GOODBUDDIES

Written by

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EXT. COMEDY CLUB - NIGHT

DANTE (16), an overweight Asian teen in a rap t-shirt, crouches in front of a locked gate. CHARLIE (35), a muscular man, wearing dark sunglasses, and hungover, leans against the outside wall as evening traffic passes.

DANTE

Man, he ain't going to show up. He's so cool.

CHARLIE

Be cool.

A black Mercedes drives up and rolls down the passenger window. IGOR (45), a short Eastern European man, looks out.

IGOR

Get in.

CHARLIE

We've been waiting for two hours.

INT. IGOR'S CAR - NIGHT

Dante pokes his head in the window, smiles, and grabs candy from Igor's console. Igor slaps Dante's hand away.

Charlie pushes Dante out of the way and rests his arms on the passenger's window and smiles.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

(to Dante)

Do you know why Igor left the Moldavian army? Because there were not enough men!

Charlie laughs at his own joke.

IGOR

What are you waiting for? Get in.

Charlie opens the door and pushes Dante to the rear seat. Dante sits on the hump between Igor and Charlie.

Igor looks back at Dante. Dante, happy as a clam, picks up woman's sunglasses from the car floor, puts them on, and smiles big to Igor.

IGOR (CONT'D)

Sit back and put your seatbelt on. Look, I don't need any shit today.

Dante grunts, sits behind Charlie, and puts on his seat belt. Igor puts the car in drive, pulls out into the street, and looks at Dante through the rearview mirror.

IGOR (CONT'D)

I hate you.

Dante stick his tongue out behind Igor's back.

EXT. IGOR'S CAR - NIGHT

Lights trace by, people line the streets, clubs, and bars as marquees flash.

Charlie sticks his head out of the window and whistles at girls in front of a strip club. Igor rolls the window up, almost pinning Charlie's head.

CHARLIE

Why did you do that?

Igor glares over at Charlie and turns down a dark street.

IGOR

The trunk is full. We've got business in the forest tonight.

DANTE

Not the woods at night! I'll have ghosts haunting me.

Igor looks at Dante through the rearview mirror.

IGOR

You are about dumb as hell.

CHARLIE

I don't know. I once had a cousin that had a ghost haunt him.

DANTE

Tonight of all nights? I thought you guys were going legit?

The Forest Park gate appears in front of them. A silhouetted figure waves the car through.

DANTE (CONT'D)

Was that a ghost?

IGOR

No, that's having friends in the right places.

EXT. FORREST PARK - WOODS - NIGHT

Igor's car pulls into a wooded area. The car lights shine onto RANGER RICK (40), in uniform, and holding a flashlight.

DANTE

Oh shit, oh shit, oh shit!

IGOR

Shut up! Be cool.

Ranger Rick walks up to the driver's side window and shines a light onto the guys' faces.

RANGER RICK

So, you boys seem to be out late.

DANTE

We wanted to get in some hiking, officer.

RANGER RICK

(to Igor)

Sir, I need you to step out of the vehicle.

Igor steps out, and the two walk into the dark. Bodies struggle, then a flash of light, and a gunshot RINGS OUT.

IGOR (0.S.)

Oh Shit! Run!

The car door opens, Dante bolts out, and mows down Charlie. Dante can be heard RUSTLING in the woods.

Charlie walks over to Igor and Ranger Rick, standing just out of the light.

CHARLIE

Son of a bitch! That's the fastest fat kid I have ever seen!

EXT. LOST IN WOODS - NIGHT

Dante cries as he runs blindly. Breathing heavily, he runs straight into a tree.

EXT. FOREST PARK - WOODS - NIGHT

Charlie and Igor laugh as they hear Dante hit the tree.

CHARLIE

I think this made my day.

RANGER RICK

Squirrelly son of a bitch, ain't he? Don't you think this is a bit cruel?

IGOR

Where I am from, this is how we show you care.

EXT. LOST IN WOODS - NIGHT

Dante sits up and shakes his head. The guys LAUGH from the dark.

CHARLIE (O.S.)

Ok, you can come back, dumb ass!

EXT. FOREST PARK - WOODS - NIGHT

Charlie brushes dirt off his pants.

IGOR

(yelling out)

We are just screwing with you.

Dante stomps out of the darkness covered in leaves and dirt.

DANTE

I knew that.

Charlie and Igor beat off dirt from Dante's clothing.

CHARLIE

Sure, you did.

Ranger Rick opens the trunk of Igor's Mercedes, lights a cake in the shape of a dead body. A knife in its body with red cherry frosting for blood.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

IGOR

Happy birthday!

Happy birthday!

DANTE

You guys are the best!

THE END