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34 CONTINUED: 34

He crosses to Rita.

DEXTER

I was so bad you're crying?

RITA

No. It's... it's just something I've wanted for so long. Being here for the kids. It's all so wonderfully... uncomplicated, y'know?

Dexter's cell rings. He steps into the hall to answer.

DEXTER

Hello?

INTERCUT:

MIGUEL

Mr. Morgan, this is Miguel Prado. I need to see you. Right away.

35 EXT. FREEBO'S STREET - LATER - DAY 3

35

FORCED PERSPECTIVE shooting at Dexter through the windshield of his car.

DEXTER (V.O.)

So much for uncomplicated.

REVERSE ANGLE. Our shot of Freebo's street. There's Freebo's house, a black Suburban parked in front.

36 INT. FREEBO'S HOUSE - DAY 3

36

Dexter slips through the crime scene tape and enters to find Miguel Prado standing in the middle of the room, his back to Dexter. He's staring at the intricate red yarn design Dexter put up during his investigation.

Dexter waits. Silent, respectful. Miguel, his back still to Dexter, gestures to the web of red yarn.

MIGUEL

Almost a piece of art.

DEXTER

Thank you, sir. But to me? It's more like a story.

Miguel turns to Dexter.

MIGUEL

Tell me that story, Mr. Morgan.

DEXTER 301

CONTINUED:

36

36

37.

DEXTER

You mean what happened to your brother?

MIGUEL

I need to understand.

Dexter goes to the red yarn and, after some hesitation, begins to recreate the fierce fight he had with Oscar.

DEXTER

The encounter began over here. scuff marks on the linoleum and the crumpling of the throw rug have a directional quality that leads to...

He indicates the cracked front window. The dried pool of blood on the floor.

DEXTER

This is where your brother and Freebo he's my lieutenant's prime suspect...

He pauses.

DEXTER

But you know that.

Miguel nods for Dexter to continue.

DEXTER

There was a brutal struggle. But I've gotta say it looks like your brother fought... like a hero.

(beat)

But he was over-matched, and suffered a fatal stab wound to the chest. Everything about the blood tells us that your brother bled out almost instantly...

MIGUEL

So, he didn't suffer?

DEXTER

Blood never lies.

Miguel absorbs this, then -

MIGUEL

Now I know how he died. The question is why.

Dexter can only shrug. Just as he's beginning to relax -

CONTINUED:

36

38.

MIGUEL

One other thing, Mr. Morgan: why would a blood spatter analyst search the Sheriff Department's database for information on my dead brother?

Busted, Dexter takes his time in answering.

DEXTER

Like you, sir, I wanted to understand what happened here. I thought knowing the details of your brother's life would help me make sense of his death.

MIGUEL

In your line of work, Mr. Morgan, is it usual for you to get so involved?

Miguel catches himself, smiles.

MIGUEL

Sorry. I sounded like a prosecutor just then, didn't I?

DEXTER

Not a problem, sir. And no, I don't usually get so involved. This one, this death... got to me.

Miguel takes a reflective beat.

MIGUEL

It all seems so unreal that he's just... gone.

DEXTER

Yes, I'm sure it does.

MIGUEL

So, Mr. Morgan, a man dies and what's left? A soul? Which is what exactly?

DEXTER

I really couldn't tell you.

MIGUEL

Some say the soul lives on forever.

DEXTER

I hope not.

MIGUEL

Which makes you a cynic.

DEXTER

Makes me a scientist.

36 CONTINUED:

36

MIGUEL

So, no one you've loved has ever died?

Dexter chews on this. Sorting it all out.

DEXTER

My father died when I was in my twenties.

MIGUEL

And you don't believe his soul, call it his life-force, is still here? Somehow living inside you?

Before Dexter can answer, Miguel's gaze is drawn back to the blood-dark stain where his brother died.

MIGUEL

I should have been there for him.

DEXTER

You can't blame yourself, sir.

MIGUEL

Easier said than done.

Dexter privately registers curiosity at this.

MIGUEL

Do me a favor, Mr. Morgan? If you want to get to know my brother like you say, come to his wake tonight. Come see how much and how fully he was loved.

Dexter nods his acceptance. Miguel smiles and shakes Dexter's hand.

MIGUEL

I've taken up enough of your day. Thank you... Dexter.

37 INT. POLICE STATION - BULLPEN - LATER - DAY 3

37

Dexter, Batista, Masuka and Quinn review what they know so far about the Oscar Prado murder and the search for Freebo. Batista flips through the lab work.

BATISTA

These reports final?

DEXTER

The blood specimens I collected all came back belonging to Oscar Prado.