

The Hungry Wolf

Written By

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(PILOT)

Based on the videogame
FATAL FURY: KING OF FIGHTERS by SNK
and
Based on the screenplay
FATAL FURY: THE LEGEND OF THE HUNGRY WOLF
by Takashi Yamada

EXT. BLUE TICK BAR - NIGHT

Singed rain evaporates on a neon sign bathed in blue in the outlined shape of a tick. A black sedan pulls up near the entrance. Three men step out of a car.

INT. BLUE TICK BAR - NIGHT

Dingy, disgusting and dilapidated. A true testament to a dive bar. Poor light hangs above a circle of men who are surrounded by cigar smoke. GEESE HOWARD (age 32), HOPPER (age 26), and RIPPER (age 22) walk in.

BOUNCER

You here for the fight?

HOPPER

We sure are.

The bouncer stops Hopper with a stiff hand.

BOUNCER

Hold on, fellas. Gotta pat ya down.

The bouncer pats Hopper and finds--

Ripper extends his butterfly knife at the bouncer's jugular.

HOPPER

We'll play nice. Promise.

The bouncer eyes all three of them. His gaze fixes on Geese. He swallows hard. He nods "yes".

Ripper's blade disappears as fast as it flung out.

The three men grab a table near the fight circle. BILLY KANE (age 17), shirtless, wields a pool cue, signals for three brawlers to come fight.

HOPPER

This the guy, boss?

Geese takes off his fedora. His eyes focused.

GEESE

We'll see.

RIPPER

Hops, get us some drinks.

HOPPER

I don't take orders from you.

RIPPER

Hey, I'd ask the waitress, if they had one. You're probably the next best thing.

HOPPER

Why don't you go f--

The drunken crowd CHEERS.

GEESE

Shut up, both of you. Watch.

Billy readies his cue. The first brawler charges and is met with a smack to the cheek. The second man advances and gets poked in the stomach and kicked in the chin. The third fighter throws a bottle at Billy. Just as the first man recovers, Billy swats the bottle over towards the first man's cheek, again. Billy spins the cue, confusing the third man and unleashes strikes on him.

BILLY

Chumps, the lot of you.

The crowd tosses money around and applauds Billy. He heads over to the bar, passing Geese's table. They all glance at him, but Ripper eyes him as he twirls his knife.

Billy pauses and heads to their table.

BILLY

Never seen you boys here before.
You looking for a bit of trouble?

GEESE

I was thinking.

Geese sips a cocktail. Ripper and Billy's eyes meet. The knife twirls, squeaks with every flip.

GEESE

I was thinking, how well can you defend yourself without that silly stick?

BILLY

Hard jabbering from a man with two bodyguards. One of which carrying a weapon of his own.

Ripper springs up and lunges at Billy. The steel edge stops at his throat.

The pool cue frozen between Ripper's legs. They both smirk.

GEESE

These two are a precaution.
Barriers, if you will. But make no
mistake, I've no need for weapons.

Geese motions for Ripper to back off. He does.

BILLY

C'mon then! Put your money where
your mouth is.

Geese and Billy step toward the circle and the crowd
gathers. Geese rolls up his sleeves.

GEESE

You're a lot more hot headed than I
heard.

Billy's suspicious.

BILLY

You've heard about me, ey?

GEESE

Indeed I have my dear Billy boy.

BILLY

I'm no boy, asshole.

Billy prepares to attack when--

A gang of six men burst through the door. The GANG LEADER
(age 20) pistol whips the bouncer. He lets off a GUNSHOT at
the roof. The crowd ducks from the sound. He yells.

GANG LEADER

Come pay your dues, Billy!

The gang spots Billy.

GANG LEADER

There!

BILLY

Bollocks.

Billy flees to the back exit.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

More gang members greet Billy near the end of the alley.
Their bats and chains HAMMER against brick and garbage cans.

The group from outside sandwich him in the alley.

BILLY

You sore losers. Can't take a little beating and betting? Have to go home crying about no refund?

Billy whirls the cue in and around him like a shield. Geese and his men step outside to watch.

GANG LEADER

You rigged those bets. Now, the odds are stacked against you.

The gang closes in on Billy.

