

BROTHERED UP

"Pilot"

Written By

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COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

INT. POLICE STATION/INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE - DAY (DAY 1)

WE OPEN ON THE PROCESSING AREA OF A POLICE STATION IN DEARBORN, MICHIGAN. OFFICER CALVIN WILLIAMS (30'S) IS WAITING FOR OFFICER FAROOQ SIDDIQUI (30'S) TO TAKE THE MUGSHOT OF LARRY (40'S). LARRY HOLDS A MUGSHOT PLACARD READING "LARRY FISK-DEARBORN COUNTY-DRUNK AND DISORDERLY" UNDER HIS CHIN. FAROOQ ADJUSTS THE CAMERA AND IS READY TO SNAP THE PHOTO.

FAROOQ

Smile, don't smile, totally up to you.

(OFF LARRY'S GLARE) Going with the angry glare. Excellent. Popular choice.

LARRY

(DRUNK, EMOTIONAL) Why should I smile?

FAROOQ

Ever seen a parrot riding a bicycle?

That one always gets me.

CALVIN

Don't engage with him, Siddiqui. Just snap the picture and get him printed.

LARRY

She's gone. She left me.

FAROOQ

Who?

LARRY

My ex-wife. And (POINTS AT CALVIN) he arrested me for going to her wedding.

CALVIN

You were drunk and disorderly in a church, yelling "best sex I ever had" as she walked down the aisle.

LARRY

If you can't make a confession in church, where can you? (EMOTIONAL) God I still love her.

LARRY DROPS HIS PLACARD AND STARTS SOBBING.

CALVIN

Great.

FAROOQ APPROACHES LARRY AND PATS HIS BACK.

FAROOQ

It's going to be okay. You know, heartbreak only makes us stronger. My grandfather would always say--

CALVIN

Siddiqui!

CALVIN SIGNALS FOR FAROOQ TO STEP ASIDE WITH HIM. FAROOQ CROSSES OVER WHILE LARRY CONTINUES SOBBING.

FAROOQ

What's up?

CALVIN

Your job is to take their mugshots and print them. This is a police station, not the Dr. Phil show.

FAROOQ

I was trying to help the man.  
Communication is how people solve  
problems.

CALVIN

No, it's how you get drunks riled up  
and slow down the booking process.

FAROOQ

Now I know how you feel. I wouldn't  
have known had you not communicated it  
to me. See what I'm saying?

A FEMALE OFFICER, KILPATRICK (LATE 20'S), WALKS UP TO CALVIN.

KILPATRICK

Williams, Commander wants to see you  
in his office right away.

CALVIN

(TO FAROOQ) We're not finished.

FAROOQ

I hope not. It's a healthy debate.

CALVIN GIVES HIM A LOOK AS HE CROSSES TO THE COMMANDER'S  
OFFICE.

RESET TO:

INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

COMMANDER LEE (50'S) SQUATS ON AN EXERCISE MAT IN A TAI CHI  
POSE AS CALVIN ENTERS.

COMMANDER LEE

Sit down, Williams.

CALVIN

(RE: TAI CHI POSITION) Like that? I don't think I can.

COMMANDER LEE

It's tai chi. The new wife's got me doing it. She's fifteen years younger than me. I do whatever she wants.

CALVIN

Understood.

COMMANDER LEE

She's also got me doing a juice cleanse. That's her picture on my desk in a bikini. I've never been more miserable and happy at the same time.

CALVIN GLANCES AT THE PICTURE, NODS IN AGREEMENT, THEN:

CALVIN

So you wanted to see me?

COMMANDER LEE

I have an amazing opportunity for you.

CALVIN

That doesn't sound good.

THE COMMANDER CROSSES TO HIS DESK AND SITS DURING:

COMMANDER LEE

As you know, Dearborn is quite the melting pot. We have one of the highest Lebanese, Pakistani, and Muslim populations in the country.

(MORE)

COMMANDER LEE (CONT'D)

The community has recently expressed they would like the police force to better reflect that.

CALVIN

I wish I could help, but I'm Black. And Lutheran.

COMMANDER LEE

I know. So you're getting a partner.

CALVIN

What?! I don't want a partner.

I ride alone, sir. I always have.

COMMANDER LEE

Adaptation is beautiful, Williams. Be beautiful.

THE COMMANDER PICKS UP HIS PHONE AND HITS A BUTTON.

COMMANDER LEE (CONT'D)

(INTO PHONE) Send Siddiqui in.

CALVIN

Siddiqui? The guy from processing?

He's worked in-house his whole career.

You're gonna brother me up with him?

COMMANDER LEE

He speaks six languages including Arabic and Urdu. We need officers like him on the street. Not printing fingers and snapping mugshots.

FAROOQ ENTERS.

FAROOQ

Commander?

