FADE IN

RAIN

Falls from low grey clouds. Down below we see...

THE RIVER

Muddy, slow and powerful, overflowing its banks. In the near distance is...

THE RESERVOIR

Filled to the maximum, water thundering out of two open gates.

We close in on...

THE DAM

There's a Dam Control Office in the middle of the dam. We move off the reservoir and head out over...

THE TOWN OF HUNTINGBURG

We see "NO FEAR" spelled out in stones on one man's roof. We go down and into...

EXT. STREETS OF HUNTINGBURG - DUSK

Storefronts are sandbagged and closed. A sign on one reads: GONE FISHING. A sign on another: HEY LOOTER. OF VALUE HERE. TRY NEXT DOOR. And on the next store: HE'S LYING.
A CHURCH

Beautiful, old, ringed with a five-foot-high wall of sandbags. The floodwater is up to the first level of sandbags.

CARS AND PICKUP TRUCKS

Loaded down, are heading out of town on streets covered in the first water of the flood.

A STATUE

On an island in the middle of the street. It's Civil War-era, of a general on a horse, sword held high. The floodwater is over the curb, lapping at the base of statue's pedestal.

Near the statue stands...

THE SHERIFF

50s, with soft edges and friendly eyes. He's talking into his radio mike.

SHERIFF

So, are we all going to die?

EXT. RESERVOIR DAM

HANK, the dam control officer, is on the radio with the Sheriff.

HANK

Not right now. But I'm gonna have to let out a little more.

EXT. MAIN STREET

WAYNE and PHIL, two deputies, 30s, are near the Sheriff, shoring up a sandbag wall that has partially collapsed.

PHIL

I think my best was when I turned twelve. My Dad set up a treasure hunt. It was really cool.

(off Wayne's disdainful
Well, it was.

Wayne shrugs a "whatever" and pulls a sandbag up out of the water. There's unpleasant-looking muck all over his arms. He drops the sandbag back into the water and shakes off crud with disgust.

**WAYNE**

This blows.

**PHIL**

My most awful birthday was sweet sixteen. I had mono. How about you? What was your worst?

**WAYNE**

You kidding? You think I could've possibly had a birthday worse than this? What kind of loser do you think I am?

**SHERIFF (O.S.)**

Don't answer that, Phil.

The Sheriff walks over.

**SHERIFF**

Hank says he's gonna open another gate. We're gonna get another rise.

They turn at the sound of honking. The **MAYOR** drives up.

**MAYOR**

Gentlemen. Hey -- happy birthday, Wayne.

Wayne nods. Phil stiffens. They do not like this guy.

**MAYOR**

(to the Sheriff)

Mike, I gotta say, what you're doing... I don't know if I'd be here, considering.

**SHERIFF**

(good-natured)

Well, you would be if you wanted to get the last couple of paychecks
some bastard owed you.

**MAYOR**

(grins, then:)
I just want you to know I think the people 'round here made a big mistake.

Phil grumbles to himself.

**PHIL**

"The people"? You're the one who screwed him.

**MAYOR**

Sorry, Phil?

**PHIL**

(blushes)
I, uh --

**SHERIFF**

(to Mayor, saving Phil)
You know, Bob, as much as I'd love to stand here all day talking about how great I am, if you don't get moving I'm gonna have to haul your sorry ass off to jail.

**MAYOR**

(laughs)
Okay, okay, I'm going. Keep up the good work, boys. It's appreciated.

The Mayor rolls up his window and heads off.

**WAYNE**

Whaddya say we go torch the fucker's house and blame it on looters. Or how about we put a dead cow in his living room. He comes back after it's been in the water a couple of days. Hello!

**SHERIFF**

(shakes head)
You wanna know how to get the best revenge on the Mayor and his boys? You do exactly what we're doing. You protect the town. You protect it better than they would. Better than they ever could.
WAYNE
(thinks, shrugs)
I think the dead cow's better.

SHERIFF
(ignores Wayne)
Any looter that comes in here is in for a big surprise, cause as long as I'm still wearing this pointy thing...
(indicates badge)
...nobody's taking anything from this town.

INT. BANK VAULT

Nervous assistant bank manager WELLMAN is hurriedly tossing stacks of money into two canvas bags.

A MAN'S SHADOW

Washes up on Wellman.

CHARLIE (O.S.)
Do you think you could go a little faster, pal?

WELLMAN
I -- I'm going as fast as I can.

SECOND SHADOW COMES UP

TOM (O.S.)
Well, it's not fast enough.

Wellman is about to speak, then sees something, gulps.

A SHOTGUN

Is held by one of the men, pointed at the floor.

WELLMAN

Sweeps the money off the shelves and into the bags.

SECOND MAN (O.S.)

That it?

WELLMAN
Yes. We don't keep any of our --
THE TWO MEN

Ignore Wellman, grab the canvas bags and stride off.

EXT. BANK - DAY

CLOSE ON the lower half of the front doors as they fly open.

Out come TWO MEN in long dark raincoats.

WELLMAN

Runs up, stopping in the open door.

    WELLMAN
        Hey, wait!

VERY CLOSE ON THE TWO MEN

As they slowly turn to face Wellman. We just see their faces, shielded from the rain by hat brims. Meet...

TOM AND CHARLIE

Tom, 30, handsome, with an easy smile. Charlie, 50, tough, red face.

    CHARLIE
        Excuse me?

WELLMAN

Looks nervous for a second, then holds up a clipboard.

    WELLMAN
        You forgot to sign.

TOM AND CHARLIE

We see, for the first time, by their hats and uniforms, that they are armored car drivers. There's an armored car parked at the curb, on the other side of a low wall of sandbags.

Charlie sighs, goes back to Wellman and perfunctorily signs the form. Then he and Tom go to the sandbag wall. Tom
Charlie both bags in one hand and the shotgun in the other.

doesn't want to get wet.

He steps from the sandbag wall onto the rear bumper of the truck, then keys open the doors.

CHARLIE
Okay.

Charlie reaches out for the money bags. Tom jumps off the sandbag wall and lands in the water, splashing Charlie.

CHARLIE
For Christsakes!

TOM
It's a flood, Charlie. You're gonna get wet.

Charlie takes the bags, tosses them in then shuts the back. He moves toward the front, still trying to keep out of the water. Tom splashes him some more.

CHARLIE
Hey! Do you know what kind of crap is in that water?

TOM
(of course he knows)
Well, yeah.

Tom kicks some more water at Charlie. Charlie gives Tom a withering look and climbs in the truck.

INT. ARMORED TRUCK
Charlie gets into the driver's seat; Tom climbs into the shotgun seat. They shut and bolt the doors. Charlie gets on the radio.

CHARLIE
Dispatch, this is 31.

DISPATCHER (V.O.)
Go ahead, 31.

CHARLIE
We're leaving Huntingburg. We'll be back in an hour.

DISPATCHER (V.O.)
Ten-four. Get out of there.

CHARLIE
We're gone. Over and out.

Charlie hangs up the radio. He starts writing on a clipboard.

Silence for a few moments, and then Charlie notices Tom staring at him.

CHARLIE
What?

TOM
Your ear.

CHARLIE
What about my ear?

TOM
You've got a major hair growth going on.

CHARLIE
Shut up.

TOM
I'm serious. You're gonna need somebody to go in there with a weed whacker.

Charlie grabs a donut bag off the seat and tosses it to Tom.

CHARLIE
Here.

TOM
You're offering me one of your donuts? I don't know what to say. I'm getting all misty.

CHARLIE
If it'll shut your mouth you can have the whole bag.
Charlie starts the truck. Tom thinks about it, then tosses the bag back.

**TOM**
Nah. I start eating donuts and I'll never get out of this truck.

**CHARLIE**
(disgusted)
I love how you think you're better than this.

**TOM**
Don't get me wrong, Charlie. There's a lot to like about this job -- and I don't just mean the dashing polyester ensemble and the solid three-figure income.

**CHARLIE**
(angry)
You ungrateful shit! I don't believe you!

**TOM**
(surprised)
Charlie, relax! I was kidding!

**CHARLIE**
You don't wanna do this? Fine. Go back to selling hot construction machinery. That's a helluva career.

**TOM**
It had better hours.

Charlie slams the clipboard down on the seat.

**CHARLIE**
You think this is a joke? This is funny? Jesus Christ! You know how lucky you are you could get in here? Thirty years old and all the crap you pulled and you never got caught?

**TOM**
(angry)
That wasn't luck, old man. That was skill. I was good at it.
CHARLIE
Oh, yeah, it takes a lot of skill to fence bulldozers. That's goddamn genius time.

TOM
About as much skill as it takes to sit in a truck and get fat eating donuts.

CHARLIE
Oh, so that's all I've been doing, huh? Just wasting my life away.

TOM
I didn't say that.

CHARLIE
Yeah, building a home, raising a family -- that's just stupid.

TOM
I didn't say that!

CHARLIE
You know what, Tom? I really don't give a shit what you said.

Tom doesn't reply. Charlie puts the truck in gear; starts off. Tom looks at Charlie, shakes his head -- what was that about?

EXT. ROADSIDE BAR - ESTABLISHING - DUSK

INT. ROADSIDE BAR - DUSK ECU PEN ON PAPER

Writing letters in a crossword puzzle. Holding the pen is...

JIM
Late 50s, with a creased face and piercing eyes. He's sitting at the bar, drinking coffee. Rain sheets down outside. The BARTENDER watches TV, sound off. Next to Jim at the bar are...

RAY, KENNY AND MR. MEHLOR
Ray, 40s, has lank hair, rheumy eyes and a glass of Irish whisky in front of him. Kenny, 20s, long hair, has the energy of a puppy -- unfortunately he has about as much smarts as a puppy. Mr. Mehlor. 40s, looks like -- and was -- a high school teacher.

ON TV

Sound off, a MAN is crying about what he has lost in the flood.

RAY

"Thus saith the Lord; Behold, waters shall rise up out of the north and be an overflowing flood and all the inhabitants of the land shall howl."
Jeremiah 47:2.

Ray takes a drink. Kenny leans over to Ray, sotto.

KENNY

You're gonna be able to buy a helluva lot of bibles, huh, Ray? Me? First thing I'm gonna do is get my brother a lawyer. Best that money can buy.

A thought comes to Jim -- an answer to a clue in the crossword -- and he starts filling in words as Ray and Kenny talk.

RAY

What's he facing?

KENNY

Thirty in.

RAY

He cap a cop or something...?

KENNY

Security guard. "In the commission..." All he's got is a piece of shit P.D. Now I'm gonna be able to afford him a good lawyer -- a guy with a haircut.

Jim leans over to Kenny.
JIM

'Scuse me a second. Take a look at thirty-one across.

Jim slides the newspaper in front of Kenny.

KENNY

Shit, Jim. I don't do crossword puzzles.

MR. MEHLOR

I'll take a look, Jim.

JIM

Kenny can read.

(to Kenny)

Just look at it. You know when you write down a word and suddenly it looks all wrong? Maybe it's right, but it doesn't look right?

Jim points at the newspaper.

JIM

Thirty-one across.

Kenny shrugs and looks down at the newspaper.

KENNY

(mumbles as he reads)

Mention money again and...

His eyes go wide.

ECU CROSSWORD PUZZLE

In an uncompleted part of the puzzle, Jim has written a message in the boxes. It reads: MENTION MONEY AND I'LL KILL YOU.

JIM AND KENNY

Kenny looks up at Jim. Jim glances over at the bartender then back at Kenny. Understand?

JIM

Did I get it right?

KENNY

Yeah, Jim. You got it right.
INT. ARMORED TRUCK - DUSK

Charlie and Tom continue to drive in silence. They both sneak looks at each other. Their eyes meet for a second, then look away. A moment's pause then...

TOM
Jerk.

CHARLIE
Jack-ass.

A hint of a smile on both of them. Tom reaches for Charlie.

TOM
Give us a kiss. Come on.

Charlie goes red in the face, pushes Tom away.

CHARLIE
Get out of here.

TOM
(laughs, beat)
You really are a cranky old fart, you know that?

CHARLIE
I'm sorry.

TOM
What was that about? I mean, I'm just sitting here and all of a sudden you go postal on me.

CHARLIE
I don't know, I... It's just this weather. I... I want to get back.

TOM
You know, I really do appreciate what you've done for me. This is a good job.

CHARLIE
No, it's not. It stinks. It's putting your life on the line for someone else's money.
EXT. ROAD OUT OF TOWN – DUSK

Looking away from town, the HIGH SCHOOL is on the left. the right is the CEMETERY. Farther on, on the left, is AND BOAT DEALERSHIP. The road is covered in water.

THE ARMORED TRUCK

Goes by the entrance to the high school, water shooting from the wheels, pushing out in a wide wake.

INT. TRUCK

Tom glances ahead and sees that the road is covered in water.

TOM

Jesus. Where's the road?

THEIR POV

Stretching out ahead of them are reflector bars on the telephone poles, a few feet above the rippling surface of the floodwater.

CHARLIE

It's there.

(beat)

Somewhere. I hope.

(beat)

Look, Tom, I don't care what it is you end up doing.

TOM

Oh, God, here we go again.

CHARLIE

This is the last time, I swear.

Tom sees something ahead. He doesn't understand at first.

HIS POV

The reflector bar on the pole two poles ahead is lower
the others. No reflector bars for a hundred yards, then they resume.

CHARLIE
(looks at Tom)
I just think, whatever it is you do, it's time you did some heavy lifting.

Tom figures out what's going on with the reflector bars.

TOM
Stop!

CHARLIE
No, you gotta hear this. You're better than --

TOM
Stop the truck! We're going down!

OUTSIDE THE TRUCK
The water rises fast up the grille as the truck angles down.

INSIDE THE TRUCK

CHARLIE
Jesus!

Charlie stands on the brakes.

THEIR POV
A wave of water rushes forward from the truck, then comes back and washes over the hood, splashing up on the windshield.

TOM
Back up!

Charlie throws the truck into reverse but gives it too much power. They hear the rear wheels spinning underwater. Charlie eases off, the tires start to catch, they start moving backwards.
Charlie and Tom exchange a quick look of relief... and then the engine dies. Charlie tries to restart it, but there's nothing.

OUTSIDE THE TRUCK

It's stopped on a downgrade -- it's a dip in the road. The water is up to the top of the front tires: up to hubcaps on the rear wheels. The headlights are underwater, spots of yellow glowing. They've stopped next to a lighted sign.