BILLY

I don't rig anything, mate. You bet on the wrong man.

GANG LEADER

Keep talking. I'll make sure that jaw breaks first before you die.

The gang charges at Billy from both sides. He manages to fight off a dozen or so, but a chain wraps around his pool cue. Another chain around his arm. A third chain on his leg.

As gang members pull the chains to strip it from Billy, he let's go and they are flung backward onto each other. He backfists the man chaining his leg. He fights more off one at a time until --

A baseball bat strikes him. Then a chain whip. He's brought to his knees, then to his belly. They stomp on him.

The gang leader exhales as he approaches Billy. He forces the gun's barrel in Billy's mouth.

GANG LEADER

I told you to keep talking.

Billy mumbles with the barrel pinned against his tongue.

GANG LEADER

Talk now, you little bastard.

GEESE

Excuse me!

The leader spins around. Geese raises his hand.

GEESE
 Don't kill him.

The leader chuckles.

 GANG LEADER
 You his Pop or something?

 GEESE
 No, but I'd like him breathing and
 in one piece.

 GANG LEADER
 Well, it's a good thing I don't
 care what you'd like. He owes me
 and my guys.

He looks at the gang members left standing.

 GANG LEADER (CONT'D)
 Bring him over here to suffer with
 his pal.

The gang advance except for the leader and one other.
 Geese's feet slide into a stance.

One member in the back glances down at his cell phone with
 his mouth agape.

The glowing white screen displays an internet news article
 dated a few days ago. The words 'South Town's new crime
 king' are in bold. Geese's face appears.

 GANG MEMBER 1
 Hey, uh, we should go.

 GANG LEADER
 We ain't going nowhere.

 GANG MEMBER 1
 That's--

Geese smirks. From Geese's point of view, the sound of his
 BREATH becomes dominant. The gang members charge him. Geese
 dispatches gang members with ruthless and effortless
 attacks. In a few seconds, he's already close to the leader.
 His BREATH has remained calm.

 GANG MEMBER 1
 That's the King of South Town!

The leader's eyes grow. He faces the observant member.

GANG LEADER

What?!

Geese walks towards the leader. The gang members behind Geese are all on the ground, some with limbs bent backwards. They CRY of agony. Ripper and Hopper execute the members still with breath in their lungs.

GANG MEMBER 1

Screw this!

The remaining member escapes.

GEESE

You're going to die whether you pull that trigger or not.

The leader smiles, aims at his head, and squeezes the trigger.

Geese's hand moves up, glows a slight blue, and hovers in front of the barrel opening.

GANG LEADER

The f--

GEESE

Simply for pointing that in my face.

Geese lunges with his other hand and presses against the leader's chest. Smoke emits from his now singed leather jacket. A bulge pops into view on the leaders back. He falls to the ground.

Billy gawks with a swollen eye. Geese rolls down his sleeves.

GEESE

It wasn't my intention to fight you seriously, Billy. I'm on the lookout for potential. Hopper and Ripper over there are my legs. What I need is a right and left hand. Someone to help me ensure that my desires are met.

BILLY

If you're the king as they say, you must have gold?

GEESE

I can promise you two things.

Geese extends his hand. Billy uses his cue to help him stand.

GEESE (CONT'D)

You won't have to gamble or cheat
for a living if you come work for
me.

Billy pauses and considers.

BILLY

And two?

GEESE

You're young and you've already got
a reputation. With the right
guidance, you'd have no equal.

BILLY

Other than you?

Geese grins.

GEESE

There's only one thing that needs
to be done before I can officially
employ you.

BILLY

Name it.

GEESE

Hopper!

Hopper rushes over.

HOPPER

Yeah, boss?

Rain sprinkles.

GEESE

Bring the car around. Give this to
the owner.

Geese pulls out a fat wad of cash. Billy's eye widens.

HOPPER

Got it.

GEESE

Let's get you a proper cane, Billy
man.

EXT. BACKYARD - MORNING

The Bogard's family home. JEFF BOGARD (age 40) teaches his sons Terry (age 8) and ANDY (age 7) martial arts. The brothers take turns and try to attack their father.

JEFF

That's it, keep it coming!