COMMANDER LEE

Siddiqui, I'd like to transfer you  
from processing to patrol. What do you  
think?

FAROOQ

I think I would enjoy that very much.

COMMANDER LEE

Great. You'll be riding with Williams.

CALVIN AND FAROOQ EXCHANGE LOOKS.

FAROOQ

(TO CALVIN, EXCITED) You were right.

We're not finished.

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

SCENE A

FADE IN:

INT. WILLIAMS' KITCHEN - THE NEXT MORNING (DAY 2)

CALVIN, WEARING AN APRON OVER HIS POLICE UNIFORM, STIRS A SKILLET OF SCRAMBLED EGGS AT THE STOVE AS HIS DAUGHTER, EFFIE (11), SITS AT THE TABLE DOING HOMEWORK. CALVIN'S LOVELY WIFE, DESRI (30'S), POURS HERSELF COFFEE AT THE COUNTER.

DESRI

Keep an open mind, a partner could be a good thing for you. You hated cauliflower until I made you think you were eating mashed potatoes.

CALVIN

When did you do that?

DESRI

Six months ago. See? Change is a good thing.

CALVIN

So is trust. But that's gone now.

DESRI

Tell me about him. Who is he?

CALVIN

He's worked in-house his whole career, he never stops talking, he's Pakistani, and it feels like I'm being forced into an arranged marriage.

DESRI

Calvin!



CALVIN

(CONFUSED) What? (THEN, REALIZING) I didn't mean it like that. See? Now I gotta start watching everything I say.

DESRI

Shouldn't you be doing that anyway?

CALVIN CROSSES TO EFFIE AND PUTS SOME EGGS ON HER PLATE.

EFFIE

Dad, do you know what chlorofluorocarbon is?

CALVIN

Of course, Nugget. But you tell me first so I know you know.

WE HEAR A KNOCK. CALVIN CROSSES TO THE DOOR, SKILLET IN HAND, AND OPENS IT TO REVEAL HIS FATHER FRANK (60'S). FRANK HOLDS A DONUT BAG AND A BOX OF CIGARS.

FRANK

Is your husband home?

CALVIN

I get it. I'm wearing an apron and holding a skillet, that's why that's funny.

FRANK

Hey lady, I don't want any trouble, I just want to know if your husband's home.

CALVIN

Where have you been, Dad?

FRANK CROSSES INTO THE KITCHEN WITH CALVIN DURING:

FRANK

I went to get some donuts and cigars  
for breakfast and got locked out. I've  
been staying here five months, when do  
I get a key?

CALVIN

(TO DESRI) Weren't you gonna make him  
a copy?

DESRI

I keep forgetting.

FRANK

For five months?

DESRI

For five months and eleven days. Yes.

FRANK SITS AT THE TABLE NEXT TO EFFIE.

FRANK

(TO EFFIE) Morning, Pumpkin.

FRANK HANDS EFFIE A CHOCOLATE DONUT; DESRI INTERCEPTS IT.

EFFIE

Grandpa, do you know what  
chlorofluorocarbon is?

FRANK

Don't bother learning that stuff. No  
one speaks Latin anymore.

DESRI

It's not Latin, Frank. She's answering  
a question about global warming.

FRANK

Well if the question is, "Is it real?"  
The answer's "No." If you need extra  
credit, write down solar panels are for  
hippies who are too cheap to pay their  
electric bill.

DESRI

Effie, one of the good things about  
America is everyone has a right to  
their own opinion. It's also one of  
the bad things.

FRANK

(TO CALVIN) I got the skinny on your  
new partner last night from some cops  
on my bowling team. He's Persian.

CALVIN

Pakistani.

FRANK

The Middle East is the Middle East.

DESRI

When's the last time you looked at a  
globe? And was it flat by any chance?

CALVIN

I don't care where he's from. My  
problem is they're forcing me to take a  
partner. And the guy has basically no  
street experience.

FRANK

The city's checking a box for their diversity agenda at your expense. This is Affirmative Action coming full circle to bite a Black man in the ass.

EFFIE

What's "Affirmative Action?"

FRANK

That's when people feel guilty about two hundred years of treating you like crap, Pumpkin.

DESRI

Grandpa's so funny. Effie, get your backpack, I'll take you to school.

EFFIE EXITS. CALVIN TAKES OFF HIS APRON.

CALVIN

I better get going too.

DESRI

(PULLS CALVIN ASIDE) Hey, promise me you'll give the man a chance today. I like the idea of you having a partner.

CALVIN

I don't need a partner.

DESRI

I know you don't need one, you're a great cop. But it would make me feel better knowing you had one.

(MORE)

DESRI (CONT'D)

Just promise you'll give it a chance,  
that's all I'm asking. For me.

CALVIN

Fine. I promise.

DESRI

Thank you. (KISSES HIM) Don't be close-  
minded. Don't be your father.

