

# REPEAT OFFENDER

A Feature Film Project



*After spending 15 years in prison for a crime that his friend Gus committed, Jake finds himself released back onto the streets and expecting a homecoming, but instead he receives an attempt on his life which sets him on the path for revenge against the man he once protected.*



# SYNOPSIS

Jake and Gus were up and coming wannabe gangsters participating in a robbery gone wrong after Gus murdered the target. Unfortunately for Jake, he was the one the police blamed it on and he didn't talk. He took a fifteen year sentence and when it was over, he walked outside and discovered that the world seemed to have forgotten about him.

Meanwhile, Gus has become a powerful kingpin and when Jake does track him down, he is friendly at first but shows no interest in sharing his empire with the old friend that sacrificed the prime of his life for him. When Jake presses, Gus blows him off saying he'll see what he can do.

Shortly after that, Gus's men pick up Jake and bring him to a location where he can start getting to work but that's a lie, their intention is to assassinate him. Through luck and skill that one can only develop by spending more than a decade in Hell, Jake manages to thwart them and escape.

And now he is angry. With information fed by FIONA, a woman who controls Gus's prostitution rackets, he learns about what his friend has built and how to go on the offensive. And he intends to burn it all down.

Repeat Offender is an action packed neo-noir thriller with twists, turns, and plenty of double crosses. It's a fast-paced story, full of a limited and diverse cast composed of interesting characters that are trying to make the most out of the shitty hand that life dealt them. It's gritty and violent, taking place in a decaying city that is long past its prime, but Gus, Fiona, and especially Jake all have one core goal that every audience can relate to; they want something better for themselves.

# CAST

JAKE CIANGETTI (40, white, grey hairs, muscular, orange jump suit) sits in a prison cell by himself. He stares at the wall, lost in his thoughts.



Jake is one of the few “stand up guys” remaining in this world meaning that loyalty and honor are two values that he holds high and he is a man that upholds what he believes in. A hundred years ago, that attitude might have taken him far, but in today’s world there are more snakes than honest men. His time in prison has turned him into a living ghost who has been thrown into a world that he is out of touch with. His naivety is his weakness but his resolve is his strength and the ordeal he has just went through, spending fifteen year in prison for a crime he didn’t commit, has toughened him into a powerful force that can take on the world.

# CAST

GUS VAZQUEZ steps out. His clothes are what a hedge fund manager would consider to be expensive. He's still muscular but success has also made him fat.



When Jake went away, Gus was nothing more than a meat head with a huge temper and bigger balls to match them with. He had the grit and the wit to stay in the drug game for years without getting killed or arrested, and now he is on top of the city. Even the Mayor waits for him when he needs something. A large part of Gus's success comes from his ability to grow and improve himself. He never finished high school, but he is a self-educated and self-made man that has changed himself from low-level thug into a modern American aristocrat.

# CAST

Jake looks up and sees FIONA (late 30s, beautiful in a commanding way) walk down the stairs. She's dressed business casual. Jake can't help staring at her.



Like Jake, Fiona has a long history with Gus where he now trusts her to run one segment of his empire without direct oversight, his prostitution rackets. When Jake comes out of prison, he is looking for a human being to actually connect with on an emotional level and not just a physical one. She provides that for him and when he is in trouble later, she provides him with shelter and information.

But is her help coming from benevolence or does she have her own ulterior motive?

# CAST

SIMON (40, big, bruised face that looks like it caught a beating a few days ago) steps out of the front seat. He opens the door for Gus.



Simon is the number two man in Gus's organization and when Jake returns home, he can't help but feel threatened and jealous. But he is a loyal soldier and always does what the master says, so when he tries to kill Jake, Jake realizes that he is acting on orders from his commander. While Simon is not the one who is fully in charge, he is both vicious and ruthless in doing what needs to be done with violence.

# VISUAL STYLE



Our visuals will keep in the tradition of film noir where we are in an urban location, our day scenes will show a city that is decaying and taking its remaining residents with it, and our night scenes will be dominated by shadows and the danger of the unknown.



GUS (CONT'D)

Take this money and start a new life. Something that doesn't involve a target on your back.

