

ROAD TRIP GOING NORTH TO NOWHERE

by

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INT. CAR - RIDING - NIGHT

YANOS sits in passenger seat aiming his gun at BLANE, who sits in the driver's seat.

BLANE

I know, I know this was going to happen. I didn't try to run away, doesn't that count for something?

YANOS

No.

BLANE

Okay. So, how does this work?

YANOS

Start the car and drive.

Blane starts car and drives.

BLANE

Which way do you want me to go?

YANOS

Left.

BLANE

Ookay. (beat) I mean, it really wasn't the worst thing in the world that I did, right? I mean, surely there's something we can work out. I'm willing to do anything but die. You follow? So, um, if you want to physically harm me, maybe deform me, that's fine...assault me, I can live with that to some degree...as long as you don't kill me, is all I'm saying. Please don't kill me.

YANOS

I want you to stop talking.

BLANE

Ookay. Okay, that's fine. I won't say another word.

Pause.

If you're gonna kill me can I at least call my wife and tell her I love her and say goodbye.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

Not goodbye, goodbye cause I know if you're gonna kill me that I don't want to actually tell her I'm gonna die but a goodbye like my own private goodbye. You follow? Just want to hear her voice, one last time. Last time we spoke, I treated her really badly, like a real loser and I, I really can't part ways with her like that...I'd like to end on a good note, if possible. Entirely up to you, of course.

YANOS

Where is your phone?

BLANE

Ummm, here...(digging in his pocket, handing phone to Yanos)
Here you go, her name is under Cuddles, yeah I know but she's an expert cuddler, so...just push on that name and...

Phone rings on speaker.

CUDDLES

What's up, asshole?

BLANE

Oh hey, hey, ah...how's it going?

CUDDLES

Where have you been for the last three days you stupid piece of shit? We're out of baby diapers and food.

BLANE

Oh, um, yeah, right, I'll, I'm just on a road trip going north, so I won't be home this evening.

CUDDLES

Road trip going north? WHAT?!

BLANE

Oooh shit, uh, well, yeah I should have told you.

CUDDLES

Where the fuck are you?

BLANE
I'm in the car, driving.

CUDDLES
Who are you with?

BLANE
Myself, oh, just me.

CUDDLES
North where? Where are you driving
and why?

BLANE
Just wanted to clear my mind.

CUDDLES
How can you leave me and Dylan
here for three days all alone and
then tell me you are on some
stupid road trip?!

BLANE
I---

CUDDLES
You are a dead man!

BLANE
Uh, sort of, yeah...

CUDDLES
You are a dead man, you hear me?

BLANE
Ummm, I love you.

CUDDLES
WHAT?!

BLANE
I love you. Just wanted to say---

CUDDLES
SCUMBAG, I hope you die!!

BLANE
Times are tough right now but I,
uh, I want you to know, I'm sorry
for everything and I love you and
Dylan very much. I can't talk now
but just remember, just remember.

Blane hangs up phone.

Oh man, that was, I was hoping for a much different sort of lullaby ending.

YANOS

That bitch sounds crazy.

BLANE

Mmm yeah, you should try living with her, actually, try having a kid with her, too. Wooh!

YANOS

How do you deal with that?

BLANE

She's always yelling. She's a tough cookie. She's got a big heart though, for sure, but it gets crazy every now and then, more often than not actually. (he laughs) Mind if I blow pop?

YANOS

Blow pop?

BLANE

Yeah, it's the lollipops with the gum in the center. Love 'em. Can't get enough of 'em. Calms my nerves. Want one?

YANOS

I never had one before.

BLANE

Oh, man, you should try one, they're really good and it's actually therapeutic, for me at least. It helps.

Blane hands Yanos a blow pop.

Hope you like cherry, that's all I seem to have left.

Both men unwrap their lollipops and begin sucking on them.

Yeah, just put it in your mouth and enjoy the flavors. Eventually, you will reach the gum. Don't eat it because it's not candy. That shit will lay in your belly for years like rocks.

YANOS

It's good.

BLANE

Ennnjoy.

Blane's phone rings.

Oh shit. She's calling me. I told you she's intense.

YANOS

Just tell her you will see her tomorrow.

BLANE

Really? Like, really, really? Is that what I should say cause it's true or because it's a lie?

YANOS

Just tell her that.

BLANE

Okay. (answers his phone) Heeey, honey.

CUDDLES

I've already called my brothers! When you get home they will be waiting for you with bats to beat you down so bad you will be in a coma for years, you piece of shit.

BLANE

Why would you call your brothers?

CUDDLES

I want to see you bleed!

BLANE

Cuddles, don't you think you are taking this---

CUDDLES

Don't you DARE call me cuddles. You're not cuddling anybody anymore!

Cuddles hangs up phone.

BLANE

Hello? Hello? Shit. I'm dead. Listen, honestly, just, we might as well pull over right here on the side of the road. It's dark enough. Just put a bullet in my head. I'll be fine. Really.

(MORE)

BLANE (CONT'D)

Take the car back to town. It's probably best.

YANOS

Why?

BLANE

Because now she's got her brothers involved and they're all absolutely nuts and they will do me much harm.

YANOS

What kind of harm?

BLANE

Oh no, she means what she says. They will probably break my legs again. It's what they did last time. They tied me up and dropped cinder blocks on my shins.

YANOS

And these are your brother-in-laws?

BLANE

Yep.

YANOS

They crazy.

BLANE

Yeah. I can't really blame them. They had a tough upbringing and all. The whole family is entirely nuts. So, it's in their genes to begin with so really, it makes sense. You should see my daughter Dylan, yeah, she takes after her Mom, so it's probably best I get taken out of the equation, anyway.

YANOS

But you are the man.

BLANE

Ha! Doesn't matter if I was God.

YANOS

This is wrong. You need to go back there and teach these people who you are.

BLANE

...Naaah, not really. After you kind of been lit up on fire and drowned and a bunch of other wild tales you wouldn't even begin to believe, it's just not worth it.

YANOS

I cannot let you go out this way. This cannot be. Turn the car around.

BLANE

What?

YANOS

Turn this car around now!

BLANE

But I thought you were killing me.

YANOS

No.

BLANE

But this whole time.

YANOS

Turn this car around!

Blane slams on the breaks, puts car in park and runs out the car.

Yanos chases after him.

A foot chase ensues. Yanos eventually catches up to Blane and hits him in back of the head with his gun. Blane falls face down on the ground but isn't knocked out.

YANOS (CATCHING HIS BREATH)

What is wrong with you?!

BLANE

This is perfect! Please! Right here! Right now! Just shoot me. Put one round in my forehead and it will all be over with. I can die a happy man.

YANOS

I have no intention of killing you now. You must be a man and face your fears.

BLANE

Just kill me!

YANOS

You need to take responsibility
for your life. For your daughter,
Dylan. You need to be a better
husband!

BLANE

Why are you siding with them? You
are no better than they are!

YANOS

Listen to me you low life shitbag.
You aren't going to die, not
tonight and not by her brothers.
You are going to man up and be
something in your life. Death is
the easy way out. I'm not going to
make it easy for you. You will
suffer much more by staying alive.
And I want you to suffer! Ha ha!
Suffer and live and enjoy your
miserable life like the rest of
us!

BLANE

You really let me down.

YANOS

Get up. Let's go back to the car
and drive back to town.

BLANE

Oh, alright, have it your way.
Total downer.