

HURT YOU

Written by  
Matt Williams

Based on the song "Hurt You" by Menna

EXT. UPSCALE SUBURBAN STREET - DAWN

Warm breath EXHALES into frosty morning air. Again. And again. It belongs to a RUNNER, staring straight ahead, his sweatshirt hood pulled over a well-kept, handsome face.

This is WES HECKLER (40), on a jog as the sun barely illuminates the sky before breaching the horizon.

Wes continues past large family homes. Suddenly, his expression changes. Something isn't right. As he slows, RED and BLUE LIGHTS shine in rapid succession on his face.

EXT. WES'S HOME - CONTINUOUS

A single police car sits outside of Wes's 10,000-square-foot house. The front door is slightly ajar.

Wes approaches cautiously, his heavy breathing still visible.

A POLICE OFFICER emerges from the front door. He acknowledges Wes, then MUTTERS something to the tune of "I found him" into his shoulder-mounted radio.

INT. WES'S HOME - MORNING

Broken items are scattered around the floor - glass, lamps, a sculpture. The TV is shattered.

Wes stands in his state-of-the-art kitchen drinking a glass of water, his hands a little shaky.

POLICE OFFICER

I assume you don't run with your phone?

WES

No.

POLICE OFFICER

Well your security system worked as well as it's supposed to and called us. Looks like they broke in through the back door. Came and went in a hurry. You'll have to check to see if anything is stolen. Good thing you weren't home, to be honest, in case they had ill intentions.

(beat)

Any idea who might have done this?

Wes nods.

WES

My ex wife. Well, more likely her boyfriend.

POLICE OFFICER

Names?

WES

She's Sigourney Meadows. He's Colton Hughes.

INT. FOYER - WES'S HOME - NIGHT

Wes closes the door and makes a point of locking the handle and the deadbolt.

INT. LIVING ROOM

He does the same on the back door, peering out into his yard.

INT. BEDROOM

Wes is in bed, lights off, eyes still open.

KNOCK. Wes shoots up, turns on a light... and waits. It was nothing.

He turns off the light and lies down, unable to sleep.

INT. BALL ROOM - NIGHT

Wes attends a black tie gala, dressed in his finest tux. He's talking to ADAM (60), a well-groomed gentleman who looks right at home in this setting. Both men drink Old Fashions.

ADAM

You're sure it was them?

WES

Makes sense. They were unhappy with the settlement, she would know how to sneak into the back. And that I would be on a run.

(then)

The guy she's dating acted like he was entitled to my money.

ADAM  
That's terrible.

Adam looks. JAIME (30), a beautiful Austrian woman in a stunning red dress approaches.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
Ah Wes, allow me to introduce you  
to my girlfriend Jaime.

JAIME  
(Austrian accent)  
Pleased to meet you.

WES  
Pleasure.

JAIME  
(to Adam)  
Just to let you know, I bid on the  
trip to Bali.

ADAM  
Well I'll just have to sneak you  
out of the country, won't I?

They kiss and Jaime exits.

ADAM (CONT'D)  
(to Wes)  
We're still waiting on her  
paperwork to come through.

Wes nods, impressed with Adam's "catch."

ADAM (CONT'D)  
She keeps me young.

WES  
Now that's what I need.

Adam nods, laughs, and the guys cheers glasses. Then something (someone) catches his eye.

ACROSS THE ROOM stands an absolutely stunning woman in a sleek, sexy, silver dress. MADALINE SMITH (30s). The type of knockout that turns every head in every room.

Adam notices Wes staring.

ADAM  
Careful with that one. Her name is  
Madaline. She's an acquaintance of  
Jaime's.

(MORE)

ADAM (CONT'D)

Grew up in foster care, went from home to home. I think it's made her unstable. She's had a string of bad relationships. Men who use her then get rid of her, that type of thing.

WES

Madaline?

ADAM

She has not one but two exes who have died under, shall we say, *suspicious* circumstances.

WES

Come on.

Madaline looks over and catches Wes's eye.

ADAM

Just rumors. But people talk.

