

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.