

Glory Days

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1

EXT. BIG JACK'S CAR ON THE ROAD - EARLY DAWN

BIG JACK (40) smokes a cigarette on the hood of his car. Looking out at the sun rise.

JACK JR. (11) finishes peeing on the side of the road. He walks back to the car.

Big Jack tries to help him into the car, but Jack Jr. pushes him away and slams the door behind him.

2

INT. JACK'S APARTMENT - LATE AFTERNOON

Big Jack sits with his legs kicked up on his kitchen counter, half-watching a basketball game on his shitty television. The apartment is nearly uninhabitable. He's eating scrambled eggs. On the phone...

EDDIE (O.S.)

Don't make me beg, Jack. Get you're ass up here.

BIG JACK

Eddie...

EDDIE'S (O.S.)

Just come! Some of Wendy's friends'll be here.

BIG JACK

What does that mean?

EDDIE'S (O.S.)

Take one of them up to the guest room. Use you're imagination, man.

The apartment's intercom BUZZES. Jack hops off the counter and goes to answer it.

BIG JACK

Hold on a second.

EDDIE (O.S.)

Jack, don't insult me. Come up to the country. Come on, I know you have nothing else going on tonight, I mean...come on.

He holds down a button:

BIG JACK

Yeah, It's broken, I'll be right down. (into the phone) Yeah, I don't know, Eddie, I'll think about it.

EDDIE (O.S.)

Look. We miss you man.

EDDIE'S WIFE (O.S.)

Eddie!

EDDIE (O.S.)

I gotta run.

Eddie hangs up on the other line. Big Jack stands, thinking for a moment.

3 INT. JACK'S APARTMENT STAIRS - LATE AFTERNOON

Big Jack descends the stairs of his apartment.

4 EXT. JACK'S APARTMENT - LATE AFTERNOON

Jack's two kids, Jack Jr. and SALLY (8) watch their parent's talking across the street at MEGHAN'S (40) car.

MEGHAN

Hey, Jack. How you doing?

BIG JACK

I'm good.

MEGHAN

Are you good with kids tonight?

BIG JACK

What does that mean?

MEGHAN

Just...Where are you gonna be--

BIG JACK

Come on Meghan, really?

MEGHAN

Look all I'm saying is that if you have a problem I'll be at Don's.

BIG JACK
Don's.

Meghan pulls out of the parking spot. Jack looks back at the kids.

5 INT. BIG JACK'S CAR - DUSK

Big Jack drives. Jack Jr. and Sally are in the back. The interior is filthy--lived in.

NEWS REPORTER (O.S.)
When her unprecedeted birth was
announced last February, it caught
everyone by surprise...

SALLY
Are you gonna get in trouble for
going to Eddie's?

BIG JACK
What are you talking about?

SALLY
I dunno.

BIG JACK
It's going to be a good time, so
just, don't worry about it, they're
gonna be a lot of kids to play
with, it's gonna be a fun time--

JACK JR.
Yeah, but why would you keep it a
secret?

BIG JACK
Oh my god...I don't...She'd be fine
with it. Don't worry about it.
It's...Really.

6 EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

The car drives down a dark road. On the radio:

NEWS REPORTER (O.S.)
Good evening, Russ. With hours
still to go until midnight,
excitement here in Times Square has

NEWS REPORTER (O.S.)
already reached fever pitch. And
with relatively warm temperatures,
organizers say around a million
people are expected to turn out.

7 EXT. EDDIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Big Jack's car rolls up the driveway. There are already a bunch of other cars at the top of the hill in front Eddie's house.

BIG JACK
Here we go.

Out of the darkness, a LAUGHING FIGURE jumps in front of the car

Jack slams his breaks. Sally SCREAMS.

JACK JR.
What the heck is that!

Big Jack catches his breath. The figure, illuminated by the car's headlights starts laughing hysterically in a drunken stupor. Pulling off the mask, to reveal himself: EDDIE (early 40s), an overgrown man-boy with a big red bulbous nose,

SALLY
OK...

EDDIE
You brought the kids!?

BIG JACK
Asshole.

8 INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Big Jack, Eddie, and the kids enter the bustling party.

PARTY GOER (O.S.)
What was your friend saying??

PARTY GOER 2 (O.S.)
Dude! He was trying to hold me
back. There was no way...

PARTY GOER 3
Look at you!

PARTY GOER 4
Pete!

EDDIE
Hey, Hey kids! The other kids are upstairs, you wanna go meet them? Have some fun, alright?

JACK
Hey, woah, woah. Where they going?

EDDIE
Don't worry about it.

Eddie pushes Jack by the shoulders deeper into the lion's den. JENNIFER (mid 40s) an aging sexpot, makes eye contact with Jack.

EDDIE
That's Jenny. Come on. Let's go.

The moment is fleeting as Eddie pushes Big Jack forward.

Jack Jr. and Sally eye their dad as he disappears into the crowd of WEIRDOS (30s-40s).

EDDIE (O.S.)
Don't worry about it.

9 INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

SINGER (O.S.)
(Peter & George Lyrics)
You had a problem with the windy streets...a studded jacket couldn't stop the breeze...Instead of Peter trying not to teeter...Saw a raven on the parking meter...He held out his hand...The raven's eyes were blood filled...My name is George, could you help me please...I live alone on these dumbass streets, I know...Could you spare a coin or two...If you do I'll tell you a lovely Haiku, Oh yeah...

Eddie's wife, WENDY (mid 30s), spots the two as they enter the kitchen. She seems a bit bewildered at the arrival of Jack.

WENDY
Jack...

BIG JACK
Hey, Wendy.

WENDY
You look good.

BIG JACK
Thanks.

Wendy looks at Eddie, confused.

EDDIE
Make sure everyone's got libations,
huh, babe?

Wendy gives a polite but drunken smile and exits.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
What do you want?

BIG JACK
Uh, juice?

EDDIE
Juice...

Eddie pulls out a carton of orange juice from the fridge.
Eddie brings back the juice in a coffee cup.

EDDIE
I am really glad you made it
tonight. Welcome back to the
clubhouse.

BIG JACK
Thanks.

The moment is a tad too sentimental for the two men.

EDDIE
You know what?

Eddie pours himself a half glass of straight vodka.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Slap shots. For old times sake.

Eddie downs his vodka.

EDDIE (CONT'D)
Give it to me.

Jack immidiately NAILS Eddie in the face. Eddie's bewildered for a moment. Then starts to LAUGH.

10 INT. LIVING ROOM - MIDNIGHT

The entire party is gathered around an old TV set with snowy, static-filled images of Times Square.

EVERYONE
Ten! Nine! Eight! Seven! Six! Five!
Four! Three! Two! One! HAPPY NEW
YEAR!

The room erupts in applause, spilled drinks and kissing. Eddie's trying to seriously make out with Wendy. Big Jack sips his juice in the corner, a fish out of water.

A MARCHING BAND RENDITION of "AULD LANG SYNE" plays from the TV.

EDDIE
(to Wendy)
I'll be back!

A MAN fills up Jennifer's champagne glass.

JENNIFER
(to a man)
Yes, please!

Out of Jack's sight, Sally picks up a drink left on a coffee table.

Jennifer and the boys party. They all toast.

JENNIFER
Thank you! Woo hoo!

Eddie yells up the staircase:

EDDIE
Come on boys! Let's go outside, we gotta make some noise!

PARTY GOER (O.S.)
Cheers!

Sally chugs the content of the cup, as Jack stands by, not noticing.

11 EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Eddie leads the parade of BOYS as they BANG pots and pans out of the house. Jack Jr. follows a few steps behind everyone else.

EDDIE
Alright, Come on guys!

From inside the house:

PARTY GOER (O.S.)
Happy new year! Happy new year!
Woo! Happy new year!

12 INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Big Jack stands in a corner, alone, drinking his juice. His hands are starting to shake.

13 INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Meanwhile, the party has really picked up in the kitchen. A group of WOMEN (40s) dance, shaking their asses to DISCO.

In the middle of all the shaking asses is Sally, who's going bonkers to the amusement of all the grown-ups.

Sally LAUGHS.

14 EXT. FIELD - NIGHT

The boys are getting rowdy in a circle around Eddie, Jack Jr. and DUANE (13) down a hill from the house. Duane is a big kid about twice Jack's size. Eddie finishes fitting the boxing gloves on Jack Jr.'s hand. Duane's already got his on, taking swings at the air.

EDDIE
How much boxing exprience you got,
man?

BOY #1
Break his nose!

EDDIE
Come on tough guy. Alright. Ready?
You ready?

Jack Jr. nods.

BOY #2
Pummel him.

EDDIE
Come on, right here.

Eddie taps Jack Jr's gloves for luck. Eddie to the gang:

EDDIE
Alright, listen up you sewer rats!
First round is gonna be between
Jack Jr. and Duane.

BOY #1
Yeah Duane!

Duane beats his own face.

DUANE
I'M A COWBOY!

Duane lunges at Jack Jr.. Eddie holds him back.

EDDIE
Woah, cowboy! Remember. clean
headshots. We're gonna go 10 rounds
on this one! DING DING DING! LET'S
GET THIS SHIT STARTED!

Eddie lets go of Duane. Duane pummels Jack Jr.

BOYS #1, #2, #3
Ohhhh!

15 INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

All the jumping around has made Sally look a little uneasy.
She wanders away from the butt party. Wendy notices.

WENDY
Need something, babe?

SALLY
I need...I need air.

WENDY

So sweet.

Sally pushes her way to the front door. Wendy continues talking to HER FRIEND

WENDY

So, we're thinking of going to Florida.

HER FRIEND

I'll go with ya!

WENDY

Oh, I'd love for you to go with me!

HER FRIEND

Alright!

16 INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

SINGER (O.S.)

(You Come Through For Me lyrics)

You come through...Ohh, yes you do...When I feel like I'm falling apart...you pick up the pieces of my broken heart...When I'm lost and I can't find my way...You come to the rescue with the things you say...Baby, you come through...You come through for me...You come through, yes you do...When I'm feeling like I just can't cope...You walk through the door and bring me faith and hope...When I feel like I just wanna die...you give me the strength to give it one more try...Baby, you come through...You come through for me...You come through, yes you do...As sure as the sun rises every morning, as sure as it sets every night...You're always there...

Jack stands in the corner, as usual. Not noticing Sally slipping out.

JENNIFER (O.S.)

Hey.

Jennifer approaches Jack from the side.

BIG JACK

Hey.

JENNIFER

I, umm. I rememeber you from last year, I think we met before.

BIG JACK

Yeah.

JENNIFER

Yeah.

BIG JACK

Yeah.

JENNIFER

No, I just like noticed you were like down. I get it I've been there.

BIG JACK

Hi, I'm Jack.

JENNIFER

Hey Jack, I'm Jennifer.

He puts his hand forward. Jennifer sticks a beer in his hand. She's got one too. She smiles. He looks down at it. The color drains from Jack's face.

JENNIFER

Cheers. Ya know, you didn't have one, so I figured.

Jack's getting weird.

JENNIFER

Everything OK?

BIG JACK

I don't want this.

JENNIFER

OK. Can I get you anything else, or?

BIG JACK

Yeah. Let's go up to the guest room.

JENNIFER
Excuse me?

BIG JACK
I don't need one of these to screw
you. Eddie told you to bring that
over to me, didn't he?

JENNIFER
No, he didn't.

SALLY (O.S.)
Daddy!! Daddy!!

JENNIFER
Fuck you, asshole!

Sally comes running up to Big Jack and Jennifer.

SALLY
Daddy, come.

As Sally pulls Big Jack away...

JENNIFER
Oh, what. You have a kid too?
That's great. That's great.

BIG JACK
What's going on?

SALLY
Come!

BIG JACK
What's going on?

Jack and Sally exit.

JENNIFER
Nice. Happy fucking new year.

17 EXT. FIELD - NIGHT

BIG JACK
What's going on sweetie?

Jack holds onto his daughter's hand as she leads him down a hill. The distant sounds of a wild rumpus growing louder.

EDDIE (O.S.)
Get up! You little pussy! Come on,
get up!

SALLY
Look!

BOY #1
Kill him!

ack Jr. is getting pummeled by Duane on the ground. Eddie and all the other kids are laughing and going wild.

BIG JACK
HEY! What are you doing man!

He rips Duane off of Jack Jr.

EDDIE
Come on, Jack! We're just fucking around man!

Eddie drunkenly stumbles over to Big Jack who is holding up Jack Jr.

BIG JACK
You OK? You alright? Alright buddy?

EDDIE
Come on, Jack! BIG JACK
Back the fuck off, man!

Big Jack raises a hand to Eddie.

BIG JACK
Fucking taking my kids away from me! Trying to get me fucked up!
Huh?

EDDIE
You're out of your fucking mind.

BIG JACK
But Look!

Big Jack points down at Jack Jr. who's on the brink of tears.

BIG JACK (CONT'D)
Man, we got fucking responsibilities!

Silence as the two old friends look each other up and down.

EDDIE

Jack, I just wanted you to have a
good time.

Suddenly, Sally THROWS UP. She doubles over. The final nail in Jack's coffin. Eddie starts to uncontrollably laugh in his drunken stupor.

18

EXT. BIG JACK'S CAR ON THE ROAD - EARLY DAWN

Big Jack smokes his cigarette on the hood of his car.

Jack Jr. finishes peeing on the side of the road. He's got a black eye.

He finishes peeing, pushing Jack away as he enters the front seat of the car, slamming the door behind him.

19

INT. BIG JACK'S CAR - EARLY DAWN

Big Jack enters the car. Sally is in the back, looking pretty woozy. Still pulled over on the side of the road. Finally, Jack Jr. breaks the silence...

JACK JR.

Mom was right.

BIG JACK

What?

JACK JR.

You are a loser.

Big Jack glances down at his son.

Another moment of silence. From the back...

SALLY

We're all losers.

Big Jack sits, not moving, absorbing what his daughter has just said. Jack Jr. smiles. Big Jack snickers. Sally looks out the window.

20 EXT. BIG JACK'S CAR ON THE ROAD - EARLY DAWN

Big Jack's car pulls back onto the road and takes off.

SINGER (O.S.)
(No Peace Like In Heaven
Lyrics)

The sun don't ever shine. The sky
ain't ever blue. Lookin out for
you. I'm talkin in my sleep. I'm
callin out your name. I know...It
will always be the same....

CUT TO BLACK.