

OLD FRIENDS

Written by

Robert Campbell

11102 Riverside Dr., North Hollywood, CA 91602
818-752-4391

EXT. ALLEYWAY - DAY

MARK, 20s, well-off but guarded, walks up to PAUL, 20s, homeless and anxious.

PAUL
You got my message.

MARK
Yeah.

PAUL
Social worker said she'd call, but you never know, right?

MARK
She said you were in trouble. Is it the police?

PAUL
What? No. It's... I could use...

MARK
A drink? Crack? Heroin?

PAUL
How 'bout all three?
(off Mark's non-reaction)
Sorry.

MARK
How much this time?

PAUL
100 bucks? I got a check coming, but I just need a little to...

Mark pulls some bills from his pocket.

MARK
I got 200 dollars. You can have it, or you can come with me, and I'll take you someplace you can get clean.

Paul's hand twitches towards the cash.

MARK
But if you take it, that's it. I'm through. I'm not gonna watch you die a little piece at a time.

The money is all Paul can see.

PAUL
200 bucks is a lot of money.

A flicker of pain across Mark's eyes.

MARK
Yeah. Yeah it is.

Paul grabs the money. Can't help but count it.

MARK
Goodbye, Paul.