Ambulance

by

Eric Hansen

Based on Edmonton screenwriters meetup discussion group
INT. AMBULANCE DRIVERS SEAT - DAY

Two PARAMEDICS are drinking coffee and eating bagels while the dispatch radio calls out updates in the background. Paramedic 1 is JANGIS, and Paramedic 2 is CARLOS.

JANGIS
You what? No you’re just crazy. You can’t carry a loaded gun in the cargo bay. We can both lose our licenses or worse. Jail time.

CARLOS
It’s only for self defence. No one is going to find it. I have the keys and you never know.

JANGIS
Know what?

CARLOS
What if we have a close encounter with the serial killer. It’s hot outside. The heat ignites people to make bad decisions.

JANGIS
Keep it out of my sight. Thanks.

Paramedic 2 laughs to himself.

CARLOS
How did I get stuck with vanilla face? Any ways, I got confirmation from Angie and Stacey. Oh yeah, they want some of ours.

JANGIS
Angie and Stacey? Okay. Let’s do it. I’m not vanilla. The only crime anybody has on me is fucking.

CARLOS
Fucking right. But hey what about your girlfriend?

JANGIS
What about your wife?
CARLOS
Okay, we’re on then. Let’s get the details figured out and I will give them a call and we will have ourselves a good night.

DISPATCHER (O.S.)
4191 go to 1789 Union Street. An attempted suicide.

JANGIS
Confirm that. 4191 is on its’ way.

EXT. CITY ROAD - DAY
The ambulance races down a residential road towards the emergency.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL HOME - DAY
The ambulance comes to a stop at an upper class home with a lush garden and green lawn.

The paramedics jump out of the ambulance and run towards the front entrance. The door is already open as a POLICE OFFICER stands guard - HE ushers the paramedics to the injured man.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY
A MIDDLE AGE MAN lies on his side in his own blood - he is holding his wrist.

The paramedics work hard to revive him. They succeed.

The middle age man, ROBERT, is now sitting up against the bath tub. Jangis, calmly watches the man.

JANGIS
Hey can you hear me?

ROBERT
Yeah. What is this?

JANGIS
Mr., you’ve lost a lot of blood. You are coming with us.

ROBERT
No, no, please leave me here.
Carlos, quickly brings in the gurney. They carefully lift the man up onto the gurney and wheel him out the door.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL ROAD - DAY

With lights flashing and a siren blaring the ambulance is rushing back to the nearest hospital.

INT. AMBULANCE PATIENT BAY - DAY

The patient Robert is breathing with the help of an air circulator machine but can still talk.

   ROBERT
   You have no idea what I’ve done.

   CARLOS
   You can tell that to the police. Just relax your in good hands.

   ROBERT
   I killed my daughter because she was seeing a boy against my wishes. I killed my daughter...(starts to cry) So I tried to kill myself.

   CARLOS
   What made you do that? You know what...like I said before, you can testify any story to the police.

   ROBERT
   Don’t be a hero. Let me die son. I deserve it. I’m not asking you to kill me. I’m asking you to let me die.

   CARLOS
   Sir, to be perfectly honest. If it weren’t for this thing called jail time. I would gladly take my gun out from there and shoot you myself.

   ROBERT
   You have a gun. Son, what kind of paramedic carries a gun?

   CARLOS
   For self defence.

   ROBERT
   No. Because some where down the line, you plan to use it.

   (MORE)
Not a question of if, it's a question of when. You won't let me die, I will tell the police about your gun. Let me see it.

Carlos unlocks the cabinet and pulls out an automatic pistol.

ROBERT (CONT'D)
Shut the air off. It’s easy.

INT. DRIVER SIDE OF AMBULANCE - DAY

JANGIS
Misericordia, we will be there in five minutes. Patient has been stabilized.

INT. AMBULANCE PATIENT BAY - DAY

CARLOS
They would know I turned it off. I’m finished.

Robert quickly grabs the gun from Carlos and points it to his chest.

ROBERT
I’m sorry son, but sometimes fate deals us a losing hand. Everybody takes turns being Judas.

He then redirects the gun at Carlos and fires it at his head. Blood splatters across the side of the bay.

DRIVER SIDE - DAY

The gun shot rings out again and Jangis nearly jumps out of his seat. He quickly stops the vehicle.

More shots are fired and Jangis is hit from behind multiple times. His head slumps forward onto the wheel.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL ROAD - DAY

Robert climbs out the back of the ambulance and only gets a few feet away from the back door before shooting himself in the head.

He stumbles to the ground and dies.
INT. HOSPITAL ROOM 4 WEEKS LATER - DAY

A NURSE walks in and drops off a tray of food and a 4 daily newspaper next to the bed. Jangis is lying still with bandages on his chest.

NURSE
How are you feeling today?

JANGIS
Better than yesterday. I can’t remember anything before then.

NURSE
Well I stole these from the front desk. I never read them but you missed a lot. Here ya go love. Something to beat the time.

JANGIS
(Grabbing for the pudding)
You are too kind.

The nurse leaves the room. Jangis silently eats his pudding while rummaging through a pile of old newspapers. He stares at the front page headlines.

PARAMEDIC KILLED BY SUICIDAL PATIENT. ANOTHER PARAMEDIC IN CRITICAL CONDITION. NOV. 6 2011

POLICE INVESTIGATION TRACES GUN TO CARLOS GOMEZ. SECOND PARAMEDIC STILL IN COMA NOV. 8 2011

PARAMEDIC JANGIS KAYA WAKES UP FROM COMA. NOV. 28 2011

DEAD PARAMEDIC GUN LINKED TO THE WOMEN SERIAL KILLINGS. NOV. 29 2011

There is a picture of FIVE WOMEN next to CARLOS FACE.

Jangis drops the pudding on the floor. He begins to cry.

Jangis GIRLFRIEND runs into the room and tries to console him.

FADE OUT.