

Max Payne - Script Transcript

The Murder

DISPATCHER

Stand by, 10-10, investigate a reported disturbance at Aesir Plaza. Cop #1: 10-4 dispatcher, verify address... Dispatcher: That's Aesir Plaza, repeat, Aesir Plaza.

NEW YORK CITY. PRESENT DAY. TWO HOURS AGO.

COP #2

Shots fired on the rooftop. An assault in progress at Aesir Plaza. Repeat, an assault in progress.

COP #3:

It's a warzone down here. 10-85 dispatcher, need additional units, additional units now! Officer in danger, officer in danger.

DISPATCHER

10-5, please repeat. 10-5, all units, all units, emergency, officer in danger, Aesir Plaza, repeat, Aesir plaza, all units...
[Fades Out]

MAX PAYNE

They were all dead. The final gunshot was an exclamation mark to everything that had led to this point. I released my finger from the trigger, and then it was over. To make any kind of sense of it, I need to go back three years. Back to the night the pain started. I was still in the force back then. NYPD, Manhattan, Midtown North Precinct. Hell's kitchen.

NEW YORK CITY THREE YEARS AGO

[GRAPHIC-NOVEL-STYLE-STILLS]

ALEX

So, when are you coming to work for me, Detective Payne?

MAX

You'd make me work undercover in some hellhole. Sorry Alex, Michelle and the baby come first. See? My last smoke. It's bad for the baby.

ALEX

That's you, Max, a regular boy scout.

MAX

See you, Alex.

ALEX

Still on for Poker Thursday, right?

MAX

Like taking candy from a baby.

MAX PAYNE

Life was good. The sun setting on a sweet summer's day, the smell of freshly mowed lawns, the sounds of children playing... A house across the river, on the Jersey-side. A beautiful wife and a baby girl. The American dream come true.

MAX

Honey, I'm home!

MAX PAYNE

But dreams have a nasty habit of going bad when you're not looking. The sun went down with practiced bravado, twilight crawled across the sky, laden with foreboding.

NEW JERSEY. THREE YEARS AGO.

MAX

Michelle, honey, anybody home?

MAX PAYNE

I didn't like the way the show started. But they had given me the best seat in the house. Front row center.

[When PC approaches the graffiti on the wall]

MAX

What the hell?!

MAX PAYNE

Something ugly had been tattooed on the wall, a map of things to come. It was a poison syringe, a magic tag full of diabolical meanings.

[The phone rings]

MAX

Listen! Someone's broken into my house, call 911. The Other Voice: Is this the Payne residence?

MAX (CONT'D)

Yes, someone's broken into my house, they're still here, you have to- The

PHONE VOICE

Good. I am afraid I cannot help you.

MAX WHO IS THIS?

CLICK!

MAX

Hello?

[sfx: arguing and a baby crying]

MAX (CONT'D)

Michelle! [3 gun shots go off]

MICHELLE

No! No! No, Max!

[When PC tries to open the bathroom door]

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Auhh!

MAX

Michelle! Michelle: Please!...

[SFX: 3 more gun shots]

ADDICT

I'm gonna hurt you! I'm gonna hurt
ya! It's coming. Death is coming.
You're gonna die!

[Addict NPC rushes through door]

MAX

Freeze! NYPD!

[Cinematic: Max sees the baby cradle and blood everywhere]

MAX (CONT'D)

No! No, no, please God, no.... Next
Punk: The flesh of fallen angels!

[Cinematic: Max sees Michelle's dead body]

MAX (CONT'D)

No, no, no God, no. Please,
Michelle, oh baby... Noooooooooooo!!!

MAX PAYNE

That was three years ago.
Everything ripped apart in a New
York minute. The killer junkies had
been high on a previously unknown
designer drug. Valkyr. V. After the
funeral, I told Alex I would be
transferring to the DEA. It took us
three long years to get a break in
the Valkyr case. Then, finally, two
months ago, a dime-dropper tipped
us off that Jack Lupino, a mob boss
in the Punchinello crime family,
was trafficking. I went
undercover, infiltrated the worst
Mafia family in New
York.