

Now What (Short Film)

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EXT. BASKETBALL COURT. DAY.

EDDIE SHOOTS around at the court by himself.

WE SEE SHOTS OF EDDIE PERFORMING DIFFERENT DRIBBLING MOVES AND PUTTING UP DIFFERENT SHOTS.

A car PULLS up next to the court, with the music on BLAST.

Eddie IGNORES it.

The driver (KIRBY) hops out.

KIRBY
EDDIE!! WHAT UP CUZ?!

Eddie PAUSES in mid-shot.

EDDIE
(surprised)
...Kirby??

They EMBRACE like they haven't seen each other in years.

EDDIE
When did you get out?!

KIRBY
Couple weeks ago!

EDDIE
Wow! You look good man!

Kirby FLEXES his muscles.

KIRBY
You know how I do-

They SHARE a chuckle.

EDDIE
Man...that felt longer than 90 days.

KIRBY
Time flies in *there* tho.

EDDIE
I'm sure it does.

KIRBY

Word.

EDDIE

So- Now what?

KIRBY

Nigga, I'm on the same shit I been on-
Kirby FLASHES a knot of (cash).

KIRBY

Getting money!

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE'S IMPRESSED REACTION.

KIRBY

Ain't nothing change over here cousin!
I'm still getting this paper! I'm
still a threat to these haters! I'm
still that nigga-

Kirby TAKES the ball from Eddie.

KIRBY

Them mu'fuckas gave me probation tho-

Kirby SHOOTS the (ball).

EDDIE

(shaking his head)
That sucks.

KIRBY

I know. But nigga, I'm free.

EDDIE

Not really, but ok.

KIRBY

Whatever cuz-

Kirby TAKES another shot.

KIRBY

What about you? What you been up to?

Eddie REBOUNDS the (ball).

EDDIE
Trying to get like you, Kirby.

KIRBY
What's the problem?

EDDIE
You have that natural instinct, Kirby.
I be thinking I'ma always get caught.

Kirby SHAKES his head.

EDDIE
So, you know- I stays *legit*...

We see a CLOSE UP of Kirby.

KIRBY
(chuckling)
No, you stays *broke*!

EDDIE
Yea yea, whatever-

Eddie SHOOTS the (ball).

KIRBY
Look Eddie! I'm getting big out here
fam! Nobody fucking with me, or you!

Eddie GLANCES at Kirby and TAKES another (shot).

KIRBY
Come on- You know I got you, cuz. I
wouldn't let anything happen to you...

Kirby GIVES Eddie the (ball) and FAILS to take it back.

KIRBY
I want you to get right fam! It's been
a year since you graduated, and you
still ain't on ya feet...

Kirby SHAKES his head in disappointment.

Eddie JUGGLES the basketball, pondering on what Kirby said.

Kirby TAKES the (ball) away from Eddie.

KIRBY
At least take this ride with me to see
my plug. I need to re-up.

EDDIE
...I don't know Kirby...

KIRBY
...We'll grab some grub-

Kirby SHOOTS the (ball).

THE CAMERA FOLLOWS THE BALL IN SLOW MOTION (IN THE AIR) AS IT
GOES THROUGH THE HOOP, AND LANDS IN EDDIE'S HANDS.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE.

EDDIE
(smiling)
Let's go.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. KIRBY'S CAR. DAY.

WE SEE VARIOUS SHOTS OF KIRBY & EDDIE DRIVING TO LUTHER'S
SPOT.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LUTHER'S SPOT. DAY.

LUTHER is SMOKING a (blunt), and watching TV. There's a KNOCK
at his (door). He GRABS his (gun) and WALKS to the (door).

WE SEE A SHOT OF KIRBY & EDDIE THROUGH THE (PEEPHOLE).

Luther TUCKS his (gun) in his waist, and OPENS the (door).

LUTHER
My man!

KIRBY
What's good Loot?

They DAP each other.

KIRBY
Yo Loot, this my cousin Eddie.

LUTHER
What up cuz?

Eddie & Luther WALKS inside. Luther LOOKS out before closing & locking the (door).

KIRBY
(to Eddie)
This my man Luther. My plug.

EDDIE
What's up Luther?

LUTHER
(grinning)
Nah, call me Loot- you fam.

Eddie LOOKS over at Kirby-

Kirby WINKS and flashes a (smile).

EDDIE
(to Luther)
Ok.

Luther HITS the (blunt) and PASSES it to Eddie.

LUTHER
You smoking?

EDDIE
(shakes his head)
Oh nah.

Luther SHRUGS and HITS it before passing it to Kirby.

