
Oh, I forgot to tell you? Looks
that's what's been going around
these days, right Uzi!

The members take Uzi's girlfriend out of the trunk of a car.

She spits out the mouth rag.

JULIA
Andrew?!

UZIMAN
Julia?

He stops himself from reacting.

UZIMAN (CONT'D)
How do you know about her?

RAZOR
I got eyes everywhere. You of all
people shoulda known that. You
think I didn't see all this coming?
Stopped answering my calls. No help
when needed. The money dried up.
The feds been on us. Yeah. I think
I noticed.

UZIMAN
I aint no rat. I'm not backstabbing
you, Razor. I just want out. Plain
and simple. Thats all. I gotta baby
coming and he needs a daddy. A
daddy, so he don't become like...

RAZOR
Become like what? Like me?!

Razor pulls his gun and aims it.

UZIMAN
Like us... he don't need this.
This isn't real life. This isn't
what life's about razor. There is
so much more and you too blind to
even open your eyes.

RAZOR

How's this for real.

He sticks the gun to Uziman's head.

RAZOR (CONT'D)

How's this feel for real. My money feels real. My dominance feels real... But your loyalty. Your loyalty feels fake.

UZIMAN

It was real! Then I grew up! This is only gonna get us locked up for good. It's not sustainable Razor. Do you even know what love is?

Razor waves his gun around at the members.

RAZOR

Look around. These are my brothers. My day ones. Like you was a long time ago.

UZIMAN

I was until you started getting us put in pens and graves. That aint love. Thats ego and it's eating your stubborn ass alive.

Uzi points at Julia.

UZIMAN (CONT'D)

You see that. Thats real love. Getting her and the baby out of this mess and making a real, honest living. That aint so bad. I know you know it.

RAZOR

The only thing I know, is how run this city. MY city. MY streets. MY peoples.

UZIMAN

You gonna die in these streets. I don't want to. It's not me anymore.
(softer, honest)
I'm asking as a day one, let me go.

RAZOR

You asking for a death wish.

Razor holds up the gun.

Uzi grabs and pushes Razors hand away and the bullet hits a gang member off in the distance.

Razor lets off a frenzy of shots until the gun is knocked free.

The gang members run for cover in the background.

They have a fight full of wrestling and struggle

Uzi manages to kick Razor into a pole and knocks him silly.

Uzi searches Razor and finds the keys to the car, Razor mumbles inaudible words as he tries to regain consciousness.

Uzi runs towards the car and sees Julia choking someone out the ground with her hands in bonds.

Uzi kicks the guy in the face with speed.

UZIMAN

Get up. Get up! We gotta go!

They hop in the car and drive off.

Razor stumbles to his feet.

RAZOR

UZI!!!

Razor looks around and no one is left.