CLOSE ON SIGN

WELCOME TO HUNTINGBURG.

HOME OF THE 1987 STATE CHAMPION WARRIORS.

IN THE TRUCK

CHARLIE

Goddammit!

TOM

It's a little dip in the road or something. You can see the reflectors come up the other side.

CHARLIE

(curses to himself)
I knew this would happen.
(grabs radio mike)

TOM

I'll see if there's anyone coming.
Maybe we can get pulled out.

Tom opens the door. Charlie adjusts the radio frequency selection button; clicks on.

CHARLIE

Dispatch, this is 31. 31 calling dispatch.

DISPATCHER (V.O.)

(over radio)
31, this is dispatch.

CHARLIE
(into radio)
Dispatch, we're stuck outside of Huntingburg. Truck's dead.

DISPATCHER (V.O.)
Where are you?

CHARLIE
We're on 231, headed for the Interstate. Right by a sign saying "Welcome to Huntingburg."

Tom climbs out and up on top of the truck.

OUTSIDE THE TRUCK

Tom stands on top of the truck. In one direction, nothing but blackness. The other way he can see the lights of town. But there are no cars coming.

IN THE TRUCK

Charlie looks over as Tom appears, upside-down, in the doorway.

TOM
The town's been evacuated. We won't get any help from there.

CHARLIE
Dispatch can't get anyone out.

TOM
They are aware we're carrying a shitload of money...?

CHARLIE
They called the National Guard. They're gonna be here in about ninety minutes.

TOM
Ninety minutes? Jesus.

CHARLIE
(nods; into radio)
Dispatch, we're gonna need help a
There's a sudden sparking sound and the radio cuts out interior lights and the headlights go out.

**TOM**
Oh, shit.

**INT. HOUSE — DUSK POV THROUGH WINDOW**

Looking out as the Sheriff's car rolls past on the water-covered street. A HAND lets go of a curtain and it swings across the window.

**EXT. STREET — DUSK IN THE SHERIFF'S CAR**

The Sheriff motions Wayne to stop the car, then he grabs the radio mike and clicks it on as a megaphone.

**SHERIFF**
(into mike)
Henry, I saw you. Come on out.

No one comes out of the house.

**SHERIFF**
Henry, I'm not leaving until you come out.

A few moments pass and then...

**HENRY AND DOREEN SWERZKY**

Late 70s, step out onto their porch.

**DOREEN**
Jesus H. Christ, Henry, I told you to stay away from the damn window.

**THE SHERIFF**

Gets out of the car.

**SHERIFF**
What are you still doing here?

**HENRY**
We're just --
DOREEN
We're setting traps.

SHERIFF
That's illegal, Doreen.

DOREEN
You gonna arrest us, Sheriff? Hell, are you even sheriff anymore, Sheriff? Didn't you lose an election? I sure as hell know I didn't vote for you, and neither did Henry.

HENRY
Doreen...

SHERIFF
You don't need to set traps.

DOREEN
That's what they said in '73. When we got back, anything the bastards didn't steal they broke, just for the hell of it.

SHERIFF
That's not happening this time.

DOREEN
Damn right it's not.

SHERIFF
You can't stay, you know that.

HENRY
We're going to my sister's.

SHERIFF
Good.

DOREEN
Soon as we finish setting the traps.

The Sheriff wants to say something more, but he's not to argue with Doreen. He just nods and gets back into the car.

IN THE CAR
The Sheriff climbs back in. He and Wayne watch Henry and Doreen go back into the house, Doreen still nagging at Henry.

**SHERIFF**

God'll understand if you have to drown her in the basement, Henry.

The Sheriff sighs, nods to Wayne. Wayne puts the car in gear.

**EXT. ARMORED TRUCK - NIGHT**

The water is creeping up the sloping hood of the truck.

**CHARLIE**

We gotta get out of here.

**TOM**

What about the money?

**CHARLIE**

The money's safe; we're not. Water rose about a foot in the last twenty minutes. The National Guard isn't going to be here for another hour. You do the math.

Tom shrugs -- Charlie's right. They're about to get out when light washes up on them. They look out to see...

**THE HEADLIGHTS OF A GMC SUBURBAN**

Approaching on the other side of the dip, a quarter-mile away.

**CHARLIE AND TOM**

Look at each other then get out of the truck.

**THE SUBURBAN**

Stops on the far side of the dip -- a hundred yards away. The headlights shine across the water. Doors open and men get out.

**TOM AND CHARLIE**
Come around the front of the truck. They can't see through the glare of the Suburban's bright headlights.

CHARLIE
Hello!

MAN'S VOICE
You okay? You stuck?

CHARLIE
Yes!

MAN'S VOICE
We'll see if we can get you out!
We'll be right over!

Charlie looks at Tom, relieved.

CHARLIE
Looks like we might just --

THE SUBURBAN
Headlights go on high beam.

CHARLIE AND TOM
Squint, blinded by the high beams.

TOM
Why'd they do that?

CHARLIE
Probably so they can see better.

TOM
Or so we can't see at all.

Charlie looks at him -- what does he mean? Tom puts his hand on his pistol.

IN THE WATER
Assembled by the Suburban are...

JIM AND HIS MEN
All holding guns. He speaks to them quietly.
JIM
This is my retirement fund, boys,
and if any one of you screws up, I
swear to God I'll kill you. Let's
go.

They start wading down into the dip in the road. Kenny
carries a rifle.

TOM AND CHARLIE

Tom squints through the bright light.

CHARLIE
Company dispatch and the National
Guard are the only ones who know
we're here.

TOM
Anyone with a scanner from Radio
Shack could've intercepted your call,
Charlie.

CHARLIE
(realizes)
Jesus.

TOM
(to Jim and men)
Could you turn down your lights?!

JIM
We're bringing a rope!

TOM
Turn down your lights!

JIM
We'll be right there!

Tom starts to pull his gun.

KENNY

is fired up on adrenalin. He has his rifle up and is
aiming it.

HIS POV
Tom with his hand on his pistol, starting to pull it out.

**TOM AND CHARLIE**

Charlie sees Tom going for his gun. He moves close to half in front of him, putting his hand on Tom's.

**CHARLIE**

Take it easy, Tom.

**KENNY**

Stiffens.

**KENNY'S FINGER**

Squeezes the trigger of his rifle.

**TOM**

Jumps at the sound of the rifle crack.

**CHARLIE**

Is knocked back.

**TOM**

Yanks out his gun and starts shooting back.

**JIM AND HIS MEN**

Duck down in the water.

**TOM**

Shooting blindly, looks over and sees...

**CHARLIE**

A horrible look on his face, blood coming out of his neck. He sinks into the water.

**KENNY**

Shoots off another few quick rounds.

**TOM**
Drops into the water, bullets plugging in around him. Just his hand and pistol are visible, shooting blindly back toward Jim and his men. THE SUBURBAN is hit by Tom's fire.

**TOM**

Runs out of bullets. A beat later we see Charlie start moving through the water -- Tom is pulling him.

**JIM**

STOP SHOOTING!

**KENNY**

Doesn't hear Jim and keeps firing.

**JIM**

Aims his pistol at Kenny's head.

**JIM**

Stop.

Kenny stops.

**BEHIND THE ARMORED TRUCK**

Tom comes up in the water behind the truck, gasping, holding Charlie. Tom rests his gun on the truck bumper.

**CHARLIE**

I'm sorry, Tom.

Charlie's gone.

**JIM AND HIS MEN**

Jim glares at Kenny, his eyes on fire.

**KENNY**

He was going for his gun!

**JIM**

He wasn't gonna shoot, Kenny. Goddamnit!

(shakes head, calls
(to Tom)

We just want the money! Get away and we won't have to kill you!

TOM

Shuts his eyes, thinking, scared.

JIM (O.S.)

Now!

Tom opens his eyes. He looks down at...

CHARLIE

Floating in the water.

TOM

What the hell is he going to do?

JIM AND HIS MEN

Jim's men look at him. Jim motions them to wait some more.

JIM

You got thirty seconds to get the hell away!

Jim and the others wait, but there's no answer from Tom.

JIM

The clock's running! Go!

Still no response from Tom.

THEIR POV

All they can see is the front of the truck, in the light of the "Welcome" sign. They can't see the back.

JIM AND HIS MEN

Jim nods to his men. They head for the truck, down into deeper water at the bottom of the dip in the road. All have guns up and ready.
Jim sends Mr. Mehlor and Ray out to circle around. They move quietly. The only sound is the rain.

**JIM**

Gets to the truck and moves along its side, Kenny right behind him. Jim gets to the back of the truck, nods for Kenny to cover him, then steps out behind the truck, gun up.

**JIM'S POV**

Tom is gone.

**CHARLIE**

Is floating in the water, eyes of glass.

**KENNY, MR. MEHLOR AND RAY**

Step into the circle of light thrown by the "Welcome" sign.

**JIM**

(eyes Charlie)

Ah, Jesus.

(to Kenny)

Your dad'd be real proud of you, Kenny.

**KENNY**

He was going for his gun!

**JIM**

Mr. Mehlor, I believe we're gonna need your science project.

Mr. Mehlor nods and digs into his pack. Ray looks down at Charlie in the water.

**RAY**

"I shall bring floodwaters upon the earth to destroy all that lives under the heavens and every creature that has the breath of life in it shall perish." Genesis 6:17.

**KENNY**

Were you a preacher or something?
Ray laughs.

MR. MEHLOR
Ray did five years in the hole at Joliet. The only thing you get to read in the hole is the Bible.

KENNY
(to Ray)
You got religion?

RAY
Obviously.

Mr. Mehlor laughs as he pulls something out of his pack.

It's...

SMALL EXPLOSIVE DEVICE
A half-stick of dynamite with a timer, mounted on a magnet.

MR. MEHLOR
When you hit the switch you've got thirty seconds.

RAY
You teach your students how to make things like that?

Mr. Mehlor puts the device on the back door.

MR. MEHLOR
You been to a high school recently, Ray? My students taught me how to make things like that. Ready?

JIM
Hold on.

Something's wrong. Jim touches the handle on the door. It moves. Uh-oh. He raises his pistol, grabs the door and pulls. The door swings open. We don't need to see what he sees -- we can tell from the expression on his face.

EXT. ON THE ROAD
Tom is running hard through the knee-deep water, pulling a string of canvas money bags buckled together. The truck "Welcome" sign are two hundred yards behind him. Tom hears an angry yell.

EXT. BY THE ARMORED TRUCK

Kenny is the one yelling.

JIM
Shut up. Everyone.

They quiet. The patter of the rain is too loud -- they can't hear anything. Jim scans the horizon, but sees nothing.

RAY
Now why'd he have to go and do a thing like that?

JIM
To stay alive.
(off their looks)
He thinks we'll kill him -- unless he knows where the money is and we don't.

MR. MEHLOR
There is another possibility.
(off their looks)
He's thinking of keeping it for himself.

JIM
There's always that. Either way, we got ourselves a sharp one.

KENNY
What do we do?

Jim is looking at something in the distance.

JIM
Pretty soon the water'll be too deep for him to run. But for us it'll be just deep enough.

KENNY
(unclear)
Deep enough for what?

INT. CAR AND BOAT DEALERSHIP - SHOWROOM

A glass window is smashed and water floods into the boat showroom. Jim and his men stride in. Kenny ogles a particularly nice cruiser. Jim stops at a smallish ski-boat.

JIM
Here we go.

KENNY
(re: cruiser)
What about this monster?

JIM
(re: ski-boat)
This is all we need.

RAY
Shit, Jim, we're stealing. Can't we take anything we want?

JIM
The water isn't very deep yet. We need something with a low draft. Mr. Mehlor -- find us some gasoline.

Mr. Mehlor heads off.

KENNY
Sees something else he likes. We don't see what it is.

KENNY
Oh, Jim...?

EXT. CEMETERY

The name WILLIAM PORTMAN is chiseled into a crypt. Tom appears from underwater, gasping for breath. He gets to his feet and trudges off through the water.

EXT. ROAD OUTSIDE CEMETERY

Tom comes out through the gates of the cemetery,
through the knee-deep water. He's running when he hears, from behind him, boat engines firing up. He turns to see...

LIGHTS
Racing toward him over the water, a hundred and fifty yards back.

TOM
Sprints off.

THE SKI-BOAT
Jim is steering the ski-boat. Mr. Mellor hunkers down beside him. We PULL BACK to see...

TWO JET-SKIS
Flanking the ski-boat, piloted by Kenny and Ray.

ON THE ROAD
Tom is running as fast as he can. He looks back, sees ski-boat and jet-skis closing. They'll get him before he gets to town. He suddenly veers off the road toward...

THE HIGH SCHOOL
The sign out front reads: GO WARRIORS!

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL
Tom runs around the side of the high school.

JIM AND HIS MEN
Ride up on the ski-boat and jet-skis and round the corner.

THEIR POV
No sign of Tom.

JIM
Cut your engines!
The engines are shut down. They all drift. Jim shines a flashlight over onto...

WINDOWS

There's a hole in a window large enough to climb through.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - CLASSROOM

Tom wades through the classroom, pushing floating desks aside. Flashlight beams stab into the room. Tom hurries to the hall.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL

Jim turns to his men.

JIM
Let's get him out. But for Godsake, whatever you do...
(with a hard look at Kenny)
...don't kill him. Not until we find out where he hid that money.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY

Tom makes his way past banks of lockers, trying to get as far as he can from the probing flashlight beams.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - FRONT DOORS

Kenny drifts up to the front doors. He pulls on them. Locked.

JIM
Mr. Mehlor?

MR. MEHLOR
Reaches into his pack.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY

Tom tries lockers, looking for a place to hide.

EXT. FRONT DOORS
Kenny rides his jet-ski fast away from the front doors and the doors explode.

INT. SCHOOL FRONT LOBBY

Tom ducks down as...

A FIREBALL

Shoots over him.

KENNY AND RAY

Ride the jet-skis into the flooded school.

UNDERWATER

Tom is swimming as hard as he can, out of breath. KENNY AND RAY

Ray goes off down a hall while Kenny idles in the lobby.

TOM

Surfaces, gasping.

KENNY

Hears the gasp, turns, grinning.

KENNY

Enemy sub off the port bow!

TOM

Gets to his feet runs as fast as he can down the hall. He rounds a corner and keeps going.

KENNY

Guns his engine and takes off after Tom.

TOM

Runs another thirty feet, then trips on something and goes down.
KENNY

Comes around the corner, grinning when he sees...

TOM

Halfway down the hall, standing frozen, caught in

KENNY

Kenny's light.

KENNY

Guns it, racing forward down the hall toward Tom.

KENNY

Full steam ahead!

THE JET-SKI

Hits something underwater and stops.

KENNY

Keeps going. He flies through the air, slams headfirst

into a trophy case and drops into the water.

TOM

Stands up -- he was kneeling.

TOM

Low tide, sailor.

A HANDRAIL

On the wall, angles down into the water. Underwater

there are a couple of steps leading up to a change in level

in the hall -- that's what the jet-ski grounded on.

HALLWAY

Ray motors down the hallway toward the corner.

RAY

Kenny?

HIS POV
Around the corner comes a jet-ski. Ray assumes it's Kenny.

RAY

See him?

Then the jet-ski speeds up and shoots by him. Ray sees it's...

TOM

Wearing Kenny's hat and jacket.

RAY

Gives chase.

SCHOOL HALLWAYS

Ray races after Tom along the flooded hallways, taking the turns fast. Ray pulls a gun, starts shooting.

TOM'S POV

Tearing through the halls, flashlight lighting the way. Bullets hit the walls, ceiling, water around him.

TOM

Comes around a corner, sees the open front doors ahead of him.

JIM AND MR. MEHLOR

Come into view in the ski-boat, blocking the exit.

TOM

Turns hard and speeds down a side hall.

TOM'S POV

A wall of windows at the end. No way out. Trapped.

Then...

KENNY

Rises out of the water, blood running down his face, pistol up.
TOM

Looks back.

RAY

Is on his tail.

TOM

Makes his choice and guns the jet-ski straight at Kenny.

TOM

Yee-hah!

KENNY

Fires, misses and is knocked to the side as...

TOM

Hunches down on the jet-ski and crashes through the windows.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL

Jim and Mr. Mehlor are moving right outside the windows just as Tom blasts out of the school and races off into the dark.

EXT. OPEN WATER

Tom moves fast over the water. He yanks off his clip-on tie.

JIM AND THE OTHERS

Chase Tom's light, behind by fifty yards, heading out into farm fields. They get closer and closer and then watch as...

TOM'S JET-SKI

Runs straight into a tree and explodes.

JIM AND THE OTHERS
Race up to find the burning, flaming wreckage of the jet-ski. Ray circles on the other jet-ski. Kenny, still bleeding from the head, is in the boat with Jim and Mr. Mehlor.

KENNY
(laughing)
Nice driving, buttwipe!

RAY
I'm glad you're enjoying this, Kenny, but if he's dead, how do we find the money?

Kenny reacts -- oh, right.

JIM
Oh, he's still alive.

We see what Jim sees.

ECU THROTTLE OF JET-SKI
Tom used his tie to wrap the throttle open.

HUNDRED YARDS AWAY
Tom is hiding in the branches of a floating tree, watching the distant lights of Jim and his men. The current carries Tom away.

WITH JIM AND HIS MEN
Jim scans the horizon; sees nothing.

JIM
Ray, I'm in need of a little inspiration.

RAY
"With a raging flood he makes an end of those who oppose him, and pursues his enemies into darkness." From one of the more obscure --

KENNY
Sorry to interrupt Bible study and all, but has no one but me noticed how completely screwed we are? We
Jim lashes out with a fist, hard and fast, hitting Kenny in the chest, knocking him out of the ski-boat, into the water. Kenny comes up in the thigh-deep water, sputtering.

JIM
No one likes this particular turn of events, Kenny, but we have a choice -- we can either deal with it or we can walk away. There's a lot of money out there, so I choose to deal with it. If you want to go, that's fine -- start swimming. You want to stay, that's fine, too -- just stop your damn whining.

Jim pushes the throttle forward and the ski-boat takes off, leaving Ray on the jet-ski, with Kenny in the water.

KENNY
What the hell's his problem? All the money in the world ain't worth a goddamn nickel if you get caught. It's not like there won't be other jobs.

RAY
You may have more of these in you, Kenny, but Jim doesn't.

Ray pulls Kenny up onto the jet-ski and takes off after Jim.

EXT. BACK OF CHURCH - SANDBAG WALL

The water level is creeping up a five-foot-high wall of sandbags.

REVERSE ANGLE

Looking out over the top of the sandbag wall. A tree floats by on the water.

HANDS

Suddenly appear on the top of the wall and...
TOM

Pulls himself into view. He climbs over the wall, exhausted.

BEHIND THE SANDBAG WALL

Gasoline-powered pumps are sucking up any rainwater. The sandbags have kept the floodwater at bay.

TOM

He hurries up the back steps and goes into the church.

INT. CHURCH - BACK ROOM

Tom walks through a small room lined with closed cupboards. He goes through a door.

INT. CHURCH - MAIN HALL

Tom comes out into the altar. He looks around, impressed. It's a beautiful church. Scaffolding goes up one wall - the church is being restored. Tom is startled by a sound from above. He grabs a heavy silver candlestick as a weapon and looks up to see...

BIRDS

Fluttering up in the rafters.

TOM

Takes a breath. Just as he relaxes, he hears a whooshing sound from behind him and turns to see...

A LARGE CRUCIFIX

Being swung at his head. Thunk and...

THE SCREEN GOES BLACK

FADE IN:
INT. SHERIFF'S STATION

Tom slowly regains consciousness, blinking his eyes. He hears...

SHERIFF (O.S.)
What are you doing here?

But the Sheriff isn't asking Tom, he's asking...

KAREN

30, pretty, even in head-to-toe rain gear.

KAREN
I was setting up pumps.

WAYNE
I sure as hell don't get what you see in that church.

KAREN
I wouldn't expect you to, Wayne.

WAYNE
What's that supposed to mean?

SHERIFF
Karen, did you think the order was for everyone but you to evacuate?

KAREN
I was gonna go as soon as I filled the pumps, but the next thing I know, I've got a looter on my hands. Now, maybe I'm crazy, but I was expecting a little gratitude?

PHIL
I think it's great what you did.

WAYNE
That's it, Phil. That'll finally get you into her pants.

PHIL
Shut up.

SHERIFF
What if he'd had a gun, Karen? A lot of these looters carry guns.
**TOM (O.S.)**
I'm not a looter.

**TOM**
Sits up on a cot, behind bars in the holding cell, woozy.

**INT. HIGH SCHOOL**
Jim and his men are searching the school for the money.

**RAY**
Jim, it could be anywhere. It might not even be in the school.

**JIM**
Keep looking.

**EXT. MAIN STREET**
The rain sheets down hard. A lightning flash reveals...

**THE STATUE**
The water is up to the horse's knees. The lightning passes and a second later thunder rolls.

**INT. SHERIFF'S STATION**
The Sheriff, Phil, Wayne and Karen stand outside the cell. Tom is inside, on the cot. He touches the cut on his forehead.

**WAYNE**
What were you doing at the church?

**KAREN**
I told you -- he was looting it.

**TOM**
I just said I'm not a looter!
(to Karen)
You're the one who nailed me?
(Karen nods)
You got a better arm than my ex-wife. What the hell did you hit me with -- a statue? I saw a flash of some guy coming at me.
KAREN
(mumbles, embarrassed)
It was a crucifix.
(to others)
It was the only thing there!

TOM
Oh, great. Now I'm gonna have people coming from around the world to see the face of Jesus on my forehead.

SHERIFF
Look, son, what were you doing in the church?

TOM
Looking for a place to hide out.

WAYNE
From who -- Swamp Thing?

TOM
The bastards who killed my partner.

That stops the room.

TOM
We were driving an armored truck. The truck got stuck out past the high school. They must've picked up our call to dispatch, 'cause they knew where we were. Charlie and I were just standing there and all hell broke loose.

SHERIFF
How much money did you have?

TOM
A little over three million.

They all exchange a look -- that's a lot of money.

TOM
The bank was afraid of looters. They had us cleaning out their branches up and down the river.

WAYNE
They stole three million dollars?

SHERIFF
No, I don't think so.

They all look at the Sheriff. He looks at Tom.

**SHERIFF**
You took the money, didn't you.

**TOM**
I hid it in the cemetery. Tied it to a crypt for a guy named Portman.

**WAYNE**
What the hell'd you do that for?

**TOM**
I don't like to carry around that much cash.

**SHERIFF**
Jesus, Wayne, use your head. If he hadn't hidden it, they woulda killed him, too.

The Sheriff looks at Tom -- is that it? Tom nods.

**SHERIFF**
You got any ID?

**TOM**
No, it was in my jacket and I --

**WAYNE**
Color me surprised.

The Sheriff thinks for a beat, then tosses some keys to Phil.

**SHERIFF**
Get out two rifles and a shotgun.

Phil nods and goes to it. The Sheriff opens a desk drawer, pulls out an ankle holster.

**WAYNE**
You believe him?

**SHERIFF**
Well, yes, Wayne, I do. And even if I didn't, I'd say we sure as hell had an obligation to check it out, don't you think?
The Sheriff starts strapping on the ankle holster.

**TOM**
I'll go with you. I can show you where --

**SHERIFF**
No, I think you better stay put. But that was --

**WAYNE**
Yeah, all we need is an armored car guy helping us out.

The Sheriff thwacks Wayne in the ear.

**WAYNE**
Ow!

**SHERIFF**
Wayne, what's the worst that's ever happened to you? When old Mrs. Dugan went after you with a knife? This guy just got shot at!
(dismisses Wayne; to Tom)
Smart move with the money.

Phil comes over with the guns.

**SHERIFF**
(to Phil)
Wayne and I'll check out the cemetery. You escort Slugg...  
(nods at Karen)
...out of town. Get her to some high ground, then come on back.

The Sheriff jams a small pistol into his ankle holster.

**KAREN**
I have to fill the pumps --

**SHERIFF**
(pulling her out)
Not any more you don't.

The Sheriff straightens up, grabs a rifle from Phil and pulls Karen to the door. Wayne goes to Tom's cell door and pulls
it shut with a click.

SHERIFF
Wayne...

WAYNE
He could still be lying!

The Sheriff rolls his eyes and gestures for Wayne to come along. He opens the door for Karen, Wayne and Phil to go through.

TOM
Sheriff -- they killed my partner without any warning.

SHERIFF
And they're gonna regret that, I guarantee you. They're gonna regret coming anywhere near this town tonight. And out he goes.

EXT. SHERIFF'S STATION

Water is halfway up the four-foot high wall of sandbags around the station. There are three outboard motorboats moored to the sandbags.

SHERIFF
Phil, take Karen's boat.

The Sheriff and Wayne climb toward their boats.

WAYNE
You can do it, Phil. The men of Huntingburg are counting on you.

PHIL
Just bite me.

Wayne laughs as he and the Sheriff fire up their boat engines.

INT. SHERIFF'S STATION

Tom hears boat engines start up and move away. He lays back down on the cot, listening to the rain.
INT. DAM CONTROL OFFICE

Empty. Light comes out from under the door to the bathroom.

INT. BATHROOM

Hank is on the can reading a copy of "American Survivalist" magazine. An odd reaction comes over his face. He feels something weird. He looks down.

ON THE FLOOR

Water is seeping in under the door.

HANK

Holy shit!

INT. DAM CONTROL OFFICE

The bathroom door flies open and Hank waddles out, pants around his feet. He shuffles fast to the control wheels and starts spinning them.

EXT. RESERVOIR DAM

Two gates open fast, all the way, and water thunders out.

INT. DAM CONTROL OFFICE

Hank pulls up his pants as he gets on the radio.

HANK

Sheriff! Sheriff!

EXT. PARK AREA

The Sheriff and Wayne are motoring in their boats, zooming through the trees, engine noise obliterating anything coming in over the radio.

INT. DAM CONTROL OFFICE

HANK

(on the radio)
Sheriff, come in!

EXT. MAIN STREET - MOVING BOAT

Phil steers Karen's small boat down Main Street, past the statue. The water is up to the rider's stirrups.

KAREN
(pleading)
Did you see the stained glass windows, Phil? Did you see what a good job they did? I can't let anything happen to the church, not after all I've put into it.

PHIL
Karen, you know I'd do anything for you, but the Sheriff told me to get you out of town. I'm sorry. It's for your own good.

Karen stands up.

PHIL
What're you doing?

KAREN
If you're not going to take me back to the church, then I'll swim.

Karen moves to get out of the boat.

PHIL
No. Hey, hold on.

Phil lets go of the throttle and stands, moving toward Karen.

KAREN
What am I saying?

Karen suddenly turns on Phil and pushes him out of the boat.

KAREN
This is my boat. You swim.

Karen guns the engine and shoots off down a side street. Phil stands in the waist-deep water and watches her go, flabbergasted.
EXT. CHURCH

Karen comes around a corner and drives her boat up to the church. The water is swirling quietly, still a good three feet below the top of the wall.

EXT. ROAD OUT OF TOWN - WELCOME SIGN

Close on the lighted "Welcome to Huntingburg" sign. There's a rushing sound and a two-foot-high wall of water hits the sign. The lights explode in geysers of sparks and the water rushes on.

EXT. PARK AREA

The Sheriff and Wayne are racing through a grove of half-submerged trees. There's a rushing sound above the sound of the engines. WHAM! and they're hit by the wall of water. Wayne falls out of his boat and is lost in the swirling water.

EXT. ALLEYWAY

Jim and his men are motoring down an alleyway when...

THE WALL OF WATER

Rushes down the alley.

RAY

The water hits him hard, knocking him off the jet-ski. He's swept away by the water.

CLOSE ON A FENCE LACED WITH CONCERTINA WIRE

The surge water shoots through it. And suddenly there's...

RAY
Slammed up against the fence, pinned to it, water rushing over and around and by him. He yells as the wire cuts into him.

**EXT. CHURCH**

Karen is pouring gasoline into the pumps. She hears the rushing and looks up as the surge hits. Water shoots over the top.

**INT. SHERIFF'S STATION**

Tom hears the sound and opens his eyes -- what the hell is that?

**EXT. SHERIFF'S STATION**

The wall of water slams in hard, cascading over the sandbag wall.

**INT. SHERIFF'S STATION**

**TOM SITS UP, SWINGING HIS LEGS OVER THE SIDE OF THE COT. HE REACTS, LOOKS DOWN. HIS POV**

There's two feet of water in the station.

**EXT. SHERIFF'S STATION**

The building is like a rock in a stream, with the water rushing up high against one wall, roiling and swirling around the sides.