LUTHER
(to Kirby)
What it do pimp?

KIRBY
You already know Loot- same grind
different time.

LUTHER
No doubt. I see you, gangsta.

Kirby PASSES the (blunt) back to Luther. Then he PULLS some (cash) out of his pocket and HANDS it to Luther.

Luther LOOKS over the (cash).

WE SEE A SHOT OF EDDIE LOOKING ON.

LUTHER

Same thing?

KIRBY

Yea.

LUTHER

No doubt. You putting the pressure on niggas, huh?

Luther DEPARTS and RETURNS a few moments later with a (backpack). He HANDS it to Kirby.

LUTHER

(to Eddie)

Ay cuz, if you need anything, I mean anything-

(pointing at Kirby)

Ask *that* nigga! Because he definitely got it!

Luther chuckles.

KIRBY

(shaking his head)

This nigga...

LUTHER

I mean, I'm good and all, but this nigga here is rich as a mu'fucka!

Eddie GLANCES at Kirby.

EDDIE

(to Luther)

...I'm not worried about all that, man. I know my cousin got me.

Eddie SMILES and WINKS at Kirby.

Kirby returns the (smile).

EDDIE
And he knows I got him.

LUTHER
That's what's up. It's a good thing
y'all look out for each other...

Luther TAKES his (gun) off his waist and PUTS it down.

LUTHER
That's what family's for.

WE SEE SHOTS OF EVERYONE LOOKING AROUND AT EACH OTHER.

KIRBY
...No doubt.

Awkward silence.

KIRBY
...Lemme go and get to this money!
(to Eddie)
Come on cuz.

Eddie FOLLOWS.

KIRBY
Ima check you Loot.

LUTHER
Aite fam.

They DAP each other.

LUTHER
(grinning)
Aite cousin Eddie-

Luther and Eddie DAP each other.

EDDIE
...Aite Loot.

Kirby & Eddie DEPART.

WE SEE A SHOT OF LUTHER SMIRKING, AS HE WATCHES THEM LEAVE.

CUT TO:

INT. KIRBY'S CAR. DAY.

Kirby is DRIVING. Eddie is in the passenger seat. They NOD their heads to the (music), both enjoying it.

Kirby is constantly CHECKING the (mirrors).

He PULLS the (car) over.

He PREPARES some work, and STASHES it under his seat.

WE SEE VARIOUS SHOTS OF KIRBY GIVING SOMETHING OUT THE WINDOW TO A (HAND), AND TAKING MONEY.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE LOOKING ON.

Kirby DRIVES off.

WE SEE A SHOT OF KIRBY & EDDIE RIDING ALONG.

Kirby GIVES the (money) he just made to Eddie--

KIRBY

Put this all in that bag for me.

Eddie GRABS the (bag), and PUTS the (money) in it. He MARVELS at the amount.

Kirby GLANCES at Eddie.

KIRBY

Who you know out here getting it like me cuz? I'll wait...

EDDIE

(shaking his head)
...That's insane Kirby.

KIRBY

What's insane? How I just came out and I'm already taking over? And got niggas hating already?

EDDIE

...So you saw it too?

Kirby is lost.

KIRBY

(confused)

...Saw what? Fuck you talkin bout?

EDDIE

...I think Loot is a little jealous of you...

KIRBY

Why you say that?

EDDIE

Them little slick remarks he was making...about how you got all the money if I need any...

KIRBY

That's just Luther. He's a funny dude.

EDDIE

Exactly! That's what I saw, too.

Kirby CHECKS his (mirrors), and PULLS the (car) over.

KIRBY

You trippin, cuz. Luther's my guy. I been rocking with Loot for years now.

EDDIE

Don't trust anybody- You use to always remind me of that.

KIRBY

...I hear you cuz, but Luther's never done no grimey shit to me. And I got somethin for the bullshit-

Kirby PULLS a (gun) from off his waist.

KIRBY

As you can see.

He HANDS it to Eddie.

KIRBY

Put that in there for me.

Kirby POINTS to the (glove compartment).

KIRBY

That's for you.

Eddie GLANCES at Kirby. He LOOKS over the (gun) and PLACES it in the (glove).

Kirby REACHES for a (blunt) he already rolled and PASSES it to Eddie.

KIRBY
At your will, sir.

Eddie reluctantly TAKES it.

Kirby GRABS the (bag) he stashed under his seat.

KIRBY
I'll be right back.

EDDIE
Ok.

Kirby EXITS the (car).

Eddie CHECKS the (blunt). Then he PICKS up a (lighter). He puts the (blunt) in his mouth. He LOOKS around. Then he LIGHTS it. He INHALES the smoke and COUGHS. He regains his composure and takes another (hit). He GRINS.

He goes to open the (glove) but stops when Kirby returns.

Kirby SEES Eddie smoking.

KIRBY
A YO!!

Eddie PAUSES mid-action, with smoke-filled cheeks.

KIRBY
(smiling)
That's that shit, ain't it?

Eddie NODS with a (smile), as he EXHALES smoke out of his (nose).

KIRBY
(smiling)
That *fire!*

WE SEE A SHOT OF KIRBY & EDDIE PULLING OFF.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK BENCH. DAY.

DEUCE is ROLLING up a (blunt) on a bench. Music is playing from his (phone).

Deuce gets a call from Luther. He ANSWERS it on speaker.

DEUCE

Yo.

LUTHER

(O.S.)

What up nigga?

DEUCE

Waiting on you man! I'm starving right now OG! I'm tryna eat!

LUTHER

(O.S.)

Relax baby boy. I know you hungry. I got the perfect meal for you.

DEUCE

Who?

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. LUTHER'S SPOT. DAY.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF LUTHER.

LUTHER

Kirby.

EXT. PARK BENCH. DAY.

Deuce PAUSES in confusion.

DEUCE

(confused)

...Kirby?

INT. LUTHER'S SPOT. DAY.

LUTHER

We got a problem?

EXT. PARK BENCH. DAY.

DEUCE

No problem. Just thought, you know, he was getting you right and-

INT. LUTHER'S SPOT. DAY.

LUTHER

No nigga! I'm gettin *him* right. *He* got locked up. I picked *him* up. Then I put *him* on. You got that?

EXT. PARK BENCH. DAY.

DEUCE

...Got it.

INT. LUTHER'S SPOT. DAY.

LUTHER

That's why I do the thinkin! You just do what the fuck I tell you to do!

EXT. PARK BENCH. DAY.

Deuce LIGHTS the (blunt) and takes a hit.

DEUCE

You got it boss.

He ends the call.

INT. LUTHER'S SPOT. DAY.

WE SEE A SHOT OF LUTHER ENDING THE CALL WITH DEUCE AND MAKING ANOTHER PHONE CALL.

CUT TO:

EXT. PIZZA SHOP. DAY.

Kirby WALKS out the pizza shop with (food). He gets a phone call from Luther. He ANSWERS it on speaker.

KIRBY
What up Loot?

LUTHER
(O.S.)
Yo where you at?

KIRBY
Grabbing something to eat with my
cousin. What's the word?

LUTHER
(O.S.)
Come through real quick. We gotta chop
it up. Something important...

KIRBY
Aite. We bout to head there now.

LUTHER
(O.S.)
Nah, just you.

Kirby didn't expect that.

KIRBY
...Aite.

The call ends. Kirby THINKS about that.

WE SEE A SHOT OF EDDIE IN THE PASSENGER SEAT.

Kirby gets in the (car). He HANDS Eddie his (food).

KIRBY
We bout to go see Luther real quick.

EDDIE
You gotta re-up already?

KIRBY
Nah. He said he got something
important to tell me.

EDDIE
...What you think it's about?

KIRBY
I don't know, but we bout to find out.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE.

EDDIE
Let's do it.

CUT TO:

EXT. LUTHER'S SPOT. DAY.

Kirby PULLS up to Luther's spot. He STOPS Eddie from getting out the (car).

KIRBY
Nah, stay here cuz.

EDDIE
What?

KIRBY
Stay here. He wants to see me only.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE LOOKING CONCERNED.

EDDIE
...Nah Kirby, you can't trust Luther-

KIRBY
Stay in the car, Eddie! I got it. It's all good cuz.

Kirby EXITS the (car).

He comes around to Eddie's (window) and KNOCKS on it. It STARTLES Eddie.

Eddie CRACKS the (window).

KIRBY
I'ma be quick. Remember- the glove compartment. That's for you.

Kirby departs.

KIRBY
(departing)
I'ma be quick.

Eddie ROLLS the (window) up. He OPENS up the (glove compartment). He GRABS the (gun), PUTS it back, and CLOSES the (glove compartment).

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE WATCHING KIRBY.

CUT TO:

INT. LUTHER'S SPOT. DAY.

Luther goes to OPEN his door, (gun) in his hand.

WE SEE A SHOT OF KIRBY THROUGH THE PEEPHOLE.

Luther TUCKS his (gun) away and INVITES Kirby inside.

KIRBY

What up?

Luther LOOKS out before closing & locking the (door).

LUTHER

Yo I need a big favor from you.

KIRBY

What you need?

LUTHER

My plug is about to leave town. I need you to go and grab the work from him.

KIRBY

(confused)

...Why can't you do it?

LUTHER

Because I'm waiting on this other pack to get here.

KIRBY

Another pack?

LUTHER

Yea, the bud.

WE SEE A SHOT OF KIRBY LOOKING UNSURE.

LUTHER

We could wait until he gets back...but I know how much you hate waitin...

Kirby lets out a heavy sigh.

LUTHER
I already let him know I was sending
you.

KIRBY
...Wait, but didn't he say nobody can
see him but you?

LUTHER
Yea, but he said he'll do me this
favor only. That's why he my plug.

WE SEE A SHOT OF KIRBY THINKING ABOUT IT.

LUTHER
I know how you are about consistency
and this paper. This the best option.

Kirby gives it some more thought. Then he NODS at Luther.

KIRBY
(nodding)
I got you.

LUTHER
My nigga!

Luther DAPS up Kirby.

LUTHER
Catch him before he leaves. He said
he'll wait for you.

Kirby exits.

WE SEE A SHOT OF LUTHER GOING THROUGH HIS PHONE.

EXT. STORE. DAY.

Deuce WALKS out the store. He RECEIVES a (text) message from
Luther. It reads:

It's go time!

Deuce CRACKS a smile.

DEUCE
(smiling)
Time to eat.

WE SEE A SHOT OF DEUCE HURRYING OFF.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE PLUG'S SPOT. NIGHT.

Kirby & Eddie PULL up to THE PLUG'S spot. Eddie is unfamiliar with the neighborhood as he LOOKS around.

EDDIE

...Where we at Kirby?

KIRBY

I gotta see the plug.

EDDIE

...The plug? What you mean?

KIRBY

Luther's busy. So he needs me to see *this* dude before he leaves.

EDDIE

Come on Kirby- That doesn't sound funny to you?!

KIRBY

What?

EDDIE

You never see the plug! Never seen the plug! You told me he doesn't see anybody except Luther.

KIRBY

I know what I said, cuz. But Luther needs me to do him this favor-

EDDIE

All of a sudden?! Why now?! He gets it any other time.

KIRBY

Look, I know what I'm doing Eddie.

EDDIE

Come on cuz, just wait and tell Luther-

KIRBY

"Just wait"- Nigga I don't wait for
nuttin! That's why you broke now!

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE SHAKING HIS HEAD.

JUMP CUT TO:

EXT. THE PLUG'S SPOT. NIGHT.

WE SEE A SHOT OF DEUCE SITTING ON KIRBY & EDDIE FROM A
DISTANCE.

BACK TO:

EXT. THE PLUG'S SPOT. NIGHT.

KIRBY

Now stay here, I'ma go handle this
right quick.

WE SEE A SHOT OF EDDIE LOOKING DEFEATED.

KIRBY

Mattafact...you go. Come back and tell
me what you saw...

Kirby ROLLS his (window) down.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE'S SHOCKED EXPRESSION.

EDDIE

...What?!

KIRBY

Yea. I'll watch you from here.

Eddie SHAKES his head.

EDDIE

No way Kirby!

KIRBY

Just tell him you're Kirby. He'll give
you a bag and that's it.

Eddie CONSIDERS it.

KIRBY
I'll be watching you. Here-

Kirby GRABS the (gun) out the glove compartment. He COCKS it and HANDS it to Eddie.

KIRBY
That's for you.

Eddie TAKES it. He EXAMINES it. He LOOKS at Kirby, TUCKS the (gun), and EXITS the car.

KIRBY
It's that white house right there.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF KIRBY WATCHING EDDIE.

JUMP CUT TO:

EXT. THE PLUG'S SPOT. NIGHT.

WE SEE A SHOT OF DEUCE GETTING CLOSER TO KIRBY.

BACK TO:

EXT. THE PLUG'S SPOT. NIGHT.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE WALKING.

FROM KIRBY'S POV, WE SEE EDDIE ARRIVING AT THE FRONT DOOR.

Eddie KNOCKS. The door opens and he's handed a (bag). He WALKS back to Kirby. They make eye contact.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE GRINNING.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF KIRBY GRINNING.

Deuce SNEAKS up on Kirby, from behind the car.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF EDDIE'S FACIAL EXPRESSION CHANGE.

He SEES what's about to happen-

EDDIE
(yelling)
KIRBYYY!!!!

Deuce DRAWS his (gun).

IN SLOW MOTION, WE SEE DEUCE SHOOT KIRBY THREE TIMES THROUGH HIS WINDOW.

Deuce LOOKS around and SPOTS Eddie. He SHOTS at Eddie. Eddie DUCKS the (shots) and PULLS out the (gun) Kirby gave him. He SHOTS at Deuce.

WE SEE A SHOT OF DEUCE FLEEING.

Eddie LOOKS down at the (gun). He LOOKS over at Kirby, and RUNS to him.

EDDIE

Kirby...

Eddie OPENS the car door, and SEES Kirby shot up, BLEEDING, GASPING for air.

EDDIE

Kirby...

Kirby TRIES to talk, but TAKES his last (breath).

Eddie is TORN. He HUGS Kirby one last time. He GRABS the (bag) in the back seat and RUNS off.

FADE OUT:

FOUR WEEKS LATER...

INT. EDDIE'S CAR. NIGHT.

Eddie ROLLS around in his car, with a new look.

WE SEE VARIOUS SHOTS OF EDDIE CRUISING ALONG. HE TURNS THE VOLUME UP ON THE RADIO.

He CHECKS his mirrors. He PULLS the car over.

WE SEE A COUPLES SHOTS OF EDDIE MAKING A DEAL FROM HIS WINDOW.

He DRIVES off.

WE SEE A COUPLE SHOTS OF EDDIE MAKING A DEAL AT PEOPLE'S FRONT DOOR.

He DRIVES along. He's THINKING about his cousin Kirby. He PULLS over. He gets emotional. He TURNS the (radio) off and BREAKS down.

JUMP CUT TO:

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT. NIGHT.

Luther and Deuce SHOOT around at the basketball court.

LUTHER

The nigga Eddie use to be out here all the time...

DEUCE

...Who the fuck is Eddie?

LUTHER

Eddie nigga! Kirby's cousin, the one who use to hang around him.

DEUCE

...Oh yea! We got into a shootout.

LUTHER

Oh yea?

DEUCE

Yea, when I did that Kirby thing.

LUTHER

You ain't tell me that...

Luther WAITS for a response.

LUTHER

...Well what happen, nigga?!

DEUCE

I don't know...I ran away.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF LUTHER.

LUTHER

...The fuck you mean "you ran away"?!
You let him get away?!

DEUCE

What was I supposed to do OG?? I had to get outta there!

LUTHER

You fucking dummy!! That's why I can't depend on you lil niggas for shit!!

DEUCE

What you mean?!

LUTHER

I told you to knock both of them if they're together!! You can't do shit!!

DEUCE

What?! You can do ya own dirty work, motherfucker!!

Luther & Deuce ARGUE loud enough to cause a scene.

BACK TO:

INT. EDDIE'S CAR. NIGHT.

Eddie COMPOSES himself. He OVERHEARS the yelling.

JUMP CUT TO:

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT. NIGHT.

We see a SHOT of Luther & Deuce yelling at each other.

BACK TO:

INT. EDDIE'S CAR. NIGHT.

Eddie RECOGNIZES that it's Luther and Deuce. He GRABS the (gun) out the glove compartment. He COCKS it. He DRIVES off.

JUMP CUT TO:

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT. NIGHT.

Luther & Deuce are still YELLING at each other.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF DEUCE, LOOKING OVER LUTHER'S SHOULDER.

He gets quiet.

WE SEE A CLOSE UP OF LUTHER.

He NOTICES Deuce and TURNS around. His eyes grow big.

IN SLOW MOTION, WE SEE A SHOT OF EDDIE WALKING ON THE COURT,
WITH HIS GUN DRAWN.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

WE SEE A SHOT OF DEUCE GETTING SHOT UP.

WE SEE A SHOT OF LUTHER GETTING SHOT UP.

Eddie LOWERS his (gun).

WE SEE A SHOT OF DEUCE CRAWLING.

FROM DEUCE'S POV ON THE GROUND, WE SEE EDDIE WALK UP TO HIS
BODY.

He RAISES the (gun) and SHOOTS Deuce one time.

EDDIE
That's for Kirby.

WE SEE A SHOT OF LUTHER, BARELY ALIVE BUT MOVING.

FROM LUTHER'S POV ON THE GROUND, WE SEE EDDIE WALK UP TO HIS
BODY.

WE SEE A SHOT OF LUTHER ON THE GROUND.

LUTHER
...I didn't pull the trigger...

FROM LUTHER'S POV ON THE GROUND, EDDIE RAISES THE GUN AND
EMPTIES THE CLIP.

EDDIE
That's for you.

CUT TO BLACK: