The Black Donnellys

PILOT
#01701

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PROLOGUE

Over BLACK:

DETECTIVE SUNNY (V.O.)
So, where are the bodies?

INT. PRISON INTERROGATION ROOM -- SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE

JOEY ICE CREAM, early 20's, sweats through his prison orange. Across the table sit two detectives from the Organized Crime Division. DETECTIVE MAXWELL and DETECTIVE SUNNY.

JOEY ICE CREAM
Oh man. These guys are my friends.

DETECTIVE MAXWELL
Here's the deal, Joey: tell us where they are and how they got there, and you stay in solitary, nice and safe. Lie and you go into general population, where more people than I can count want to see you dead.

DETECTIVE SUNNY
Where are the bodies?

JOEY ICE CREAM
There are two things that happened to Jimmy Donnelly that made him turn out the way he did. The first thing...you know what a half moon ride is?

EXT. THE NEIGHBORHOOD - SEPTEMBER 1994 -- DAY

A truck carrying a "half moon ride" is parked in the street and kids are everywhere, coming, going, running, fighting and waiting for their third or fourth turn on the thing. Hot dog and ice cream vendors are doing a bang up business.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
It came around every summer. It was like an instant block party.

INT. BODEGA (1994) -- DAY

A customer puts a twenty on the counter. The kid beside him, JIMMY DONNELLY (11) snatches it and runs.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
And Jimmy had just stolen enough for us to get on.

The STORE OWNER grabs a baseball bat from under the counter.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD (1994) -- DAY

Jimmy, TOMMY (9), KEVIN (8), SEAN (7) come flying around the corner.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
The Donnelly brothers were always together: Jimmy, Tommy, Kevin, little Sean. And Jenny Reilly was like sewn to their hip.

Young JENNY (9) appears in the pack with them, running just as hard.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
Even back then she drove poor Tommy crazy.

Young Tommy sneaks a look at her, runs smack into a lamppost and hits the ground.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
Wait!

INT. POLICE INTERROGATION ROOM - THE PRESENT

JOEY ICE CREAM
--I got the wrong year.

Maxwell looks frustrated

JOEY ICE CREAM (cont'd)
It was the year I got my nickname, Joey Ice Cream.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD (1995)

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
Cause under pressure I'm like ice.

Into the empty frame runs Jimmy, a year older, carrying a five gallon drum of ice cream under his arm. Little Joey is trying to keep up.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

LITTLE JOEY
Just give me some ice cream.

YOUNG JIMMY
(eating)
There's hardly any left.

LITTLE JOEY
There's five gallons.

Jimmy runs smack into a teenager on the sidewalk. Jimmy goes tumbling, the tub falls out of his arm and rolls into the street. Jimmy hits the sidewalk laughing, watching Joey scramble after the tub. Three other kids come running to try and snatch it away.

LITTLE JOEY (cont'd)
That's mine! I stole that!
(etc.)

Jimmy sits on the curb, licking the ice cream from his hands and watching Joey wrestle for control of the tub; losing.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
No one even heard it coming.

A BIG OLD BUICK
slides around the corner. A few pedestrians scatter to avoid it (VFX).

THE CROWD
around the half moon ride parts to get the hell out of the way (VFX).

THE BUICK'S
tires are smoking, but it makes no sound at all, at least in Joey's memory.

JOEY
loses the fight for the tub of ice cream and turns to see the car.

YOUNG JIMMY
looks up in SLOW MOTION just in time to see

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

THE BUICK
swerve to miss Joey.

JIMMY
reacts...too late.

THE BUICK
runs over his legs. We hear the sound of bones breaking.

PEOPLE
run to Jimmy as the Buick speeds off.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
They never found the driver.
(beat)
One of Jimmy's legs just shattered.
It never grew much after that.

EXT. THE NEIGHBORHOOD - OCTOBER 2002 -- DAY

Seven years later - a street hockey game in progress. Jimmy (19) intercepts the tin can they're using for a puck and weaves through the defense, his limp barely slowing him down. Kevin (16) and Sean (15) slide in on either side and elbow opposing players out of the way.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
It didn't seem to slow him down much.
It's like he barely noticed.

JENNY (17) shouts a warning from the crowded sidelines.
Tommy (17) appears and stick checks the player who was about to take Jimmy out. Jimmy leaps over him.

DETECTIVE MAXWELL'S VOICE
You said it changed his life.

Jimmy takes a slap shot.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
It did, but not the way you'd think;
and not for a long time.

Jimmy scores and jumps into his brothers' arms.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
I always wanted brothers like that.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Joey (22) applauds from the curb.

FADE OUT:

END OF PROLOGUE
ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. THE NEIGHBORHOOD - CIRCA 1999 -- DAY
A cab stops to pick up JOEY (looks 16 - 17 years old.) Music from 1999.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
Okay, fast forward here--

INT. CAB -- CONTINUOUS
Joey gets in, sideburns and period clothes.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
--It's 1999; I'm flush, I'm feeling good--

DETECTIVE MAXWELL'S VOICE
You were in Juvie in '99.

INT. CAB - CIRCA 2002
Same Joey, same action, different clothes, a moustache, different music.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
(not missing a beat)
--It's 2002; I'm flush, I'm feeling good--

DETECTIVE MAXWELL'S VOICE
--You got one more chance.

INT. CAB - CIRCA 2005
Same action, different everything else.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
--It's 2005 and I've got a hangover from hell. I just spent the night with a woman who wouldn't stop.

Joey's grandmother GERTIE leans in the window of the taxi, offering a clear plastic pouch.

GERTIE
Take this with you.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JOEY ICE CREAM
Gram, I don't need a raincoat.

GERTIE
It folds, put it in your pocket.

JOEY ICE CREAM
(snatches it/to cabbie)
The Firecracker. Go, go.

The cab pulls out leaving Grandma at the curb.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS - FROM A ROOFTOP -- CONTINUOUS

The cab drives around the corner....

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
All through history people have accused the Black Irish of every crime that came along. They were supposed to have gypsy blood, or Spanish or something. But my grandmother told me that before the Celts even showed up in Ireland there was a race of dark-haired people who the Celts then proceeded to wipe out. But they could never get them all.