Jake opens the bank book and checks it again.

JAKE

You opened this three years after I went away.

Gus doesn't confirm or deny.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Why not sooner?

GUS

I needed the money then.

JAKE

It was our money. Look, I'm not accusing you of anything or trying to be confrontational. But you told me that night that we were fifty-fifty partners.

GUS

Jake, I think I'm being more than fair.

Jake closes the bank book and puts it in his pocket.

JAKE

All right. At least I know where you stand.

SIMON

The breaker box is over there. Go open it up and I'll find a fuse.

Jake walks to the box and opens it. Looks old.

JAKE

How do I take it out?

He turns and sees Simon behind him with a gun.

Jake instinctively goes into fight mode and CHARGES Simon.

BANG. A bullet shoots up and makes a hole in the ceiling.

Jake and Simon WRESTLE.

BANG. The bullet hits a wall.

They fight for the gun. Jake PRIES it out of Simon's hand.

SMACK. Simon slaps the gun away from Jake.

It SLIDES across the floor.

Jake PUNCHES Simon. Simon KICKS Jake off of him.

EXT. CENTRAL TERMINAL STATION TOP FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Jake climbs out onto the ledge. He's totally exposed to the people down below.

Jake moves. The façade is crumbling but he might be able to climb it.

BANG. BANG.

Simon's people blockading the building are SHOOTING at him.

Jake climbs because his life depends on it.

BANG. BANG.

Those shots are getting close.

He glances back and sees a SNIPER setting up.

Jake climbs like hell. He reaches the parapet on the top and climbs over.

BANG. A bullet hits where he just was.

EXT. CENTRAL TERMINAL STATION ROOF TOP - CONTINUOUS

Jake catches his breath and looks around. It appears that he just traded one hopeless situation for another.

He takes a sip of the bourbon.

JAKE (CONT'D)

I guess I'm just hurt by the whole thing.  
I went to Hell for Gus and this is how he  
repays me.

FIONA

What do you mean you went to Hell for him?

JAKE

The reason I went away is because Gus  
killed someone he didn't need to. The cops  
pinched me for it and I kept my mouth shut  
for him.

Fiona considers this new information. She feels a tinge of pity for Jake.

FIONA

He sees you as a threat, Jake. You were  
with him in the beginning when he started  
to rise.

EXT. HANSEN REFRIGERATION FACTORY PARKING AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Jake climbs down the fire escape as everyone looks at the building in shock.

Armed Man 1 notices Jake.

ARMED MAN 1

You!

He raises his rifle. BANG. Jake shoots him first.

The Other Armed Men turn to the commotion.

BANG. BANG. BANG. Jake kills them all.

The Workers look at Jake with fear in their eyes. Jake grabs Armed Man 1's rifle.

FIRE TRUCKS can be heard in the distance.

JAKE

You all send a message to your boss, Gus.

Everyone is paralyzed with fear.

JAKE (CONT'D)

He built his empire because of me and now Jake's here to take it away. Loyalty isn't cheap.

BANG. BANG. BANG. BANG. BANG. BANG. BANG.

Jake ducks behind a tree. He's clearly outgunned but he's determined to do what he came to do.

He spots Guard 3 moving towards him and aims. BANG. Guard 3 is dead.

BANG. BANG. BANG. BANG. BANG.

Jake crouches down. The Guards are quickly surrounding him. He needs to move now or he's dead.

BANG. BANG.

Jake fires a couple of rounds in their direction and runs to Guard 3's corpse. Jake takes the dead man's AK-47 and aims at the other Guards.

BANG. BANG. BANG. BANG. BANG. BANG. BANG.

Jake kills TWO GUARDS. He has a path to the house and runs to it.

# ABOUT THE WRITER



**Daniel Kowalski is a writer originally from the New York City Area. In 2013 he moved to Namibia with his family where they lived for ten years. Currently, they are now living in Virginia.**

**Two of Daniel's previous scripts, 'Detour' and 'The Devil's Disciple' have been optioned and are scheduled to enter production at the end of 2023. A third script, 'Citizen's Arrest', has been optioned by producer Richard Salvatore and it is now being shopped around to potential cast.**