

The Stowaway

by Daniel Williams

V/O: The Stowaway, by Daniel Williams

F/X: Sound of storm on boat.

1 INT. BOAT BRIDGE -- EVENING

1

BLAKE: This damn storm is going to ruin everything!

HENRY: We're going straight into the heart of it-we have to wait!

BLAKE: We can't. We're running out of time.

HENRY: There's not much longer to go. The worst of it will blow through soon enough. Just hang back for a short time.

BLAKE: I can get us through this. We're nearly there.

F/X: Storm is definitely not going away. Items falling over.

HENRY: Whoa-Jesus! I don't think you or the boat will get us through at this precise moment in time!

BLAKE: Henry-keep your mouth shut!

HENRY: I'm sure they'll understand-whoever it was that gave you this job! They can't expect us to risk our life for...well, for whatever that cargo is.

BLAKE: Check the radar again.

Pause

HENRY: It's not any better ahead, but if we hang back, just wait fifteen minutes, half an hour at most, then we'll be able to make good time after that.

BLAKE: We don't have half an hour!

HENRY: Look Blake, I took this job for the money-not so I end up as fish food at the bottom of the lake!

BLAKE: If we don't get there in time then we are as good as dead anyway!

HENRY: Now what does that mean?

1 CONTINUED:

1

BLAKE: If we don't get this cargo there on time, this storm will be nothing compared to what he'll do to us! Think on that Henry!

HENRY: Who, who exactly is this 'old friend' you got this contract from?

BLAKE: Err...

HENRY: Come on Blake-tell me!

BLAKE: (Sheepish) Ricardo.

HENRY: What!!! Ricardo? Ricardo crazier than a coyote with pepper spray on his balls Ricardo?

BLAKE: Yeah-

HENRY: -Ricardo lets dabble in diabolism and counterfeit dollars Ricardo-

BLAKE: -How many Ricardo's do we know?

HENRY: If I'd of known it was him I wouldn't have come-

BLAKE: I know! That's why I kept dumb.

HENRY: What the hell is in that room that's so precious for us to go Kamikaze to it there on time!?

BLAKE: Kamikazes are planes, not ships.

HENRY: What cargo are we carrying Blake?

BLAKE: Damned if I know...

F/X: Storm upping- boat turbulence.

HENRY: I don't believe you-You don't take a job without knowing what you're hauling-

BLAKE: You did-

HENRY: Only because I assumed you would know!

BLAKE: You don't ask Ricardo questions-you know that-

HENRY: -I think telling me what's in there is the least you can do!

BLAKE: What can I tell ya? I don't know what's in there-

HENRY: There must be a way into that room.

BLAKE: If Ricardo says not to go in there, then-

1 CONTINUED: (2)

1

HENRY: He must have given you a key?
BLAKE: I have no keys! I told you.
F/X: Big storm noise.
HENRY: Right-I'm going to find out what
you're risking my life for!
BLAKE: No! Ricardo told me that under no
circumstances-
HENRY: -What are we transporting that's so
time sensitive?
BLAKE: He pays well-!
HENRY: I doubt it's a shipment of yoghurt
that might 'turn' if we don't get
there in time, hey?
BLAKE: I told you I don't-
HENRY: Or Ricardo's baked some cakes that
might go stale-
BLAKE: It doesn't matter!
HENRY: -Hells teeth-it's probably human
organs, they have a fragile life
span, or maybe it's live animals,
we're smuggling turtles or rhinos-
BLAKE: I don't know-I didn't load it!
HENRY: Or something to do with JuJu-, maybe
something cursed is in there-
BLAKE: -Henry will you shut up!
HENRY: I'm going to find out.
BLAKE: Henry...Henry...come back-!
BLAKE: (Fading out) I want to know what
suicide or criminal mission you've
signed me up for.
F/X: Storm noises mixed with banging.
BLAKE: Henry stop it! Don't make me come
back there!

2 INT. BOAT INTERIOR -- CONTINUOUS

2

F/X: More of the same noises.
BLAKE: Hey-put that down.
F/X: Scuffle-struggle.
HENRY: Get off-
BLAKE: Put-it-down-

2 CONTINUED:

2

F/X: Tools falling. Metal sound.

HENRY: All right all right!

BLAKE: Now come away from this door! We have a contract-We get our cargo there on time-and we don't go in this room!

HENRY: It's only you who signed with Ricardo! I agreed to come because-

BLAKE: -Because the money was so good! So do what you're told!

HENRY: Money's no good if I've drowned! Unless-unless, how much are you really getting?

BLAKE: Never you mind! I'm paying you well enough.

F/X: Footsteps

HENRY: Hey...come back..

F/X: Scuffle-men fighting

BLAKE: Get off me Henry!!

HENRY: How much is he paying you?

BLAKE: We need to get-

HENRY: How much??

F/X: Scuffle-fighting

BLAKE: Ow-get off me and I'll tell you- No one's steering this thing right now!

F/X: Loud bang.

BLAKE: What the *hell* was that?

HENRY: Out there-look!

BLAKE: I can't see you're on top of me!

F/X: Standing up.

HENRY: It's a flare.

F/X: Footsteps moving out to deck.

3 EXT. ON DECK -- CONTINUOUS

3

BLAKE: There's someone in the water!

HENRY: We need to help them-

BLAKE: -We don't have time to play lifeguard!

HENRY: Oh my god-the waves are pushing him under-we have to help!

BLAKE: Screw that.

HENRY: He'll die if we don't.

BLAKE: Ugghh

HENRY: We have to try! I wouldn't be able to sleep at night. Could you?? (Pause) Blake?

BLAKE: Whatever reason he's out here is not my problem.

HENRY: Blake!

BLAKE: Time's nearly up! If we stop to help him we'll definitely be late!!

F/X: Blake walking back inside.

HENRY: I can't just watch a man drown!

BLAKE: (Calling out to Henry) Then don't look!

HENRY: He's coming this way, he's getting close-

BLAKE: (Walking back a bit closer) What idiot is out here on the lake in this??

HENRY: We're out in this!

BLAKE: But I know why we are out here! It isn't right him being here-

HENRY: You don't like it? He doesn't exactly look like he's having a ball!

BLAKE: I...don't like it

HENRY: There's nothing to think about Blake-we need to help!

BLAKE: I...I dunno...

HENRY: I can nearly reach him. Steady the boat, I'm going out to get him.

BLAKE: Henri-arghhh-shoot!. (Deep sigh-under breath) Hurry hurry then!

F/X: Struggle as Henry tries to get him out.

HENRY: Come on...take my hand...ughhh-come on...Help me Blake god damn it!

F/X: Then Blake helps haul man aboard.

CONTINUED: (2)

HENRY: Come on, here you go.

Pause

ALOYSIUS: So, so cold-

HENRY: You're safe now.

ALOYSIUS: So cold, the water is so cold

HENRY: I'll get some blankets.

BLAKE: Use yours, not mine.

HENRY: There-that didn't take long, did it?

BLAKE: Just leave me to sail-(fading out)
We are so, so late...

F/X: Change of scene-interior room. Less
storm noise.

HENRY: You feeling any warmer?

ALOYSIUS: (Laughing, drunk, delirious) Thank
you thank you-it was wet out there.
I don't know what happened. Oh my-my
pants are so cold!

HENRY: Here-get these on-What's your name?

F/X: Changing clothes

ALOYSIUS: (While changing) Al. My name is Al.
Phew! That is not easy being on a
boat.

HENRY: Why are you out on the Lake in
weather like this?

ALOYSIUS: I don't know. I found a boat.

HENRY: What?

ALOYSIUS: I found a boat. I got in. I came on
the water. What else do you do when
you find a boat?

HENRY: Yeah-yeah...I, guess so. Let me make
you some coffee.

ALOYSIUS: Coffee?

HENRY: You like coffee?

ALOYSIUS: What is...coffee?

HENRY: Uh...I'll, Ill get you some. And
something to eat.

F/X: Henry leaving room-transition.

4 INT. BOAT BRIDGE -- CONTINUOUS 4

BLAKE: How's our passenger?

HENRY: Delirious. Probably shock and hypothermia.

BLAKE: What the hell was he doing out here?

HENRY: He said he just got on a boat.

BLAKE: What?

HENRY: He's not making much sense. Some coffee and warmth will help.

BLAKE: I don't like it.

HENRY: We'll get him off as soon as we dock.

BLAKE: I told Ricardo I'd only have one crewman, someone that I knew and trusted.

HENRY: Then we will kick him off the first chance we get

BLAKE: He got any ID?

HENRY: Just the clothes on his back.

BLAKE: Keep an eye on him.

HENRY: I'm just glad I didn't watch a man drown and do nothing about it.

BLAKE: Make sure you say nothing about *us*. If he asks, we're on vacation.

HENRY: Sightseers?

BLAKE: Something like that.

F/X: Transition.

5 INT. BOAT INTERIOR -- CONTINUOUS 5

HENRY: You feeling better?

ALOYSIUS: My fingers-they are like little icicles. I hope they don't melt.

HENRY: I'm Henry by the way. Al-is that short for Alan, Alex?

ALOYSIUS: Aloysius.

HENRY: Er...that's...neat. You have a second name there?

ALOYSIUS: I don't think so.

Pause

5 CONTINUED:

5

HENRY: The storm is slowing. You get some rest.

ALOYSIUS: You have a nice face Henry.

HENRY: Um...thank you?

ALOYSIUS: A friendly face. A face of a man who is kind.

HENRY: Well...thank you, Al.

ALOYSIUS: Do you like my face Henry?

HENRY: Look-you're tired, still in shock-

ALOYSIUS: (Getting agitated) You not like *my* face?

HENRY: I didn't say that-

ALOYSIUS: (Really upset) You have a kind face-how can you not like my face-

F/X: Bodies moving then slowing.

HENRY: Hey!-calm down Al...get some rest. Try...try to get some sleep.

ALOYSIUS: (Calming down)I have a nice face too you know.

HENRY: Yeah...sure.

6 INT. BOAT BRIDGE

6

BLAKE: What the hell was going on back there?

HENRY: He's, he's a little traumatized-that's why he's not making sense making sense.

BLAKE: I told you! I don't like it.

HENRY: I hope he can sleep.

BLAKE: It's just weird.

HENRY: He nearly died.

BLAKE: I mean him being out here in the first place-just, just on a boat-it's not right.

HENRY: I'm sure his confusion is down to the shock-he'll remember once he's rested and warmed up.

BLAKE: What was all that shouting about a face?

HENRY: Nothing-he was resting when I left.

6 CONTINUED:

6

BLAKE: We lost time picking him up.

HENRY: The storm's clearing quicker than I thought.

BLAKE: We're just not going to make it on time!

HENRY: We can worry about that when we get there-

BLAKE: You don't under-

F/X: Footsteps-moving around. Aloysius singing inside boat.

ALOYSIUS: (Inside boat) I like coffee-I like tea- I like the hoochie coochie -he likes me.

BLAKE: I thought you said he was resting!

HENRY: He was!

BLAKE: Go see what the hell is going on! Fill him with Tylenol or something.

F/X: Henry leaving.

7 INT. BOAT INTERIOR -- CONTINUOUS

7

HENRY: Hey-Al-you need to go back to sleep.

ALOYSIUS: (Singing) Up and down the water, goes the teddy bear,

HENRY: Let's get you back to your room-

ALOYSIUS: Ring a round the roses-(stops singing) And what the hell's in there?

HENRY: That? Nothing.

ALOYSIUS: It's a door-and you and I know Henry, that doors go...somewhere!

F/X: Rattling of doorknob.

HENRY: Hey! No!

ALOYSIUS: Door will not open. Every door goes somewhere Henry, why is this one locked?

BLAKE: (Shouting from bridge) Hey-what's going on?

HENRY: Shhh-you don't want Blake back here-

ALOYSIUS: He has not a nice face-not like you-

HENRY: -And it's his boat so you better calm down.

CONTINUED:

ALOYSIUS: (Contemplative) What-what is behind that horrible door then?

HENRY: It doesn't matter, now come away-

F/X: At door sound

HENRY: Get away from there-what are you doing?

ALOYSIUS: Listening-can't you hear, can't you feel.

HENRY: You're not feeling so goods.

ALOYSIUS: (Odd laughing) Oh oh oh-I'm feeling very very well. I jus't don't like what is in this room.

HENRY: Look-the room's empty-come on-

ALOYSIUS: You don't know what is in there, do you?

HENRY: It's none of our business.

ALOYSIUS: You have a kind face Henry-you rescued me. Your face is not good at telling lies.

HENRY: (Unsettled)I...I don't know. But it doesn't matter.

ALOYSIUS: Doesn't matter? You are on this small boat, in the middle of the lake, and the weather is not very good, and you don't know what is on the boat with you?

HENRY: It's just...stuff.

ALOYSIUS: Oh no my dear nice faced Henry. Come listen-this is not just stuff that is in there.

HENRY: What are you talking about, Al?

ALOYSIUS: (Voices lowering)Come-put your ear up to this door.

F/X: Movement

HENRY: (Loud whisper) I can't, I can't hear anything.

ALOYSIUS: (Loud whisper) Be quiet- listen-and not just with your ears-

HENRY: What else can you listen with-

ALOYSIUS: -Your heart-

FX: Quietness-