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### Bound By Honor

How far would you go to prove you are who you say you are? In the film ***Blood in Blood Out*** made in 1993 directed by Taylor Hackford, it shows the struggle of a mixed race boy Miklo (Damian Chapa) trying to prove who he is to his friend and gang members. It comes to a white and hispanic mixed boy who ran from his father to prove himself to his friends and gang members Cruz (Jesse Borrego) and Paco (Benjamin Bratt). Due to a rival gang Miklo kills the rival leader in retaliation for the rival gang hurting Cruz and nearly killing him. Miklo and Paco both get caught and must face the consequences of prison in San Quentin, a Maximum security prison for Miklo and Paco goes to the marines. However in jail Miklo finds who he is in prison with the help of a gang leader in jail led by Montana (Enrique Castillo). Miklo in prison, Cruz addicted to drugs due to being in the hospital and Paco now done with the marine and now a cop. It shows the difference and dilemma of going to the ends to prove who you are or what you are not. Although the events may not have been true it is based on the rough reality of what it is to prove yourself or to know who you are perhaps.

This film shows a good example of how one can change when trying to prove themselves by losing themselves or even finding a better self. However, one complication is how it translates to today's time, one complication of films then is how it is viewed in today's eyes. At least how Miklo found himself could be a little far fetched but who know fact is stranger than fiction.

During the unraveling of the movie we come to three main characters who are different and unique. Miklo, the white and hispanic mix boy who's father beat him and his mother driving them both away so Miklo must prove he is as Mexican as he claims to be but his complexion keeps him out. Cruz, the smooth talking grease ball whose gifted talent has earned him a scholarship for art. Lastly Paco the washed up boxer who broke his wrist and now lives as a "cholo" (gangster). Unfortunately throughout the movie there is much drama between them individually far too much for one person to comprehend in one's life perhaps. While the movie still keeps you on your feet to know what will come of these young men.

The film keeps you entertained especially if you are Hispanic with the slang terms used and jokes made that are common for households of Latin descent. It does pull you in when things go deeper and different problems come up. However the use of drugs in the movie and the ways they use it as leverage to be the variable that pulls them all together (Paco, Cruz, Miklo) an unseen chain.

The unseen chain in these men's lives is the drug war and racial war inside San Quentin prison. Miklo being on the inside and Cruz being the drug addict and Paco being the detective to stop the drug war. Miklo being part of the Hispanic gang and climbing the pole of leadership to finally take control and being the "Jefe" or leader is something far fetched since gangs are usually based on trust and loyalty. Now seeing as they all are intertwined together in this story is very far fetched and something that isn't quite possible, it does base itself in reality of family tearing each other apart for the better and what craziness that can occur from wanting to prove yourself or what you're not.

The film is a film that comes close to another film "American Me" based on the same concept a white/hispanic mixed male with drugs in prison inside and out with family drama.

Although Blood in Blood out is fiction it does base itself in reality but also has enough plot to where it is far fetched. The film lets itself grow and grab those who have maybe tread on the same road it has paved or maybe others have paved for it. Unfortunately this movie is banned in some places or is no longer available it has left an imprint on some people to want to prove themselves or prove who they can not be or should be.