The brothers are relentless in their pursuit to land a punch, a kick, anything. Their efforts are futile. Andy is frustrated.

ANDY

Ah! Stop blocking!

JEFF

Then I'll attack.

Jeff grabs Andy's punch and uses his palm to push him to the ground.

JEFF

Balance!

Terry, now one on one with his father, approaches with caution. Eyes fixed on his opponent.

JEFF

Come on, don't be shy.

Jeff smiles.

Terry jabs. Jeff evades.

JEFF

Good form. But--

Terry tries a kick. Jeff counters with a soft kick of his own.

Andy nods to Terry from the ground. Terry's eyes dart to his brother.

Jeff sees the strategy through Terry. He steps over Andy's sweeping kick which snags Terry's leg.

JEFF

Predictable.

ANDY

Damn it, Terry!

TERRY
Don't blame me. You couldn't even
land a sneak attack!

ANDY
Yeah? Well you're too slow!

The brothers wrestle and argue. Jeff smiles and heads into the house.

INT. BOGARD HOME

Jeff prepares breakfast and pours drinks. A KNOCK at the door. Jeff answers.

JEFF
Master Tung! Please, come in.

MASTER TUNG FU RUE (age 80) enters. There's a pause. Tung glares at Jeff.

Jeff pours Tung tea.

JEFF
I sense something's wrong.

MASTER TUNG
I've received word the secret
scroll from the temple was stolen a
few weeks ago.

Jeff puts the pot down. A pause.

JEFF
Geese.

MASTER TUNG
He may have the scroll but it won't
do him any good.

JEFF
He's disrespected you and the
teachings too many times.

MASTER TUNG
Leave it alone. I chose you to pass
on the secrets. Geese has chosen
his road.

Jeff moves into the kitchen. Tung sips tea at the dining table.

JEFF (O.S.)

I've already been thinking about moving. The city's corruption is getting worse without his influence.

Terry and Andy run in.

TERRY & ANDY

Master!

MASTER TUNG

How are you boys?

TERRY

Master, can you show us a trick to beat up our dad?

ANDY

Yeah! I bet you've got all kinds of special moves.

MASTER TUNG

There's no such thing as special moves. Train and study the arts as hard as you can. If you're hungry enough, you'll find a way to win.

Jeff walks in with plates of food.

JEFF

Speaking of which, eat up! You've got school soon.

TERRY

I'm starving!

Terry steals a piece of bacon from Andy's plate.

ANDY

What-- Hey!

Terry laughs and runs away with his food to his room. Andy not far behind.

MASTER TUNG

Don't do anything imprudent. You bear the weight of the Hakkyokuseiken legacy. Pass on it's pure essence and the great power that lies within the ultimate technique.

Jeff nods.

MASTER TUNG (CONT'D)

Your children, they may not be of your flesh, but they depend on you for their survival and love. Your duty is to them and to your mastery of training.

A slight pause.

JEFF

Life has indeed flowed into a new direction for me. I intend to keep the river flowing.

Jeff picks up a framed photo of his family.

EXT. PAO PAO CAFE - AFTERNOON

A black shipment truck drives underneath an elaborate and ostentatious sign.

EXT. PAO PAO CAFE LOADING DOCK - AFTERNOON

The truck backs into the building. CHENG SIZAN (age 35) talks on his cell phone.

CHENG

The shipment arrived. Yes, yes. I've instructed them to be especially careful.

He waves the trucks into place and directs workers to various tasks. Workers speak in the background.

CHENG

Now as for my payment, when can I expect the rest? I see. I look forward to it. I'll make sure I have the Koi out on display.

Cheng steps into a truck as his workers open the cargo door. It's pitch black and he trips. A man hands him a flashlight.

CHENG

(in Chinese)

You fucking morons--

CHENG

Relax. No-- I wasn't talking to you. Yes, yes. I'm opening it right now.

Cheng snaps his fingers. A man hands him a crowbar. Cheng pries the sturdy crate-like box open.

CHENG
(in Chinese)
How exquisite.

An ancient scroll lies surrounded by cushion, coiled up tight with a wax seal.

CHENG
The seal is in tact, yes. Ah. Ok.

He hangs up. A smile grows.

