

SCARECROW — and — *Mrs. King*

"THE LONG CHRISTMAS EVE"

REV. SHOOTING DRAFT

November 25, 1983



**WARNER BROS.
TELEVISION**

SCARECROW AND MRS. KING

"The Long Christmas Eve"

Written by
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B & E ENTERPRISES, LTD.
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REV. SHOOTING DRAFT

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SCARECROW AND MRS. KING

"The Long Christmas Eve"

CAST LIST

AMANDA KING

LEE STETSON

DOTTY WEST

BILLY MELROSE

FRANCINE DESMOND

PHILLIP KING

JAMIE KING

TED RUDOLPH

IVAN KARIMOZOV (SANTA CLAUS)

DIMITRI KARIMOZOV

SERGEI PALINKOV

C. PAYNE LUCAS

AGENCY GUARD

AGENT #1

NOW SPEAKING: COMMANDOS (6), KGB AGENTS (6)

SCARECROW AND MRS. KING

"The Long Christmas Eve"

SET LIST

INTERIORS:

KING HOUSE:

Living Room

AGENCY:

Billy's Office

Bullpen

SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICE

HUNTING CABIN

HOSPITAL ROOM

EXTERIORS:

DOWNTOWN STREET

RURAL HIGHWAY

WOODS (various locations)

HUNTING CABIN

SOVIET EMBASSY COURTYARD

VEHICLES:

LEE'S PORSCHE

N.D. SEDAN

CHOPPER (?) OR TRUCK

LAND ROVER

SCARECROW AND MRS. KING

"The Long Christmas Eve"

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

A1 EXT. DOWNTOWN WASHINGTON - ESTABLISHING - DAY (STOCK) A1
No snow, yet, but cold weather.

1 EXT. DOWNTOWN STREET CORNER - DAY 1

ON a charity SANTA CLAUS in front of a department store soliciting funds for some cause. Passersby are bundled up against the cold, and store windows are decorated for Christmas. Santa is ringing his bell, waving to kids, and intermittently chuckling "Ho, Ho, Ho." One or two passersby drop coins into his tin kettle as they pass without stopping. As kids pass him, he hands out an occasional candy cane from the sack hanging from his shoulder.

SANTA

Ho, ho, Merry Christmas!

Still ringing his bell, Santa glances behind him at a phone booth. CAMERA ADJUSTS to reveal TED RUDOLPH, late fifties, average looking, except for his face, which is a roadmap of a difficult life, furrowed with experience.

2 ANGLE - PHONE BOOTH 2

as Rudolph talks on the phone.

RUDOLPH

(very tense)

... Those are the conditions. You find me a job, another identity, a whole new life, now.

3 BACK TO SANTA 3

who looks around, then slowly begins to saunter toward the phone booth, still ringing his bell and delivering "Ho, ho's."

4 RUDOLPH 4

RUDOLPH

Don't tell me I'm asking too much!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

RUDOLPH (CONT'D)

I don't care about the agency red
tape. I need to come in now.

As he talks, the Santa's bell grows louder. Rudolph
notes Santa's approach, turns back to his conversation.

5 SANTA

5

reaches into his bag and pulls out a blob of plastique,
which he attaches to the side of the phone booth.

6 RUDOLPH

6

Behind him, Santa hurries off down the street.

RUDOLPH

... I'm warning you. Before I go
down, I'll take a lot of your
people with me...

Rudolph notes the Santa on the street corner, furiously
hailing a cab and jumping into it. CAMERA MOVES IN ON
Rudolph as he turns TOWARD us, his years of experience
telling him something is not right. He glances down.

7 OMITTED

7

8

8

8

8

9 RUDOLPH'S POV - PLASTIQUE

9

stuck to the outside of the phone booth.

10 OMITTED

10

thru

thru

12

12

13 INT. CAB - SANTA'S HAND

13

as he pulls toys from out of the sack, finally pulling a
detonator out.

14 EXT. STREET CORNER - WIDE ANGLE

14

as Rudolph tears out of the phone booth TOWARD CAMERA.

14A DETONATOR 14A
The button is pushed.

14B EXT. STREET CORNER 14B
Rudolph hits the dirt, onlookers scatter out of his way,
and behind him, the phone booth EXPLODES.

CUT TO:

15 INT. AGENCY - BILLY'S OFFICE - DAY 15
ON a wall calendar reading December 23rd.

BILLY (O.S.)
Ted Rudolph...

TILT DOWN and WIDEN TO: BILLY is at his desk. FRANCINE
sits on a chair and LEE stands by the bookshelf.

LEE
Did you get a trace on the call?

BILLY
Phone booth.

FRANCINE
What's left of it is in pieces
in front of Martindale's
Department Store. The Washington
Police Bomb Squad says it was a
very sophisticated device.

LEE
KGB?

FRANCINE
It wasn't The Salvation Army...

LEE
What does he want?

BILLY
He wants us to bring him in. If
we don't, he says we'll be very
sorry.

LEE
Can he hurt us?

BILLY
You familiar with his file?

(CONTINUED)

LEE

Not in any depth... Company man,
old school tie. O.S.S. Code
name... Janus...

Francine opens a file, starts to read:

FRANCINE

I'll just give you the broad
strokes: Ted Rudolph. a.k.a.
Kenneth Ciardi, a.k.a. Henry
Sturbridge, born 1925, recruited
1946. O.S.S. post-war Berlin.
Paris-Marseilles 1953-57...
Prague '61... Moscow '64 as New
York Times correspondent...
Brought back in '68. Since then
he's been in deep cover working
both sides of the street.

BILLY

As you can see, a very valuable
man. He brought in Bolinsky in
'72 and Kazimov in '77. He's
plugged in as high as Andropov.

LEE

If he wants to come in, he must
be in trouble.

BILLY

That's what I'm afraid of. My
guess is that they got wind of
it, tried to turn him, and when
that didn't work, they tried to
kill him...

LEE

Do we know where he is?

FRANCINE

His control hasn't heard from him
in three weeks. He said that
Rudolph has been acting strangely
over the last three months, thought
it might be burn-out syndrome.

LEE

I wouldn't be surprised. The guy's
been walking a tightrope for 15
years...

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED: (2)

15

BILLY

We're trying to locate his family.
Wife died in '75, natural causes.
There's a daughter, early 30's,
but she's moved away and we have
no leads on her.

LEE

What do we do?

BILLY

We wait. There's nothing we can
do until he contacts us again...

16 ANGLE TOWARD DOOR

16

as a uniformed security GUARD knocks on the glass. He
has a large package under his arm. Billy motions for him
to enter. The Guard comes in, hands Billy the package.

GUARD

This came in for you, Mr. Melrose.

BILLY

From where?

GUARD

Sixth floor... Would you sign
here please.

Billy scribbles his signature on a clipboard; the Guard
exits. Billy puts the package on his desk, seemingly
trying to ignore it.

FRANCINE

Aren't you going to open it? It
looks like a Christmas present.

Billy shakes his head, reaches for his coffee cup.

LEE

Sixth floor...? Let's see...
Scenarios, Ciphers and... What's
the euphemism for dirty tricks?

FRANCINE

Covert operations.

LEE

Come on, Billy, open it. Those
dirty trick guys have a hell of
a sense of humor.

(CONTINUED)

BILLY

Probably just some files...

Lee crosses to the desk, looks at the package.

LEE

It's not marked 'Eyes Only.'

Lee opens it, takes out a large Santa Claus suit, replete with beard.

FRANCINE

How adorable!

LEE

Those guys are a riot. What if we sent them down some phony ciphers...

FRANCINE

What's it for?

BILLY

(beat)

The office Christmas party this afternoon. I lost a bet on the Redskin's game.

LEE

Billy, I couldn't think of a better Santa Claus.

BILLY

There's no way I'm putting that thing on.

FRANCINE

Where's your Christmas spirit?

Lee holds the suit up, grinning.

LEE

It's a dirty job, Billy, but somebody's got to do it...

As Billy just glares at him, we are...

There is a Christmas wreath on the front door.