And brakes in the middle of the next block.

EXT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- DAY

Joey gets out and crosses the street.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
A few of them ended up at The Firecracker Lounge.

INT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

Joey enters to find a crowd, music, drinking, and a banner saying HAPPY BIRTHDAY! He works his way toward the back:

JOEY'S VOICE
There was always something going on there. That day, it was a birthday party.

PEOPLE
Here he comes! Turn off the lights!
(lights go out)
One, two, three.... SURPRISE!!

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE

...or it was a wake.

When the lights come on we see not a surprise party but a wake, with an open coffin and a banner reading: "Farewell, Dear Friend."

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
Most times you went to the bar after the wake. But Paddy was so beloved they brought him along.

Joey pauses at the open casket. Gifts to ease Paddy's journey into the next world are placed around him -- whiskey, cigars, magazines, cards, a betting sheet, etc.

Joey tucks the raincoat into the coffin and moves on.

ANGLE TO FIND KEVIN (19) AND TOMMY (20)

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
Kevin had always thought of himself as a gambler; always believed he was lucky. The fact he'd never won a bet in his life somehow never dissuaded him of this notion.

TOMMY
Kevin, two thousand dollars?!
(Kevin shrugs)
How could you lose two thousand dollars on jai-alai?!
(Kevin gives a "you know" look)
You don't even know what jai-alai is!
(Kevin shrugs)
Do you? Show me! Show me how you play, Kevin!
(Kevin shrugs)
Only you could lose two thousand dollars on something you never even seen.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE

Tommy had a knack for two things: drawing and getting his brothers out of trouble. He didn't seem to understand that he'd never be able to go anywhere with the first if he couldn't let go of the second. Hold on, which was the second?
15 INT. POLICE INTERROGATION ROOM -- SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE

DETECTIVE MAXWELL

The bodies?

JOEY ICE CREAM

Are you telling this story or am I?
(to other detective)

Sean was still the baby and everybody loved Sean.

16 INT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

Tommy moves off toward the buffet, passing SEAN (18), his arm around a beautiful young GIRL.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE

Especially women. Which is why his brothers never brought their girlfriends anywhere near him.

TOMMY

You know how much money Kevin owes?!

SEAN

Three thousand?

TOMMY

Three thousand dollars.
(looks across to Kevin, yells)

THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS?!

Tommy heads to the bar. Find JENNY at the buffet mangling a ham. Joey is hitting on her, as casually as he knows how. *

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE

A couple years before, this Jenny married a school teacher. Teach forgets to mention that he robs drug dealers to pay off his student loans. He goes into hiding, somebody stuffs him in an oil drum. But nobody had the heart to tell Jenny. Even me, and we were like an item.

JENNY

Bug off, Joey.

JOEY ICE CREAM

You got it. *(more)*

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JOEY ICE CREAM (cont'd)
(see's Tommy coming)
She's a great girl, isn't she?

TOMMY
Joey Ice Cream bothering you?

JENNY
No, he was just concerned that with
my husband outta town I wasn't getting
enough, so he invited me into the
bathroom for a few minutes.

TOMMY
(yelling at Joey)
Hey! Hey! Come back here!

Joey disappears into the crowd.

JENNY
You know Kevin tried to borrow four
thousand dollars from me?

TOMMY
(with a look to Kevin)
Four thousand? No kidding.

JENNY
So, how's it going with Bonnie?

TOMMY
Bonnie?

JENNY
The blonde you introduced me to,
what was she a business student or
something?

TOMMY
Oh, Bonnie. That didn't work out.

JENNY
That's a real shame.

Jenny just gives him a look. DETECTIVE FRANCIS "FRANKIE" STEIN slaps a hand on Tommy's shoulder. His partner wears a badge on his jacket pocket.

FRANKIE
Hey, Jenny.

Jenny puts the mangled ham on a plate.

(CONTINUED)
JENNY
Hey, Frankie. I'd pass on the ham.

Jenny moves off as Frankie makes himself a ham sandwich.

TOMMY
Frankie, you and your friend afraid to come in here without a badge?

He looks to his partner like he's an idiot. The detective puts the badge away and he and Frankie make sandwiches.

FRANKIE
(re: Jenny)
You finally making your move?

TOMMY
Yeah, yeah, yeah.

FRANKIE
Where's Jimmy?

TOMMY
Behind the bar.

Tommy nods through the crowd to Jimmy. Jimmy notices them watching and nods back.

TOMMY (cont'd)
(to Frankie)
What's up?

FRANKIE
Somebody stole a truck this morning in the garment district. The detective who caught the case asked me about Jimmy.

TOMMY
How could Jimmy steal a truck? He can't even drive.

FRANKIE
That's what I told the man. You do what you want with it, I gotta get back.

(heading for the door)
You got naked models down at that art school? Cause I want to visit.

Frankie and his partner exit with sandwiches. Tommy heads to the bar, Jimmy heads to meet him.
CONTINUED: (3)

If you didn't know Jimmy you couldn't tell that he'd drunk half the tab.

    JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
    Jimmy won the bar in a crap game
    with Donny McQ a year before. It
    came with a rotting floor and gigantic
    tax lien. McQ swore he didn't lose
    on purpose.

As Jimmy gets to Tommy:

    TOMMY
    You been robbing trucks?

    JIMMY
    What are you talking about?

    TOMMY
    Don't lie to me.

Joey starts banging on the cigarette machine.

    JIMMY
    Are you a cop? Why would I lie to
    you?

Joey bangs on the machine again.

    JIMMY (cont'd)
    Hey, no banging on the machines!

    JOEY ICE CREAM
    It took my money!

    JIMMY
    It's supposed to take your money!!

Jimmy just yelled right in a guy's ear.
CONTINUED: (4)

GUY AT BAR
You want to yell in the other ear?

JIMMY
Do I want to yell in the other ear?

GUY AT BAR
That's what I said.

JIMMY
(to Tommy)
You here what this guy said?

TOMMY
I heard! You want to talk to me now?

JIMMY
No, I wanna hit him instead.