CHENG
What to buy, what to buy.

INT. GEESE'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Geese hangs up. He has a slight smile. A woman enters and gives him his mail.

WOMAN
Someone got some good news.

GEESE
Finally received a long awaited acquisition. Get me a drink.

WOMAN
Yes sir.

The woman exits. Geese shuffles through the papers. He stops and stares at an envelope that is unusual in color and size.

His eyes fixed on two words on the return address: von Stroheim. Geese's eyes are frozen.

DISSOLVE FLASHBACK
TO:

INT. CASTLE STROHEIM - AFTERNOON

SUPER: 20 YEARS EARLIER, GERMANY

Geese's eyes blink. He's only twelve now.

Geese lunges with a pike towards RUDOLPH KRAUSER VON STROHEIM (age 45). Rudolph's son, WOLFGANG KRAUSER VON STROHEIM (age 14) grabs the weapon from Geese.

WOLFGANG
Are you stupid? Do you really want
(MORE)

WOLFGANG (CONT'D)

to die?

GEESE

He did nothing to help her!

Wolfgang yanks the pike away and slashes Geese's shoulder.

RUDOLPH

Let him be. He's too weak to be my son.

Rudolph steps away.

Wolfgang comes close to Geese. He cries on his knees and holds his wound.

WOLFGANG

There's two types of people, Geese. Those who change the world. And those who let the world change them.

GEESE

He let her die. He didn't do anything to help. I couldn't do anything.

Wolfgang inches closer, kneels, and whispers.

WOLFGANG

If anyone is going to kill our father, it will be me. So I suggest you focus on whatever else you want from this world.

Geese stares. Eyes frozen still. Wolfgang drops the pike. The metal CLANGS and echoes on the floor. As it hits--

BACK TO PRESENT:

INT. GEESE'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Geese's eyes blink again. The CLANG of the metal pike matches the CLING of the ice as it strikes against glass. The woman has returned with the drink.

WOMAN

Hello?

Geese snatches the drink from her hand. Confused, she retreats. He downs the drink in a single gulp.

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

Jeff and his sons exit an ice cream shop and stroll down the street. Cars whiz by. Terry tastes his ice cream.

TERRY
I don't know how you guys don't
like mint chip.

ANDY
Tastes like toothpaste.

Jeff chuckles.

JEFF
Boys, stay here.

The brothers continue to argue.

Jeff notices a HOMELESS MAN lays on the ground across the street. He crosses the street.

JEFF (CONT'D)
Do you need some help?

HOMELESS MAN
Are you prepared-

The man coughs. He speaks with a raspy voice. His question to Jeff is inaudible. Jeff moves closer.

JEFF
I've got some spare change and this
ice cream. I know it's not much.

The man clears his throat.

HOMELESS MAN
Are you prepared for death?

The homeless man gazes up with a grin. It's Billy Kane.

Ripper comes from the shadows and tries to stab Jeff.

Jeff dodges. He is struck on the back with Billy's shiny new pole.

Across the street, Terry catches glimpses of his father's distress when cars aren't blocking his view.

A chrome grill of a car as the engine ROARS.

Jeff retreats further into the alley and prepares his stance.

JEFF

Who are you?!

Ripper and Billy side by side start their assault. Jeff counters their strikes with blocks, dodges, and small blows. They are clearly out matched.

Jeff eyes their respective weapons.

Tires turn and SQUEAL on a slick street.

He goes after Ripper's butterfly knife. After some exchanges, he SNAPS his wrist. Ripper YELPS.

Terry strains to spectate. He hears the YELP ECHO from the alley.

TERRY

I think something's wrong with Dad!

The knife CLANGS on the the ground. It's kicked immediately, slides under a dumpster.

Billy twirls his cane like a propeller in front of him. His shield head to toe. Jeff guards up. As Billy steps forward, Jeff steps backward.

Terry and Andy banish their sweet treats to the sidewalk.

As they run--

A black sedan ROARS in front of them and SCREECHES to a halt and blocks the alley.

The brothers brake.

ANDY

Father!

TERRY

Wait, Andy!

Terry holds Andy back.

Jeff glances over his shoulder at the headlights.

BILLY

Go on. Head towards the light.