(then)

Ah hell, you need a little excitement in your life, right?

Wes's eyes haven't left her.

LATER:

The night is winding down. Wes sits alone at a table, his bow tie undone. The COCKTAIL WAITRESS approaches.

COCKTAIL WAITRESS

Last call. What can I get you?

WES

Um. Well I think--

Wes looks up. Madaline is standing by the bar. She glances over and locks eyes with Wes. Wes stands...

COCKTAIL WAITRESS

Good luck.

Wes approaches Madaline, who turns as though she was waiting for him.

WES

I bet a lot of men are intimidated by you.

MADALINE

Why do you say that?

WES  
Am I wrong?

MADALINE  
(beat)  
No. Are you intimidated?

WES  
I think I might be, yeah.

MADALINE  
Good.

INT. WES'S HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Wes and Madaline fall onto his bed in hot, steamy passion. Clothes get torn off. The kissing and touching are lustfully aggressive. She bites his bottom lip.

WES  
Ouch.

Madaline doesn't say anything. She just shoves him back and removes her bra...

FADE TO:

INT. CAFE - MORNING

Wes and Madaline sit on the same side of the booth, cuddled up, laughing and sipping coffee.

DING. The door opens and in walks COLTON HUGHES (35), a sturdy man favoring a construction contractor, and SIGOURNEY MEADOWS (35), blue-collar beautiful with features almost opposite those of Madaline.

Wes's good mood disappears immediately. Colton and Sigourney pass the booth and glare at him, ignoring Madaline completely.

SIGOURNEY  
Sending the fucking cops after us?  
Are you serious?

WES  
I didn't send them anywhere, I just gave them names.

He looks straight at Colton. Madaline remains stoic.

WES (CONT'D)  
I know it was you.

COLTON  
You don't know shit.

SIGOURNEY  
Are you trying to kick us while  
we're down or something?

WES  
All I'm trying to do is never see  
you again.  
(to Colton)  
How's it feel, having another man  
bankroll your family?

Colton leans in close to Wes's face. As he does, Wes grabs Madaline's hand under the table.

COLTON  
You try this shit again, and I will  
end your fucking life. I swear to  
god I will.

Colton and Sigourney exit. Wes looks around. PATRONS have turned to look in suspicion, but no one says anything.

INT. WES'S HOME - FOYER - DAY

Wes and Madaline enter.

MADALINE  
Have they always been like that?

WES  
No. They used to be rude.

They laugh.

MADALINE  
It's a good thing I was there.

WES  
Why?

Madaline pushes up against him, grabs his hand and runs it up her leg, her face very close to his. She winks.

MADALINE  
Just in case.

She pulls him into...

INT. WES'S HOME - BEDROOM - LATER

She crawls onto the bed, bottom in the air, and puts her hands behind her back.

MADALINE

I want you to use me however you want.

Wes joins her on the bed and playfully rolls her over so she's on top.

WES

You're so sexy.

MADALINE

We should wait until tonight.

WES

Why?

MADALINE

(whispering)

My friends are sexy too.

She gives him a smirk and slowly walks away.

INT. SEX CLUB - NIGHT

A sexy masquerade soiree. Wes and Madaline are in the middle of a SIX-PERSON ORGY. It's dark. Through STROBES OF LIGHT, all we see is bodies. Kissing. Ecstasy.

Wes and another woman, STEPHANIE (late 20s); Madaline and another GUY; Madaline and Stephanie. Plus whoever the OTHER THREE are. It's a celebration of the sexual divine.

LATER:

Wes, donning his tux, is re-tying the bow tie. Madaline is sliding on a provocative black dress. Stephanie is lying on the bed, still undressed.

STEPHANIE

That was unbelievably fun. Wes, you must share her some more with me.

WES

Any time.

FADE TO:



INT. WES'S HOME - BEDROOM - DAWN

Wes wakes up to find an empty spot next to him. He looks around. No Madaline.

INT. BATHROOM

Madaline isn't here, but she has been. The bathtub is still wet... and a trickle of BLOOD is running down the drain.

As Wes exits we see (but he doesn't) a towel with BLOOD STAINS poking out of a nearby hamper.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Wes walks in, looks out onto the back porch. There's Madaline, smoking a cigarette, looking very content.

EXT. BACK PORCH - CONTINUOUS

Wes walks out to meet her.

WES  
Where'd you go?

MADALINE  
Just wanted you to sleep a little better.

He leans down and kisses her on her neck.

EXT. WES'S OFFICE - DAY

Wes, dressed in a tailored suit, approaches his office building, already in work mode.

DETECTIVE (O.S.)  
Mr. Heckler, do you have a moment?

Wes turns to see a DETECTIVE waiting for him. He freezes.

WES  
What's this about?

DETECTIVE  
Just have a couple questions for you.

Wes looks at his watch and SIGHS.

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)  
Where were you last night?

WES  
At my house.

DETECTIVE  
Is there anyone who can verify  
that?

WES  
I'm sorry, should I be speaking to--

DETECTIVE  
You're familiar with a man named  
Colton Hughes, right?

WES  
(beat)  
Yes.

DETECTIVE  
He was found dead this morning.

Wes freezes.

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)  
Let's go for a walk.

INT. WES'S HOME - DAY

Wes lies on his couch. Madaline sits in an adjacent chair.

WES  
They were just conducting an  
investigation and had reasonable  
suspicion. Fair enough I suppose,  
Colt and I hated each other. But I  
doubt it will go any further.

MADALINE  
I'm sorry you had to go through  
that, baby.

Wes sits up and looks up at her. There's pain behind his  
eyes. It's an intensity we've never seen before.

WES  
Where were you last night?

MADALINE  
What do you mean? I was with you.

WES  
All night?

MADALINE  
Yes...

WES  
(beat)  
I don't think I believe you.

A long pause. Madaline doesn't budge.

WES (CONT'D)  
We can't see each other any more.

MADALINE  
Oh don't you dare... I see what  
you're doing. Your projecting.

WES  
Excuse me?

MADALINE  
I understand, you've had a rough  
couple months. But I'm here for  
you. I'm here to help you.

WES  
I don't need your help.

MADALINE  
Look at yourself, you might. Don't  
push me away. Give this a real  
chance.

WES  
Where were you last night?

MADALINE  
(beat)  
I was with you. All night.

INT. WES'S OFFICE - DAY

Wes sits in his corner office talking on his phone.

WES  
It wasn't them?

POLICE OFFICER (O.S.)

There's no way to say for sure, but we have no evidence to suggest that Mister Hughes or Miss Meadows had anything to do with breaking into your house.

(beat)

I'm afraid we have no more leads. It was likely just some kids causing trouble. Unless there's anyone you can think of who might be dangerous to you.

Wes takes a moment. Then...

WES

No. No one.

INT. WES'S HOME - FOYER - NIGHT

Wes enters with STEPHANIE. They're a little drunk and flirty. He pulls her towards the bedroom. Kisses her.

WES

This is bad news after that third bottle of wine.

STEPHANIE

Oh come on, I want to play.

(then)

Where is she?

She kisses him back and they burst into...

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lying in next to nothing, handcuffed to the bed, is Madaline, waiting with a devilish smile.

STEPHANIE

(to Wes)

Oh you little tease.

As Stephanie crawls onto the bed, Wes and Madaline stare at each other. He wasn't expecting her. He's scared of her, of this situation... but he takes off his belt.

FADE TO:

INT. WES'S HOME - BATHROOM - LATER

Wes is taking a shower. A FAINT CRASH comes from O.S. He looks concerned. Did he actually hear something?

INT. BEDROOM

Wes walks out in a towel. His sheets are in a mess on the bed. Clothes, underwear thrown everywhere. A couple empty bottles of champagne sit on his night stand.

But no one is there.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Wes enters, still in a towel, and sees Madaline sitting on his ottoman smoking and staring at the floor.

