MCGINTY/VANOWEN SCENE 1

INT. VEHICLE CAB – DAY

VANOWEN
Is it a camel?

MCGINTY
No. That’s twelve.

VANOWEN
A mountain?

MCGINTY
You’re sure you’ve done this before.

VANOWEN
Yeah.

MCGINTY
Because it’s not really a brute force kind of game. You have to have a system. You’re constantly trying to winnow it down to smaller categories.

VANOWEN
You got your way, I got mine.

MCGINTY
Okay, but your way will never work.

VANOWEN
Is it a toaster?

MCGINTY
No! That’s fourteen.

Noticing something in the distance...

VANOWEN
Heads up.

A pile of BURNING JUNK blocks the road ahead. A half-dozen AFGHANI GUNMEN spill out of two JEEPS.

MCGINTY
And suddenly it’s a toll road.

(MORE)
MCGINTY (CONT'D)
(keeping calm)
We’re good. We’ll pay ‘em off.

VANOWEN
Don’t count on it. How many cars have we passed in the last hour?

MCGINTY
One.

VANOWEN
Two. And they’re both behind us.

MCGINTY
(checking his mirror)
That’s not encouraging.

VANOWEN
Hold on!

Vanowen suddenly veers off the road.

END SCENE.
MCINTY/VANOWEN SCENE 2

EXT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

MCINTY
Please tell me the truck’s ready, and we can get the hell out of here.

VANOWEN
Ever try cutting quarter-inch pipe with a hand saw? Best case, we’ll be on the road by dawn.

MCINTY
The blood’s not gonna last that long without refrigeration.

VANOWEN
Maybe we can find ice somewhere. How much we have left in the Happy Arab fund?

MCINTY
We spent it all renting fridges. We got nothing.
(a new thought)
Maybe we do.

VANOWEN
What?

MCINTY
The insurgents turned the power off, right? That means they can turn it back on.

VANOWEN
And why would they do that?

MCINTY
We’ll pay ’em.

VANOWEN
With what? You said we’re flat out.
MCGINTY
How much is ten kilos of heroin worth?

Vanowen looks at him like he’s just sprouted antlers.

MCGINTY (CONT'D)
(suddenly reversing)
You’re right. It’s insane.
I mean, at the end of the day, it’s just a blood shipment. It’s not worth dying for. I’m sure those soldiers waiting for transfusions will understand, we did the best we could.

Vanowen doesn’t rise to his bait. We can see his anger building. McGinty’s trying to set him off.

MCGINTY (CONT'D)
Of course, we probably won’t get another job with CPA, and the business will go under, but them’s the breaks, right? Maybe you could move in with your sister. I think her couch folds out.

VANOWEN
I am not cutting a deal with insurgents!

MCGINTY
Yeah, you’ll kill ‘em, but you won’t talk to them.

VANOWEN
Don’t push me.

He’s serious. He’s about ready to knock McGinty’s head off.

MCGINTY
Vanowen, stop thinking like a Marine.
You are not a soldier; we are not the Coalition. We are just two guys who have to get the power back on or else a bunch of people are going to die.
Vanowen looks away, disgusted by the thought. But nor does he have a better alternative. Finally...

VANOWEN

How would we even find them?

END SCENE.
MCGINTY/VANOWEN SCENE 3

INT. HUMVEE - NIGHT

VANOWEN
This is a bad idea.

MCGINTY
I know. I told you that.

A long beat.

MCGINTY (CONT'D)
34-11-23. That’s the combination to the safe.

VANOWEN
What safe?

MCGINTY
The one in my office.

VANOWEN
What’s in the safe?

MCGINTY
If I die, you’ll find out.

A dozen YOUNG MEN get out, aiming automatic rifles at the Humvee. They SHOUT orders in Arabic.

VANOWEN
No, I won’t find out. They kill one of us, they’re gonna kill both of us. Tell me what’s in the safe.

The gang-bangers motion for them to get out.

VANOWEN (CONT'D)
I'm serious.

MCGINTY
They have guns.

VANOWEN
I gotta gun. Tell me.
MCGINTY
The loan papers. Birth certificate.
Wedding ring.

VANOWEN
Still holding onto it?

McGinty nods.

VANOWEN (CONT'D)
Yeah. I held onto mine, too.

The gunmen pull open the doors, yelling for them to get out.

END SCENE.