**INT. SHERIFF'S STATION**

Tom looks over, stunned, to see... THE DOOR As a fine stream spits in through the keyhole. THE WINDOWS Are heaving as the water rises up against them.
Gets to his feet, woozy and goes to get out of the cell. He remembers -- uh-oh: the cell door is locked.

EXT. ALLEYWAY

Jim pulls Ray, coughing, choking, bleeding, into the ski-boat.

INT. SHERIFF'S STATION

The water level inside is rising fast. It hits the wall sockets and there's a spit of sparks, then all the desk lamps go dark. Light still comes from overhead fluorescent panels. Tom sees...

TWO KEYS ON A KEY RING

Laying on the Sheriff's wooden desk. They're four feet away -- too far to reach.

EXT. CHURCH

Karen suddenly has a horrible thought and stops. She shakes it off -- doesn't want to think about it -- and mutters to herself.

KAREN

They'll get him out.

EXT. MAIN STREET

Phil is clinging to the statue as the water surges by below him.

EXT. PARK AREA

Wayne gets back into his boat. The Sheriff realizes something.

SHERIFF

Wayne... You locked him in.

INT. SHERIFF'S STATION
Tom looks through the cell bars at wooden chairs bobbing in the water. The Sheriff's desk lifts up, starts floating. Tom gets an idea. He takes his belt off.

**EXT. NEAR SHERIFF'S STATION**

A telephone pole is half-submerged, being pulled along fast by the current.

**INT. SHERIFF'S STATION**

Tom holds one end of the belt and tosses the rest of it at...

**THE DESK**

Bobbing in the rising water. He misses the keys.

**TOM AND THE DESK**

Tom tries again. The belt lands on the desk top. Tom very gently starts pulling. Too hard; the belt starts slipping off the desk. He gets it just right and the desk starts moving toward Tom. He reaches out with his hand, stretching.

**HIS FINGERS**

Touch the top of the desk, start pulling it toward him, and he just gets a firm grip on the desk when...

**THE TELEPHONE POLE**

Smashes into a window, bending in the bars on the window, shattering the glass, letting a torrent of water into the room.

**THE DESK**

Is moved by the rush of water, but not before Tom grabs...
THE KEYS
And grips them tight.

TOM
Tries the keys in the lock. They don't fit. He looks at them.

CU KEYS
The tag is emblazoned with the Ford logo.

Great! I can drive out of here!

TOM
tosses the keys into the water and looks around at...

THE WATER LEVEL
Rising very fast. A foot in ten seconds.

TOM
Climbs up the cell bars, the water rising with him. He's running out of room between himself and the ceiling.

Three feet. Two feet. He's being pushed up by the water toward...

FLUORESCENT LIGHT FIXTURE
On the ceiling, caged in a wire cover.

TOM
Is terrified, about to die. The water rises up past his face.

TOM'S HANDS
Pull his Maglite flashlight from his belt. He takes off the lens and the battery cap, then shakes the batteries out.

Sticks the flashlight tube up through the wire grate over
the light fixture.
He blows out the water -- like clearing a snorkel --
then breathes. Reprieve for a few moments and then...

THE WATER
Reaches the top of the flashlight tube and starts to
trickle in when...

THE FLUORESCENT LIGHT FIXTURE
Goes dark. In the darkness, there's the sound of tubes
breaking and metal being wrenched.

TOM
Looks up, astonished, to see...

THE FLUORESCENT FIXTURE
Being lifted up and away from above. Streetlight comes
in, silhouetting...

A FIGURE
Standing on the roof. The figure leans down and starts
tugging at the wire cage over the inside of the fixture. In the
light, Tom sees that it's...

KAREN
And she's pulling as hard as she can, but the wire cage
isn't budging. She pulls out a Swiss Army knife, unfolds a
small knife and starts taking out the screws holding the cage
place. She gets two screws out.

TOM
Pulls on the cage and it swings down. He climbs up it.

EXT. SHERIFF'S STATION ROOF
Tom surfaces in a hole in the roof. There's a vent duct on the roof -- Karen must've kicked that over to get to light fixture. Karen helps Tom up. She sits and he lays on the roof, catching his breath.

**TOM**

Thank you.

**KAREN**

I owed you -- for hitting you and all. But we're even now, okay?

**TOM**

Even.

(beat, looks around)

What happened?

**KAREN**

I don't know.

They get up.

**KAREN**

Maybe another levee broke upriver. They've been --

Just then...

**A PROPANE TANK**

Explodes. The fireball rips across the dark sky, illuminating everything, showing...

**JIM AND HIS MEN**

Fifty feet away -- Jim, Mr. Mehlor and Ray in the ski-boat and Kenny on the jet-ski -- guns aimed at Tom and Karen.

**TOM**

Oh, God.

**DARKNESS**

As the lightning passes, and in the darkness, the thunder rolls.
JIM AND HIS MEN

Switch on their lights and move forward. They pass...

CARS

Floating down the street with other debris. The cars have been damaged by the flood -- one is missing a door.

JIM AND HIS MEN

When they get closer to the Sheriff's station, what they see -- or don't see -- makes them stop.

THEIR POV

Tom and Karen have disappeared. Karen's boat is still moored to the Sheriff's station roof, empty.

JIM

They're in the water! Kenny, cut your engine!

Kenny shuts off the engine of the one remaining jet-ski. Jim shuts down the boat engine. They float in silence, scanning the water with their flashlights. There's no sign of Karen.

UNDERWATER

Tom motions Karen to follow him. She's freaked and hesitates. Tom grabs her hand and pulls her.

THEIR POV

The ski-boat and jet-ski are right above them, flashlights playing over the water.

JIM AND HIS MEN

Reach the roof of the Sheriff's station. Jim looks around.
JIM
Kenny, go that way. We'll go down here.

LONG SHOT POV THROUGH CAR WINDSHIELD
Of Kenny and Jim heading off in different directions.

TOM AND KAREN
Rise into view in a car. They gasp for air and keep low.

KAREN
Tell them where the money is.

TOM
I can't.

KAREN
Well, I can.

She's about to call out. Tom grabs her hard.

TOM
If they know where the money is, they will kill us.

Before Karen can say anything, a flashlight beam comes swinging toward them and they have to duck underwater.

JIM
Watches as his flashlight beam washes over the car. Nothing there. He guns his engine and heads off down the street.

THE CAR
Floats off around a corner.

IN THE CAR
Tom and Karen surface, catch their breath. Quiet for a few moments as they both look around to see that Jim and his men are gone.

KAREN
So what do we do?
TOM
I guess just drive around until we run out of gas.

KAREN
(pissed)
Look, I've spent the last eight months of my life restoring that church, and I just left it to come save your ass, so spare me, okay?

TOM
(beat)
When we get down here a little further we'll find a place for you to hide.
(off her look)
I'm gonna get back to the truck and wait for the National Guard.
(checks watch)
They should be there pretty soon.

Karen nods. Tom looks at her. She's shivering.

TOM
Cold?

KAREN
No, I'm fine. The heater just kicked in.

Tom looks at her, gives a little grin. Their eyes meet for a second, then they look away.

EXT. SHERIFF'S STATION

Phil climbs up onto the roof, exhausted. He sees the hole in the roof and goes to look at it. As he's looking...

SHERIFF (O.S.)
Is he dead?

Phil turns to see...

THE SHERIFF AND WAYNE

Coasting up in their boats.

PHIL
No. Someone got him out.

SHERIFF
Who?

PHIL
(hesitates)
Maybe Karen.

WAYNE
Karen? How could she get him out?
You took her out of town.

PHIL
I -- It --

SHERIFF
Let's hear it, Phil.

PHIL
It happened real fast, okay?

EXT. ALLEYWAY
Tom and Karen float down the alley in the car.

KAREN
You ever been robbed before?

TOM
No. The scariest thing that ever happened before was Charlie running out of donuts.
(off her look)
I've only been doing this for a couple months.

KAREN
(not what she wanted to hear)
Oh.

Silence for a few moments.

KAREN
What'd you do before this?

TOM
I, uh... I sold construction machinery.
(off her look)
I was making good money, it just...
I don't know. It just didn't seem right for me anymore.

**KAREN**
How'd you end up in this?

**TOM**
My uncle did me a favor; got me in.

**KAREN**
Nice favor. How's he gonna feel after tonight?

**TOM**
My uncle was Charlie -- my partner in the truck.

**KAREN**
Oh, God. I'm sorry.

Tom nods -- so is he.

**EXT. SHERIFF'S STATION**

Phil climbs into the Sheriff's boat.

**WAYNE**
She know karate or something, Phil? Maybe kung fu? I mean, I can't see how else she could overpower the likes of you.

**PHIL**
Shut up, Wayne.

**SHERIFF**
Shut up, both of you. Let's go find Karen; see if she's got him.

The Sheriff fires up his engine and heads off, Wayne following.

**EXT. ALLEYWAY**

Karen and Tom are still in the car. They freeze at the sound of engines in the distance. The sounds fade. Tom looks around.

**TOM**
God, I wonder whose car this is.
Karen plucks some cassette tapes out of the water.

**KAREN**

Well, whoever it is, he listens to Pat Benatar, Eddie Money and the soundtrack to "Footloose."

**TOM**

Really?
(looks at tapes)
Hold on...
(looks around car)
...I think this is my car from high school.

Karen laughs. Just then...

**THE CAR**

Gets caught on something and stops.

**TOM**

Looks like we get out here.
(Karen hesitates)
Come on -- I told your father I'd have you home by ten.

Karen grins. Just then...

**A TRANSFORMER**

down the street explodes.

**TOM AND KAREN**

Hear a sparking sound and look over to see...

**A TRANSFORMER**

On a telephone/power pole close to them. Rain hits it, causing the sparking sound. The floodwater is inching up the pole toward it.

The water will reach the transformer in a matter of seconds.

And while they're staring at that...

**ANOTHER TRANSFORMER**

At the end of the street explodes as water hits it.
TOM AND KAREN

Look around -- what to do? Tom points.

TOM

There!

They climb out of the car and start swimming toward a house.

THE TRANSFORMER

Water is three inches from the transformer; two inches...

TOM AND KAREN

Swimming as hard as they can.

THE TRANSFORMER

One inch from the water...

TOM AND KAREN

Reach the house. They pull themselves up onto a television antenna/ladder running up the side of the house. Karen's feet are still in the water.

TOM

Get your feet up!

THE TRANSFORMER

The water is about to touch. There's a sizzling sound.

TOM AND KAREN

They heave a huge sigh of relief -- but then Tom realizes...

TOM

Oh, shit!

KAREN

What?

TOM

(re: antenna/ladder)
It's metal!

Tom pushes Karen over onto a window ledge. Then, just as Tom's about to step over...

KENNY

Comes screaming in on the jet-ski. He dives off the jetski, gets a hold of Tom and pulls him under.

KENNY AND TOM

Surface. Kenny is stronger and he has Tom in a tight grip.

One problem -- Kenny doesn't know the danger they're in.

TOM

We've gotta --!

Kenny shoves Tom underwater.

KENNY

HEY! I GOT HIM!

Tom comes up, looks over at...

THE TRANSFORMER

The sizzling is getting louder.

TOM

We have to --!

Kenny dunks Tom again.

KENNY

I GOT HIM!

UNDERWATER

Tom grabs Kenny's arms and pulls himself up fast.

KENNY AND TOM

Tom's head comes out of the water and slams into Kenny's chin. Kenny is stunned. Tom gets free of his grasp.

KAREN
Hurry!

Tom does the backstroke, pulling hard toward Karen.

KENNY

Still stunned, finally hears the sizzling and looks over at...

THE TRANSFORMER

The water touches the outer casing of the transformer.

KENNY

Starts swimming fast toward...

TOM AND KAREN

Karen grabs Tom's arm and Tom gets a hold of the windowsill and pulls himself up.

KENNY

Grabs onto...

THE TV ANTENNA

And starts pulling himself out of the water.

THE TRANSFORMER

Explodes.

KENNY

Feels pretty pleased with himself until...

THE TV ANTENNA

Starts dancing with electricity and...

KENNY

Is hit by the voltage and his teeth clamp shut and his body goes rigid and his clothes explode in flames.

TOM AND KAREN
Look away.

**THE WATER**

Dead fish start floating to the surface.

**KENNY**

Is fried, smoking. He falls off the TV antenna and hits water with a loud and ugly hiss. He floats away, his body shaking spasmodically.

**TOM AND KAREN**

Tom hears an engine approaching. He looks around, then smashes the window with his elbow.

**INT. HOUSE**

The window glass tumbles in. Tom reaches in, undoes the latch and slides up the window. He climbs in, straddling the window sill. The camera moves down Tom's leg to show...

**A WOLF TRAP**

Laying on the floor, just below the window.

**TOM**

Is oblivious. He starts to put his foot down into the trap. Just then he knocks...

**A POTTED CACTUS**

Off the windowsill. It falls straight down into...

**THE WOLF TRAP**

Hitting the trigger. The jaws snap, obliterating the cactus.

**TOM**

Jesus Christ!

**A SHOTGUN BARREL**
Snaps into view, pointing right at Tom's head.

    WOMAN (O.S.)
    You so much as breathe funny and your head is going back out that window without you.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET

Jim drives the boat down the street. Mr. Mehlor is scanning the water with a flashlight.

    MR. MEHLOR
    Jim! Over there!

Jim looks over to see...

THE JET-SKI

Floating in the water. And not far from it is...

KENNY

Still twitching.

OMITTED

Sequence omitted from original script.

INT. HOUSE - BEDROOM

Doreen holds the shotgun on Tom and Karen as they move away from the window, hands raised.

    DOREEN
    Real slow now. Like you were in a big jar of molasses. That's it.

They hear footsteps coming down old wood stairs.

    MAN (O.S.)
    Doreen? You haven't killed anybody, have you?

    DOREEN
    I've got everything under control, Henry. You go back up.

Henry enters.
HENRY
Jesus, Doreen, you caught a whole gang.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET

Jim and Mr. Mehlor pull Kenny into the ski-boat. Kenny is shivering. Part of his hair has been burned away.

KENNY
Jesus, God, it hurts!

JIM
You're gonna be okay, Ken. Mr. Mehlor knows these things and he thinks you're gonna be okay.

Mr. Mehlor looks at Jim. Mr. Mehlor knows these things and he thinks Kenny is going to die.

KENNY
It hurts!

JIM
Don't you, Mr. Mehlor? Don't you think Kenny's gonna be okay?

MR. MEHLOR
Yeah, Kenny. You're gonna be fine.

KENNY
Jesus, I can't stop shivering.

Mr. Mehlor moves aside. Jim puts his arms around Kenny.

KENNY
I know you didn't want me to come.

JIM
You kidding? We couldn't've done anything without you.

KENNY
My dad'd sure be pissed off, huh?

JIM
Your dad'd just want you to lay still while we got you some help.

KENNY
Hey -- hey the pain's goin'.
(relief)
Oh, man.

He looks up at Jim and grins.

KENNY
When you said I was gonna be okay, I thought you were just shittin' me.

JIM
See? You gotta trust me.

Kenny's shivering stops. It stops because he's dead.

Jim
slowly lets go.

INT. HENRY AND DOREEN'S ATTIC

Henry and Doreen have brought everything into their attic -- a TV, some silver and china, bowling trophies. A Coleman lantern lights the room.

DOREEN
(sarcastic)
Well, isn't that just wonderful! Now these bastards are gonna want to kill us, too! Why the hell did you have to come to this house?

KAREN
We thought it was empty.

DOREEN
You know what? The house next door is empty. So whaddya say we go back downstairs and you two keep moving?

HENRY
We are not going to send these people out to the wolves.

DOREEN
Oh, we're not, are we? Then what's your plan, General Schwartzkopf?

HENRY
I -- I just don't think --

TOM
It's okay. I have to go anyway.

They look at him, surprised.

TOM
The National Guard'll be at the truck in about fifteen minutes. I'm gonna go wait for them.

DOREEN
You can't swim that far in fifteen minutes.

HENRY
He could take our boat.

DOREEN
Henry!

HENRY
(to Tom)
I'll go get it ready for you.

DOREEN
Henry, he is not taking our boat.

Henry ignores Doreen. He pushes the attic stairs down, heads down them.

DOREEN
(grabs TV; to Tom)
Here. You want a TV too? How about some china? Maybe our silver?
(set TV down)
Henry! Henry, you leave the boat where it is!

Doreen heads off down the stairs. Tom starts down the stairs, stops.

TOM
Karen?
(she looks at him)
I'm Tom.

They shake hands.

KAREN
Watch yourself, Tom. I really don't wanna have to save your life again.
Tom nods and goes down the stairs.

**EXT. HENRY'S HOUSE**

Henry stands on the roof of the back porch, steadying a small rowboat as Tom gets in. Doreen nags from the window.

**DOREEN**

You give away our only boat in the middle of a flood. You are a genius, Henry. A goddamn genius.

**TOM**

(whispers to Henry, re: Doreen)

You wanna come with me?

Henry looks at Tom, entertaining the notion...

**DOREEN**

Jesus, Henry, what are you waiting for -- a kiss goodbye? Get back in here.

Henry sighs and lets go of the boat. Tom rows off.

**LONG SHOT OF TOM**

We see him in silhouette, crossing the gap between two houses.

**JIM AND HIS MEN**

Are watching, from the shadows on the dark side of the street.

**RAY**

Why don't we just get him?

**JIM**

If our resourceful young friend hears us coming, he'll electrocute us or sink us or one of you'll shoot him. Besides...

(glances at watch)

...I know where he's going. What I'd like to know is where he came from.

**EXT. CHURCH**
The Sheriff sits in his boat, moored to the wall of sandbags around the church. Wayne's boat is tied up next to it. The floodwater is trickling over the top of the wall. The gas-powered pumps inside the wall are keeping the waters at bay.

WAYNE AND PHIL

Come out of the front doors of the church.

WAYNE

They're not here.

EXT. ROAD OUT OF TOWN - WELCOME SIGN

Tom rows up to the truck and "Welcome" sign. His flashlight shows just the top of the truck and sign. Tom looks at his watch, ties the rowboat to the sign, jumps into the water. A few moments pass, then Tom surfaces, holding a shotgun. Then he senses something behind him and turns to see...

A COW

Floating in the water, tongue out, eyes glassy.

TOM

Kicks away, horrified. And then he hears an engine. He looks.

TOM'S POV

Jim's ski-boat is coming over the water. The engine cuts out and the ski-boat drifts, a hundred feet from Tom.

JIM

(yelling)
Son, before you go underwater and do something tricky, there's something I'd like you to see!

A flashlight comes on, the beam swivels, illuminating...
HENRY AND DOREEN

Standing in the ski-boat, blinking in the light.

TOM

Slumps.

JIM

Now, I know it's your job to protect that money, and maybe you'd even be foolish enough to give your life for it. The question is, are you willing to give their lives for it?

Jim puts a pistol to Doreen's head.

JIM

Drop the gun and get into the boat.

TOM

Thinks for a second, then throws the shotgun away and pulls himself into the rowboat.

JIM

Excellent choice.

TOM, JIM, HENRY AND DOREEN

As Tom and Jim call to each other across the water, Doreen goes at Henry.

TOM

I'll take you to the money, but you gotta let them go.

DOREEN

I hope you're proud of yourself, Henry Sears.

HENRY

Shh.

JIM

I think it'd be best if --

DOREEN

I told you not to give him the goddamn
HENRY
Doreen, please.

JIM
I think it'd be best if we all stayed together.

TOM
You say all you want is the money?
Prove it. Let them go.

JIM
I don't know if that's --

DOREEN
We could be safe in our home instead of out here in a boat with these low-life scumbags!

JIM
(after a look at Doreen, nods to Mr. Mehlor)
Let 'em go.

EXT. MAIN STREET
The Sheriff, Wayne and Phil motor past the statue. Wayne is driving his boat; Phil is with the Sheriff. The water is up to the General's neck.

EXT. ROAD OUT OF TOWN
Tom helps Henry and Doreen over into the rowboat. As he does, his face comes close to Henry's for a second.

TOM
(whisper)
Karen?

HENRY
(shakes head, whispers)
In the attic. They never saw her.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET
Karen swims down the center of the street.
EXT. ROAD OUT OF TOWN

Tom is in the ski-boat with Jim. He looks out at...

HENRY AND DOREEN

As Henry rows them off into the darkness.

DOREEN
(disappearing in dark)
Faster, Henry! The bastards might change their minds! Stop lily-dipping and move it!

Henry starts to turn the boat around.

DOREEN
What're you doing?

HENRY
I'm gonna row back there and see if he'll shoot you. Or me. Fine either way.

DOREEN
Henry...?

HENRY
Do you want me to get us out of here?

DOREEN
Yes, of course, I --

HENRY
Then shut the fuck up.

Henry turns the boat around and rows off. Doreen is silent.

JIM'S SKI-BOAT

Jim shakes his head. Tom looks at Ray, coughing and at Kenny, dead. Tom doesn't know what to say.

TOM
I...

JIM
The only thing I want to hear from you is where the money is.
EXT. STREET

The Sheriff and Wayne are motoring fast down a street, the Sheriff leading. The Sheriff sees something in the water in front of him. He curses and throttles down fast.

KAREN

Is in the water, exhausted and cold.

EXT. CEMETERY

Jim pilots the ski-boat into the cemetery. All are aghast.

A DOZEN CASKETS

Are floating in the water. Half of them have drifted up against the fence; the others are headed that way.

JIM

I wonder where they think they're going.

RAY

What the hell's going on?

MR. MEHLOR

This happened in a flood in Georgia. The ground gets soggy, and the caskets are air-tight -- anyone who hasn't been planted too long just pops up.

RAY

You teach your students stuff like that? No wonder they kicked you out.

MR. MEHLOR

I didn't teach my students anything at all.

JIM

(to Tom)

Where is it?

TOM

It's hard to tell now with the water so deep.
Jim cocks the hammer on his pistol. Tom gets the hint.

**TOM**
It's down there a little further.

Jim nods, gives the engine some juice and they move on.

**TOM**
Takes a quick look at his watch.

**JIM**
Sees Tom looking at his watch.

**EXT. STREET**
Karen is in the Sheriff's boat, wearing Phil's jacket, trying to warm up.

**KAREN**
Tom went off in their rowboat.

**WAYNE**
(to Phil)
It's Tom now. Looks like you lost out, pal.

**SHERIFF**
Where was he going?

**KAREN**
Back to the armored truck.

**EXT. CEMETERY**
Jim throttles down the ski-boat engine.

**JIM**
Here?

**TOM**
Uh... no. A little farther --

**JIM**
They're not coming, son.

Tom looks over at Jim, pretending to be confused.

**TOM**
What?
JIM
The National Guard. They're not coming.

TOM
I don't --

JIM
I know you've been trying to stall until they show up, but they're not coming.

TOM
(pause as he realizes)
Oh, God. You intercepted Charlie's call, then you called them off.

JIM
No, son, I didn't call them off. They never were coming. We didn't "intercept" Charlie's call. He called us direct.

And on Tom's look of disbelief...

INT. DAM CONTROL OFFICE

Hank is on the radio.

HANK
I'd love to help you, Sheriff, but I can't leave! If the water goes over the top again it's bye-bye, dam! Bye-bye, town! In fact, I could use a little help up here myself.

EXT. PARK AREA

The Sheriff is in his boat; Wayne is back in his own. The Sheriff is on the radio.

SHERIFF
Hank, remember when Mike Crane holed up in Jack Finch's barn and said he was gonna burn it down?

CROSSCUT WITH HANK

HANK
Hey, I was the one who got the dumb
son-of-a-bitch to come out.

SHERIFF
Right. And before you went in, I
deputized you, you dumb son-of-a-
bitch! So when I say get down here,
it's not a request, it's an order.
So get down here! Now! I won't need
you for long. And bring your gun.

EXT. CEMETERY

JIM
We were gonna hit you just before
you got on the Interstate, but then
you got stuck so we had to change
our plans and take you --

TOM
Bullshit. This is all bullshit.

JIM
I knew Charlie when we were both
working construction for the Johnstown
company. His middle name was McCarthy
because his parents loved Charlie
McCarthy on the radio. His wife's
name was Mary. She died of a heart-
attack last year. He has a daughter
and a son, both grown with children
of their own. I'm afraid I don't
know the names of the grandchildren.

Tom looks down, not wanting to believe.

JIM
What else do I know...? Oh, yes. I
know Uncle Charlie was trying to
steer his favorite nephew away from
a life of crime.

Tom suddenly lunges for Jim. Ray yanks Tom back.

TOM
Why'd you shoot him? Kill Charlie
and you get to keep another share?

JIM
No, That was an accident. Ken shot
him.
    (eyes Kenny sadly)
I never told him Charlie was on my
side. Ken liked to talk.

(shakes head)
He shouldn't've been here. But his
dad asked me to watch over him. I
guess I didn't do the best job.

RAY
Excuse me, Jim. I hate to interrupt
and all, but could we just get the
money and get the hell out of here?

JIM
(nods; to Tom)
I'm gonna ask you one more time. And
before you think of bullshitting me
again, keep in mind I have had a
very frustrating night. And while I
know I'll never get the money if I
kill you, it's getting to the point
where I just don't care.

Jim casually aims his gun at Tom.

TOM
I'll tell you where it is. But it's
not going to do you any good.

Jim arches an eyebrow.

TOM
The Guard may not be coming, but
someone else sure as hell is.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN THE SHERIFF

At the controls of his boat, moving fast, sprayed by
rain.
Karen and Phil are in the back of the boat. Wayne is
close behind in his boat.

EXT. CEMETERY

JIM
I'll take my chances.

Tom pauses, looks over to...

THE CRYPT

Just the top of it is visible. Two more COFFINS float
nearby.
TOM
There.

Jim steers the ski-boat over, hands Tom a flashlight.

JIM
Well, go get it.

Tom climbs over the edge of the ski-boat and into the water.

He turns on the flashlight and drops below the surface.

RAY
(eyeing Tom in water)
"At night we'd go down to the river and into the river we'd dive."
(off Jim and Mehlor's looks)
Springsteen, "The River." I'm all out of bible quotes.

UNDERWATER
Tom shines his light on...

THE CRYPT
One end of a rope is tied to the crypt. The other end, cut and frayed, is suspended in the water, waving in the current.

ON THE WATER
Jim watches Tom's light rise. Tom comes up fast, takes a breath.

TOM
It's gone.

JIM
What?

TOM
(smug)
Looks like somebody beat you to it.

RAY
Oh for Christs -- I'm gonna shoot him, Jim.
Ray grabs pistol in his belt. Before he can pull it out, holes puff out of his chest, followed by blood and then sound of the rifle-shots. Ray tumbles into the water. A second later there's...

**HAIL OF BULLETS**

Ripping into the ski-boat, water, trees, crypt.

**THE SHERIFF'S BOAT, WAYNE'S BOAT**

Are outside the fence, a hundred feet from the crypt.

**PUSH IN FAST on...**

**THE SHERIFF**

To the rescue. He and Wayne and Phil fire their guns.

**TOM**

Ducks underwater.

**JIM**

Pulls his pistol, returns fire.

**MR. MEHLOR**

Opens fire with a shotgun, shooting wild, yelling. Then he's hit and knocked out of the boat, dead.

**IN THE SHERIFF'S BOAT**

**KAREN**

Stop! You'll hit Tom!

The Sheriff stops shooting, yells at the others.

**SHERIFF**

Hold your fire!

Wayne and Phil stop shooting.

**BY THE CRYPT**
Tom is holding onto a coffin, out of view of the Sheriff. He hears a rush of bubbles and turns as...

JIM

Comes to the surface, breathing deep.

JIM'S GUN

Comes out of the water fast and the barrel goes to Tom's forehead.

THE SHERIFF'S BOAT

There's an adrenal fire in the Sheriff's eyes. He starts his boat forward, Wayne following. Their lights find...

JIM'S BOAT

No sign of life. Then there's a sound and the lights sweep over to find...

JIM AND TOM

Climbing up on top of the mostly-submerged crypt. Jim is behind Tom with his gun to Tom's head.

THE SHERIFF

Stops his boat. Wayne stops, too. They are thirty yards from Jim and Tom.

KAREN AND TOM

A look passes between them.

JIM

(to Sheriff)

Now, sir, I can imagine you'd love nothing more than to shoot me, but I caution you -- in order to do that, you're gonna have to shoot through young Tom here.

THE SHERIFF
Thinks for a second, then shrugs.

SHERIFF

Okay.

He raises his rifle.

KAREN

Realizes what is about to happen.

TOM AND JIM

Also clue in, but before they can move...