FRANK

(CALLING OUT) I can hear you. I'm  
close-minded, not deaf.

EFFIE ENTERS WITH HER BACKPACK.

EFFIE

What's "close-minded"?

FRANK

That's when you tell the truth about  
stuff, Pumpkin.

FRANK STARTS UNWRAPPING A CIGAR.

DESRI

Frank, what do you think you're doing?  
You know this is a non-smoking house.

FRANK

Even in my bedroom with a window open?

DESRI SHOOTS CALVIN A LOOK.

CALVIN

Big day, love you guys, gotta go.

CALVIN KISSES DESRI AND EFFIE, THEN HEADS OUT THE DOOR.

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE B

INT. SIDDIQUI'S KITCHEN - SAME TIME (DAY 2)

FAROOQ, IN HIS POLICE UNIFORM, STANDS AT THE KITCHEN TABLE. HIS WIFE, NOSHEEN (30'S), FAROOQ'S FATHER, USMAN (60'S), AND MOTHER, BISMA (60'S), SIT AT THE TABLE EATING BREAKFAST.

FAROOQ

Okay, so Nosheen and I have an announcement we'd like to make.

BISMA

You're getting a divorce?

FAROOQ

No Mom, we're not getting a divorce. Stop asking that. I'm switching jobs.

NOSHEEN

Farooq's going to be a patrol officer now instead of working in the station house. I'm nervous about it, but it's what he wants and I believe in him.

BISMA

(TO FAROOQ) So you told Nosheen first?

FAROOQ

She's my wife.

BISMA

And I gave you life. But apparently that's no big deal.

NOSHEEN

I did it too. It's not like we're magic wizards, half the people on the planet have given birth.

USMAN

I'm proud of you, Son. The extra money will come in very handy.

FAROOQ

There's no extra money, Dad. The pay as a patrol officer is the same.

USMAN

You mean you just accepted the first offer? Have I taught you nothing about negotiating?

FAROOQ

The salary is set, there's no negotiating. Just like when we go to the gas station. The price is what's on the sign no matter how long you argue with the cashier.

IZZYAN (10) ENTERS, DRESSED FOR SCHOOL.

IZZYAN

Dad, can I use your razor?

FAROOQ

Why?

IZZYAN

Because I'm tired of being the only kid in third grade with a mustache.

NOSHEEN

Don't be ridiculous, Izzyan. You have dark facial hair, it's very handsome.

BISMA

You look Pakistani, be proud. And traditional. Unlike some people who parade around half-naked in sleeveless shirts.

NOSHEEN

I'm wearing it all summer, get used to it.

IZZYAN

So can I use your razor, Dad?

FAROOQ

Not till you're old enough to shave.

IZZYAN

That's now. I have a mustache. I look like a tiny, grown man. Or a young, old woman.

FAROOQ

It's cool. I've had one my whole life. Chicks dig it. Eat your breakfast.

IZZYAN SITS AND EATS HIS CEREAL.



USMAN

So Farooq, will you have a partner?

FAROOQ

Yes. His name is Calvin Williams. Very experienced senior officer.

NOSHEEN

I was thinking of reaching out to his wife today and introducing myself.

FAROOQ

That's a great idea.

NOSHEEN

Maybe I'll bring a pie over.

BISMA

I'll bake the pie.

NOSHEEN

I can bake the pie.

BISMA

He needs to make a good first impression. I think I should bake it.

What do you think, Farooq?

ALL EYES ARE ON FAROOQ AS HE CONSIDERS HIS ANSWER.

FAROOQ

Perhaps you could both bake a pie together?

BISMA AND NOSHEEN BOTH GIVE HIM THE DEATH STARE.

BISMA

If I want to bake a pie, I'll bake a pie. If you don't want to use it, that's fine.

BISMA EXITS.

NOSHEEN

(TO FAROOQ) I'm baking the pie.

NOSHEEN EXITS.

USMAN

You know, Son, your grandmother lived with your mother and me for forty years.

A BEAT WHILE USMAN CONTEMPLATES.

FAROOQ

And?

USMAN

Nothing. I don't have any advice. I was just thinking how awful it was.

AND WE...

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE C

INT. POLICE STATION - LATER THAT MORNING (DAY 2)

CALVIN AND FAROOQ ARE TALKING WITH COMMANDER LEE AS VARIOUS OFFICERS GO ABOUT THEIR JOBS.

COMMANDER LEE

Siddiqui, you'll need to be retrained for patrol. Williams is one of our finest officers. You'll be learning from the best.

FAROOQ

(TO CALVIN) I'm looking forward to being your partner. In preparation, I basically memorized the map that makes up the twenty-four-point-five mile radius of Dearborn. Or as I like to call it, "Michigan's eighth largest city." At least according to the two-thousand-fifteen census. But what am I saying, I'm sure you know that.

