

# **OVER AND OUT**

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**&**

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COLD OPEN

FADE IN:

INT. KITCHEN/LIVING ROOM - MORNING  
(RAY, DEVON, HOLLY)

RAY BARKER, A CONFIDENT 46 YEAR OLD FATHER OF TWO, STANDS IN FRONT OF A MIRROR WEARING A BRAND NEW POLICE UNIFORM. HE IS TALKING TO HIMSELF IN A MOVIE TRAILER VOICE-OVER VOICE.

RAY

Officer Ray Barker. An unstoppable  
new crime-fighting force in the  
Philadelphia Police Department. A man  
born to make a difference.

AS RAY NODS, SATISFIED, HIS KIDS, DEVON (19, PREPPY), AND HOLLY, (16 GOING ON 25), COME DOWN THE STAIRS UNSEEN BY RAY. RAY MAKES A FINGER GUN AND POINTS IT AT AN IMAGINED PERP.

RAY (CONT'D)

Get your hands up dirtbag! Now keep  
'em there. I may be a rookie but I  
wasn't born yesterday.

HOLLY

Dad? What are you doing?

RAY

(CAUGHT) Nothing. Just... talking on  
my radio here.

RAY GRABS SOMETHING OFF OF HIS UTILITY BELT AND HOLDS IT UP.

DEVON

That's your pepper spray.

RAY LOOKS AT THE PEPPER SPRAY IN HIS HAND.

RAY

Right. Still figuring out where everything is on the old utility belt.

HOLLY

Dad, are you sure you're ready for this?

RAY

Of course I'm ready. I made it through the academy didn't I?

DEVON

You threw your back out on the obstacle course the first week.

RAY

Adults aren't meant to crawl through tunnels made of tires.

HOLLY

And you're like twice the age of most rookie cops.

RAY

Yeah, but I'm also twice as mature, twice as smart, and twice as pretty.

DEVON

Maybe don't call yourself pretty in front of the other cops.

RAY

Guys, forty-six is not that old. And you know I don't have a lot of options here.

HOLLY

Right. (HEARD IT BEFORE) Because once the construction business tanked you couldn't get a good job because you never went to college.

HOLLY AND DEVON

(AS RAY) "And that's why it's so important for you two to get a college education."

RAY

At least you're listening. And I don't sound like that.

HOLLY/DEVON

Uh huh./Yeah you do.

RAY

Anyway, I'm the one who should be worried about you guys. I'm going to be working twelve hour shifts while you two are running loose in the city.

HOLLY

Come on, Dad. How much trouble can I get into in a few hours after school?

RAY GIVES HER A LOOK THAT SAYS "A LOT".

DEVON

We're going to be fine. We're used to looking out for ourselves since mom's been gone.

HOLLY

Yeah, if you want to worry about something maybe you should worry about how your back is going to hold up.

RAY

My back is going to be fine.

RAY, TURNING TO LEAVE, SUDDENLY WRENCHES HIS BACK.

RAY (CONT'D)

(IN PAIN) Ahh! There it goes again.

DEVON AND HOLLY LOOK CONCERNED.

DEVON

See, this is exactly what I was-

RAY

(SMILING) Gotcha. (OFF THEIR RELIEF)

Be good. See you tonight.

AS RAY EXITS, ONCE OUT OF SIGHT FROM HIS KIDS, WE SEE HIM PUT HIS HAND ON HIS BACK -- HE DID JUST HURT IT.

RAY (CONT'D)

Son of a...

AS RAY GINGERLY HEADS OFF...

FADE OUT.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONESCENE AFADE IN:INT. POLICE STATION - MORNING

(RAY, KIP, TRAVIS)

A BUSTLING PHILLY POLICE STATION. IT'S EARLY IN THE MORNING BUT YOU WOULDN'T KNOW IT IN THIS PLACE.

KIP DENNIS (28, A FEY, SELF-IMPORTANT BUSYBODY), WORKS AT HIS DESK. HE WEARS A STUDED RUBBER FINGERTIP AS HE ROBOTICALLY DIPS THE RUBBER FINGER IN A BOWL OF WATER, FLIPS A PAGE, STAMPS IT THEN FILES IT. HE'S IN THE ZONE AS RAY APPROACHES.

RAY

Hey there, I'm Ray Barker, I'm supposed to report to Captain Bunch.

KIP

(WITHOUT LOOKING UP) Uh huh.

RAY

He said to see him as soon as I got in.

KIP

Uh huh.

RAY

So I'm here. And ready to report.

KIP

Uh huh.

RAY

Look, I'm just trying to tell you-

KIP STOPS WHAT HE'S DOING AND LOOKS UP FOR THE FIRST TIME.

KIP

That you're Ray Barker, our new rookie.

(MORE)

KIP (CONT'D)

You're crazy old and you just graduated from the academy. You threw your back out on the obstacle course and according to your instructors you're 'smarter than you look'. Which I doubt. But this is a busy police station and it's my job to gauge what is important enough to deserve the Captain's attention. And an old rookie reporting for duty is not one of those things.

RAY

Is that a condom on your finger?

KIP

It's a rubber fingertip! Ever been to a Staples? (SIGHS) Just go sit on that bench and wait for roll-call.

KIP RESUMES HIS FILING. RAY TURNS AND BUMPS INTO TRAVIS FARMER (26, STRAIGHT-LACED, EARNEST, EXUBERANT), WHO BEARS HUGS A VERY SURPRISED RAY.