THE SHERIFF

Squeezes the trigger as...

KAREN

Hits the gun with her arm.

THE RIFLE

Fires.

TOM

is grazed in the arm by the bullet.

THE SHERIFF

Smacks Karen hard with his rifle and she tumbles out of the boat, unconscious.

TOM AND JIM

Throw themselves back off the crypt as...

THE SHERIFF AND WAYNE

Empty their guns in their direction.

JIM

Returns fire, shooting blindly over the top of the crypt.

PHIL
Reaches for Karen, floating limp in the water, but...

WAYNE

Is closer. He grabs Karen and pulls her into his boat, then grins at Phil.

TOM AND JIM

Are behind the crypt. Tom holds his bleeding arm. Jim reloads.

TOM

Well, that was unexpected.

JIM

Is he the one you thought was coming to your rescue?

No answer from Tom, but the answer is clear.

WITH THE SHERIFF AND HIS MEN

The Sheriff and Wayne reload.

HANK (O.S.)

Anyone mind telling me what the hell is going on?

The Sheriff, Wayne and Phil turn to see...

HANK

In his boat, right behind them, all dressed up in hunting gear, rifle at the ready.

SHERIFF

Hey, Hank. That money I told you about? From the armored car? We're gonna keep it. Three million dollars. Four ways.

(shoots at crypt)

Seven fifty apiece. You okay with that?

Hank is stunned. He doesn't answer.

SHERIFF

Hank? You okay with that?
HANK
Seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars?
     (beat, grins)
Damn straight I'm okay with that.

WAYNE
     (grumbling, re: Hank)
Don't see what we needed him for.

SHERIFF
Then I guess you've never been hunting with Hank.
     (to Hank)
We got two behind that crypt. Get 'em.

Hank nods. He motions for Wayne to go one way; he'll go the other. They start off. A blind shot comes from Jim behind the crypt. The Sheriff shoots back. Phil finally musters up the courage to say something.

PHIL
Maybe I'm not okay with it.

SHERIFF
Come on now, Phil.

PHIL
You're gonna kill people?

SHERIFF
They're looters, Phil! They come and steal from an armored truck in our town -- they're looters.
     (fires two shots)

PHIL
What about Tom? What about Karen? They're not looters.

SHERIFF
No, they're witnesses.

The Sheriff fires off a flurry of bullets.

TOM AND JIM
Behind the crypt, bullets winging by. Jim looks over, sees...

HANK
Motor into view.

JIM
Opens fire.

HANK
Shoots back.

TOM
Flattens against the crypt, then turns to see...

WAYNE
Coming into view on the other side.

TOM
Looks at Jim, sees he's occupied in the fight with Hank. Then he sees...

RAY
Floating in the water, dead, pistol still jammed in his pants.

TOM
Thinks, decides, and reaches out for Ray.

CLOSE ON JIM
Shooting at Hank. He hears gunfire from Wayne and is about to swivel to shoot in that direction when he hears a firing from right next to him. He turns to see...

TOM
Shooting back at Wayne with Ray's gun.

WAYNE
Pulls back out of the line of fire.

**HANK**

Curses and pulls back, too.

**TOM AND JIM**

Exchange a look.

**THE SHERIFF'S BOAT**

**PHIL**

How can you do this?

**SHERIFF**

Jeez, Phil, I always thought Wayne was the stupid one. Read my lips.

(slowly)

Three million dollars. Look at it!

The Sheriff reaches down into a forward storage area of the boat and pulls back a tarp revealing the bags of money.

**SHERIFF**

A couple of those bags are gonna be yours, Phil.

**PHIL**

But -- but -- you're the Sheriff!

The Sheriff rips his badge off and throws it away.

**SHERIFF**

I'm the what?

**TOM AND JIM**

Jim looks at Tom, then hands Tom his pistol. Tom doesn't know what Jim's doing. Jim slips beneath the water.

**HANK**

Whistles and gets Wayne's attention. He motions Wayne to try it again.

**THE SHERIFF'S BOAT**

**PHIL**
For twenty years you've been --

**SHERIFF**
For twenty years I've been eating shit, breakfast, lunch and dinner. Well, tonight I'm changing the menu! From now on everything I eat is gonna be shit-free!

**BEHIND THE CRYPT**

Tom is looking for Jim, to see what he's doing. And then...

**WAYNE AND HANK**
Come around on both sides.

**TOM**
Starts shooting at them with the two pistols.

**WAYNE AND HANK**
Pull back. As they go...

**TOM**
Sees...

**KAREN'S ARM**
Draped over the side of Wayne's boat.

**TOM**
Takes another shot at Hank but stops firing at Wayne.

**CLOSE ON JIM'S SKI-BOAT**

Jim's hand appears over the gunwale. He reaches in and grabs...

**MR. MEHLOR'S PACK**

And pulls it out of the boat.

**THE SHERIFF'S BOAT**

**SHERIFF**
Can I make it any clearer, Phil? Do you want me to draw pictures?
Phil pulls out his revolver and points it at the Sheriff.

**PHIL**

I can't let you do it.

**SHERIFF**

Oh for --

(beat)

Okay, Phil. But here's how it's gonna go. I'm gonna hear one of two things out of you. Either I'm gonna hear you say you're in with us, or...

(moves close to Phil's gun)

...I'm gonna hear a bullet come out of that gun and go into me.

Phil is incredulous. The Sheriff weighs his hands like scales.

**SHERIFF**

(one hand)

Seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars or...

(other hand)

...you kill me. Your choice.

The Sheriff weighs the hands a couple more times. Phil slumps, lowers the gun.

**SHERIFF**

There we go.

**SOMETHING**

Flies through the air; lands in the water by the Sheriff.

It's...

**MR. MEHLOR'S PACK**

And it starts sinking in the water.

**BEHIND THE CRYPT**

Tom sees...

**JIM**
Haul himself into the ski-boat.

WAYNE (O.S.)
In the boat!

THE SHERIFF, WAYNE AND HANK
Start shooting at Jim in the ski-boat.

JIM
Sticks the shotgun over the gunwale and returns fire.

TOM
Starts swimming for the boat.

THE SHERIFF, WAYNE AND HANK
See Tom and start shooting at both he and Jim when...

MR. MEHLOR'S PACK
Explodes and...

THE WATER
Erupts in a huge geyser.

THE SHERIFF, WAYNE, PHIL AND HANK
Are knocked off their feet. The Sheriff, Phil and Hank
thrown into the water. Their boats are rocked up and
and swamped with falling water.

JIM
Fires up his engine.

TOM
Is almost to the boat.

WAYNE
Gets to his knees in his boat and starts shooting.

TOM
Gets to Jim's boat and grabs onto it.
JIM

Cranking the throttle, and, dragging Tom, tears off under the hail of Wayne's bullets.

TOM'S POV

As Jim races through the tombstones, barely missing halfsubmerged stone crosses and crypt roofs.

TOM

Rams into one cross.

HIS HANDS

Start to slip from the boat.

JIM

Grabs Tom's hand and holds on as they shoot off across water.

THE SHERIFF, PHIL AND HANK

Get back in the boats.

EXT. ON THE WATER - MOVING

Jim hauls Tom into the boat. Tom lays on the bottom, catching his breath. Blood is dripping down from his arm.

TOM

(beat, looks up at Jim)

You really want that money?

Jim gives Tom a look -- of course he wants that money.

TOM

'Cause the only way you're ever gonna see it is if you help me get Karen.

Before Jim can answer, gunshots ring out behind them. They look back to see...

THE SHERIFF AND HIS MEN
Coming after them in the three boats, shooting, closing.

**TOM**
We're too slow.

**JIM**
(thinks, then:)
Here.

Jim moves away from the wheel, giving it to Tom. Tom gets up and takes over. Jim bends and picks up...

**KENNY**
Lifeless and limp.

**JIM**
Looks at Kenny for a moment, then pushes his body overboard.

**WITH THE SHERIFF AND HIS MEN**
Flying over the water.

**THEIR POV**
They see a body tumble out of the ski-boat.

**WITH JIM AND TOM**
Jim looks back, following Kenny with his eyes.

**EXT. MAIN STREET**
Jim and Tom make the turn onto Main Street. They look back as...

**THE SHERIFF AND HIS MEN**
Come around the corner, two hundred yards back.

**TOM**
They're not going to catch us now.
Of the ski-boat, racing toward camera. As it gets closer, the camera BOOMS DOWN underwater to reveal...

**THE STATUE**

The sword tip just below the surface. THE SKI-BOAT slams

There's a jarring metal on metal clank as the sword tip into the propeller.

**JIM AND TOM**

Are thrown forward.

**JIM**

Slams head-first into the dash.

**UNDERWATER**

The propeller has stopped.

**TOM**

Looks back to see that...

**THE OUTBOARD MOTOR**

Has almost been ripped from its moorings.

**TOM**

Okay, so maybe they are gonna catch us now.

No answer from Jim. Tom looks down.

**JIM**

Is laying on the deck, unconscious. Just then... BAM!

**BAM!**

**HANK**

Has his rifle resting on his boat's windshield and is firing close off a clip on automatic as he, Wayne and the Sheriff in.
TOM

ducks down and tries to start the engine. No go. Again. It catches on the third try. Tom guns it and the boat tears off.

THE OUTBOARD ENGINE

Is wobbling, vibrating.

HANK

Keeps up his stream of gunfire.

TOM

Stays down, driving blind, as the bullets fly in, blowing holes in the windshield. He looks at Jim, at the engine and curses. He steers the boat toward...

THE CHURCH

All lit-up, brilliant white in the darkness, a quarter-mile away.

EXT. THE CHURCH

The water is now over the sandbag wall. The first several feet of the church are flooded.

THE SKI-BOAT

Comes up fast. Tom grounds it on top of the sandbag wall. Tom hesitates for a half second before grabbing Jim and pushing him out of the boat and into the water.

JIM

Hits the cold water and comes to, sputtering.

TOM

Grabs guns and ammo and jumps out of the boat and into
water. He lays a rifle on the top of the sandbag wall and fires off a clip.

THE SHERIFF, HANK AND WAYNE

Jim's bullets plug into their boats. They circle back.

AT THE CHURCH

Tom pushes Jim, still groggy, into the flooded church.

INT. CHURCH

Tom shuts the door. He piles the weapons on a shelf. He sees Jim touch his head.

TOM

That hurt?

JIM

Yeah.

TOM

Good.

EXT. MAIN STREET

Wayne and Hank are alongside the Sheriff, engines idling as they look at the church.

SHERIFF

(nods, to Hank)
Then go get some bottles.

Hank nods, guns his engine.

PHIL

(to Hank)
Wait -- what about the dam?

SHERIFF

It'll be fine.

PHIL

You said if it goes it'll wipe out the town.

SHERIFF

Fuck the town.
Hank nods in agreement and takes off.

**INT. CHURCH**

Jim and Tom are by one of the stained glass windows, looking out through a pale-colored pane at the Sheriff and his men across the street. They watch Hank race off.

**JIM**
Does he have the girl?

**TOM**
(shakes head)
She's in the small boat.

Tom touches the wound on his head.

**TOM**
Jesus, I'm gonna get hepatitis.

**JIM**
Hepatitis, hell. You probably already got cholera.

Tom gives Jim a look then starts for the back of the church.

**JIM**
What're you doing?

**TOM**
There's a back room.
(touches wound)
Maybe they've got something I can use on this.

**JIM**
You been in here before?

**TOM**
(bad memory)
Oh, yeah.

**JIM**
What happened?

**TOM**
I saw Jesus.
EXT. DAM

Water is starting to go over the top again. It pours down in sheets over the face of the dam.

INT. CHURCH

Jim is by the window, looking out at the Sheriff and Wayne across the street in the shadows. He turns as...

TOM

Enters from the back. He's got a bottle of rubbing alcohol and a towel. He splashes some of the alcohol on the towel, then touches it to his wound. It hurts like a sonofabitch. After a beat...

TOM

So, has this all gone pretty much how you thought it would?

Jim turns on Tom.

JIM

Everything would have gone fine if you'd've just walked away from the truck.

TOM

Oh, yeah? Well, everything would've gone even better if you hadn't decided to rob the damn truck in the first place!

Jim looks away. After another silence...

TOM

Did Charlie have cancer or something?

JIM

You mean why was he doing this? (thinks, shrugs)

No cancer. (beat) Didn't you ever think about taking the money?
TOM
No.

JIM
Come now. A man who used to make his living fencing hot jackhammers never thought about what he'd do with three million dollars?

TOM
Sorry to disappoint you.
(beat)
What are you gonna do with it?

JIM
As little as possible.

Silence for a few moments, then...

TOM
Belize.

Jim looks at him.

TOM
It's this small country in Central America, on the Atlantic side.

JIM
I know where Belize is. What about it?

TOM
They speak English and the dollar goes a long way. Beautiful beaches; friendly people. And they've got liberal banking laws. Very liberal.

JIM
No, you didn't think about taking that money at all.

TOM
(busted)
You can't ride in the truck and not think about it.

JIM
I'm sure. And I guess that's pretty much how it started with Charlie.
Tom thinks, nods and presses the towel to his wound again.

**EXT. MAIN STREET**

Wayne is thinking about something. He makes a decision and flicks on his engine.

**SHERIFF**

What're you doing?

**WAYNE**

We got too many bodies with bullets in 'em.

(nods at Karen)

I'm gonna put her in her house, make it look like she fell down the stairs and drowned.

**PHIL**

Don't you touch her!

**WAYNE**

Saving her life... Hmm... You know, that might have actually gotten you laid.

**SHERIFF**

Oh, for Christsakes, just dump her here.

**WAYNE**

We got a few minutes before Hank gets back.

**SHERIFF**

Just dump her here!

Wayne ignores the Sheriff and motors off.

**SHERIFF**

Wayne! Goddamnit, we've gotta get them outta there! Wayne!

But Wayne keeps going.

**INT. CHURCH**

Tom watches Wayne drive off with Karen.

**TOM**
Shit. Where's he going?

Tom grabs a rifle, frustrated and angry.

EXT. MAIN STREET

Hank motors up to the Sheriff and Phil.

HANK
Where's Wayne going?

SHERIFF
On a date. You all set?

HANK
Yeah, but --

SHERIFF
Then let's go.

HANK
Aren't we gonna wait for Wayne?

SHERIFF
We can get started without him, the dumb shit. He won't be long. Besides, we got Phil. Phil's gonna earn his money on this, aren't you Phil?

Phil looks scared shitless.

EXT. RESERVOIR DAM

Water continues to pour over the top. CLOSE ON CONCRETE

Chunks of cement are starting to wash away.

INT. CHURCH

Tom finishes reloading a gun.

JIM
What -- you're gonna swim after her?

Tom doesn't answer. He moves toward the front door. Jim cuts him off.

JIM
You ain't gonna help her by getting shot. He's gone and you don't know where.
TOM
The Sheriff knows. I think maybe
I'll go ask him.

JIM
You'll be dead before you get over
the sandbags.
(beat)
Look, he'll be coming for us. You
can ask him then.

Jim sees something out the window.

TOM
What if he doesn't come?

JIM
I wouldn't worry about that.

Tom sees what Jim sees.

THEIR POV
The Sheriff, Phil and Hank are heading toward the
church, flaming Molotov cocktails in their hands.

EXT. SIDE OF CHURCH
The Sheriff, Phil and Hank heave the flaming Molotov
cocktails.

THE ROOF
The bottles hit, explode. Sheets of fire rain down the
roof.

ONE BOTTLE
Smashes through a window.

INT. CHURCH
Tom and Jim duck down as...

THE BOTTLE
Flies across the inside of the church and smashes
against a wall, sending sheets of fire down the wall.
EXT. CHURCH

The roof is on fire.

EXT. KAREN'S HOUSE

Modest, two-story, on a side street. The front door is open; the boat tied up outside. There's a light on in the front hall.

INT. KAREN'S HOUSE

Karen is unconscious. Wayne has her laying on the stairs leading up from the entry area to the second floor. There's three feet of water in the house. Karen's legs are in water. Her hands are handcuffed to a railing attached to the wall, running up the stairs. Wayne stands over Karen, pats her face.

WAYNE

Wakey-wakey.

Karen stirs, then starts slipping back into unconsciousness, so Wayne splashes her face with water. Karen comes to, sputtering. Her eyes focus. She looks up at Wayne. Wayne grins.

WAYNE

Dear Penthouse: I always thought your letters were fake, until the wildest thing happened to me. I'm a policeman in a small town. In the middle of the big flood last year, I was patrolling the streets in a boat, feeling kind of sorry for myself -- 'cause it was my birthday and all -- when I saw the front door to a house was open. I pulled my gun -- afraid it might be looters. Imagine my surprise when, instead of a looter, I find a young woman handcuffed to the railing of her stairs. Her name was Karen, and ever since she came...
back from college she'd made it clear she was too good for any of us local folk. Now here she was, in handcuffs! I said, "What the heck is going on here, ma'am?" And she said...

Karen says nothing. Wayne leans in close.

**WAYNE**
And she said...

**KAREN**
Sorry, Wayne, but I'm not playing a part in your sick little play.

Wayne pulls his gun, puts it to Karen's head.

**WAYNE**
You're perfect for the role. I suggest you reconsider.

**KAREN**
Or what? You'll kill me? You're gonna do that anyway.

**WAYNE**
I might get clumsy. It might take a while.

**KAREN**
I'm sure you can hurt me. But it's all going to be the same when I'm dead.

Wayne straightens up, looks at her, then launches back into it.

**WAYNE**
And she said, "Happy Birthday, Wayne. I've got something for you." Well, I'm not stupid. I knew what she wanted to give me and I knew she wanted to give it bad, so I --

**THE OVERHEAD LIGHT**

Sparks and goes out.

**WAYNE**
(looks up at light)
That won't do. Man's gotta see what
he's doing. 'Scuse me.

Wayne heads off for the kitchen. The second he's gone...

**KAREN**

Raises her hips and digs a hand into her pocket and pulls out her Swiss Army knife. She pries open the big blade. She hears Wayne sloshing back toward her. She gets back into the position Wayne left her in as...

**WAYNE**

Re-enters carrying two burning candles in candle-holders.

**WAYNE**

I got the candles. All's we need is a cake.

He sets the candles down on a dry step above Karen's head. He leans in close.

**WAYNE**

Mood lighting. You in the mood yet?
(no answer from Karen; back into Penthouse letter)
And then she said, "My present's ready and waiting. All's you gotta do is unwrap it."

Wayne reaches into the water, undoes Karen's rain pants, yanks off her shoes, then pulls off her pants. He throws them over the banister. Karen remains passive, blank. Wayne takes off his holster; hangs it on the banister. Then pushes his pants down to his ankles. His shirttail is long enough so that we don't have to see his wretched little pecker. He climbs on top of Karen in the water, brings his face close to hers.
WAYNE
It was cold and rainy that birthday night, and all I wanted was to get someplace warm and dry. As it turned out, what I really wanted was something warm and wet. Wayne grins and closes for a kiss and...

KAREN'S HAND

Moves fast with the knife and...

WAYNE'S EYES

Pop open wide.

WAYNE

His head jerks back. He tries to shout, but all that comes out is an awful gurgle. He tries to push off Karen, but...

KAREN

Wraps her legs around him, holds him close, pinning him.

WAYNE

Finally breaks free. He tries to stop the bleeding with a hand, but the blood spurts through his fingers. He reaches for his gun in his holster on the banister, but just as he grabs it...

KAREN

Lashes out of the water with her legs, kicking Wayne in the groin, pushing him back.

WAYNE

Tries to get his balance, but his feet can't move -- his pants are around his ankles. He falls back into the water, firing his pistol.
BULLETS
Blow chunks out of the wall next to Karen, hit the ceiling and...

WAYNE
Is floating on his back, trying to lift the pistol, but his strength is fading fast. He gets off one last shot and...

THE CANDLE
Nearest Karen is blown to pieces.

WAYNE
The gun drops into the water. No more shots. No more life. He floats, pants around his ankles, covered in blood, dead.

KAREN
Happy Birthday, Wayne.

EXT. STREET AND CHURCH
The church roof is on fire.

THE SHERIFF, PHIL AND HANK
Are across the street.

INT. CHURCH
Jim and Tom hear a creaking and look up.

THE CEILING
The fire has eaten holes in the roof. Embers come down.

EXT. CHURCH AND STREET
The Sheriff is getting very agitated.

SHERIFF
They're not coming out, Hank!

HANK
The fire's not catching. The rain's
too --

SHERIFF
We have to get them! We have to kill them! Do you understand? If they're not dead, we got jack shit!

INT. CHURCH
A small chunk of burning ceiling drops down. Jim and look up. Just then...

BRIGHT LIGHT
Floods into the church through...

THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS
Filling the church with a kaleidoscope of colors.

TOM AND JIM
Look out the windows.

TOM
My God they're beautiful.

THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS
Remain beautiful for a few more seconds until they and blow inwards as...

THE SHERIFF'S BOAT AND HANK'S BOAT
Come crashing through.

THE BOATS
Land, stop fast. The Sheriff's boat lands closer to the pulpit; Hank's boat closer to the balcony.

THE SHERIFF, HANK AND PHIL
Look around. It's quiet for a moment. There's no sign of Tom and Jim.

INT. KAREN'S HOUSE
Karen has her pants back on. She reaches out with one foot and hooks Wayne's holster off the banister. She flips it through the air and catches it with her hands. She opens little leather pockets -- mace, more bullets. No keys. Karen starts to panic.

**KAREN**

There have to be keys. There --

She sees...

**WAYNE**

Still floating on his back, still dead. She looks closer at...

**WAYNE'S PANTS**

Bunched around his ankles. And there, hanging from a belt-loop is a ring of keys.

**KAREN**

Reaches out with her foot for Wayne's pants. She can't reach.

**WAYNE**

Is slowly drifting out the open door. Beyond the door, in the light of the streetlamp, the water is riffling, and Wayne is heading toward it.

**KAREN**

Slides down further on the stairs, into the water, then stops.

**CLOSE ON HANDCUFFS AND RAILING**

There are metal supports going from the railing to the wall, every three feet. Karen is prevented from going any further down the stairs by one of these supports.
KAREN

Reaches out with a foot, straining, stretching her body, almost dislocating her shoulder and...

HER FOOT

Just barely touches one of Wayne's feet, but then Wayne's foot slips away and...

KAREN

Can only watch as...

WAYNE

Drifts out the door and is pulled away by the current.

EXT. RESERVOIR DAM

Water is cascading over the top of the dam. Chunks of concrete are washing away.

INT. CHURCH

The Sheriff, Phil and Wayne scan the water, looking for movement.

SHERIFF

Where are they?! Jesus!

UNDERWATER POV

Looking up through a tangle of floating pews at the wavering silhouettes of the boats and the men in them against the burning timbers above.

TWO PISTOLS

Come into view, pointed up through the water.

ON THE WATER

The Sheriff, Phil and Hank have let down their guard for a second when there's a series of dull, muted clacks from
underwater as...

**Bullets**

Come streaking out of the water, winging by them, into the boats.

**Underwater**

Jim fires the pistols, the bullets' bubble streaks up through the water.

**The Sheriff, Phil and Hank**

hit the deck in their boats, returning fire over the gunwales.

**Tom**

Surfaces over by the stairs up to the balcony, gasping for air. He runs for the stairs.

**Blazing Timbers**

Start to fall from the burning roof frame, hitting the water with loud sizzling hisses.

**The Sheriff, Phil and Hank**

Turn to shoot at Tom through the dropping flaming debris.

**Tom**

Disappears up the stairs, the bullets just missing him.

**Underwater**

Jim runs out of bullets. He's long since run out of air. He drops his guns and swims under the pews.

**Hank**

Looks up, realizing that Tom will be able to shoot down on him. He reverses his boat fast under the balcony as...
TOM

Shoots down from the balcony, blowing a chunk out of the prow of Hank's boat.

INT. KAREN'S HOUSE

The water is up to Karen's chin. Her hands are working frantically beneath the water.

UNDERWATER

She's using the tip of the knife blade to unscrew the screws holding the support to the railing. She's on the last one. The blade slips, misses, gets a quarter turn, another turn...

KAREN

Spits out the water that spills into her mouth.

UNDERWATER

Another quarter-turn and the screw is loose enough to turn by hand.

KAREN

Holds her breath with the water touching her nose. She gets the screw loose, pulls up on the railing and pulls the handcuff through the gap between the support and the railing.

INT. CHURCH

The Sheriff turns to Phil and nods re: Jim.

SHERIFF

You take care of him!

The Sheriff aims at the balcony as Phil scans the water, looking for Jim.

UNDERWATER
Jim pulls an electrical cord out of a wall socket.

**ON THE BALCONY**

Tom ducks down as the Sheriff's bullets start plugging through the wood front of the balcony. Tom moves away from the bullet strikes, splashing through the water in the balcony.

**CLOSE ON BALCONY FLOOR**

As BANG BANG BANG -- bullets start shooting up from below.

**HANK**

Is firing up at Tom through the floor of the balcony.

**TOM**

Jumps back, startled, looking down at...

**THE BALCONY FLOOR**

Holes explode in the floor, sending up small geysers of water. The water then starts whirlpooling down through the holes.

**TOM**

Moves back from Hank's advancing bullet holes.

**THE SHERIFF**

Keeps firing.

**TOM**

Is caught between Hank's bullets and the Sheriff's bullets. So he racks a load in the shotgun and dives backwards off the balcony.

**HANK**

Is still shooting up as...

**TOM**
Arcs off the balcony, firing the shotgun under the balcony at Hank.

HANK
Dives to the floor of his boat as Tom's shotgun blasts blow plate-sized holes in the church doors.

TOM
Lands in the water and goes under.

THE SHERIFF AND PHIL
Look for Tom in the water.

HANK
Starts to get up from the bottom of his boat, searching for a clip for his gun.

THE SHERIFF
Sees Tom's shape in the water and is about to shoot when...

JIM
Jumps up out of the water with the electrical cord. He tosses a loop of the cord around the Sheriff's neck and pulls, yanking the Sheriff out of the boat.

TOM
Comes out of the water, aiming his shotgun at...

PHIL
Who is aiming his pistol at Tom. Phil freezes.

THE SHERIFF AND JIM
Struggle in the water. Jim pulls the cord tightly around the Sheriff's neck as the Sheriff tries to get a shot off at Jim -- he can't get the barrel pointed at Jim.
HANK
Fumbles with the bullet clip.

HANK
(to Phil)
Kill him!

TOM
Turns his shotgun on Hank and pulls the trigger --
click. Uh-
oh.

HANK
Kill him!

TOM AND PHIL
Exchange a look.

HANK
Slams the clip into his gun and levels it at Tom.

PHIL
Points his gun at Hank.

PHIL
No! We can't --

BANG! and hank shoots Phil. Phil pitches back out of
the
Sheriff's boat.

PHIL
Lands between Jim and the Sheriff, knocking them apart.

THE SHERIFF
Is free of Jim's grasp. He shakes off the electrical
cord
and turns to shoot...

JIM
Who moves a little faster. He grabs Phil's pistol and
puts
it to the Sheriff's head before the Sheriff can bring
gun around.

**HANK**

Draws a bead on Jim and is about to shoot when...

**TOM**

Comes out of the water on the other side of Hank's boat. Tom pushes down hard on the side of the boat.

**HANK**

Is rocked back, thrown off balance. He starts to spin and bring his gun around when...

**TOM**

Swings with the shotgun, catching...

**HANK**

In the side of the head. Hank crumples and falls into the water, taking his rifle with him.

**JIM AND THE SHERIFF**

Jim nods at the Sheriff's rifle.

**JIM**

In the boat.

**THE SHERIFF**

Hesitates, then tosses his rifle into the boat.

**TOM**

Grabs Hank's rifle and aims it at the Sheriff.

**TOM**

Where's Karen?

**INT. KAREN'S HOUSE**

Karen undoes a last screw in a metal support. She pulls the handcuff through the gap between the support.
and railing. She's at the top of the stairs.

**THE END OF THE RAILING**

Curves and goes into the wall.

**KAREN**

Tugs at the railing, tries rocking it up and down. It doesn't budge. She starts chipping at the plaster with the knife.

**KAREN**

God, I am really beginning to hate fine craftsmanship.

**THE WATER**

It's up to her chest.

**INT. CHURCH**

The Sheriff hesitates.

**TOM**

Where is she?

**SHERIFF**

They went back to her house.

**TOM**

Where's her house?

**SHERIFF**

It's --

And just then they all hear something truly ominous -- a siren pierces the night.

**INT. KAREN'S HOUSE**

She reacts to the siren -- uh-oh.

**INT. CHURCH**

The siren wails.

**JIM**

What in God's name is that?
SHERIFF
Hank?

HANK
(woozy but okay)
It's topped out.

SHERIFF
How much time we got?

HANK
How should I know?

SHERIFF
Guess!

HANK
It's an old dam! Not long.

SHERIFF
(to Tom)
Then I'd say you boys better drop your guns.

TOM
What?

SHERIFF
That's the deal! You let me and Hank go -- with a few of these bags -- and I'll tell you where to find Karen.

JIM
(to the Sheriff)
Get out of the boat.

TOM
Hold on.

Jim turns to look at Tom.

JIM
Hold on?

SHERIFF
It's the only way you're gonna find her!

TOM
It's only a couple of bags.

JIM
No.

**TOM**
But I thought --

**JIM**
Look, I don't know what you thought but I told you, I'm here for the money; that's all.

Tom doesn't know what to do. The Sheriff looks pretty pleased with himself. He might just get out of this. And then...

**PHIL (O.S.)**
She lives on Boyd Street.

They all look over at...

**PHIL**
Alive, but barely.

**PHIL**
Three over. Two-story, blue shutters.

**TOM**
Looks at Jim, disappointed, angry, then hurries to Hank's boat.

**JIM**
Climbs into the Sheriff's boat.

**TOM**
Climbs into Hank's boat. He starts the engine, looks down at...

**PHIL**
Floating in the water, dying. A brief look between them, then...

**TOM**
Drives the boat out through a shattered window.
JIM
Pushes the Sheriff out of the boat.

EXT. RESERVOIR DAM
A large V is being cut in the top of the dam by the raging water.

A QUARTER-MILE AWAY
Looking back at the dam. The line of lights on top of the dam start to fall over, then go dark, snuffed out by an unseen force.

INT. CHURCH
Jim keeps his gun leveled at the Sheriff and Hank, standing in the water, as he pulls the money bags up from the forward hold.

SHERIFF
So, you just gonna kill me?

JIM
Lord knows I should.

Jim opens a money bag and smiles at what he sees.

INT. KAREN'S HOUSE
Karen tilts her head back to keep her lips and nose above water. And then she hears a window smash. She turns as...

TOM
Wades in along the upper hall.

TOM
I'm guessing you can't get up.

KAREN
I'm handcuffed.
Tom reaches into the water for the railing.

**KAREN**
The railing's bolted to the wall.

He looks at her.

**KAREN**
I've got a saw.

**TOM**
Where?

**KAREN**
In the kitchen. In the tall cupboard beside the --

And then they hear a sound more ominous than the siren they hear the siren stop.

**TOM**
Is that good or bad?

**INT. CHURCH**

Jim, the Sheriff and Hank react to the silence. Jim looks off.

**THE SHERIFF**
Drops underwater.

**JIM**
Turns back at the sound of the Sheriff going under.

**UNDERWATER**
The Sheriff pulls up his pant leg.

**JIM**
Is aiming his gun at the water and is about to fire as...

**THE SHERIFF'S HAND**
Comes out of the water shooting a pistol.

**JIM**
Is shot in the gut and the thigh and high on the chest and he stumbles back, bellowing, and falls out of the boat and into the water.

**SHERIFF**
You should've just killed me.

**INT. KAREN'S HOUSE**

**KAREN**
You gotta go!

Tom starts hyperventilating.

**KAREN**
The dam's gone! You gotta go!

**TOM**
(shakes head)
I owe you one.

Tom breathes deep then ducks underwater.

**UNDERWATER**

Tom flicks on his flashlight and starts swimming down the stairs.

**KAREN**

 Watches Tom and his light get swallowed up in the murky water.

**INT. CHURCH**

Phil is grabbing for the Sheriff's boat as the Sheriff and Hank zoom out of the church, leaving him behind.

**PHIL**

NOOOO!

**EXT. MAIN STREET**

The Sheriff's boat comes onto Main Street, moving fast.

**IN THE BOAT**
Hank is looking back, in the direction the flood will come.

**HANK**

We gotta go faster!

**SHERIFF**

Yeah, you're right.

The Sheriff pushes Hank out of the boat.

**HANK**

Goes skipping over the water and slams into a streetlight post.

**INT. KAREN'S HOUSE**

Tom swims down into the living room. His light shows a couch, chairs, TV set. Books and newspapers are suspended in the water.

**EXT. THE CHURCH**

The damaged ski-boat that Jim and Tom took to the church has slipped off the sandbag wall and is drifting. A peaceful scene. But then, from the distance, comes a rushing roar.

**INT. CHURCH**

Phil hears the roar. He looks around, lost.

**EXT. STREET**

Hank, groggy in the water, also hears the distant roar.

**INT. CHURCH**

The roar is building, getting louder. Phil sees something in the water and reaches for it, frantically. He gets it.

**A BIBLE**

And he clutches it to his chest as...
THE FLOOD

Hits the church.

INT. KAREN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

cupboard

Tom swims into the kitchen. He looks for the tall
by the fridge. He opens it.

INSIDE THE CUPBOARD

Hanging on a hook on the back wall is a saw. Tom grabs

it.

EXT. MAIN STREET

Hank unwraps himself from around the lamp post. He
looks
back.

HIS POV

marking

Streetlights in the distance, winking out one by one,
marking
the advance of the wall of water.

HANK

Oh my God.

Hank looks around for safety. He sees it.

HIS POV

There's an alleyway.

HANK

Swims for the alley.

EXT. THE ADVANCING FLOOD

debri,

Roars through the town, pushing a rolling wave of
obliterating anything in its path.

EXT. ALLEY

climb

Hank swims into the alley. Hank looks for something to
up on, to hold onto. There's...
FIRE ESCAPE LADDER

At the end of the alley.

HANK

Swims for it. He hears the rushing roar of the advancing flood. He expects the flood to blow by the end of the alley. Wrong.

WALL OF WATER

Comes into the alley, banking high on the far wall before coming down and barreling toward Hank. And what makes it worse for Hank is that there's...

A CAR

At the front of the wave, being pushed by the water.

HANK

Dives clear just as...

THE CAR

Smashes into the wall, right where Hank had just been.

HANK

Relief in his eyes. He gets to the fire escape and is climbing to safety when...

PROPANE TANK

Comes into the alley, rolling in the flood, spraying propane from a torn hose. It explodes.

HANK

Barely has time to scream.

INT. KAREN'S KITCHEN - BREAK OF DAWN
Tom is threading his belt through the handle of the saw to secure it. He gets it done and starts to swim out of the kitchen.

BACK TO KAREN

Just Karen's lips and nose are above water.

IN THE KITCHEN

Tom is about to leave when everything starts to move -- rocking, from side to side, as if in a slow motion earthquake. Cupboards and the fridge open and bottles and food and plates tumble out.

EXT. KAREN'S HOUSE

The house has been hit by the flood. It's being pulled by the massive current, stretching overhead phone and power lines.

INT. KAREN'S HOUSE

Karen hears the groaning, ripping as the house tears free from water and sewer lines. She's looking down for Tom when there's a snap and the light above her goes out.

EXT. KAREN'S HOUSE

The house is carried on the current, turning in the water.

IN THE KITCHEN

Tom watches, astounded, as the room starts to turn around him. He kicks fast for the door to...

THE LIVING ROOM

Tom swims in, fast, toward the stairs when...

A WINDOW
Caves in and...

**HUGE TREE BRANCH**

Smashes in, filling the room, blocking Tom's route to the stairs.

**TOM**

Tries to get through the tangle of branches and leaves, but can't. He swims over to another window and slides it up.

**KAREN**

Keeps looking down for Tom.

**EXT. KAREN'S HOUSE**

The house is impaled on a tree, the current sluicing around it.

**TOM**

Surfaces near the side of the house, gasping. The current starts ripping him past the house. He swims as hard as he can back to the house, reaches out and grabs onto a gutter.

**INT. KAREN'S HOUSE**

Karen doesn't have much time left. The water is washing over her mouth and nose. And just as she's about to go under...

**TOM**

Swims in with the saw. He starts sawing on the handrail. Everything's going fine. And then...

**THE SAWBLADE**

Snaps.

**TOM AND KAREN**
Look at each other. Oh no. Karen's going under.

**TOM**

Sees something. He dives into the water.

**KAREN**

Can only watch and wait. What's he doing? Oh, Jesus. And then...

**TOM**

Surfaces, holding Wayne's pistol. He puts the mouth of the barrel to the handcuff chain, shields Karen's face, looks away and pulls the trigger.

**EXT. A TREE IN WATER**

The water swirls through the branches of a half-submerged tree.

**HENRY AND DOREEN**

Are in the tree. Henry is either unconscious or dead. Doreen cradles him.

**DOREEN**

Come on, Henry. Forget that "Go to the light" crap. Come back to me. You're all I've got.

And Henry starts to come to.

**DOREEN**

Oh, Henry. Thank God.

Henry opens his eyes.

**HENRY**

Next time, when I say "Let's evacuate," we're gonna evacuate.

**DOREEN**

Whatever you say, honey.
She hugs him tight and after a beat he hugs her back.

**EXT. KAREN'S HOUSE**

Tom and Karen swim out of a second floor window, grab the rain gutter. Tom pulls himself onto the roof then grabs and helps her up. They crawl until they're clear of the Only the sloped roof of the house is visible in the water. They are just catching their breath when they by...

**BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT**

And they look to see...

**THE SHERIFF**

In his boat, shining a searchlight on them with one gun in the other. He starts shooting.

**TOM AND KAREN**

Tom pushes Karen toward the peak of the roof as the plug in around them. Tom pushes Karen over the top then and dives off the roof and into the water.

**KAREN**

Hears an engine behind her and turns.

**A BOAT**

Racing toward the house. It's...

**THE SKI-BOAT**

And at the controls is...

**JIM**

 Barely alive.

**THE OUTBOARD MOTOR**
Is wobbling, vibrating at the back of the boat, almost loose from its moorings.

**JIM'S POV**

He sees Karen, crouched below the peak of the house, a bright light coming from the other side along with gunshots.

**JIM**

Pushes the throttle all the way forward.

**THE SKI-BOAT**

Shoots forward.

**UNDERWATER**

Tom swims hard toward the Sheriff's boat.

**THE SHERIFF**

Is shooting down into the water at Tom's moving shape.

**THE SKI-BOAT**

With Jim at the wheel, comes racing straight toward the house.

**KAREN**

Thinks he's going to turn.

**KAREN**

No! No!

**THE SKI-BOAT**

 Doesn't turn.

**KAREN**

Rolls to the side, just getting clear as...

**THE SKI-BOAT**

Hits the sloping roof of Karen's house and ramps up it.

**THE OUTBOARD MOTOR**
Digs into the shingles of the roof and tears free from the back of the boat.

THE SHERIFF

Hears the sound and looks up as...

THE SKI-BOAT

Comes over the peak of the roof.

TOM

Surfaces to see...

THE SKI-BOAT

Fly right over him, heading straight for...

THE SHERIFF

Who ducks down, just in time as...

THE SKI-BOAT

Misses him, landing just past him in the water.

THE SHERIFF

Straightens up, grinning with glee that the boat missed him. And then he hears a piercing whine coming from behind him. He turns, just in time to see...

THE OUTBOARD MOTOR

Flipping end over end, propeller whirring, heading straight for him.

THE SHERIFF

Starts to scream.

CLOSE ON KAREN

Looking over the peak of the roof in horror. She hears the Sheriff's scream and the scream of the propeller and then a...
horrible ugly ripping and both screams stop.

THE SHERIFF'S BOAT

The Sheriff is gone. The side has been smashed out of boat and the boat is flooding with water.

THE SHERIFF

Is just some misshapen thing trailing red, floating in water.

JIM

Tries to restart the ski-boat but it's dead. He slumps forward.

TOM

Sees Jim slump against the side of the boat.

    TOM
    You okay?

    JIM
    Fine.

Tom can tell Jim's anything but. Tom swims for the boat.

THE BOAT

Tom swims up, pulls himself in. He pulls Jim back off controls, sees the blood.

    TOM
    Oh, God. We gotta get you to --

Jim looks at Tom. Tom understands -- Jim's not going anywhere.

    TOM
    Thanks.

    JIM
    For what?

    TOM
    You just saved our lives.
JIM
I did? I just came for the money.

Tom looks at Jim -- he knows Jim's lying.

KAREN (O.S.)
Do you need any help?

JIM
(grabs Tom's arm)
No. Tell her to stay back.

TOM
(to Karen)
It's okay!

Jim lets go of Tom.

JIM
You're going to turn it in?

TOM
Sorry to disappoint you.

JIM
Well, hell, then I guess I better take it after all. I figure the river'll carry me down to the Gulf of Mexico. If I catch the right currents, maybe I'll end up in... Belize?
(Tom nods)
You come look me up. I'll buy you a drink.

TOM
I'll do that.

Jim grimaces as he's hit by a wave of pain. He looks away.

JIM
Go.

Tom hesitates for a second.

JIM
Please.

Tom turns and slides into the water and swims away.
JIM
Son, don't think too badly of your Uncle Charlie. He always said you were capable of remarkable things.
(beat)
He was right.

There's a last look between Jim and Tom, then Tom swims away.

JIM
(smiles)
The rain's stopped.
(breathes deep)
The air after a rain...

Jim slowly topples forward and is still.

TOM
Swims through the swirling current toward Karen's roof.

JIM'S BOAT
Sinks below the surface and is gone.

TOM AND KAREN
Karen is down at the water's edge with her arm extended to Tom. Tom grabs it, and as Karen pulls...

MATCH

CUT TO:

EXT. CHURCH - SUNSET
Karen pulls Tom up onto scaffolding running along the edge of the new roof under construction. Tom holds a paper bag. He's wearing work gear -- tool belt, work boots, etc. Tom looks at the work being done on the roof.

TOM
They got a lot done today.

KAREN
It's coming along.
(re: bag)
What'd you get?
TOM
Barbecue chicken from Lilly's.

KAREN
Yum.

TOM
You want some? I wish you'd told me. I woulda got more.

KAREN
Ha ha.

And as they sit down and start to eat, the camera begins to pull back.

TOM
I talked to Mikey. He says the flooring should be in by Friday.

KAREN
That's what he said last week.

TOM
I said if it wasn't here by Friday at six that you were going to go over and beat the crap out of him.

KAREN
And I will.

FADE OUT:

THE END