

Art Heist

Jimmy pushed his hair inside of his police hat, a uniform that he borrowed from one of his acquaintances, so he could get by without being noticed with his partner in crime, Mark. They had this plan for months to steal and sell those pieces of art on the black market.

They had just agreed during the robbery that they would lock the third partner, the security guard, in an office to make it look real and that there was no inside job. This way Manuel, security guard, could keep his job and nobody would suspect him.

"Are you SURE, it's a good idea to keep me locked in here?" asked Manuel.

"Yes, they can't figure out you are part of this plan" said Jimmy, putting tape around Manuel's wrists.

"If you gave us the right direction, it shouldn't take too long for us to find the pieces we want." said Mark, on his walk towards the door, turning off the light and leaving Manuel to the darkness of his own regret.

A few moments after the following the direction they were given, Jimmy and Mark stopped in front of the first painting they would remove from the wall. "Landscape with an Obelisk" it was worth millions of dollars.

"Should we just pull it off the wall? The entire frame?" asked Mark, waiting for instructions on what to do next.

"Just take the painting and leave the frame, they will have a great surprise by tomorrow." Said Jimmy staring at the paint

As Jimmy and Mark were pulling the painting from the wall, a piece of paint from the wall came off with the frame, they collected some other pieces of art they found around the gallery, such as a "Chinese horn." In midst of the chaos, between grabbing whatever they thought had value, Jimmy bumped into a Gilt Bronze Eagle finial, from a Silk flag, that belonged to Napoleon which he had used in one of his battles. There was a resounding noise, for a moment time stopped for Jimmy, he was being drowned by the guilt of what he was doing. The eagle brought him old memories of his dad, when they used to sit late at night, tell stories about revolutions and battles. Jimmy knew his dad would never approve of him being a thief, but Jimmy was sure his dad would congratulate him for his bravery.

"Hey man! come on, we don't have much time left. Are you just going to be staring at this eagle or are you taking it?" Asked Mark.

"I'm taking it." Said Jimmy, smashing the glass box with a little hammer, pulling the eagle from inside of it.

They went outside to load the truck while keeping it running with the art they had stolen; while they went back inside of the gallery to try to pick up some more. Jimmy and Mark had enough time to pick up all they thought would be of value. Before their departure, they decided to check out on their friend, who they had forgotten about, he was still locked inside of the office.

"Finally, I have been locked over here for God knows how long." Said Manuel, with a relieved smile on his face.

"Sorry buddy, but we won't be able to set you free." said Mark

"What are you trying to say? I helped you out. Now let me go"

Jimmy picked up the duct tape from the table, as he approached Manuel to tape over his mouth, Manuel look worried.

"It has to look real, they will find you in the morning. No worries, you get your cut soon."

As Manuel tried to mumble word of anger with his mouth taped, Jimmy and Mark left the building and got into the car, never again to be seen.