

Ruben “Sketch” Barnes

Ex-Con

You’re a former criminal. Emphasis on the former, or so you tell your parole officer. You got out of the state penitentiary a few months ago, and you’ve found life on the outside tough. You’re trying your best to make your way legitimately, so that you won’t wind up back in prison. But finding work when you have a criminal record is hard. Not good resume material. And even if you don’t mention that, you never had a legal job in your life, until after you got out of prison. That’s kinda hard to explain to a prospective employer, why you can’t list any prior work experience.

You found a shitty job working in a wrecking yard, but when some money went missing from the petty cash, all eyes turned to the ex-con. You hadn’t stolen it, but couldn’t convince anyone else of that. They never proved it was you, either, but quickly found an excuse to fire you for minor bureaucratic bullshit. So once again you find yourself jobless and penniless.

Which is why you find yourself in the local bank on the day it gets robbed. No, you’re not robbing the place. You were here to ask your ex-wife Eleanor for a loan until you found another job. She works as a teller at the bank. She doesn’t like you very much, though. When she found out what your line of work was (which happened the evening that the police showed up on your doorstep), she flipped out. She started divorce proceedings while you were still pending trial, and refused to speak to you while in prison. You really would prefer to be asking someone else for help, but she has a steady income and isn’t a criminal, which is more than most of your friends can say.

Of course, when the guns come out, a loan is the last thing on your mind. Your first goal would be to get out of here without being arrested along with the robbers. Of course, if a little bit of money were to disappear during the robbery, would anyone miss it? It would only take a couple hundred to clear up your debts.

One last thing: one of the robbers. You recognize his voice. At least, you think you do. The one keeping an eye on the hostages– you think the other ones called him “Monday”. He’s Vinny D’Angelo. Calls himself “Violent Vinny”, though no one else does. He was imprisoned down the hall from you while you both awaited trial. Not a nice guy at all, and you wouldn’t mind seeing him locked up again.

Define your Character:

What crimes did you commit as a criminal? What did they eventually convict you of? And what does your prison nickname mean?