**Unfinished Business**

**Prologue:**

*(Big window, city buildings in view. Modern office with secretary and two men standing up on*

*either side of her desk.)*

**Secretary:** “Okay gentlemen, Mr.Handforth will be right with you, please have a seat.”

(*Gestures to some chairs around a coffee table, the waiting room*. *(Dim light) Victor and*

*Giovanni (younger and formally dressed), sitting opposites of each other.*)

**Mr. Handforth** (*comes in from the side of the stage*): “Well gentlemen, thank you for coming

and I apologize for the wait.”

**Victor** *(stands up, brushes his suit quickly. Firmly shakes Mr.Handforth’s) (enthusiastically)*: No

problem, sir. I’m Victor Williams, pleasure.

*(Giovanni slowly gets up, comes forth to boss, slightly pushing Victor).*

**Handforth** *(astounded, looking at Victor in surprise and raising his hand to shake Giovanni’s):*

“Oh, *(smiles)* you must be Mr.Anderson.”

**Giovanni** *(accepts handshake):* “Yes, delighted to meet you.”

**Handforth** (awkwardly at first): “Ugh, well I would like to talk to each of you about a job I

found suitable for people very much like yourselves.”

*(Victor and Giovanni straighten their backs.)* “Mmhmm, well Giovanni may I begin with you?”

**Giovanni:** *(proudly)* “Well, I’m sure you’d be pleased to know you chose the right man for

the...”

**Handforth:** *(interrupting)* “...You will be working as Victor’s vice president.”

**Victor:** “Oh, Thank you sir! I won’t disappoint you!”

**Giovanni** *(astonished and snobby):* “Vice President?!”

**Handforth** *(cold & firm)*: “Yes, Giovanni, I find Victor’s experiences give him preference for

the job.”

*(Turns around and Congratulates Victor warmly, lights shine brightly on Giovanni and Victor,*

*then dims out to Giovanni looking at them with anger.*

**Parados:**

*(chorus)*

*(Boss retreats to his ‘office’ [off stage] secretary leaves after him. Business men on bottom of*

*stage, one line per person, dressed formally, light focused brightly on them, and very dimly on*

*Victor and Giovanni. Victor looking happy, Giovanni lurking in the background. )*

They were simply two young men with high ambitions,

Competing for a dream job.

The boss’ answer will either make them, or break them.

Although feelings remained unknown, their rivalry was inevitable;

Blurred vision as to only see them as an obstacle.

When Victor triumphed,

Giovanni’s world was torn apart.

All his preparation, he felt, had been for nothing.

And so the grudge remained;

and it still remains, even after years.

**Scene I:**

*(Roger is walking quickly in the streets, huddled with his jacket.)*

**Roger:** *(thinking out loud, slight distress in his voice)* “What am I going to do with the house”

I’ve lost everything!”

*(Cell phone starts ringing, Roger reaches in his pocket, answers”*

**Roger:** “Hello?” *(pause, slight murmuring can be heard from the phone)* “Is he okay?! I’ll be

there right away!”

*(Hangs up then rushes off stage. Lights go off. When the go back on it’s a hospital scene with*

*Victor in bed and a nurse with a clipboard standing next to him.)*

**Roger:** *(out of breath)* “ I came as quickly as I could, what’s the matter?”

**Nurse:** “I’m very sorry, but I doubt he will make it through the night. Besides, even if there was

a medicine that could cure him, his debts need to be paid off, and I don’t think he can afford it,

after all, he hasn’t been able to pay even the slightest amount of money.”

*(Roger looks at her with sadness, sits down and puts his hands over his face, slouched forward*

*alongside his father, who is still unconscious.)*

**Nurse:** “I will give you two time for yourselves, you are the only family he has here, and I

thought you’d like to be informed.”

**Roger:** *(sadly, quietly)* “Thank you.”

*(Nurse walks out, moment of silence, then Victor regains conscious.)*

**Victor:** *(wheezy)* “Roger, my son.” *(slight smile)*

**Roger:** “Dad!”

**Victor:** “Son, the company’s new president will be Giovanni...”

**Roger:** “Dad. That doesn’t matter right now, don’t worry about that, I’ll be fine!”

**Victor:** “I’m worried about you, how are you doing?”

**Roger:** *(easily)* “Ha, you know me, I’m always making the best of things.” *(leans back, arms*

*crossed behind his head)*

**Victor:** *(strictly)* “Roger... what mess are you in now?”

**Roger:** *(sits normal again)* “Well, I’m not living with my friends anymore, I actually was

looking for a new house already, yep, it’s time for a change.”

*(Victor looks at him, Roger knows he doesn’t believe him.)*

**Roger:** *(sighs)* “Well, I’m in need of some cash, I’ll get some, and It’s nothing I can’t pay

back...”

**Victor:** “You’ve always had confidence in yourself.”

**Roger:** “Don’t worry, dad, I’ll be fine, I’ll get myself out of this.”

**Victor:** “At least I can trust in you.”

**Roger:** “Oh, and the company’s great, too”

**Victor:** “I’m sure Giovanni will treat you as if you were his own son.”

**Roger:** “I really hope so.”

*(Voice over: (sigh) if you only knew what he says behind your back.)*

*(Quiet pause, suddenly the heart monitor starts acting up, Roger straightens his back, lifts his*

*hands spread out.)*

**Roger:** *(frightened)* “Dad?!”

*(heart monitor stops, and goes into a constant beep, fades out. Roger leans over Victor sobbing.*

*Lights dim slightly, focus on chorus.)*

**Chorus I:**

*(Still the business men under the stage, lights shine on them, dimly on Victor and Roger.)*

*(One line per chorus person.)*

Life was going great, Roger felt above the clouds.

Until that fateful phone call,

Which turned his world upside down.

He found out Victor was in the hospital awaiting his dear news

His only son sits by his side and tells him not to move

Victor laying helplessly and Roger sitting; both talking about their lives

The father asks his son about his job and his achievements

He replies to him that its going as fine as it can be

The father then bears his son with grave news

He says he cannot pay for the huge hospital dues

The son tells him something which puts his father in shock

He tells him that he has lost his job and is struggling for cash

And now all he’s left with are his father’s own burdens

**Scene II:**

*(Back at the office, Roger is walking towards Giovanni, who is sitting down in his cubicle.)*

**Roger** *(coughs to get attention)***:** “Thank you for giving me a couple days off Mr. Anderson I

needed them, but I am good now, what would you like for me to do?”

**Giovanni** *(turns around in office chair, slowly)***:** “Roger, the world of enterprise has become

more competitive. Your qualities are now lower than the average standards.”

**Roger:** *(worried)* “What’s that supposed to mean? Is there anything I can do to raise my skill?”

**Giovanni:** *(shaking head)* “I’m sorry Roger, it’s not an experience you can acquire over night.”

**Roger:** *(reluctantly)* “... Does this mean...”

**Givanni:** *(shrugs)* “I’m sure your father left you with enough money for at least until you find

another job.”

**Roger:** “When my father died, his hospital bills were too much and he didn’t have anythi- “

**Giovanni:** *(firmly)* “Mr.Williams, I’m trying to do the best for this company”

**Roger:** (sheepishly*)* “But I just tried to te-”

**Giovanni:** (*raises voice) “*Listen Roger, I’m doing what your father will expect for this

company!”

**Roger:** (*angrily)* “My father was a decent man, don’t you dare compare yourself to him.”

**Giovanni:** “As the president of the company, my word goes... And I say, I’m going to have to let

you go...”

**Roger:** (*shocked/sad)* “What? I can’t believe this, bu-”

**Giovanni:** *(relaxed)*“I’m sorry Roger I’ve made a decision and it is final.”

**Roger: “**Okay I understand...”

**Giovanni:** *(indifferently)* “Okay, I will have your cubicle cleared and have your belongings back

to you by tomorow.”

*(Roger walks off stage with his head hanging down and his hands covering his face in sadness.*

*Lights dim, Chorus walks out.)*

**Chorus II:**

Roger only wanted time off his grief

Giovanni thought of his absence as a time to plot

Leaving Roger to his worse demise,

By using false accusations

Knowing there was no way to change his mind.

Roger reluctantly gave in,

thinking about how to survive.

Soon enough, Giovanni will realize his mistake.