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Thebas motel

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traducción de
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(fragmento en inglés)

The telephone rings underneath the bed. A frightened SELENE jumps at the unexpected call.

SELENE
It's them.

MARINO
Don't answer it. Let me think.

The telephone keeps on ringing.

SELENE
But *we* have the medallion.

MARINO
That is our salvation. We should keep it until it's all over. They should see two medallions. Two instead of one. They'll be blind with vengeance. They hate me, but I'll fool them. I'll fool them once again. I'll show them two medallions. I'll make them believe that I didn't kill Pastor. We'll tell them I bought it in Turkey, or Tunisia and they'll see two medallions, two that are alike. I'll convince them the jeweler made several copies.

The telephone keeps on ringing.

SELENE
This can't be.

MARINO
Answer it. We've got nothing to hide. They'll have to believe that. We have nothing to hide from them.

SELENE
This is impossible. That man made only two...and then he died.

MARINO holds the medallion up. Frightened, SELENE stands up, covering her mouth. The first bolt of lightning lights up the room, followed by a deafening thunderclap. The telephone stops ringing.

MARINO
Two?

SELENE takes the medallion from MARINO and takes a close look at it.

SELENE
One for Pastor and one for Manuel, our son.

MARINO

No, the other was mine. I was surprised to see another one like mine. I didn't think there was anyone else in this world with taste as bad as mine. There's something upsetting about them.

SELENE

Pastor had two medallions made.

MARINO

Bleeding medallions! He also put his nose where it didn't belong. In the beginning they let him live, but then...he had it coming. Who was the other one for? For you?

SELENE

For you.

MARINO

For me?

SELENE

For Manuel, our son.

MARINO

Manuel? No, it always, it was always with me. It was a gift of the gods. That's what they used to say, a gift of the gods because it saved my life. A fisherman saw it shining and he jumped into the water. I was in a small life raft, just drifting...

SELENE

The Colombians, they kidnapped you when you were still a child.

MARINO

Set adrift on the waves...

SELENE

They hunted us down. They wanted Pastor to tell them where he had hidden the stuff.

MARINO

Somebody must have come up with the name Marino, you know, for maritime...who could it have been?

SELENE

It was a treasure, our salvation. We could begin a new life. We'd be rich...

MARINO

When they found me, my body was one big sore, my entire back burnt by the sun.

SELENE

That's when they took you away from me and all those riches just vanished. Pastor stopped talking. We couldn't believe they would go so far, we thought they wouldn't dare, but they did...

MARINO

I became one of their own. They gave me parents, brothers and sisters, a family.

SELENE

They told us you were dead.

MARINO

I lost my job. I never understood, but I preferred not to ask questions.

SELENE

It was all the Colombians' doing...

MARINO

All of it. It was all a lie. Nobody found me at sea.

SELENE

It would have been better if Pastor had talked, if he had given back the money. Sure thing, it would have been better if he had talked.

MARINO

It was that hunk of tin that opened my eyes. Two men who don't know each other but have the same whims. Two men who know nothing about each other, but turn out to be soul mates. They meet by chance and their destinies become intertwined. One of them must die...I ran away from home. I was afraid of shaming my family.

SELENE presses the medallion to her breast and cries as she holds on to the headboard. MARINO approaches and places his hand on her back.

SELENE

They took you away from me. They kidnapped you when you were a child. They made you kill Pastor and finally they sent you to me, to kill me. It was all planned, the most cruel revenge.

MARINO

Selene, I love you.

SELENE

They didn't kill you.

MARINO

No, they haven't killed me. I'm still alive.

SELENE

You can't see the moon any more. They've covered it up, they've sent a regiment of black clouds to kill it.

MARINO

Selene...

SELENE

You can't see the moon any more. Everything is dark. You can't see anything.

MARINO

Selene, stop talking nonsense.

SELENE

Yes, Manuel. It was us. Your father and I. We had two medallions made. Pastor kept up with his business. We stopped at that village on the coast. He got his hands on a good cache. Then they were after us. We were happy, but Pastor feared for our lives. It was a dangerous affair, a big sting. Even the Colombians got nervous. He wanted to get out too. He wanted to withdraw from battle.

MARINO

Just let it be, Selene. We have to get away now. Maybe those idiots have let the cat out of the bag and spilled their guts to the police.

SELENE

And why should I care about the police? Nothing matters anymore.

MARINO

Selene, listen to me. We're leaving, taking off. We'll go ahead with the plan. Nothing can stop us. We'll change our names, become different people, live other lives. Nobody will recognize us.

SELENE

But I'll recognize you. I'll see you every day, see your face resting on the pillow close to mine, and your name will be like an explosion in my head: Manuel.

She bursts out crying.

MARINO

Manuel...

SELENE takes a revolver from her handbag and points it at MARINO.

SELENE

Don't touch me. I'll wait for them. I'll wait here for the police. Just leave. Don't come near me. Take off! I'll keep them occupied. Just enough. I'll trick them. But I'm staying here.

MARINO: What's wrong with you?

SELENE

I love you.

A flash of lightning floods the set, and is soon followed by a clap of thunder.

MARINO

And I...

SELENE
Don't move.

MARINO
I won't leave you alone.

SELENE, revolver still in hand, kneels at the foot of the bed. The telephone rings.

SELENE
My son between the sheets. The monster.

Lights from the police cars flood the room. The deafening sound of the sirens mixes with the thunder.

SELENE
Yes, it would have been better if Pastor had talked.

MARINO looks out the window and sees the police. As he hides himself, he stares at the telephone, which doesn't stop ringing.

POLICE MEGAPHONE
(Off stage) This is the police. You're surrounded. You have three minutes to come out with your hands up.

MARINO
They're here.

SELENE
Run! You're still young. I'll stay behind. I'll take the blame. For everything.

MARINO
No, I can't leave you like this, alone.

SELENE
You have your whole life ahead of you. Run!

MARINO
A life without you!

SELENE
No way. It just can't be. Run! I should take the blame. Light-footed! Light-footed!

MARINO
But I love you.

SELENE
And I love you. Now run. Take off or I'll shoot.

MARINO

No, no way.

The police shoot and all the panes of window glass break just as the moonlight becomes visible from behind the dense cloud cover. Shots tear through the walls up to the bed and shred the bedspread, against which the coloured lights from the police cars are reflected. The neon sign of the motel is smashed to pieces. A peal of thunder gives way to silence. Two figures can be seen moving through the darkness. Mother and son.

SELENE

(whispering, almost laughing) You know what, Manuel?

MARINO

Shut up.

SELENE

How odd...none of the Colombians was from Colombia.

MARINO

Why did you believe them?

SELENE

It couldn't be any other way, Manuel. It just couldn't be...

MARINO

Why not? Why did you abandon me? Why didn't you come back for me?

SELENE

It would have been better...anything else would have been better...

A shot rings through the web of police sirens. SELENE has shot herself. MARINO turns and runs to her.

SELENE dies. MARINO picks up the revolver and with the same hand shuts his mother's eyes. The police megaphone can be heard.

POLICE

(off stage) You are surrounded. Give yourselves up and you will not be harmed. There is no way out, I repeat, there is no way out.

MARINO leans against the wall and looks at his revolver. He holds it up to his temple and is about to shoot but stops, lowers his hand, and drops the revolver.

He sits on the bed, turns up the radio and puts on his socks as he throws the photographs and money onto the floor. The thunder and lightning sounds for the last time.

RADIO

At long last the rain is here. The baptismal water which regenerates life. Seems like a summer storm in the middle of December. Crazy weather we're having, but let's move on to something else. The winning number for today, 28 December, Fool's Day, of the ONCE lottery is the following: three, four, seven, eight, nine. I repeat: three, four seven eight, nine.

POLICE

(off stage) Come out with your hands up and you will not be harmed.

RADIO

Three, four, seven, eight, nine. Thirty-four thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

MARINO gets up, throws the revolver onto the messed-up bed and approaches the window with his hands up.

MARINO

There's no way out. (He looks out the broken window.) Each to his own. Each to his own.

CURTAIN