RAY

Whoa there. Do we know each other?

TRAVIS

We're about to. I'm Travis Farmer, your partner. I can't wait for us to learn everything about each other.

TRAVIS HUGS RAY AGAIN.

RAY

I already know you're a big hugger.

TRAVIS

And I know you like hugs. (THEN) I'm going to teach you everything I know. Pursuit, arrests, paperwork, you name it. But the greatest lesson I will teach you is about friendship.

HE GOES IN FOR ANOTHER HUG. RAY STOPS HIM.

RAY

I'm good on hugs. How old are you?

TRAVIS

I'm 26 and a half. At least I will be on Tuesday. It's my half birthday. That reminds me, when's your birthday?

RAY

Uh... last month, September fourth.

TRAVIS

Great. That gives me time to plan. How old are you going to be?

RAY

Forty seven.

TRAVIS

Wow, that's a lot of candles. Come on, let's get to the briefing room so we can get seats next to each other.

TRAVIS HEADS INTO THE BRIEFING ROOM FOLLOWED BY RAY, WHO DOES NOT KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF HIS NEW PARTNER.

CUT TO:



SCENE BINT. POLICE STATION - BRIEFING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

(TRAVIS, PEG, RAY, KATIE, KIP, OWEN, LORENZO)

THE ROOM IS FILLED WITH COPS SITTING IN CHAIRS THAT FACE A PODIUM AT THE FRONT. TRAVIS AND RAY ENTER.

TRAVIS

You get the seats. I'll get us  
coffees and today's APB's.

RAY TAKES A SEAT. AS SOON AS HE'S SETTLED, PEG HORST (33, COCKY, CHIP ON HER SHOULDER) APPROACHES.

PEG

(TO RAY) You're in my seat, rookie.

RAY

(MOVING SEATS) No problem. And I  
usually go by Ray. I also like the  
sound of Officer Barker.

PEG

That's my seat too, rookie Ray Barker.

RAY

Again, it's just Ray. You really  
don't need to say 'rookie'.

PEG PULLS A TASER OFF OF HER BELT AND GETS IN RAY'S FACE.

PEG

See this? It looks like a standard  
issue Philadelphia Police Department  
taser. But under the hood it has five  
hundred extra volts. This thing could  
take down a horse and its rider.

RAY

(PLAYFUL) Maybe you can get a job  
working security at the Kentucky Derby.

PEG

(SHE'S GOT NOTHING) I don't like you.

TRAVIS WALKS UP AND HANDS RAY A COFFEE.

TRAVIS

Oh good, you're making friends. (TO  
PEG) Good morning Officer Horst.

PEG

(SMOLDERING, TO TRAVIS) Good morning  
to you. Officer.

TRAVIS IS VERY UNCOMFORTABLE. RAY IS DISTURBED AS WELL.  
KATIE DOYLE, (31, CUTE, TYPE-A, A PERFECTIONIST) COMES OVER.  
SHE PUSHES PEG'S TASER, WHICH PEG'S BEEN CARELESSLY  
BRANDISHING, OUT OF HER WAY TO SQUEEZE INTO THE ROW.

KATIE

Careful Peg, I just read a study that  
said officers are as likely to be  
tased by their own taser as they are  
to use it on a suspect.

PEG

Are you sure that study wasn't just  
about daddy's girls who major in  
criminal justice in college and think  
that qualifies them to be cops?

KATIE

(FLUSTERED) Just because you're six feet tall and have more testosterone than most men doesn't make you any more qualified to be here than I am!

PEG

A woman can never have too much testosterone. Just ask Martina Navratilova.

JUST THEN A TUBBY POLICEMAN, OWEN MURPHY (36), WALKS UP AND HANDS PEG A COFFEE.

OWEN

Here's your coffee Peg.

PEG

You put sugar in it?

OWEN

(DEFLATED SIGH) Be right back.

OWEN SLINKS OFF. PEG GIVES RAY, KATIE, AND TRAVIS A "CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT GUY?" LOOK AND FOLLOWS HIM.

TRAVIS

(TO RAY) That's Peg's partner, Owen Murphy.

KATIE

Until he came along Peg worked in the canine unit because no human would be her partner.

RAY

What dog would be her partner?

KATIE

A very understanding German shepherd.

(THEN) I'm Katie Doyle.

TRAVIS

Katie is Frank Doyle's daughter.

RAY

Wow, really? (THEN) Who's Frank Doyle?

KATIE

Only the most decorated officer in the history of the department whose name is brought up every time I've ever been introduced. But I'm okay with it.

RAY

Sounds like it.

KATIE

So you're the new rookie. You don't look as old as everyone says you do.

RAY

I'll take that as a compliment.

KATIE

It was more of an observation.

THERE IS DEFINITELY A SPARK BETWEEN THESE TWO.

RAY

Why is everyone so hung up on my age?

I passed all the tests, I made it through the academy.

KATIE

Didn't you throw your back out on the  
obstacle course?

RAY

How does everybody know about that?

KIP ENTERS AND CROSSES TO THE PODIUM. HE TALKS INTO THE MIC.

KIP

Quiet down! Respect the podium,  
people. Respect the podium!

FROM THE SEATS, A MINI POWDERED DONUT FLIES ACROSS THE ROOM  
AND HITS KIP IN THE CHEST, LEAVING A WHITE POWDER MARK.

KIP (CONT'D)

Nice. Real original.

CAPTAIN LORENZO BUNCH (51, ERUDITE) TAKES THE PODIUM.

LORENZO

Listen up. If Kip gets hit with one  
more pastry before the end of the  
year, I will shut down Dee Dee's Donut  
Cart.

GRUMBLES FROM THE OFFICERS.

KIP

(VINDICATED) Thank you Captain Bunch.

LORENZO GIVES KIP A LOOK - WHY ARE YOU STILL HERE? KIP SITS.

LORENZO

Now we just received this month's  
crime statistics so we have a lot to  
go over. But first off, we have a new  
rookie named Ray Barker.

RAY STRAIGHTENS HIS COLLAR, PREPARING TO STAND.

LORENZO (CONT'D)

He's the old guy in the front row next  
to Travis. Moving on...

RAY REALIZES THERE WILL BE NO FANFARE FOR HIS FIRST DAY.

LORENZO (CONT'D)

Vehicle break-ins are up ten percent  
in Carroll Park, so keep your eyes  
open for that.

RAY

(WHISPERS TO TRAVIS) I'll tell you how  
to not get your car broken into --  
don't park it in the city.

LORENZO

(OVERHEARING) Barker, around here  
property crime is no laughing matter.

RAY

(QUIETLY TO TRAVIS) This guy's got  
amazing hearing.

LORENZO

(OVERHEARING AGAIN) It's in the 99th  
percentile. Now, on a more somber  
note, the victim from Saturday's hit  
and run has passed-

A CELL PHONE RINGS LOUDLY. EVERYONE, INCLUDING RAY, LOOKS  
AROUND. RAY REALIZES IT'S HIS. HE TRIES TO REACH INTO HIS  
POCKET BUT HIS UTILITY BELT BLOCKS HIM. AS HE STANDS AND  
STRUGGLES TO GET IT OUT, HE KNOCKS HIS CHAIR OVER. EVERYONE  
STARES AS RAY PULLS OUT HIS PHONE AND CLICKS IT OFF.

RAY

Sorry. My son.

RAY PICKS HIS CHAIR UP AND SITS BACK DOWN.

LORENZO

-away. So let's keep an eye out for  
that silver Toyota-

RAY'S PHONE BLEEPS. EVERYONE LOOKS AT RAY.

RAY

(EXPLAINING) Voicemail.

LORENZO

-Corolla. Alright everyone. Be  
careful out there and remember, you're  
Philadelphia's finest.

RAY'S PHONE BLEEPS AGAIN.

LORENZO (CONT'D)

(POINTED) Well, most of you are.

OFF OF RAY'S DISCONCERTED LOOK...

CUT TO:

SCENE CINT. LORENZO'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

(RAY, LORENZO)

IT LOOKS MORE LIKE THE HARVARD CLUB THAN A POLICEMAN'S OFFICE. LORENZO SITS AT AN ORNATE MAHOGANY DESK. RAY ENTERS.

RAY

Kip said you wanted to see me, sir?

Wow, great office. Very... Michael  
Corleone.

LORENZO

Thank you. My wife and I picked up  
most of these pieces antiquing in  
Bucks County. Have a seat.

RAY GOES TO SIT IN A SMALL WOODEN CHAIR IN FRONT OF THE DESK.

LORENZO (CONT'D)

Not there. That chair is not for sitting.

RAY POPS UP. LORENZO INDICATES ANOTHER CHAIR. RAY SITS.

RAY

Sir, I'm sorry about my phone. My son's  
registering for classes at Temple.

(RAMBLING) I talked him into a business  
major but he still wants to major in  
French. I told him that's like majoring  
in being unemployed. Then he got mad and-

LORENZO

Barker? I don't care. I just wanted  
to tell you that when you do decide to  
quit this job, there's no shame in it.



RAY

Quit? What are you talking about?

LORENZO

You're forty-six years old. Most of our rookies come in right out of high school and half of them don't make it through their first year.

RAY

What are you saying?

LORENZO

That you have no chance of making it as a policeman. That wasn't clear?

RAY

I thought as my captain your job is to inspire me to be the best I can be.

LORENZO

That's not how we do things here. And to be frank, even though you seem like a nice enough fellow, if I'd had any choice in the matter I wouldn't have a rookie in my precinct who was born during the Johnson administration. But you're here and there's nothing I can do about it. (THEN) Have a great first day Officer Barker.

AS A DISCONCERTED RAY HEADS OUT...

CUT TO:

SCENE D

INT. PATROL CAR - MOVING - LATER  
(TRAVIS, RAY)

TRAVIS DRIVES. RAY RIDES SHOTGUN.

TRAVIS

You know, I've been a police officer  
for six years and I still get excited  
driving around in the squad car.

RAY TAKES A LOOK AROUND THE CAR. HE NODS APPRECIATIVELY.

RAY

It's just like I pictured. Me and my  
partner cruising down the mean streets  
of Philly in the ol' black and white,  
with our sirens and our shotgun...

RAY PUTS HIS HAND ON THE SHOTGUN.

TRAVIS

Don't touch the shotgun.

RAY

(PULLING HAND BACK) My bad.

TRAVIS

I remember my first day. I'd wanted  
to be a cop ever since I was a five  
year old kid in Honesdale.

RAY

Honesdale? Is that in Pennsylvania?

TRAVIS

(DUH) Of course. It's right between  
Prompton and Dyberry.

RAY

(NO IDEA) Right. (THEN) So can I drive this bad boy on our way back?

TRAVIS

No way Jose. Rookies don't drive for the first four months. They should've told you that at the academy.

RAY

They did but I thought it was one of those rules nobody actually follows. Like yielding for a funeral procession. Come on Travis, no one will know.

TRAVIS

These procedures exist for a reason. If people don't follow them, it's the first step on the road to anarchy.

RAY

I'm just talking about driving, not turning the patrol car into an ice cream truck.

TRAVIS SMILES. A BEAT.

TRAVIS

Sorry about the Captain being so hard on you. He's usually a pretty nice guy.

RAY

He can think what he wants. I grew up here. I know these streets. I'll just show him I can be a great cop.

TRAVIS

Well you're not going to show him today. We're not going on patrol.

RAY

What? Where are we going?

TRAVIS

To the Belmont Youth Center to speak to at-risk teens about staying out of trouble. I think it's Captain Bunch's way of keeping you out of trouble.

RAY

That's crazy -- I don't need special treatment. (FIDGETING WITH UTILITY BELT) Why is this thing so bulky? It's killing my back.

TRAVIS

If it makes you feel any better, it's not just Captain Bunch. Nobody thinks you're going to make it.

RAY

Come on. Are people really that skeptical of me?

TRAVIS

Peg started a betting pool about how long you'll last.

RAY

Seriously? You're not in on that are you?

TRAVIS

Everybody is -- the crime lab, the motor pool, Dee Dee the donut lady. If it makes you feel better, I did bet you would make it the longest.

RAY

At least my own partner has faith in me. How long did you bet I'd last?

TRAVIS

'Til Thursday. But now that I've met you I think you'll last much longer. But I wouldn't bet on it.

OFF RAY'S REACTION, WE...

CUT TO:

SCENE EINT. POLICE STATION - BULLPEN - SAME TIME

(PEG, KATIE)

KATIE SITS AT HER DESK AS PEG STANDS TWIRLING THE TASER AROUND HER INDEX FINGER LIKE A GUNSLINGER.

PEG

Still worried I'm going to tase myself?

Huh? Huh? Are you?

KATIE

No. Now I'm starting to worry that you won't tase yourself. (THEN) So what do you think of the new rookie?

PEG

I think he's cocky and old and I hate his mustache.

KATIE

You sure you're not just jealous you can't grow one?

PEG

Is that a challenge?

KATIE

Why are you so hard on him?

PEG

Because he's a rookie. What do you care?

KATIE

I don't know. It has to be tough trying to be a cop at his age.

PEG

Big deal. It's tough being a cop as a woman.

KATIE

I know it is.

PEG IS UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT HAVING CONNECTED WITH KATIE.

PEG

We're not bonding right now.

KATIE

I'm not trying to.

PEG

Yes you are. So stop it. Let's get back to talking about how I'm not going to tase myself because I'm a cop who knows how to handle her weapons.

PEG TOSSES THE TASER BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN HER HANDS.

KATIE

Is that thing even turned on?

PEG

Of course it- (NOTICING) Oh. No.

(FLIPPING SWITCH) There we go. I'm going to go see if this thing works in water.

KATIE SHAKES HER HEAD AS PEG STARTS SPINNING THE GUN ON HER FINGER AND WALKS OFF...

CUT TO:

SCENE HINT. PATROL CAR - A LITTLE LATER

(TRAVIS, RAY)

TRAVIS AND RAY GET BACK INTO THE CAR AND BUCKLE IN.

TRAVIS

Jeez, what a great bunch of kids!

It's days like this that remind me how exciting it is to be a cop.

RAY

Yeah, watching you read *Tuesdays With Morrie* to a bunch of teenagers is what I was hoping for when I signed up.

TRAVIS

It's a fun job. (THEN) Partner pic!

TRAVIS PUTS HIS FACE NEXT TO RAY'S AND SNAPS A PHOTO.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

That's a keeper. Don't worry about your hair, I can photoshop out the grey.

RAY

Thanks. So what do we do now?

TRAVIS PULLS OUT INTO TRAFFIC.

TRAVIS

We go back to the station to check in. And maybe I could give your back an adjustment. My grandmother was the first female chiropractor in Eastern PA. Until she was arrested for not having a chiropractor's license.



RAY

Actually my back's feeling much better since I took off -- oh my god! I left my utility belt at the youth center!

TRAVIS

Okay, no big deal, it's just your belt. I mean, if you left your gun there then we'd have a big problem.

RAY

I did leave my gun there! It's on the belt! Where else would I have my gun - in my back pocket?!

TRAVIS

Okay, this is bad. But this is where training kicks in.

TRAVIS TURNS THE CAR AROUND AND PICKS UP THE CAR RADIO.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

(INTO RADIO) Unit 91 to station, this is Officer Farmer. We have a lost-

RAY SMACKS THE RADIO OUT OF TRAVIS' HAND.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

What the heck Ray?

RAY

What are you doing?

TRAVIS

You lost your gun! I'm calling it in.

TRAVIS TAKES THE RADIO AGAIN. RAY GRABS IT AND PUTS IT BACK.

RAY

I didn't lose it. I know exactly where it is. It's on my chair in the rec-room at the at-risk youth center!

TRAVIS

A missing firearm is a major deal. We need to alert the station.

TRAVIS GRABS THE RADIO AGAIN. RAY TAKES THE RADIO BACK.

RAY

But what if we get to the youth center and my gun is still sitting on the chair? Then it was never missing at all and you, Travis Farmer, will have called in a false report.

TRAVIS

(WORRIED) But I've never called in false report. That would be-  
(REALIZING) -oh, I see what you're doing.

RAY

Travis, what's the point of getting everyone at the station all riled up when my gun probably isn't even missing?

AS AN ANXIOUS TRAVIS CONSIDERS THIS...

CUT TO:

SCENE JINT. YOUTH CENTER - REC ROOM

(RAY, TRAVIS, YOUTH CENTER DIRECTOR)

RAY AND TRAVIS STAND IN THE EMPTY REC ROOM STARING AT THE EMPTY CHAIR WHERE RAY LEFT HIS UTILITY BELT. THE YOUTH CENTER DIRECTOR STANDS WITH THEM.

RAY

Okay, it's definitely missing.

OFF OF THEIR VERY CONCERNED EXPRESSIONS, WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWOSCENE KFADE IN:INT. YOUTH CENTER - REC ROOM - CONTINUOUS

(RAY, TRAVIS, YOUTH CENTER DIRECTOR, TEENS)

RAY, TRAVIS AND THE YOUTH CENTER DIRECTOR ARE STANDING RIGHT WHERE WE LEFT THEM. RAY TURNS TO THE DIRECTOR.

RAY

(CALMLY) Will you please excuse us?

THE DIRECTOR NODS AND EXITS. THEY WATCH UNTIL HE'S GONE.

RAY (CONT'D)

(FREAKING OUT) I am so screwed! What kind of cop loses his gun on his first day? What do we do now?

TRAVIS

We need to call this in so the station can be put on alert for a missing firearm. That's standard procedure.

RAY

Standard procedure? (HOPEFUL) So this happens a lot?

TRAVIS

Almost never.

TRAVIS GRABS HIS RADIO OFF OF HIS SHIRT. JUST LIKE IN THE CAR, RAY GRABS THE RADIO AND PUTS IT BACK ON TRAVIS' SHIRT.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Stop doing that!

RAY

Travis, hold on a sec. If you call this in, Captain Bunch will probably fire me.

TRAVIS

(CORRECTING) He'll definitely fire you.

RAY

I can't lose this job. I haven't had health insurance for a year. I just got my teeth cleaned for the first time in forever. Check it out.

RAY MAKES A BIG, CHEESY SMILE TO SHOW OFF HIS TEETH.

TRAVIS

Ray, I don't have a choice. There's a police officer's loaded gun on the streets.

RAY

All I'm asking is for five minutes to question these kids and see if one of them knows where it is.

TRAVIS ISN'T CONVINCED.

RAY (CONT'D)

What's more important Travis -- some rule written in a book fifty years ago or your flesh and blood partner who you're just starting to get to know?

AS TRAVIS, TORTURED, CONTEMPLATES THIS...

FLIP TO:

RAY HAS TWELVE TEENS LINED UP IN A ROW AND STANDS IN FRONT OF THEM. TRAVIS, OFF TO THE SIDE, WATCHES NERVOUSLY. THE YOUTH CENTER DIRECTOR STANDS NEXT TO TRAVIS.

YOUTH CENTER DIRECTOR

They're all yours, Officer.

RAY WALKS SLOWLY DOWN THE ROW, MAKING INTIMIDATING EYE CONTACT WITH EACH OF THE TEENS AS HE PASSES THEM.

RAY

Okay everybody. It's about to get really... real around here. I lost my gun. And I think one of you has it. So we're going to stay here until I get it back. I don't care if it takes all night.

YOUTH CENTER DIRECTOR

Actually, it's lights out at ten.

RAY

Okay, then here's what's going to happen: I'm going to take one of you at a time into that room over there and get it out of you individually.

YOUTH CENTER DIRECTOR

You can't be alone with the kids.

RAY

I thought we were on the same team here, guy. Alright, let's try a new tack.

(MORE)

RAY (CONT'D)

I'm going to close my eyes and hold out my hand. Whoever has the gun will place it in my hand and this will all be over, no questions asked. Ready?

RAY CLOSES HIS EYES AND HOLDS OUT HIS HAND.

RAY (CONT'D)

(EYES CLOSED) Waiting for it. Still no gun. Take your time. Five more seconds. And three, two, one, time is almost up, and... tiiiiimes uuuuuuuup.

RAY OPENS HIS EYES.

RAY (CONT'D)

(DISAPPOINTED) Come on people.

TRAVIS

Ray.

TRAVIS TAPS HIS WATCH. RAY LOOKS DEFEATED.

RAY

All right, look. This is my first day. And I don't know what you know about being a cop, but losing your gun on your first day is not good.

TRAVIS

It's terrible.

RAY

Thank you, Officer Farmer. (TO TEENS)  
Look, I know you probably don't like cops too much.

(MORE)

RAY (CONT'D)

I grew up around here and I didn't  
like them either when I was your age.  
Still don't.

TRAVIS LOOKS HURT. RAY GIVES HIM A "DON'T TAKE IT  
PERSONALLY" LOOK.

RAY (CONT'D)

And I used to get in trouble just like  
you guys. In fact I spent a few  
months in this place myself.

THE KIDS ARE SURPRISED TO HEAR THIS.

RAY (CONT'D)

But I grew up and got myself together  
and got out of the neighborhood. And  
you guys can too if you make some good  
decisions. So here's your chance to  
start. (HOLDING OUT HAND) Anybody?

