

What's A Little Bite Between Friends?

written by

Leo Callanen

INT. VAMPIRE MANSION - MIDNIGHT

The camera shakes and focuses on GABE, a young man sitting casually on an antique leather couch in the ornate living room of the mansion. The shot is framed talking-head style. The interviewer is presumably behind the camera.

INTERVIEWER

...Could you state your name for the camera, please? We're just testing the mics.

GABE

Oh, uh, Gabe. Gabe Rodriguez.

INTERVIEWER

And you've been working here at the mansion for how long, would you say?

GABE

Man, nearly two years if I had to guess.

INTERVIEWER

A lot of our guys were pretty apprehensive about shooting this project, but you seem to have settled in just fine. I take it you're not *scared* of vampires?

GABE

Nah, not really. I don't think I ever was, to be honest with you. A job's a job, sure, but I've also become pretty close with the family I work for, so I just see them as friends who happen to be vampires...if that makes sense.

INTERVIEWER

What are your duties like, here at

the mansion?

GABE

(Shrugs)

I mostly just do what the family can't during the day, y'know, yardwork, running errands, testing the pH of the pool...

2.

INTERVIEWER

Running errands for vampires, ha! That's something you won't read in the classics, huh?

Gabe laughs. As the crew messes with the equipment, the camera zooms in and out, a boom mic is briefly seen, etc. This happens a few times over the course of the scene.

GABE

Haha, right? No one ever considers what it's really like to be a vampire in this day and age, but it makes sense they'd need a personal shopper, doesn't it?

INTERVIEWER

You're very sympathetic towards vampires.

GABE

I am, yeah.

INTERVIEWER

Well, I speak for us all when I say I'm excited to get to know you and your friends over the course of filming.

GABE

Likewise

Gabe smiles and leans forward to shake the interviewer's hand as it appears from off screen. A crew member comes by to adjust his mic pack, the camera swings down, and the scene ends.

BLACKOUT.

EXT. VAMPIRE MANSION, POOL - MIDNIGHT

A young-looking vampire lounges on a pool chair in shorts, drinking blood from a cocktail glass with an umbrella. They have sunglasses on despite it being dark outside.

STEPHAN

...and I remember Mick had to tell me that the world had started changing, since after so long I'd just stopped paying attention, you know?
(He pauses to take a sip)

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

It was a real wake up call, realizing that most mortals were actually aware of vampires now. I didn't think there were so many of us to begin with!

The camera pans to MICK, Stephan's vampire brother. He reads TIME magazine cross-legged in a chair.

MICK

I mean, we had to adapt, lest we get booked for murder or something. I believe it's only been the last 20 years or so, that vampire blood banks have become mainstream.

STEPHAN

It's so hard finding a good blood
bank honestly, but

GABE (O.S.)

Oh my god, literally...

The camera hurriedly swings to reveal Gabe in the
distance, skimming the pool in the distance with a large
pole.

GABE (CONT'D)

(Grumbling)

...Except replace blood banks with
finding a good soup in this
goddamned town...

The camera turns back to the vampire brothers, who just
look at Gabe for a beat.

STEPHAN

Okay...?

CUT TO:

INT. VAMPIRE MANSION - TALKING HEAD

Close up on Stephan from the chest up.

STEPHAN

Gabe's the only guy we've ever
considered turning into a vampire,
mostly because he's the only human
we know. It... wouldn't work out
though.

CUT TO:

4.

INT. VAMPIRE MANSION - TALKING HEAD

Mick sits with his arms folded over his chest.

MICK

Oh, he'd be a terrible vampire.

CUT TO:

INT. VAMPIRE MANSION - TALKING HEAD

Gabe has a bandaid on his neck but that's not important.

GABE

(Scratches his head)

Have I ever let them drink my
blood? Well...

CUT TO:

INT. VAMPIRE MANSION, LIVING ROOM - MIDNIGHT (PAST)

This is presumably a scene that happened in the past. Gabe is clutching a pillow to his chest and crying nonsensically into it. There is a vampire bite scabbing on his neck. Stephan is trying to reassure him but he's not very good at it. They both have red eyes.

STEPHAN

Woah woah woah, it's okay!
Seriously you're gonna be fine

MICK (O.S.)

Stephan! What did you *do*?! And *why*
is Gabe crying?!

The camera pans to Mick, entering the living room and dropping his bags. Stephan hurries to meet him and puts his arms up in defense.

STEPHAN

Okay, it's not what it looks like

Gabe snuffles in the background. Mick glares at Stephan.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

(Inhales sharply)
So, Gabe was smoking weed right,
and I'm cool with that, he's my
friend, he lives here, he can do
whatever he wants, right?

(MORE)

5.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

But, y'know, I don't have a
bloodstream or anything so I can't
get high- and you know this, of
course- but then GABE had this
idea

Mick gives him another look to hurry up.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

So BASICALLY I bit Gabe because
he's got the weed in his system and
it WORKED, first of all, so this is
kind of an advancement for all of
vampirekind here, but yeah, he
started crying because he's scared
he'll turn into a vampire.

MICK

...But you didn't try to turn him,
right?

STEPHAN

No! No, just a little bite between
friends.

Mick nods and approaches Gabe cautiously, with
Stephan trailing gingerly behind.

MICK

Gabe? Look, Stephan is an idiot,
but you're not g

GABE

Miiick, I'm not cut out for being a
vampire!

STEPHAN

I didn't even like, do it right,
you're gonna be fine!

GABE

(Ignores them, sobs)
I'm a vegetarian, I can't drink
blood!

Gabe puts his head in his hands.

GABE (CONT'D)

I'm gonna starve to deathhh...

The camera pans from Gabe, curled up sadly in an armchair,
to Stephan, patting his back reassuringly, to Mick,
pinching the bridge of his nose and sighing. Shaky close up
on Mick

MICK

(Mumbles to himself)
I leave you two alone for one hour.
One hour...

He mumbles more swear words to himself for a moment, and
the camera swings back to Stephan and Gabe, turning around
to look at him. Gabe wipes his eyes.

CUT TO:

INT. VAMPIRE MANSION - TALKING HEAD

GABE

Yeah, I'd be a terrible vampire.

Gabe says this with a laugh and smiles.

END