WES

Why are you smoking in here, what are you--

As Wes approaches, he sees what Madaline is looking at... Stephanie is lying on the floor motionless.

MADALINE

It was an accident.

WES

What happened, what did you do?!

He rushes to Stephanie's aid.

WES (CONT'D)

What are you-- DO SOMETHING!

MADALINE

What would you like me to do?

Wes is frantically checking Stephanie's breath, her pulse, getting her to wake up.

EXT. WES'S HOME - NIGHT

LIGHTS FLASH everywhere as Stephanie is rushed into an ambulance. Wes stands in shock, talking to a POLICE OFFICER. The Officer asks him to turn around, handcuffs him, and leads him away.

Wes looks back at his home. Inside, Madaline stares back at him, emotionless.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Wes is dressed in orange, sitting with his LAWYER.

LAWYER

Miss LaPierre is filing charges for negligence.

WES

Negligence?! Against *me*?

LAWYER

Honestly, we're lucky she survived.

(beat)

There is new information regarding the Colton Hughes investigation. The police have matched Madaline's DNA from your house to DNA they found at your ex wife's, and also... at Madaline's ex husband's. Who was found dead over a year ago.

WES

Oh my god...

LAWYER

There's more. Madaline admitted to perpetrating both acts involving you.

WES

Wow. I-- I knew it. I told you that.

A weight has been lifted from Wes's shoulders. The Lawyer, however, doesn't look happy.

WES (CONT'D)

What?

LAWYER

(beat)

She's claiming duress and necessity for the murder of Colton Hughes.

WES

Meaning what?

LAWYER

Essentially... that you forced her to do it.

FADE TO:

EXT. COURT HOUSE - DAY

OVER AN EXTERIOR SHOT OF THE COURT HOUSE:

JUROR (V.O.)

Superior court of Tennessee,  
Davidson County, in the matter of  
the people of the state of  
Tennessee verses Weston James  
Heckler. We the jury find the  
defendant, Weston James Heckler,  
*guilty* of the violation of murder  
in the first degree.

The crowd in the court room STIRS.

JUDGE (V.O.)

Sentencing will be one week from  
today. This court is adjourned.

The Judge's GAVEL falls.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

A full courtroom. Wes sits with his Lawyer beside him. We see  
Sigourney sitting two rows behind.

BAILIFF

All rise.

Everyone stands.

JUDGE

Mister Heckler, you have been found  
guilty of murder in the first  
degree. Despite Miss Smith's  
statement admitting she carried out  
the act, it is the belief of this  
court that you were fully aware of  
Miss Smith's nature, that you were  
the sole orchestrator of the plot  
to murder Mister Hughes, and that  
Miss Smith unwillingly executed  
this act out of necessity caused by  
you.

Wes is in shock.

JUDGE (CONT'D)

I therefore sentence you to serve a  
life sentence in federal prison,  
with no option of parole.

The GAVEL falls again. Wes looks back at Sigourney who is crying, glaring at him as if to say "good riddance."

INT. JAIL - HOLDING CELL - DAY

Wes sits alone in despair, looking at the floor.

CLANK. The cell door, though already closed, sounds like it's been shut.

Wes looks up. Madaline, looking as stunning as ever, is standing there on the inside of the cell with him.

A long beat...

INT. JAIL - HALLWAY - DAY

A GUARD is returning to Wes' cell holding a cup of coffee. He looks in... and sees Wes lying on the floor, unresponsive. Madaline stands over him.

The Guard tries to open the door. It's locked. Madaline simply stares at him from the other side of the bars.

The Guard frantically unlocks the cell and rushes in. Checks Wes' pulse...

GUARD

I need some help in here!

Another GUARD rushes in.

GUARD 2

What the hell happened?! How did he get her in here?

GUARD

I don't know!

Madaline turns on her heel and walks past another TWO GUARDS rushing to the scene. It's as though no one notices her.

EXT. JAIL - GOLDEN HOUR

Madaline steps outside. Pulls a cigarette out of her purse. Lights it up. And blows a puff of smoke into the evening air.

FADE TO BLACK.