RAY SHAKES HIS HEAD AND TURNS AWAY FROM THE KIDS.

TRAVIS

Ray, I had no idea you'd been in here.

YOUTH CENTER DIRECTOR

He wasn't. This place didn't open  
until 2003.

RAY

(TO DIRECTOR) Shhhh. (THEN, DEFLATED)

All right Travis, you can go ahead and-

THEIR RADIOS CRACKLE.



POLICE DISPATCHER (ON RADIO)

All units be advised. We have an  
armed robbery in progress. Any  
available unit respond to 25th street  
between Roscoe and Broadway.

TRAVIS

That's a few blocks from here.

POLICE DISPATCHER (ON RADIO)

Suspect is a young white male armed  
with a handgun.

RAY

My gun!

RAY GRABS THE CAR KEYS OFF OF TRAVIS' BELT AND SPRINTS OUT.

TRAVIS

Ray, you're not allowed to drive!

TRAVIS RUSHES AFTER HIM.

CUT TO:

SCENE LINT. PATROL CAR - MOVING - MOMENTS LATER

(RAY, TRAVIS)

RAY DRIVES FAST, SIRENS BLARING. TRAVIS RIDES SHOTGUN.

TRAVIS

This is not okay!

RAY'S CELL PHONE RINGS. HE LOOKS AT IT.

RAY

It's my daughter Holly. Can you get it?

TRAVIS

No! You just commandeered my vehicle!

RAY GIVES HIM A PLEADING LOOK.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Fine. (INTO PHONE) Hello, Holly?

RAY SQUEALS TIRES AROUND A CORNER.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Um, he's a little busy right now.

This is his partner, Officer Farmer.

But you can call me Uncle Travis.

RAY

No she can't! Find out what she wants.

TRAVIS

(LISTENS) She's at the mall. She wants to get her belly button pierced.

RAY

She what?? No way! (THEN) Hang on!

RAY MAKES A SHARP TURN.

TRAVIS

(OVER SQUEALING TIRES) She says all her friends are doing it!

RAY

Maybe she needs to get new friends!

TRAVIS

(INTO PHONE) He says maybe you need to get new friends. (THEN) She says you're squashing her freedom of expression.

RAY

If she gets that thing pierced she's going to witness some serious freedom of expression when I get home!

TRAVIS

(INTO PHONE) He says if you get-

RAY

Just tell her I'll call her later!

TRAVIS

(INTO PHONE) Your dad says he'll call-

TRAVIS LOOKS AT THE PHONE.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

She hung up. (THEN) Why would anyone want to pierce their private parts?

RAY

It's her belly button, Travis. That's not a private part.

TRAVIS

It is in my family.

RAY SHOOTS TRAVIS A SIDEWAYS GLANCE AS HE WATCHES THE ROAD.

RAY

We're almost there.

TRAVIS

Okay, when we arrive at the scene, I will unholster my weapon, open my door, and call for the suspect to drop his gun. You will remain in the car as rookies are only supposed to be involved in an observational-

RAY SQUEALS TO A STOP.

RAY

Cover me!

RAY JUMPS OUT OF THE CAR, LEAVING A SHOCKED TRAVIS.

CUT TO:

SCENE MEXT. ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

(TRAVIS, RAY, PEG, KATIE, OWEN)

RAY SPRINTS TOWARDS A YOUNG MAN WITH A GUN MUGGING A WOMAN.

TRAVIS (O.S.)

Ray!

RAY REACHES THEM AND TAKES THE GUY DOWN WITH A FLYING TACKLE.  
IN PERFECT POLICE FORM, RAY KNEELS ON HIS BACK AND CUFFS HIM.

RAY

You like taking cops' guns do you?

How'd you like being tackled by a

supercop?

TRAVIS (O.S.)

Ray!

RAY

(TO WOMAN) You're safe now, ma'am.

The people of Philadelphia can sleep

better tonight because Ray Barker,

officer of the law, just made the

streets a little bit safer.

TRAVIS (O.S.)

Uh, Ray?

RAY

What?!

RAY LOOKS UP. KATIE, PEG AND OWEN ARE NOW THERE WITH TRAVIS.

RAY (CONT'D)

Oh, look who it is. The skeptics, the doubters, the haters, the "can't" family. Well check this out: I guess a forty six year old rookie can make it after all. So Peg, you can take your betting pool and stick it-

PEG

This isn't real, jackass.

RAY

Come again?

OWEN

(TRYING TO BE HELPFUL) She said 'this isn't real, jackass'.

KATIE

This is a student film shoot, Ray. You just arrested an actor.

RAY

That's crazy. He was mugging that woman with this gun.

RAY PICKS UP THE GUN AND LOOKS AT IT.

RAY (CONT'D)

Which isn't mine. (DEFLATED) And is made of rubber.

RAY LOOKS AND SEES A STUDENT FILM CREW WITH A CAMERA NEAR A DUMPSTER. RAY HANGS HIS HEAD. AS HE UNCUFFS THE STUDENT...

CUT TO:

SCENE NINT. POLICE STATION - BULLPEN - LATER

(KIP, TRAVIS, PEG, KATIE, RAY)

RAY, LOOKING DOWN AND EMBARRASSED, SLUMPS AT HIS DESK AS NEARBY COPS SNICKER AND WHISPER IN HIS GENERAL DIRECTION. KIP WALKS UP TO HIM.

KIP

Hey Barker, I have an update on your case. We caught the cinematographer but the producer is still on the loose.

KIP CACKLES AND EXITS. TRAVIS APPROACHES KATIE AND PEG, WHO IS PLAYING WITH HER TASER.

TRAVIS

(RE: RAY) Look at him, all depressed. He looks like Peg after her partner Buster got rabies.

PEG

(SADLY) I told him not to mess with that raccoon. (SHAKING IT OFF) Anyway, the guy lost his gun his first day -- that's exactly how he should look. I would've hung myself by now.

KATIE

I believe it's hanged.

PEG

Huh?

TRAVIS

Guys, I've been thinking. Maybe we should help Ray find his gun instead of reporting it to the Captain.

KATIE

You want to go against procedure? The guy who wrote himself up for being five minutes late on Christmas morning?

PEG

Why would I want to help? If he gets canned today I win eighty bones.

TRAVIS

Come on, Peg. You know I've had a lot of bad luck with partners the past few years. I have a good feeling about this one. I think he's a keeper.

PEG

Do you want to work with the guy or renovate a villa in Tuscany with him?

KATIE WATCHES RAY, WHO LOOKS AT A PHOTO OF HIS KIDS.

KATIE

Maybe we should help him, Peg.

PEG

Why, because you like him?

KATIE

(FLUSTERED) What? No! I just met him. That's crazy.

(MORE)



KATIE (CONT'D)

I mean, a person can't help another person without liking them?

TRAVIS

What do you say, Peg?

PEG PRETENDS TO THINK BY SCRATCHING HER HEAD WITH HER TASER.

PEG

Hmm. Nope, still don't want to help.

KATIE

How about this -- if you don't help, I'll tell the captain you're using an unauthorized taser.

PEG

You do like him!

KATIE

Or I could tell him that you've been using department funds to buy muscle mass powder.

PEG TAKES A SIP OF A LARGE SMOOTHIE.

PEG

I got that for everybody! Fine, I'll help the stupid rookie find his gun.

TRAVIS SMILES. THEY WALK OVER TO RAY.

TRAVIS

So Ray, we were thinking, why don't we wait on telling the captain about your gun and try to find it instead.

RAY

Are you serious? I thought you said not following procedures leads to anarchy.

TRAVIS

I did. But there's one procedure that trumps all other procedures -- having your fellow officer's back.

RAY IS CLEARLY TOUCHED. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME HE'S FELT LIKE PART OF THE TEAM SINCE HE ARRIVED.

PEG

Are you two 'mo's gonna kiss or can we go look for this retard's gun?

RAY

Guys, I really appreciate this, but I can't take you up on it. I'm not letting you get in trouble for my screw-up. I have to tell Captain Bunch what happened.

RAY GETS UP AND WALKS TOWARDS CAPTAIN BUNCH'S OFFICE. THE OTHERS WATCH SOMBERLY.

PEG

What a tool.

CUT TO:

SCENE PINT. LORENZO'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

(KIP, LORENZO, RAY)

LORENZO LOOKS OVER REPORTS AT HIS DESK. KIP ESCORTS RAY IN.

KIP

Officer Barker to see you, sir. (SING-  
SONGY) I think something bad happened.

LORENZO

That will be all, Kip.

KIP

(STILL SING-SONG) Are you sure because  
I'd really like to see this. (OFF  
LORENZO'S LOOK) I'll go.

KIP EXITS.

LORENZO

Make this quick Barker, I have crime  
stats to review. And Margaret and I  
have seven-thirty tickets for Guys and  
Dolls. Time permitting we may squeeze  
in some tapas at a wine bar.

RAY

Sounds like a great night out, sir.

LORENZO

It could be, if I'm not waylaid by  
small talk with a rookie officer.

RAY

Right. Well, here goes. The thing is... How do I put this? There comes a time in every-

LORENZO

Just say it man! If my wife misses 'Horse Right Here' I'll never hear the end of it.

RAY

Okay. I lost my gun. I took off my belt at the youth center and when we went back for it, it was gone.

LORENZO SHAKES HIS HEAD AND SIGHS.

RAY (CONT'D)

Look, I know I screwed up. And I'm sure you all think you were right that a middle aged guy with a bad back has no business here, but I know I can be a good cop.

LORENZO

What makes you think that? I haven't seen any evidence of it.

RAY

Because for the last five years I've raised two kids by myself while working a full time job.

(MORE)

RAY (CONT'D)

If I can do that, I think I can do pretty much anything. I get it if you have to fire me, but at least let me help find my gun before you do.

LORENZO

You really think I'm going to let you go back out there unarmed and cause even more problems?

RAY

I guess that wouldn't make much sense.

LORENZO

No, it wouldn't. That's why you're going to need this.

LORENZO OPENS A DRAWER, PULLS OUT RAY'S GUN AND PUTS IT ON THE DESK. RAY IS STUNNED.

LORENZO (CONT'D)

A teenager from the youth center dropped it off earlier. Apparently whatever you said to those kids really affected him.

RAY

(SHOCKED) For real?

LORENZO

Yes, for real. I figure if you can make one of those miserable little bastards do the right thing, you might be a guy worth keeping in my precinct.

(MORE)

LORENZO (CONT'D)

Even though it'll probably make me  
lose Officer Horst's pool.

RAY

Thank you, Captain. I promise nothing  
like this will ever happen again.

RAY REACHES FOR HIS GUN AND THE CAPTAIN GRABS HIS HAND.

LORENZO

It better not. Because if you screw  
up again I will toss your behind out  
of here so fast Kip won't even have  
time to stop listening at the door.

KIP (O.S.)

I'm at my desk!

RAY

Sir, I promise you won't regret this.

LORENZO WATCHES AS RAY EXCITEDLY TRIES TO PUT HIS GUN INTO  
HIS UTILITY BELT AND QUICKLY REALIZES HE DOESN'T HAVE IT.

RAY (CONT'D)

That kid didn't happen to return the  
belt did he? (OFF LORENZO'S LOOK) No  
biggie. I'll buy another one.

AS A SHEEPISH RAY RUSHES OUT...

CUT TO:

SCENE RINT. POLICE STATION - BULLPEN - CONTINUOUS

(RAY, KIP, TRAVIS, PEG, KATIE)

RAY EMERGES FROM LORENZO'S OFFICE. KIP IS AT HIS DESK, STAMPING AND FILING AS HE WAS IN THE OPENING SCENE.

RAY

(RE: LORENZO'S OFFICE) That must have been pretty disappointing for you.

KIP

(WITHOUT LOOKING UP) Terribly.

TRAVIS APPROACHES RAY SOMBERLY.

TRAVIS

Ray, I want you to have this to remember our short time together.

TRAVIS HANDS RAY THE PHOTO HE TOOK OF THEM EARLIER, NOW TASTEFULLY FRAMED.

RAY

When did you have time to do this?

TRAVIS

I keep a photo printer and some extra frames in my desk.

RAY

Well I wouldn't say goodbye to me yet, because one of those kids returned my gun. The captain said I could stay.

TRAVIS

(JUBILANT) That's incredible! You just earned yourself a hug, mister.

TRAVIS GOES TO GIVE RAY A HUG. RAY ALLOWS IT.

RAY

Thanks for looking out for me, Travis.  
You're a good partner.

TRAVIS

I've been waiting to hear those words  
my entire career.

RAY

And I know how important following  
procedure is to you, so if you need to  
write up a report detailing my  
infractions today, I'd understand.

TRAVIS

Oh, I already did. Turned it in forty  
five minutes ago.

RAY

(FAKE SMILE) Great.

KATIE AND PEG APPROACH RAY. PEG PRACTICES TOSSING HER TASER  
OVER HER SHOULDER AND CATCHING IT BEHIND HER BACK.

PEG

The captain didn't fire you? What a  
puss.

RAY

Yeah, sorry if I messed up your pool.

PEG

It's only your first day. Most of the  
bets are still good.



RAY

Office pool aside, it feels good to be part of the team.

KATIE

Don't get cocky. Remember, you're still the rookie.

RAY

It's kind of hard to forget.

KIP APPROACHES.

KIP

What's with all the chit chat? This is a police station people, not a day spa. Let's get back to work.

KIP NOTICES PEG PLAYING WITH HER TASER.

KIP (CONT'D)

Hey, that's not a PPD authorized taser. Let me see that, Horst.

AS KIP GRABS THE TASER, HE ACCIDENTALLY PULLS THE TRIGGER, ZAPPING HIMSELF. KIP COLLAPSES TO THE FLOOR, CONVULSING.

PEG

Wow, Katie, you're right. Those things really are dangerous.

AS THEY ALL WATCH KIP, MESMERIZED...

CUT TO:

SCENE SINT. RAY'S HOUSE - THAT NIGHT

(RAY, DEVON, HOLLY)

RAY, EXHAUSTED FROM HIS DAY, DRAGS HIMSELF INSIDE, WHERE DEVON AND HOLLY WAIT FOR HIM NEAR THE DINNER TABLE.

RAY

(SURPRISED) What is all this?

DEVON

I made dinner to celebrate your first day. Coq au vin and cassoulet.

RAY

Don't know what it is but it looks good.

HOLLY

So, how did it go today?

RAY

(HESITATES) Good. Very good day.

Piece of cake. No problems whatsoever.

HOLLY

That's so good to hear. Devon was worried you might do something stupid.

RAY

Stupid? No. Why would I..? No!

THEY SIT. RAY TAKES IN HIS KIDS AND THE DINNER THEY MADE.

RAY (CONT'D)

You know, I was at this youth center today with all these at-risk kids and it made me realize how lucky I am with you two. So I've been thinking.

(MORE)

RAY (CONT'D)

If we're going to make this new arrangement work, I probably need to start trusting your judgment and letting you make more decisions for yourselves.

DEVON AND HOLLY SHARE A LOOK.

HOLLY

Dad, I'm so glad you feel that way, because I went ahead and got my belly button pierced anyway.

RAY IS SHOCKED. BEFORE HE CAN RESPOND-

DEVON

And I changed my major from business to French.

RAY

You did what? I can't believe this! And I thought you two were mature enough that I could leave you alone for a few extra hours a-

DEVON AND HOLLY

Gotcha!

RAY

You guys were just messing with me?

HOLLY

(LAUGHING) Yeah, we got you good.

RAY

(LAUGHING) Very funny. You really had  
me fooled.

RAY ABRUPTLY STOPS LAUGHING AND LOOKS STRAIGHT AT HOLLY.

RAY (CONT'D)

Let me see your belly button.

OFF OF RAY'S DEAD SERIOUS LOOK, WE...

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW