A DOG NAMED BOO

by

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EXT. ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA - DAY

Aerial view of a glassy Pacific Ocean. Drift over the beachfront mansions inland to an endless concrete metropolis. A checkerboard pattern of upper class neighborhoods is divided by busy streets.

Large hills finally stop the cement blob's expansion. Drift down to the backyard of a small, stand alone house.

EXT. MOLITOR RESIDENCE - DAY

Pan across the bland, empty backyard. There's a SHOVELING sound as tears run down MIKE MOLITOR (7), clean cut. GERI MOLITOR (33), statuesque, sweet, has her arm around Mike. STEVE MOLITOR (35), athletic, stickler, digs a hole.

A small dog lies motionless on the ground. Steve gingerly picks up the dog and sets it in the hole. Mike BLUBBERS. Steve shovels dirt into the hole.

GERI

It's okay. Molly's in Heaven.

EXT. MOLITOR STORE - DAY

The sign above the entrance reads: MOLITOR'S MARKET.

STEVE

These windows could use a wash.

MIKE

Okay, Dad.

On the windows is the reflection of a "WAL-MART COMING SOON" sign. Steve turns and stares at the sign as he unlocks the front door.

INT. MOLITOR GROCERY STORE - DAY

The shelf fixtures and displays are from another lifetime. The few groceries are faced to the front of the shelves to look full.

STEVE

I need you to spot mop after you sweep.

MIKE

Okay, Dad.

Steve and Geri can't take their eyes off the Wal-Mart sign.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike saunters along the sidewalk wearing his backpack.

Mike peers through gaps in an old, wooden fence. He watches with mouth agape as several German shepherds effortlessly navigate an obstacle course made of stairs, ramps, hoops, and walls.

Mike glances at his watch. He races off down the sidewalk.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Mike arrives on campus just as an old, beat up clunker pulls to the curb. Students scatter.

A rear door of the clunker flings open. Several slushy drink cups with clear, bubble lids fall to the ground as PETER WITHERS (8), a man amongst kids, steps out with a menacing look.

Peter points at the two men in the front seat, TIM BERCAW (35), stocky, and JOHN BERCAW (30), tall, skinny.

PETER

I want you back here at three Uncle Tim and Uncle John. Don't be late. And clean up the car.

JOHN

Yes sir, Peter!

Mike tries to blend in with other students. Peter sees him.

PETER

Hey! Dipstick Molitor! Get over here!

A frightened Mike takes baby steps towards Peter. Peter signals to another boy. The other boy sneaks up behind Mike, and gets down on his hands and knees.

MIKE

What?

Peter pushes Mike who falls over the other boy.

PETER

That's what. Next time let me copy your homework.

He reaches down and yanks Mike up effortlessly with one hand while he reaches into Mike's pocket with the other hand.

PETER

Don't you ever have any money, poor boy?

Peter pushes Mike down. He sees the school narc CINDY LOFTIS (24), statuesque, approach. He strides off. Cindy helps Mike up.

MTKE

I should've knocked his teeth out.

CINDY

I'll talk to him.

MIKE

No, don't.

Mike storms off.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike rushes along the sidewalk. He peers through the slots in the wooden fence.

An unmarked police car approaches. Cindy sees Mike as she pulls into the police driveway. She rolls down the window.

CINDY

How about a tour of the station?

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike and Cindy head down a long hallway with doors and windows on each side. Mike's looks out a window at the obstacle course. The course is empty.

CINDY

I'm going to have a long talk with Peter's parents.

MIKE

He doesn't have parents, just his uncles.

He's a big kid.

MIKE

He had to do some grades over.

DISPATCH ROOM

Operators wearing headphones smile at Mike. An electronic wall map of the city is lit up.

CINDY

This is where we receive all our calls. Those lights tell us where our police cars are.

Mike points at the wall map.

MIKE

Why are so many police cars there?

CINDY

That's where Krispy Kreme is.

HALLWAY

Mike looks into a room. He sees men lift weights and practice karate.

MIKE

Police do karate?

CINDY

In case they have to fight the bad guys.

MIKE

If I know karate, bad guys won't
mess with me?

CINDY

Maybe.

Mike looks out a window at the obstacle course.

STRATEGY ROOM

Mike and Cindy enter. A city wall map has several colored push pins inserted into it.

CINDY

The different colored pins tells us what crimes happened in those areas. Yellow is burglary. Red is

robbery.

MIKE

What's the difference?

CINDY

Robbery is when bad guys use a gun or something to steal. With burglary, they just steal.

HALLWAY

Mike sees several store surveillance photos on the wall of two men drinking out of straws. Their faces are hidden by masks, hats, and sunglasses.

MIKE

Who are they?

CINDY

We call them The Slushy Bandits, because they like to rob convenience stores and help themselves to slushy drinks.

An excited Mike HEARS BARKING.

CINDY

Alright. I can tell you're dying to see the dogs.

The two head towards a door.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike and Cindy stand in front of a large pen housing several German shepherds.

MIKE

Wow!

CINDY

I'm going to let them out. Let them sniff you, and don't make any sudden moves toward me...they may think you're attacking me.

Cindy lets the dogs out. They all sniff Mike. Mike pets the dogs who take a liking to him. Cindy BLOWS a whistle. The dogs line up at attention.

Tell them to sit.

MIKE

Sit.

CINDY

Louder.

MIKE

Sit!

All the dogs sit.

CINDY

Tell them to speak.

MIKE

Speak!

The dogs let out DEEP, FRIGHTENING barks.

CINDY

Say, show me your paw.

MIKE

Show me your paw!

Each dog lifts a paw.

CINDY

You're a natural at this. Let's do the course.

The dogs follow Mike and Cindy to the obstacle course. Cindy BLOWS a whistle. One of the dogs darts along the obstacle course. She BLOWS the whistle and another dog takes off.

LATER

The panting dogs are lead back to their pen. Mike pets each one as it enters the pen. Cindy locks the door.

CINDY

How would you like to do this again tomorrow?

MIKE

Can I?

CINDY

Sure. Stop by after school.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Tim and John enter wearing masks, wigs, and hats. John stands by the front door. Tim slides over to the counter and shows the cashier a gun in his waistband.

TIM

Lock the front door.

The cashier grabs a ring of keys from under the counter and locks the front door. John pushes the cashier back toward the register. Tim has her empty the registers into a bag.

TTM

All of it! Let's go!

Customers SCREAM. Tim grabs several hot dogs off a hot dog roller grill. He burns his fingers.

TIM

Ouch!

He throws the hot dogs into the same bag with the stolen money.

John rounds up the customers and tosses a canvas bag to one of them.

JOHN

All your cellphones, money, and jewelry in the bag!

The customers take off their watches and necklaces and pour them, along with cellphones, wallets, and purses, into the bag. John forces them to the back of the store. Tim escorts the cashier over to the group.

John tosses bags of potato chips and bottles of soda into the bag. He runs over to the slush machine and makes himself a drink.

JOHN

What flavor?

TIM

Cola!

JOHN

Don't have it!

TIM

Strawberry!

JOHN

Keep guessing!

TIM

Grape!

JOHN

Got grape!

John pours a grape slush, puts a clear, bubble lid on top and sprints for the door.

Tim forces the group into a storage room and SLAMS the door. He wedges a steel piece into the doorjamb to lock the door. Tim and John sprint out the door.

INT. CINDY'S POLICE CAR - DAY

Cindy drives while Mike sits shotgun. SASHA, a large German Shepherd, rides in back behind the steel screen.

MIKE

What are we looking for?

CINDY

Anything that doesn't look right...a broken store window, people arguing...anything.

Mike turns back toward Sasha. He puts his finger through the screen. Sasha licks Mike's finger.

MIKE

Does Sasha know who the bad guys are?

CINDY

Not until we point them out to her. Then she wants to rip their heads off.

Mike yanks his fingers back from the screen.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Car twenty-three, two-eleven by The Slushy Bandits at the convenience store at First and Wilson.

MIKE

The Slushy Bandits!

Cindy pushes a button on her transceiver.

CINDY

Copy. Hold on!

Mike tightens his grip on the armrests. The patrol car zips by cars.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Police interview the cashier and the robbed customers.

Sasha sits at attention while Mike holds her leash. Cindy takes the leash.

CINDY

Let's see if Sasha can pick up a scent.

Cindy, Mike, and Sasha walk through the store.

Mike sees an officer fingerprinting the cashier.

MIKE

Why are they doing that to her?

CINDY

We need to know her fingerprints. That way, when they go through all the fingerprints, they can throw hers out and hopefully be left with the robbers' prints.

EXT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

The three walk out the door led by Sasha. Sasha comes to a stop at one of the first parking spots.

CINDY

That always happens. The scent goes cold where they got into their car.

MIKE

Did she get anything?

CINDY

No, the store has too many smells.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

The dogs ecstatically greet Mike. Cindy hands Mike a whistle.

CINDY

Make two short blows.

Mike makes two short BLOWS. The dogs line up at attention in front of their dog bowls.

Cindy shows Mike how to measure dog food. Mike pours food into one of the bowls.

CINDY

A little more.

Mike pours more food into the bowl.

CINDY

That's good.

The patient dogs eye the food.

CINDY

Now say, go get it.

MIKE

Go get it!

The dogs rush to the food and chow down their food.

INT. POLICE STATION GYM - DAY

Cindy looks through the window in the gym door. Officers dressed in white karate attire throw punches and kicks. Cindy smiles when she sees Mike getting karate pointers from an officer.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike gets soaked as he gives baths to the dogs. Cindy walks out to him.

CINDY

How's the karate going?

MIKE

Okay. I need to keep practicing so I can beat up Peter.

Karate is for self-defense, not to beat up people.

MIKE

But--

CINDY

That's what Peter does. You don't like it when he does it to you.

MIKE

But--

CINDY

So don't you do it.

Cindy marches off.

INT. STEVE'S CAR - NIGHT

Steve drives with Geri up front and Mike in the back.

GERI

What's the name of the dog they're retiring?

MIKE

Sasha. Cindy says they retire them when they're five or six, but they kept her longer because she's good.

The car pulls to the curb in front of the police station.

Mike uses the door handle, but the door lock is down. Steve pushes the door unlock button at the same time Mike uses the handle. The door won't open. Steve pushes the button again as Mike tries to open the door. The door won't open.

Cindy walks over.

STEVE

Wait a second.

He hits the door unlock button.

STEVE

Now try it.

Mike opens the door and gets out.

Hi, Mike.

MIKE

Hello, Miss Loftis.

GERI

I'm Mike's mom, Geri, and this is Steve.

CINDY

Hi.

STEVE

I hope he's not bothering you being here all the time.

CINDY

Not at all. We enjoy having him.

They walk up the driveway toward the station.

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Mike, Steve, Geri, and Cindy enter the festive conference room packed with uniformed officers helping themselves to the many plates of food. OFFICER ONE (30), and OFFICER TWO (30), see Mike.

OFFICER TWO

Big night, huh Mike?

MIKE

Yes, sir. Where's Sasha?

OFFICER ONE

She's still in her pen.

OFFICER TWO

If we let her in now, there wouldn't be any food left for us.

Everyone laughs.

LATER

Mike eats cake while Cindy speaks at the podium. The honorary guest, Sasha, sits on a table next to the podium.

