INT. PHILMORE’S CAR (MOVING) — MIDDAY

PHILMORE is tall, a bit raw-boned, and has hardly any brains to fill a thimble, is driving. His face is a mystery to us since it’s covered by a black ski mask.

BENNY is tall, medium-build, a bit smarter than his younger brother Philmore — although that doesn’t say much — is sitting in the passenger seat. His face is also under scrutiny as it is covered by a camo bandana and army hat.

BOTH PARTIES speak with thick Russian accents:

PHILMORE
Why wouldn’t he come?

BENNY
I don’t know. Maybe ’cause he hates us.

PHILMORE
No, he doesn’t hate us.

BENNY
He tried to kill us, twice!

PHILMORE
Yes, but if you noticed, he didn’t hit us as hard the second time. I think he’s softened up a bit.

BENNY
Really? That’s what you read from him when he smashed your sternum with your own pistol?

PHILMORE
He was just doing his job.

BENNY
I can’t even...

Benny — exasperated — takes a breath and calms down. He sits back in his seat.

(CONTINUED)
BENNY (CONT’D)
On the off chance he accepts, we have to hide all the weapons.

PHILMORE
I will do that.

BEAT. Philmore shouts ‘OH!’ and roughly places his hand on Benny’s forehead.

BENNY
What the fuck, man?! (angrily throws down PHILMORE’S hand)

PHILMORE
I was just doing what the sign told me to do.

BENNY
The sign told you to smack me in the head? Where is it? (draws pistol) I’ll shoot it to pieces!

PHILMORE
Put your gun down! Pigs will see us!

BENNY
(perplexed)
Pigs? There’re pigs out here?

PHILMORE
No. I mean policemen.

Benny is offended.

BENNY
What about policewomen, Philmore?!

Philmore is confused by Benny’s frustration. "Why’s he getting so upset? Did I say something?".

PHILMORE
(perplexed)
What about them?

Benny is appalled.

BENNY
You are a misogynist asshole!

(CONTINUED)
PHILMORE
What is that?

BENNY
(emphatic)
You hate women!

Philmore is transparently insulted by Benny’s assertion.

PHILMORE
How dare you!

BENNY
How dare I?
(louder)
How dare I? How dare you! You smack me in my head! Lie to me about there being pigs on the road! And exclude women from police force! And you have the nerve to say to me "How dare you"?!

PHILMORE
Ok. One: there was a sign that said: "Stop ahead"! Ok? Stop. A. Head. B: 'Pigs' is nickname for policemen AND policewomen! And three: Yes! How dare you! I said it! I love women!

BENNY
Ok, this --
(places his hand on PHILMORE’S head)
-- is not what "Stop Ahead" means. It means to stop the car.

PHILMORE
Oh! Ok.

Philmore presses down on the brakes and Benny is SMASHED against the dashboard.

PHILMORE (CONT’D)
Ow. That musta hurt. Thanks, by the way.

BENNY
(furious)
You chickenfucker!

ROOSTER’S COCKADOODLEDUM

(CONTINUED)
Benny REACHES for Philmore’s neck in a FIERY RAGE! The latter tries to free himself.

    PHILMORE
    Get off!

He notices a truck coming.
He screams like a girl first...
... then Benny does.

    CUT TO BLACK

OVER BLACK FRAME – We hear the car violently swerve and crash.

    CUT TO -

INT. MULDOON’S HOUSE – BEDROOM – MIDDAY

DETECTIVE FRANCIS MULDOON is a hero cop who never wanted the title. Grizzled, vulgar, short-tempered, and unhinged, his sense of justice is matched only by his lack of empathy.

He’s sleeping. What do you think he’s dreaming about? Probably something violent.

We hear someone knock on the door.
Muldoon wakes up.
Knocks LOUDER.
He crawls out of bed.

INT. MULDOON’S HOUSE – FOYEUR – MIDDAY

More LOUD KNOCKING!

    MULDOON
    (yelling)
    I’m fucking coming! Shut the fuck up!

Muldoon opens the door to a coat closet, reaches in, and pulls out a nickel-plated .38 revolver.
INT. MULDOON’S HOUSE – MUD ROOM – MIDDAY

He opens the door slightly to see who it is. It’s Philmore and Benny. But they’re clothing is all dirty and torn.

PHILMORE
(cheerful)
Mr. Muldoon!

Muldoon closes the door.

PHILMORE (CONT’D)
(knocking)
Mr. Muldoon...

MULDOON (O.S.)
I’ve got a .38 right here, and I’ll blow you the fuck away if you don’t get off my property!

BENNY
(sarcastic)
Hey, you were right, Philmore. He’s definitely warmed up.