The headlights amplify to hi-beams.

Jeff closes his eyes. Silence. A pause. His eyes open from his point of view.

All sounds lessen and his BREATH becomes louder. Billy's twirling slows and becomes readable to the ordinary eye. His hands maneuver in the center of the pole. Jeff takes a step back and thrusts his heel at the dead center. Billy's fingertips crinkle to his body as he is kicked back.

Jeff turns his attention to the car. He squints and holds his palm over his face.

The passenger door opens. A shiny shoe crunches on the asphalt.

Terry and Andy saunter up besides the bumper.

The passenger door stays open. Geese stands tall.

GEESE

I wish this could've gone quicker.
I'm running late for meeting.

JEFF

Geese.

Geese jumps abnormally high and lands on the hood of the car.

GEESE

Some imported documents are aching
for my attention.

Geese rolls up his sleeves.

JEFF

Why did you take them? You
weren't--

GEESE

They belong to me. They always
have. And with them, the ultimate
techniques.

JEFF

They belong to the school and
legacy of those worthy of it's
graces.

GEESE

Worthy?!

Geese leaps and attacks. His hands glow blue. Jeff narrowly dodges. The ground, where Jeff's chest was a moment earlier, is cracked and singed.

Jeff hops backward. From the ground, Ripper clutches his ankle with finger armor. Jeff yells. Billy CRACKS his left set of ribs with his cane. Jeff cries out but manages to pinch the cane under his armpit Geese dashes at Jeff.

Jeff evades Geese's onslaught with limited movement. A blow to the chest knocks Jeff down. The cane quickly covers his throat. He struggles. Geese crushes his other ankle under his boot. Jeff SCREAMS.

GEESE

I could have easily had you
assassinated with a bullet. But
there's something dissatisfying
when you don't do things yourself.

Jeff tries to form words but chokes on them instead.

GEESE

Let him speak.

Billy eases off his throat. Ripper gets up and holds his wrist.

Terry and Andy peer underneath the car and into the alley.

Jeff chuckles.

JEFF

A bullet? What's the difference.
You're a coward regardless. Buying
help, buying your way to the top.
This is why you weren't chosen,
Geese.

GEESE

I'm proof you don't need to be
chosen. With pure will you can take
what you desire--

Geese forms an "X" with his arms, knuckles face out, and raises them above his head. Hands illuminate blue.

Jeff forgets about the cane at his neck and mimics Geese's pose to cover his chest.

GEESE

By force!

Geese slams his fists down into Jeff's chest. A wave of blue flames stem from the area around the two. Billy is thrown back.

Terry and Andy gasp.

The power subsides. Jeff's arms are broken. His upper body, burned. He coughs blood. Geese rises.

BILLY

Wha--

Ripper laughs maniacally.

RIPPER

Fuck with the boss and get the storm.

Geese rolls down his sleeves and steps aside. Terry and Andy get a last glimpse of their father.

GEESE

Now, onto Tung.

Andy bawls out.

ANDY

Dad!

Terry talks under his breath. Tears roll down their faces.

TERRY

Dad. No.

Hopper, in the drivers seat, turns around.

HOPPER

Huh?

GEESE

Hopper! Get them!

Terry and Andy flee.

Geese takes a step when--

Jeff grabs his leg holds him back. Barely audible, he whispers.

JEFF

You'll never know peace.

Geese STOMPS.

Hopper exits the car and chases after the brothers.

Terry and Andy retreat back the way they came. Cars speed by and HONK as they narrowly miss the kids.

Hopper evades a motorcyclist and spins around.

HOPPER
God damn bikers.

As he angles around--

A car brakes and collides with him. His body CRACKS the windshield.

The brothers peek behind them and continue on.

The ice cream is now melted. Terry's red Converse shoes CRUNCH the empty cone.

EXT. TUNG'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The brothers' FOOTSTEPS smack the ground as they run up and POUND on the door.

TERRY
Master!

ANDY
Hurry! Open please!

POUNDING continues. Master Tung unlocks the door.

MASTER TUNG
Boys?

TERRY
Our dad!

ANDY
Please you have to help him!

TERRY
By the ice cream shop, hurry!

Terry and Andy cling and tug on Tung's robes.

Tung ushers them inside and SLAMS the door.

INT. TUNG'S HOUSE

MASTER TUNG
Calm down and listen to me. We need to get you boys somewhere safe. Far from South Town.

TERRY
We-- we couldn't see much at first. A black car came by and blocked the
(MORE)

TERRY (CONT'D)

alley.

ANDY

A man with slick blonde hair
dressed in a suit hurt our dad!

TERRY

They said your name too. What's
going on, Master?

MASTER TUNG

We must leave. Now.

ANDY

No! You've gotta go back and--

Tung kneels down.

MASTER TUNG

Boys, your father.

Quick pause.

MASTER TUNG

Your father is most likely dead.

ANDY

You don't know that!

MASTER TUNG

I taught your father for most of
his life.

Terry and Andy listen earnestly.

MASTER TUNG (CONT'D)

He had strength and skill. But--

ANDY

But our father was the new master
right?! That means he's as strong
as you. He can't be dead!

MASTER TUNG

The man you described.

Slight pause.

MASTER TUNG

He trained with your father. He
would have no mercy. If Jeff fell
to him--

Terry heads over to the phone.

MASTER TUNG

Terry, stop. The police can't help.
He's most likely paid them off. We
need to leave.

INT. TUNG'S CAR

Tung concentrates on driving. Terry and Andy sob in the
back.

MASTER TUNG

My heart aches for you boys. And
for Jeff. I ask that you trust me.
I won't let anything happen to you.

TERRY

Why won't you go back and fight?!
Are you scared?

Master Tung glances in the rear mirror at Terry.

MASTER TUNG

If your father perished, Geese must
certainly have had a plan for him
and I to meet the same fate.

TERRY

His name is Geese? That's a stupid
name.

ANDY

So you are scared?

MASTER TUNG

If I die, I can't teach you the
secrets of Hakkyokuseiken when
you're grown. They will be lost
forever. Or worse, the school's
teachings will be distorted by
Geese.

Master Tung pulls into a gas station.

EXT. GAS STATION - NIGHT

Tung is on a pay phone. A familiar voice is heard.

CHENG (V.O.)

Yes, yes.

MASTER TUNG

For how long?

CHENG (V.O.)
Well, I've got other guests coming
by later.

The boys stare out their respective windows.

MASTER TUNG
How long?!

CHENG (V.O.)
Alright, alright. A few days work
for ya?

MASTER TUNG
We'll be there shortly.

Just before Tung hangs up.

CHENG (V.O.)
But after this we're even, ya got--

CLICK.

Tung picks up again and dials fast. HANZO SHIRANUI (age 67)
answers.

HANZO
(in Japanese)
Yes, hello?

MASTER TUNG
Hello, old friend.

HANZO
Tung?!

MASTER TUNG
I've not much time. I need your
help.

Tung stares at the boys in the car.

MASTER TUNG
Is Jubei still searching?

Hanzo chuckles a bit.

HANZO
(in rough English)
He hasn't changed.

EXT. PAO PAO CAFE - DAWN

Tung's car pulls up to the cafe. The Pao Pao sign lights are still lit. Tung and the boys hurry inside.

MASTER TUNG (O.S.)
Give him a message.

HANZO (O.S.)
(in Japanese)
Yes, of course.

INT. PAO PAO CAFE

Cheng shows Tung and the boys into a room upstairs. Terry and Andy get in the same bed.

MASTER TUNG (O.S.)
Jeff Bogard is dead.

EXT. PAO PAO CAFE - MORNING

A black sedan drives under the Pao Pao sign. It parks in the back.

Ripper exits the driver's side. Billy helps Hopper out of the back seat. Geese rises from the passenger side.

EXT. GAS STATION - NIGHT

Tung's tears dribble down.

MASTER TUNG
He should expect company. I'll be
in touch again.

Tung hangs up.

INT. PAO PAO CAFE - MORNING

Geese and his men sit downstairs at a table. Cheng rushes to greet them.

Master Tung strokes his beard as he peeks through the curtains downstairs at Geese.

MASTER TUNG (V.O.)
You boys will get your chance.
But which one of you hungers more?

TO BE CONTINUED.