CALVIN

Right. Why don't you grab the daily reports? I need to speak with the Commander for a minute.

FAROOQ

Roger that.

CALVIN

We don't really say, "Roger that."

FAROOQ

Affirmative.

FAROOQ EXITS.

CALVIN

(CALLING AFTER) We don't say that  
either.

COMMANDER LEE

Gotta love his energy.

CALVIN

Have I been a good cop?

COMMANDER LEE

Affirmative.

CALVIN

Here's the thing. I really like riding  
alone. Nothing against Siddiqui, I  
just don't want a partner.

COMMANDER LEE

You know what I've been getting into  
lately?

CALVIN

Granting people wishes?

COMMANDER LEE

Transcendental meditation. New wife's  
got me into it. I repeat my mantra for  
twenty minutes every day. It helps me  
deal with change.

CALVIN

You bowl with the man who raised me.  
Think meditation's anywhere in my DNA?

COMMANDER LEE

Look, I need to get the force more  
diversified and you're my best senior  
training officer. Get Siddiqui  
trained. After that, I'll transfer him  
to another car and you can ride alone  
again. How's that sound?

CALVIN

For real?

COMMANDER LEE

Affirmative. (THEN) I like that word.  
I think we should start saying it.

COMMANDER LEE EXITS AS FAROOQ RETURNS, HOLDING DAILY REPORTS.

FAROOQ

You ready to light this candle?

CALVIN

I am, but you gotta stop talking like  
that.

FAROOQ AND CALVIN GATHER THEIR STUFF AND START TO EXIT DURING:

FAROOQ

Interesting fact I found out: we're  
the first Black officer and Pakistani  
officer to be riding in a squad car  
together in the history of the city.

(MORE)

FAROOQ (CONT'D)

It only took two-hundred and thirty-one years.

CALVIN

Mm-hm.

FAROOQ

We've already made the history books. Black and Pakistani finally united.

CALVIN

Mm-hm.

FAROOQ

We could call ourselves "Blackistani."

FAROOQ SMILES. CALVIN STARES AT HIM.

FAROOQ (CONT'D)

Unless you find that offensive.

CALVIN

I do a little bit.

FAROOQ

Message received. Ten-four-out on that one. (OFF CALVIN'S LOOK) We don't say that either, do we?

CALVIN SHAKES HIS HEAD AS THE GUYS HEAD OUT TO START THEIR FIRST DAY.

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE D

INT. SQUAD CAR/EXT. SIDE OF THE ROAD - LATER (DAY 2)

CALVIN DRIVES AS FAROOQ FINISHES A LONG STORY.

FAROOQ

...So, immigrated from Pakistan, got married, graduated from police academy, one sister and six cousins back in Lahore, I still battle the regret of not finishing my Eagle Scout badge... Yep, that's pretty much my life's story. How about you? Where are you from?

CALVIN

Look, I don't like a lot of chatter in the car. I want to focus on the job and get you trained as quick as possible.

FAROOQ

Got it. Roger... (CATCHES HIMSELF)  
...Ebert was my favorite critic.

CALVIN'S PHONE RINGS.

CALVIN

(RE: PHONE) I gotta take this.

CALVIN PULLS OVER AND ANSWERS HIS PHONE.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

(INTO PHONE) Hey babe. (THEN) Mm-hm.

(THEN) In the house? (THEN) I'm sorry.

(MORE)

CALVIN (CONT'D)

Open a window, turn on a fan, we'll  
have a talk when I get home. (THEN)  
It's fine. (THEN) I can't say that  
now. (THEN) Okay, okay. (LOOKS AT  
FAROOQ, THEN, QUICKLY) I love you.

CALVIN HANGS UP AND STARTS DRIVING AGAIN.

FAROOQ

Problem at home?

CALVIN

Nope.

FAROOQ

What is it? Wife troubles?

CALVIN

Nope.

FAROOQ

Mother?

CALVIN

Nope.

FAROOQ

Father?

CALVIN DOESN'T RESPOND.

FAROOQ (CONT'D)

Dad problems. Those can be difficult.  
Want to talk about it?

CALVIN

There's nothing to talk about.

A BEAT, THEN:



CALVIN (CONT'D)

He moved in after his third wife  
kicked him out. He's a crotchety,  
cigar smoking ex-cop and my wife's had  
it with him.

FAROOQ

I hear you. My wife and mother are  
like a snake and a mongoose. You know,  
I've found that--

CALVIN

Look, we should really be focusing on  
your training.

FAROOQ

Right, right. Of course.

CALVIN

So the area we patrol is generally low  
crime: traffic infractions, lost pets,  
an occasional domestic. Very quiet.

WE HEAR A CALL COME OVER THE POLICE RADIO.

RADIO (V.O.)

*Car one-X-fifteen-fifteen-rotunda, we  
have a breaking and entering in  
progress. Suspect is reportedly armed.*

FAROOQ

Or apparently that happens.