AMANDA stands on a ladder decorating a modest Christmas tree. DOTTY is at the foot of the ladder handing up ornaments to her. A large number of wrapped presents lie scattered around the base of the tree. Christmas MUSIC GURGLES from the STEREO.

DOTTY

The tree seems a little smaller
this year, don't you think, dear?

AMANDA

They get smaller and more expensive
every year. You won't believe what
the man outside of Gearly's wanted
for the large ones.

DOTTY

Well, it looks lovely...
(then)

Missy, do you remember when you
were a little girl and you used
to go with your father to pick
out the tree?

AMANDA

(nods)

And daddy would pretend that it
was straight from the North Pole
and that the man selling it was a
personal friend of Santa Claus.

Both women smile at the memory as they remember a man
they both loved; then:

DOTTY

I sometimes wonder if Jamie and
Phillip will have those kinds of
Christmas memories.

AMANDA

I doubt it. When Phillip was six,
I was telling him about Santa Claus
coming down the chimney and he said,
'Don't con me, Mom.'

Amanda climbs down the ladder, admires her decorating job.
Dotty clears her throat, having something that she obviously wants to say.

DOTTY

Amanda, I think Christmas is
always a good time to start
thinking a little more...
positively.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

AMANDA

Uh-oh, I have a feeling I know
what's coming, and...

DOTTY

Amanda, dear, stability is very
important for children.

AMANDA

And Dean is very stable. I'm very
fond of Dean. He's a wonderful
man. The boys adore him. He's
got a good job, he's considerate,
kind, etcetera... but I'm just not
ready yet, okay?

DOTTY

Of course. I wouldn't think of
pushing you. I just thought... it
being Christmas.

AMANDA

Mother, he's coming for Christmas
dinner. He bought Phillip an entire
Washington Redskin football uniform
complete with shoulder pads, and
Jamie a Junior Weatherman's kit
with a real barometer...

DOTTY

He's very considerate.

AMANDA

To a fault... now I have to go out
for a few hours and drop off some
presents to the people I walk dogs
and water plants for.

DOTTY

(nods)

Good client relations. Tell me
something, what are they like,
these people you work for?

AMANDA

Oh, they're just your normal,
everyday sort of people...

CUT TO:

19 INT. AGENCY BULLPEN - DAY

19

The Agency office Christmas party is in full swing, and
the atmosphere is convivial. Punch is being ladled out
of a punch bowl. Secretaries are singing "Jingle Bells"
in harmony.

20 ANGLE - CORNER

20

where Lee stands with Francine taking in the festivities.

FRANCINE

You don't seem to be getting into the spirit of things.

LEE

I'm just not big on parties.

FRANCINE

Come on, it's Christmas. 'Tis the season to be jolly...

Lee forces a smile as:

21 ANGLE - TO INCLUDE DOOR

21

Amanda enters with presents under her arm.

FRANCINE

Well, speaking of jolly, there she is -- Our Woman In Suburbia, bearing gifts.

LEE

Don't be nasty, Francine.

FRANCINE

I wouldn't dream of it...

Amanda ENTERS SHOT, smiles:

AMANDA

Hi. Merry Christmas.

LEE

Hi.

FRANCINE

And a Merry Christmas to you...

AMANDA

I just wanted to drop off a couple of presents.

FRANCINE

You really shouldn't have.

AMANDA

Well, you know, it's Christmas.

She hands each of them a gift.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

AMANDA
(continuing)
Go ahead... Open them.

Lee and Francine exchange a look, then open their presents. Lee takes out a half-dozen pair of socks, same color, stares at them.

AMANDA
(continuing)
I figured socks were something you would never buy for yourself. They're all the same color so you won't have any trouble matching them when they come out of the dryer.

LEE
Thank you... it's just what I needed.

Francine takes out her gift: perfume.

FRANCINE
Perfume. How very sweet of you, Amanda.

AMANDA
It's called 'Intrigue' -- very good for a spy... I got Billy a new cardigan sweater. Beige. Billy's taste in clothes tends to be a little conservative...

22 ANGLE TOWARD BILLY'S OFFICE

22

as he emerges, dressed up in the Santa Claus outfit. AD LIB applause, cheering, etc. Billy smiles dimly, crosses toward the corner where Lee, Amanda and Francine are standing, greeting people on the way...

LEE
Extremely conservative.

As Billy joins the group:

LEE
(continuing)
Ho, ho, ho...

BILLY
Don't push it, Stetson...
(then; to Amanda)
Nice to see you, Mrs. King.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

AMANDA

Merry Christmas, Mr. Melrose. I
love your costume...

(off his
embarrassed smile)

This is for you. I hope it fits.

She hands him the third package.

BILLY

Very kind of you.

A SECRETARY approaches.

SECRETARY

Excuse me, Mr. Melrose, but there's
a call for you on six one.

BILLY

Thank you...

As Billy crosses to his office.

LEE

Must be the North Pole...

FRANCINE

So, Amanda, tell us -- what's new
in sinful Suburbia?

AMANDA

Oh, the usual -- backstabbing,
jealousy... adultery... Don't you
watch 'As The World Turns...'?

CUT TO:

23 INT. BILLY'S OFFICE

23

Billy, on the phone, has removed his hat and beard. His
face shows great concern as:

BILLY

The 25th is in less than two days.
We can't possibly --

(beat)

Be reasonable, man. Even if we
could find her, she may not be
willing --

(beat)

Where?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

BILLY (CONT'D)

(beat)
Wait a second... Janus?
(beat)
Janus!

He has a dead line in his hand. He hangs up, crosses quickly to the door, sticks his head out.

24 INT. BULLPEN - FAVORING LEE, AMANDA AND FRANCINE

24

as Billy motions for them to come into his office.

BILLY
Lee, Francine. In here...

LEE
Excuse us, Amanda...

Lee and Francine cross to Billy's office, enter. Amanda stands alone for a moment until Agent #1 approaches, a little merrier than before.

AGENT #1
How many agents does it take to
change a light bulb?

AMANDA
I beg your pardon?

AGENT #1
Fifteen. One to change the light
bulb and fourteen to... debrief
the building...

And he breaks into hysterics at his own joke; Amanda smiles sociably...

25 INT. BILLY'S OFFICE

25

Lee, Francine and Billy.

LEE
Rudolph?

BILLY
(nods)
He's holed up in a hunting cabin
in the woods in Virginia. His
deadline's the 25th.

LEE
Or else?

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

BILLY

Or else he goes public with the names of every American and Soviet undercover agent working in this country.

A beat, as this sinks in; then:

BILLY

(continuing)

Ted Rudolph is in the position to jeopardize our most sensitive intelligence programs, as well as endanger the lives of a number of our people.

LEE

We can relocate him, can't we? We do it all the time.

BILLY

Unfortunately, that's not all he wants. He wants us to find his daughter and bring her to him.

LEE

His daughter? Why?

BILLY

I don't know. He wasn't making a lot of sense. He babbled something about how the Agency took his life and family away from him and now he wanted something back.

FRANCINE

We've been trying to find Karen Rudolph to talk to her since the first call, but so far we've drawn a blank.

BILLY

All we have is a name and a birth date. He hasn't seen her in over 30 years.

LEE

Not much of a trail.

BILLY

We'll put it on top priority, but we've got less than 48 hours.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: (2)

25

LEE

She could have moved, probably did.
The odds are she's married, changed
her name... Boy, talk about long
shots...

They all look at one another, stymied; beat; then:

26 ANGLE

26

As Amanda appears outside the glass partition; she
pantomimes saying goodbye, waves. Billy suddenly looks
at Lee. Light bulb!

BILLY

Scarecrow...

Lee shakes his head: he knows that look.

LEE

Wait a second... Billy, you're
not suggesting that... Amanda.

BILLY

He hasn't seen his daughter since
she was three. Mrs. King is about
the right age. He knows all our
other women agents.

LEE

She'll never pull it off.

BILLY

Well, it happens to be the only
shot we have at the moment...

ON Lee, as he considers this without enthusiasm.

27 EXT. SOVIET EMBASSY COMPOUND IN WASHINGTON -
ESTABLISHING - NIGHT (STOCK)

27

28 INT. OFFICE IN EMBASSY - TIGHT ON TAPE RECORDER - NIGHT 28

Reels spinning as:

RUDOLPH (V.O.)

... I want her brought to me or
else I go public.

(CONTINUED)

WIDEN TO: Two Soviet agents, IVAN and DIMITRI -- men in their late 40's, early 50's -- physical, hardened types, sit listening to the tape in the office of SERGEI PALINKOV, head of KGB operations in the United States. Palinkov is a dapperly-dressed, professorial type, late 60's. His English is impeccable with just a trace of accent. He sips tea from a Sevres tea service in a plushly-furnished office, located within the Russian Embassy compound, with heavy brocade, antique samovar and a portrait of some ND Russian.

BILLY (V.O.)

Be reasonable, man. Even if we could find her, she may not be willing --

RUDOLPH (V.O.)

(overlapping)

We have ways of convincing people, don't we, Melrose?

BILLY (V.O.)

Where?

RUDOLPH (V.O.)

I'm in a hunting cabin in the woods, 40 miles out on route 84... You'll find a map at the usual drop... Be there.

Sound of Rudolph HANGING UP.

BILLY (V.O.)

Wait a second... Janus? Janus!

Palinkov turns the recorder off, takes a sip of tea; then:

PALINKOV

Comrades, this is from our phone tap of Rudolph's apartment. Quite compromising, wouldn't you agree...? It would seem to me that we have no alternative but to neutralize Mr. Rudolph immediately.

IVAN

How do we find him?

PALINKOV

The Americans will lead us right to him.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED: (2)

28

PALINKOV (CONT'D)

You will follow whoever they send
directly to Rudolph. Terminate him
and then... terminate the Americans...
With extreme prejudice...

As Ivan and Dimitri nod, MOVE IN TIGHT ON Palinkov as he
takes another sip of his tea, then:

PALINKOV

(continuing)

The tea in this country is
abominable...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

29 EXT. TWO LANE IN RURAL VIRGINIA - LEE'S PORSCHE - DAY 29
rolling.

30 INT. LEE'S PORSCHE - DAY 30
rolling. Lee, driving, and Amanda are wearing ski jackets and hiking boots, dressed for a trek in the woods.

AMANDA

... Are you sure we'll be back in time? The boys always open their presents on Christmas Eve... and I still have to prepare the goose for tomorrow...

LEE

We'll be back by four o'clock, five at the very latest. This is a very simple assignment.

AMANDA

That's what you always say.

LEE

Amanda, all you have to do is play your part... You did study the scenario, didn't you?

AMANDA

Uh-huh. My name is Karen Rudolph. We lived in Silver Springs, Maryland. Daddy left when I was three. He sent birthday presents from all over the world. Mother told me that Daddy had a very important job with the government... Lee, it's so sad.

LEE

Sad? What's sad?

AMANDA

Growing up without a father.

LEE

(beat)

Some people manage to do very well without a father...

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA

I didn't mean to get personal.

LEE

I wasn't speaking personally.

She doesn't buy this but knows better than to press it.
They ride in silence for a beat; then:

AMANDA

So, how do you usually spend
your Christmas?

LEE

On my living room couch with a
large bowl of guacamole dip, a
properly chilled bottle of Dom
Perignon '73 and a good football game.

AMANDA

Don't you think Christmas is a
time to be with people you love?

LEE

You don't tend to form deep
attachments in this business.

AMANDA

It must get very lonely.

LEE

As you've probably gathered by
now, Amanda, I like being alone.

AMANDA

I know, but on Christmas...

LEE

Christmas is just another day
of the year. It's 24 hours
long, the sun rises and sets...
there're football games on TV
and they don't deliver the mail.
The next day is the 26th...

AMANDA

Boy, you sound just like Ebenezer
Scrooge.

LEE

All right, Amanda, you want to
hear a Christmas story... I'll
tell you a Christmas story...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LEE (CONT'D)

I was undercover in the Middle East. Jerusalem, as a matter of fact -- funny place to be on Christmas Eve... I was waiting for a drop and had some time to kill, so I took a walk through the Old City. I wandered into a church. The place was packed -- Druse, Copts, English -- all together singing. I just stood there listening to the music. I felt peaceful and almost forgot for a moment what I was doing in Jerusalem... And then...

He stops abruptly; beat; then:

AMANDA

And then what?

LEE

And then someone tried to stick a six-inch blade in my kidneys.

Amanda looks at him, aghast.

AMANDA

In a church? On Christmas Eve?

LEE

A Mossad agent working for the Russians had followed me in...

ON Amanda, for a long moment... then:

CUT TO:

as Lee and Amanda stand near the Porsche. Lee is leaning into it, unpacking things and handing them over to Amanda without looking back at her.

LEE

... Binoculars...

She takes them, strings them around her neck.

LEE

(continuing)

... Flares... poncho... extra socks...

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

She takes them, looks for a place to put them, sticks in pockets, stuffs flares in belt.

LEE
(continuing)
... Canteens...

She takes them, hangs them over a shoulder.

LEE
(continuing)
... Maps and chewing gum.

She takes them not knowing what to do or where to stash them. Lee closes the trunk, turns to her.

31A AMANDA

31A

She stands there, loaded down like a pack horse.

AMANDA
I knew there was a reason you
wanted me along.

31B BACK TO SCENE

31B

He smiles, takes some of her burden away. Then he consults the map. Beat; then:

LEE
... It's about three miles in... It
should take us a hour, hour and a
half, if we keep up a good pace.

Amanda salutes smartly.

AMANDA
Yes, sir.

LEE
Let's go.

And they head off into the woods. They are quickly swallowed up by the dark trees. A beat, and we PAN TO a clump of thick bushes. CAMERA MOVES AROUND to where a Landrover-type vehicle has been parked, hidden behind some trees. Ivan and Dimitri get out. They are dressed as hunters -- bright orange caps, vests, boots. They sling automatic weapons over their shoulders and head off into the woods, following Lee and Amanda.

CUT TO:

32 OMITTED 32

33 INT. AGENCY - BILLY'S OFFICE - DAY 33

ON C. PAYNE LUCAS -- a high-up in Internal Affairs -- as he slowly stirs a cup of coffee with a plastic stirrer, choosing his words carefully.

LUCAS
The situation is tenuous... very tenuous.

34 REVERSE ANGLE 34

to reveal Billy at his desk.

BILLY
Stetson will have Rudolph back here this evening for debriefing.

LUCAS
Stetson's methods tend to be a little... unorthodox.

BILLY
He gets results.

LUCAS
Yes, but the bill is sometimes rather high... The Undersecretary of the Navy is still a little hot under the collar about his Jaguar... not to mention his daughter...

BILLY
He was just doing his job.

LUCAS
(smiles thinly)
I'm sure he was...
(then)
You are, I trust, aware of the downside risks involved in this Rudolph matter.

BILLY
Yes, I am.

LUCAS
There are certain elements in the Agency who have advocated a more... permanent solution to the problem.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

BILLY

Meaning?

LUCAS

I don't have to spell it out for you, do I, Melrose? The man is clearly unstable.

BILLY

He's given us 30 years of service.

LUCAS

Then why is he holding a gun to our head now?

BILLY

He's tired. He needs a rest... he needs medical attention.

LUCAS

The National Security Council is meeting this afternoon. This matter is on the agenda. I'd like the Director to be able to assure the President that there's no reason for concern.

BILLY

I'm sure Stetson will handle it.

LUCAS

Let's hope so... for Rudolph's sake...

ON Billy for a beat; then:

35 EXT. WOODS - DAY

35

Lee leads the way; Amanda is lagging a few feet behind. After a moment Amanda pulls up beside a tree and calls to Lee:

AMANDA

Lee?

He stops, turns.

LEE

What?

AMANDA

Could we take a little breather?

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED:

35

LEE

You're the one who wants to be
back by five o'clock.

AMANDA

I know, but can't we slow down just
a little... These flares are a
little heavy.

As she talks, we go to:

36 LEE'S POV - DISTANT BUSHES 36
in which something flutters.

37 LEE 37
Squinting, trying to make it out.

37A LEE'S POV - ORANGE CAP 37A
Now he sees it: A flash of orange cap; the barrel of
a rifle.

38 OMITTED 38

39 LEE AND AMANDA 39
Lee suddenly dives for Amanda, wrestles her to the
ground, and rolls on top of her. Amanda, totally
misunderstanding his purpose, looks up at him as
CAMERA MOVES IN ON them.

AMANDA

Isn't this a little sudden?

He says nothing, continues to look toward the ridge.

AMANDA

(continuing)

Lee, maybe we should talk about
this...

39A ANGLE - IVAN AND DIMITRI 39A
crouched up on the knoll, watching what is going on from
behind some bushes. They look at each other, puzzled.

39B LEE AND AMANDA

39B

AMANDA

It could compromise our professional relationship... This isn't exactly the way to...

LEE

Amanda, could you shut up? Please?

He rolls off her; then:

LEE

(continuing)

They're gone.

Amanda clears her throat, manages:

AMANDA

Who's gone?

LEE

There were two men up there with rifles. Probably just hunters. I'm sorry.

Amanda is simultaneously relieved and a trifle disappointed. He stands, pulls her to her feet.

AMANDA

Oh. You were protecting me.

LEE

(pleasantly)

Sure. What else would I be doing?

AMANDA

Nothing...

She brushes herself off, trying to regather her dignity, as Lee checks the map, barely listening to her.

AMANDA

(continuing)

... Thank you. That was very gallant of you.

LEE

We'll take a short cut. The terrain's a little rougher but it'll get us there sooner... Let's go.

And Lee heads off. Amanda takes a deep breath, trudges off after him.

40 EXT. WOODS - RIDGE - DAY 40

as Ivan and Dimitri sling the Uzzis over their shoulders, and head off in the direction that Lee and Amanda went.

DISSOLVE TO:

41 EXT. WOODS - DAY 41

Some time later... as Lee extends his hand, helps Amanda up a steep incline. Then, as she catches her breath, he consults the map.

AMANDA

Are you sure you know where we're going.

LEE

(he isn't)

Yes...

(studying the map)

... It's North by Northwest from here... Where's the sun...?

(looks)

... There... so if that's due West...

Amanda shakes her head.

AMANDA

(on her train of thought)

You have to take into account the seasonal adjustment...

LEE

(continuing)

We go... that way. We may be crossing the timberline.

AMANDA

Of course, the sun is due West only at the equinox. We're three days past the winter solstice. Here, let me just check the moss...

He stares at her.

LEE

The moss?

AMANDA

The moss always grows on the north side of the tree. Just find a tree...

She checks a few nearby trees as Lee stands there, hands on hips, smiling indulgently.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

LEE

Amanda, do you really think that
some... Mickey Mouse spy course
you're taking can replace actual
experience in the field?

AMANDA

That's not from my course... it's
from the Cub Scout Handbook...

She finds a tree with moss, indicates the direction.

AMANDA

(continuing)

... Say what you will about the scouts,
they certainly know how to get out
of the woods... North is that way...

He sighs, follows her, as we --

CUT TO:

42 EXT. HUNTING CABIN - ESTABLISHING - DAY

42

a small, rough-hewn cabin in the middle of a clearing.

43 INT. CABIN - DAY

43

ON a pair of hands cleaning the parts of an old .22
hunting rifle. WIDEN TO: Ted Rudolph sits and finishes
cleaning the gun. The cabin has some handmade furniture,
a fireplace, wood stove. There is no electricity or
running water. Rudolph hears O.S. the sound of FOOT-
STEPS CRACKLING in the underbrush. He gets up, goes
over to the window, looks out:

44 OMITTED

44

thru
49thru
49

50 EXT. CABIN - RUDOLPH'S POV - CLEARING

50

as Lee and Amanda emerge from the woods into the
clearing.

51 RUDOLPH

51

cocking the rifle, then shouting:

RUDOLPH

Stay where you are! Don't move!

52 EXT. CABIN - LEE AND AMANDA 52

stopping in their tracks.

LEE
Janus, it's me... Scarecrow.

53 INT. CABIN - RUDOLPH 53

as he moves from the window to the door, kicks it open. He stands on the threshold looking carefully out at Lee and Amanda. Then:

RUDOLPH
Don't call me Janus. My name
is Rudolph...

Rudolph steps out of the cabin...

54 EXT. CABIN (CONTINUOUS ACTION) 54

as Rudolph walks a few steps closer to them, keeping the rifle carefully trained on Lee and Amanda. His attention is drawn to Amanda. He studies her carefully, probing into the dim cobwebs of 30 years ago. After a long moment in a voice edged with emotion:

RUDOLPH
Karen...?

AMANDA
Hello, Dad.

RUDOLPH
(beat)
You're not a little girl
anymore...

CUT TO:

55 INT. CABIN - DAY 55

A few minutes later. Amanda sits, a little uncomfortably, at a table across from Rudolph as he rolls a cigarette. Lee stands near the fireplace, watching nervously as Amanda acts out the scenario.

AMANDA
... So when the people from the
government called, I was a little
surprised. After all these years...

(CONTINUED)

RUDOLPH

I'm sorry it had to be like this.

AMANDA

Me, too.

RUDOLPH

I imagine it's been pretty lonely
for you since your mother...
passed away.

AMANDA

You get used to it.

RUDOLPH

Still, Christmas must be a little
difficult.

AMANDA

I try to look at it like... any
other day. Twenty-four hours long,
the sun rises and sets.

RUDOLPH

What do you usually do?

AMANDA

Nothing much... watch the football
game, open a bottle of champagne,
fix a guacamole dip...

RUDOLPH

Karen, I want you to know that
during all that time I never
forgot you. I used to think
about you a lot -- especially at
Christmas when I was far away,
alone in some place like Bucharest
or Zagreb... Do you know what it's
like to spend Christmas far from
your loved ones?

Amanda, swept up in the emotions, nods...

AMANDA

It must have been terrible...

Lee grimaces; Amanda recovers:

AMANDA

(continuing)

I mean, it was terrible, not
having you around.

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED: (2)

55

RUDOLPH

I hope you got the gifts I sent...
They probably got to you very late.

AMANDA

It's the thought that counts...

Lee clears his throat.

LEE

Uh, we should be getting back to
Washington. The sun'll be gone
in an hour and a half, and it's
a long trek...

RUDOLPH

(ignoring him)

Karen, I'm going to go away for
awhile -- a year, maybe two.
There are people who want to harm
me and I need time to establish
a new identity and a new life.
But when this is over, I'll come
to see you. I'd like to be a...
father again... if you'll let me...

AMANDA

I'd like that.

RUDOLPH

Thank you.

AMANDA

I think Mr. Stetson's right. We
should be getting back before the
sun goes down.

During this, Lee has moved to the window. Now he looks
out.

56 EXT. CABIN - LEE'S POV

56

as Ivan and Dimitri move behind cover, but not before Lee
gets a clear view of the two AK-47 rifles.

57 LEE

57

quickly closing the shutter, turning as Rudolph gets up.

RUDOLPH

All right. Let's go.

(CONTINUED)

57 CONTINUED:

57

LEE
Nobody's going anywhere.

Both Rudolph and Amanda stare at him in consternation.

LEE
(continuing)
Those weren't hunters back there.

AMANDA
What?

LEE
There are two men outside with
AK-47 automatic weapons.

RUDOLPH
KGB?

LEE
(nods)
And I don't think they've come
to wish us Merry Christmas...

ON Rudolph and Amanda as they react, then...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

58 INT. CABIN - DAY

58

Lee is at the window with Rudolph's .22 peering out through a crack in the shutter. Rudolph is wedging shut the remaining window. Amanda lights a kerosene lamp against the sudden darkness. Lee turns away from the window, toward Rudolph.

LEE

Do you have a radio transmitter?

Rudolph shakes his head.

LEE

(continuing)

Any other weapons beside the .22?

RUDOLPH

Nothing but an axe for firewood.

LEE

Any gasoline?

Rudolph shakes his head again; Lee digests this for a moment; then:

LEE

(continuing)

All right... we sit tight. I don't think they'll make a move until it's dark.

RUDOLPH

(re: Amanda)

I don't want her hurt. I'll go out there...

LEE

There's no assurance that they won't kill us anyway. We're witnesses. Besides, I'm going to need you.

RUDOLPH

For what? We don't stand a chance -- a .22 gauge hunting rifle and a service revolver against two automatic weapons. What the hell are we going to do?

ON Lee; he really doesn't know. After a beat:

LEE

I'll think of something...

59 OMITTED 59

60 INT. AGENCY - BULLPEN - ON FRANCINE - DAY 60

headphones on, as she broadcasts into a radio transmitter. Billy stands over her shoulder.

FRANCINE

Do you read me...?

Billy turns toward wall clock:

61 BILLY'S POV - WALL CLOCK 61

4:38.

62 BACK TO SCENE 62

as Francine takes off the headphone, rubs her neck wearily.

BILLY

They should have been out of there by now.

FRANCINE

I'll try another frequency.

BILLY

Scarecrow knows better than to switch channels... I don't like it. In a half an hour they'll have lost light completely...

63 ANGLE - ENTRANCE 63

as Lucas walks in, approaches Billy and Francine.

BILLY

We haven't been able to reach Stetson.

LUCAS

It may be academic.

BILLY

What do you mean?

LUCAS

The National Security Council has decided to dispatch a commando squad if he's not back here with Rudolph by seven P.M.

(CONTINUED)

BILLY

Now wait a second, Lucas...

LUCAS

This comes right from the Man himself, Melrose. He was very specific. Quote: 'I'm not prepared to compromise our entire Covert Operations network for the sake of one burnt-out agent.' End quote.

BILLY

I've got two people in there. One of them's a civilian, Mrs. King.

LUCAS

I'm sure you made the risks involved very clear to her.

BILLY

What kind of commando squad?

LUCAS

The best we've got... Seven o'clock sharp they'll take off from Fort Meyers in a chopper. Their orders are to shoot to kill...

BILLY

Wait a second -- this is overkill. Ted Rudolph is not a dangerous man.

LUCAS

Quite to the contrary. The man's unhinged and desperate. He happens to be a demolition expert. For all we know he's got the whole cabin wired. We're not taking any chances...

(then)

Merry Christmas, Melrose...
Desmond...

And he turns, starts to exit. Just before he reaches the door, turns back:

LUCAS

(continuing)

Oh, by the way, Desmond, we're having a little cocktail party at six up on the eighteenth floor, if you'd like to drop by.

(CONTINUED)

63 CONTINUED: (2)

63

FRANCINE

Thank you, but I've got some work
to clean up...

LUCAS

Pity. The Deputy Director will
be very disappointed...

He winks and exits. Beat; then:

FRANCINE

Why is it always the married
ones...?

CUT TO:

64 OMITTED
thru
68

64
thru
68

69 INT. KING HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - ON DOTTY - LATE DAY 69
as she looks out the front window.

DOTTY

I hope she remembered to put the
snow tires on her car last week.
I told her the weather was going
to turn bad...

WIDEN TO: PHILLIP and JAMIE are standing eyeing the
presents beneath the tree.

PHILLIP

You sure we can't open up just
one present now?

DOTTY

Your mother would be very
disappointed. You know how
sentimental she gets at Christmas.

JAMIE

Not even a real small one...?

DOTTY

Be patient, boys. She should be
home any minute.

PHILLIP

Where is she anyway?

(CONTINUED)

69 CONTINUED:

69

DOTTY

She went to drop off some gifts
for her clients.

JAMIE

Mom's okay, isn't she, Grandma?

DOTTY

(forced casual)

Of course she is, dear. She
probably got held up at some
Christmas party. People get
very festive this time of year...

CUT TO:

69A EXT. CLEARING - AUTOMATIC RIFLE - LATE DAY

69A

as the CLIP is jammed into place with a LOUD CLICK. The
rifle is then raised, and this BRINGS CAMERA TO the singu-
larly nonfestive features of Ivan, crouched behind some
rocks, as he trains his rifle on the cabin. CAMERA ARCS
AROUND BEHIND him, revealing the cabin sitting dozens of
yards away in the gathering shadows.

70 OMITTED

70

71 INT. CABIN - LATE DAY

71

Lee is going over a plan with Rudolph. A paper diagram
is spread out on the table. Amanda is making coffee at
the wood-burning stove.

LEE

... Their likely position is here...
Behind the rocks...

71A INSERT - DIAGRAM

71A

Squares and circles indicating cabin and surroundings.
X's indicate movement of people.

71B BACK TO SCENE

71B

LEE

... You start firing out the front
window, covering me while I go out
the back.

(MORE)

71B CONTINUED:

71B

LEE (CONT'D)

When they return the fire, I'll
get a bead on their positions
and then try to sneak up behind
one of them and disarm him...

Rudolph nods; Amanda crosses from the window.

AMANDA

Can't we call some sort of truce?

LEE

They'll never go for it. They
have the upper hand.

AMANDA

It's dark out there... and it
must be getting very cold. And
... doesn't anybody realize it's
Christmas Eve...?

LEE

The KGB isn't very big on holiday
cheer.

AMANDA

How do you know? They're people
just like us. They get cold...
they have feelings. Maybe they
even have wives and children
somewhere...

RUDOLPH

Karen, you don't know these
people like we do. You're just
a civilian...

A beat, as Amanda seems on the verge of blowing her cover.
Lee looks hard at her; then:

AMANDA

Can't we just try it? Put a
white flag out and see if they
respond...?

LEE

Trust me -- it won't work. Now,
please, crouch down against a
wall. There's going to be some
shooting...

(to Rudolph)

You ready?

Rudolph nods, goes to the front window with the .22.

(CONTINUED)

71B CONTINUED: (2) 71B

Lee takes up position at the rear window with his service revolver. He puts one hand on the shutter, then gives Rudolph a hand signal. Rudolph throws open the shutter and starts to FIRE out into the night.

72 EXT. CABIN - LATE DAY 72

Ivan and Dimitri, about twenty yards apart, start to return Rudolph's fire, blasting the cabin with AUTOMATIC WEAPONS' FIRE.

73 EXT. CABIN - LEE 73

as he gets out the window, runs across the clearing and dives for cover in the brush.

74 INT. CABIN 74

Rudolph is flat against the wall beside the shutter as BULLETS TEAR through the wooden SHUTTER. Amanda is crouched down in the corner.

75 EXT. CABIN - LEE 75

moving stealthily through the brush. He draws closer, stops, looks:

76 LEE'S POV - IVAN AND DIMITRI 76

continuing to FIRE at the cabin. Dimitri is closer, about ten yards from Lee.

77 LEE 77

determining his attack, then moving quickly behind to approach Dimitri from the rear.

78 INT. CABIN - RUDOLPH 78

trying to return the FIRE.

79 EXT. WOODS - LEE 79

as he gets an angle on Dimitri from the rear, then jumps up from the rocks, his gun trained on Dimitri.

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED:

79

LEE

All right, drop the gun!

Dimitri spins and stares at Lee. We can hear the other GUN BATTLE in the distance. Dimitri and Lee stare each other down. The AUTOMATIC RIFLE in the distance, STOPS. Lee listens to this, looks off, returns his attention to Dimitri.

LEE

(continuing)

Hand it over.

Dimitri flings his weapon several yards away, to Lee's great irritation. He starts to speak, just as:

79A ANOTHER ANGLE

79A

reveals Ivan leaping up from some brush behind Lee, FIRING his GUN.

80
thru
82

OMITTED

80
thru
82

83 LEE

83

spins, FIRES back, jumps down behind a rock, FIRES AGAIN, and is hit in the shoulder.

84 IVAN

84

starts to go up to where Lee is.

84A RUDOLPH

84A

has come out from the front of the cabin, and now FIRES his GUN.

84B IVAN

84B

hit in the leg, doubling over.

85 LEE

85

running for the cabin, holding his shoulder.

86	DIMITRI	86
	coming up over the rocks, seeing that Ivan is hit. Dimitri runs to Ivan, grabs his weapons just as:	
87	EXT. CABIN - LEE	87
	heading for the front door.	
88	DIMITRI	88
	aiming.	
89	INT. CABIN	89
	as Lee comes crashing through the front door, slamming it back shut with his foot, as BULLETS CHEW UP the WOOD.	

AMANDA

Lee!!

Amanda and Rudolph start to rush toward him, but Lee waves them away.

LEE

I think you hit one of them. Keep firing.

Rudolph moves back to the window, continues FIRING. After a moment, the FIRING from outside STOPS. Amanda and Rudolph approach Lee, who is standing by the fireplace holding his shoulder.

RUDOLPH

Are you all right?

Lee nods, then looks down at his shoulder. Blood is soaking through his shirt and jacket.

LEE

Yes... (then)
Maybe not...

AMANDA

(to Rudolph)
Do you have any towels, sheets
... anything?!

RUDOLPH

There are some rags in the cupboard...

As Amanda moves off to the cupboard to get the rags, Rudolph takes Lee's jacket off, rips his shirt sleeve to expose the wound.

90

AMANDA

90

rummaging through the cupboard, grabbing a couple of old rags and towels. Rudolph eases Lee down onto a cot.

AMANDA

Do you have any medical supplies
at all in here? A tourniquet?
Alcohol?

Rudolph shakes his head.

AMANDA

(continuing)

There's a medical kit in the
car.

RUDOLPH

It's three hours round trip to
the road... That's, if we can
get past them... And it's getting
dark.

ON Amanda as she takes this in...

CUT TO:

91

OMITTED

91

92

EXT. SOVIET EMBASSY COMPOUND IN WASHINGTON -
ESTABLISHING - NIGHT (STOCK)

92

93

OMITTED

93

93A

INT. OFFICE IN SOVIET EMBASSY COMPOUND - NIGHT

93A

(Same as in Scene #28.) ON Palinkov as he listens to
someone on the other end of the phone, while jotting down
information onto a piece of paper.

PALINKOV

Yes... Very good...

He hangs up.

93B

REVERSE ANGLE

93B

To reveal a group of physical-looking men, KGB agents, in
bulky sweaters, pants and boots standing around as if
they've been waiting for something to break. Some are
smoking cigarettes as:

(CONTINUED)

93B

CONTINUED:

93B

PALINKOV

(to men)

That was Dimitri's control. He
has just received a transmission.
Ivan is wounded, and there are
two American agents with Rudolph.
Here is their position...

He hands one of the agents the piece of paper. Quickly,
the other men stub out cigarettes, put on heavy coats,
fur hats, grab AK-47 automatic rifles as:

PALINKOV

(continuing)

I am confident that you fully
understand just how...
inconvenient it would be if any
of the Americans get out of the
woods alive...

Palinkov offers a thin smile to underscore his point.
The men nod, and file quickly out of the office.
Palinkov stands there watching them leave; then:

PALINKOV

(continuing; softly)

... Merry Christmas, Mr. Rudolph...

94

OMITTED

94

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

95 EXT. CABIN - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT 95

96 INT. CABIN - ON LEE - NIGHT 96

as he lies on a field mattress on the floor, drifting in a state of semi-consciousness. WIDEN as Amanda wipes his brow. Then she stands up and faces Rudolph.

AMANDA
I'm going to the car.

RUDOLPH
What makes you think they'll let you pass?

AMANDA
One of them is wounded too, isn't he?

RUDOLPH
Karen, there's more at stake here than two men's lives. This involves National Security at the highest levels.

AMANDA
Well, I don't care about National Security right now. All I know is that I don't want him to die.

She crosses to a corner, takes an old broom and begins to attach a white towel to it as:

RUDOLPH
He's just another spy. Like me. We accept the risks as part of the job. Try to understand that...

AMANDA
What I understand is that there's at least one man, maybe two, in dire need of medical assistance. There's a kit with antiseptic, with gauze and tourniquets in the car. And I'm going to get it...

And with that, she heads for the door with her improvised truce flag. Rudolph moves to block her exit.

(CONTINUED)

96 CONTINUED:

96

RUDOLPH

Karen, I can't let you do this.
You're my daughter...

AMANDA

(with sudden emotion)

No, I'm not! My name is Amanda King. I work part time for the Agency -- Rank, GS7, seasonal Federal employee... And I have spent more amusing Christmas Eves... I'm sorry. Now get out of my way...

Rudolph, shocked, lets his mouth hang open, as Amanda moves past him, prepares to exit. Then, recovering, he grabs the rifle and runs to the window to cover her...

97 EXT. CABIN - NIGHT

97

as Amanda moves slowly outside, waving her flag. She peers into the darkness trying to make out figures.

98 ANGLE - DIMITRI AND IVAN

98

Dimitri is leaning over Ivan, binding his leg wound with strips from his shirt. Ivan is dazed, barely conscious. Dimitri's head spins around as:

AMANDA (O.S.)

May I have your attention, please.

99 AMANDA

99

squinting into the darkness.

AMANDA

I know you're out there somewhere. We have a wounded man inside who needs help. There's a medical kit in his car. I'm going to get it. You can come in out of the cold and wait for me in the cabin.

100 DIMITRI

100

listening.

101 AMANDA

101

waiting; no reaction; then:

AMANDA

Look, it happens to be Christmas Eve, in case you've forgotten. I don't know what that means to you but to me it means we should be thinking about peace and helping each other. And I should be home filling stockings for Phillip and Jamie, my little boys. I wish I wasn't here, but I am, so I'm asking you to call off this war for a moment so we can help each other...

Still no reaction. A long beat; then:

AMANDA

(continuing)

All right. Here I come. Please don't shoot...

WITH her as she walks slowly toward the edge of the clearing. TIGHT ON her face until:

SHOCK CUT TO:

102 DIMITRI'S ROUGH FACE

102

FILLS THE SCREEN. Amanda jumps reflexively. He looks down at her for a long moment; then:

DIMITRI

Give me car keys.

She hands him the keys.

DIMITRI

(continuing)

First you help me carry Ivan inside. Then I go to car for supplies...

Amanda takes a deep breath, nods.

103
thru
105

OMITTED

103
thru
105

106 INT. AGENCY - BULLPEN - NIGHT

106

ON wall clock as digits switch from 6:59 to 7:00. WIDEN
TO Billy and Francine watching this with a helpless look.

BILLY

Dammit! I should have never sent
them in.

FRANCINE

It's not your fault, Billy.

BILLY

Well, whose fault is it, then?

Francine looks at him; she has no answer for that ques-
tion. Billy takes a deep breath; then:

BILLY

(continuing)

Look, you might as well take off.
It's out of our hands now.

FRANCINE

I'll... stick around for a while.

BILLY

Francine, it's Christmas Eve. You
must have made some plans.

FRANCINE

Just a party some letch on the Far
Eastern Desk at State is giving.
Domestic champagne in paper cups.
I'll pass... What about you?

BILLY

The usual... quiet evening with
Jeannie. Dinner, open the
presents... maybe watch Midnight
Mass from Saint Patrick's on TV...

Francine nods; beat; they are both thinking of other
things. Then:

FRANCINE

They'll be okay, Billy.

Billy nods, wishing he were convinced she was right...

106A OMITTED
E
106B

106A
E
106B

106C EXT. HELICOPTER PAD - NIGHT

106C

Rotors are turning. The last six American commandos scrambles aboard, slams the door, and the helicopter lifts off.

CUT TO:

106D ANOTHER HELIPAD - NIGHT

106D

The sedan we saw leave the Russian Embassy pulls up to a very similar helicopter (with different markings) and the six Russian sharpshooters jump out.

CUT TO:

107 INT. CABIN - NIGHT

107

ON a fire now going in the fireplace. PAN OFF TO both wounded men, Lee and Ivan. Ivan lies on a field mattress near Lee's cot. Amanda gives Ivan some water from a canteen. He drinks, grunts, hands it back to her. Lee's eyes open, flicker, try to focus.

LEE

Wha... What's happening?

AMANDA

It's okay... just rest.

Lee's eyes close again.

108 ANGLE - TABLE

108

where Rudolph sits watching this. As Amanda crosses to get another canteen...

RUDOLPH

You know, you're really something.

AMANDA

I studied some nursing in college.

RUDOLPH

Can I ask you a question?

She stops, nods.

RUDOLPH

(continuing)

Did they try to find my daughter?

(CONTINUED)

AMANDA

Yes, but there wasn't enough time.
They're looking for her, though.

RUDOLPH

You know, I can't even remember
what she looks like.

AMANDA

Don't worry -- They'll find her.

RUDOLPH

Tell me something, how'd you get
mixed up with the Agency?

Amanda sits down at the table for a moment, offers a
bleak smile.

AMANDA

I was dropping my fiance Dean --
he's a weatherman -- off at the
commuter train one morning when
a man in a busboy's uniform --
Lee Stetson -- stuck a package
in my hand and asked me to give
it to a man in a red hat on the
train... So I did.

RUDOLPH

Why?

AMANDA

I don't know... he looked like he
was in trouble. Sometimes when I
think about it, I say to myself,
Amanda, what are you doing in the
spy business? You have a nice
life, two sons, a mother, a man
who wants to marry you and take
care of you...

Rudolph suddenly tenses, goes for the rifle as...

it opens and Dimitri enters, medical kit in one hand,
the AK-47 in the other. The second AK-47 is slung over
his shoulder. He edges slowly into the room. Rudolph
has the rifle on him as Amanda gets up between them:

AMANDA

Stop it! No guns! There's a
truce inside this cabin!

(CONTINUED)

109 CONTINUED:

109

After a moment, Rudolph and Dimitri lower their weapons.
Amanda goes to Dimitri, takes the medical kit from him.

AMANDA
(continuing)
Someone boil water...

CUT TO:

110 EXT. CLEARING NEAR ROAD - NIGHT

110

as a chopper descends.

111 CLOSER - SIX COMMANDOS

111

-- green beret-types in combat gear -- get out and head
off into the woods.

112 INT. CABIN - LEE - NIGHT

112

as he slowly opens his eyes, blinks.

113 LEE'S POV (FOGGY FOCUS)

113

Amanda is pouring some coffee for Dimitri and Rudolph,
sitting side by side at the table.

114 LEE

114

incredulous, trying to clear his mind.

LEE
(muttering)
Bad dream...

He closes his eyes again, reopens them:

115 LEE'S POV

115

SLOWLY UNFOG FOCUS to see that Dimitri and Rudolph are
indeed sitting side by side, drinking coffee together.
PAN TO two Uzis and the hunting rifle standing unat-
tended in the corner. CONTINUE PAN TO:

116 IVAN

116

lying on an improvised mattress. Ivan returns Lee's gaze
impassively.

117 LEE

117

convinced he's died and gone to Bananaland.

LEE

Amanda...

She crosses over to him, kneels.

AMANDA

How are you feeling?

LEE

Amanda, what the hell's going on?

AMANDA

We called a truce.

LEE

They agreed?

AMANDA

Ivan was wounded, too, and it's very cold outside. Dimitri went to the car and got the medical kit...

She hands him a canteen.

AMANDA

(continuing)

Here. Drink this.

Lee takes a swig; then:

AMANDA

(continuing)

Ivan and Dimitri are very nice...

LEE

Ivan and Dimitri? I don't believe this -- I'm in the middle of the Brothers Karamozov...

Lee looks back again at Ivan, who nods politely. Lee shakes his head slowly...

CUT TO:

118 EXT. ANOTHER CLEARING NEAR HIGHWAY - NIGHT

118

The Soviet helicopter rests on the roadway, and the last of the KGB sharpshooters jumps out. The six men trot off into the woods as the chopper lifts off.

CUT TO:

118A EXT. CABIN - NIGHT

118A

AMANDA (V.O.)
Well, it's not much of a Christmas
dinner, but it's all we have...

119 INT. CABIN - POT - NIGHT

119

The steaming pot is filled with beans, cooking on the
wood stove.

Opened bean cans sit around the top of the stove. WIDEN
as Amanda carries it to the table where Rudolph and
Dimitri sit. As Amanda dishes the beans out onto mess
plates, Dimitri suddenly stands, crosses to his pack.

AMANDA
You don't like beans?

Dimitri digs out a can and a flask from the pack, brings
them to the table.

DIMITRI
Herring... You like?

AMANDA
(doesn't)
Well...

Dimitri is cheerfully opening the can with an opener.

IVAN
Is very good herring. From Baltic
Sea. Imported.

Rudolph picks up the flask, looks at it.

RUDOLPH
What's in the flask?

DIMITRI
Vodka. 100 proof. Makes herring
better.

He gestures for Amanda to take a swig.

AMANDA
Oh, no, thank you...

DIMITRI
I eat your beans. You drink my
vodka.

AMANDA
Well, maybe just a nip... to be
sociable...

(CONTINUED)

119 CONTINUED:

119

She takes a sip, cheeks flaming, then hands the flask back to Dimitri, who hesitates, then passes it to Rudolph.

RUDOLPH

Thank you.

120 ANGLE - LEE AND IVAN

120

both are now sitting up near the fireplace. Dimitri hands Lee the flask.

DIMITRI

Vodka. Good for the blood circulation. Make you feel better.

Lee takes the flask.

LEE

Got any vermouth? We can make martinis...

(off Dimitri's
blank stare)

... Just a joke...

Lee takes a drink, then hands the flask to Ivan, who takes a long pull; then:

IVAN

(stiffly)

Thank you.

LEE

Don't mention it...

(then)

... Crazy business we're in, huh?

CUT TO:

121 EXT. WOODS - DAY

121

as the American commando squad moves swiftly through the woods.

122 EXT. ANOTHER PART OF WOODS - NIGHT

122

The KGB agents heading for the cabin from a different direction.

CUT BACK TO:

123 INT. CABIN - DIMITRI - NIGHT

123

as he puts down another belt of vodka. WIDEN as he passes the flask to Rudolph. Rudolph stares thoughtfully down at the flask, then up at Dimitri. A beat, then:

DIMITRI

Drink!

RUDOLPH

Why should I drink?

DIMITRI

Because you are very sad, Rudolph.
Tonight we drink together.
Tomorrow we make war again.

RUDOLPH

You were sent to kill me, weren't
you?

DIMITRI

Is nothing personal, you understand.

RUDOLPH

It never is, is it?

DIMITRI

Is business... I give my word to
lady that no guns in cabin. I
have honor. So tonight we drink,
no?

Rudolph hesitates, takes the flask, drinks...

124 ANGLE - LEE AND AMANDA

124

near fireplace. Ivan has dozed off. Amanda is feeding a plate of beans to Lee. He shakes his head to indicate that he's had enough.

AMANDA

You have to eat to keep your
strength up.

LEE

I hate beans.

AMANDA

Are you feeling better?
(off his nod)
You lost a lot of blood.

LEE

Amanda, how did you pull this off?

125 OMITTED

125

126 RESUME LEE AND AMANDA

126

AMANDA

I declared a truce... It's
Christmas Eve.

LEE

Christmas isn't very big in this
business.

AMANDA

Well, at least you're not killing
each other...

LEE

This is definitely the strangest
Christmas Eve I've ever spent.

AMANDA

I haven't had too many like this
one either.

LEE

Look, I'm sorry to have gotten you
mixed up in this mess.

AMANDA

Are you kidding? How often does a
suburban lady get to spend her
Christmas Eve drinking vodka with
the KGB?

LEE

Speaking of vodka...

AMANDA

Lee, you really shouldn't...

LEE

For medicinal purposes...

CUT TO:

127 EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

127

as the KGB agents draw closer to the cabin.

CUT TO:

128 EXT. ANOTHER PART OF WOODS - NIGHT

128

The commando squad moving through the woods.

129 INT. CABIN - DIMITRI - NIGHT

129

as he raises his mess cup and declares:

DIMITRI
I propose toast.

WIDEN, as Rudolph, Lee, Ivan, and Amanda raise their cups.

DIMITRI
(continuing)
To Christmas... the Polithburo and
... Mother Russia...

A small cheer, they all drink.

130 LEE

130

raises his cup with his good arm, and announces:

LEE
A toast.

Cups are raised again.

LEE
(continuing)
To Christmas... The President...
and... the Washington Redskins!...

They all cheer, drink. Dimitri raises his cup again,
and:

DIMITRI
To Dallas Cowboys!

Laughter. They drink. Amanda notices something out of
the corner of her eye, suddenly stands near the window,
looking outside.

130A AMANDA AND WINDOW

130A

Snow is falling outside.

AMANDA
Oh, look!... It's starting to
snow.

130B THE ROOM

130B

They all toast the snow. Amanda is still staring out the
window. Now she turns to look at them all.

(CONTINUED)

130B CONTINUED:

130B

AMANDA

I have a toast.

Cups go up.

AMANDA

(continuing)

To... peace on earth, good will
toward men. And women.CAMERA PANS Lee, Ivan, Dimitri, Rudolph, as the laughter
dies down. A moment.

130C ANOTHER ANGLE

130C

as they all drink. (NOTE: Snow will be falling during
all of the following.)

CUT TO:

131 EXT. CLEARING IN FRONT OF CABIN - BUSHES - NIGHT

131

as the commandos emerge from the woods, crash through the
bushes, take up positions on the edge of the clearing,
maybe twenty yards from the cabin.

131A ANOTHER PART OF THE CLEARING

131A

as the KGB sharpshooters come out of the woods, take up
their positions.

132 OMITTED

thru
134132
thru
134

135 COMMANDOS

135

as they ready their weapons, begin to move forward.

135A SHARPSHOOTERS

135A

do the same.

135B COMMANDOS - HAND-HELD

135B

They are stealthily crossing the clearing, when, in the
distance, they see the KGB sharpshooters on the other
side of the cabin. They freeze.

- 135C SHARPSHOOTERS - HAND-HELD 135C
- also freeze. Weapons are brought up. Suddenly they are distracted by the distant sounds of VOICES... singing a capella...
- VOICES (V.O.)
(singing)
'Silent Night... Holy Night... All
is calm... All is bright...'
- 135D COMMANDOS 135D
- They are also frozen, looking around, startled by the VOICES.
- VOICES (V.O.)
'... Round yon Virgin, mother and
child... Holy infant so tender and
mild...'
- 136 OMITTED 136
thru thru
138 138
- 139 INT. CABIN - TWO AK-47 RIFLES AND .22 139
- lying against the side of the cabin. The VOICES sing:
- VOICES (O.S.)
'Sleep in heavenly peace...
Sleep in heavenly peace...'
- As we WIDEN SLOWLY TO all five of them singing "Silent Night" in vodka-warmed, off-key, half-English, half-Russian chorus...
- ALL
'Silent Night... Holy Night... All
is calm... All is bright...'
- 140 EXT. CLEARING - COMMANDOS - NIGHT 140
- The six commandos stand in the moonlit clearing, listening to the peculiar sound of the VOICES. They slowly begin lowering their weapons.
- 141 KGB SHARPSHOOTERS 141
- also listening. Now they begin to slowly lower their weapons...

(CONTINUED)

141 CONTINUED:

141

VOICES (V.O.)

'... Round yon Virgin, mother and
child... Holy infant so tender and
mild...'

142 EXT. CLEARING AND CABIN - WIDE CRANE SHOT

142

Twelve armed men stand in the snow surrounding the
moonlit cabin as CAMERA KEEPS PULLING BACK, and the snow
falls. Our VOICES continue, joined by SCORE:

VOICES (V.O.)

'... Sleep in heavenly peace...
... Sleep in heavenly peace...'

The PICTURE FREEZES, the MUSIC CONTINUES for a moment,
then we slowly --

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

TAG

FADE IN:

143 INT. KING HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - ON CHRISTMAS TREE - 143
DAY (THE 25TH)

blinking in the early-morning light. PAN TO couch, where Amanda lies sleeping in her clothes, an old afghan thrown over her.

144 ANGLE TO STAIRCASE 144

as Phillip and Jamie descend in pajamas and bathrobes. They cross toward the tree, then stop short as they see...

145 ANGLE TO INCLUDE AMANDA SLEEPING ON COUCH 145

Phillip and Jamie exchange a look, then:

PHILLIP
(whispering)
Boy, must've been some Christmas party.

Jamie nods, then they tiptoe to the tree, start looking for their presents, trying not to make noise, but...

146 AMANDA 146

opening her eyes, blinking.

147 AMANDA'S POV 147

Phillip and Jamie trying to tear wrapping paper quietly.

148 FAVOR AMANDA 148

as she suddenly remembers that she's back in the real world.

AMANDA
(softly; to boys)
Merry Christmas.

Phillip and Jamie look up, see her.

PHILLIP
Mom, what're you doing sleeping down here?

(CONTINUED)

148 CONTINUED:

148

AMANDA

I wanted to make sure Santa Claus
had no trouble finding the house.

Phillip and Jamie exchange an indulgent look; then:

AMANDA

(continuing)

Come here, both of you...

The boys put down the presents, go over to the couch.
Amanda pats the couch on either side of her, and the boys
sit down, one on each side. She puts her arms around
both of them, draws them close for a moment; then:

JAMIE

You okay, Mom?

Amanda nods, smiles; gives them another hug; then:

AMANDA

Go wake up Grandma and tell her
I'm making special Christmas
waffles.

The boys head for the stairs, exit. Amanda gets off the
couch and moves to the phone. As she picks it up...

CUT TO:

149 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - ON A BEDSIDE TELEPHONE - DAY

149

RINGING. ANGLE ADJUSTS and WIDENS as Lee picks up. He
is sitting up in bed with a hospital breakfast tray in
front of him. His shoulder is freshly bandaged.

LEE

Hello...

INTERCUT WITH Amanda as necessary:

AMANDA

Hi... I just wanted to find out
how you were doing.

LEE

I'm fine. Could've used a little
more sleep. They wake you at the
crack of dawn around here.

AMANDA

Poor Lee. It must be kind of...
bleak spending your Christmas in a
hospital.

(CONTINUED)

LEE
I've spent Christmas in worst
places...

As he says this, he reaches into the nighttable drawer,
takes out a bottle of Dom Perignon '73 from an ice bucket
stashed there.

LEE
(continuing)
Billy came by this morning,
brought me a toothbrush and a
couple of other necessities...

He slowly and skillfully removes the wrapping and wire mesh,
starts in on the cork as:

LEE
(continuing)
Listen, they found Ted Rudolph's
daughter. Married with three
kids, living in Portland.

AMANDA
I'm glad. What about Ivan and
Dimitri?

LEE
They'll be deported, probably
spend New Year's in Moscow with
all the herring they can eat...
Hell of a Christmas Eve, wasn't it?

AMANDA
It sure was...

Phillip and Jamie come racing back in.

PHILLIP
Grandma'll be right down.

AMANDA
Good. Why don't you guys go into
the kitchen and pour the orange
juice.

JAMIE
Who you talking to, Mom?

AMANDA
Oh... just a man about some new
snow tires...

The boys exit to the kitchen; Amanda takes a beat; then:

(CONTINUED)

149 CONTINUED: (2)

149

AMANDA
(continuing; back
into phone)
You still there?

LEE
Uh-huh.

As the CORK POPS:

AMANDA
What was that?

LEE
Just some medicine they insist I
take...

AMANDA
Poor Lee...

As he pours out a glass of champagne:

LEE
This stuff doesn't taste too bad...

AMANDA
Well... I guess I'll say goodbye...

Lee raises his glass to toast her.

LEE
Merry Christmas, Amanda.

AMANDA
Merry Christmas, Lee.

STAY WITH Amanda as she softly hangs up the phone. MOVE
IN SLOWLY ON her as she thinks about him, about the
strange Christmas Eve she has just spent. As a small
smile escapes her lips, we... FREEZE FRAME.

FADE OUT.

THE END