

Big Iron

written by

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Based on,
"Big Iron" by Marty Robbins

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EXT. AGUA FRIA, ARIZONA, 1865 - DAYTIME

A SLOW PAN TO THE LEFT, SHOWCASING THE TOWN.

The town of Agua Fria is a typical small dirt road town, it looks as if it is uninhabited, all the shops and the saloon are all weathered by the harsh sun.

At the beginning of the street we see the town sign, also beaten down by years of neglect.

We see BEAU MORGAN (27-years-old, handsome, clean cut brunette, wearing a gray suit and vest, a black cowboy hat, and has his revolver strapped to his hip. The revolver is chrome with an ivory handle) riding his horse into town.

Beau rides to the saloon and ties his horse to the hitching post.

He enters the saloon and a few of the patrons begin to quietly murmur as he walks past them. He approaches the bar. And slaps a nickel down.

BEAU MORGAN
I'll take a whiskey.

The BARTENDER hesitantly approaches Beau. He grabs the nickel and pours a glass of whiskey. The bartender places the glass in front of Beau.

BARTENDER
Mister, I suggest you finish this glass and be on your way. He won't be happy you're here.

Beau sips his whiskey and places it back on the counter.

BEAU MORGAN
That's why I'm here.

Moments later, three scruffy looking gunmen, LUIS RODRIGUES, COLTER WEST, and DAVIS COBB enter the saloon. They're joking around with each other, being obnoxious. They see Beau standing at the bar.

COLTER WEST
Hey cowpoke! Ain't no lawmen welcome in this here town. I suggest you get steppin' before you wind up dead!

Beau looks at the men for a moment, assessing his situation. The men walk up to Beau. Beau turns back towards the bar.

Davis Cobb has his hand on the counter top, right next to Beau.

BEAU MORGAN
You're Red's men ain't ya?

BARTENDER
Now fellas, I don't want any trouble.

Beau gulps down the last of his whiskey.

BARTENDER (CONT'D)
Why don't we just take this squabble outside?

The gunmen look at each other for a moment. Simultaneously, they begin to pull their revolvers.

But in the blink of an eye Beau pulls out his bowie knife and stabs through Davis Cobb's hand on the counter. The bartender flinches and ducks behind the counter.

Beau grabs Davis Cobb's head and smashes it into the counter top, dazing him.

Beau unholsters his revolver and shoots Colter West in the head. He drops dead. Luis Rodrigues has now unholstered his revolver and is fumbling with it trying to get off a shot.

Beau shoots Luis Rodrigues in the right kneecap.

LUIS RODRIGUES
Fuck!

Gunman 2 goes down on his left knee, dropping his revolver to try and tend to his wound. Beau kicks the revolver out of the way. He cocks his revolver and puts it to Gunman 2's head.

BEAU MORGAN
I want you to go tell Texas Red that Ranger Beau Morgan is here for him.

Beau removes his revolver from Luis Rodrigues' face.

BEAU MORGAN (CONT'D)
Now!

Beau kicks him over.

LUIS RODRIGUES
Ye-ye-yessir

Luis struggles to get up and limp his way of the saloon.

Beau is about to holster his revolver and looks back to see Davis Cobb has regained consciousness and is trying to pull the knife from his hand.

Beau aims his revolver and him and cocks it.

DAVIS COBB

Wait wait wai-

Beau pulls the trigger without hesitation.

The bartender stands up from behind the bar, he is examining the damages, he looks distraught.

Beau walks out the saloon and is now standing at the steps. He sees the town members peering through their windows trying to see the commotion.

Beau yells out.

BEAU MORGAN

Ladies and gentlemen! My name is
Ranger Beau Morgan, and I'm here
for Texas Red, dead or alive!

(beat)

Tomorrow morning, when the clock
strikes 11, Red, I'll be standing
right there!

Beau points to the road.

CUT TO:

INT. TEXAS RED'S BROTHEL - DAYTIME

The brothel is dark and grimey, it is filled with outlaws and prostitutes. Texas Red sits in the corner of the brothel, smoking a cigar with two women sitting next to him along with a few of his men.

Gunman 2 limps into the brothel. He is still holding his knee and hanging his head low as he limps up to Texas Red.

LUIS RODRIGUES

Red, we've got a problem. There's a
ranger in town,

(beat)

and he's out for blood.

TEXAS RED
 (dismissively)
 I ain't afraid of no ranger.

LUIS RODRIGUES
 Red you don't understand, he's real
 fast. He challenged you to a duel
 tomorrow.

Texas Red takes the cigar out of his mouth and places it on the table. He gestures the women at his side to leave.

TEXAS RED
 I've had 20 men come for me. Now
 they're nothing more than a mark on
 the barrel of my six shooter.

Texas Red pulls out his dueling revolver, gesturing to the tally marks.

LUIS RODRIGUES
 Boss, why don't we just round up
 the boys and go kill him right now?

TEXAS RED
 No!

Texas Red slams his hand down on the table.

TEXAS RED (CONT'D)
 He comes into my town, my saloon,
 and makes a mess!
 (beat)
 I'll accept his challenge. I've
 been itchin' to earn myself another
 mark anyway.

TEXAS RED (CONT'D)
 I don't appreciate how little faith
 you have in me.

LUIS RODRIGUES
 Boss. I-

Texas Red cocks his revolver and shoots Luis right in between the eyes. His corpse collapses to the ground.

Texas Red holsters his gun.

TEXAS RED
 Someone clean up this goddamn mess.

EXT. AGUA FRIA, MAIN ROAD - MORNING

The town hall clock reads 11:27. Beau is leaning up against the side of the saloon, smoking a cigarette. He looks as if he has been waiting for a while.

Texas Red approaches the street. He has a smug look on his face as he stares down Beau.

He reaches the center of the street, standing about 40 feet away from Beau.

The town members are peering through their windows.

TEXAS RED

Ya know, I've had rangers and
bounty hunters alike come through
my town lookin' for glory, and
they've all me the same fate.

(beat)

It's funny, they all had that same
damn smirk on their face. Never
lasts long though.

Beau laughs as he adjusts his jacket, clearing the pathway to his revolver.

BEAU MORGAN

You done yet?

TEXAS RED

It's gon take more than that big
iron to take me down ranger!

The town hall clock reaches 11:30 and rings.

They both reach for their revolvers and in a split second the sound of a gunshot rings through the air.

Texas Red's smirk fades to a look of fear. He looks down at his gut to see blood gushing out.

He drops his gun and falls to his knees, then onto his back.

Beau approaches Texas Red and kneels down to him.

TEXAS RED (CONT'D)

I thought rangers didn't shoot to
kill.

Beau leans in closer to Texas Red.

BEAU MORGAN

I didn't pull the trigger in the
name of the law

(beat)

I did it in the name of revenge.

Beau gestures to the tally marks on Red's revolver.

BEAU MORGAN (CONT'D)

You killed my brother.

Texas Red looks at his revolver and back at Beau. Red takes
his last breath and his body falls limp.

Beau stands up and walks away as the town members slowly
gather around the body.

FADE TO BLACK.