CALVIN CLICKS ON THE SIREN AND LIGHTS. AS THE GUYS SPEED OFF,  
WE...

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE E

INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY/INT. DORIS'S APARTMENT - LATER (DAY 2)

CALVIN AND FAROOQ STAND, GUNS DRAWN, AT A DOORWAY.

CALVIN

Control the situation in there. Don't  
let the situation control you. And  
follow my lead. Ready?

FAROOQ NODS. CALVIN KNOCKS ON THE DOOR.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

Dearborn Police! We're coming in!

RESET TO:

INT. DORIS'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

CALVIN AND FAROOQ ENTER THE APARTMENT TO FIND AN ELDERLY  
WOMAN, DORIS (70'S), IN HER ROBE HIDING BEHIND A SOFA.

DORIS

He's over there!

THE DORIS POINTS BUT THERE'S NO ONE THERE.

CALVIN

I don't see him. Where is he?

DORIS

He's right there! Standing in front of  
the window! He's got a gun!

THE GUYS LOOK AND SEE THERE'S NO ONE IN FRONT OF THE WINDOW.  
THE WOMAN IS SEEING THINGS.

FAROOQ

Ma'am, there's no one here. Are you  
feeling okay?

DORIS

(GETTING MORE UPSET) He's there! Can't  
you see him?! There!

CALVIN TAKES A BEAT, ASSESSES THE SITUATION, THEN:

CALVIN

(PRETENDING) Wait, I see him now. He's  
over there, in front of the window.

CALVIN GIVES FAROOQ A LOOK. FAROOQ FOLLOWS HIS LEAD.

FAROOQ

Yes, I see him too!

THE GUYS RUSH OVER AND PRETEND TO APPREHEND THE INVISIBLE  
SUSPECT, DISARM HIM, CUFF HIM, AND START TO WALK HIM OUT.

CALVIN

We got him, Ma'am. Don't worry, he'll  
never bother you again.

CALVIN AND FAROOQ PRETEND TO WALK THE INVISIBLE GUY OUT. THE  
WOMAN POINTS TO CALVIN'S LOWER HAND.

DORIS

(RE: CALVIN'S HAND) You're pulling him  
by his Jon Thomas.

CALVIN PRETENDS TO SPIN HIM AROUND AND GRAB HIS OTHER SIDE.

CALVIN

My mistake.

FAROOQ

(TO PERP) We just added public nudity  
to your list of charges too, pervert.

AS THE GUYS CONTINUE WALKING THE INVISIBLE GUY OUT...

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE H

INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY - LATER (DAY 2)

CALVIN AND FAROOQ TALK WITH DORIS' DAUGHTER, HEIDI (40'S) IN THE HALLWAY.

HEIDI

I got over as quick as I could. I'm sorry, my husband usually stays home with her, but he's out of town. I had to go to work and when Mom forgets to take her meds, that's what happens.

CALVIN

She's a nice lady. You should see me when I don't have my coffee.

HEIDI

(SMILES) Thanks again, you guys are great.

HEIDI EXITS INTO THE APARTMENT.

CALVIN

So in situations like that, we always stay till a relative arrives.

FAROOQ

Got it.

THEY START TO WALK DOWN THE HALLWAY.

FAROOQ (CONT'D)

That felt good. I knew we'd be great partners. Blackistani in action.

CALVIN STOPS.

CALVIN

It's not about us being partners. It's about getting you properly trained.

FAROOQ

Admit it. We totally clicked in there. Like a Reese's Peanut Butter Cup -- brown and black, side by side. Different flavors, but better together.

CALVIN

Look, that went fine, but it doesn't always go like that. People aren't always grateful for what we do. A lot of times they're resentful. And they're gonna treat you like crap out here. You need to know that.

THEY CONTINUE DOWN THE HALLWAY DURING:

FAROOQ

No problem. I'm used to being treated like crap. Walk through an airport with me sometime, my friend. The TSA agent feels me up like I'm his prom date.

CALVIN CONSIDERS THIS AS THE GUYS CONTINUE WALKING, AND WE...

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE J

INT. WILLIAMS' LIVING ROOM - EARLY THAT EVENING (NIGHT 2)

CALVIN HANGS HIS COAT AS DESRI ENTERS. THERE IS A HOMEMADE POSTER HANGING THAT READS "PARTNERS!"

CALVIN

(NOTICING SIGN) What's that?

DESRI

It's a partner sign, for the partner party. Effie and Izzyan made it.

CALVIN

What party? Who's Izzyan?

DESRI

Farooq's son.

CALVIN

How do you know Farooq's name?

DESRI

Nosheen came over to introduce herself.

CALVIN

Who's Nosheen?

DESRI

Farooq's wife.

CALVIN

What the hell is going on here?