BAM! Jimmy hits the guy and dives on him.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
You gotta figure that's what started it. Negative stereo-typing.

The guy's friend goes for Jimmy, Tommy goes for the guy's friend, and within a heartbeat Kevin and Sean are with them, taking on a half a dozen contenders. Jimmy grabs a pool stick and takes on three of them by himself. Although we're rooting for him, Jimmy scares us. Kevin looks out front, sees Joey sneaking out. Through the window he sees a cop car pulling up.

KEVIN
COPS!!!

EXT. ALLEY BEHIND THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

Jimmy runs out first, in the middle of a pack of fleeing mourners. He rips off the white shirt covered in someone else's blood. As he runs off, Kevin and Sean and finally Tommy come out the back door.

As they turn the corner they see Jimmy pulling a Hawaiian shirt out from behind the seat of a parked truck.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JIMMY
Come on, pile in.

Sean and Kevin climb in.

TOMMY
What's this? The truck you didn't steal?

Tommy starts off. Jimmy follows.

JIMMY
Tommy!...Tommy! Lighten up.

TOMMY
(to his brothers)
Get out of the truck, you idiots!
The cops are right there!

KEVIN
You know Jimmy can't drive.

TOMMY
Neither can you -- get the hell outta the truck!

A police cruiser pulls up and blocks the alley.

TOMMY (cont'd)
Son of a bitch.
(thinks fast; to Jimmy)
Get in the truck.

JIMMY
Now I should get in the truck?

Tommy gives him a look. Jimmy gets in. Tommy climbs in behind the wheel, starts the truck.

IN THE TRUCK

JIMMY (cont'd)
(buttoning his Hawaiian shirt)
You like this shirt?

TOMMY
You're asking if I like your shirt?

JIMMY
Cause I got a couple thousand more.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

Tommy shakes his head. Kevin and Sean stifle a laugh. As they drive out of the alley:

**JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE**

Tommy could drive anything. Before he became Mother Theresa, Tommy had a big time penchant for joy riding.

He gets to the end of the alley and honks the horn.

**TOMMY**

(to cops)

Hey, you want to move?

Bold as brass. The cops give him a bored look, then eventually pull forward and let them out. They drive off down the street.

OMITTED

EXT. WAREHOUSE -- DAY

Tommy isn't happy about it, but he stands by the truck with Sean and Kevin, as Jimmy approaches with a guy who looks like the kind of person who'd buy a truckload of shirts.

**JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE**

Jimmy knew a guy who would take the shirts for fifty cents a piece. There was only one complication.

Kevin opens the back of the truck. It's empty.

**JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)**

Apparently while they were in the bar, somebody stole the stolen shirts.

The boys turn and walk away. Jimmy opens a fifth of whisky and drinks.

**KEVIN**

So, anybody got an idea where I can get four thousand dollars?

**SEAN**


(CONTINUED)
19 CONTINUED:

TOMMY
Where are Bobby O and J.J. right now?

SEAN
I don't know, Attica, I think.

TOMMY
(splits off from them)
I'll see you later.

20 OMITTED

21 EXT. LITTLE ITALY - BAKERY -- DAY

The type of neighborhood bakery with a couple of small tables inside to enjoy your cannoli and espresso.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
The bookie Kevin owed the money to was named Louie Downtown.

An old man, SAL MINETTA, and his lieutenant, NICKY COTTERO, come out and head for the Coupe De Ville at the curb.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
Louie ran the book for Sal Minetta. Sal and his right hand, Nicky Cottero, dropped by once a week just to keep Louie honest. But they weren't there right now.

And with that Sal, Nicky and the Coupe disappear (VFX). A YELLOW CAB pulls up. Sean is driving; Kevin and Jimmy step out.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
Since he was short, Kevin had to tell Louie he needed more time. Sean borrowed a friend's cab while the friend wasn't looking, and they took Jimmy along in case Louie didn't take the news too well. Did I tell you the second thing you had to know to understand Jimmy?

22 EXT. THE NEIGHBORHOOD - CIRCA 1993 -- DAY

Jimmy, AGE 10, waits in the passenger seat of his father's '84 Plymouth, listening to the radio.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
Jimmy's father worked for the steelworkers union, which was run by the Irish. Some Italians were trying to change that.

As Jimmy sits there, rocking out, a MAN walks up to the car.

MAN
Hey, Jimmy, where's your father?

YOUNG JIMMY
In the store.

MAN
Thanks.

Jimmy goes back to rocking out. In the background the man and a second heavyweight head for the store.

HIGH ANGLE -- THE STREET

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
It wasn't his fault, he didn't know. But while he was listening to music, they were beating his father to death.

WITH JIMMY

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
He never saw their faces before or after, but he knew one thing. He knew they were Italian.

Young Jimmy glances in the mirror at the storefront.

EXT. LITTLE ITALY - DAY

We're back with Jimmy and Kevin at the bakery. As they get to the doorway they pull ski masks over their faces and enter.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
And that's what Louie Downtown was. Italian.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. WASHINGTON SQUARE -- DAY

A world apart from the streets of the neighborhood, crowded with longhaired students from the right side of town. Tommy walks with KIM, an artsy-looking beauty.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
For three months now, Tommy'd been working up to asking out this photography student.

TOMMY
Blow Up.

KIM
Your favorite film? Oh my God, me too.

TOMMY
Yeah, I have a book on it at home.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
He mighta had a shot, if Huey Farrell hadn't shown up.

Tommy spots HUEY FARRELL exiting a black Lincoln, Huey's driver sits behind the wheel. Huey's ruddy face has all the charm of Ireland ingrained in it.

TOMMY
(to Kim)
I'll be right back.

Huey smiles as Tommy approaches. They greet and get a hot dog from the stand and talk under:

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

HUEY
Hey, Tommy, how are you doing?

TOMMY
Great Huey. Schools going great.

HUEY
That's good. Tommy, did you hear what happened to Louie Downtown? Some guys snatched him this morning.

TOMMY
No kidding.

CLOSER ON HUEY AND TOMMY

HUEY
Three of them. Stuffed Louie into the trunk of a car and drove off. Tell me your brothers spent the day at the track so I can go home happy.

TOMMY
Huey, they wouldn't do something this stupid.

HUEY
You know who Sal Minetta is?

TOMMY
Of course.

HUEY
Turns out Louie Downtown is his nephew. Who knew, right? (walking away) Keep working on the art stuff. We're proud of you.

Tommy watches Huey get in and drive off. He hurries back to Kim.

TOMMY
You got a car?
EXT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- DAY

Kim's convertible pulls to the curb. Sean leans on a mail box reading a comic book.

TOMMY
Where's Louie?

SEAN
Louie who?

TOMMY
Stop lying and keep an eye on her.

Tommy bangs open the bar door.

INT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

Tommy bursts in to find Joey Ice Cream behind the bar, closing the register.

TOMMY
Where's Kevin?!

JOEY ICE CREAM
I didn't take anything.

TOMMY
How much you steal?

JOEY ICE CREAM
Nothing, not a nickel!

TOMMY
Get outta here!

JOEY ICE CREAM
Right away.

Joey scrambles out. Just then

KEVIN
comes up out of the basement to see what the noise is about, sees Tommy, knows what's coming.

TOMMY
Hey!

KEVIN
Oh man.
INT. CELLAR - THE COAL ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

Tommy and Kevin come down the stairs.

KEVIN
Tommy, me and Jimmy went downtown with goodness in our hearts to work out a deal. But Louie starts threatening me, what was I supposed to do?

TOMMY
Kevin, everybody knows who did this! You kidnap somebody, they're not supposed to know who you are!

KEVIN
Tommy, you think we're stupid? We wore masks.

TOMMY
You went down there with goodness in your hearts but you wore masks?!

Kevin shrugs. Tommy opens the coal room door to find LOUIE gagged with a bag over his head, tied to a chair -- pants, wife-beater t-shirt and bare feet. Louie tries to talk, but all that comes out are muffled pleas. Tommy burns a hole through Kevin's skull.

TOMMY (cont'd)
Go get a knife, we're cutting him loose.

KEVIN
Tommy, I love you but I'd rather fight you than Jimmy. He's banged outta his head.

TOMMY
Where is he?!

EXT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- DAY

Tommy comes storming out, Kevin behind him. Tommy heads for the girl's car, stops when he sees:

SEAN

making out with Kim, his arm lost somewhere in her clothing.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

TOMMY
Sean, what the hell are you doing?!

SEAN
What? Were you guys like seeing each other? Cause I didn't know.

TOMMY
Get in the bar and watch things!
(to Kim)
You go back to school.

Tommy turns and strides off across the street. Kevin follows him. Sean shows no sign of leaving the car.

EXT. BODEGA -- DAY

Jimmy comes out with Tommy and Kevin, pops open a 16 oz beer. They walk.

JIMMY
He's Sal's nephew?

TOMMY
Yeah!

JIMMY
So, he's worth a lot more.

TOMMY
Jimmy, we gotta give him back!!

JIMMY
What we? You walked away. He's not your Italian, he's our Italian.

Jimmy tries to move past, Tommy pushes him back.

TOMMY
Jimmy! We got a thing here, you gotta see that!

Jimmy shoves Tommy even harder; suddenly they aren't brothers: Jimmy is a junkyard dog and Tommy is taking his food.

JIMMY
Here's what I see, Tommy. We got Louie Downtown. We give him back now, are they gonna thank us? No, they're just gonna think we're scared.

(more)

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JIMMY (cont'd)
Which means they're gonna hunt us
down and beat us to death. Is that
what you want for us, Tommy?

Tommy can't answer, he knows where Jimmy's coming from.
Luckily Sean comes running up, out of breath.

SEAN
Where did you put him?

KEVIN
What do you mean where did I put
him? He's in the cellar.

SEAN
Are you sure?

KEVIN
Am I sure??

SEAN
Cause I went and he wasn't there.

JIMMY
Ah, hell.
(now moving)
We got his shoes and his wallet,
he's not catching a cab. Kevin,
take the alley. Sean take--

Two kids pass wearing identical Hawaiian shirts -- exactly
like the one Jimmy's wearing. Jimmy grabs hold of one.

JIMMY (cont'd)
Hey, where'd you get that shirt?
(kid runs off)
Come back here!

KEVIN
Jimmy! Louie!

Jimmy reluctantly takes off back toward the Firecracker with
Kevin and Sean. Tommy stands there, not wanting to help.
At which point he sees:

HIS P.O.V. - DOWN THE BLOCK - LOUIE

shoeless and terrified, cuts across the street.

TOMMY
Hey!

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

Louie sees him and runs. Tommy turns and spots Jimmy disappearing.

TOMMY (cont'd)

Jimmy!!

But they're too far away. Tommy looks back and Louie is gone. Tommy curses himself and takes off after Louie.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREET -- CONTINUOUS

Tommy dodges traffic. Louie is nowhere in sight. Tommy bangs into a chain link fence, sees:

HIS P.O.V.: ABANDONED BUILDINGS

And a blur that looks a lot like Louie cutting between them.

TOMMY

hops the fence.

EXT. RUBBLE FIELD -- CONTINUOUS

Louie sees Tommy coming and tries to push himself, but he's exhausted. Tommy catches up and tackles him.

LOUIE

You too Tommy? What are you thinkin'? (scrambles to his feet)

Listen to me, help me get home, I talk to my Uncle, your brothers walk away with broken legs. And I'll throw in the five thousand Kevin owes.

TOMMY

Five thousand? Five thousand??

Tommy looks as if he's in almost as much pain as Louie. Then, outta nowhere, he delivers a haymaker and Louie falls like a sack of potatoes.

INT. LITTLE ITALY - MINETTA'S TAVERN -- DAY

Sal Minetta picks up the phone on the table of his back booth. * An ITALIAN SOLDIER lingers nearby.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
Sal Minetta did all his business out of this same booth, every day and every night for forty-six years. People say he had a toilet under the table.

Nicky Cottero steps out from behind the wheel of his olive Coupe De Ville. We get a better look at him now: his expensive clothes don't hide his powerful body, but his mercurial smile shelters a dead heart. He and BENNY "COOL" COLITO, Nicky's number one man, enter and walk toward the booth in the back.

NICKY
(sotto to Benny)
What kind of friggin' idiots live in this world? You don't kidnap a Louie Downtown. You ask, we give, no problem.

BENNY COOL
(stifling a laugh)
It's his nephew, Nicky, don't make me laugh, you'll get me killed.

It's clear these two men would die for each other. Nicky smiles as Sal motions for him to join him, Benny Cool hangs back.

The pay phone at the back rings, the Italian Soldier moves over to answer it.

SAL
(on phone)
Listen to me, he's my sister's son, you treat him well.

Sal hangs up. In the background the Italian Soldier writes a note.

NICKY
How much?

SAL
Thirty thousand.

NICKY
Hey, it's family.

The soldier approaches and hands Sal the note.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

SAL
(to Nicky, re: note)
The Donnelly brothers, you know them?

NICKY
You knew their father. Bobby
Donnelly, local 96 delegate?

SAL
He was the father? This some kind
of vendetta?

NICKY
What I think is Huey Farrell is losing
his grip on his neighborhood. I
don't understand why we don't just
take it.

OMITTED

THRU

EXT. MINETTA'S TAVERN -- DAY

Rewind: Nicky & Benny reverse into the car and it backs out.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
It had long annoyed Nicky that the
Irish had gotten away with ignoring
the rules everyone else had to live
by.

EXT. HOGAN'S JOINT -- AN HOUR EARLIER -- DAY

Sign in the window reads: GRAND REOPENING. Through the window
we see a century old bar, newly renovated, being smashed to
pieces by Benny Cool and a couple of THUGS. Nicky Cottero
pounds Michael Hogan's face into the bar and lets him drop
to the floor, hands tied behind his back.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
In fact just an hour before he had a
lively conversation with Mickey Hogan
on the subject of using union
carpenters rather than family and
friends.
40 BACK TO MINETTA'S TAVERN

SAL
We play this out till we get my nephew back; nobody does anything till then.

NICKY
Sure, Sal. I'll pass the word.

Nicky walks toward the door, a smile growing in his face.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE - CELLAR -- HOURS LATER

Louie is still tied up. Kevin deals a hand of blackjack to Louie across a keg. Kevin shows him his cards.

LOUIE
Stick.

Kevin puts down Louie's cards, looks at his own.

KEVIN
Hit.
(a king)
Busted! Damn!

LOUIE
You owe me nine hundred.

KEVIN
(shuffling)
Okay, once more through the deck.

LOUIE
No, I'm not playing no more.

KEVIN
I'm down nine hundred, damn right you're gonna keep playing.

LOUIE
You're not going to pay me, so why should I play?

KEVIN
Are you calling me a welcher?

LOUIE
So, you're gonna pay? This is a real game and you're gonna pay.

KEVIN
I'll pay you outta the ransom money!

LOUIE
Fine, deal.

Kevin holds up Louie's cards.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

LOUIE (cont'd)

Stick.

Kevin takes one. Busted.

KEVIN

Damn!

Kevin throws down the cards.

INT. REILLY'S DINER -- NIGHT

Tommy draws on his paper place mat, looks up to see Frankie enter. He takes the stool beside him. Jenny serves him coffee without asking.

FRANKIE

Thank you, darlin'.

She moves off again.

JENNY

You want something to eat, let me know.

FRANKIE

You know, somebody should really tell her.

Tommy shrugs.

FRANKIE (cont'd)

Talked to my detective friend. They have a witness on the truck thing. They want to put Jimmy in a lineup. The thing is, the witness says Jimmy had a gun. This was armed robbery.

(beat)

And I think Kevin and Sean were with him.

TOMMY

Why do you think that?

FRANKIE

There were three of them, it doesn't take a genius.

(beat)

Your father was a good man. Every hiring boss in the local saw my old man as the "kike in the bench".

(more)

(continued)
FRANKIE (cont'd)
Your father saw him as a working man. I'll always owe you that. But Jimmy's out of control. I'd get him some help. Before he takes your brothers down with him.

TOMMY

Thanks.

Frankie stands and exits. Tommy watches him go. Jenny returns with the pot of coffee.

JENNY

Problems?

TOMMY

No.

JENNY

Liar.
(spots his place mat)
So when you gonna show me some of your paintings? You could put some up here, try and sell them.

TOMMY
(digging out his wallet)
You got a lot of art patrons coming in these days?

JENNY

You'd be surprised.

TOMMY

Yeah, I would.

JENNY

Might even have to buy one myself. As an investment, for when you're famous.

Tommy places a couple of bucks beside the coffee cups and stands. Pause, a moment passes...

JENNY (cont'd)

Be careful.

TOMMY

Why?

(continues)
CONTINUED: (2)

JENNY
I don't know. Just worry about yourself once in a while.

A customer comes in. Tommy half smiles and exits. HOLD ON JENNY watching him walk away.

EXT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- NIGHT

Tommy approaches, tries the door, it's locked. He looks through the door window, nothing. He takes out a key...

INT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

Tommy enters. The place is empty, dirty glasses and empty bottles everywhere. The music plays loudly.

TOMMY
...Jimmy?

Kevin comes up from the basement to get some beers.

TOMMY (cont'd)
Where's Jimmy?

KEVIN
He was here.

Kevin takes the beers back downstairs. Tommy hears a noise from the back and heads for the men's room.

INSIDE THE MEN'S ROOM

Tommy enters to find Jimmy at the sink, his sleeve rolled up, a rubber hose tied around his arm. He's about to shoot up. He turns his back to Tommy, trying to hide his actions.

TOMMY
What are you doing?

JIMMY
(covering)
Hey, what time is it?

TOMMY
What time is it??

JIMMY
Yeah, we gotta make the pickup, I'll be right out. One minute.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Jimmy sticks the needle in his arm. Tommy knocks the hypodermic to the floor.

JIMMY (cont'd)
You crazy? I had that needle in my arm!

He immediately goes looking for it under the sink. Jimmy finds it. Tommy grabs him by the back of the shirt and hurls him out into...

THE BAR

Jimmy bounces off the pool table and charges Tommy. Suddenly the two of them go at it like mortal enemies.

KEVIN

scrambles up the back stairs and runs to break it up, diving between the two and finally separating them.

TOMMY
Get out, Jimmy. Get your money and you get outta our lives. But if you try and take Kevin or Sean with you, I'll kill you.

Jimmy finds the needle.

JIMMY
(laughs)
You'll kill me?

TOMMY
You got that much pain, Jimmy, jump off a roof.

Tommy leaves. Kevin and Jimmy share an embarrassed look and Kevin exits. Jimmy goes back into

THE BATHROOM

and sticks the needle in his arm.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - RED LIGHT DISTRICT -- NIGHT

Hopping with pimps and pushers. Jimmy, wearing a dark jacket, waits just outside a liquor store, drinking a beer, watching the street.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

HIS P.O.V. - A LINCOLN

pulls up and drops a large paper bag into a trash bin, then drives off. We catch a glimpse of Sal in the back.

JOEY ICE CREAM

runs up from the shadows, grabs the paper bag and brings it to Jimmy. Jimmy nods and takes off.

EXT. THE NEIGHBORHOOD - BELOW THE EL -- NIGHT

Sean and Kim walk down the street kissing. An olive Coupe De Ville glides up. Nicky Cottero leans out the window.

NICKY

Hey, Sean? You're Sean Donnelly, right?

SEAN

slips a ten dollar bill into Kim's hand, whispers to her:

SEAN

Get a taxi, go home.

(pushes her west)

GO!

Sean runs east along the sidewalk - and the car speeds after him. It hops the curb and cuts him off. Sean scrambles over the hood. Nicky and Benny are out of the car and on him. Sean gets the better of Benny, the bigger man, but Nicky hits Sean with a short club and knocks him down.

Kim comes running back and leaps onto Nicky's back. Benny pulls her off, smacks her back into the gutter. Sean tries to protect her but Nicky knocks him down and out.

EXT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- MOMENTS LATER

Kevin and Tommy burst out the door.

EXT. THE NEIGHBORHOOD - NEAR THE EL -- NIGHT

Jimmy checks his back as he heads to the bar with the paper bag. Then he sees something that stops his heart.

HIS P.O.V. -- KEVIN AND TOMMY

cutting across the street....

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

TOMMY
Seany!  Seany!

... where a couple of neighborhood people stand over Sean, who lies in a pool of blood. Kim kneels over him, crying.

KIM
(to Tommy)
I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

Jimmy watches Tommy's reaction as he sees Sean's face and knows his little brother is in bad shape.

TOMMY
Oh God.
(to bystanders)
CALL AN AMBULANCE! CALL AN AMBULANCE!

Jimmy backs away, unseen. He turns and walks. Then runs.

OMITTED

INT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- NIGHT

Jimmy flings open the door, jumps over the bar, pulls a pistol out from under the register.

INT. CELLAR - THE COAL ROOM

Jimmy pushes open the cellar door. Louie looks up in SLOW MOTION. Jimmy levels the weapon and fires.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE
ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

54 EXT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- NIGHT
Strangely quiet. Huey's black Lincoln pulls around the corner
and stops in a no-parking zone. It sits idling.

55 INT. HUEY'S CAR -- NIGHT
Huey sits behind the wheel; Tommy, now wearing a jacket, in
the passenger seat. Everything has been said, it's just
being digested. Tommy gives one last pitch.

    TOMMY
    You saw what they did to Sean. You
    know what that would have done to
    Jimmy.

    HUEY
    All I can do is talk to Sal, try and
    make him see that. I need your word
    Jimmy isn't planning anything else.

    TOMMY
    You have my word.

    HUEY
    Tell your mother Sean's in my prayers.

    TOMMY
    I will.

Tommy steps out of the car.

56 EXT. THE FIRECRACKER LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS
Huey drives off leaving Tommy standing there.

57 INT. NEIGHBORHOOD HOSPITAL - INTENSIVE CARE -- NIGHT
Sean lies motionless on the stark hospital bed, almost
unrecognizable, hooked up to the life support systems. The
glow of the fluorescent overhead tubes make his swollen and
battered face look even more ghastly.

Tommy stares at his unconscious brother through the glass
partition. Tommy's reflection looks as healthy as Sean's.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Tommy turns to see Joey, Kevin and his mom, HELEN DONNELLY, sitting in the waiting room with some relatives. Someone presents them with a wrapped plate of food.

Kim sits across the room, pressing a cold pack to her swollen cheek and trying not to show the tears she's crying for Sean. Tommy hears banging and keeps walking; sees Jimmy punishing a soda machine. Tommy joins him.

JIMMY
I have one dollar and this thing takes it.

Jimmy pops a knife out of his pocket and goes to work on the machine's lock.

JIMMY (cont'd)
Sal had no right, I was giving him Louie back.

TOMMY
He had no right.

JIMMY
We gotta get him, Tommy. You know that.

TOMMY
You got him, Jimmy.

JIMMY
(laughs)
Sure as hell did.

TOMMY
What did you do with his body?

JIMMY
You don't need to know.

TOMMY
You get rid of the gun?

JIMMY
(pops open machine)
As soon as I'm finished with it.

TOMMY
Jimmy, you get caught with that and you might as well confess.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

JIMMY
(staring into machine)
Why is there never anything you want?

TOMMY
Jimmy, you got three or four more
guns in the bar alone. Don't be
stupid, let me get rid of it.

Jimmy pulls it out, gives it to Tommy, who slips it into the
small of his back.

JIMMY
You know I've got to do this, right?
You know whatever you say, I have to
make this right. You ask me to say
I won't, I'll just lie.
(beat, suddenly
fighting tears)
I did this to him, Tommy. I did it
again.

Tommy embraces his brother. Jimmy holds him tight.

INT. MINETTA'S TAVERN -- NIGHT

Huey and Sal stand from the back table. The Italian Soldier
hovers nearby. Nicky helps Huey with his coat.

HUEY
Thanks, Nicky.

SAL
What about his brothers? Is that a
problem?

HUEY
Jimmy's the only problem. He's a
punk and a doper and he'll be more
comfort to his mother dead than alive.
Tommy is a smart boy; when Jimmy's
gone, he'll be able to say he did
what he could.
(beat)
As long as it is only Jimmy. Because
anything other than that and it'll
be me with the problem.
59  EXT. MINETTA'S TAVERN -- CONTINUOUS

Huey and Sal step out alone. At the curb, Huey's driver leans on the Lincoln's hood.

    HUEY
    You hear Mickey Hogan is in St. Margaret's? Someone busted up his bar.

    SAL
    Liquor is a rough business.

    HUEY
    Must be nice, having a right hand like Nicky. You could retire any time and know your business is in good hands. I'll see you around, Sal.

Huey crosses to the Lincoln, gets in. Huey's driver slams the door and drives off.

Sal lights a smoke and looks inside the tavern. Sees Nicky laughing with Benny and the other men; knows he's going to have to do something about him.

60  INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - NEAR THE ELEVATORS -- NIGHT

Tommy paces, waiting for news. The elevator door opens and Jenny steps out. She runs to Tommy and throws her arms around him. For a moment he's lost in them.

    TOMMY
    Thanks for coming.

    JENNY
    Where's your mother?

    TOMMY
    In the waiting room. We're waiting to talk to the doctor.

    JENNY
    I brought some food.

    TOMMY
    Good, thanks; any more food we can open a deli here.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JENN

When I heard about it, the person
who told me thought it was you.
(this isn't easy, so
she leaps)
And I thought...what if he dies, and
he never knows. You know, that I
loved him?

Tommy is thunderstruck. Jenny has to laugh at herself to try and at least save a little face.

JENN (cont'd)
Dumb, huh? I mean I'm a married
woman, nothing's ever gonna
happen...but I couldn't stand the
idea of you dying and not
knowing...that.

An eternity passes while Tommy tries to form a response. The elevator door opens and Huey steps out, holding a pie plate wrapped in tinfoil.

TOMMY

Huey.

HUEY

Jenny.

Huey notices the cooler she's carrying.

HUEY (cont'd)
If you're on your way in, you might
give this to Helen. From my wife.

JENN
(to Tommy)
I'll be with your mom.

Jenny heads off. Tommy watches her go, still stunned, then...

HUEY
Let's you and I get a coffee.

INT. NEIGHBORHOOD HOSPITAL - CAFETERIA -- NIGHT

Huey and Tommy sit with their styrofoam cups.

HUEY
It's going to be painful, but it's going to be okay.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

...It's gonna be okay? You talked to Sal?

When I walked in the room, he wanted you all dead. But I had something to trade, you don't need to know what. He wants his money back, and he wants Jimmy to apologize to him. Tonight, in person. You think you can get your brother to do that?

...To apologize?

Jimmy will have to be willing to take a beating, I'm not gonna lie to you.

(nodding toward ICU)

But not as bad as that. You get your brother to go down to Sal's tonight, by himself. He walks in there with you guys or a weapon and he's gonna get killed. You get him to take his beating and everything will be okay.

(beat)

Okay?

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE

It was at that moment.

Beat. Tommy offers his hand.

I can't thank you enough, Huey.

It was at that moment that Tommy knew that Jimmy was dead. Jimmy was the price they were going to pay. Huey had sold them out.

Huey claps him on the shoulder, turns and walks out. Tommy sits there, unmoving.
OMITTED

INT. BODEGA -- NIGHT

Jimmy pays for a six pack of beer and cigarettes, then notices that the COUNTER GUY wears the same Hawaiian shirt as him.

JIMMY
You like that shirt?

COUNTER GUY
Yeah. You want one?

JIMMY
(smiles and exits)
That's okay.

EXT. STREET -- CONTINUOUS

It's raining lightly as Jimmy comes out of the bodega and walks back toward the hospital. A car jumps the curb. Jimmy goes for his gun, realizes he gave it away. His heart starts again when he sees:

Frankie and Detective Allen charge out of the unmarked car.

FRANKIE
Hey, Jimmy.

JIMMY
Francis.

The second detective grabs him and shoves him against a wall.

FRANKIE
Detective Allen, I want you to note that the suspect is turning himself in voluntarily.

DETECTIVE ALLEN
(cuffing him)
I see that very clearly.

As they put him in the car:

JIMMY
Not for nothing, what am I turning myself in for?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

FRANKIE
Jimmy, you boost a truckload of shirts
and get seen, that's unlucky. You
walk around all day wearing the
evidence, I can't be too sorry for
you.

JIMMY
This is for the truck thing?

FRANKIE
You got something else you want to
confess to?

JIMMY
No, I'm good.
(glances up to the
hospital window)
So, how'd you know I was here?

FRANKIE
Jimmy, your little brother's up there.
Where else you gonna be?

Frankie looks up just before getting into the car.

HIS POV - LOOKING UP AT THE HOSPITAL
Tommy stands silhouetted in the window.

REVERSE ANGLE - TOMMY'S POV
Frankie gets in and the car drives off.

INT. NEIGHBORHOOD HOSPITAL - BY THE PAY PHONES -- NIGHT
Tommy watches from the hospital window, rain continues.
Kevin steps up beside him eating a huge sandwich.

KEVIN
What's going on?

TOMMY
Starting to rain.
(beat)
Jimmy got pinched for the truck thing.

KEVIN
That sucks.
CONTINUED:

TOMMY
Frankie called, said he'd get him in rehab.

KEVIN
So you talked to Frankie?

TOMMY
I talked to Frankie.

KEVIN
(understands)
Huh. That's not a bad thing.

TOMMY
No, it's not. I'm gonna step out for a minute.

KEVIN
(follows)
Sure.

Kevin steps over to the elevator, punches the button.

TOMMY
Where you going?

KEVIN
(shrugs)
Wherever you are.

Tommy knows there's no sense arguing. The elevator arrives and they get in. He doesn't expect to see:

JENNY

stop the elevator doors. She sees Tommy's face and knows something is going to happen.

JENNY
I'm making you a sandwich.

TOMMY
Save it for me.

JENNY
Tommy. Listen to me. You're not your brother. Stay and eat your sandwich. Please.

TOMMY
I'll be back for it.

(Continued)
CONTINUED: (2)

He pushes the button, closing the doors on her. Jenny's face falls.

IN THE ELEVATOR

Tommy and Kevin ride all the way down. There is almost a sense of relief in knowing there is no other path left to follow.

EXT. MINETTA'S TAVERN -- NIGHT

The Italian Soldier stands smoking. He offers another soldier a light. Kevin and Tommy walk up to them.

INT. MINETTA'S TAVERN - THE CELLAR -- CONTINUOUS

It's been converted into an apartment. The phone rings. Sal's downstairs guy, RICHIE, answers it, hands it to Sal.

SAL
Yeah.

INT. MINETTA'S TAVERN -- CONTINUOUS

The Italian Soldier on the phone, looking out the window at Kevin, Tommy and the second soldier.

SOLDIER
Tommy Donnelly. Says he needs a word.

INT. MINETTA'S TAVERN - THE CELLAR -- CONTINUOUS

Sal turns to someone just off camera.

SAL
Tommy Donnelly wants to talk to me.

We ANGLE to see Huey, who looks puzzled.

SAL (cont'd)
(into phone)
Send him down.

Sal nods for Richie to step outside.

INT. MINETTA'S TAVERN -- CONTINUOUS

The Italian Soldier waves Tommy inside.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

SOLDIER

Downstairs.

Tommy heads for the back stairs. The Italian Soldier steps back outside. He and the other soldier stare at Kevin.

INT. MINETTA'S TAVERN -- BASEMENT

Tommy descends the stairs and walks down the LONG HALL toward the door; Richie's standing beside it.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
Remember I told you about the day that changed Jimmy's life?

ECU - TOMMY

looking dead ahead as he walks, his mind somewhere far away.

EXT. THE NEIGHBORHOOD - CIRCA 1995

The half moon ride; kids everywhere; all played in silence. The Buick comes around the corner, only now we see it from:

THE DRIVER'S P.O.V.

as it fishtails into the scattering crowd, the driver fighting for control. There's Joey sitting in the middle of the street.

BACK IN THE CELLAR

Richie watches Tommy approach.

LITTLE JOEY - IN THE STREET

Sees the car barreling toward him.

INT. BUICK

Feet fight to get to the brake pedal -- but the legs are too short.

THE ONCOMING BUICK

swerves to miss Joey.
BACK IN THE CELLAR
Tommy raises his hands so Richie can pat him down.

BACK AT THE HALF MOON RIDE
The car runs over Jimmy's legs.

THE DRIVER
Looks out his side window. It's Young Tommy, scared and horrified.

BACK IN THE CELLAR
We PUSH IN on Tommy's face, his eyes water, as his right hand slips down his neck into his collar.

YOUNG JOEY ICE CREAM STANDING IN THE STREET
Stares back at Tommy, watching him pass.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
I was the only one who saw him. The only one who knew that it was Tommy driving the car.

BACK TO JOEY ICE CREAM -- THE PRESENT
telling his story to the cops. You could hear a pin drop.

JOEY ICE CREAM
And to this day, it's the one thing I've never told anyone.
(beat)
I'm ashamed I'm telling you now.

And we can see he is.

THE BUICK
speeds away in silence.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
Tommy never stole a car again, never did nothing. He turned his whole life around. He could'a made it out. Only he was never gonna let his brother be hurt again.
BACK IN THE CELLAR

Tommy's hand keeps going down, reaching into the neck of his jacket, between his shoulder blades, towards the handle of a knife.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
And this was the day that changed Jimmy's life forever.

EXT. POLICE STATION -- NIGHT

Jimmy, still wet from the rain, steps out of the unmarked car in handcuffs. As Frankie guides him toward the steps Jimmy looks off, as if seeing something we can't.

BACK IN THE CELLAR -- CONTINUOUS

Richie finishes patting down Tommy's ankle and looks up, sensing something is wrong. He sees the knife in Tommy's hand swinging down at him. He never gets a chance to scream; the blade sinks into his neck. Tommy reaches into Richie's jacket and takes his gun.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
Cause Jimmy went to rehab. And Tommy...

BACK IN THE CELLAR

Tommy pushes open the door to see Sal and Huey. Sal grabs for the pistol on the table. Tommy shoots him dead.

INT. HOSPITAL -- NIGHT

Jenny leans her head against the wet windows where Tommy stood and closes her eyes.

EXT. MINETTA'S TAVERN -- CONTINUOUS

The two soldiers react to the gunshot, giving Kevin the edge he needs to pull Jimmy's automatic and shoot them both.

INT. HOSPITAL - ICU -- NIGHT

Sean opens his eyes, looks off...

BACK IN THE CELLAR

Huey levels his own weapon. Tommy kills him with one shot.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
Tommy became everything he never wanted.

Tommy wipes the gun with a napkin, drops it and walks out.

EXT. MINETTA'S TAVERN -- CONTINUOUS

Kevin pulls the soldiers' bodies into the tavern as Tommy appears. They close the door and walk across the street into the night.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE
And whether he realized it or not, with Huey dead, Tommy had just taken over the neighborhood.

CLOSE ON TOMMY. He closes his eyes, picturing his future.

HIGH WIDE ANGLE

They DISSOLVE in mid-stride, to be replaced by the figures of several men getting out of CARS and striding toward the building -- Nicky Cottero and Benny Cool lead the way.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
And he was gonna have to defend it.

Dissolve again and the FORCES OF WAR gather in the street and spill out of the tavern, Nicky in charge, smiling.

JOEY ICE CREAM'S VOICE (cont'd)
And that's where Tommy left the bodies, right where they lay.

INT. POLICE INTERROGATION ROOM - THE PRESENT

JOEY ICE CREAM
What the Italians did with them, I can't say.

DETECTIVE MAXWELL
Those aren't the bodies I was asking about.

JOEY ICE CREAM
...Oh.

Maxwell smacks Joey and we CUT TO BLACK...

THE END