

Frostbite

Story by
Joseph Sieff
Screenplay by
Jonathan Sieff

Logline: A pacifist NYPD cadet and a maverick detective investigate the source of a new street drug, leading them to a notorious dealer, a politician and an enigmatic Russian gangster.

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On the outskirts of Kodiak, Alaska, a drug operation is foiled by police. However, a woman helps a man escape with a sample of the drug. He is picked up by a fishing boat. The woman's fate is unknown. AMANDA SMITH (26) trains at the police academy, her intelligence is unmatched and she conquers the physical challenges, but she hesitates at the shooting range. Six months later, and days before graduation, a man and woman are out clubbing. The woman gives the man a pill. YURI (40) watches as the man becomes disoriented. The man dies outside the club. The next morning, the area has been cordoned off. LEWIS (65), the police captain tasks MARK WARNER (60) with investigating the man's death. At the academy, Smith is praised for her intelligence but is told she needs field experience. Lewis enters and tells her about working with a detective on a case. At the precinct the next day, Lewis introduces Smith and Warner to each other. Just as they're about to leave, ANDREA RUSSELL (45) storms in, and after scrutinising them, reveals her initiative to put more funding into the police academy as part of her political campaign.

Smith and Warner visit the morgue where the coroner reveals a series of bodies, all in varying states of decay. He mentions that two were found in Harlem and Lennox Hill, respectively, and one is from Alaska. The coroner tells them that the man was picked up by a fishing boat and died by the time they returned to the city. The coroner gives Warner a business card with "Old Russia" written on the back that the Alaskan man had. They question the girl from the club but get nothing to go on and so go to the pool hall in Lennox Hill only to discover that someone tried to burn it down. Inside, they find a matchbox with 'PHIL'S BAR' written on it, they go to the bar and find LESTER (55), Warner's contact, who tells them about the drug and that something is happening on Saturday night. On their way back to the precinct, they are pursued by a black Sedan, which they only lose after Smith almost causes a crash.

Smith searches through files of recent ecstasy cases and discovers the name 'Yuri Bukhanov' as well as a map marking all the places where the victims in the morgue were discovered. There's also another name, 'Anya Romanov' but her focus is on Yuri. Smith presents her findings to Warner and Lewis and after further research, discovers that Yuri bought both businesses, with the hopes of creating a chain of clubs. Smith and Warner stakeout Yuri's estate, during which, Warner begins telling Smith about an incident with his family. Once inside, they record a conversation between Yuri and an unknown woman about something coming in on Saturday night from "Old Russia". They are almost caught and Warner fights the Bodyguard. Smith has a chance to shoot the Bodyguard but hesitates.

The next morning, Warner discovers that the recording has been erased. He and Smith go to DMITRI (35), Yuri's lawyer where Smith steals a file from his office containing information about Frostbite and works out that, "Old Russia" is a codeword for Alaska. Warner takes her to a makeshift shooting range and helps her overcome her fear of guns. Warner then finishes his story, revealing that his daughter was held at gunpoint, so he sent her and her mother away to protect them. Lewis assembles a team to raid the docks, but they only find equipment. Smith and Warner interrogate Dmitri but he reveals nothing. The next morning, Andrea gives a press conference where she announces her campaign to the public. Dmitri is released which Smith and Warner find suspicious, particularly when he is whisked away in Andrea's car.

Smith and Warner ask Lewis about Dmitri's release. He tells them the charges were dropped because they didn't find any drugs. He then gets out the file that Smith found in Dmitri's office. Smith works out that Anya must be the person behind the operation; she was the one talking with Yuri at his estate and was the person who followed them after they met with Lester, coming to the conclusion that Andrea Russell is Anya Romanov. She sees an identical map to the one she looked at earlier and works out that Yuri and Anya plan to use the club as a manufacturing plant. After they leave, Lewis phones someone to warn of their arrival.

Smith and Warner arrive at the club and go to the basement where Dmitri is being tortured. As they enter, Andrea comes up from behind and knocks them out. Smith and Warner wake up cuffed to chairs. Andrea reveals that Yuri is her cousin and she plans to use the Frostbite profits to fund the police academy. Lewis enters, he's about to kill Smith but double-crosses Andrea. There's a standoff between the two groups. The guns go off and Andrea's wounded. She tries to attack Smith and Warner but is stopped. Warner arrests her. Suddenly, the Bodyguard has his gun to Warner's head, forcing him to let Andrea go.

Smith and Warner chase after Andrea and the Bodyguard who are racing to the docks to escape. Warner is shot and falls back. Smith shoots the Bodyguard and tackles Andrea just as she makes her way onto her yacht, leading to a confrontation between them. Andrea almost comes out on top, but Smith winds her. Andrea runs away. Their fight resumes on the main deck where Smith breaks Andrea's wrist and apprehends her.

At the graduation ceremony, Smith is presented with a special medal of commendation by Warner.