**In The Company of Mad Men**

In The Company of Mad Men begins with Jake Valentine, a cop, a father an ex-husband. Jake heads up a task force whose sole mission is to catch the mysterious serial killer that has been plaguing their city, the Crimson Killer.

Jake is at the door of a house. He is at the ready. He kicks in the door. He finds a woman, Bonnie, tied to a post, prepared to die at the hand of the Crimson Killer. Jake is just in time to save her causing the killer to flee. Jake gives chase, outside the house, through adjoining backyards until he fires off a shot. The shot misses it’s intending target instead hitting a young boy who was out following the noise of gunfire. The boy dies.

At the boy’s funeral Jake and Bonnie meet up, two souls regretful of the night that brought them together. They begin a relationship based on the mutual need to feel something other than pain. After the funeral Jake quits the police force. There are just too many bad memories, too much guilt.

We introduce Jake’s Ex-wife, Eden. She is the love of his life. She left him years ago due to their bad relationship. They share a daughter, Kennedy. Kennedy is into model boats and she loves her father.

One night while at home with Bonnie he receives a call from a man claiming to have information about the Crimson Killer. Jake goes over immediately to meet with him, eager to close this chapter in his life. He drives out to a secluded lake house where he meets Mark and Malory Learner. Mark invites Jake down into his basement to see what he has collected on the Crimson Killer. Mark reveals that he was there the night Jake shot the boy, because he is the Crimson Killer. Jake tries to restrain Mark, but it is clear that Mark wants Jake to kill him. They tussle and Mark ends up dead and Jake ends up wounded.

Jake has a dream, a vision of him in a bar. He is in a bathroom with a woman. He stabs the woman to death. When he stands he sees an image of Bonnie floating into view.

Jake awakens in the hospital to Bonnie’s concerned and loving face. After Jake is let out of the hospital he receives accolades for stopping the Crimson Killer. Jake goes back to the scene of the crime. He meets with his old partner Danny Talio. Danny lets him walk the crime scene. Once inside Jake stumbles across a maroon, leather-bound book, a journal. It is the journal of the crimson killer. Something comes over Jake and he pockets the book. On his way out of the crime scene he bumps into Mark’s wife, Malory. Malory reveals to Jake that her husband was a normal man until, as a journalist, he began to investigate the Crimson Killer. Jake is confused as he believed that Mark was the killer.

Jake is soon asked to come back to work, an offer he turns down. He continues to have the visions of him killing a woman in the bathroom stall. These visions are becoming an obsession. Jake needs to get back to his information on the killer. He is forced to go back to work as a cop. The first job he is put on as part of a task force is to capture a different killer, a killer responsible for killing John’s. Jake takes the job. The taskforce plans on setting up a sting operation. They are driving around looking for prostitutes trying to get one of them to reveal themselves as the killer. During the operation Jake sees the woman from his dream. She is real. He tries to catch up to her, but she slips away in the crowd.

Jake has the vision again. This time there is an accompanying urge to kill this woman. He wakes up, slips out of bed and goes back downtown. He gets to a building, the building from his dreams. He goes inside. He meets the woman from his dreams there. Her name is Grace she is a high-end prostitute. Jake is amazed, but knows he doesn’t intend this woman any harm. He heads back home. When he crawls into bed he finds Bonnie is not breathing. He calls an ambulance. They rush her to the hospital where she dies.

At Bonnie’s funeral Eden and Jake spend some time together. Jake questions Eden about how she survived after her first husband’s mysterious death. A conversation Eden does not want to have.

Later than night Jake has the same dream, but this time Bonnie’s image is replaced with his mother’s. Jake begins to investigate Mark’s past. He studies crime scene photos, past murders and he reads the journal. The journal references a scripture from the bible: “…And there went another horse that was red, and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, causing men to kill each other.” This right above Mark’s own scripture: “I have these urges to do these things to people I don’t know. If I don’t respond to these urges someone I care about will die.”

After a vision, Jake rushes to go check on his mother. On his way to her house he finds her car flipped over and she is dead.

At the hospital Jake tells Danny everything; about the visions, about the belief that his family’s deaths are connected and that he feels that he must kill a stranger to save his family. Danny tells him to seek help.

Jake goes to see Malory to see if she can help him. He asks her whether or not anyone that they were close to died when Mark began to pursue the killer. She tells him yes. She asks him to drop the investigation. He tells her that he has the same visions Mark had and that he can’t walk away. He must protect his family.

In his next vision his mother is replaced with Eden. Soon after, Eden has an aneurysm and winds up in critical condition at the hospital. Jake knows what he has to do. He tells Kennedy that he will save her mother. Jake goes to the bar, finds Grace and kills her. When he gets back to the hospital Eden has made a miraculous recovery.

As it turns out Grace was responsible for killing the Johns. Jake’s next vision contains a man who is suspected of child molestation and his next a drug dealer. Jake kills them, regretfully, protecting his family. But also realizing that all of his victims are guilty and probably deserve death.

While at the murder of the drug dealer Danny shows up. Danny chases Jake, surprised to find it’s him. Jake has another vision. This vision contains two people as well, but this time it’s Eden and Kennedy. Jake has to shoot Danny to escape. Danny is wounded, but okay.

On the way to Eden’s Jake calls Malory asking her to forgive him and to get out of this town and this crazy life. He tells her about the vision and what he has to do. He hangs up on her and heads to the house. When he arrives he knocks out Eden’s boyfriend and then approaches her. He asks her what she did to end up in his visions. He suspects that she killed her ex-husband. Malory tells him nothing so Jake tries to kill her to save his daughter, but just then Malory arrives.

Malory helps Eden escape. They get Kennedy and escape Jake, making it to Malory’s boat. On the boat Jake corners Eden and Malory ready to kill them until he hears Kennedy’s voice and then he realizes there is another way. He shoots himself in the head. He dies.

We later find out that Malory did kill her previous husband. And then we find that Kennedy now has the visions.

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