

HIT AND MISS 1-1

(J. M.) (M. Scognione)

SHE

How did it go, Jerry? You do good?

HE

He's dead.

SHE

The word is our friend died from a heart attack.

HE

It was me. I gave him the heart attack. I scared him, he knew what was coming...

SHE

Doesn't count.

HE

It has to count...

SHE

It doesn't count. (beat) Down there, in the street, our friend is dead, and it's useless! Think, Jerry. The big fuck dies from a heart attack, not a hit. We were trying to send a message to the other families. What's our message now? Cut down on all that cannelloni, you'll live longer? (pause) What happened to that gun I gave you?

HE

It didn't go off. It jammed or something.

SHE

Still, the goombah's dead and for that we can all be grateful. I guess you think you should still get paid? Would that be good?

HE

Well, yeah...

HIT AND MISS 1-2

SHE

There's a little overhead, Jerry. My finder's fee... my negotiator's fee... my manicure for the funeral. Gee, I guess that leaves you with two grand. Next time do it right.

HE

Next time? You promised me that was the last one.

SHE

It was a heart attack!

HE

I told you, I can't do this anymore. That man was going to kill me. If he hadn't had a heart attack, I would be dead!---I'm no good to you if I die.

SHE

You have a very short memory, Jerry. I picked you up off the streets. I cleaned you up; put you through rehab. I could've let you rot, but I saved your ass. Where's the gratitude? Jewboy making good money for the first time in his life. I have no other use for you. You're not Italian, I can't move you into another racket...

HE

I don't want another racket. I wanna go legit.

SHE

Legit? Legit?! Don't make me laugh. One week outta here and you'll be pressuring whores and lookin' for your next fix.

HE

That's bullshit! I ain't never going back to the needle.

SHE

But, Jerry... If I don't take you to those meetings, you don't go. You need those meetings to stay clean. How many days without me before you give in, Jerry?

HIT AND MISS 1-3

HE

I don't need you.

SHE

(beat) How's your father? Good?

HE

He's fine.

SHE

Good, good. He's a sweet old man, I always liked him. When he goes, it's gonna break my heart. (pause) I exaggerate. I'd get over it. Stay by your phone, I'm sure I have another job for you.

HE

And then I'm out? Please, Miss Scarbelli, the last one, my stomach can't take any more... (pause) What... what did he do?

SHE

Who?

HE

That man... what did he do... you know, to deserve...

SHE

You just do what you're told. Stay by your phone. And Jerry...

HE

What?

SHE

Think about your father... I know you'll get it right this time.