CINDY

Sasha was one of the best dogs Irvine Police ever had. Without a doubt, the highlight of her career

was when she chased down and tackled the notorious murderer Bob Buford.

The audience CHEERS. Cindy spots Mike.

CINDY

Hey Mike, isn't Sasha great?

MIKE

She sure is.

CINDY

We appreciate everything you've done and know how much she means to you. That's why the Irvine Police is giving her to you.

Mike is surprised. He breaks into a huge grin. Steve, Geri, and surrounding officers nudge Mike toward the big dog. Cindy hands him Sasha's leash. Everyone APPLAUDS.

EXT. MOLITOR RESIDENCE - DAY

Sheets of plywood and two by fours dot the backyard.

Steve and Mike build an obstacle course consisting of tires, stairs, beams, and walls. Sasha watches the two pound nails into a staircase.

STEVE

Looks like she can't wait to run the course.

MIKE

Dad, how long do dogs live?

STEVE

Not very long...maybe twelve or thirteen years, I guess.

MIKE

That's too bad.

Steve sees the sadness on Mike's face.

STEVE

But they get the most out of their short lives because of all the love they give. LATER

Mike runs Sasha through the obstacle course.

EXT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Mike sits hidden on his bike behind a pillar. Sasha sits next to him. Mike eyes all the people going in and out of the store.

Mike shows Sasha a store surveillance photo of The Slushy Bandits.

MIKE

Keep an eye out for The Slushy Bandits.

INT. MOLITOR RESIDENCE - DAY

SUPER: SIX YEARS LATER

A moist-eyed Mike (13), pets a fragile Sasha (13), who shakes and is covered with white hair. Geri holds her purse and car keys.

GERI

It's time, Mike.

MIKE

Just a few more minutes.

Geri walks over and pets the dog with Mike.

GERI

Big dogs don't usually live this long.

MIKE

Maybe it's better if I never had her, so I wouldn't have to go through this.

GERI

You don't mean that.

Mike and Geri escort Sasha toward the front door.

A FEW DAYS LATER

A somber Mike stares at Sasha's empty bed and bowls.

The doorbell RINGS. Mike answers the door. He finds Cindy with MOCHA (8), a German shepherd.

MIKE

Hi Cindy. Hi Mocha.

Mocha licks Mike.

CINDY

Would you like to have Mocha?

MIKE

Yeah!

Mike hugs Mocha who wags her tail.

EXT. CONVENIENCE STORE PARKING LOT - DAY

FOUR YEARS LATER

Mike's car is backed in to a parking space facing the convenience store.

INT. MIKE'S CAR - DAY

Mike (17), sits behind the wheel with Mocha (12) fragile, white hair. Mike eyes the activity around the store. A police band radio periodically CRACKLES to life.

OFFICER ONE (V.O.)

Car eight is ten-nineteen.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Copy that.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike exits the front door with a slow-moving Mocha.

Mike sees Peter (18), walking on the sidewalk. He has no place to hide.

PETER

Hey Molitor, what's it take to be a cop?

MIKE

You have to graduate from the police academy. You don't wanna do that.

PETER

I'm thinking about it.

MIKE

You wouldn't like all the discipline.

PETER

No, but with a badge I'd get to order people around. Nice dog.

MIKE

Thanks.

PETER

I was joking. It needs a cane.

MIKE

Get 'em Mocha!

Mocha GROWLS and lunges at Peter who jumps back. Mocha lets out DEEP, terrifying BARKS. Mike fakes a struggle of not being able to hold Mocha back.

MIKE

I don't know if I can hold her!

Peter takes off down the street.

Mike CHUCKLES. Cindy stands behind Mike.

CINDY

He wasn't attacking you, was he?

MIKE

No, but--

CINDY

Police dogs are for protecting officers and finding suspects, not scaring people.

MIKE

But--

CINDY

You lower yourself to his level when you do that.

She heads toward the station.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Peter sees Mike eating lunch from a brown bag. Peter snatches Mike's bag of potato chips and helps himself to the chips.

MIKE

Don't.

PETER

Too bad you can't bring your doggie to school to protect you. You need to get it a wheelchair.

MIKE

I'm really sorry about that.

PETER

Make up for it by saying "Here" when fat tub of goo Parkinson calls my name tomorrow.

MIKE

I can't do--

PETER

Do it, Molitor!

Peter finishes off Mike's potato chips, tosses the empty bag on the table, and leaves.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

MISS PARKINSON (50), heavy, calls roll.

MS. PARKINSON

Thompson!

STUDENT (O.S.)

Here!

Mike fidgets nervously as he sees Cindy enter and take a seat in the back of the room.

MS. PARKINSON

Walker!

STUDENT (O.S.)

Here!

MS. PARKINSON

Withers! Peter Withers!

She marks her roll sheet.

MS. PARKINSON

Has anyone seen Peter?

CINDY

I see him all the time...smoking in the back parking lot.

Students SNICKER.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Mike eats lunch alone.

Peter grabs Mike's bag of potato chips with one hand and sweeps his lunch off the table with the other. Macaroni and cheese flies through the air. It SLAMS all over a nerd.

PETER

Three hours in detention because of you!

Peter shoves Mike to the ground. He grabs Mike, but stops when he sees Cindy approach.

PETER

You're gonna get yours Molly.

He strides off as students look on.

EXT. MOLITOR RESIDENCE - DAY

Steve and Geri watch as Mike digs a large hole next to two graves. A lifeless, German shepherd tail extends from under a tarp.

INT. MOLITOR STORE - DAY

The shelves are stocked better. A customer enters on the newly-buffed floor.

STEVE

Can I help you find something?

Steve helps the customer and then goes behind the counter. Geri operates the cash register. Steve crouches down to take money out of the safe. He places the money into a canvas bag.

Customers wait in line and browse the aisles. Tim and John walk in calmly wearing hats, wigs, and gloves. John turns the "OPEN" sign to "CLOSED."

STEVE

Can I help you find something?

Tim walks over to the counter and shows Steve a gun tucked in his waistband.

TIM

Lock the door.

Steve hesitates, but sees John at the entrance.

TIM

Now.

Steve tries to hide the canvas bag under the counter on his way to the front door. Tim takes the gun out of his waistband and points it at Steve.

TIM

I'll take that.

GERI

It's everything we saved for!

Steve hands Tim the bag. Tim looks inside the bag.

MIT

Jackpot.

Tim locks the front door. He pulls a canvas bag from his waistband. Tim points his gun at Geri. Customers SCREAM.

TIM

All your money.

Tim tosses the bag on the counter.

Steve opens the register and puts the money into the bag. John rounds up the customers by the stockroom door. Tim points his gun at the customers.

TIM

Money, cell phones, and valuables!

The people place their wallets and purses in the bags. John points a gun at a lady's ring.

JOHN

He said all your valuables.

The lady removes her ring and drops it into the bag. Tim forces the customers into the stockroom and SLAMS the door. He forces a metal piece into the doorjamb. John looks around.

JOHN

They don't have slushies?

MIT

I had to tell you they did, or you wouldn't come. We'll get one next time.

JOHN

I wanna slushy!

TIM

Next time!

They flee the store.

LATER

Mike enters and hears SHOUTING and POUNDING coming from the stockroom.

MIKE

Dad!

STEVE

Mike! Help!

Mike removes the metal piece and lets them out.

STEVE

The Slushy Bandits robbed us!

Mike punches numbers on his phone.

MIKE

We don't even sell slushes.

INT. MOLITOR RESIDENCE - NIGHT

Mike, Steve, and Geri slowly fill their plates at the kitchen table.

STEVE

Cindy says they didn't leave any clues.

MIKE

They never do. They always use gloves, and at least one stolen car which they abandon.

GERI

Will we get our money back?

MIKE

They've never recovered anything in all the years they've been doing this.

STEVE

Cindy thinks they fence the stuff out of state.

LATER

Mike rinses his plate. Geri leans toward Steve.

GERI

How are we going to compete against Wal-Mart now?

STEVE

This is the last thing we needed.

GERI

That was his college fund.

STEVE

I know.

Mike walks over.

MIKE

Don't worry about a college fund. I've decided to enter the police academy.

EXT. GERMAN SHEPHERD SHELTER - DAY

Mike is in another world as he sees kennel after kennel housing German shepherds. An Asian lady, KAYOKO (35), spots Mike.

KAYOKO

Let me guess. You want a German shepherd.

MIKE

I've had a couple older ones, but now I want to train a younger one to be a K-9 officer.

They walk along the kennels as dogs BARK to get their attention.

KAYOKO

Have you trained police dogs before?

MIKE

Yeah, for the Irvine Police.

KAYOKO

I know just the dog for you.

They make their way to a kennel housing a beautiful, black and tan German shepherd. An information sheet in a clear protector pouch shows a photo of the dog with the name "Boo" on top. Boo sits at attention with her tongue hanging out.

KAYOKO

This is Boo. She's three years old. She's great with kids, very obedient, and she'll make a terrific police dog.

MIKE

Is she smart?

KAYOKO

She's very smart. She was trained as a seeing eye dog.

MIKE

Aren't those dogs in high demand? Why is she here?

KAYOKO

Boo's not one hundred percent German shepherd, so people pass on her.

MIKE

Just because she's not full German shepherd?

KAYOKO

That's how people are, but whoever gets her will get a very special dog. I've worked with a lot of German shepherds, and she really

KAYOKO

knows how to read people.

Boo stares at Mike.

KAYOKO

She's been reading you the whole time.

Boo comes to the front of the cage, Mike extends his hand which Boo promptly licks.

KAYOKO

She can tell you're a good guy.

MIKE

How'd she get the name Boo?

KAYOKO

It's short for daijobu. It's Japanese for It's okay. I'd tell her that when someone turned her down. The sadness in her eyes was unbearable.

MIKE

You won't have to tell her daijobu ever again 'cause I'm taking her.

Kayoko gives Mike a tight hug.

KAYOKO

Did you hear that Boo! You're getting a new home!

Boo wags her tail and BARKS repeatedly.

KAYOKO

I have to tell you one thing about her.

MIKE

What?

KAYOKO

She growls at men who wear hats.

MIKE

She will?

KAYOKO

That's why she failed her seeing eye dog test. I think it's because it's hard for her to read people,

KAYOKO

so she growls to tell them to remove their hat.

MIKE

Do they remove their hat?

KAYOKO

No, they take off down the street.

MIKE

Will she bite?

KAYOKO

Only to defend people, or herself.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike introduces Boo to the other police dogs.

MONTAGE - MIKE TRAINS BOO HARD.

- -- Mike has Boo run the obstacle course.
- -- Mike has Boo attack Cindy who's in a padded-armored suit.
- -- Mike has Boo attack and disarm Cindy who points a gun.
- -- Mike makes Boo do the obstacle course again while the other police dogs get to eat.

EXT. MOLITOR RESIDENCE - NIGHT

Under several floodlights, Mike trains Boo on the obstacle course. He puts on a baseball cap. Boo growls at Mike and chases him around the obstacle course until he tosses the cap away.

INT. MOLITOR RESIDENCE - NIGHT

Boo drinks from her bowl and then runs upstairs. She scratches on Mike's door. Mike opens the door and pets her.

MIKE

You're gonna ruin my door.

Mike closes the door and turns the handle as Boo watches. He pushes the door open.

MIKE

See that? Turn the doorknob and push.

He lifts her front paws and places them on the doorknob. He helps her turn the knob and push the door open.

MIKE

Good girl!

He feeds her a dog biscuit.

MIKE

Let's do it again.

EXT. POLICE ACADEMY - DAY

Cadets arrive at the humongous facility with well manicured landscape. Mike steps out of his car in a freshly pressed suit and stares glassy-eyed at his surroundings.

PETER (O.S.)

Hey, Molly!

Mike cringes. He tries not to look as Peter strolls over.

MIKE

Please, no.

PETER

Thought I'd see you here. Didn't expect to on day one.

MIKE

You're gonna be a cop?

PETER

Yup. Can't wait to get my gun.

The two walk toward the entrance.

PETER

You'll help out if I need help on tests, right?

LATER

Montage - Mike and Peter train at the academy

- -- Mike and Peter run an obstacle course.
- -- Mike and Peter practice karate.

- -- Mike and Peter practice pursuit driving.
- -- Mike and Peter train with German shepherds.

INT. POLICE ACADEMY - DAY

Dressed in police cadet uniforms, Mike, Peter, and several other cadets take a test. Peter leans over and copies off Mike's test. Mike tries to hide his answers with his hand, but Peter pushes Mike's hand away.

EXT. DOG TRAINING ACADEMY - DAY

Peter, Mike, and Boo watch as DOG ACADEMY TESTMAN (50), scrawny, takes a huge German shepherd, King, breezing through the obstacle course.

PETER

No dog is better than King, certainly not Doo.

Dog Academy Testman walks over with King. He examines King. He writes on the clipboard. Mike sees Boo stare at Dog Academy Testman's hat. Boo snarls.

MIKE

(Whispers)

No, Boo.

DOG ACADEMY TESTMAN

King is a fine specimen. He easily passed.

PETER

Told you.

DOG ACADEMY TESTMAN

Okay, Boo.

Mike takes Dog Academy Testman's hat off in one swoop.

MIKE

Have a little respect for the animals.

Dog Academy Testman is surprised. He takes Boo out on the course.

PETER

That was fast thinking Molitor.

Boo runs the course.

Dog Academy Testman writes on his clipboard as he strolls over to Peter and Mike. Boo follows. Peter swipes the hat from Mike. He puts on the hat and stands behind Dog Academy Testman.

Mike clenches his fists. Boo GROWLS. Dog Academy Testman looks at Boo. Peter quickly takes off the hat. Dog Academy Testman looks back at Peter, and then at Boo. Peter puts the hat on. Boo GROWLS.

DOG ACADEMY TESTMAN

I can't pass her, because she growls for no apparent reason.

MIKE

But--

DOG ACADEMY TESTMAN

I'm sorry.

Dog Academy Testman walks away.

PETER

Tough luck, squirt.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike trains the dogs on the obstacle course. Boo trains hard on the course. Mike feeds the dogs and fills their water bowls.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike enters with Boo. Frightened passing officers see Boo and immediately remove their hats.

CAPTAIN DOBSON (50), short, worn catcher's mitt face, passes by wearing a hat. Boo GROWLS at him. Captain Dobson races to his office and SLAMS the door just before Boo can tear into him.

MIKE

Boo! No!

Mike hustles over to the captain's door and is about to knock when Cindy grabs his arm.

If you tell him Boo's growling problem, he'll get rid of her.

MIKE

But he always wears a hat.

CINDY

Just keep working with her. We can stall him in the meantime.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike trains the dogs on the obstacle course. He feeds all the dogs, except Boo.

MIKE

Sorry, Boo. You've got more training to do.

Boo races up and down steps, leaps over a wall and a small body of water, and across an elevated beam.

Boo slaloms between Mike's legs as he does a military goose step. Cindy pokes her head out the back door of the station.

CINDY

Mike! The meeting's about to start!

MIKE

Be right there!

Boo runs over PANTING and stands at attention as Mike pours some food in a bowl. He puts on his police hat.

MTKE

It's still me.

Boo's panting stops. She lifts her upper lip revealing sharp teeth.

MIKE

Don't growl. It's still only me.

Boo SNARLS and GROWLS. Mike points at her.

MIKE

No! That'll cost you.

He takes some of her food out of the bowl and puts it back into the canister.

Mike takes off his hat. Boo stops growling.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

CONFERENCE ROOM

Many uniformed officers, including Captain Dobson and Cindy, are seated at the large, polished table which is covered with plates of steaks, baked potatoes, and corn on-the-cob.

A banner hangs which reads: WELCOME ROOKIE OFFICERS. The officers stand, CHEER, and CLAP as Mike enters the room with a huge grin.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

There he is! Come on in, Mike! We're waiting for one more.

Mike looks at the thick steaks on the table.

MIKE

Wow! How'd you get these passed the dogs?

Everyone LAUGHS. Mike sits down next to an empty chair. A life-size, German shepherd stuffed animal is on a credenza behind him. Peter enters.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Oh, here's our other new officer. Mike, you must know Peter Withers.

Cindy sees the smile disappear from Mike's face.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Peter told me he attended schools and the police academy with you.

PETER

We've always been best friends.

Peter takes a seat next to Mike.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Peter and Mike did exceptionally well in pursuit driving, so we're assigning them The Slushy Bandit case. I think they'll give us fresh eyes on a case that's gone CAPTAIN DOBSON

on way too long.

Captain Dobson walks over to an easel and tosses back a cover to unveil a futuristic police car. The officers OOOH and AAAH.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

I'll be ordering one of these high tech patrol cars for the department. It has all the latest high tech gadgets. Whoever catches The Slushy Bandits will get to drive this car.

LATER

Captain Dobson stands at the head of the table addressing the officers.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

One last thing, it's very important that we all get along and are on the same team...no fighting. When a call comes in, we swarm it.

INT. PETER'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Peter stakes out a convenience store. A boy eats an ice cream cone and notices Peter. The boy stares at Peter as ice cream drips onto his shirt.

PETER

Come here.

The boy walks over to Peter's window.

PETER

Hasn't anyone ever told you it's rude to stare?

The boy shakes his head from side to side.

PETER

Haven't you ever seen a cop on a stakeout?

The boy shakes his head from side to side. The ice cream falls off the cone, into the police car, and onto Peter's lap.

PETER

You little!

Peter reaches for the ice cream.

PETER

Get outta here!

The kid runs off. Peter chucks the ice cream at the kid.

EXT. MOLITOR RESIDENCE - DAY

Mike runs Boo hard on the obstacle course.

A sign reads: NO HATS ALLOWED. Mike hugs and pets Boo as she drinks water. Mike leads Boo back onto the course.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Tim and John enter in disguise. John stands by the front door as Tim points a gun at STORE EMPLOYEE (30), behind the counter. Store Employee reaches under the counter for the keys and walks with Tim to the front door.

Store Employee locks the front door. He sees John looking away. Store Employee quickly unlocks the door.

Tim and John round up the customers and make them put their cell phones and valuables into canvas bags. They force them into the stockroom. Tim jams a metal piece into the stockroom doorjamb.

They hustle to the slush machine and pour themselves slushy drinks. MAN IN A SUIT (50), enters. The keys in the door JINGLE which makes Tim and John wheel around.

Man In The Suit places a soda and a bag of chips on the counter. Tim and John hustle to get behind the counter. POUNDING from the stockroom.

VOICE (O.S.)

Help!

TIM

Will that be all?

VOICE (O.S.)

Help!

Man In The Suit turns toward the stockroom.

TIM

Our stock boy always wants us to help him with his work.

JOHN

Like we don't have enough to do here.

Man In The Suit turns back to Tim and John and hands Tim a bill. Tim looks at the empty cash register. His eyes get big.

MAN IN A SUIT

And a pack of Marlboro.

Tim conceals the empty register by closing the drawer.

VOICE (O.S.)

Help!

Another customer enters. Fear is all over the faces of Tim and John.

Tim cups his hands, to act as a megaphone, toward the stockroom.

VOICE (O.S.)

Help!

MIT

Do your own work...Melvin!

John nervously reaches up in the cigarette rack. Dozens of cigarette packs fall down. He tosses a pack of cigarettes on the counter.

MAN IN A SUIT

Menthols.

John and Tim watch more customers enter.

VOICE (O.S.)

Help us!

John hastily reaches up. More cigarettes rain down onto the counter. John throws a pack to Man In A Suit who catches it, then tosses it back.

MAN IN A SUIT

One hundreds.

John reaches up, grabs a pack of cigarettes, and SLAPS it into Man In A Suit's hand.

Tim reaches down and pulls a bill out of one of the loot bags. He hands Man In A Suit the bill.

TIM

Keep the change.

Man In The Suit is surprised. He exits confused. Distant sirens are HEARD. More customers enter. Tim and John grab the loot bags and drinks, and flee.

LATER

Mike arrives with gun drawn. Customers stampede out with arms full of merchandise.

Mike notices the keys in the keyhole. Boo sniffs up and down the aisles. Mike hears POUNDING coming from the stockroom and hustles over.

VOICE (O.S.)

Help!

MIKE

This is Officer Molitor of the Irvine Police!

VOICE (O.S.)

Thank God!

Mike removes the metal piece from the door and lets the people out.

LATER - STORE OFFICE

Mike and Store Employee view a video of the robbery.

MIKE

We're probably not going to be able to identify the robbers from this, but I'd like to have a copy of this tape.

STORE EMPLOYEE

No problem.

MIKE

Keep a phone in the stockroom so you can call the police if this ever happens again.

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Mike fills out a form at his desk. He puts the form in a thick file and closes the file. The cover reads: THE SLUSHY BANDITS.

CINDY

Here's another photo for your Slushy Bandit file.

Cindy hands Mike the photo.

MIKE

Another day of no luck.

Mike puts the photo in the file and the two exit.

MIKE (O.S.)

They'll make a mistake sooner or later.

CINDY (O.S.)

We've been saying that for years.

Peter sneaks down a dim hallway. He sees Mike and Cindy get into their cars and drive off.

Peter opens Mike's Slushy Bandit file. He makes copies of the paperwork.

EXT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

A backed in getaway car waits by the entrance.

The doors BURST open. Tim and John fly out the doors. They throw canvas bags into the back seat.

The two men hop into the car. The car DASHES off.

INT. MIKE'S CAR - DAY

Mike drives with Boo in the backseat. He slides a dog biscuit between the cage wires, which Boo promptly chomps on.

POLICE DISPATCHER
Cars Seven and Thirteen, a Slushy
Bandits' two-eleven at the
convenience store at First and
Broad.

MIKE

Hang on Boo.

He steps on the accelerator.

INT. PETER'S CAR - DAY

Peter pulls to the curb and turns to King.

PETER

We'll let Mikey flush out the bandits so we can catch 'em and take all the credit.

King puts his head down on the seat and covers his face with his paws.

PETER

Dispatch, Car Thirteen is ten-seven mechanical problems.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Copy Car Thirteen, you're ten-seven. Car Twenty-one back up Car Seven.

Peter leans back and interlocks his fingers behind his head. He puts his feet up on the dash.

EXT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Mike's car skids to a stop. He draws his gun and uses his remote popper to let Boo out of the back.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Mike and Boo enter cautiously. Boo SNIFFS up and down the aisles. Mike hears POUNDING on the back storage room door.