DESRI

Nosheen brought Izzyan over after school so our families could meet.

(MORE)

DESRI (CONT'D)

We decided to throw you guys a partner party to mark your first day together. She's cooking a traditional Pakistani meal and bringing it over for dinner.

CALVIN

What? Tonight?

DESRI

Yeah. And get this, they live in the neighborhood. Only two blocks away. Can you believe it?

CALVIN

I think I have to. You seem pretty serious.

THERE'S A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. DESRI OPENS IT TO REVEAL FAROOQ AND NOSHEEN. NOSHEEN HOLDS A PIE.

DESRI

Hey!

NOSHEEN

Hi.

FAROOQ

(TO DESRI) I'm Farooq.

DESRI

I'm Desri, come in.

FAROOQ

No, actually, we're only gonna be a minute. We just walked over so I could apologize.

CALVIN

For what?

FAROOQ

After work, the Commander explained that once I'm done training with you, you'll go back to riding alone. I'm sorry, I wasn't aware of that.

DESRI

Neither was I.

FAROOQ

(TO CALVIN) I assumed you were going to be my partner, my fault.

CALVIN

I should have said something.

FAROOQ

No, no, I was pushing the partner thing pretty hard today, I didn't make it easy for you. It was a misunderstanding, no big deal.

NOSHEEN

(TO DESRI) So our partner party maybe isn't the right thing, but we should still get together sometime.

DESRI

I'd love that. I'm so sorry about all of this.



NOSHEEN

Don't be. Oh, I almost forgot, I  
brought you a pie.

NOSHEEN HANDS DESRI THE PIE.

FAROOQ

We had two, but Nosheen accidentally  
dropped my mother's in the trash can.

NOSHEEN

Oops.

FAROOQ

(TO CALVIN) See you tomorrow.

CALVIN

Right.

THE SIDDIQUIS EXIT. DESRI SHUTS THE DOOR AND TURNS TO CALVIN.  
SHE GLARES AT HIM FOR A FEW BEATS.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

So what else happened today? Is that  
squirrel still getting into the bird  
feeder?

DESRI

You promised me you'd give him a chance  
when you left the house this morning.  
You didn't even give him one day?

CALVIN

That's one way of looking at it.

DESRI

What's another way?

CALVIN

I found out I could keep riding alone  
if wanted to, so I chose that.

DESRI

That's the same thing!

CALVIN

Oh. Then I guess there is only one way  
of looking at it. (THEN) You're mad.

DESRI

I'm not mad, Calvin. I'm disappointed.  
You broke your promise.

DESRI EXITS, PULLING DOWN THE "PARTNERS!" POSTER AS SHE GOES.  
REVEAL FRANK HAS BEEN LISTENING AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS. HE  
CROSSES DOWN DURING:

FRANK

I'm disappointed too, Son. That nice  
Persian lady was kind enough to bring  
a pie over.

CALVIN

Pakistani.

FRANK

I'm eating it anyway.

FRANK GRABS THE PIE AND HEADS TO THE KITCHEN.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SCENE K

FADE IN:

INT. WILLIAMS' BASEMENT - LATE THAT NIGHT (NIGHT 2)

CALVIN IS PLAYING PING-PONG WITH THE TABLE AGAINST THE WALL SO HE CAN PLAY ALONE. DESRI ENTERS IN HER ROBE. SHE GRABS THE BALL, MID-VOLLEY.

CALVIN

Sorry. Couldn't sleep.

DESRI

You're playing a two person game by yourself. What does that tell us?

CALVIN

That I'm a hell of an athlete?

DESRI

I'm not sure ping-pong qualifies as an athletic event.

CALVIN

Let's not get into this. It won't be any prettier than you and Dad's arguments about evolution.

DESRI

It's not much of an argument. Just me pointing out facts, then him saying, "Why are there still monkeys?" over and over.

DESRI CROSSES TO CALVIN AND HANDS HIM THE BALL.

DESRI (CONT'D)

Want to have one of those talks you hate?

CALVIN

Are you seriously giving me a choice?  
(OFF HER LOOK) Fine. Look, I'm sorry I broke my promise. And I feel bad about Farooq. I don't why I'm the way I am, I just am.

DESRI

Babe, you were raised by an occasionally sweet but bitter man who went through three marriages.

CALVIN

If he makes it four, he'll move out. How often does that cross your mind?

DESRI

Daily. (THEN) Here's the thing. It was three marriages for him, but it was three moms for you. I know that was tough. And it might make someone a little more guarded and self-reliant than most people.

CALVIN

Thank you. That's a really nice way of saying my personality sucks.

DESRI GOES TO THE PING-PONG TABLE AND STARTS PULLING IT AWAY FROM THE WALL DURING:

DESRI

You know what first attracted me to you was your personality.

CALVIN

That's not true. We both know it was my Kid 'n Play high fade.

DESRI

You came up to me at Duffy's Tavern, big smile on your face, and asked me to dance. When's the last time we danced?

CALVIN

I'm gonna tell you a secret. Men hate dancing. We do it because we have to. It's like a job interview for sex.

DESRI

So dancing with me was a job?

CALVIN

See? I don't know how to talk to people. I shouldn't have a partner.

DESRI

All I'm saying is, I know the warm, wonderful guy inside. And I wish you could show that to the rest of the world more often.

DESRI FINISHES PULLING THE PING-PONG TABLE AWAY FROM THE WALL SO IT'S SET UP FOR TWO PLAYERS. SHE GRABS A PADDLE.

CALVIN

You're playing?

DESRI

(STANDS READY) Serve it up, chump.

CALVIN

Oh it's coming for you. (THEN) Remember when we used to play in the game room at Duffy's?

DESRI

Of course. That's where you made your big, romantic proposal. At a ping-pong table. You said, "Okay, loser of the next game has to marry the winner." Then you served the ball before I could answer.

CALVIN

Hey, it worked.

DESRI

I'm gonna tell you a secret. I would've married you no matter how badly you asked me.

HE SERVES THE BALL AND THEY START PLAYING.

CUT TO:

ACT TWO

SCENE 1

INT. SQUAD CAR/EXT. SIDE OF ROAD - THE NEXT DAY (DAY 3)

CALVIN DRIVES, FAROOQ RIDES SHOTGUN. SEVERAL BEATS OF SILENCE. CALVIN OPENS HIS MOUTH TO SAY SOMETHING, BUT STOPS. THEN:

CALVIN

I want to explain about the deal with  
the Commander.

FAROOQ

No need.

CALVIN

It's got nothing to do with you. I'm  
just used to riding alone.

FAROOQ

Not a problem. All good. End of  
discussion.

THEY RIDE IN SILENCE FOR A FEW BEATS. CALVIN SPOTS A VEHICLE  
DRIVING AHEAD OF THEM.

CALVIN

(LOOKING AT VEHICLE) Unbelievable.

FAROOQ

What? I said it was all good, drop it.

CALVIN

No, not that. Look at the vehicle  
ahead of us. Notice anything about it?

FAROOQ

Well according to his bumper sticker,  
he's driving a Jeep. If he wanted a  
Hummer, he'd call your sister.

CALVIN

Unfortunately we can't pull him over  
just for that. Anything else?

FAROOQ

His brake lights are out.

CALVIN

Very good. (CALVIN HITS HIS LIGHTS AND  
SIREN) It's a basic traffic stop. I'm  
gonna have you take lead. You ready?

FAROOQ

Absolutely. And the joke's on him. My  
sister lives outside Karachi where  
there's no cell phone service. He  
couldn't call her if he wanted to.

CALVIN PULLS THE CAR OVER AND THE GUYS GET OUT AS WE...

RESET TO:

EXT. SIDE OF ROAD - CONTINUOUS

FAROOQ WALKS TO THE DRIVER'S SIDE OF THE JEEP AS CALVIN STANDS  
BACK, WATCHING. AN ANNOYED MAN (40'S) ROLLS DOWN HIS WINDOW.

ANNOYED MAN

(COMBATIVE) What'd I do?

FAROOQ

May I see your license, registration,  
and proof of insurance?



ANNOYED MAN

I can't believe this.

THE ANNOYED MAN GRABS THE ITEMS AND HANDS THEM TO FAROOQ.

ANNOYED MAN (CONT'D)

That's what this country's come to. I gotta to show my ID to a friggin' terrorist.

CALVIN

Hey! Check your tone, pal. Don't talk to my partner that way.

FAROOQ

(TO CALVIN) I got this. (CHECKING DOCUMENTS, THEN) Sir, the reason I've pulled you over is because your brake lights are out.

FAROOQ OFFERS THE ANNOYED MAN HIS STUFF BACK DURING:

FAROOQ (CONT'D)

I'm letting you off with a warning, but get it fixed right away for the safety of you and everyone else, okay?

THE GUY SNATCHES HIS STUFF AND DRIVES OFF WITHOUT A WORD.

FAROOQ (CONT'D)

(WATCHING HIM GO) Okay.

FAROOQ AND CALVIN HEAD BACK TO THE SQUAD CAR.

CALVIN

Why didn't you give him a ticket?

FAROOQ

Because he wanted me to. It pissed him  
off more that I didn't.

THIS LANDS WITH CALVIN. THEY GET INTO THE SQUAD CAR.

RESET TO:

INT. SQUAD CAR - CONTINUOUS

CALVIN AND FAROOQ SIT, BUCKLE UP, AND START TO DRIVE. THEY  
RIDE IN SILENCE FOR SEVERAL BEATS.

CALVIN

Sorry.

FAROOQ

For what?

CALVIN

For that idiot.

FAROOQ

Don't apologize, it happens all the  
time. Like I said, I'm used to it.

A FEW MORE BEATS OF SILENCE.

CALVIN

I'm from Los Angeles.

FAROOQ

What?

CALVIN

Yesterday you asked me where I'm from.  
I'm from LA originally.

(MORE)

CALVIN (CONT'D)

My mom left my dad, he and I moved to Dearborn, I got married, graduated from the police academy, and not to open a sore wound, but I did get my Eagle Scout badge. Anyway, that's pretty much my life's story.

FAROOQ

I kind of prefer not talking if you don't mind. Helps me focus on my job.

A FEW BEATS, THEN:

FAROOQ (CONT'D)

I'm busting your balls.

CALVIN

You better be.

FAROOQ SMILES, ENJOYING HIS BARB, AND WE...

CUT TO:

ACT TWO

SCENE M

INT. POLICE STATION - LATER (DAY 3)

VARIOUS OFFICERS ARE GOING ABOUT THEIR JOBS AS COMMANDER LEE FILLS OUT PAPERWORK AT A DESK. CALVIN AND FAROOQ APPROACH.

CALVIN

You wanted to see us, Commander?

COMMANDER LEE

Just wanted to let you know the transfer's approved.

CALVIN

I didn't request a transfer.

COMMANDER LEE

I know. Siddiqui did this morning. Siddiqui, you'll be riding with Markwell tomorrow, he'll finish training you.

CALVIN

(SURPRISED) Oh.

FAROOQ

I wanted to be trained by the person I'll be riding with permanently. For safety reasons. Nothing personal.

CALVIN

No, I get it.

COMMANDER LEE

Williams, you're good to ride solo in your own car again. Everyone happy?

FAROOQ

Yes.

CALVIN

That works.

COMMANDER LEE

Good. See you tomorrow.

FAROOQ

Will do.

EVERYONE STARTS TO CROSS AWAY IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.

CALVIN

Wait.

THE COMMANDER AND FAROOQ STOP.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

Did you say Markwell?

COMMANDER LEE

Yeah.

CALVIN

Markwell's borderline incompetent. He  
doesn't know his ass from his elbow.

AN OFFICER PASSING BY STOPS.

OFFICER

What?

CALVIN

Hey. What's up, Markwell?

OFFICER MARKWELL GIVES A SUSPICIOUS LOOK AS HE CROSSES OFF.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

Look, Siddiqui needs a lot of work.  
He's gotta harden up out there. And he  
needs to be trained by a senior  
officer who knows what the hell he's  
doing. Unfortunately, that's me. So as  
much as I hate to say it, I'm gonna  
have to stick with him. I'm sorry but  
I have to veto this transfer request.  
See you tomorrow.

CALVIN EXITS. FAROOQ AND THE COMMANDER SHARE A LOOK.

FAROOQ

Interesting man.

COMMANDER LEE

Yep. (THEN) You know what I've been  
getting into? Transcendental  
meditation. It helps me deal with  
emotionally unavailable people.

FAROOQ

Go on.

COMMANDER LEE

I repeat my mantra over and over...

AS FAROOQ AND COMMANDER LEE CROSS AWAY, WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

FADE IN:

INT. SQUAD CAR - A WEEK LATER (DAY 4)

CALVIN DRIVES THE SQUAD CAR AS FAROOQ RIDES SHOTGUN.

FAROOQ

...I walk in the bathroom and there's Izzyan with my razor. He says, "I didn't shave the whole mustache, just the outside parts to make it smaller." So there my son stands, with a tiny mustache under his nose. I explain to him that he can't have a tiny mustache. No one can ever have a tiny mustache again. A horrible, horrible man ruined it for everyone. Anyway, that was my day. How was yours?

CALVIN

Went home, hung out, went to bed.

FAROOQ

You know how to tell a good story.

CALVIN NOTICES A VEHICLE AHEAD OF THEM.

CALVIN

Hey, (RE: VEHICLE) look who's driving ahead of us.

FAROOQ STUDIES THE VEHICLE AHEAD OF THEM FOR A BEAT, THEN:

FAROOQ

It's the guy with the bad brake light from last week. (LOOKING CLOSER) And he still hasn't gotten it fixed.

CALVIN

Nope. But he did have time to get a new bumper sticker. (READING) "My other ride is your mom."

FAROOQ

This guy really has a thing about insulting people's relatives'.

CALVIN TURNS ON THE LIGHTS AND SIREN.

CALVIN

Gonna give him a ticket this time?

FAROOQ

He already got a warning. Now he's going to feel the wrath of Blackistani. (OFF CALVIN'S LOOK) Still not working for you is it? How 'bout Paki-Black? (THEN) I'll keep fishing around.

AS THEY PULL OVER THE CAR WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW