

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.

MCGINTY/VANOWEN SCENE 2

EXT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

MCGINTY

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.

MCGINTY

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?

MCGINTY

We spent it all renting fridges. We got nothing.

(a new thought)

Maybe we do.

VANOWEN

What?

MCGINTY

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

VANOWEN

And why would they do that?

MCGINTY

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 there'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.