MIKE

Darn it!

He removes a metal piece from the door frame and lets the people out.

INT. PETER'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Peter uses binoculars to see the drivers of oncoming cars. He spots a car with The Slushy Bandits in disguise drinking from straws.

PETER

Bingo!

Peter waits until The Slushy Bandits' car passes. He slowly pulls from the curb and makes a U-turn.

INT. SLUSHY BANDITS' CAR - DAY

John takes the cell phones out of the loot bag and puts them into a plastic bag. The car slows down. Tim and John look out their windows.

MIT

Where'd you put the car?

JOHN

I left it somewhere around here.

TTM

You don't remember? We're in a stolen car!

JOHN

Like Mom used to say, it'll turn up somewhere.

Tim SLAPS the slushy drink from John's face. The lid falls off and SPLASHES all over John's lap. John SLAPS Tim's drink out of his hand and it pours onto Tim's lap. The two wrestle.

INT. PETER'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Peter follows The Slushy Bandits from a distance. Peter turns back toward King.

PETER

We're gonna win this contest and be on the Captain's good list forever. INT. THE SLUSHY BANDITS' CAR - DAY

Tim sees their car being lifted onto a tow truck next to a NO PARKING sign. TOW TRUCK DRIVER (30), tattoos, gets in his truck.

TIM

You idiot! You parked in a No Parking zone!

The car SKIDS to a stop behind the tow truck.

Tim accidently drops the keys, which FALL between the seats. He tries to retrieve the keys, but quickly gives up. The two hastily grab their loot.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Peter watches from a distance. The tow truck leaves. Tim and John exit the car and race frantically down the street after the truck. The loot bags leak colored fluids.

TIM

Hey! Wait!

Tim and John have large, wet spots in the crotch of their pants. Tow Truck Driver sees the men in his side view mirror. The tow truck stops.

Tim sees colored fluids leaking from the bags.

TIM

John!

JOHN

I put in some extra slushes for the road.

Tim shoots eye darts at John.

Tim and John catch up to the tow truck OUT OF BREATH.

TIM

We were just coming to get our car!

TOW TRUCK DRIVER

Too bad. Once we get the car on the lift we have to--

Tim opens one of the bags and counts soggy bills under Tow Truck Driver's nose.

TTM

Here's two hundred to make this go away.

TOW TRUCK DRIVER

Done.

Tow Truck Driver pockets the money and exits his truck.

INT. PETER'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Peter observes Tim and John get into the car and drive off.

The Slushy Bandits car heads down an alley. A plastic bag is thrown out a window into a commercial trash can. Peter drives to the trash can and HEARS lots of RING TONES. He drives off.

Peter keeps his distance as The Slushy Bandits enter a residential neighborhood.

PETER

They must live in one of these houses.

The car heads down a street with a sign which reads: NO STREET OUTLET. Peter pulls to the curb behind a car and turns off the engine.

The Slushy Bandits park in a cul-de-sac and head into a hilly forest with their loot.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Peter hops out of his car and pushes a button on his keyless remote to let King out. He pushes the button several times. He finally opens the door manually and King hops out.

PETER

We have to be quiet.

A boy, CARTER (7), black, warm, sees the two slither down the street from his porch. He runs down his front stairs, but Peter waves him off.

PETER

Get outta here.

Carter goes back to his porch. King SNIFFS The Slushy Bandits' car.

PETER

Get a good whiff, boy.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

King leads the way into the hilly forest.

LATER

King comes to a sudden stop. Peter sneaks up behind a tree.

Valuables are laid out on a bedsheet. Tim cooks hot dogs over an open campfire. John uses a cloth to wipe fingerprints off the stolen items.

TIM (O.S.)

You can't do anything without messing up.

JOHN (O.S.)

We didn't get caught.

TIM (O.S.)

Not this time. How did you forget where we parked? And why would you park in a No Parking?

Peter looks through bushes and tries to make out the two men whose backs are to him. On the ground next to them are the bags of money.

TIM

Help me dump the loot into the slush fund.

The two men move a large rock which sits on a piece of plywood. John removes the plywood to reveal a hole.

MHOT

Why don't we ever spend the money?

TIM

Because it's for our retirement.

JOHN

I'm not tired.

Tim places the bags of money in the hole. Tim and John put their disguises in a bag and drop them in the hole.

Peter springs from the bushes with his gun drawn.

PETER

Put your hands behind your head!

King runs up to the robbers and BARKS repeatedly. Tim turns slightly.

PETER

Face away from me!

Tim faces away. Peter handcuffs the men. He pushes the button on his shoulder transceiver.

PETER

Dispatch, Car Thirteen.

Peter walks around to face the men.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Go ahead, Thirteen.

PETER

I've got The--

He goes white and releases the radio button when he sees the two men are his uncles.

PETER

No!

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Go ahead, Thirteen.

He pushes the radio button.

PETER

Cancel.

Peter kicks dirt.

PETER

Why Uncle Tim? Why Uncle John?

TIM

There's really no answer to why we--

JOHN

Free slushes! We get all the free slushes we want!

TIM

We did it once when we were low on cash. We didn't get caught, so when that cash ran out, we did it

TIM

again.

JOHN

And again, and again, and--

PETER

All the birthday money you gave me was stolen?

JOHN

7-Eleven's cherry Slurpees are the best.

PETER

Let me think!

Peter pours the contents of one of the bags onto a towel.

JOHN

You're not gonna arrest us, are you?

PETER

No.

Tim and John EXHALE DEEPLY.

PETER

In fact, you're still gonna be able to rob stores and drink your cherry slushes, but I'm gonna take a cut.

EXT. PETER'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Peter lies on his back under his patrol car with only his legs sticking out.

UNDER THE CAR

Peter disconnects a wire clamp connected to a box marked: VEHICLE TRACKING SYSTEM.

Peter crawls out from under his car and strides to a pay phone. He dials.

PETER

There's a crazy man shooting wildly at the post office at Third and Lemon! Please hurry!

He punches numbers on his cell phone.

PETER

Go get our money.

INT. SLUSHY BANDITS' CAR - DAY

Tim and John are backed in to a parking spot outside a convenience store. Tim has his cellphone to his ear.

TIM

Okay. We're heading over.

John snatches the cellphone from Tim.

JOHN

Roger that, good buddy! Over and out!

Tim grabs his phone back and SMACKS John.

JOHN

I always wanted to say that.

Tim and John put their disguises on and exit the vehicle.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

The customers valuables are bagged. They are locked in the stockroom.

INT. MIKE'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Mike drives as Boo rides in the back.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Cars Seven and Thirteen, two-eleven. Slushy Bandits last seen in a black Mustang headed northbound on McCormick at Rosewood.

MIKE

Copy, northbound McCormick at Rosewood.

INTERCUT - MIKE'S CAR/PETER'S CAR/SLUSHY BANDITS' CAR

PETER

Copy.

Peter steps on the accelerator and hits his SIREN and lights. Peter sees the black Mustang. He makes a U-turn and follows it. The two cars cross an intersection where street signs read McCormick and Wilson.

PETER

Suspects are headed east on Clover at Tenth Avenue.

Mike SCREECHES a U-turn. Boo slides across the back seat.

The black Mustang and Peter's car go through the intersection of McCormick and Baker.

PETER

Suspects are headed west on Pear at Cypress.

Mike SLAMS on the brakes and SKIDS a U-turn.

MIKE

How'd they get there so fast?

Peter shuts off the siren. The black Mustang and Peter's car move silently through the intersection of McCormick and Park.

PETER (V.O.)

They're eastbound at Heil and Baker.

MIKE

What?

Mike pulls a U-turn. Peter shuts off the lights and LAUGHS. He pulls to the side of the road as the black Mustang continues on. Peter speaks into his radio.

PETER

I lost 'em. They made it through an intersection almost hitting pedestrians. I, being the nice guy, had to let them cross.

He releases the radio button and CHUCKLES.

END INTERCUT

INT. MIKE'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Mike drives with Boo in the back.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Cars Seven and Thirteen, two-eleven at fifth and Main. Slushy Bandits headed south on Main in a mars red Honda four door.

Mike pushes a button on his transceiver.

MIKE

Ten-four. Hang on, Boo.

He hits the SIREN and PUNCHES the accelerator.

INTERCUT - MIKE'S CAR/PETER'S CAR/BANDITS' CAR

INT. PETER'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Peter drives with King in the back.

PETER

Red? Those idiots.

Peter pushes the button on his transceiver.

PETER

Ten-four.

He releases the button and SLAMS down the transceiver. He gases the accelerator. King flies back in his seat.

Mike spots the red Honda. He pushes the button on his transceiver.

MIKE

I've located The Slushy Bandits southbound Main at Jefferson.

He WHIPS a U-turn.

Peter HITS the gas into a turn causing an old lady with a cane to scurry across the street. The car FISHTAILS around a corner. King WHIMPERS as he slides across the back seat.

PETER

Quit your griping.

POLICE DISPATCHER (O.S.)

Copy...vehicle heading southbound Main at Jefferson.

Tim and John see the flashing lights in the mirrors.

TTM

All the cars to choose from and you had to steal a bright red one!

Mike gains on the red sedan.

MIKE

Southbound Main at Herring.

Peter spots both cars. He joins the pursuit.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Copy...southbound Main at Herring.

Mike edges closer to The Slushy Bandits' rear bumper. It's a NASCAR race as Peter rides Mike's bumper. Tim swerves from side to side to try to shake off Mike.

The three cars zoom toward a T-intersection. A devilish smile comes over Peter's face.

PETER

Hang on King.

Tim BRAKES for the turn. Mike BRAKES for the turn. Tim executes the corner perfectly.

Peter rams Mike's car as it's halfway through the turn causing it to SPIN out.

The Slushy Bandits speed off. Both patrol cars SKID to a stop. Steam pours from Peter's hood.

MIKE

Dispatch, we lost them. Cars Seven and Thirteen are ten-forty-five and ten-seven.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Copy. Cars seven and thirteen are ten-forty-five and ten-seven.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Both officers spring from their cars.

MIKE

Why'd you smash into me?

PETER

Smash into you? Why'd you brake so hard?

MIKE

I didn't brake hard! You smashed into me!

PETER

You waaaay overbroke!

MIKE

You're crazy! I would've had The Slushy Bandits!

PETER

The captain doesn't want us arguing, so just leave it.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Captain Dobson and Cindy watch as two tow trucks bring the damaged patrol cars to the back of the station.

Mike and Boo hop out of one tow truck. A petrified TOW TRUCK DRIVER cautiously lets Peter and King out of the other.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

What happened?

PETER

Officer Molitor got a little too excited and broke harder than he should've...I ended up giving him the P.I.T. maneuver.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Is that how you see it?

MIKE

I thought I had The Slushy Bandits, but...

FLASHBACK - WELCOME MEAL AT THE POLICE STATION

CAPTAIN DOBSON (V.O.)

It's very important that we all get along and are on the same team...no fighting.

BACK TO PRESENT DAY

MIKE

I may've broken a little hard.

A voice comes over the captain's radio.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

They found the red sedan in the Wal-Mart parking lot.

Captain Dobson tilts his head to speak into his shoulder radio.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Ten-four.

PETER

(To Mike)

Notice how they chose a parking lot with a sea of cars instead of your parents' empty lot?

