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# Max Payne

By Beau Thorne

I don't believe in heaven.  
I believe in pain.  
I believe in fear.  
I believe in death.  
There's an army of bodies under this river.  
Criminals. People who ran out of time.  
Out of friends.  
Next time they drag this river  
they will find me on the bottom with the rest of them.  
And there won't be anyone left to say I was different.  
I could feel the dead down there.  
Just below my feet.  
Reaching up to welcome me as one of their own.  
It was an easy mistake to make.  
All the cold investigations in the city are collected up  
and delivered over here to us.  
And we call each of the witnesses  
to see if they have anything to add to their original statements.  
And if they can't?  
Then we send the file back to the original precinct for follow-up.  
Don't get your hopes up though.  
This is the cold case office.  
Once you've been through the file and come up empty, you bring it here.  
Max here handles all our files.  
If it hits his desk, the case is officially dead.  
So what if there's no phone number for a witness?  
- Should I do a follow-up in person?  
- No, no. We don't do that kind of stuff down here.  
I don't understand. Then how...  
How am I supposed to solve the unsolvable murder mystery and redeem myself?  
- Man, internal affairs...  
- Stop!  
Alright, trust me! There's a tragic story behind  
why I'm standing here giving you this tour.  
We all did something, so just save it.  
What do you say, we grab a beer after work or something?  
- So what's his story?  
- There is none.  
- But back there you said...  
- Listen!  
His wife and kid were murdered.  
They never found the guy. That's the story.  
Remember when you were a kid  
and you'd hold your breath when you went past the graveyard?

Just leave that man alone.

Yo, homey. That's a really nice watch.

Kinda reminds me of the one I lost.

You didn't lose it. You pawned it up on 128th a few hours ago.

Ask Doug. He was there with you.

You follow us, asshole?

No.

I'm only following you.

Oh hell no. You a cop or something?

Not tonight.

That's too bad.

Now go get my watch!

Come on, Doug. Come get his watch!

I guess this ain't your lucky day, now is it?

Watch over me!

Watch over me!

Open your eyes! Now!

Have you ever seen this woman?

No.

You got busted robbing a house in New Jersey  
with William Preston six months ago.

Bill's dead.

Why the hell do you think I'm talking to you?

Did you ever hear anyone say anything about this woman?

Bill died because their wings couldn't lift him up.

No, he got shot robbing a liquor store.

What are you talking about?

Their wings are golden, the feathers only look black...

- Hey buddy!

- Man, I told you not to come here.

William Preston was a dead end.

I am done helping you, Max.

I paid my debt to society, you know.

I've cooperated enough, man.

Okay?

- What's going on in there?

- Well, it's a dinner party.

I'm a little offended I didn't get my invitation.

Well, I didn't send out invitations...

Look, I told you. Go find Bill's partner.

I did.

Doug only wanted to talk about birds or something. He was a whack job.

- Now I need a new name.

- I'm out of ideas then.

- Hey baby.

- Not now, bitch.

Look! OK?

I told you I don't know those kinds of people now.

- I moved up in the world, Max.

- I can see that.

This is a dinner party. Alright, these are my friends.

You remember friends?

Listen! If you don't give me a new name, I'm gonna start frisking everyone of your friends.

Three years on the street is a lifetime, man.

Whoever you're looking for, there's no way they are still out there.

You're chasing ghosts, Max.

If you tried sleeping once in a while, you could see that for yourself.

I thought I knew all of Trevor's friends.

Max, Natasha.

Natasha, Max.

Jesus Christ!

Got a light?

I don't smoke.

Interesting.

- What?

- Your tattoo. That's interesting.

Oh, thank you.

- Shit!

- What?

What are you doing here?

Come with me!

- Hey!

- Mind your own business!

You have no rights to be here.

I'm clean.

I'm not doing anything wrong.

Why don't you relax?

It's a party. Have a drink!

These are new friends.

I don't see the others anymore!

He's a cop.

How much trouble can I get in ?

My sister!

Sort of a bitch.

Max!

You have to go! Now!

I need to ask her something first.

Oh Jesus Christ!  
There you are.  
Where did you go?  
Take me somewhere. I'll tell you.  
See you around, Lupino.  
Easy!  
You just move in?  
So we're somewhere.  
What was going on in that room back there?  
Hey!  
Who was the guy with the tattoos on his face?  
Fine. What was her name?  
What are you talking about? Who?  
The girl from the boring story you wanna tell me.  
The one that ends with you living here.  
Very sad.  
I tell you what. Call me by her name!  
That way you can make love to her just like she never left you.  
Oh Max! I miss you.  
Get out!  
Excuse me?  
I said get out now!  
- You're kicking me out of your bed?  
- Yeah. Get your shit and get out!  
This is Owen. Leave a message!  
Owen, it's Natasha.  
Where is Lupino?  
I need some more stuff.  
Yeah, call me, OK?  
No! No! Not yet! Not yet!  
- What?  
- Jump in, will ya?  
- Where are we going?  
- I need you to look at something.  
- What happened to them?  
- Her. Just one.  
I don't believe it.  
What, are you two back together again? You kissed and made up?  
Where are we on the weapon?  
We are nowhere yet.  
Looks like a blade, but...  
Too much blood for that to be right.  
Hey, o'Brian.  
- Why did you show me this?

- We found this here.

Do you know her, Max?

Natasha.

Let's take a ride.

- What are we doing here?

- We're getting a beer, right?

You'd rather do this in the streets?

Fine!

You were with the victim last night. Your wallet was found in the alley. If you don't wanna talk to me, they're gonna send somebody who doesn't know you

and won't care about your side of the story.

I didn't kill her, so I don't need a side.

What's going on, Max? What are you mixed up in, man? You can talk to me.

You know what they think about you at the force already, right?

Cause you hear all the questions I get about my old partner.

Good thing you got my back then, huh?

What's that supposed to mean?

It means that when you follow up on an unsolved murder,

I don't have much hope for that girl in the alley.

Is that what you think?

That I am working Michelle's case?

I did everything! Everything!

He's still out there somewhere. One of them is still out there.

That's everything, alright?

We're done here.

Come on! Max!

- Detective Max Payne.

- Shit.

Leave a message.

Max, it's me, Alex.

Miss Sax?

Sorry for your loss.

And...

I pulled her cellphone log.

Last call was to an Owen Green.

Called him twice.

Max, it's me, Alex.

You're not gonna believe this but I think there's a connection between that girl in the alley and Michelle's murder.

I'm heading over to your apartment right now.

Alex? You in here?

Alex?

Alex?

Alex?

The E.R. doctors old man was a patrolman in the 45th.

Got you on a quiet floor.

BB.

- Where am I?

- Saint Mary's.

Came in looking pretty bad, Max.

What happened?

I don't... Alex...

When dispatch couldn't raise him,

they found out from Christa where he'd gone.

First unit got to you in time.

But Alex was...

Alex was dead.

I got six shots off.

I hit something - someone. You gotta check the hospitals.

I'm not a cop anymore, Max. I came to see about you.

He wanted to tell me something.

Listen!

Anything you can remember will help. They got nothing for leads.

The whole force has you pegged as the prime suspect.

And you told them where to find me?

Wake starts in an hour.

I'll pass that along.

- What do you think you're doing?

- Paying my respects.

Not like that, alright?

I should have a clean shirt for you at the office.

It's on the way.

Mister Hensley?

There you go.

When did they move in here?

- I guess we got the building last year.

- We?

Sorry.

Used to be a habit.

- Good morning, Spike.

- Good morning, Mister Hensley.

You know the drill, sir. Sign in the guest, please.

Oh my god.

Max!

Miss Horne.

How have you been?

Fine, thanks.

I hope you know you can always call me.  
Please, Max. If there is ever anything we can...  
I know. I've been meaning to. I got the cards, too.  
She was such a bright light in this company.  
I'm not making any guarantees that any of these will fit.  
I saved one of those for you.  
Third page from the back.  
They set up a scholarship in her name.  
Kept coming to me for suggestions about what she might want.  
I said art.  
She liked art, right?  
They knew we were close. Thought I was family.  
It's a nice thing, a scholarship. Good way to remember somebody.  
Hey Joe!  
Max, you remember Joe, right?  
Hey!  
You care picking up some overtime?  
I'd think twice about that. I hear the boss is a real asshole.  
Now that he's out of security, we're supposed to laugh at his jokes.  
They still pay me like the janitor.  
She's looking for you. Just tried me in my office, dude.  
Yeah?  
Christa.  
Jesus.  
All it would have taken was one word from you.  
To give Alex some peace.  
Are you happy now, Max?  
You made him think he hadn't done enough.  
What have you done, Max?  
What has Max Payne done?  
Except for bring misery  
to everyone who ever cared for him?  
Now please get out of my house!  
Please just go!  
Ah jeez. Watch out for this prick!  
Detective Max Payne?  
Jim Bravura, Internal Affairs. I need you to come with me.  
Now?  
Yeah now.  
How'd the girl have your wallet?  
She stole it.  
What do you mean? Stole like...  
Picked your pocket?  
How was it you know each other?



We met through a friend.

Trevor Duncan. He's your friend?

- Yes.

- That's classy.

You know what Trevor does for a living, I assume?

He used to snitch for me.

Christ!

Tell me something, Max!

What does a glorified file clerk still need a snitch for?

So you'd piss in a cup for us, right?

You just said the magic words.

Call once you hear from the union lawyer.

You and Detective Balder haven't worked together since your reassignment.

What made you get back in touch?

- He wanted to talk.

- And?

Hey asshole!

I got two bodies in ten body bags

and you were the last person to see either one.

Yeah, and some of that blood is mine.

Good luck with your case.

Nice work, detective.

Look, if you're really his friend, then talk to him.

Well, let's hope that felt good.

Makes you look guilty. You understand that, right?

Not just Alex's unit thinks you're the guy.

You need friends on the force right now.

There's only so much I can do from the outside.

Where are you going?

Where do you think you're going, asshole?

The detective in that office was killed.

Get back here, asshole!

Where do you think you are going?

Stop right there! What are you gonna do in there?

Back up! Make a hole!

Back up, goddammit! Make a hole!

Open up, Max!

Open up the goddamn door, Max!

Open up!

Open the door!

Son of a bitch!

Hey buddy.

Where is he?

For god's sake, Max. You're gonna freeze to death.

- Why don't you come inside?

- Alex knew something about Michelle.

Something new.

Don't you think he would have told you if he had something like that?

He was trying to the night he was killed.

Whatever was in that room that night with us.

What exactly do you think you're looking for?

- Just forget it, alright?

- Max, talk to me!

Max!

Now where are you going?

Drop it, shithead!

Take it easy!

Remove your back-up piece with your left hand!

That's it.

- Kneel down!

- What?

Kneel the fuck down!

Shit!

We need to talk about my sister.

Look, my partner was killed, too. We're both looking for the same person.

Yeah, you!

Who's Owen Green?

- How did you get that name?

- Natasha called...

Don't say her name!

I heard her call him, OK?

Owen was probably the last person who saw her alive.

Yeah?

Except for the guy that left his wallet lying by the body.

Does that sound like something a homicide cop gets wrong?

Whoever killed your sister

probably did the same thing to my partner and maybe my...

Look, you wanna help, help me find Owen Green!

Right here.

Green is on the top floor.

You know what I do for a living. You try anything and I'll kill you.

- Who's this guy.

Some jerk my sister used to know.

Owen. Owen, open up!

Owen.

Owen.

Hey!

Owen.

Hey, Owen.

They're coming.

Owen, look at me!

I know Natasha called you. You know what happened to her?

She's gone.

They took her.

Owen?

Owen, just relax.

They took her upon their wings.

They took her.

Owen?

Jesus!

You know it isn't anything new.

People jump out of windows. They go crazy for no reason.

It just happens.

Natasha got all her work done here.

I'll have to call back, OK?

- Can I help you with something?

- Yeah.

What if I wanted this tattoo?

You in the Marine Corps?

- This one.

- What's it mean?

That's a Norse valkyrie.

Vikings used to wear them for protection.

Valkyries fly over the battlefield,

picking out the righteous dead.

They reward the people who draw first blood.

A soldier's angel.

In Norse mythology, the only way you get to go to heaven is to die in violence.

You die in your sleep, you go to hell.

Protection from what?

- Huh?

- What do you mean "Huh"?

You said people get the tattos for protection.

What are they afraid of?

Please!

This is far enough.

I need to speak with Lincoln.

Are you expecting company there, Lincoln?

Safe measures I know.

- I heard about your sister.

- Yeah?

You know anything about it?

She will not be the last.

What about the tattoos?

What would they mean? The wings?

He mocks them.

And what does that mean?

The devil is building his army.

Yeah?

Does this devil have a name?

Vinnie.

The one you are looking for is Lupino.

A place called Ragnarock.

It's an old club, east side.

Listen.

You still got a thing with the cops, right?

See if they learn anything about a Detective Max Payne.

Max Payne?

- What?

- Max Payne, he's been hunting.

Three years of kicking down doors.

He's looking for something that god wants to stay hidden.

And that's what makes him even more dangerous.

Mona.

Stay away from Max Payne.

You don't wanna be near him when judgment day comes.

They took her upon their wings.

Their wings are golden, the feathers only look black.

That's a Norse valkyrie. A soldier's angel.

She was such a bright light in this company.

- What is it? What's going on?

- Coffee?

It isn't that I've been missing something.

- There's something they been missing.

- So?

BB, what do you mean "so"?

And what would this company want with her art papers?

- I don't know.

- Well, who then?

Our old supervisor, what is his name?

Max.

- Max, this is enough.

- What is his name?

Colvin. John Colvin. Is he still around?

- Hold on, Max!

- BB.

Is he still working for the company?

Jason Colvin.

- The guy's name is Jason.

- Thank you.

This is Detective Bravura.

Detective, I need to speak with you about Max.

Right away, please. It's urgent.

Detective, thanks for seeing me in my office.

I need to explain what happened to Max.

The file can't tell you everything.

Unless you think that's all you need to know about Max.

Can't tell you how beautiful Michelle was.

How happy they were together.

Can't tell you how the baby looked just like her.

It started out as a robbery.

That day, the perps were out for something more.

Michelle?

Michelle?

Michelle?

Michelle?

It's OK. They're angels now.

He was maybe ten minutes too late.

That's all.

Ten minutes.

We looked everywhere for the third guy.

But there was nothing to go on.

Max transferred to Cold Case.

Working leads that went nowhere.

Of course not.

Understand!

This is my old partner's kid.

He's family.

You gotta help him here.

You should hear the kind of things Max is saying. None of it makes any sense.

He has gotten in his head that someone here at the company is responsible.

I'm worried he's gonna

get into another situation before I can convince him to come in.

- So you really think he's...

- I think you need to find him.

What is it, Jason?

Is this a threat?

No.

No.

I just thought you should be aware.

Just take care of it, Jason.

There is someone in your office.

It's a detective.

This your daughter?

Yes, it is.

Three years old.

She's beautiful.

- Is there something I can help you with, detective?

- I don't know yet.

Maybe if you told me what this was about...

It's a homicide. Multiple homicides.

I didn't get your name.

Max Payne.

Sorry, didn't recognize you.

It's OK.

What can you tell me about what Michelle was working on?

Right before she died.

Routine projects.

Nothing really out of the ordinary.

Look, it's really hard to be specific that long ago.

Well, can you look it up?

I don't know how I would, really.

You know, that far back...

Any documents that we had would be gone and...

I'm not sure of any other way.

So there's just no trace of her?

It's nothing personal. We just...

We can't keep safe everything.

- You need to make a call?

- Maybe I should.

A beautiful office you have.

Jackie, hi...

- What do you know?

- Wait!

I need to talk to somebody about a woman that used to work here.

You can have a seat over there.

Mister Colvin?

- You're lying to me. Why?

- I'm not.

Mister Colvin?

Tell me what happened to Michelle!

I don't know.

Mister Colvin, are you OK?

Jackie?

Mister Colvin, it's Jackie. I can hear you.

Are you alright?

What was she working on?

I don't know.

I was in charge of a different project. There was a government contract.

- What did it have to do with Michelle?

- Nothing, she was just...

- Security.

- Can I speak to BB please?

Yeah!

BB, help! It's Jackie. Jason's in trouble.

What?

Shall I call the other guys?

No, no, no. I'll call.

Hurry, please!

It was a military operation.

It was something to make soldiers more aggressive in combat.

It was a disaster.

In only one percent, it made them invincible, alright?

The rest suffered horrible hallucinations.

Devils and demons.

It drove them insane.

The effects weren't controlable.

And this stuff was so addictive, we couldn't even guarantee the safety of our own scientists.

We had to shut it down.

The test subjects had taken to follow them home.

They'd kill them just for an extra dose.

- Is that what happened to Michelle?

- No.

What do you mean "no"? What hapenend to her then?

She didn't even know what was coming for her.

Mister Colvin, I called security and they're on their way.

I will tell you what happened. You gotta get me out of her though.

- Right now.

- What are you talking about?

I will confess to everything, but you gotta...

That's not good enough. You tell me what happened to her right now.

She was killed because of the drug.

The envelope. Bring it with us! Everything, it's all in there.

Please, you gotta protect me from them.

Who are you talking about?

The man who killed your wife.  
Get the envelope!  
Get it!  
Let's go!  
All down! NYPD!  
Central dispatch.  
This is Jim Bravura, IA.  
What unit is responding to the Aesir call?  
The Aesir building. You mean nobody has called anything in yet?  
Would you like to report something?  
Hell yes, I'd like to report something.  
We have machine gun fire in Midtown.  
Put your hands up!  
- You need to come in now.  
- Not a chance.  
- Colvin knew.  
Take it easy, Max! We'll talk about this right now.  
Great job, boys.  
You see what you did? You let him get away.  
Everybody's gonna get a medal for this.  
Great, damn.  
I'm at the office. I'll call you back.  
And will forever give them the combat edge in conflicts of the future.  
Valkyr. 100% effective.  
100% combat tested.  
The new weapon in the war on terror.  
Valkyr, the strength of freedom.  
Valkyr, winning the war on terror.  
You need to see this.  
From the dawn of time  
great generals have always known the one fundamental truth of warfare.  
Morale wins battles.  
Thanks to the breakthroughs made by Aesir Pharmaceuticals  
the military of tomorrow will be able to unlock the limitless potential  
inside every soldier.  
Introducing Valkyr, the strength of freedom.  
That's what this is about? A drug?  
How is your experience of combat improved  
since taking the drug Valkyr?  
Well, I'm never scared for starters.  
Describe to me, if you will,  
how is Valkyr winning the war on terror?  
You face down a group of insurgents and instead of fear  
you're filled with peace, I guess.



It's like something's watching over you from above.  
You feel like you have wings.  
So when you say you feel stronger, more secure, more capable.  
Definitely. It's just whatever it takes to win the war out there.  
You feel indestructible. Nothing can stop me.  
I can face anything.  
Have you noticed any side effects?  
I can only speak for myself and no.  
I apologize.  
- You wanna do it again?  
- No, we're good.  
Killed my wife.  
He's in an old club called Ragnarock.  
- You know where it is?  
- Yeah.  
Forget it, Max! You go there, you die.  
You have my help with anything else, but not to go in there.  
Yeah, you keep it.  
You don't wanna make it out alive.  
Do you think that if he puts you out of your misery, you'll be with them again?  
Yeah, I hope that's really the way it works.  
Unit six, Lupino is secure.  
Do you hear them coming?  
We'll see which one of us they're flying for.  
We'll see which one of us they love best.  
Angels.  
The angels are not done with you yet.  
BB?  
What's going on here, BB?  
Let's go!  
Let's get out of here!  
BB, BB, what's going on here?  
BB, I looked at Lupino. He didn't know who I was.  
What are you doing here?  
- Now?  
- No, not yet.  
Cuff him!  
What was I supposed to do? Michelle kept nosing around.  
Some boxes from the dead project went missing.  
She mentioned it to me without knowing what it really meant. I had to...  
I had to talk to her.  
Show her my side before she took it to someone else.  
Before that night...

The things that went wrong for me seemed impossible to do anything about.  
Michelle was the first problem in my life  
small enough to reach out and stop.  
Once that happened  
I realized I could use the strength of my hands  
to keep one thing from being taken away from me.  
At the time Michelle stopped screaming that night,  
I'd learned the most amazing lesson.  
I could keep doing this my entire life.  
I was a new person that night.  
And from there,  
figuring out how to put the drug on the street,  
how to make use of Lupino and the rest of them,  
it was easy.  
But only because of Michelle,  
the first problem I really solved for myself.  
OK, enough!  
Enough of this shit.  
BB.  
It's not like we didn't see it coming.  
Sullen, withdrawn, Max just never seemed the same after the tragedy.  
Grab me some of that rope!  
It's a good thing your father didn't live to see it.  
The great Bill Payne's only son.  
A strung-out junkie suicide.  
It would have eaten him alive.  
Get him down!  
Screw him!  
He'll freeze to death.  
Come on!  
Not yet, Max.  
Neville.  
What the hell is going on?  
Why is half my force sitting here instead of being out on the street?  
Under what authority...  
I'm investigating the shooting of an unarmed civilian, Jason Colvin,  
and the attempted murder of Detective Max Payne.  
Really? I heard he took the first shot  
and if I know the kind of men that I serve with  
I don't think that they're gonna contradict that.  
And what kind of men would that be?  
These are the real cops.  
- No offense.  
- None taken.

Agent Taliente, I'd like you to meet a real cop.  
Detective, Jack Taliente, special agent, FBI.  
Who are you?  
Bravura called in the FBI.  
They are on their way.  
For god's sake, come on!  
Max is dead. They got nothing else.  
Come on!  
Calm down, Joe!  
The car is waiting, sir.  
Oh shit!  
He's not dead. He's here.  
Bullshit.  
Where the hell is he?  
Who are you calling?  
It's late.  
I need you to send a helicopter to the roof.  
What are you talking about, BB?  
The Michelle Payne thing is coming back on us.  
Take some C4.  
Wire it, so he can't make it to the roof.  
Are you nuts?  
You saw him. You saw him, Joe.  
He's not gonna stop.  
We got multiple shots fired.  
We need back-up ASAP.  
- Michelle?  
- Max.  
Max.  
Max.  
Max, come on!  
Listen. I will hold them off for as long as I can, but you have to finish  
this.  
Max, come on!  
Come on!  
Help me! Take it!  
Max, come on! Look at me!  
You're not done yet.  
Be careful with that thing!  
Come on now, Mona!  
I'm sure we can work something out.  
BB.  
Detective Max Payne is in the line of fire.  
Snipers will not take the shot.

Bravura.

Take Payne alive if there's anything left.

Now I'm down, BB.

- Bravura, you alright?

- Get everybody upstairs now!

Guys, that's our cue. Division one, let's go right now!

On the floor. Let's go!

Where are you?

It's unbelievable. All that snow.

I watch it end up being a beautiful day.

You want my confession first?

I don't know about heaven.

But I do believe in angels.

It's dad.

It's your dad.

Not yet, Max.

Max Payne is alive.