PHILMORE
(cheerful)
I know! He’s giving us a warning!

Benny SLAPS his face and shakes his head in frustration.

Philmore attempts to mitigate Muldoon’s intemperance.

PHILMORE (CONT’D)
(to MULDOON)
Mr. Muldoon, this is Christmas time! It’s not right of you to be hostile! Santa’ll put you on the naughty list!

MULDOON (O.S.)
One...

BENNY
I told you this was a waste of time. Let’s go.

MULDOON (O.S.)
...Two...

BENNY
Philmore...

Benny turns away and starts to leave.

(CONTINUED)
We were wondering if you’d care to join us for a Christmas party!

Benny stops and turns back around.

After a LONG BEAT, Muldoon opens the door.

MULDOON
Christmas Party?

PHILMORE
Yeah. There’ll be lots of food and presents!

For a BEAT, Muldoon contemplates.

MULDOON
(sarcastically)
You know what? That sounds great.

PHILMORE
Really?

MULDOON
Yeah.
(sarcastic)
Oh, but wait. I just remembered, I was gonna shave my head with a cheese grater and chew on tin foil. Sorry.

Philmore actually takes this seriously. He’s just that stupid.

PHILMORE
Well, if you’re preoccupied --

Benny - exasperated - interrupts.

BENNY
(SIGHS in frustration)
Philmore, he’s being sarcastic.

PHILMORE
No, Benny, he’s passing a tide of regret. But it’s ok. His hair does look like something scraped off the road. Can’t blame him for wanting to get rid of it.
(to MULDOON)
But why the tin foil?

Muldoon can’t stand this.
MULDOON  
(exasperated)  
I swear to god, you’re the only adult on this fuckin’ planet who’s gettin’ a book for Christmas.

PHILMORE  
(surprised)  
How did you know?

MULDOON  
Know what?

PHILMORE  
How you know I got myself book for Christmas?

Muldoon and Benny can’t believe what they just heard. the latter is MUCH MORE dramatic with it. To Muldoon it’s not THAT big of a surprise but is perplexing nonetheless. "He can’t be this stupid." That’s probably what he’s thinking.

MULDOON  
(perplexed)  
Wait. You got yourself a present?

BENNY  
(shocked)  
Is this true, Philmore?

SILENCE....

After a LONG BEAT, Philmore confesses. He’s embarrassed. you can hear it in his ‘SIGH’ and his words.

PHILMORE  
(SIGHS in shame)  
Yes.

Muldoon is dumbfounded. He has a hard time believing this is real life.

Benny is equally dumfounded but in a good way.

BENNY  
Philmore, I can’t believe this! I give myself present in private, too!

PHILMORE  
You do?!

(WHISPERS to MULDOON)  
Probably started after Barbara left him.

(CONTINUED)
BENNY
What did you just say?

PHILMORE
(acting innocent)
... Nothing

Philmore and Benny cheerfully rejoice and embrace each other.

Muldoon leaves...

... Philmore notices.

PHILMORE (CONT’D)
(knocking on the door)
Mr. Muldoon! Are you coming or not?

The door opens slightly and...

BAM!
Muldoon fired a bullet through Philmore’s stomach. He’s had enough.

Philmore is only annoyed by the bullet but only because it hurts, not because it’s gonna take his life. No he’s not a zombie or a vampire. We’re not sure what he is yet. And in case you’re wondering, yes, Benny can’t die either.

PHILMORE (CONT’D)
(in PAIN)
OW!

Feeling the need to shock them, Muldoon does this.

MULDOON
Oh, and guess what? Santa ain’t real.

This MORTIFIES Philmore and Benny. How could one of their favorite things in the whole world be a lie? It’s kind of easy. These are full-grown men - using that term pretty fucking loosely - and they believe in Santa Claus. They only get stupider. Keep reading.

PHILMORE/BENNY
(mortified)
WHAT?!

The door closes.

Philmore PASSES OUT from the pain.

(CONTINUED)
BENNY (CONT’D)
It can’t be true! It can’t be true!
NOOOOOOOO!

CUT TO BLACK

AGAINST BLACK, SUBTITLE:

5 Hours Later...

CUT TO -

INT. PHILMORE & BENNY’S HOUSE – LIVING ROOM – NIGHT

"All I want for Christmas is You!" by Mariah Carey plays in the background.

Philmore and Benny are exchanging gifts.

Benny cheerfully hands over his present to Philmore. It’s clearly a shotgun that’s been poorly wrapped – like a five year old did it. But that’s complementary.

BENNY
Here you are, Philmore!

PHILMORE
Oh, thank you, Benny. What is it?

BENNY
Ah, you know.

PHILMORE
No, I don’t know.

MUSIC STOPS.

Benny is incredulous towards Philmore’s stupidity and is therefore confused.

BENNY
(perplexed)
What?

PHILMORE
I don’t know what you got me.
That’s the whole concept behind surprises, Benny. Someone as smart as you should know that!

Benny’s bewilderment proceeds.
BENNY
Look at it. What is it?

PHILMORE
Uuuuh, a puppy?!

BENNY
No.

PHILMORE
A ukulele?

BENNY
(exasperated)
You get one more.

BEAT. Philmore ponders. He has an answer.

PHILMORE
OH! A puppy?

BENNY
(furious)
It’s a fucking gun!

PHILMORE
Benny! You ruined the surprise! Why would you do that?

BENNY
It’s clearly a fucking gun!

Philmore adopts a sense of indignation and decides to get back at Benny.

PHILMORE
(indignant)
I got you a new bandana!

This angers Benny even further.

BENNY
Why would you tell me that?!

PHILMORE
You ruined the surprise!

BENNY
How fucking stupid are you?!

PHILMORE
(picking up BENNY’S present)
Here! It’s got a reindeer on it!

(Continued)
Philmore angrily THROWS the bandana at his perturbed brother.

This does not settle well with Benny.

BENNY
(furious)
I’m gonna roast your fucking chestnuts on an open fire!

They FIGHT like immature children. While they fight, they curse back and forth.

We hear LOUD KNOCKING. It’s the kind of knocking that police make when they’re about to commence a raid. *Hint* *Hint*.

They stop.

PHILMORE
What was that?

LOUD KNOCKING.

BENNY
Answer the door.

Philmore is still indignant.

PHILMORE
No! You get it!

BENNY
Oh come on, man!

PHILMORE
Don’t ’come on, man’ me! You ruined the surprise for me!

Benny picks up Philmore’s rifle.

BENNY
(shakes rifle)
Does this look like a fucking ukulele to you?! Or a fucking puppy?!

LOUD KNOCKING.

MULDOON (O.S.)
Hey! Heckle and Jeckle! Open the fuck up!

Philmore recognizes the knocker’s voice. It excites him.

(CONTINUED)
Benny becomes uneasy.

**BENNY**
(nervous)
Oh shit.

**PHILMORE**
(excited)
I know that voice!

Benny picks up Philmore’s new gun and tries to find a place to hide it.

Philmore looks out the door. It’s a familiar face. He’s happy to see him.

**PHILMORE (CONT’D)**
(GASPS in excitement)
Benny! It’s Mr. Muldoon!

Philmore opens the door as quick as a flash.

**PHILMORE (CONT’D)**
Hey, Mr. Mul --

Muldoon barges in - with his revolver in hand - and knocks Philmore to the floor.

**MULDOON**
(perplexed)
How’re you still alive?

**BENNY**
(excited)
Can we help you, Mr. Muldoon?

Muldoon points his pistol at Benny.

**MULDOON**
Where is it, dog-fucker?!

Apparently, Benny has a secret.

**BENNY**
(gasps loud)
How do you know?

**MULDOON**
Where is it?!

**BENNY**
How do you know?!
MULDOON
None of your fuckin’ business!
Where is it?!

PHILMORE
Benny, what’s going on?

MULDOON
Shut up, zombie!

BENNY
I’m not talking about the SPAS...
Shit!

PHILMORE
... SPAS?

MULDOON
What did you think I was talking about?

BENNY
The other thing!

BEAT. Muldoon is perplexed once again.

MULDOON
(perplexed)
What other thing?

PHILMORE
(gasps in appreciation)
Benny, you’re so thoughtful! The SPAS is my favorite!

BENNY
(exasperated)
Really, Philmore?!

Muldoon realizes what Benny was talking about.

MULDOON
(incredulous)
Wait...

Philmore continues to express his appreciation. He’s crying a little.

PHILMORE
(snifflies)
Thank you so much!

(CONTINUED)
MULDOON
You fuck dogs?

BENNY
No! And I bought nothing!

PHILMORE
Then who bought my SPAS?

BENNY
(desperate)
Shut up!

MULDOON
Both of you, shut up! Tell me where it is, dog-fucker!

This angers Benny even further.

BENNY
I am not a dog-fucker! And there is nothing here!

MULDOON
Then, you won’t mind if I take a look around, will ya?

BENNY
Be my guest.

PHILMORE
Yeah, go ahead. There’s nothing suspicious here. (to BENNY)
Wink.

BENNY
Philmore!

PHILMORE
What? I just don’t want him to know about his present. Oops.

MULDOON
So, there are guns here, huh, Benny?

Benny’s so afraid he hesitates to answer.

BENNY
No.

(CONTINUED)
MULDOON
Then, why’d you yell "Philmore"?

BEAT.

Benny struggles to get any words out at first.

BENNY
’Cause... I didn’t want you to know about your present.

PHILMORE
You didn’t know I bought him a present.

BENNY
Shut up!

Muldoon leaves for the basement.

PHILMORE
(cheerful)
Be right back!

Philmore leaves.

A LONG BEAT. Benny contemplates. He comes up with an idea. He leaves the FRAME.

TIME CUT -

INT. PHILMORE & BENNY’ S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Armed with his brother’s new SPAS-12, Benny is waiting for Muldoon to come back upstairs.

Muldoon arrives. He has a pistol in his hand that isn’t his.

MULDOON
What’s this, dog --

He notices the barrel staring him in the face.

BENNY
Drop the pistol. Wait, no, no! Set it on the floor. Gently.

Muldoon does as he’s told.

BENNY (CONT’D)
Now, take out your pistol, and set that on the ground.

(CONTINUED)
He does that.

Philmore arrives with a wrapped pistol in his hand.

PHILMORE
I thought I lost it but --

He notices the SPAS-12. He’s mesmerized.

PHILMORE (CONT’D)
Oh my god! It’s so beautiful!

Philmore caresses the SPAS-12. Very creepily too. Like as if it’s his lover.

Muldoon notices the wrapped pistol in Philmore’s hand. Knowing how stupid he is, he forms an idea.

MULDOON
Hey!

Philmore looks towards Muldoon.

MULDOON (CONT’D)
(points)
What’s that?

PHILMORE
(waves finger)
No, no. I’m not gonna tell you. You have to open it.

BENNY
(concerned & angry)
Philmore...

PHILMORE
Take it!

Muldoon takes the pistol and unwraps it.

PHILMORE (CONT’D)
(cheerful)
It’s a Smith & Wesson. Now --
(touches MULDOON’S shoulder)
-- you can play with it but be careful, it’s loaded.

After a BEAT, Muldoon takes the idiot hostage.

PHILMORE
Whoa!
(to the CAMERAMAN)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
PHILMORE (CONT’D)
Hey, cameraman, are you getting this?!

Philmore laughs.

BENNY
Let him go!

MULDOON
Drop the weapon, dog-fucker!

BENNY
I am not a dog-fucker!

PHILMORE
Benny! He’s using it! That means he likes it!

MULDOON
Shut the fuck up!

BENNY
Put down the weapon!

BEAT.
Muldoon SHOOTS Benny in the face and then plugs one in Philmore’s head.

MULDOON
(satisfied)
Hmm.

He leaves the FRAME.

TIME CUT -

EXT. PHILMORE & BENNY’S HOUSE – OUTSIDE – NIGHT

Muldoon walks out the front door.

PHILMORE
(like a cowgirl)
Yoo hoo!

He stops in his tracks like he hit a wall.

The camera pans over to Philmore and Benny waiting for him outside.

Then, we pan back over to Muldoon, who has a look of incredulity on his face. "Are you fucking kidding me?!".
CONTINUED: (2)

8 INT. PHILMORE & BENNY’S HOUSE – PHILMORE’S ROOM – NIGHT
Philmore opens the present he got for himself. It’s a book.

PHILMORE
(to himself)
Thanks, Philmore! You’re welcome, Philmore!

He hugs himself.

9 INT. PHILMORE & BENNY’S HOUSE – BENNY’S ROOM – NIGHT
Benny opens the present he got for himself. It’s an ornament.

BENNY
(to himself)
Eh. I already have this. Be thankful!

Benny punches himself unconscious.

10 EXT. PHILMORE & BENNY’S HOUSE – FRONT YARD – NIGHT
Muldoon is strapped to a pillar by Christmas lights.

MULDOON
(numb with rage)
Fuck.

BREAKING THE FOURTH WALL – Philmore steps in from the left and Benny steps in from the right.

PHILMORE/BENNY/MULDOON
(cheerfully)
Happy Holidays from KineticFilms!

CUT TO BLACK

OVER BLACK, CREDITS ROLL

"Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays" by NSync plays.

AFTER CREDITS:
INT. PHILMORE & BENNY’S HOUSE – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Benny peaks his head out his door and checks if the coast is clear. It is.

He reveals a male Shetland Sheepdog.

BENNY
Good work, boy.

He kisses him on the head and lets him go.

Benny closes his door.

CUT TO BLACK

END