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Let's head in. We'll issue you new cars.

Mike and Cindy hang back as Peter and Captain Dobson head towards the police building.

MIKE

He rammed me.

CINDY

Why didn't you tell the captain?

MIKE

He doesn't want any arguing.

CINDY

You gotta stand up for what's right.

MIKE

I know.

CINDY

Why would he do that?

MIKE

Maybe to get the new police car.

EXT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Tim and John drink their slushes as they flee with bags of loot. Miss Parkinson sees the robbers hop into a yellow jacket yellow VW Beatle. She copies down the license plate number.

INT. MIKE'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Mike patrols the streets with Boo behind the separation cage. Mike picks up his officer's hat off the front passenger seat and places it on his head. From his rear view mirror he sees Boo snarl. He puts the hat on the seat.

MIKE

No, Boo!

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.) and Thirteen.

Cars Seven and Thirteen.
Two-eleven just occurred. Slushy
Bandits headed northbound on
Aralia Street in a stolen, yellow
Volkswagen Beatle, license plate
eight, Foxtrot, Victor, Oscar,
niner, niner, niner.

MIKE

Copy. Hang on Boo!

Tires SCREECH.

INTERCUT - MIKE'S CAR/PETER'S CAR/SLUSHY BANDITS' CAR

INT. PETER'S CAR - DAY

Peter floors it and WHIPS a U-turn.

PETER

Yellow! They can't be related to me.

He pushes the button on his transceiver.

PETER

Copy.

INT. SLUSHY BANDITS' CAR - DAY

Tim and Mike remove their disguises. Tim sees a police car with lights on in his rear view mirror.

TIM

You gotta stop stealing these bright colored cars!

He looks over to see John enjoying his drink. He SLAPS the drink out of his mouth.

TIM

Tell me if that's Peter back there!

John looks back and sees Peter angrily point at him and then make the sign of cutting his throat with an imaginary knife.

JOHN

It's Peter. He looks angry...probably because you spilled my drink.

Mike joins the race. Peter SWERVES toward Mike to keep him from passing. Mike SWERVES to avoid a collision.

MIKE

What's he doing?

Tim puts his drink in a cupholder. John grabs it and drinks from the straw. Tim SLAPS John's hand. John drops the drink and it SPLASHES all over Tim.

Peter SWERVES to keep Mike at bay.

The three cars barrel down the highway toward a T-intersection.

Tim BRAKES hard at the last minute and snaps the wheel causing the Volkswagen to FISHTAIL.

Peter checks his mirror. He lines up Mike's car directly behind his. He SLAMS on the brakes. Mike's car CRASHES into Peter's car.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Car doors fling open. The two men get out. Mike storms over to Peter.

MIKE

Why'd you do that?

PETER

You were following too close, so I was signaling you to stay back!

MIKE

C'mon!

Mike pushes the button on his transceiver.

MIKE

Both Car Seven and Car Thirteen are ten-forty-five and ten-seven.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Again?

MIKE

Yes.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Copy. Cars Seven and Thirteen are ten-forty-five and ten-seven.

CAPTAIN DOBSON (V.O.)

What!

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Captain Dobson and Cindy watch two tow trucks bring the damaged police cars next to the previously damaged police cars. Peter and Mike exit the tow trucks.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

What happened this time?

PETER

Officer Molitor slammed into me when I was just about to P.I.T. maneuver The Slushies. I would've caught them.

Mike clenches his fists.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Is that how you see it?

MIKE

Well--

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Officer Withers was the top pursuit driver at the academy.

MIKE

I may have been a little too aggressive.

Cindy drops her head. Captain Dobson puts his arm around Peter as the two men head toward the station.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

So, you almost got them?

PETER

I was this close.

Peter indicates with his thumb and index finger.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

You don't suppose Officer Molitor was trying to get back at you, do you?

PETER

I wouldn't want to speculate sir, but I think he was.

Cindy stays back with Mike.

CINDY

I know you're too cautious to just slam into another patrol car.

MIKE

He broke hard on purpose so I'd hit him. He tried to run me off the road.

CINDY

Why would he do that?

MIKE

He doesn't want me to catch The Slushy Bandits.

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Peter opens a cabinet filled with supplies. He takes out a small, disc battery.

Peter replaces the battery in his wireless remote. He tosses the used battery into a trash can.

A wicked smile comes over him. He retrieves the battery from the trash can. He takes the wireless remote off Mike's desk and replaces the good battery with the dead battery. EXT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Kayoko pulls on the front door handle. The door won't open. She puts her face to the glass door to get a better look.

She sees The Slushy Bandits rounding up employees and customers at gun point. She quickly ducks out of sight. She tries to calm herself and slow her panicked breath.

KAYOKO

Daijobu, daijobu, daijobu.

She punches numbers on her cell phone.

INT. PETER'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Peter sleeps with his bare feet on the dash.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Cars Seven and Thirteen...

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Two-eleven in progress by The Slushies at the 7-Eleven at Park and Magnolia.

Peter abruptly wakes up.

PETER

What?

He pushes the button on his transceiver.

PETER

Did you say The Slushies?

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Yes, The Slushy Bandits.

INTERCUT - PETER'S CAR/MIKE'S CAR/CONVENIENCE STORE

PETER

They'll wish they never knew me.

INT. MIKE'S PATROL CAR - DAY

MIKE

Copy. E-T-A is one minute.

He puts the car in gear and BURNS rubber.

Peter dials his cellphone as fast as he can. Tim answers his cellphone as he shoves people into a stockroom.

TIM

You mob 'em, we rob 'em.

PETER

Get out! Cops are on the way!

TIM

Got it!

He pockets his cell.

TIM

Cops!

They bolt for the door. A police siren BLARES. John eyes the slushy machine.

TIM

Don't even think about it!

They unlock the front door and flee.

EXT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Tim and John jump into a hot pink, Chrysler PT Cruiser wrapped in a loud advertisement.

Mike ROARS into the parking lot, spots the robbers and tries to cut them off. White smoke ERUPTS from the PT Cruiser's spinning tires as it ROCKETS away.

INT. THE SLUSHY BANDITS' CAR - DAY

Tim checks his rear view mirror.

TIM

See if that's your nephew!

John turns around and sees Mike an inch off their rear bumper.

JOHN

It's not Peter.

TIM

I'm sure we can lose him in this!

Tim cuts through a corner gas station and back onto a street. Mike stays right with them.

TIM

This car may be slow, but at least it's ugly.

INTERCUT - PETER'S CAR/THE SLUSHY BANDITS' CAR/MIKE'S CAR

Peter punches numbers on his cell phone. John answers his phone. He puts it on speaker.

JOHN

You mob 'em, we--

PETER

Quit clowning! I'm nowhere near you, so I can't bail you out! You should've told me you were gonna rob that...you were gonna keep all the loot for yourselves!

Tim and John have been caught.

PETER

You think I wouldn't have found out? You're gonna owe me big time!

MIT

What do we do?

PETER

Meet me on the north side of town by the sand dunes. We'll lose him there.

TIM

Got it.

Tim cuts through another gas station. Mike tries to do the P.I.T. maneuver on the PT Cruiser, but just misses.

Mike speaks into his transceiver.

MIKE

Northbound Sixth at Wilson.

The PT Cruiser RACES down a long stretch with Mike just inches off its bumper. Mike sees the brake lights come on as both cars approach an intersection.

A young boy, RICKY JENSON (10), stocky, HEARS the SIRENS. He rushes over to get a better look.

Mike closes in on the PT Cruiser as it slows to make a turn. He PLOWS into the car mid-turn which SPINS it like a top.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Tim and John flee on foot. Mike exits with his gun drawn.

MIKE

Show me your hands!

Mike turns toward his car, aims the wireless remote toward his vehicle, and pushes a button. The car doors remain closed. He takes off after Tim and John.

INT. MIKE'S PATROL CAR - DAY

Boo BARKS repeatedly as she sees Mike run off. She SCRATCHES and BITES the door handle.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Mike speaks into his shoulder radio.

MIKE

Officer in foot pursuit northeast corner of Wilson and Thirteenth Street. We're headed for the sand dunes.

Ricky stops and looks at Boo before chasing after Mike. Boo tries to get out of the patrol car by BITING and CLAWING the door.

EXT. SAND DUNES - DAY

Tim and John run into an area with tall brush. Mike gives chase several yards behind.

MIKE

Freeze!

Tim and John run over a dune. Tim grabs a stick.

TIM

Keep going!

John continues on as Tim ducks behind a bush.

Mike runs over the dune. Tim readies the stick. As Mike passes, Tim trips Mike with the stick. Mike drops his gun. It's lands partially concealed in the sand.

Ricky sees Tim and Mike wrestle in the sand. Mike dives for his gun. The gun gets completely buried. Mike feels for the gun. Tim dives on top of Mike. He throws sand in Mike's eyes, blinding him.

Ricky sees Peter and King on a hilltop watch the struggle from their car. Peter cracks a smile. King BARKS repeatedly. Mike HEARS the barks.

MIKE

Boo, help!

Mike speaks into his radio.

MIKE

Officer down, needs help!

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Copy. Car Thirteen, please respond to officer down.

PETER

Car Thirteen is too far away, but I'll get there just as soon as I can.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Copy.

John runs to the two men and helps Tim hold down Mike. Tim feels around in the sand.

TIM

His gun's in here!

King tries to break from Peter. Peter pulls back on his leash.

Tim unsnaps one of Mike's belt pouches. A canister falls out.

TIM

Spray him! Spray him!

John picks up the canister and points it at Mike. He pushes down on the nozzle. Spray hits John's face.

JOHN

Ouch!

He drops the canister and uses his shirt to dry his eyes. Tim picks up the canister and sprays Mike's eyes.

MIKE

No! Boo, help!

Ricky finds a stick and races to the canister.

He picks up the canister and sprays Tim and John.

TTM

Ow!

JOHN

Ouch!

They rub their eyes in agony. Ricky WHACKS them in the head with the stick.

Peter takes his gun out of his holster and aims at Ricky. King bites Peter's wrist.

PETER

Ow!

The gun drops to the ground as Peter WRITHES in pain.

Tim and John blindly punch at Ricky, who avoids them by dancing around the men. Ricky pushes John into Tim. The two men fall down.

Peter grabs King by the collar and escorts him into the back seat of his car. He SLAMS the door.

PETER

Dumb dog.

Boo BITES off a chunk of the door and CLAWS the door handle. The door opens. Boo darts from the car and up the sand dune. Sirens BLARE in the background.

Ricky uses the stick to dig for Mike's gun. He finds the gun and approaches Mike.

MIKE

Help! Boo!

From the top of the sand dune, Boo sees Ricky walk toward Mike with the gun. Boo races down the sand dune. Tim barely makes out Boo.

TIM

Let's get outta here!

Tim helps John get up. The two men run off.

RICKY

Here's your gun, officer.

Mike, somewhat blinded, sees Ricky with the gun and Boo closing in.

MIKE

No! Drop the gun! Drop the gun!

Boo leaps onto Ricky and knocks him to the ground.

Mike sees Boo biting Ricky.

MIKE

Boo, no!

Mike crawls over to help the boy.

MIKE

Off, Boo!

Peter uses his remote control popper. The door opens and King jumps out. Tim and John run over the sand dune. Peter and King run down the hill toward Mike and Ricky.

