GOING POSTAL

Written by

Patrick Connelly

310-570-5921 Patcon23@gmail.com FADE IN:

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

Beautiful homes in a row. Fresh cut grass. Sun shines. Birds chirp. A lovely day.

ROLLO MOON, strolls along the sidewalk. He wears grey wool pants and a blue short sleeved dress shirt. Both hang loose on his stringy frame.

Strapped over his shoulder hangs a POUCH.

A blue and white PATCH containing an EAGLE'S HEAD and UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE glows in the bright sun.

Rollo is a mailman. And neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night has caused him to miss a day of work.

Rollo whistles as he passes the well groomed houses on his route.

ROLLO

Good morning Mrs. Applebaum!

Rollo waves at the kindly OLD LADY who sits on her front porch. He opens the mailbox at the edge of the sidewalk.

> MRS. APPLEBAUM (OLD LADY) Any packages today Mr. Mailman?

Rollo glances at the letters before he places them in the mailbox.

ROLLO Not today. But it looks like a letter from your daughter!

MRS. APPLEBAUM Oh, how wonderful! Thank you Mr. Mailman.

ROLLO Of course, Mrs. Applebaum. And please...call me Rollo.

Rollo gives a quick smile and salute as he proceeds down the sidewalk.

He checks out a Mercedes XL in a driveway.

ROLLO Ahhh...lookin good Mr. Bleaker! MR. BLEAKER peaks his bald head up from waxing the hood. Grimaces.

MR. BLEAKER Damn right mailman.

MRS. BLEAKER, beautiful, emerges from the front door.

She carries gardening tools.

Rollo gazes at her.

ROLLO Roses coming in nicely Mrs. Bleaker!

Mrs. Bleaker smiles and waves.

MRS. BLEAKER Thank you Rollo.

MR. BLEAKER Get back in there and bring me an iced tea!

Mrs. Bleaker sulks back in the house.

Rollo frowns. Hands Mr. Bleaker a pile of mail.

ROLLO Your Car Dealer Monthly came today. Keep makin those sales!

MR. BLEAKER Mind your business mailman.

Mr. Bleaker smirks.

ROLLO Hey, call me Rollo.

Rollo ambles down the street

ROLLO Ah, what a glorious day!

CHILDREN on bicycles pass on either side of him.

RING! RING!

CHILDREN Hello Mr. Mailman! Rollo smiles and waves at the kids.

ROLLO And a hello to you! I got your report cards here. I hope it's good news!

The children continue down the street.

ROLLO And call me Rollo!

Rollo rounds the corner with a big grin.

He approaches a rusty mailbox.

Address number 999.

A dim, disheveled house sits back from the street. Overgrown grass and litter surround the rotting porch.

He looks through his pouch and discovers a pile of mail for house number 999.

Rollo opens the mailbox and finds a note.

INSERT:

Mr. Mailman, please bring the mail to the door. P.S. Beware of dog.

Rollo peers towards the house.

He opens a waist high gate and steps onto the concrete path leading toward the porch.

Gate creaks shut behind him. Sky darkens.

Thunder claps as Rollo heads down the path.

Rollo heads up the worn, wooden steps to the porch.

Each plank creaks and cracks beneath his feet.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - DAY

Rollo rings the doorbell.

BING BONG BONG BING

Door creaks open, a gust of wind blows dust into Rollo's eyes.

GRRRRRRRR!

Rollo takes a step back.

Sounds like a big dog.

ROLLO

Hello...

Rollo peers through the crack in the door.

Emerging from the swirling dust, a short, stocky, brown and white BULLDOG lumbers onto the porch.

GRRRRRR!

Drool smacks on the floor as the Bulldog creeps closer.

Rollo, eyes wide, backs up towards the steps.

ROLLO Easy big fella. Gotta drop off the mail. Maybe we got a coupon in here for some nice doggie treats. Would ya like that? Some nice doggie treats to eat while you watch the house?

Rollo's voice shakes. He stares at the dog as he reaches down to his waist and feels for the PEPPER SPRAY.

BULLDOG

Hey!

Rollo freezes. Did that dog talk?

BULLDOG Get your hands off the spray.

Rollo raises his hands in the air. Holds the pile of mail.

ROLLO Don't hurt me!

BULLDOG You gotta relax Rollo.

Rollo lowers his hands.

ROLLO You know my name? BULLDOG I know you well. You're my mailman. Is that my mail?

ROLLO

Yes.

BULLDOG What's in it?

Rollo searches the pile.

ROLLO Ahh...credit card solicitations, magazine renewal...final notice, coupons--

BULLDOG

Junk.

ROLLO I guess so. Here you go.

Rollo leans down to hand over the mail.

BULLDOG No one likes you.

ROLLO

What?

BULLDOG And I don't just mean dogs. You're a dying breed Rollo Moon. No one needs you anymore.

Rollo stands back. Offended.

ROLLO

I beg to differ dog. I provide a much needed service and am a valuable member of this community.

BULLDOG

Nah. You're old news. No one needs you. And you know it too.

ROLLO Now see here--

BULLDOG Alright, it's time to move on. Arm or leg? BULLDOG You need to make a decision about your future pal. I gotta job to do. Where do you want it? Arm or leg?

ROLLO Just take the mail, I--

BULLDOG Have it your way. Leg it is.

The Bulldog LUNGES at Rollo's leg. Rollo turns to run.

Too late.

The Bulldog's mouth opens wide, his teeth long and sharp as they CLAMP DOWN on Rollo's calf.

ROLLO

N0000!!!!!!

INT. ROLLO MOON BEDROOM - MORNING

Rollo jerks up in his bed. Eyes open. Sweat drips from his face.

ROLLO

N00000!!

Rollo's chest heaves in and out. Heavy breaths. He throws the covers off his legs and grabs his calf.

No dog bite.

A dream.

BUZZZZZZZ!

Rollo glances at the alarm clock: 6:45 a.m.

He flops back down on the bed, reaches over and smacks the alarm off.

INT. UNITED STATES POST OFFICE - MORNING

Crates spill over with envelopes.

Each dumped into a rectangular cylinder.

Thousands of letters, cards and packages zip down a CONVEYOR BELT.

Each piece of mail scanned and sorted.

Dropped into its corresponding bin.

ROLLO (V.O.) Just a couple of years ago post offices all over America delivered two hundred and thirteen billion pieces of mail.

Postal workers stand in front of bins.

EYES scan.

HANDS fly as each piece of mail is categorized further by zip code.

Placed into slots.

ROLLO (V.O.) Last year we delivered one hundred and seventy seven billion pieces.

Envelopes whisk down each slot.

Past rows and rows of smaller bins.

ROLLO (V.O.) This year we will deliver one hundred and fifty billion pieces. That still may seem like a lot...

Letters drop from the slots onto a slow moving conveyor belt.

A metal square disk periodically pushes an envelope into small bin.

ROLLO (V.O.) ...but the amount of mail keeps getting smaller. Each time there is a drop in three billion pieces of mail, it equates to a one billion dollar decline in revenue.

Mail on the conveyor belt is spread far apart.

A single envelope every few feet.

ROLLO (V.O.) A lot of people don't send mail anymore. They fax, phone and my favorite...e-mail.

An ENVELOPE slides down the conveyor belt.

ROLLO (V.O.) And when they don't send mail, the post office doesn't make money. They need to find ways to make that up.

ENVELOPE continues it's journey.

ROLLO (V.O.) Raise postage...

ENVELOPE is pushed from belt and DROPS into a bin.

ROLLO (V.O.) Stop Saturday deliveries...

TWO HANDS grip either side of the bin.

ROLLO (V.O.) Or layoff mailmen...

The hands and bin pass several mail carriers in their blue and grey.

The bin slams down on an open space on a long narrow table. A worn piece of scotch tape on the bin reads R. Moon.

> ROLLO (V.O.) I'm in trouble.

Rollo unloads the bin on the table.

He organizes, sorts and loads his mail into his pouch.

It is 7:42 a.m.

A scruffy, mustashed mailman wearing a bandana plops his bin down next to Rollo's.

STEVEN WALKER JOHNSON running late again.

He has ONE ARM, the other left in Southeast Asia.

Steve is not what you would call a good mailman.

STEVE Boss man make a pass through?

ROLLO You're good. He's always behind on Mondays. Don't underestimate Charlie.

Rollo finishes sorting the last few pieces of mail. His pouch full.

Steve rapidly one-arm sorts through his bin.

STEVE How'd ya sleep.

ROLLO

Same.

STEVE Arm or leg this time?

ROLLO

Leg.

STEVE You need to relax. Get some hobbies.

ROLLO I have my job.

STEVE Pathetic. Spend time with your family then.

ROLLO The people on my route are my family.

STEVE Very sad. Get a women.

Rollo glances at Steve.

STEVE Hotdamn. That Bleaker dame on your route. How's that going?

ROLLO Still married to that jerk.

STEVE Have you read her mail?

ROLLO Of course not.

STEVE Come on bro. Study the envelopes. See where she gets letters, cards and bills from. Steve glances around to see if anyone is listening. I recommend it. It gives you the inside edge. Me gets all the ladies that way. It's one of the best advantages of being a mailman. ROLLO You need to take more pride in your work. STEVE Are you at the very least following my advice? ROLLO I'm not drinking on my route. STEVE Forget that. Bad idea. Alcohol is a depressant. I didn't think that one through. I'm talkin ecstasy. Rollo heaves his pouch over his shoulder. ROLLO Uh-huh. STEVE I know a guy. Suppose to be primo. Plus he bakes. I can get you half

a kilo and a dozen blueberry muffins for seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Rollo stares at Steve.

STEVE Right. You hate blueberry. But they are in season.

VOICE (0.S.)

MOON!!!

Rollo and Steve turn their heads toward the small office slightly elevated above the sorting floor.

Supervisor CHARLIE LICKNEY, round, short sleeve button-up, tie, creaks his torso out of the doorway. He waves his fat hand towards Rollo.

ROLLO He looks extra bloated today.

STEVE

Stay alert. Charlie is crafty.

INT. SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE - MORNING

Rollo sits across from Charlie. The office a mess.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE I gotta let you go Moon.

ROLLO

Go where?

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Cutbacks.

ROLLO

Less hours?

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE A lot less.

ROLLO Understood. No more Saturdays. Can't say it's a surprise. We all saw that one coming.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE You're fired. Ya got two weeks.

ROLLO Two weeks? My union would never stand for this.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE They actually didn't put up much of a fight.

ROLLO I'll fight it.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE It's all economics Rollo. Your salary, pension. Can't afford you. You're no longer needed.

ROLLO You're no longer needed! SUPERVISOR CHARLIE That's just mean. ROLLO You're mean! SUPERVISOR CHARLIE If you don't want the weeks, you can clean out your locker now. ROTITIO We don't have lockers. SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Then tidy your area. ROLLO I have an area? SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Get out! ROLLO You get out. Supervisor Charlie stands. SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Arm or leg? ROLLO

What?

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Arm or leg?

ROLLO

Neither.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Leg it is then.

Supervisor Charlie LUNGES across his desk. He crashes on top of Rollo, both fall to the ground.

ROLLO What the hell are you doing?!

Rollo scrambles to escape. Supervisor Charlie KNEELS down on Rollo's legs, pins him to the office floor.

Supervisor Charlie opens his JAW wide, glares at Rollo's leg, jerks down and takes a huge BITE out of his CALF.

ROLLO

N00000!!

STEVE (O.S.) Rollo? Are you with me?

EXT. POST OFFICE - CURB - LATER

Steve shakes a passed-out Rollo. An empty bottle of PEACH SCHNAPPS lies on the pavement.

ROLLO

N00000!

Rollo jolts awake, breathes heavy. Grabs his calf.

No bite.

STEVE Leg this time?

Rollo, catches his breath, nods.

Steve sits down on the curb next to Rollo.

ROLLO What the hell am I gonna do?

STEVE Look at this as an opportunity to do all the things in life that you've never done.

ROLLO I've never gotten drunk on a Monday.

