

ESCAPING THE SHADOWS

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BY JESSE WOODWARD

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DETECTIVE DIXON: LEAD DETECTIVE (QUIT)  
OFFICER HARDY: DIRTY COP  
LOLA: HARDY'S DAME

SUBWAY PLATFORM

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Dixon walks onto the platform and sits down on a bench. He hunches over.

The fluorescent light above him flickers which takes him into a flashback.

POLICE CHIEF'S OFFICE (FLASHBACK)

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The chief is at his desk with the ceiling fan on and the shadows from the blinds.

The chief is looking over some papers with his feet on the desk.

Dixon comes walking in without knocking. He grabs his police badge and slams it down on the desk.

The chief moves his papers down to see what Dixon is doing.

Dixon then grabs his service weapon from his holster.

The chief puts his feet down, looking intently at Dixon.

(Finally getting his attention)

Dixon shaking his finger at him.

DIXON

"I quit! And don't you try and stop me!"

CHIEF

"What is going? What are you doing?"

He turns before he leaves

DIXON

"I know what's going on here..."

CHIEF

"Wait! Dixon!"

Dixon slams the door as the flashback ends.

SUBWAY PLATFORM

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As a subway train goes by that bring Dixon out of the flashback.

Dixon looks around, putting his guard back up, knowing that it is a dangerous city.

Dixon grabs his cigarettes from his suit pocket and puts one in his mouth.

There was the sound of high heels walking across the platform, the dame, Lola, comes out from behind a cement pillar.

She reaches inside her handbag for a matchbook. She strikes a match and lights Dixon's cigarette.

DIXON  
(Sighs) Lola, what are you doing here?

LOLA  
Why do you think?

DIXON  
I know your with Hardy... And I know who he work for.

LOLA  
I'm not with-

DIXON  
Don't you lie to me!

LOLA  
I'm here-

A train comes to the station, Dixon's train to ride home. Dixon gets up to leave, but Lola holds him there.

DIXON  
I'm heading home. I don't want to get into this mess!

Dixon get around her, trying to get to the subway doors.

LOLA  
Dixon, wait!

Lola grabs his arm.

LOLA  
Would you listen to me!

DIXON  
NO!...NO, Hardy isn't a cop anymore, he's a fucking GOON! Now get out of my way!

LOLA  
NO!

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Dixon walks over to the doors but then stops when he hears Hardy. The train doors close and begins to move.

HARDY

Dixon!

Dixon turns around looking back, seeing the glistening of his badge.

DIXON

What are-

LOLA

He knows...

Hardy walks over.

LOLA

He-

HARDY

Shut up, if you know what's good for yah. I know...

DIXON

What are you to doing, Hardy? Sent your girl out to do your dirty work?

HARDY

You're going to make a mess of everything... My boss-

DIXON

Your boss: the Chief? or the Mob? Nicky and the boys wouldn't want the truth to be leaked. You're a dirty cop, Hardy.

HARDY

No, I don't... or I'd loose my job, my house, my car and in the end, my own life.

DIXON

And you're here to kill me...

LOLA

NO! Hardy, baby, don't do-!

Hardy slaps her and she falls to the ground.

HARDY

I SAID SHUT UP! I have to...

Hardy grabs for his gun and Dixon runs at him as the gun is pulled out. Lola runs to a nearby phonebooth (for protection) The gun fires a few times as Dixon forces the gun up, pointing

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up. They struggle with the gun (fires a few times near the phonebooth) until, Dixon finally gets the gun loose and it drops away from them. They continue to fight, trying to get to the gun. And then, Dixon gets a lucky hit, knocking Hardy down.

DIXON

I told you not to get into this mess...  
(Sigh) I'm going home...

Dixon turns and starts walking away, but then there is a click from a gun hammer, cocking back. Lola has the revolver pointed at Dixon.

HARDY

(Laughing)

LOLA

No, you're not...

She takes aim, the gun shaking in her hands.

Lola fires the gun. Dixon falls to the ground, bleeding out onto the platform. Hardy gets up slowing, looking over Dixon's body as Lola grabs onto Hardy.

HARDY

Damn you Dixon...

They turn and walk up the subway stairs to the street and out of view. Dixon bleeding out finally passes out.

THE END

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