PETER

Off, Boo!

Peter grabs Boo's collar and yanks her off Ricky who lies motionless and bleeding. Mike presses a handkerchief against Ricky's wounds. He pushes the button on his shoulder radio.

MIKE

Send an ambulance right away!

PETER

Dumb dog.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Captain Dobson watches as Mike drives in and parks. He storms over to the car.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

That boy's in a coma! His parents are threatening to sue us because of Boo!

Mike gets out and lets Boo out, exposing the ripped apart door.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

What happened to the door?

MIKE

The remote popper didn't work. Boo fought to get out.

Boo SNARLS at Captain Dobson. Mike snags the captains cap.

MIKE

You've got a smudge on your cap. I'll have it polished right away.

Peter pulls up beside the men.

PETER

That dog is a menace!

CAPTAIN DOBSON

I want a complete report on my desk A-S-A-P. I need you to get over to the hospital and visit the boy.

MIKE

Yes, sir.

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Mike and Boo approach the entrance. Mike sees a sticker on the front door which reads: NO ANIMALS EXCEPT SEEING EYE DOGS.

MIKE

Sorry, Boo.

They turn around and head to the parking lot.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Ricky lies in bed with his eyes closed and tubing coming out of his nostrils. His father PAUL JENSON (35), athletic, and his mother JACKIE JENSON (32), statuesque are at his bedside. Mike enters.

MIKE

You must be Mr. and Mrs. Jenson. How's Ricky doing?

PAUL

The doctors don't know.

Jackie strokes the side of Ricky's head.

MIKE

I'm awfully sorry about--

JACKIE

Your dog needs to be put down! We can't have a wild animal attacking innocent children!

PAUL

Honey, Ricky never should've touched the officer's gun. The dog was only protecting--

JACKIE

It almost killed him, Paul!

Mike heads for the door.

MIKE

I'm very sorry.

He exits.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike, Boo, Cindy, and Captain Dobson are out at the obstacle course.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

I've instructed Detective Loftis to quarantine Boo for the next seventy-two hours.

Cindy takes the leash from Mike and walks Boo over to an isolated chain-link pen. Mike follows her.

CINDY

Sorry, Mike, but it's policy.

Cindy puts Boo inside the pen and closes the door. Boo licks Mike's fingers through the fence.

MIKE

She doesn't belong behind bars.

CINDY

What happened?

MIKE

The popper didn't work, so Boo couldn't get out. I thought she was right behind me.

EXT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Mike feeds the dogs and walks over to Boo's separate pen. He pets a sad, lonely Boo through the cage.

MIKE

It's okay girl.

Cindy walks over.

MIKE

Boo acts so sad...like she thinks she killed him.

CINDY

If she could see Ricky at the hospital, then she'd know she didn't kill him.

MIKE

We gotta get Boo over to the hospital.

CINDY

But how without them noticing she's missing?

Cindy keeps lookout while Mike places the life-size stuffed German shepherd animal from the conference room in Boo's pen.

MIKE

I better go alone. I don't want you losing your job.

Mike leaves with Boo.

The captain looks out his office window and sees a German shepherd figure in Boo's pen.

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Mike and Boo enter. Mike wears dark sunglasses and taps a white tip cane in front of himself. A receptionist smiles at Mike, who smiles back.

RICKY'S ROOM

Mike and Boo enter and look over the unconscious boy. Boo WHIMPERS.

MIKE

It's okay girl. You didn't kill him.

He takes Ricky's wrist and pets Boo with Ricky's hand.

MIKE

See, he likes you.

Boo licks Ricky's hand.

MIKE

It was an accident.

Boo SNIFFS the boy. Mike tucks Ricky in under his blanket. Mike and Boo leave.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

MONTAGE - BOO SNIFFS AROUND PREVIOUS CRIME SCENES

- -- Boo sniffs outside convenience stores.
- -- Boo sniffs the sand dunes.

EXT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Mike returns Boo to her isolated pen. Mike removes the stuffed German Shepherd animal and locks the pen. Boo WHIMPERS.

MIKE

Sorry, Boo.

NEXT NIGHT

Mike lets Boo out and places the stuffed German Shepherd animal in the pen.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Mike walks Boo on a leash along a road.

EXT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Mike puts Boo in her pen and removes the stuffed German shepherd animal. Boo WHIMPERS.

MIKE

It's okay. You get out tomorrow.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Mike and Boo scour an area. Three men and a German shepherd approach from the opposite direction. Mike recognizes King and Peter who is in plain clothes. Tim and John are with them.

Tim and John wear baseball caps low on their head. Boo SNARLS. Boo GROWLS and BARKS. She lunges at Tim and John who jump back. Mike tugs back on her leash.

MIKE

It's okay, Boo! She doesn't like people who wear hats low on their heads.

Tim and John put their hats much higher on their heads.

MIKE

She likes to see people's eyes.

Boo BARKS. Tim and John take off their hats. Boo BARKS and lunges at the men.

MIKE

Boo, no! I don't know what her problem is.

PETER

Her problem is she's a bad police dog!

Peter, Tim, John, and King continue on their way.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

CAPTAIN DOBSON'S OFFICE

Paul and Jackie sit across from Captain Dobson.

JACKIE

How could you let that dog back on the street after only three days?

CAPTAIN DOBSON

I understand, ma'am. I'll see what I can do.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Carter watches from his front porch as Mike and Boo scour the cul-de-sac. Boo wags her tail and tugs Mike toward the forest.

MIKE

Good girl.

CAPTAIN DOBSON (V.O.)

Mike, I need you and Boo to come back to the station.

MIKE

I think Boo's on to something.

CAPTAIN DOBSON (V.O.)

Fine, but I need you both back here now.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

CAPTAIN DOBSON'S OFFICE

Peter watches Captain Dobson hang up his radio.

PETER

We gotta put that dog down before we get sued.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

I just don't know why Boo would attack--

PETER

Look who trained her.

KNOCKING.

CAPTAIN DOBSON (O.S.)

Come in!

INSIDE CAPTAIN DOBSON'S OFFICE

Mike opens the door a crack. He sees the is captain wearing his hat. Mike squeezes in and shuts the door on Boo.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Boo can come in.

MTKE

I don't think so.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

I've got some bad news.

LATER

Peter and Captain Dobson look outside the window. They watch a glum Mike pet Boo in her cage.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

It's really a shame. I don't want to destroy her.

PETER

I didn't want to tell you this Captain, but Boo barks at men who wear caps.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

What?

PETER

Every officer here knows it. That dog is a menace and has to be destroyed!

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

The captain and Peter approach Boo's pen. Boo SNARLS at the captain. He takes his hat off and Boo stops snarling. He puts the cap back on and Boo SNARLS at him.

PETER

See. She has to be put down.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike, Peter, and Captain Dobson watch a man in a white coat ready a hypodermic needle.

MIKE

Boo wouldn't have hurt that boy if he didn't have a gun.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

We can't have a police dog growl at everyone who wears a cap.

MIKE

I'll work with her every day.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Sorry, Mike. She's too big a risk.

PETER

Too bad, Mikey.

Mike drops his head. He exits out a door to the outside.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike runs for Boo's pen. He enters and gives Boo a tight hug.

MIKE

They wanna kill you, Boo.

Captain Dobson, Peter, and the man in the white coat exit the building. They head toward the pen.

Cindy watches from a window.

MIKE

No matter what anyone says, you've been the best dog ever.

The man in the white coat squirts some of the serum from the needle. Peter snatches the needle from him.

PETER

I'll give her the sleepy juice, Doc.

Boo WHIMPERS as the men close in. Mike clenches his fists.

MIKE

It's better to have loved you and be sad now, than to never have known you.

Boo sees the needle in Peter's hand and tries to backpedal out of Mike's arms. Mike tightens his grip on Boo, but she squirms free.

The men enter and close the cage door.

Mike holds the three men back.

MTKE

Boo, jump! Jump, Boo!

Boo springs up one side of the chain-link fence. She leaps from the top of the fence.

MIKE

Go, Boo, Go!

Peter breaks free. He injects Mike with the needle. Mike pulls the needle out.

Peter draws his gun as Boo races for the perimeter wall.

Peter points his gun through the fence and FIRES off several rounds before Mike SLAMS him into the fence.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Don't shoot!

Boo leaps up and over the perimeter wall. Mike and Peter exchange PUNCHES and wrestle on the ground. The doctor is surprised. Captain Dobson pulls Mike off Peter.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Break it up!

The two bloody officers hunch over GASPING for air.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Mike, you're suspended! Give me your gun and badge!

Mike takes off his badge, removes his gun, and hands them to Captain Dobson.

PETER

If you'd just played by the rules, like me, you'd still be a cop.

LATER

It's a media circus at a press conference in front of the police station. Captain Dobson and Peter stand at a lectern layered with media microphones.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Boo is a four-year-old, female, black and tan German shepherd. She should be considered extremely dangerous.

VOICE FROM THE MEDIA
If she's so dangerous, why was she
a police dog?

PETER

She wasn't professionally trained. She was trained by rookie Officer Mike Molitor.

CAPTAIN DOBSON Officer Molitor has been suspended.

VOICE FROM THE MEDIA Why was Officer Molitor suspended? Did he intentionally train Boo to be vicious?

PETER

We can't rule that out.

VOICE FROM THE MEDIA Why would Officer Molitor do that?

PETER

There's a lot of sick people in the world.

Captain Dobson holds up a wanted poster with Boo's picture. Above her picture it reads: WANTED \$10,000 REWARD.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

We have all our units looking for Boo and are asking the public for their assistance. We're offering a ten thousand dollar reward for whoever brings Boo in.

VOICE FROM THE MEDIA Is that dead or alive?

PETER Preferably dead!

EXT. STREET - DAY

Boo races around a corner and down a residential street. A car SCREAMS around the corner after Boo.

The car cuts in front of Boo. A man jumps out and aims a gun at Boo. Boo leaps onto the man and knocks him down.

Boo bites the man's arm. He drops the gun. Boo picks the gun up with her mouth and takes off.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Boo races down a narrow alley loaded with trash cans. She drops the gun into a trash can.

A pickup truck loaded with armed men approaches. Boo hides behind a commercial trash dumpster. The truck passes.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Several bounty hunters and police patrol the streets. Mike, in plain clothes, searches for Boo on foot. Several "Boo Wanted" posters are on telephone and streetlight poles.

Mike tears one of the posters off a telephone pole. He tosses it into a trash can in front of a store. Other posters of Boo are in the store window.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Mike walks down an alley. He sees Boo appear from behind a trash can.

MIKE

Boo!

Boo looks at Mike and runs away.

MIKE

Boo! Wait! I didn't shoot at you!

Mike chases after her. She runs out the alley and zooms across a street. Cars barely miss her. Mike watches her disappear down another alley.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Boo runs through a park. She PANTS under a tree. A park ranger with a large butterfly net creeps up behind her. The park ranger steps on dry leaves. CRUNCH. Boo sees the park ranger and zips off.

INT. MIKE'S CAR - DAY

Mike catches a glimpse of a blur out of the corner of his eye. He sees Boo dart through the park. He GASES it through a parking lot, up a curb cutout, and into the park.

The car bounces on the uneven terrain, flies by Boo, and SCREECHES to a stop. Mike leans over and pushes the door open.

MIKE

Boo! Get in!

Boo stops near the car and studies Mike.

MIKE

I wasn't trying to hold you down in the pen.

A pickup loaded with bounty hunters SCREECHES to a halt near Mike's car. Boo takes off. The bounty hunters jump out and FIRE their rifles at Boo. Boo bolts across a street.

EXT. PET STORE - NIGHT

Boo SNIFFS the air. She looks through the front window and sees a pen full of puppies.

An employee feeds the puppies. Boos tongue hangs out. Boo spots a display of dog food bags. A customer exits. Boo creeps inside.

INT. PET STORE - NIGHT

Boo slips by the front counter. She hops into the puppy pen and eats the food in the dish.

Boo hops out of the pen. She ducks behind a display of dog food.

The employee walks by the puppy pen and is surprised to see the empty bowl. She refills the bowl. Boo pulls down one of the dog food bags. She places a large bone on top.

Boo waits for a customer to buy items and leave. She drags the bag with her mouth and exits the store behind the customer.

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

The dog food bag is open. Boo shares her food with several homeless dogs.

Boo deposits the empty dog food bag in a trash can. She lies down under a bench.

EXT. PARK - DAY

A police car patrols nearby. Boo crosses a street lined with her wanted posters.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Boo hides in bushes along the school's perimeter fence. Students arrive on campus.

Boo observes a boy grab a fistful of a smaller boy's shirt. The bigger boy pushes the smaller boy down.

Boo dashes to the two boys. She stands between them and BARKS at the bigger boy. The bigger boy backs down. Boo nudges the smaller boy who gets up and pets her.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Boo spots a slow, approaching patrol car. She races to a giant wall mural of police officers with their police dogs.

Boo stands still to mix in with the mural. The patrol car passes.

LATER

Mike drives with the windows down keeping an eye peeled for Boo. He sees a pickup truck with armed bounty hunters chasing a German shepherd. Mike joins the chase.

A bounty hunter in the bed of the pickup aims a rifle at the tiring dog. He FIRES. A dart lodges in the hind quarters of the dog. The men jump out of the pickup and hustle over to the fallen animal.

A panicked Mike SLAMS on his brakes and rushes toward the dog. He sees the German shepherd is not Boo. He hustles to his car and drives off.

LATER

Mike sees a German shepherd trot along a chain link fence. As he drives closer, he sees it is Boo.

MIKE

Boo!

Mike get out of his car and cautiously approaches Boo. Boo backs off and crawls under the fence.

MIKE

Wait!

He moves closer. Boo edges farther away.

MIKE

I know you're innocent. I know you were just trying to protect me.

Boo turns and runs away.

MIKE

Boo! Wait!

EXT. CARTER'S STREET - DAY

Boo SNIFFS her way along the residential street.

Carter sits on his front porch stairs. He watches Boo arrive at the end of the cul-de-sac. Carter observes Boo enter the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Boo SNIFFS her way through the woods.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Boo looks over the city lights from a hilltop. The wind RUSTLES through the tops of the pine trees. An owl HOOTS. Boo lies down with her head on her front paws. A coyote HOWLS in the distance.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Boo walks cautiously. She HEARS a sound. She hides behind bushes. Peter walks by. Boo creeps behind him from a distance.

SLUSHY BANDIT HIDEOUT

Carved into a pine tree is "MTN. LION ATTACKS." John uses a knife to carve a tally mark next to several other tally marks. His face is severely scratched. He joins Tim who roasts marshmallows at a campfire.

Peter arrives at The Slushy Bandits' hideout. Boo spies on the men from behind bushes.

Peter notices the campfire smoke rising above the treetops.

PETER

Are you trying to get caught?

He grabs a coffee pitcher and DOUSES the campfire.

PETER

I heard you a hundred yards away.

Boo sees Tim remove an envelope from the hole.

PETER

I'm surprised you've pulled this off for so long.

Tim hands Peter the envelope. Peter thumbs through the enclosed bills.

PETER

From now on I'm taking half.

Peter takes a bag out of the hole, opens it, and drops the envelope inside.

TIM

But--

Peter gets up in Tim's face.

PETER

Don't ever do another job without telling me, or I'll have you arrested!

Peter gazes around the hideout.

PETER

How did you clowns ever come up with such an ingenious idea?

He leaves with the bag.

EXT. STREET - DAY

From behind a tree, Boo watches Peter get into his car and leave.

Boo sees Carter on his front porch eating a sandwich. She meanders over and sits in front of Carter's house.

Boo's tongue drips saliva. Carter taps the end of his chair.

CARTER

Come here, doggie.

Boo runs up the stairs to Carter. Carter tears off a chunk of his sandwich and feeds it to Boo who gulps it down in one bite.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Several officers interview customers. Cindy writes on a pad of paper as she interviews a store employee.

CINDY

How much did they get?

Peter helps himself to a slushy drink. King sniffs up and down the aisles.

Peter sees Mike enter.

PETER

What are you doing here?

MIKE

Thought I'd pick up some things.

PETER

They don't sell mascara here.

Cindy watches Peter approach Mike.

Mike and Peter are inches apart.

PETER

Just a matter of time before I find your dog.

Cindy jumps in between Peter and Mike. She pulls Mike aside.

Mike watches Peter cross out the words "OR ALIVE" on a "BOO WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE" poster.

CINDY

Any luck with Boo?

MIKE

No.

Mike watches an officer fingerprint the store employee. He lights up.

MIKE

That's it!

CINDY

What?

MIKE

Boo smelled Ricky and The Slushy Bandits at the sand dunes!

CINDY

So.

MIKE

The other dogs couldn't get The Slushy Bandits scent because of all the store scents.

CINDY

So if Boo eliminates Ricky's scent she's left with The Slushy Bandits' scent.

MIKE

Boo's the only one that can catch The Slushy Bandits! Let's tell the captain. CINDY

I don't know. He doesn't like Boo.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Mike walks down a newly-buffed hallway.

RICKY'S ROOM

Ricky sits up in bed. His parents are at his bedside. Mike enters with a wrapped present.

MIKE

I heard he woke up.

RICKY

Who are you?

PAUL

He's the officer we told you about...the dog's owner.

Mike sets the present on the table next to Ricky.

MIKE

How are you, Ricky?

RICKY

The doctor says I'll be fine.

JACKIE

He doesn't remember anything about the attack.

MIKE

Maybe if we took him back to the sand dunes he'd remember.

JACKIE

So he can have nightmares?

MIKE

Boo is the only one that can catch The Slushy Bandits. They're gonna kill her if we don't find her soon.

PAUL

I understand, but--

RICKY

I'll go, mister. I don't want them to kill your dog.

EXT. SAND DUNE - DAY

Mike, Cindy, Ricky, and Ricky's parents stand where Boo attacked Ricky.

RICKY

I remember walking to you with the gun.

MIKE

And I told you to drop the gun, because I knew Boo was gonna get you if you didn't.

RICKY

That's where I forget.

JACKIE

Can't you see? He doesn't remember.

PAUL

Maybe we ought to go.

The group heads up the sand dune. Ricky stops, turns, and looks down at the site of the attack. He stares across at the hilltop.

CINDY

Do you remember something?

RICKY

There was a dog barking...a police dog like Boo.

MIKE

Where?

RICKY

Over there.

He points at the hilltop.

RICKY

And a policeman.

You saw a policeman and a police dog over there?

RICKY

Yeah. I thought he was going to help you, but he didn't. So I ran down--

MIKE

And you sprayed the bad men. I could hear you spraying them. I heard the dog barking, but I thought it was Boo.

RICKY

That's all I remember.

CINDY

Thank you very much, Ricky. We'll contact you if we have any questions.

PAUL

Thank you, officers.

The Jensons leave. Mike and Cindy head down the sand dune.

CINDY

Why would Peter do this?

MIKE

He wants to win at any cost.

CINDY

Even if it means an officer gets hurt?

MIKE

It doesn't make any sense.

Mike and Cindy pass the attack site and climb up to the hilltop. They freeze when they get to the top.

Mike and Cindy bend down to get a good look at car tire and animal tracks.

LATER

Cindy surrounds some of the tracks with rectangular frames. Mike pours a plaster mixture into the frames.

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Peter RUMMAGES through Cindy's desk drawers. He pulls out a large manila envelope marked "EVIDENCE." He pulls out the tire track plaster casts. He closes the drawers and walks away with the plaster casts.

EXT. SUPERMARKET - NIGHT

A blacked out car is in the back loading area. Peter drops the plaster casts on the ground causing them to BREAK. He tosses the pieces into a large, commercial dumpster.

EXT. MOLITOR RESIDENCE - DAY

Cindy KNOCKS on the front door which has been pelted with eggs. A pickup truck with several gun-wielding men drives by. Eggs SMASH against the door. Mike opens the door.

INT. MIKE'S CAR - DAY

Mike drives while Cindy sits shotgun. Both look out the windows.

MIKE

Peter wants Boo dead because she knows who The Slushy Bandits are and he doesn't want me to catch them.

CINDY

Where do you think Boo may've gone?

EXT. CARTER'S STREET - DAY

From his front porch, Carter watches Mike and Cindy get out of their car.

MIKE

Boo traced a scent to about here, then the captain called and we had to leave.

CINDY

You think The Slushy Bandits live in one of these houses?

Maybe. Let's see what this kid knows.

They walk up the steps to the front porch. Mike notices a bowl of meat next to Carter's rocker.

MIKE

Hi. Have you seen this dog?

Mike shows Carter a wanted poster of Boo. Carter squirms in the rocker. He looks at the bowl.

CARTER

No.

CINDY

Do you have a dog?

CARTER

No.

MIKE

Then why do you have a bowl? Aren't you afraid of attracting coyotes?

Carter shrugs his shoulders.

MIKE

You've been feeding my dog, haven't you?

CARTER

It's your dog? Are you the police?

CINDY

Yes.

MIKE

I'm trying to save her before someone kills her.

Carter's eyes moisten.

CARTER

I know she's a good dog, because she let me pet her.

Cindy hugs Carter.

Where's she now?

CARTER

I don't know. Sometimes, she eats here.

Cindy shows Carter surveillance camera photos of The Slushy Bandits.

CINDY

Do these men live around here?

Carter takes a look.

MTKE

Picture them without the hats, hair, and sunglasses.

CARTER

They don't live in a house, they live in there.

He points to the forest.

MIKE

Are you sure?

Cindy points at the paper.

CINDY

These two men, right here?

CARTER

Yup. I here them say their names. One's Tim, one's John.

Cindy whips out a pen and paper and writes.

CARTER

Are you sure you're the police?

MIKE

Yes.

Cindy reaches for her radio.

CARTER

There was a policeman here with a police dog.

That was me. I look different in my uniform.

Carter shakes his head. Cindy is about to speak into her radio.

CARTER

This policeman was bigger than you.

Mike covers Cindy's radio with his hand.

MIKE

What did he do?

CARTER

He went in there.

Carter points at the forest.

MIKE

The policeman went into the woods with his dog?

Carter nods his head.

MIKE

What's your name?

CARTER

Carter.

CINDY

Thank you, Carter. You've been a big help.

Mike and Cindy head toward the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Mike and Cindy scan the ground as they hike through the forest.

MIKE

Hey!

Mike points at tennis shoe tracks.

CINDY

Two men.

Dog tracks! Maybe they're Boo's!

Cindy inspects them closer.

CINDY

Those aren't dog tracks, they're mountain lion tracks!

A huge mountain lion leaps out from behind a bush. It HISSES at Mike and Cindy exposing it's large, sharp teeth. Mike steps in front of Cindy as the big cat creeps closer.

MIKE

Try to appear bigger!

The two stretch out their jackets over their heads. The cat closes in without taking its eyes off them. It lowers its body as it prepares to pounce.

Boo jumps in between Mike and the mountain lion, with frightening, DEEP BARKS. Mike picks up a stick. Boo's hair stands straight up as she gets up in the mountain lion's face.

The mountain lion darts up a tree. Mike and Cindy hug and pet Boo.

MIKE

Thanks, Boo! You saved us!

CINDY

Good girl!

Cindy and Boo continue on.

Mike eyes the mountain lion in the tree. He lets out a mountain lion ROAR. The big cat ROARS back. Mike runs like a scared rabbit to Cindy and Boo.

Boo coaxes Mike and Cindy to keep moving by running ahead of them, stopping and turning around, and then running forward again. Mike and Cindy GULP air as they try to keep up.

MIKE

We should've trained with her on the obstacle course.

Boo slows down. She sneaks up behind bushes. Mike and Cindy peer through the bushes at Tim and John's hideout.

MIKE

Bingo.

Cindy points at a slushy drink cup with its clear, bubble top.

CINDY

It's gotta be theirs.

They slip through the bushes and enter the campsite. Boo runs to the covered hole and sits like a bomb-sniffing dog that's discovered explosives.

Mike uses a cloth to remove the rock and plywood. He carefully pulls out the white, canvas bags.

MIKE

Holy smokes. Look at this.

CINDY

It's The Slushy Bandits alright.

MIKE

Good girl, Boo. Peter and King must not have come this far.

Cindy lays out some of the stolen goods on a towel. She snaps pictures of the items, campsite, and disguises.

MIKE

My parents are going to get their money back and be able to pay off their debts!

CINDY

Not yet.

MIKE

What?

CINDY

We gotta make this case bulletproof.

Cindy uses her cloth to put watches, money, and the disguises back into the canvas bags.

CINDY

Put everything back exactly how you found it.

Mike uses the cloth to put back the bags into the hole. He replaces the plywood and rock.

INT. MOLITOR HOUSE - DAY

Mike, Cindy, and Boo enter through the interior garage door and are met by Steve and Geri.

GERI

Where was she?

Mike hustles over to a giant sliding glass door and hastily closes the drapes. Steve and Geri pet Boo.

MIKE

In the forest. She found The Slushy Bandits hideout! We saw the stolen money!

CINDY

There's still a lot of loot left.

MIKE

We're still going to have to hide Boo for a while.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Mike and Cindy place video cameras in trees and bushes surrounding The Slushy Bandits' campsite. They leave.

A squirrel chases another squirrel up a tree and KNOCKS one of the cameras out of alignment.

INT. MOLITOR RESIDENCE - DAY

Mike and Cindy keep an eye on several split screen monitors which show different angles of The Slushy Bandits' hideout. Three figures enter the hideout.

MTKF

There they are!

CINDY

Three of them! We always thought there were only two.

Mike points at the monitor.

MIKE

There's the tall, skinny one and the shorter one. Zoom in on the third guy. Cindy hits a few buttons on her keyboard. A closeup of the third bandit comes into focus.

MIKE

Peter!

CINDY

Oh my gosh! We need to get him on tape with the loot!

MIKE

Isn't this good enough?

CINDY

His attorney could say he traced The Slushy Bandits to this location and was questioning them.

MIKE

Or he was just walking by and happened to run into them.

Peter walks in the direction of the loot hole. He walks out of the frame and is not on any of the monitors.

MIKE

What happened to our shot of the loot hole?

CINDY

You've gotta be kidding me!

MIKE

Maybe the wind knocked it down.

Peter walks back in the shot with an envelope which he promptly pockets.

MIKE

We've got him pocketing an envelope!

CINDY

His attorney could say he saw litter on the ground so he picked it up.

MIKE

And the hole with all the loot?

CINDY

It's far enough away from the campsite. They didn't even know it was there.

Mike studies The Slushy Bandits.

MIKE

The other two guys are his uncles! I remember them from school! That should make this bulletproof.

CINDY

They went camping together for the day.

MIKE

I can't believe this! There's gotta be something we can do.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Peter plays computer games at his empty desk. Steve enters wearing a suit and eyeglasses. Steve and Cindy meet in front of Peter's desk.

STEVE

Excuse me. I'm looking for Officer Molitor.

Peter stops playing games and listens in.

CINDY

He's not here.

STEVE

I'm Mr. Barker from the bank. Could you tell him his family's loan was approved and per his father's request we'll be dropping off twenty-five thousand in cash to their store tomorrow at noon?

Peter is surprised.

CINDY

I'll be sure to let him know.

STEVE

Thanks.

Steve leaves.

EXT. WAL-MART PARKING LOT - DAY

Mike's personal car rests in the packed lot.

INT. MIKE'S PERSONAL CAR - DAY

Boo lies on the back floor. A portable police band radio is on the passenger seat.

Mike spots Peter driving down his aisle. He ducks down. Mike HEARS the car go by. He slowly rises up with his cell phone to his ear.

Mike watches Peter park facing the Molitor store across the street.

MIKE

He's here. Send in my Dad.

CINDY (V.O.)

Ten-four.

Mike uses binoculars to watch Peter.

EXT. PETER'S PERSONAL CAR - DAY

Peter watches Steve pull in front of the Molitor store and park. Steve exits his car wearing eyeglasses and a suit. He enters the store carrying a briefcase.

Peter drives off. Mike watches Cindy trail Peter in an unmarked car.

INT. CINDY'S CAR - DAY

Peter exits his vehicle. He holds a cell phone to his ear. indy speaks into her police radio.

CINDY

This is where a lot of the other calls were made from.

Cindy parks a distance away facing Peter's car. Peter punches numbers on a pay phone.

CINDY

Our subject is in the twenty-three hundred block of Kudlow.

POLICE DISPATCHER (V.O.)

Copy, twenty-three hundred of Kudlow.

Cindy SNAPS pictures of Peter. She HEARS the police dispatch telephone RING in the background.

CINDY

Game on!

EXT. PAY PHONE - DAY

Peter speaks into the pay phone.

PETER

There are several masked men with shotguns inside the bank at Culver and Yale. Send all your officers, and hurry!

He hangs up and puts his cell phone to his ear.

PETER

Go earn our money.

INT. CINDY'S CAR - DAY

Cindy's cell phone is on speakerphone.

MIKE (V.O.)

Don't choke on your black dust.

CINDY

I won't.

Cindy pulls in by the pay phone. She grabs a case and exits her vehicle. A girl is about to use the phone.

CINDY

Don't touch that!

The girl backs off. Cindy opens her case exposing fingerprint dusters. She puts on rubber gloves.

INT. MOLITOR STORE - DAY

Customers wait in the checkout line. Tim and John enter in disguise. John stands by the door while Tim walks to the register. He shows a gun in his waistband to the employee.

TIM

Lock the front door. Now!

The employee takes the keys off the register and escorts Tim to the front door. He locks the door. Tim pulls out his gun and a canvas bag.

John pulls a gun from his waistband and rounds up the customers.

JOHN

Hey, they got a slush machine!

He tosses a canvas bag at a beautiful lady wearing lots of jewelry.

JOHN

Fill it up!

The customers cooperate.

MIT

Aren't any of you scared?

Confused, Tim stuffs the customers into the storage room and jams a metal piece into the door jam. Tim and John run to the slush machine.

TIM

I'll make my own.

Mike slides out of the copier machine cabinet, sneaks to the front door, and pockets the keys.

A uniformed police officer peeks from behind the ice machine and tiptoes over to the storage room door. He removes the steel piece.

Tim and John hustle over to the front door and stop on a dime.

TIM

Where are the keys?

Tim pushes and tugs on the door handle.

JOHN

I don't know.

They check their pockets.

TIM

How long have you been doing this? Look for them!

They look around the door.

Mike RATTLES the keys. Tim and John wheel around. Behind Mike are the people from the storage room with guns pointed at Tim and John.

MIKE

You guys take it from here!

Mike unlocks the front door, jumps in his car, and PEELS out.

INT. MIKE'S CAR - DAY

Mike holds the portable police radio as he ZOOMS down a street.

CINDY (V.O.)

He's south Main at Figueroa.

MIKE

Ten-four.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Mike spots Peter's car. He ROCKETS ahead, cuts off Peter, and SLAMS on his brakes. Peter's car SKIDS to a stop. Both men exit their cars. Mike opens his back door. Boo sits up.

MIKE

Stay.

PETER

Are you crazy?

MIKE

You're under arrest! Turn around and put your hands behind your head!

PETER

What is this, a citizen's arrest?

MIKE

You're under arrest for armed robbery with The Slushy Bandits.

A crowd gathers as Mike tries to turn Peter around and stand him against his car.

PETER

Get real.

Peter KNOCKS Mike's hands away and shoves him. Mike gives Peter a KARATE kick. Peter and Mike exchange several PUNCHES to the face and body. Peter gets Mike in a headlock as Boo and King excitedly look on.

MIKE

Get 'em, Boo!

Boo flies out of Mike's car, knocks Peter down, and TEARS into his leg.

PETER

Ow!

Peter releases Mike.

MIKE

Now it's an officer's arrest.

Peter manages to get his wireless remote out of his pocket and pushes a button. The back door opens, but King remains in the car.

PETER

Help, King!

King smiles with his long tongue hanging out. King turns his back on Peter.

PETER

You're a loser, King!

King darts from the car and TEARS into Peter's other leg.

PETER

Ow!

MIKE

Boo off! King off!

Boo and King stop biting Peter. Mike handcuffs Peter and yanks him up off the ground.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Mike wears a freshly-pressed police uniform as he and Cindy escort Peter, Tim, and John in orange jumpsuits into a holding cell. Mike LOCKS the cell door.

CINDY

Your parents will be getting most of their stolen money back.

Mike smiles broadly as Captain Dobson hands a set of car keys to him.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

I'm promoting you to sergeant. Boo's going to like the new car.

Captain Dobson SLAPS Boo on the buttocks, runs into his office, and SLAMS the door.

Boo stares at Mike. Mike nods his head. Boo sneaks over to Captain Dobson's office. She uses her paws to turn the doorknob.

The door opens. Captain Dobson eats a bowl of ice cream with his feet on his desk. Boo enters, smiling.

CAPTAIN DOBSON

Hey!

Boo closes the door with her snout. GROWLS are heard.

CAPTAIN DOBSON (O.S.)

My hat's off! No! Stop! Ow!

Mike, Cindy, and the other officers CHUCKLE.

CAPTAIN DOBSON (O.S.)

Help! Police! No!

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

The newly polished, high tech patrol car is in the driveway. Mike hits the wireless remote. The rear door OPENS. Boo hops inside.

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Mike hops in and admires the fully-loaded, customized dash.

Mike drives passed cheering officers as Lobo's "Me And You And A Dog Named Boo" plays.

FADE OUT.