

BROKE BT.

JACK
We got a talk about this. Swear to God I
didn't know we was goin' a get into this
again.

ENNIS gives him a look.

JACK (cont'd)
Yeah, I did. Red-lined all the way,
couldn't get here fast enough.

ENNIS
Four years. I was about to give up on
you. Figured you was sore about that
punch.

START

(CONTINUED)

JACK

Friend, that next summer I drove back up to Brokeback, talked to Aguirre 'bout a job.

(a beat)

Heard you hadn't been back there, so I left. Headed down to Texas for rodeoin'. How I met Lureen. Made \$3,000 that year bullridin', fuckin' starved. Drove grooves across Texas. Half the time under that cunt truck fixin' it. Lureen's old man's got some serious money, farm machinery business.

(pause)

'Course, he hates my guts, so it's a hard go now, but one of these days....

ENNIS

Army didn't get you?

JACK

Nope, too busted up. Rodeo ain't like it was in my daddy's time. Guys with money go to college, trained athaletes now. I'm gettin' out while I can still walk.

ENNIS

I been sittin' up here all this time, tryin' to figure out if I was...? I know I ain't. I mean, here we both got wives and kids, right? I like doin' it with women, but Jesus H....ain't nothin' like this.

(pause)

Never had no thoughts a doin' it with another guy.

JACK

Me neither.

(pause)

Old Brokeback got us good. We got to work out what we're goin' a do now. Friend, we got us a situation here.

ENNIS

I doubt there's nothin' we can do.

(pause)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

What I'm sayin', I built up a life them four years. Love my little girls.

JACK

What about Alma?

ENNIS

Alma? It ain't her fault.

(pause)

What about you? You got your wife and baby, that place in Texas...besides, you and me can't hardly be decent together, if what happened back there...

(jerks his head in the direction of the apartment)

...grabs on us like that. We do that in the wrong place, we'll be dead.

ENNIS

(cont'd)

No reins on this one, buddy. Scares the piss out of me.

JACK

I'm gettin' out of rodeo, Ennis. Don't got the bucks to ride out this slump I'm in, don't got the bones, neither.

(earnest)

What if you and me had a little ranch together, little cow and calf operation, it'd be some sweet life. Shit, Lureen's old man, you bet he'd give me a down payment if I'd get lost. Already more or less said it....

ENNIS

(interrupts)

Whoa, whoa, whoa. Ain't goin' a be that way.

(a beat)

I'm stuck with what I got here, caught in my own loop.

ENNIS

Jack, I don't want a be like them guys you see around...and I don't want a be dead.

ENNIS

There was these two old guys ranched together down home, Earl and Rich. They was a joke even though they was pretty tough old birds. They found Earl dead in a irrigation ditch. They'd took a tire iron to him, spurred him up, drug him around by his dick till it pulled off....

JACK

(white)

You seen that?

ENNIS

I was what, nine years old? Dad made sure I seen it, me and my brother K.E. Dad laughed about it. Hell, for all I know, he done the job. If he was alive and was to put his head in that door right now, you bet he'd go get his tire iron.

Two guys livin' together? No way. We can get together once in a while way the hell out in the back a nowhere...

JACK

Once in a while ever' four fuckin' years?

ENNIS

I been lookin' at people on the street. This happen a other people? What the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

hell do they do? I goddamn hate it that you're goin' a drive away in the mornin', and I'm goin' back to my life.

(pause)

But if you can't fix it, Jack, you got a stand it.

JACK

I don't give a flyin' fuck about other people. Son of a bitch, Ennis, take a couple days off. Right now. Throw your stuff in the back a my truck, let's head up in the mountains.

JACK

Come on, Ennis, you just shot my airplane out a the sky. Give me somethin' a go on. This ain't no little thing that's happenin' here.

END