STEVE See, things are already looking up.

A HAND creeps over Rollo's shoulder, it gives a few gentle pats.

Rollo reaches up and grasps the hand.

ROLLO Thanks man. You are a true friend.

STEVE Glad to be here for you. A SECOND HAND lurks down Rollo's other shoulder.

Both hands give a deep massage.

Rollo's eyes widen, he raises his head, stares straight.

ROLLO

Steve?

STEVE

Yes sir.

ROLLO You didn't get a new prosthetic arm and functional robotic hand, did you?

STEVE Hell no! I got but one arm and I want the world to see what Charlie did to me. Lest they never forgot. My brothers in arms--

Steve jumps up. He turns.

A HOMELESS GUY, dirty, messy, smelly, Fu Manchu mustache stands opposite.

ROLLO What the hell!

Rollo frantically brushes his shoulders.

Steve continues to ramble. Oblivious.

STEVE --and I saw that son of a bitch in a rice paddy. Oh, he thought he had the drop on me, he thought wrong!

HOMELESS GUY Enjoy the schnapps asshole?

Rollo eyes the empty bottle on the ground.

ROLLO I am so sorry. I...was that yours?

HOMELESS GUY You're damn right it was. Now give me some money for a new bottle.

Steve notices the commotion and stands.

STEVE What do we got here?

HOMELESS GUY Stay out of it pal.

Homeless Guy pulls out a SWITCHBLADE.

Rollo, head spinning from the schnapps, steps in between.

ROLLO Let's all calm down. Put the knife

away. I'll give you the money.

Steve pulls out a BUTCHER KNIFE from his grey flannel uniform.

STEVE

Let's dance.

Steve and the Homeless Guy crouch in warrior stances, they circle each other. Rollo stuck between.

ROLLO Steve, why do you have that knife?

Steve keeps his eyes on the Homeless Guy.

STEVE For times like these Rollo. For times like these.

HOMELESS GUY You don't want to get hurt here onearm. I'll slice and dice you.

STEVE I spend all day on my route waiting for someone to test me. Bring it on.

Rollo dizzy as Steve and the Homeless Guy circle him, the distance between them grows smaller.

Homeless Guy skillfully tosses the switchblade from hand to hand.

Steve flips the butcher knife up and catches it. His gaze on Homeless Guy.

STEVE Rollo, I suggest you get out of the way. This is going to get ugly. ROLLO Please guys. This is silly.

Rollo turns to the Homeless Guy.

ROLLO I'll give you money for another bottle of schnapps. I'll get you a case!

HOMELESS GUY That ship has sailed.

ROLLO How about some free stamps?

STEVE Don't give in! You can't negotiate!

Rollo rubs his head.

ROLLO

Dear Lord.

A smile creeps across Steve's face. Homeless Guy smiles back. They RUSH toward each other. Rollo in the middle

STEVE/HOMELESS GUY/ROLLO AHHHHHHHHH!!

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Rollo lies in a hospital bed. Bandage wrapped around his forehead.

STEVE (O.S.) Rollo? Rollo, are you with me?

Rollo opens his eyes.

Steve stands over him. Face dirty, smeared with blood.

STEVE You have a very high pitched scream.

ROLLO What happened to that deranged homeless guy?

Two dirty hands creep from behind the bed, down Rollo's shoulders and massage.

HOMELESS GUY I'm right here buddy. Sorry about the schnapps. I overreacted.

Rollo looks up in horror.

Homeless Guy smiles. Not many teeth.

ROLLO Get off me!

STEVE It's okay. Peachfuzz is alright.

ROLLO What the hell is Peachfuzz?

PEACHFUZZ (HOMELESS GUY) (extends filthy hand) Peachfuzz Johnson. I heard you got the boot today? My apologies. We've all been there.

Rollo pushes his hand away.

STEVE Turns out Peachfuzz was in Vietnam. Flew cargo planes to all the hot landing zones. Did a hell of a job at the Battle of Fing Chung Choo.

PEACHFUZZ Sons of bitches...

ROLLO Alright, alright.

Rollo reaches for his head.

The fifth of Peach Schnapps and superficial stab wound makes it tough to get his bearings.

PEACHFUZZ I have a softspot for you mailmen. Why, when we were in the bush, eating dirt, no shower for days, the mail was our only solace in the hell of war.

ROLLO I appreciate that.

Rollo eyes Steve.

ROLLO Wait a minute. How come they didn't fire you? STEVE They can't fire a disabled Veteran. You crazy? Now that would look bad. (BEAT) What are you going to do? Rollo shuts his eyes. ROLLO I don't know how to do anything else. PEACHFUZZ Ain't you got any family? ROLLO No. The people on my route are my family. Peachfuzz pulls a FLASK and takes a swig. PEACHFUZZ That's pathetic. STEVE Don't worry. I got a plan. We used it back in Nam. ROLLO (shakes head) Here we go. STEVE Hear me out. You're always so quick to poo-poo. Don't poo-poo. It's a well thought out plan that has a high rate of success. ROLLO I'm listening. STEVE I hope so. Because if you don't want to hear my take on the situation and how I can help it get rectified, I will walk out of this door my friend. Peachfuzz and I will say goodnight and walk right

out this door.

18.

ROTITIO God help me. Speak! Tell me! STEVE Okay. Now, here's what I'm thinking. We take the post office by storm. I'm talking guns, grenades, the whole nine. PEACHFUZZ I like this. Steve works himself up. Peachfuzz takes another swig. Rollo leans his head back, shuts his eyes. Frustrated. STEVE We come in blazin. Hold the place hostage. PEACHFUZZ Can we wear disquises? STEVE Definitely. PEACHFUZZ I got a nice wig and a dress. ROLLO Did not need to hear that. STEVE No one gets mail until our demands are met! PEACHFUZZ I want an unlimited supply of nachos. STEVE What good will that do you? Think big. PEACHFUZZ I mean during the hostage crisis. I'm thinking of our food order. The cops always ask if you need anything while it gets resolved.

STEVE

Good thinkin. Maybe we should come up with a list. Rollo, you like tuna right?

ROLLO

Enough!

Rollo leans up in the bed. He puts his hands on his face.

STEVE I'm sure they can get you anything.

ROLLO I can't do this anymore.

PEACHFUZZ

I understand.

Peachfuzz pulls the SWITCHBLADE from his dingy jacket.

PEACHFUZZ It'll be quick.

Peachfuzz wraps his arm around Rollo's head and pulls back, exposes Rollo's THROAT.

ROLLO What the hell are you doing!?

Rollo flails his arms.

He locks onto Peachfuzz's wrist, stops the switchblade from moving.

PEACHFUZZ Don't fight it. I've helped many-ocomrade get through their darkest hour.

ROLLO Steve...help!

STEVE You sure? It's an honorable way out.

ROLLO

Hurry!

Steve rushes around the bed. He grabs Peachfuzz's arm.

STEVE Come on man, he said no. Peachfuzz leans forward, still trying to reach Rollo's exposed neck. Steve and Rollo working against him.

ROLLO

Get off!

Rollo manages to loosens Peachfuzz's grip on the switchblade.

Steve pulls backwards.

The switchblade FLIES IN THE AIR as Peachfuzz tumbles onto Steve.

Rollo looks up as the switchblade flips end over end towards the ceiling, then straightens, the TIP pointing towards his eye.

Steve and Peachfuzz watch from the floor.

Rollo CLASPS his HANDS together.

Captures the KNIFE an INCH before it pierces his EYE.

A SMILE forms on Rollo's face. Eyes brighten.

ROLLO

I got it.

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Rollo power walks out of the hospital entrance. Steve and Peachfuzz jog to catch up.

Peachfuzz steadies several BOXES of SURGICAL GLOVES he just stole.

Rollo wears a robe, hospital pajamas and slippers.

BANDAGE on his head falling off.

ROLLO It's perfect.

STEVE I think you were supposed to check out...

Rollo ignores Steve. He walks fast. In a zone.

ROLLO I can prove to the Postal Service how vital mail is. STEVE

... or at least inform a nurse or something.

ROLLO A mailman still has purpose in this world.

Steve catches up with Rollo.

STEVE Alright. So you're considering taking hostages. I like it.

ROLLO

Even better.

STEVE Does it at least involve extensive use of camouflage? And Peach seems adamant about wearing that dress.

Rollo and Steve reach a BUS STOP.

Peachfuzz, stumbles with the BOXES of SURGICAL GLOVES, catches up.

Rollo turns to Steve.

ROLLO We read people's mail, solve their problems and fulfill their dreams.

BUS pulls up. Doors fold open.

The female BUS DRIVER, fat, angry, looks down on Rollo, Steve and an out of breath Peachfuzz.

BUS DRIVER Oh, hell no! Unless you homeless bastards have correct change, you ain't gettin on my bus.

ROLLO We're not homeless. Well...

Rollo and Steve turn and glance at Peachfuzz.

BUS DRIVER Why ain't you got any proper clothes on? Wearing a pajamas and a bathrobe. And you bleedin from your head! Rollo touches his head, some blood soaked through the bandage.

ROLLO

It's okay.

Rollo steps onto the bus.

ROLLO I'm a mailman. (beat) Steve pay the lady.

Rollo heads down the aisle.

Steve reaches into his pocket and drops change into the slot for everyone.

He sheepishly smiles at the Bus Driver.

STEVE

Hi.

No response.

STEVE You know, I was almost a bus driver.

Steve raises his only arm.

STEVE Steering wheel is too big. Can't make the turn. I'm thinking of a lawsuit--

BUS DRIVER Get back there!

Steve dashes down the aisle.

Peachfuzz steps up, holds the boxes, and smiles.

PEACHFUZZ

Glove?

Bus Driver stares daggers at him.

PEACHFUZZ

Okay.

Peachfuzz heads down the aisle. Doors shut.

EXT. BUS - DAY - MOVING

The blue and silver bus heads down the city street.

INT. BUS - DAY

Rollo sits by the window. Steve next to him.

Peachfuzz sits behind Steve, boxes piled high, cover his face.

Rollo gazes out of the window, smiles.

ROLLO

I got two weeks.

STEVE

Reading other people's mail is illegal. They taught us that the first day. The first day!

ROLLO You open people's mail all the time.

STEVE Untrue. I occasionally will glance at a postcard.

ROLLO

Your entire casual Friday outfit last week was stolen from someone's birthday package.

STEVE That package was over a month late! If your not going to send a birthday gift on time than it doesn't deserve to be sent at all.

ROLLO

You took over a month to deliver it.

STEVE

I didn't take the entire gift. I left a scarf. My point is that if you get caught you're looking at jail time.

ROLLO

It's worth it. We create a groundswell of support.

Rollo squints out the window.

ROLLO I can't lose this job. You gonna help me or not?

Steve pauses...holds up his hand.

STEVE

I'm in.

Rollo grasps Steve's hand. They shake and smile.

TWO HANDS creep down Rollo's shoulders.

Wearing surgical gloves.

Massage.

Rollo lets out a sigh and pats the hands.

INT. UNITED STATES POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE - BASEMENT - DAY

Dim, damp. Rows and rows of dusty files.

WALLY GIBBS, sits alone at a corner desk, stacked high with piles of mail.

Wally is thin, wears a thinner tie and short-sleeved button up.

A leaky pipe drips from the ceiling.

A desk lamp lights an ENVELOPE as Wally studies it through a magnifying glass.

WALLY Come on sweetheart...

Wally holds the envelope closer. His eyes grow large through the lens as he concentrates.

WALLY

Wait a minute ...

Wally sets down the magnifying glass. He carefully peels away the STAMP from the envelope. Places it on a a clear sheet.

Picture on the stamp is a water color painting of a bowl of fruit.

Wally grabs a thick BINDER from the pile on his desk and frantically flips through the pages.

WALLY

Yes, yes...

He stops flipping and pulls the book closer.

Each page is lined with pictures of different stamps. Next to each stamp are details and a description.

Wally eyes the bowl of fruit stamp, then drags his finger down the open page of the binder as he scans each picture.

WALLY

Aha! I knew it.

Wally's finger has stopped next to a picture of a stamp with a water color of a bowl of fruit.

It looks almost identical to the one he took off the envelope. Almost.

Wally carefully picks the stamp from the clear sheet of paper and places it next to the picture on the binder.

WALLY

No pear.

The bowl of fruit stamp from the envelope is missing a pear.

A fraud.

WALLY You think you can fool me?!

Wally smiles.

VOICE (O.S.)

Gibbs!

Wally jumps from his seat.

TWO LARGE MEN in identical blue suits and ties march toward Wally's desk.

Shiny badges on their lapels:

U.S. Postal Inspection Service

INSPECTOR JERK You got the credit card fraud cases from two thousand for me?

WALLY

Yes sir.

Wally stumbles backward and hits the floor.

INSPECTOR DICK Don't hurt yourself.

The men chuckle as Wally picks himself up.

Wally rushes to the corner near his desk and gathers a cardboard carton. Hands it to Inspector Dick.

WALLY

Let me know if you guys need help briefing the chief on that.

INSPECTOR JERK Don't worry about talking to the chief. You just stay in your hole.

Inspector Jerk glances at Wally's desk.

INSPECTOR JERK Get a load of this. The pansy works for the U.S. Postal Inspection Service <u>and</u> collects stamps.

INSPECTOR DICK Oh man. That is pathetic.

INSPECTOR JERK Embarrassing.

Wally skips to his desk and picks up the binder and stamp.

WALLY Actually, it's quite interesting. You see, this individual has been sending correspondence using counterfeit stamps.

Wally approaches the men.

WALLY He copied the nineteen ninety eight forever stamp with the fruit bowl watercolor.

Wally holds up his finger with the counterfeit stamp to the faces of the inspectors.

They stare at the stamp, Wally, then themselves.

Now, he or she, for whatever reason, neglected to include the pear in his counterfeit as is clearly shown in the original.

Wally holds the large binder close to the men. He points to the water color stamp illustration.

Inspectors not as enthused as Wally.

Wally pulls the book down.

WALLY

My guess is that he couldn't get the shape of the pear quite right and decided to omit it, not figuring we would catch it.

Wally shakes his head and smiles. Proud.

WALLY

Oh, the things we see. Huh boys? I think we should take this to the chief. Never underestimate us. Right guys?

Wally grins and gazes up at the men.

INSPECTOR JERK Us? Don't think about including yourself with the work we do. We're out in the field catching real criminals.

INSPECTOR DICK

Yeah.

INSPECTOR JERK All those sons of bitches who think they can send drugs through the mail.

INSPECTOR DICK

Exactly.

INSPECTOR JERK Oh hey look, grandma sent you a package of her famous double chocolate chunk cookies Johnny? Oh wait, these aren't cookies from grandma. It's five ounces of weed.

INSPECTOR DICK The good stuff.

INSPECTOR JERK

Look at you. Down here playing with stamps. Don't you realize that the mail is under attack? If we don't make ourselves relevant and adapt then we'll all be out on our butts collecting <u>food</u> stamps!

INSPECTOR DICK It's true.

Inspector Jerk pokes his finger into Wally's chest.

INSPECTOR JERK And you don't take anything to the chief.

Wally swallows hard. Finds his courage.

WALLY

But I can do more.

Inspector Jerk SLAMS the book shut on Wally's nose.

Wally falls backwards on his desk, his hands cover his face.

INSPECTOR JERK Just stay down here and shut up.

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

Beautiful homes in a row. Fresh cut grass. Sun shines. Birds chirp. A lovely day.

Rollo steps onto the empty sidewalk.

Scans right. Scans left.

Takes a deep breath. Exhales.

Looks down at his full pouch. Pats his U.S. Postal Service badge on his chest. Time to go to work.

Two weeks to save everything he loves.

Rollo strolls.

He pulls out a stack of mail, secured by a rubber band.

The name on the address: Mrs. Applebaum

Palm trees, surf and sun.

Rollo flips it over.

Hey mom! Peter and I are having a great time here in Montego Bay. <u>Wish you were here!</u>! Gail.

Rollo smiles.

Marches up the path.

EXT./INT. MRS. APPLEBAUM DOOR - DAY

DING DONG!

Kindly, old Mrs. Applebaum slowly opens the door.

MRS. APPLEBAUM Oh, hello Rollo. You are so kind to bring me my mail. Any packages today?

Rollo hands over the stack with the postcard on top.

ROLLO No packages. Your stack of mail has been a little light the last few months Mrs. Applebaum.

MRS. APPLEBAUM Oh, ah, yes. My daughter has been teaching me to use the e-mail on the computer. It's taking a while to understand, but it's coming along.

Rollo grimaces. He's heard this before.

ROLLO Yeah, that e-mail is a force.

MRS. APPLEBAUM It sure is. I'm learning to pay my bills and even send my letters.

ROLLO You used to write a great many letters. MRS. APPLEBAUM But everyone is on the e-mail. My daughter prefers it. Seems a little cold to me.

ROLLO I couldn't agree more.

Rollo points to the stack.

ROLLO Looks like your daughter is having a good time.

Mrs. Applebaum peers at the postcard. She flips it over.

MRS. APPLEBAUM ...wish you were here. So nice to hear from them. They live such busy lives.

Mrs. Applebaum stares at the postcard.

ROLLO Could I trouble you for a glass of water.

MRS. APPLEBAUM Of course Rollo. You work so hard.

Mrs. Applabaum turns back into the house when...

Steve and Peachfuzz RUSH from the bushes.

They HOP onto the porch past Rollo.

INT. MRS. APPLEBAUM'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Steve wraps his arm around Mrs. Applebaum's head.

Places a RAG over her mouth.

Mrs. Applebaum's EYES bulge.

She grabs Steve's arm and in one swift movement FLIPS him over her head.

Steve lands hard on the carpeted floor near the front door.

STEVE (winces) Ugh...the old lady's using Saigon tactics. Peachfuzz flank her. Peachfuzz stares at Mrs. Applebaum as she crouches into a karate stance.

MRS. APPLEBAUM Come on sonny, you wanna dance?

Rollo stares in astonishment from the porch.

This is not going as planned.

Mrs. Applebaum circles Peachfuzz, her hands balled into fists.

PEACHFUZZ A little help here!

MRS. APPLEBAUM Put your hands up honey and defend yourself.

Mrs. Applebaum creeps closer, Peachfuzz freezes.

PEACHFUZZ Lady, I ain't gonna fight ya.

MRS. APPLEBAUM Take your beating then.

PEACHFUZZ

Rollo!

Rollo snaps out of his trance.

Mrs. Applebaum cocks back her FIST.

Rollo leaps forward and snags her hand, stops the momentum.

MRS. APPLEBAUM Why Rollo, you have come to join us.

Mrs. Applebaum clasps Rollo's wrist, bends down and FLIPS Rollo over her shoulder.

Rollo FLIES into the air.

ROLLO

AHHHH!!!

Peachfuzz backs into a tall cabinet with shelves lined with antique PLATES.

A PLATE tips over on the top shelf.

Rollo SLAMS into Peachfuzz.

They topple onto the floor below the cabinet.

The PLATE wobbles back and forth.

Mrs. Applebaum gapes in horror.

The PLATE drops over the edge of the ledge.

MRS. APPLEBAUM

N000!!!

It free-falls to the floor.

Rollo looks up at the DISH as it flips end over end.

Rollo CLASPS his HANDS together.

CATCHES the DISH a moment before it crashes on his head.

MRS. APPLEBAUM You saved it!

Mrs. Applebaum rushes over and grabs the dish from Rollo, who lies on top of Peachfuzz.

ROLLO You're welcome.

Steve gets to his feet.

STEVE

Nice catch.

TWO HANDS wearing surgical gloves creep down Rollo's shoulders. They pat Rollo's chest.

PEACHFUZZ Time to get off me now.

Mrs. Applebaum inspects the dish closely.

She runs her fingers on its surface.

Rollo and Peachfuzz stand up.

All three men watch Mrs. Applebaum gaze at the plate. She is emotional, clearly in her own world.

ROLLO Mrs. Applebaum? You alright?

Mrs. Applebaum keeps her eyes on the dish.

MRS. APPLEBAUM These mean the world to me.

The men exchanges glances.

MRS. APPLEBAUM My daughter...doesn't understand. She won't get involved. All I get is the occasional postcard. (beat) Wish you were here...

Mrs. Applebaum looks at the postcard strewn on the floor, palm trees, surf and sun.

ROLLO How would you like to go see her?

A small smile forms on Mrs. Applebaum's face.

MRS. APPLEBAUM That would be lovely. But I am busy here. Have to wait for my packages.

Rollo bends down and picks up the postcard.

He stands in front of Mrs. Applebaum.

ROLLO

She sent you this. She reached out. I have seen thousands of postcards in my years of delivering the mail. Each one means something. It means she was thinking of you at that moment. And wished you were with her.

Mrs. Applebaum stares at the postcard. She shakes her head.

MRS. APPLEBAUM No. I won't intrude. She has interfered--

SMASH!!

PLATE explodes over Mrs. Applebaum's head. Pieces and dust fly through the air. Rollo covers his face.

Mrs. Applebaum's eyes roll back into her head.

She slumps to the floor. Her arms flail, the dish she held jumps in the air.

Rollo looks up at the dish in mid air when...

Steve SNAGS it, while broken pieces of the plate he just destroyed on the back of Mrs. Applebaum's head cover his vest.

Rollo glares at Mrs. Applebaum knocked out on the ground.

STEVE Man, she's chatty.

Rollo shakes his head, looks at Steve then Peachfuzz.

ROLLO First class mail to Puerto Rico.

PEACHFUZZ

I'm driving.

EXT. SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO - BEACH - DAY

GAIL APPLEBAUM and her husband PETER lounge on the sandy white sand. Both wear sunglasses.

Sun beams down, exotic birds chirp. A gorgeous day.

GAIL APPLEBAUM Honey, would you ring the cabana boy and have him fetch me another pineapple rum smoothie?

PETER

Dear, the sun is at the exact optimum position for maximum tanning. I wait all day for this moment.

GAIL APPLEBAUM You are a bastard.

A BUZZ emits from high in the sky.

PETER I'm not sure what's more exhausting, your voice or the constant jets that fly over.

GAIL APPLEBAUM Where is that damn cabana boy?

A faint WHISTLE sound grows.

CABANA BOY appears and stands between Mrs. Applebaum and Peter.

Dressed in all white, he carries a tray of tropical drinks.

PETER

Thank god.

GAIL Is there a pineapple?

CABANA BOY Si senorita.

WHISTLE sounds grows louder.

Cabana Boy hands Gail a drink.

GAIL Would you be a doll and get me another straw. I like the bendy kind.

PETER For the love of...

GAIL Be quiet. Gracias Jose.

WHISTLE sound real loud now.

A SHADOW forms over the group. Whistle louder.

CABANA BOY

Si, si.

Both the SHADOW and WHISTLE grow loud and fast.

PETER

What is that?

Peter looks up. Dips his sunglasses for a better look.

Gail takes a sip of her drink.

Cabana Boy takes a step away when...

WHAM!!!

A large metallic CONTAINER lands on top of Cabana Boy. Gail and Peter cover their heads, as sand and dust fly. A parachute rests on top of the container. CREAK...the front of the container flops down on the sand. Gail and Peter peek inside.

Dust clears to reveal...

MRS. APPLEBAUM sitting groggy on a rocking chair.

A PLATE on her lap.

PETER Did you send your mother a postcard?

GAIL

Yes.

PETER I think she got it.

On the plate sits the POSTCARD.

...wish you were here!

Side of the container stamped with U.S. POSTAL SERVICE and the familiar EAGLE emblem.

EXT. SKY ABOVE SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO - SAME TIME

The blue and white cargo plane dips past the sun.

INT. COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Peachfuzz chomps on a CIGAR as he pulls back the throttle.

Rollo leans forward in the copilot chair, Steve behind him.

PEACHFUZZ

Bullseye.

STEVE The penal system looks favorably on veterans right?

Rollo stares ahead.

ROLLO Let's get back. I got mail to deliver.

INT. UNITED STATES POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE - BASEMENT - DAY

Wally stands tall in front of his desk. His eyes have a determined squint.

His arms at his sides, in each hand he holds a shiny, silver LETTER OPENER.

WALLY Please step back sir.

Wally stares straight ahead. He is alone.

WALLY

I thought I made myself clear. We are out of the limited edition Mount Rushmore stamps.

Wally smiles.

WALLY Won't take no for an answer? Then how about some of this!

Wally LUNGES forward.

Pierces the imaginary customer with both Letter Openers.

WALLY

HIYEAH!

He SPINS and SWEEPS his arms in one smooth motion through the air.

WALLY

Oh, what's that? Can't hear me now because I sliced your ears off? Well how about you take a seat!

Wally HOPS in the air.

TUCKS the Letter Openers into his sides.

He spreads his legs and lands on the ground in a SPLIT position.

Wally reaches out his arms, the Letter Openers point left and right. He CROSSES them in front of his chest.

WALLY

YA!!!

The imaginary post office customer's legs have been taken out.

Wally pulls his legs from the split position and hops back on his feet.

SPINS the Letter Openers in his hands and tucks them under his arm pits.

He eyes the invisible customer lying below him on the ground.

WALLY Rejected package.

VOICE (0.S.)

Wally!!

Wally panics, SPINS and THROWS the Letter Openers toward the direction of the voice.

SUPERVISOR TIPTON stops in his tracks as the Letter Openers WHIZ past his ears and stick into a CORKBOARD behind him.

SUPERVISOR TIPTON Good Lord! You almost took my ears off!

WALLY I'm sorry sir. I thought you were an intruder.

SUPERVISOR TIPTON You're too wound up down here. It's time to get you out in the field.

Wally's eyes light up. He suppresses a smile.

WALLY Yes sir. I'm ready.

Supervisor Tipton hands Wally a folder.

SUPERVISOR TIPTON An old lady was kidnapped and put into one of our containers.

WALLY

Whoa.

SUPERVISOR TIPTON She was flown to Puerto Rico, where her daughter was staying, and dropped from a cargo plane.

Wally's mouth drops open.

WALLY Is she okay? SUPERVISOR TIPTON Fine. But the container landed on a cabana boy.

WALLY

Is he alright?

SUPERVISOR TIPTON Not at all. He's still buried in the sand.

WALLY

Ouch.

SUPERVISOR TIPTON Yeah. But we're okay there. Apparently they got a lot of these guys. The trouble is the old lady. She ain't talking. I need you to snoop around. Talk to her. Talk to her neighbors. And, most importantly, talk to her mailman.

Supervisor Tipton points to the open folder Wally holds.

INSERT: Official U.S. Postal Service ID PHOTO of ...

WALLY

Rollo Moon.

SUPERVISOR TIPTON He's scheduled to be let go in a few days. Find out everything you can.

Wally looks up from the folder. His eyes get back that determined squint.

WALLY I'll nab him sir.

SUPERVISOR TIPTON Negative. You're not fit for hand to hand combat. Just ask questions. You turn up anything, the <u>real</u> Postal Inspectors will handle it. Don't want you to hurt yourself.

WALLY

But--

SUPERVISOR TIPTON This ain't stamp collecting.

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

Cloudy. Looks like rain.

Rollo pulls a STACK of mail from his pouch.

Name on the address reads: <u>Bleaker</u>

STEVE (V.O.) This scumbag car dealer Bleaker cheats on his wife.

Rollo flips through the stack.

STEVE (V.O.) He rips off his customers and spends all the money on this hussy.

PEACHFUZZ (V.O.) What a dick.

Rollo looks up at the Bleaker's door.

STEVE (V.O.) Oh yeah. Hasn't even made the mortgage payments in months.

He grimaces.

STEVE (V.O.) The bank's gonna take the house.

PEACHFUZZ (V.O.) I've been there man.

Rollo heads down the path.

STEVE (V.O.) The house is in <u>her</u> name.

PEACHFUZZ (V.O.) She's screwed. I know! She can live with me on the street. I'll show her the ropes.

Roses line both sides of the path. Rollo smiles.

STEVE (V.O.) Yikes. Let's hope it doesn't come to that. Rollo's got a plan.

EXT./INT. BLEAKER FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

DING DONG!

Mrs. Bleaker opens the door. Happy to see her mailman.

MRS. BLEAKER

Rollo.

Rollo hands over the stack of mail.

MRS. BLEAKER You know, you don't have to bring the mail to the door.

ROLLO

I don't mind.

Mrs. Bleaker peeks at the cloudy sky.

MRS. BLEAKER My roses need rain.

ROLLO They're coming in nicely. Very...

Rollo gazes at Mrs. Bleaker.

ROLLO

Beautiful.

Mrs. Bleaker grins.

MRS. BLEAKER I wish Mr. Bleaker noticed them.

ROLLO Sometimes people don't notice what they really need is right in front of them.

Rollo clears his throat. Takes a step back.

ROLLO Mr. Bleaker at the dealership?

MRS. BLEAKER Working late tonight again.

Rollo smiles.

ROLLO Good to know. I have some of his mail here. I'll deliver it to him personally.

EXT. BLEAKER USED CARS LOT - NIGHT Dark. Closed for the night. Lot full of ten year old mini-vans, station wagons and various clunkers. Only fresh paint and a loud sign with a rip-off price hide the truth. Small beam of light emits from the run down office window at the center of the lot. INT. OFFICE - NIGHT Giggles. Muffled kissing. Mr. Bleaker and a HOT BLOND wrestle on a desk. HOT BLOND Oh, Mister Bleaker, you are such an animal. Mr. Bleaker lifts his head from her bosom. MR. BLEAKER Talk dirty to me. Hot Blond rolls her eyes. This part always annoys her. HOT BLOND Oh, you need that undercoating ... MR. BLEAKER Yeah baby. Mr. Bleaker goes back to grinding. HOT BLOND Ohhhh, it's a limited time offer... MR. BLEAKER I'm getting so hot. HOT BLOND What do I have to do to get you inside this car today ... MR. BLEAKER Oh God, yes! Hot Blond notices a figure in the lot.

HOT BLOND Someone's out there!

Mr. Bleaker pulls himself off and peers outside.

HOT BLOND

Your wife?

Mr. Bleaker hits a switch on the wall. Lot lights up.

MR. BLEAKER Probably a customer.

HOT BLOND But you're closed.

Mr. Bleaker adjusts his tie and slicks back his hair.

MR. BLEAKER A sucker born every minute. It's my calling baby. Be right back.

He grabs a set of KEYS from a hook.

EXT. BLEAKER USED CARS LOT - NIGHT

Mr. Bleaker steps onto the lot.

Eyes the dude milling around a piece of crap Chevy Caprice.

MR. BLEAKER (big smile) You two would make a great couple.

Dude turns. It's Rollo.

He wears Peachfuzz's worn, SMELLY, army jacket.

Sports a FAKE MUSTACHE.

ROLLO Good evening sir.

Rollo gets into character.

ROLLO I hope I am not intruding. I realize it is of an hour, which is, late...and dark.

Mr. Bleaker doesn't miss a beat. Smells a sale...and that jacket.

MR. BLEAKER Not a problem. Always looking to make someone a great deal.

Mr. Bleaker stands next to Rollo. He stinks.

MR. BLEAKER (winces) Whoa...you, ah, sure you got money for a car pal?

Rollo SLAPS Mr. Bleaker in the face.

ROLLO How dare you! Just because I'm a veteran and allergic to most name brand soaps doesn't mean I do not have the wherewithal to purchase an automobile.

Mr. Bleaker is stunned, and a little embarrassed.

He notices the army jacket.

MR. BLEAKER I...I apologize buddy. I couldn't see your unit colors there in this bad light.

Rollo looks down on the jacket and notices the 23rd Infantry Division shoulder sleeve INSIGNIA.

MR. BLEAKER Twenty Third Infantry? Well hell boy, I was in that group of misfits! Come here man!

Mr. Bleaker EMBRACES Rollo.

Stunned, Rollo hugs Mr. Bleaker back.

MR. BLEAKER What's your name?

ROLLO Ahh....Rrrrrooo...they called me Peachfuzz.

MR. BLEAKER Peachfuzz! It's me! Big Balls Bleaker! Yeah!!!!

Big Balls goes in for another bear hug. Rollo plays along.

ROLLO YEAH!!! Big Balls Bleaker!!! YEAH!!

They bounce in a circle as they embrace, yelling YEAH! in the otherwise quiet night.

Mr. Bleaker sniffles as he pulls back from Rollo.

MR. BLEAKER So good to see ya brother.

He puts his arm around Rollo.

MR. BLEAKER Now let's find you a car.

INT. OFFICE - SAME TIME

Steve and Peachfuzz crouch around the window.

Observe Mr. Bleaker escort Rollo around the lot.

STEVE What the hell was that?

PEACHFUZZ He better not rip my jacket. I like the mustache though.

STEVE He was supposed to deliver the package to us.

PEACHFUZZ What now soldier?

Peachfuzz nods his head toward the Hot Blond bound and gagged in the corner.

STEVE We wait for Rollo's signal.

INT./EXT. CHEVY CAPRICE - NIGHT

Rollo and Mr. Bleaker settle in.

MR. BLEAKER She's a beaut.

ROLLO Certainly is. Well, let's go inside and get the keys and I'll take her for a spin. Mr. Bleaker smiles. Jingles a set of keys.

MR. BLEAKER Got em right here.

Rollo fake smiles. His mustache loosens. Mr. Bleaker reaches over and starts the engine. The stench from the jacket is powerful.

> MR. BLEAKER Let's get some air in here. I'm getting a little light-headed.

Rollo's window won't budge. He tugs on the lever. Nothing.

MR. BLEAKER Sometimes these guys stick. Let me help you.

Mr. Bleaker leans over Rollo and grabs the lever.

Rollo closes his eyes and scunches back.

His mustache FALLS off and lands on Mr. Bleaker's forehead.

The window creeps down.

MR. BLEAKER There we go.

Mr. Bleaker sits back and smiles. He turns to Rollo.

Rollo smiles back.

Mr. Bleaker frowns.

MR. BLEAKER Didn't you have some facial hair there partner?

Rollo touches his upper lip. Nothing.

He looks up and sees the mustache hanging on to the top of Mr. Bleaker's large forehead.

Oh shit.

MR. BLEAKER

Wait a minute. You ain't Peachfuzz Johnson. I recognize you. You're my goddamn mailman! What the hell are you doing here? ROLLO I came to deliver you some sense.

MR. BLEAKER What the hell are you talking about?

ROLLO Your wife. She deserves someone better than you.

Mr. Bleaker starts to boil.

MR. BLEAKER That's none of your business mailman.

ROLLO You spend all the money you swindle on the bimbo you got in the office. Can't make the house payments. You're a disgrace.

Mr. Bleaker looks towards the office. He glares at Rollo.

ROLLO Oh yes. That's right.

MR. BLEAKER How do you know all this?

ROLLO A mailman knows all.

A smile creeps across Mr. Bleaker's face.

MR. BLEAKER Or how about this mailman.

Mr. Bleaker grabs Rollo by the jacket collar.

Smell still pretty bad.

MR. BLEAKER

You breathe one word of this to anyone, then I report you to the authorities at the post office. Opening someone's mail is a federal offense. <u>Your</u> whole life comes crashing down.

Rollo swallows hard.

MR. BLEAKER Oh yeah, I've seen you. You love your job. It's all you know. Without mail to deliver and the lives of the people on your route to live through, you have nothing.

The words hit Rollo hard.

Mr. Bleaker releases Rollo. Leans back in his seat. Slicks his hair.

Rollo sits stunned.

MR. BLEAKER The mail is dead anyway. You need to get that through your smelly head.

Mr. Bleaker turns to Rollo and grins.

MR. BLEAKER Now then, how about we take this baby out for a test drive.

Rollo SLAMS on the gas.

Chevy Caprice's TIRES SHRIEK as it accelerates forward.

Rollo swerves through the rows of cars.

MR. BLEAKER What the hell are you doing?!

ROLLO Priority mail!

INT./EXT. OFFICE - SAME TIME

Steve and Peachfuzz watch as the Chevy Caprice swerves and dodges its way wildly through the lot.

STEVE I don't remember this in the planning of the mission.

PEACHFUZZ The Caprice does handle well though.

EXT. CHEVY CAPRICE - NIGHT

Chevy Caprice CLIPS into the FENDER of a parked mini-van.

INT. OFFICE - SAME TIME

STEVE/PEACHFUZZ

Ohhh...

EXT. CHEVY CAPRICE - NIGHT

Chevy Caprice turns down a row of Toyota Corolla's.

KNOCKS OFF REARVIEW MIRROR's on each.

INT. OFFICE - SAME TIME

STEVE/PEACHFUZZ

Ehhhh...

INT./EXT. CHEVY CAPRICE - NIGHT

Rollo YANKS the steering wheel down the stretch of pavement leading to the office.

MR. BLEAKER You're nuts! What kind of mailman are you?!

Rollo grins as he guns it for the office.

INT. OFFICE - SAME TIME

Steve and Peachfuzz watch the Chevy Caprice fast approach.

STEVE

Fall back!

INT./EXT. CHEVY CAPRICE - NIGHT

Rollo leans back as his foot hits the floor.

ROLLO/MR. BLEAKER AHHHHHHH!!!

BLAM!

EXT./INT. OFFICE/CHEVY CAPRICE - NIGHT

Chevy Caprice CRASHES through the front door.

Glass and wood fly.

File cabinets EXPLODE.

Cheap wood DESK becomes shrapnel as the Chevy Caprice destroys the office decor.

Light from the lot shines through the gaping HOLE in the office wall.

Dust and papers settle on the debris riddled floor.

Rollo lifts his head off the deployed AIR BAG.

Mr. Bleaker groggy in the passenger seat.

Rollo works himself out of the car.

Assesses the situation.

ROLLO Steve? Peachfuzz?

In the corner Steve kicks off a piece of plywood.

STEVE

Little help?

Rollo lumbers over and pulls Steve to his feet.

STEVE I'm pretty sure I have seen you drive before.

ROLLO My mustache fell off. I called an audible.

Steve surveys the chaos.

STEVE I was under a Colonel in Vietnam who liked to call audibles.

Rollo eyes the nub on Steve's shoulder.

ROLLO

Point taken.

HHHMMMMM!!!

Rollo and Steve turn to see Hot Blond lift herself up. She removes the now loosened rope.

HOT BLOND You guys are dead! You can't do this. You can't just come in here and tie people up and then crash a car. You're not allowed to do that! Steve?

Steve dashes over to subdue Hot Blond.

She rears back and SLAPS Steve smack in the face.

STEVE

AYE!

Steve spins and drops to his knees.

HOT BLOND Don't touch me you freak!

Hot Blond moves to the passenger door of the car and opens it.

HOT BLOND Oh baby. Are you okay?

She shakes Mr. Bleaker.

Steve recovers. Gets to his feet.

Hot Blond assists Mr. Bleaker out of the car.

MR. BLEAKER You're all in big trouble.

Rollo and Steve eye Mr. Bleaker.

MR. BLEAKER What did you think? You guys could come in here and intimidate me? A mailman? Please.

HOT BLOND Mailman? Who uses mail anymore?

MR. BLEAKER

Exactly.

Mr. Bleaker walks to the front of the Chevy Caprice. He dusts off his jacket. Slicks back his hair.

> MR. BLEAKER You boys need to understand who you're dealing with.

Mr. Bleaker kicks over some wood and papers. He scans the floor looking for something. MR. BLEAKER You want to know why they called me Big Balls Bleaker when I was in Vietnam?

Rollo and Steve exchange a glance.

ROLLO Because you have large testicles?

Mr. Bleaker frowns. Hot Blond sadly shakes her head no.

MR. BLEAKER Nooooooo! It was because I would take care of the jobs no one else would. The guy you called on to take out the trash, eliminate the enemy and get rid of the evidence.

Mr. Bleaker glares at Rollo.

MR. BLEAKER Mr. Mailman, would you be so kind and hand me the keys from the ignition.

STEVE Don't do it bro.

Rollo leans into the car and pulls the keys out. He tosses them to Mr. Bleaker.

ROLLO (to Steve) It's alright. We can still get out of this.

Mr. Bleaker pulls from the floor a locked DRAWER.

ROLLO (to Steve) Maybe he's got coupons in there.

Mr. Bleaker smiles at Rollo and Steve, jangles the keys and unlocks the drawer.

He pulls out a 9mm Glock. Drops the drawer to the floor.

ROLLO No, it's a gun. MR. BLEAKER I don't think anyone will miss a pathetic mailman and his crippled friend.

STEVE

Easy.

Mr. Bleaker raises the gun. One last smile, when...

TWO HANDS, wearing surgical gloves, creep down his chest.

Peachfuzz.

The hands splay up and out, knock the gun from Mr. Bleaker.

Mr. Bleaker grabs the hands and FLIPS Peachfuzz over his shoulder, SLAMS him on the ground.

Peachfuzz BOUNCES to his feet and faces Mr. Bleaker.

Both crouch in karate stances. Glaring.

A moment of recognition between them.

PEACHFUZZ

Big Balls?

MR. BLEAKER Peachfuzz?

STEVE

Oh shit.

Peachfuzz and Mr. Bleaker lock eyes. An intense RAGE builds.

STEVE (to Rollo) Big Ball Bleaker was Peachfuzz's commander in the Twenty Third Infantry Division.

Mr. Bleaker's eyes grow dark with anger.

STEVE He led them into the My Lai Massacre. Peachfuzz never forgave him for that horrible day.

Peachfuzz grits his teeth.

STEVE Swore vengeance. ROLLO We can't let them kill each other.

STEVE Odds are only one of them will die.

Peachfuzz smirks at Mr. Bleaker.

PEACHFUZZ Been waitin a long time for this day Big Balls.

MR. BLEAKER I should have finished you off in the rice paddy.

Suddenly, HEAD LIGHTS shine into the now open air office.

HOT BLOND

The cops!

STEVE Take him out Peach! It's the honorable thing.

ROLLO

No!

Rollo steps between Peachfuzz and Mr. Bleaker.

MR. BLEAKER You guys are in big trouble now. Look what you've done to my place. You're all going to jail.

Rollo walks next to Mr. Bleaker.

ROLLO Don't do it Bleaker.

MR. BLEAKER Forget it mailman. You've delivered your last package.

ROLLO Maybe you're right. I suppose I had this coming.

Rollo slowly takes off the smelly army jacket.

MR. BLEAKER Be resigned to your fate.

ROLLO

Never!

Rollo LUNGES at Mr. Bleaker, wrapping the jacket around his face.

MR. BLEAKER

UGGGGGG!!!

Rollo falls on top of Mr. Bleaker as they plunge to the floor.

Hot Blond jumps on Rollo's back and grips her hands around his neck.

ROLLO

He..lp..m..ee..

Peachfuzz yanks Hot Blond off Rollo.

She turns and knees him in the nuts.

PEACHFUZZ

000000....

Hot Blond runs towards the light outside when...

STEVE

HiYA!

Steve stiff arms her, she drops to the floor, out cold.

Steve jumps on top of Mr. Bleaker's head. Helps to smother him.

ROLLO Get her out of here!

Peachfuzz wobbles over to Hot Blond and drags her to a corner, hidden by debris.

Mr. Bleaker stops his struggle and goes limp. Steve moves as Rollo lifts up the jacket.

ROLLO

Is he dead?

Steve feels the pulse.

STEVE Unconscious. That jacket is potent. Rollo and Steve drag Mr. Bleaker to the dark, covered corner.

A figure approaches from the lot towards the hole in the office.

VOICE (0.S.) Anybody in here?

<u>CORNER</u>

Rollo, Steve and Peachfuzz huddle, hidden by strewn plywood and concrete.

Mr. Bleaker and Hot Blond lie passed out beneath them.

They speak in a whisper.

ROLLO Go see who it is.

STEVE

You.

ROLLO We can't stay here.

STEVE I agree. That's why you should go out there.

ROLLO

Negative.

STEVE Don't throw out "negative."

ROLLO We agreed I could use covert mission lingo.

STEVE All of the sudden you're Postmaster General?

ROLLO

Affirmative.

Peachfuzz pushes his way past Rollo and Steve into the debris covered office floor.

MAIN OFFICE FLOOR

PEACHFUZZ Can I help you partner?

Wally turns around.

WALLY What happened here? Are you alright?

PEACHFUZZ Perfectly fine.

WALLY Are you Mr. Bleaker?

Peachfuzz smiles. Gets into character.

PEACHFUZZ Why hell yes! You lookin for a new ride?

Wally surveys the carnage around him.

PEACHFUZZ We had a little accident earlier. Some nut was test driving the Caprice here and confused the gas and brake. Happens from time to time.

WALLY My name is Wally Gibbs.

Wally takes out his wallet. Flashes a shiny badge.

WALLY Postal Inspection Service

CORNER

ROLLO (whisper) Fuuuuuuuck.

MAIN OFFICE FLOOR

PEACHFUZZ What's the mail cops doing out here? WALLY

There has been a great deal of suspicious activity involving mail tampering in your neighborhood. Specifically, the route of your mailman. A Mister Rollo Moon.

CORNER

Rollo's eyes bulge.

MAIN OFFICE FLOOR

PEACHFUZZ Mail tampering. Outrageous.

WALLY

Kidnapping.

CORNER

Rollo shuts his eyes.

MAIN OFFICE FLOOR

PEACHFUZZ You don't say.

WALLY And a homicide.

PEACHFUZZ

A what?

WALLY

Apparently Mailman Moon hijacked a United States Postal Service 767 cargo jet. Kidnapped a kindly old lady who lives on his mail route. Put her in a container and dropped her over San Juan, Puerto Rico where her daughter and son in law were staying.

PEACHFUZZ

Bastards.

WALLY But the container landed on a cabana boy. CORNER

ROLLO/STEVE (whisper) A who?

MAIN OFFICE FLOOR

WALLY A cabana boy.

PEACHFUZZ

Bullseye.

WALLY

Excuse me?

PEACHFUZZ

Poor guy.

WALLY The old lady is not cooperating.

<u>CORNER</u>

Rollo's eyes brighten. He grins.

MAIN OFFICE FLOOR

WALLY Do you know Mailman Moon?

PEACHFUZZ I've seen him from time to time. A squirrelly fellow. Smells of horseradish.

WALLY I spoke to your wife. She told me you were working late.

Wally scans the room.

WALLY She mentioned you often work late.

PEACHFUZZ I've got to. Keep the wife in diamonds and pearls. You understand?

WALLY I"m not married. PEACHFUZZ No wonder! You're out here working late. You gotta get out there. Experience the world.

Peachfuzz wraps his arm round Wally's shoulder. Leads him out of the office.

PEACHFUZZ If I see the mailman do anything out of the ordinary, I'll be sure to give you a ring.

As they leave the disheveled office, Wally scans the room.

He quickly processes the mess when he spots ...

A FAKE MUSTACHE

It lies in a pile of dust and wood scraps.

Wally stops. Leans down and picks up the mustache.

WALLY

Yours?

Peachfuzz blanches.

PEACHFUZZ Ah...yes. The wife and I like to role play. She likes it when I become a young Wilford Brimley.

WALLY But you already have a mustache?

PEACHFUZZ She wears it.

WALLY Interesting. You mind if I keep this?

PEACHFUZZ Go ahead. Might help you with the ladies.

Wally pockets the mustache, as Peachfuzz leads him out of the office.

Rollo and Steve emerge from the corner.

ROLLO

Not good.

STEVE Postal Inspection Service? Those guys don't let up. It might be time to abort the mission.

ROLLO Never. We're close to a wave of mail support. I can feel it.

EXT. BLEAKER USED CARS LOT - NIGHT

Wally reaches his car.

He takes the fake mustache out of his pocket and smiles.

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

Peachfuzz jogs back in the office.

Rollo and Steve drag Mr. Bleaker and Hot Blond from the corner.

PEACHFUZZ How great am I. Huh? Did you guys see that performance?

ROLLO Couldn't see. We heard it.

Steve, out of breath, drops Mr. Bleaker's arms to the floor.

STEVE What do we do with these two?

ROLLO Mr. Bleaker needs a nice, long vacation.

STEVE

Kill him?

ROLLO She needs to move on.

STEVE Man, the mail is getting dangerous.

Rollo gives a knowing grin.

He eyes Mr. Bleaker and Hot Blond piled on the floor.

ROLLO You still got access to the plane?

STEVE

Oh no.

PEACHFUZZ

I'm driving.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

A CABANA BOY gathers empty drink glasses from the sand.

A soft WHISTLE grows louder.

Cabana Boy glances at the sand, as a SHADOW encompasses him. He looks up.

> CABANA BOY #2 Por qué me?

WHAM!

A metal container slams on top of Cabana Boy.

One side of the container creaks and FLAPS down on the sand. A small crowd gathers. As sand settles they look inside to find...

Mr. Bleaker and Hot Blond.

Roped to lounge chairs. Mouths gagged.

A sign on Mr. Bleaker's lap reads:

HALF PRICE OFF ALL CHEVY CAPRICE'S!

EXT. SKY ABOVE SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO - DAY

The blue and white cargo plane dips past the sun.

INT. COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Peachfuzz chomps on a cigar as he pulls back the throttle. Rollo leans forward in the copilot chair, Steve behind him.

PEACHFUZZ

Bullseye.

STEVE

I think you hit another one.

PEACHFUZZ They should pay more attention. Who doesn't notice a giant container falling from the sky. Someone should yell "heads-up!"

Steve shakes his head. Turns to Rollo.

STEVE I hope it was worth it.

Rollo smiles and stares ahead.

INT. BLEAKER HOUSE - DAY

Mrs. Bleaker sorts her mail.

ROLLO (V.O.) Don't worry.

Comes to an envelope addressed to her. Opens it.

BLEAKER CAR LOT: TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP to SYLVIA BLEAKER Signed by CARL BLEAKER

> ROLLO (V.O.) I took care of it.

Mrs. Bleaker jaw drops. Looks at the rest of the stack. On top a BLANK POSTCARD from...

PUERTO RICO

BACK TO:

INT. COCKPIT - DAY

Rollo smirks out of the window.

ROLLO Let's get back. I only got a few days left.

Squints with determination.

ROLLO And I've got mail to deliver.

The plane races across the sky.

Rollo dumps a carton of mail on his table. A lot less than a week ago. Damn.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE (0.S.)

Moon!

INT. SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE - MORNING

Supervisor Charlie leans back in his chair behind his desk.

Rollo stands.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE You think you're pretty smart.

Rollo swallows hard.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE A few days away from getting you out of here and you can't just go quietly.

ROLLO

Sir?

Supervisor Charlie leans forward.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE I got some officials from Postal Inspection breathing down my neck about you.

ROLLO But I didn't--

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Save it. He wanted to see your file. Interview all the people on your route.

ROLLO

Look, sir--

Supervisor Charlie jumps from his seat.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE You think you can make a few calls, get the mail cops to sniff around here, find out what I'm doing and save your job? You got another thing coming pal. SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Don't play games with me Moon!

Supervisor Charlie circles his desk. Gets in Rollo's face.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE So what do you want? You want a cut of the action? The chickens the mangos? I'm moving it all baby! Is that it?

ROLLO I want to keep my job.

Supervisor Charlie puts his arm around Rollo's shoulder.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Nice. Your job. Smart. You want your job back.

Supervisor Charlie smiles. He eyes the ceiling and winks.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE There isn't anything I can do about your job...but maybe we should talk later about other career avenues you should pursue.

ROLLO All I want is to keep--

Supervisor Charlie puts his finger to his lips.

He speaks louder.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Okay then Rollo! Thank you for coming in. I'm sure the Postal Inspector was only doing routine check-up on employees whose positions have been eliminated. Nothing strange there.

Rollo, confused, is lead toward the office door.

Supervisor Charlie leans in.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE (whispers) Play your cards right Moon. They reach the door.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Have a great day on your route.

INT. POST OFFICE - MAIL SORTING AREA - CONTINUOUS

Rollo lumbers back to his mail. Not sure what just transpired.

Steve idles up.

STEVE What did the son of a bitch want?

ROLLO He thinks I'm going to tip him off to the mail cops unless he cuts me in on some illegal mail conspiracy.

STEVE I think we need to implement the last phase of your plan. You're getting in deep here.

ROLLO We're right on track.

STEVE Sure. Mail fraud, kidnapping, hijacking and murder.

ROLLO Manslaughter to be precise. And I blame Peachfuzz for that.

Rollo slides the last few pieces of mail into his pouch.

STEVE You really love this job.

ROLLO It's all I want to do.

STEVE I hope it will be worth it.

Rollo throws the pouch over his shoulder.

ROLLO It has to be. INT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY (RAIN)

Rollo stands at the edge of walkway. He pulls his coat tight against the cold wind.

He walks down the path towards the house. Brown grass and weeds have overtaken the yard.

Rollo ascends the steps leading to the dilapidated porch.

EXT/INT. FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Rollo pulls a letter from his pouch. The name Applebaum on the envelope.

He takes a deep breath. Knocks on the door.

Wind gusts. The door creaks open.

Wally peaks his head out.

ROLLO Is Mrs. Applebaum home?

WALLY No. I'm a friend.

Rollo tries to look in the house. Wally obscures his view.

ROLLO

I...I wanted to say goodbye. This might be my last day of delivering her mail and, well, I always tried to look out for her.

WALLY I see. You are friendly with all the people on your route.

Rollo smiles.

ROLLO After you deliver their mail for so many years you get to know them. Their problems, their joys.

Wally glares at Rollo.

ROLLO Anyway, please pass along my best and here is her mail.

Rollo hands Wally the package and heads down the porch steps.

ROLLO Oh, and one of the plates is chipped.

INT. APPLEBAUM HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Wally shuts the door. He pauses. Looks down at the package.

Rips it open. Smiles.

WALLY

Got him.

Two plates inside the package. One chipped.

INT./EXT. JAIL CELL - NIGHT

SLAM!

The bars slide shut.

Rollo's smile turns into a deep frown.

ROLLO I'm in mail jail.

Wally paces outside the cell. Reads from a list of charges.

WALLY

Unauthorized opening of mail, mail tampering, mail fraud, conspiracy to commit mail tampering, conspiracy to commit mail fraud...

Rollo grips the bars tight.

WALLY Improper requisition of a U.S. Postal Service cargo jet, kidnapping and the homicide of two, TWO!, Puerto Rican nationals working in the hospitality industry.

Rollo shut his eyes.

ROLLO You gotta listen to me. This is all just one big misunderstanding. WALLY

But wait, I'm not finished. We got someone willing to testify to save his own ass that you got them involved in mail fraud.

Rollo's heart sinks. His buddies ratted him out.

WALLY

Your Supervisor Charlie said it was \underline{YOU} who put him up to collaborating with an interstate mail fraud ring involving live chickens and some sort of citrus fruit seeds!

Rollo smiles. Steve and Peachfuzz stayed strong.

WALLY

Go ahead and smile mailman. He said you masterminded the entire operation.

ROLLO

I didn't have anything to do with that.

Wally stops in front of Rollo.

WALLY

Your in deep Rollo. Forget just a simple layoff. You are going to lose your job, your pension and your freedom.

Rollo's head sinks. Shoulders slump.

Wally softens.

WALLY

Why did you do it?

ROLLO

If I show people that the mail is important that they would fight for it. For me. For that feeling you get when you get a handwritten letter from someone you love. I was important. I brought it to them. Now its just email and faxes and texts and Facebook.

Rollo slumps down on a bench in the cell.

ROLLO I'm in trouble.

Wally leans against the cell bars.

WALLY

People trust you.

ROLLO

Yes

WALLY People respect you.

ROLLO

Seem too.

Rollo glances up at Wally.

ROLLO Why does that matter?

WALLY

It matters because people don't usually trust me. And they certainly don't respect me. So, that being the case, I propose we help each other.

Rollo stands.

ROLLO

How?

WALLY

The Postal Service needs to test the new security procedures it has in place. We need someone with intimate knowledge of the post office and the post office customer to try to pass through the new security system with a package undetected.

ROLLO

If I say no?

WALLY

Get used to mail jail. But if you succeed in getting the package through, then you can have your job...for life.

Rollo grabs the bars. Leans close to Wally.

ROLLO

I'm in.

Wally smiles.

WALLY

Good. Do you have anyone you trust who can help you in your mission?

ROLLO

I know some guys.

INT. POST OFFICE - MAIL SORTING AREA - MORNING

Steve jaunts down the aisle. A carton of mail balanced on his shoulder.

WALLY (V.O.) People attempt to use the mail everyday to commit a crime.

Steve WHISTLES as he empties a carton on the sorting table. He quickly does his standard one-arm sort.

> WALLY (V.O.) But it's gotten harder to ship contraband or illegal goods. Our screening methods have drastically improved.

Steve picks up a small box. Sniffs it. Rips it open with his teeth.

A FRUITCAKE plops on the table.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE (V.O.)

Hey!

Supervisor Charlie ambles over. Yanks the ripped package from Steve.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE No more of that. Follow the new procedures.

Supervisor Charlie points to a huge X-Ray machine at the end of the aisle.

Letters and packages move on a conveyor belt through an opening in the machine.

A green light flashes as each piece of mail passes. Indicating clean mail.

Suddenly, a RED LIGHT pulsates. An ALARM sounds.

MEEEP! MEEEP!

FOUR MEN dressed in dark blue one-piece uniforms, sunglasses and hats RUSH to the X-ray machine. All mail stops moving.

TWO GERMAN SHEPHERDS bound from behind the machine and SNIFF the area.

RUFF! RUFF!

The dogs hone in on the suspect piece of mail.

One of the men on the dark blue one-piece gently pick it up with metal tongs.

A small ENVELOPE.

Another man slides a BOX CUTTER from his belt.

Slices open the envelope.

Empties the contents into a SMALL DISH.

YELLOW SEEDS.

A third man whips out a thin infrared light.

FLASHES the seeds.

SECURITY MAN #1

Got em!

Steve and Supervisor Charlie approach.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE What is it?

SECURITY MAN #1 Barracuda mango seeds. Illegal in this country. Great work boys!

The Four Men high five each other.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE (under his breath) Damn. (beat) Good work. Mango seeds. Sons of bitches. Who could have been so stupid to try to slip that past? Okay, back to work. Supervisor Charlie eyes Steve.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Nothing gets past these guys.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Wally, Rollo and Steve huddle in a booth.

WALLY And nothing has. But the Post Office has made it <u>my</u> mandate to put the security system to the ultimate test.

STEVE Pass the cream.

Rollo keeps his eyes on Wally. Slides the cream to Steve.

ROLLO You can count on us.

STEVE Where is that waitress?

WALLY

Good. The package will arrive tomorrow morning to the sorting facility. It's coming from overseas. Central America. It will have a symbol stamped on it.

ROLLO What kind of symbol?

STEVE Is she deaf? Hello!

WALLY A red delicious apple in front of a bowling ball with a lit candle sticking out of it.

ROLLO Like a bomb from a cartoon?

WALLY

Yes.

ROLLO

Weird.

Listen carefully, before any piece of mail can leave the facility, it has to be screened. You need to circumvent the security procedures and deliver the package to this address.

Wally slides a piece of paper to Rollo. He opens it. Nods.

ROLLO What about Charlie.

STEVE

(nods) Charlie.

WALLY

He is unaware of this mission. He knows he is under suspicion and will not want any security mishaps. It will reflect on him. He's a problem.

ROLLO We'll take care of it.

STEVE Does anyone else need a refill? I would like a refill. Where is this broad?

Rollo and Wally try to ignore Steve.

WALLY You do this right Rollo, mailman for life.

Rollo beams.

STEVE There she is. About time.

A WAITRESS idles up to the booth. Fills the coffee mugs.

Wally glances at Steve. Turns to Rollo.

WALLY

This mission will require a certain amount of cunning and tact. You better be ready. ROLLO

Don't worry. We got tact coming out the ying-yang. Ain't that right honey?

Rollo holds up his coffee mug. He and Steve smile at Wally.

PEACHFUZZ (WAITRESS) Don't forget the cunning sugar.

Wally looks up at Peachfuzz in a dirty blond wig, apron and skirt.

WALLY

Oh God.

EXT. POST OFFICE - LOADING DOCK - MORNING

Blue and white TRUCKS back up to the large bay doors.

POSTAL SECURITY FORCES with SHOTGUNS surround the trucks.

Dressed in dark blue uniforms, sunglasses, they scan the area.

The driver unlocks the door and slides up the hatch.

INSIDE THE TRUCK

Several white BASKETS on locked wheels line the truck floor.

PACKAGES and LETTERS of all shapes, sizes and color fill the baskets.

TWO EMPLOYEES hop in the back as a FORKLIFT idles up and unloads the first basket.

Escorted by shotgun wielding postal security the forklift spins and lifts the basket of mail to the open bay doors.

INT. OFFICE - SAME TIME

Rollo enters. An empty mail pouch slung over his shoulder.

ROLLO Well sir, I wanted to say goodbye.

Supervisor Charlie glares at Rollo from behind the desk.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Hand in your bag Moon.

ROLLO

Today's my last day. I still have one last round of deliveries.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE

You're done.

Rollo panics.

ROLLO The mail still needs sorted. I can't leave the guys short handed.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Just short an arm. Steve will pick up your route today.

ROLLO

No.

Supervisor Charlie stands.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE I don't trust you Moon. Ever since I gave you your two weeks notice, strange things have been occurring around here. New security measures, postal inspection snooping.

ROLLO But I didn't tell them anything about the mangos--

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE

Shhhh!!

Supervisor Charlie reaches across the desk and covers Rollo's mouth.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE They hear all.

Supervisor Charlie points to the ceiling. He takes his hand off Rollo.

ROLLO Come on. One more day. My last day. It would mean the world.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE How much is it worth to you?

ROLLO What do you want? SUPERVISOR CHARLIE That Mrs. Bleaker on your route, I hear her husband is out of the picture.

ROLLO

Oh no...

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE She has got the sweetest--

ROLLO

Please no...

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE

Primo--

ROLLO Make it stop...

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Rose bushes in the entire city.

ROLLO

Rose bushes?

Supervisor Charlie rounds his desk.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE You've seen them. They could be award winning. There's big money in roses Rollo. Big money.

ROLLO

I read that somewhere.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE I need her seeds. Get me her seeds Rollo and I'll let you finish the day.

ROLLO You got it.

Rollo smiles and turns to exit.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Oh, and Rollo?

Rollo glances back.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Keep a few for yourself.

Supervisor Charlie winks.

INT. MAIL SORTING AREA - CONTINUOUS Rollo jogs down the aisle. Steve falls in with him. ROLLO Did it show up yet? STEVE Not yet. ROLLO Damn. This has to happen today. STEVE Security is extra tight. ROLLO Why say that? STEVE It's true. ROTITIO You don't have to say that. STEVE I tell it like it is. No sugar coating from me buddy. ROLLO You sugar coat all the time. STEVE I sometimes will sprinkle the sugar. Rarely do I coat. Rollo and Steve stop in front of the row of baskets filled with mail. Postal workers empty the baskets onto the CONVEYOR BELT rolling towards a giant X-RAY MACHINE. Behind the workers stand the TWO POSTAL GUARDS.

Armed and ready.

Rollo and Steve scan each piece of mail dropped on the belt.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Restricted area. You need to wait behind the X-ray machine for your mail allotment. TALL POSTAL GUARD Yeah! Each piece has to be scanned before you can take it out of here.

ROLLO It's my last day and I wanted to take in all the beautiful sights and sounds before I head out for my final deliveries.

Steve peers at the conveyor belt. Where is it?!

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Ahh, your last day. Isn't that sad?

TALL POSTAL GUARD Real sad.

ROLLO

It is a little sad actually. But, I'm trying to put a positive spin on it. I think if we each look at life as a glass half full we can all really--

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Shut your face mail-bitch!

TALL POSTAL GUARD Yeah! Sissy-mail-guy...er...dude.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Calm down Lenny.

Short Postal Guard pats his shotgun.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Go spout your nonsense on the other side of the X-ray machine. (glances at Steve) And take your one-arm mental patient with you.

Steve jerks his head up.

STEVE What the hell did you say?

ROLLO There it is. A white medium size PACKAGE, with a red delicious apple and bowling ball with a candle poking out LANDS on the conveyor belt.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD You heard me stumpy.

Rollo scoots toward the package as it streams toward the X-ray.

STEVE The last guy that called me stumpy ended up eating porridge the rest of his life and thinking a stop sign was his father.

Tall Postal Guard sees Rollo close to the conveyor belt, keeping pace with the package.

He aims his shotgun.

TALL POSTAL GUARD What are you doing fancy man?

Short Postal Guard now sees Rollo.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Hey! Don't touch that!

Supervisor Charlie arrives.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE What's all the commotion here. We got mail to deliver.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD These clowns won't leave the restricted area.

SUPERVISOR CHARLIE Come on you idiots. Beat it.

STEVE The enemy doesn't give orders around here. Grab it Rollo!

Steve LEAPS over the moving conveyor belt.

STEVE

HIYA!!!!

CRASHES through the postal workers emptying the basket.

ROLLO SNAGS the PACKAGE

STEVE PLOWS into SHORT POSTAL GUARD

SHORT POSTAL GUARD

AHHH!

SHOTGUN flies from his hands.

BOOM!

A SHOT goes off towards the ceiling.

STEVE Don't submit! Challenge your fears!

Steve's knees plant into Short Postal Guard's chest.

His hand SQUEEZES the throat.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Errr..ahhh...uhhh..

Tall Postal Guard wraps his arms around Steve.

Pulls him off.

Short Postal Guard catches his breath.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Forget him! Get that mailman. He's got a package!

Short Postal Worker leans over to a panel and SLAMS an ALARM.

WA! WA! WA!

Supervisor Charlie lumbers after Rollo.

Steve picks up a package and DRILLS it at Supervisor Charlie.

WAP!

Nails him in the back of the HEAD. He falls on the moving conveyor belt.

STEVE Bullseye Charlie! Go Rollo Go!

EXT. POST OFFICE - CURB - DAY

Rollo BOLTS through the double doors.

He high steps it down the sidewalk.

Short Postal Guard and Tall Postal Guard burst from the doors. Several Postal Guards follow them out. Short Postal Guard scans the street. SHORT POSTAL GUARD There he is! Get the truck! EXT. STREET - DAY Rollo books down the street. GRIPS the package tight. EXT./INT. MAIL TRUCK - DAY Postal Guards pile into the back of the truck. Tall Postal Guard slides in the driver's seat. Short Postal Guard hops in the passenger side. PUMPS his SHOTGUN SHORT POSTAL GUARD Time to recall a package. EXT. STREET - DAY Rollo stops at a corner. Out of breath. Clutches the package. SCREECH!!! Rollo whips around to see ... MAIL TRUCK It almost tips over as it rounds the corner SPEEDING towards Rollo. INT./EXT. MAIL TRUCK - MOVING - DAY Postal Guards in the back fly against the truck wall. SHORT POSTAL GUARD There he is!! Floor it! Tall Postal Guard grits his teeth and punches the gas pedal.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Rollo eyes the truck plowing towards him.

He sprints back down the street.

Rounds another corner.

INT./EXT. MAIL TRUCK - MOVING - DAY

Closer and closer to Rollo.

Short Postal Guard grins at his shotgun.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD You know something?

TALL POSTAL GUARD What's that?

SHORT POSTAL GUARD I really do love this job.

Short Postal Guard leans out the window.

Rollo is only a few yards from the truck's GRILL.

Short Postal Guard AIMS the shotgun towards the chugging Rollo.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Go Rollo go! Haha!

BAM!

Postal Guards in the back of the truck fly forward.

Short and Tall Postal Guards jerk ahead in their seats.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD What the hell was that?

INT./EXT. MEALS ON WHEELS TRUCK - MOVING - DAY

Peachfuzz behind the wheel. Still in a dress and blond wig.

PEACHFUZZ

YEAH!!!

Meals on Wheels truck speeds past the mail truck.

PEACHFUZZ Suck on my creamed corn mail Nazis! Short and Tall Postal Guards mouths drop as they glare at the passing Peachfuzz.

EXT./INT. MEALS ON WHEELS TRUCK - MOVING - DAY

Peachfuzz pulls next to Rollo.

PEACHFUZZ

Get in!

ROLLO (running) Still with the dress?!

PEACHFUZZ It feels good! Hundred percent cotton! Get in!!

Side of the truck slides open.

Rollo DIVES into the truck.

CRASHES into trays and bags of food.

ROLLO

Go!!

Peachfuzz floors it.

INT./EXT. MAIL TRUCK - MOVING - DAY

Short Postal Worker stares ahead.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD He's got help from an ugly chick feeding the homeless!

TALL POSTAL GUARD She wasn't that bad.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD (frowns) Who is this guy?

INT./EXT. MEALS ON WHEELS TRUCK - MOVING - DAY
Rollo crawls into the passenger seat. Package under his arm.

ROLLO

Nice work.

Rollo studies Peachfuzz's appearance.

ROLLO I see you went with the dark blue eye shadow.

PEACHFUZZ It is better, don't you think?

ROLLO Oh, definitely.

Meals on Wheels CHARGES down the suburban streets.

EXT./INT. MAIL TRUCK - MOVING - DAY

In hot pursuit.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Catch him!

TALL POSTAL GUARD We're carrying too much weight.

Short Postal Guard yanks open a panel to the back of the truck.

Postal Workers in back brace themselves against the wall to keep from falling.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD All of you get out!

Postal Workers stare back.

Short Postal Guard sticks his shotgun through the opening.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD

Ahem.

Mail Truck rear door pulls up.

Postal Workers hop off.

POSTAL WORKERS

Ahhhhh!!!

Tall Postal Guard glances in the side mirror as they...

BOUNCE off the PAVEMENT...

Fly into BUSHES...

TALL POSTAL GUARD Brave sons of bitches.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Hurry! They're making a left.

EXT./INT. MEALS ON WHEELS TRUCK - MOVING - DAY Peachfuzz jerks the wheel left. Meals on Wheels nearly tips over as it rounds the corner. TRAYS OF FOOD crash in the back. Rollo glances at a piece of paper.

> ROLLO It's a few blocks over. Almost there.

PEACHFUZZ Gotta lose these guys or all this is over.

Meals on Wheels ZOOMS down the street.

EXT./INT. MAIL TRUCK - MOVING - DAY

Half a block behind.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Almost got em!

TALL POSTAL GUARD I think she winked at me when she passed us.

Short Postal Guard shakes his head. EXT./INT. MEALS ON WHEELS TRUCK - MOVING - DAY Approaches a STOP SIGN.

> ROLLO Don't stop! PEACHFUZZ Don't worry, I can't!

> > ROLLO

Why not?

PEACHFUZZ My heel is stuck.

ROLLO Your heel? Both look at the pedals.

A four inch HIGH HEEL SHOE wedged underneath the GAS PEDAL.

ROLLO High heels!

PEACHFUZZ They went with the dress!

ROLLO Make a right!

Peachfuzz moves the steering wheel right.

Meals on Wheels rides on TWO WHEELS as it makes the turn.

PEACHFUZZ/ROLLO

AHHHH!!!

INT./EXT. MAIL TRUCK - MOVING - DAY

Short and Tall Postal Guards cringe.

TALL POSTAL GUARD She's an amazing driver. The total package!

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Cut em off.

Mail Truck cuts to the right off the stop sign.

JUMPS the CURB

PLOWS over a manicured LAWN back to the STREET

PULLS parallel to Meals on Wheels.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Pull over losers!

PEACHFUZZ

Never!

INT./EXT. MAIL TRUCK - MOVING - DAY

Short Postal Guard glowers at Peachfuzz.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Ram em!

TALL POSTAL GUARD I love her man!

Short Postal Guard grabs the wheel and turns the mail truck into Meals on Wheels. EXT./INT. MEALS ON WHEELS TRUCK - MOVING - DAY Meals on Wheels RATTLES left as the truck RAMS it. Peachfuzz eyes something ahead. PEACHFUZZ I got an idea. EXT. MEALS ON WHEELS/MAIL TRUCK - MOVING - DAY Both ZOOM down the suburban street. INT./EXT. MEALS ON WHEELS TRUCK - MOVING - DAY Peachfuzz grips the wheel tight. PEACHFUZZ I'm gonna whip to the left at the corner. When I do, you jump out the truck and into that pile of dirt up there. Rollo peers ahead. ROLLO Are you nuts? Peachfuzz eyes Rollo and smirks. ROLLO Right. EXT./INT. MAIL TRUCK - MOVING - DAY The truck accelerates. Only a few yards behind. SHORT POSTAL GUARD We got em now! EXT./INT. MEALS ON WHEELS TRUCK - MOVING - DAY Approaches the corner. PEACHFUZZ Here we go! ROLLO Are we sure that's dirt? Meals on Wheels whips left at the corner.

Rollo tucks the PACKAGE into his jacket and

LEAPS from the passenger window.

ROLLO

FLIES smack into a pile of dirt on the lawn.

INT./EXT. MAIL TRUCK - MOVING - DAY

Short and Tall Postal Guard eyes bulge.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD

Look out!

Mail Truck SLAMS into the left side of Meals on Wheels.

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

Rollo lifts his head from the pile. Sniffs.

ROLLO

Just dirt.

He creaks to his feet. Turns and observes the two truck pile up at the corner.

Rollo removes the package from his jacket and BOLTS between the houses.

EXT./INT. MAIL TRUCK/MEALS ON WHEELS - DAY

SMOKE emits from both trucks.

Mail Truck's front half crumpled.

Meals on Wheels left side bashed.

Tall Postal Guard stumbles from the truck. He approaches Meals on Wheels.

Peachfuzz passed out in the driver seat. Blond wig askew. Make up smeared.

Tall Postal Guard pries open the door. Pulls out Peachfuzz.

TALL POSTAL GUARD It's alright honey.

He strokes Peachfuzz's face.

Short Postal Guard creeps over.

SHORT POSTAL GUARD What the hell are you doing?

TALL POSTAL GUARD I have to save her!

SHORT POSTAL GUARD Where's the mailman? The package?

TALL POSTAL GUARD Let me give her mouth to mouth first.

Peachfuzz's eyes open WIDE.

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

Clouds fill the sky.

Rollo stands on the sidewalk. Grips the package.

He unfolds the piece of paper. Reads it.

Looks up at the house in front of him. Address the same.

The street is unfamiliar. Not his route.

But the house seems familiar. Address: 999

Rollo walks the path to the porch.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - DAY

Rollo ascends the porch steps. Presses the doorbell:

BING BONG BONG BING

Nothing.

Rollo turns the doorknob. Pushes open the door.

INT. HOUSE 999 - DAY

Rollo steps in the house.

Bookshelves line the walls.

WHITE PLATES fill the space. Rollo scans the room.

VOICE (0.S.) You made it.

Rollo turns. Wally enters from another room.

ROLLO

Yes.

WALLY Any problems?

ROLLO A few hiccups.

WALLY There always are.

Wally nods to the package.

WALLY And the package. It wasn't scanned?

Rollo holds out the package to Wally.

ROLLO

Nope.

WALLY Good. Open it.

ROLLO That's okay. I don't open other people's mail. Against the mailman code.

VOICE (O.S.) Now, we both know that's not true.

Mrs. Applebaum enters.

ROLLO Mrs. Applebaum?

MRS. APPLEBAUM I seem to recall waking up in a container on the beach. Sadly, my daughter did not wish I was there.

ROLLO Please, I...I did that because you seemed so lonely.

MRS. APPLEBAUM You didn't do it for me Rollo. You did it because you are desperate. You were losing your job. That meant the end. WALLY It's helpful to have people with no options. It makes their decision so much easier.

ROLLO What is this all about?

WALLY Open the package Rollo. I trust the postage is in order.

Rollo eyes the postage. Several STAMPS line the top right of the package. Each a water color of a bowl of fruit.

Pears included.

Rollo tears open the package. Rips past the bubble wrap.

Two white plates similar to the ones lining the shelves.

ROLLO More plates. Do you live here Mrs. Applebaum?

MRS. APPLEBAUM It's one of my work houses.

Mrs. Applebaum takes the plates from Rollo. Places them on a shelf.

ROLLO Room for your antiques?

MRS. APPLEBAUM Room for my ecstasy powder plates.

Rollo's mouth opens.

MRS. APPLEBAUM I supply most of the state.

ROLLO But you're an old lady.

MRS. APPLEBAUM You should really pay more attention.

Mrs. Applebaum nods to the discarded package cover. Rollo picks it up. Studies the markings: A red delicious apple by a bowling ball with a lit candle sticking out of it.

ROLLO

Apple, bomb.

Rollo shuts his eyes. Damn.

ROLLO

I didn't notice.

WALLY

Or never wanted to notice. You kept everyone on your route in a little box. Not until you opened their mail and revealed their real lives did you finally see. You should have left well enough alone Rollo. But you can't let this job go.

Wally grins.

ROLLO

This is wrong.

WALLY I made you a promise. You delivered the package and I will make sure you keep your job. I stand by my word.

Rollo glares at Wally. His head spins.

MRS. APPLEBAUM It's an easy decision. You never knew any of this was going on before. Just go back to that time Keep the life you love. (beat) Mr. Mailman.

Rollo breathes heavy. He looks at his jacket sleeve.

The blue and white eagle PATCH.

Rollo looks up. Determined.

ROLLO

No.

Wally and Mrs. Applebaum exchange a glance.

MRS. APPLEBAUM I'm sorry to hear that. Wally? Wally YANKS two shiny LETTER OPENERS from his suit jacket.

WALLY Last chance?

ROLLO You're going to kill me?

WALLY We're in too deep here Rollo. Desperate times, blah, blah, blah. You know the drill.

Wally SPINS the Letter Openers in his hands.

Rollo backs up into a bookshelf. The plates wobble.

MRS. APPLEBAUM My product! Do this somewhere else you idiots!

WALLY How about a little assistance?

MRS. APPLEBAUM We agreed. You take care of the mailman.

Rollo and Wally circle each other. Mrs. Applebaum in the middle.

WALLY I'll find another patsy. You're buddy Steve, he's rather immoral?

ROLLO Leave Steve out of this.

WALLY Come on Rollo. Don't be stupid. Say yes. Keep being that mailman.

Rollo stumbles around the room.

ROLLO Why are <u>you</u> doing this?

Wally TOSSES the Letter Openers from hand to hand.

WALLY Respect. I do all the work and no one at Postal Inspection appreciates it.

ROLLO Taking part in a major drug ring. Seems like a rational move. WALLY First comes the money, then comes the... MRS. APPLEBAUM No. It's first comes the power then the money. ROLLO I think he's right. It's money then power. WALLY Right, right. Money, power then the...damn. ROTITIO Women. WALLY No, no...the... MRS. APPLEBAUM Respect. WALLY Thank you Mrs. Applebaum. Yes. The money, the power, then the respect. And once I do this, those guys down there will have to respect me. ROLLO That's silly. WALLY That's funny coming from a guy who can't change with the times. The mail is dying Rollo. Just like you're about to. Wally LUNGES at ROLLO, both Letter Openers pointing out.

Rollo DIVES out of the way.

KNOCKS into a bookshelf. Plates tumble.

MRS. APPLEBAUM

Noooo!!!

Wally REARS back for another stab.

Mrs. Applebaum LANDS on top of Rollo.

Catches two plates.

Wally accidentally STABS Mrs. Applebaum in the back with both Letter Openers.

MRS. APPLEBAUM

OWWW!!!

Wally jumps back. Falls into another bookshelf.

Plates tumble.

MRS. APPLEBAUM

Get them!

Wally cover his face as plates crash on his head.

SPEWS ecstasy powder.

Rollo slides out from under Mrs. Applebaum, who writhes in pain.

Rollo SCOOPS up two PLATES.

Wally COUGHS from all the powder.

WALLY Wooow!! That is good stuff!

He looks up. Rollo stands over him. A plate in each hand.

ROLLO Take another hit.

SLAM!

Rollo SMASHES the PLATES on either side of Wally's head. Powder EXPLODES in the air as Wally crumples to the floor.

Rollo takes DEEP BREATH.

ROLLO Whew! That <u>is</u> good stuff!

He hops over to Mrs. Applebaum.

YANKS the Letter Openers out of her back.

MRS. APPLEBAUM Good work Rollo. How about it? You keep your job and we'll rule the world?

ROLLO

No thanks.

Rollo SPINS the Letter Openers in his hands and slides them in his pockets.

ROLLO

It's time for a change.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

Beautiful homes in a row. Fresh cut grass. Sun shines. Birds chirp. A lovely day.

A man's legs jaunt down the street.

He wears grey wool shorts. On his back, a blue short sleeved dress shirt.

Strapped over his shoulder hangs a POUCH.

A blue and white PATCH containing an EAGLE'S HEAD and UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE glows in the bright sun.

EXT./INT. FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

A FINGER presses the doorbell.

BING BONG BONG BING.

Rollo opens the door.

Wears a dark blue suit. A shiny badge on his lapel:

U.S. Postal Inspection Service

ROLLO Well, thank you Mr. Mailman.

Peachfuzz hands over a stack of mail.

PEACHFUZZ Any time Inspector Moon.

ROLLO Beautiful day isn't it? Peachfuzz takes a deep breath.

PEACHFUZZ It sure it. How's Mrs. Moon?

ROLLO

Honey?

Mrs. Bleaker pops her head from the door.

MRS. MOON (THE FORMER MRS. BLEAKER) Hello Mr. Mailman.

She adjusts Rollo's tie.

MRS. MOON Honey, you need to get moving. They are expecting you at the office.

ROLLO Yes dear. Gotta go mailman.

PEACHFUZZ

I understand.

Peachfuzz heads down the porch. He turns.

PEACHFUZZ And hey, call me Peachfuzz.

Rollo and Mrs. Moon smile. They gaze at each other and embrace.

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - CONTINUOUS

Peachfuzz rounds the path onto the sidewalk when...

A BUS pull up. The doors swing open.

STEVE Need a ride?

Peachfuzz looks up at Steve behind the wheel.

PEACHFUZZ I still got a bunch of mail to deliver.

STEVE Come on. It can wait. Hey, maybe there's some good stuff in there.

Peachfuzz eyes his pouch. Smiles.

He climbs onboard.

EXT./INT. FRONT DOOR - SAME TIME

Mrs. Moon looks over Rollo's shoulder as they embrace.

MRS. MOON

Honey?

Rollo turns to see Peachfuzz climb on the bus.

ROLLO

Oh damn. I'll see you later.

Rollo plants a kiss on his wife's cheek and hustles down the path toward the bus.

MRS. MOON Be careful. And watch out for the dog!

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - CONTINUOUS

Rollo sprints down the street after the bus.

ROLLO

The dog?

A BULLDOG ambles from a nearby house and gives chase.

ROLLO

Nooo!!!

Rollo picks up the pace as he chases the bus.

Bulldog not far behind.

FADE OUT.

THE END.