

AMERICAN DAD

"Shutdown"

ACT I

EXT. THE SMITHS' HOUSE - EVENING

Establishing shot of house

INT. DINING ROOM

STAN, FRANCINE, HALEY and ROGER sit around the dining table. The table is clear, except for CLAUS and some papers. Claus is in the center in a water cup with the papers laid out around him. In his fin he holds a gavel.

Stan sighs, frustrated.

STAN

Where is that boy? He's tardy again. He's probably swapping texts with his so called "girlfriend".

FRANCINE

Oh Stan, don't be so quick to judge. Sure, Steve is dating a girl who lives thousands of miles away, but modern technology has opened roads for all kinds of new relationships. Let Steve experience love in his own way.

STEVE walks in, texting on his phone. He giggles.

STEVE

Oh, Molly is such a clown. We've spent the last two hours exchanging our favorite emoticons, and she thought the angry face looked like a sad bunny-rabbit.

Steve laughs.

FRANCINE

Okay, it's pretty pathetic.

STAN

Put your girlfriend away, Steve. It's family meeting time.

Steve puts away his phone and sits.

CLAUS

All right, all voting members are in attendance, let this family meeting begin!

Claus bangs his gavel.

CLAUS (CONT'D)

Item one: Francine, you wanted to remind Stan about a matter concerning the utility bills.

FRANCINE

That's right. Stan, you were supposed to pay the water, gas, and power bills last week. Have you done it yet?

STAN

Fear not: I've got a new supply of straight-up American flag stamps. Ask me to mail something without star-spangled stationary, will you? Not a chance.

CLAUS

Okay, next item: the family will now vote on the plan to install new, water efficient toilets in the house.

STAN

Oh god, not this again.

FRANCINE

Stan, what is your problem with the high efficiency toilets?

STAN

High-efficiency toilets are the bottom of the pile of wussy, flower-print, flag-burning liberal crap that only a real man's toilet could flush! They're a stupid waste of money. What's wrong with the toilets we have?

FRANCINE

They've been in this house since before we moved in, Stan. They're falling apart, and we need an upgrade. An upgrade with pink flower-print seats that say "You're doing your business in a garden."

STAN

Fussy.

HALEY

Dad, water-efficiency is important for the environment. This household is wasting water by the hundreds of gallons with those old things.

STAN

Hippy.

Steve happily stares off into nowhere.

STEVE

I wonder if they have toilets where Molly lives.

STAN

Sissy.

Roger and Stan look at each other for a long moment.

ROGER

So--are you gonna--?

STAN

I'll get to you.

ROGER

Hurray! I'm included!

CLAUS

Okay. So, we will now vote on the proposal. All in favor of new water-efficient toilets--

Everyone except Stan raise their hands.

CLAUS (CONT'D)

And all opposed--

Stan raises his hand.

CLAUS (CONT'D)

Okay, the vote is four to one. The proposal passes.

Claus bangs his gavel.

STAN

(Genuinely thinks he won)
Ha! So much for that.
(MORE)

STAN (CONT'D)

Guess you'll just have to sneak un-American into this house some other way, Francine.

Everyone stares, baffled and silent for a long time.

STAN (CONT'D)

Wait--what was that last thing you said?

CLAUS

I said the proposal passed, Stan. We're going to get the new toilets!

STAN

WHAT?

CLAUS

The vote was four to one! It was you against Francine, Haley, Steve and Roger.

Stan points at Roger

STAN

FATTY!

Roger gasps, hurt.

STAN (CONT'D)

This can't happen! I won't let our porcelain thrones be dethroned!

FRANCINE

Stan, the whole reason we set up these family meetings was so that you couldn't just make all the decisions yourself. You've been out-voted. Deal with it.

Stan stands up, looking at the family.

STAN

(An ominous promise)
This will not stand.

Stan walks away. The family don't seem at all shaken by his last words.

INT. PARENTS' BATHROOM

Stan walks up to the doorway and addresses the toilet.

STAN
(Whisper)
This will not stand.

INT. ROGER'S ATTIC

Roger and Claus watch a movie. Roger has a bowl of popcorn. He occasionally drops a bit of popcorn in Claus's bowl, which Claus eats like its fish food.

CLAUS
So, crazy family meeting tonight,
huh?

ROGER
Yeah, but there's no drama in life
like a heist film. Look at these
guys: breaking into impenetrable
vaults, ripping off museums and
gangsters, working as a team on
adventures of profit and vengeance.
Oh, it's the coolest thing in the
world! Aren't heist films just
great?

CLAUS
Yeah, they're okay I guess.

ROGER
(acting dramatic, not
sincere)
I wish I could go on a heist.

Roger holds a dramatic, longing pose. Claus looks at Roger in confusion for a while.

CLAUS
(Hesitant, it's just so
obvious)
So--why don't you?

ROGER
(acting dramatic, not
sincere)
Why don't I what?

CLAUS
Why don't you go do a heist? It
couldn't possibly be any more
ridiculous or immoral than half the
other stuff you've done.

ROGER
 (acting dramatic, not
 sincere)
 Why Claus, that's a great idea! I
 didn't think I had what it takes,
 but you've inspired me, buddy!

CLAUS
 It seems more like an obvious idea.
 You're always going and--wait, is
 that the only reason I'm here? So
 you could have your little
 inspiration moment?

ROGER
 Less talk, more eat, fish.

Roger dumps a ton of popcorn into Claus' bowl.

EXT. THE SMITHS' HOUSE - MORNING

Establishing shot of house

INT. DINING ROOM

The family sits around the table once again. Throughout this scene, Steve will be absently typing on his phone without ever reacting to what's going on.

CLAUS
 Okay, all voting members are here,
 let's begin.

HALEY
 Why are we having another family
 meeting? We had one yesterday; I
 thought these were bi-weekly.

CLAUS
 Stan called an emergency session. I
 give the floor to him.

STAN
 Thank you. I've called this meeting
 because we have a crisis fast
 approaching, and in order to avoid
 it, we need to negotiate a
 compromise as soon as possible.

FRANCINE
 What crisis, Stan?

STAN

The toilet crisis, of course!

Stan puts a sheet of paper on the table.

STAN (CONT'D)

Now it's been difficult for me, but I believe I've come up with an arrangement that will satisfy both parties. My new proposal is for only one toilet to be hippy-fied, and for restrictions to be placed on any further changes to the waste utility arrangement.

FRANCINE

(Outraged)

What? Stan, the plan for the new toilets was finished in the meeting before last, and then we voted. It passed. It's in. You can't just go changing it!

STAN

Oh, so the new toilets are just law? Ordained by Francine and her flower-print god? There has to be a way to review new laws.

CLAUS

Not for another two bi-week meeting periods, and without a motion backed by two votes to review the law in question. It's on page 15 paragraph two of the Smith Family Meeting Procedures Book.

Everyone just looks silently at Claus.

CLAUS (CONT'D)

You gave me a gavel, motherf**kers; I take this sh*t seriously.

HALEY

Face it, Dad: the people have spoken.

STAN

I thought you might try some underhanded dodge like the rules or the spirit of democracy, so I came prepared.

Stand reaches into his pocket and holds up three envelopes.

STAN (CONT'D)

I hold here the gas, water and power utility bills. If they are not mailed today, all three services will lapse. I cannot in good conscience pay for a household that allows this kind of injustice. If you refuse to negotiate the toilet situation, I will shut this house down!

Roger, apparently completely calm, gets up and walks out of the kitchen. Nobody pays him any mind.

HALEY

What?

FRANCINE

Oh, Stan don't be ridiculous.

STAN

You don't think I'll do it? I'll tear these checks up right now!

FRANCINE

We're getting the toilets the way we planned, end of story.

In dramatic slow motion, Stan tears up the checks. In regular time, he then stands up and walks out.

HALEY

He's not actually going to let it all lapse, is he?

FRANCINE

Oh, please. He's just grandstanding. I guarantee you right now he's in his study writing up another set of checks.

Roger walks back in, dressed in a generic disguise (this one is just so he can leave the house) with a backpack.

ROGER

Well, I wanted to spend another day or two planning the heist, but Stan's insanity is clearly about to hit the fan here, so I'm out. Tell me how the chaos goes!

Roger walks out. Haley looks nervously at Francine. Francine just rolls her eyes.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

EXT. THE SMITH'S HOUSE - EVENING

Establishing shot of house

INT. LIVING ROOM

Everyone except Stan and Claus sit around the living room. Steve texts as usual, with his phone charging from the power socket in the wall. Francine reads a book, and Haley types on her laptop. We can faintly hear music from Haley's headphones.

Suddenly, the power goes out. Everyone is stunned.

FRANCINE
No. He didn't.

INT. DINING ROOM

Everyone rushes in. Stan sits at the table looking smug. The table is set up for another family meeting, complete with a candle for light. Claus sits in his cup, and looks as stunned as the others.

STAN
Yes, he did.

FRANCINE
STAN SMITH!

STAN
Indoor voices, honey. Thanks.
Anyway, now that you're all here,
what say we have a family meeting?

FRANCINE
Not a chance! We're not backing
down Stan!

STAN
Look, this is a crisis. The sooner
we resolve the toilet issue, the
sooner we can move on to the next
item of business and pay our
utility bills!

FRANCINE
You created this crisis!

HALEY

Look, Dad, seriously, we need the utilities back up! I'm following some important blogs!

STEVE

I haven't finished charging my phone! Molly and I only have a quarter battery of love left to us!

FRANCINE

And I was reading. Something. I forget what.

STAN

Well, until you are all ready to stop being so stubborn and obstructive, it looks like you'll all just have to suffer the current situation.

FRANCINE

Us? Stan, you shut down the entire house. You'll be suffering with us!

STAN

Ha! I think I'm made of tougher stuff than Fussy-Sissy-Hippy. I'll be just fine.

INT. PARENTS' BATHROOM

Stan walks up to the doorway and addresses the toilet.

STAN

(Whisper)
I'll be just fine.

EXT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Establishing shot

INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE

Five criminals are sitting in a row, waiting. From left to right: VAHN, the young white guy; DARRYL, the young black guy; CLINE, the old, grizzly white guy; JEAN, the ugly, hardened white woman; AMBER, the pretty latino girl. A screen and projector are set up beside them, currently off.

DARRYL

Hey, Vinny tell any a' y'all about
this guy running the job?

VAHN

No, man, he's some mystery hotshot.
Even Vinny doesn't know much about
him.

ROGER (O.S.)

Vinny doesn't need to know.

We see a dark area in the room. Roger lights his cigarette,
illuminating himself. He then steps out toward them. He looks
like Robert DeNiro from *Heat*.

ROGER (CONT'D)

The only thing anybody needs to
know is my name: Danny Heat. You
don't recognize it? Then that means
you're small time. But if you're
lucky, we might just fix that. I've
run heists from here to Shanghai,
but this is gonna be my greatest
score! The mark: Ron Silvestro.

Roger takes out a remote control and activates the projector.

ON SCREEN

We see an image of a man in a suit.

ROGER (CONT'D)

He's well known as a wealthy banker
and investor, and it's no secret
that most of his profits come from
money laundering. But beyond that,
there is a far darker truth to the
man. They say he's a monster; that
he tortures people who cross him.
And if you steal from him, he hunts
you down and kills you himself.
Witnesses describe nothing but a
single shot, and a tripped-out
golden Hummer driving away.

CLINE

My god, is that really true?

ROGER

It could be, I dunno. Anyway, we're gonna empty the vault of his biggest bank, regardless of how risky and cool it is. Only a crack team of thieves will be able to pull this off,

(Loosens the act and sounds more like happy Roger)

So, let's go around the room and introduce ourselves! You can go first. Just say your name and what you can do.

VAHN

I'm Vahn. I work with network security and on-sight digital intrusion.

ROGER

Ah ha, a hacker! Very good; I know you'll be a great asset to the team.

(Suddenly serious)

Let's just hope you don't betray us and take the loot for yourself.

Roger walks over to the next guy.

VAHN

But, I wouldn't--

ROGER

(Happy again)
You're next!

DARRYL

I'm Darryl. I drive the car. Fast as you wanna get out of a place, I've got it covered.

ROGER

Driver. Excellent. Unless you try to betray us and take all the loot for yourself.

Roger walks over to the next guy.

CLINE

Gordon Cline. Three tours Iraq, two tours Afghanistan. I'm fully qualified with explosives and heavy hardware.

ROGER

Ooo! I like the way you're old, but tough! Real character! Unless you betray us and take the loot. And next uh--

Roger takes his first close look at Jean. She's ugly, scarred, tattooed, a little overweight, and has a no-nonsense, tough look on her face. Roger is repulsed by her.

ROGER (CONT'D)

Uh, what do you do? Who are you?

JEAN

I'm Jean. Worked jobs like this for about fifteen years now. I'm trained in safe cracking, security systems, pretty much all the stuff these guys mentioned, and I've got a second degree black belt.

ROGER

Uh huh. I'm sure you're very qualified. I'm afraid we only need five members though, so, uh, what about you? Tell us about yourself.

AMBER

My name's Amber, Vinny's niece. He said I could maybe like learn some stuff about the business.

ROGER

Oh, you come recommended! Very nice! And what is your skill set, Amber?

AMBER

Uh, I stole like a ton of stuff from the Gap.

ROGER

A seasoned pro! Welcome aboard! Well, team's full, so sorry, I'll walk you out.

Roger pushes Jean. They walk into a new shot, just the two of them. Jean stops and turns to him.

JEAN

Hey wait a minute, are you kicking me out because I'm not as pretty as that skinny little skank?

ROGER

Oh honey, no. No no no. This has nothing to do with some arbitrary modern perception of female beauty. It's your ugliness that's turning me off. GET OUT!

Jean walks away, and Roger walks back to the team. He addresses them as before.

ROGER (CONT'D)

Okay people, the first chapter of the rest of our lives has just begun, because we have a team!

They all cheer excitedly.

ROGER (CONT'D)

And we made our diversity quota!

INT. STAN'S STUDY - EVENING

Stan reads a book titled "Something Offensive" by Ann Coulter. The room is unlit, and the sun is going down. Without looking away from his book, Stan pulls the cord on his desk light. Nothing happens. A second later, he tries again. He tries it several times in a row before finally looking up.

STAN

Huh. That's odd.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Francine, Haley and Steve sit in the same places they were when the power went out. They all perform the same activities, but under the constraints of the shutdown. Stan walks in.

STAN

Francine, any idea why the power might be out in my study? I can't see a thing.

FRANCINE

Stan, you shut the house down. Nobody has any power!

STAN

Well, why should that affect my reading?

HALEY

Dad, this is affecting everyone! I can't get on any of my liberal action blogs with the wifi down!

STEVE

And my battery is flashing red! Molly and I are trying to make the most of our last moments together before we're torn apart! Ooo, she sent a picture of a cute kitten. I need to tell her how cute it is!

Steve's phone makes an unhappy beeping noise, then goes dark.

STEVE (CONT'D)

NOOOOOOO!

Steve sobs uncontrollably. Stan looks at him with a look of guilty realization.

STAN

My god. I had no idea what horrible affects this would have. This can't continue. We have to at least get power to the study!

HALEY

Mister Smith is going to pick his favorite rooms to keep powered? Come on.

STAN

Well, seeing as nobody is willing to negotiate, I guess we're just stuck like this.

FRANCINE

Stan, if you were to do what I just talked about, the house would be up and running by dinner time!

STAN

Speaking of which, what's on the menu tonight?

FRANCINE

Orange chicken, you're least hated Chinese takeout.

STAN

Takeout? Can't you cook a real meal?

FRANCINE

Stan, the power, water, and gas are out! The kitchen is completely useless!

STAN

Well, why should that affect my dinner?

Francine groans.

INT. THIEVES' HIDEOUT

The thieves talk to each other, or perform various tasks. Roger walks in.

ROGER

Okay everybody, front and center! We've got things to discuss.

DARRYL

(Tough guy)
Hey Danny, I gotta ask you a question first.

ROGER

Getting uppity, are we, Darryl? Don't like the way I run things? Think you could do better? Maybe thinking of betraying us and taking all the loot for yourself?

DARRYL

(Hurt)
What? No. I'm very happy with the way you've been running things, Danny. I've come to think of you as a mentor.

ROGER

And wouldn't that make your betrayal all the more dramatic.

Darryl shies away, shamed.

ROGER (CONT'D)

Now listen up! It's just a few days until the heist is on, so you'd better be making progress on your tasks! Vahn, give me an update!

VAHN

We've got all the codes to the security systems and the vault room's key code. Nothing on the digital front is going to stop us.

ROGER

Good. Darryl?

DARRYL

Uh, the car's ready to go, and I've got all the escape routes memorized.

ROGER

All right. Amber?

AMBER

I stole a whole set of black turtlenecks like you asked.

ROGER

Nice. And Cline?

Cline stands next to a big drill on wheels.

CLINE

Heavy equipment is a go. I've studied the specs on the vault, and this drill will pierce it like a hot knife through butter. Or like a sexual innuendo I haven't thought up yet.

ROGER

Excellent. Now, we just need to—wait, what? You all got everything done early? There weren't any sudden, unexpected problems that forced us to find some crazy, last minute, out-of-the-box solution?

The thieves look at each other in confusion.

VAHN

Uh, no. Everything's good.

ROGER

Huh. Well that can't be right. Hey, what's that over there?

Roger points, and everyone turns their heads. Roger knocks over Cline's drill, which crackles with electricity and starts smoking.

ROGER (CONT'D)

Oh my god, the drill!

CLINE

The drill!

ROGER

Oh, this is a disaster! We've only got a few days until the heist! Cline, can you fix it in time?

CLINE

Na, it's completely fragged.

ROGER

Well, I know where we can get another one. It's a crazy, last minute, out-of-the-box solution, but it might be the only chance we've got. We're going to need a dummy car, Russian ballerina disguises, and blueprints to the Central Park Zoo.

CLINE

Uh, I can actually just go buy another one.

ROGER

No no, no no. There's isn't time for that. We're doing my plan.

CLINE

It's a pretty common piece of equipment. I got a great deal on this one.

ROGER

We're doing my plan!

END OF ACT II

ACT THREE

INT. THE DINING ROOM - EVENING

The family sits around the table for another meeting. The power is still out, everyone is unwashed and ragged, and the house is filthy. A few very used candles light the room.

CLAUS

Okay, do you guys accept the third redraft of the toilet proposal put forth by Stan?

FRANCINE, HALEY, AND STEVE

No.

STAN

And the obstructionism continues. I should have known you wouldn't compromise.

HALEY

We don't want to negotiate, Dad. We want the decision we already made to go into effect! We're not going to let you bully us into compromising!

STAN

Why the hell not?

HALEY

Because Dad, then the terrorists win.

Stan chuckles, apparently genuinely amused.

STAN

Oh, Haley, my beloved daughter, you are gonna DIE FOR THAT!

Stan suddenly pulls his gun and puts it in her face. Haley grabs her peace sign necklace and holds it up to Stan's face.

HALEY

BACK!

Stan recoils and hisses like a vampire.

FRANCINE

Stop it! Both of you! Put 'em away!

Stan and Haley slowly and carefully put away their weapons.

FRANCINE (CONT'D)

Okay Stan, we've voted again, and it's the same result as always. We've decided we won't let you break the system no matter what, so you've got no choice but to give this up, and pay the damn bills!

STAN

Well then, the family has their prize. A household shutdown that nobody seems to want but them!

Stan gets up and walks out. Francine shakes her fists and growls, then walks out the other way, toward the living room.

INT. GREG AND TERRY'S HOUSE - EVENING

GREG reads a book on the sofa. TERRY walks up to him with a glass of wine in hand, and sees something out the window.

TERRY

Oh crap. Francine's coming this way.

GREG

Again? How long is the house of no showers going to be embroiled in sectarian conflict?

TERRY

Here, help me with the plastic!

Greg and Terry completely cover the sofa in plastic wrap. Francine walks in, still growling and shaking her fists.

TERRY (CONT'D)

(fake joy)
Hey Francine!

GREG

(fake joy)
Welcome! Take a seat.

Francine starts to sit on a chair, and they desperately redirect her to the sofa.

GREG (CONT'D)

No no no, this way. There you go.

All three sit on the sofa. Greg and Terry are hiding their reaction to her smelliness.

FRANCINE

That stubborn bastard just walked away from another family meeting telling us this whole situation is our fault. OUR FAULT! I tell you guys, I'm ready to just rip his head off!

Greg, who is sitting out of Francine's view, looks at Terry and points excitedly at Francine. Terry gives him a cold look.

TERRY

Well, as much as some people might be hoping that you'll finally resort to murder and give them a story to get them out of their reporting rut, we both hope that you can find a peaceful solution.

Greg looks sad.

FRANCINE

What peaceful solution? He's manipulating the system and refuses to budge. We never get anything accomplished in those family meetings!

TERRY

Well maybe the meetings are the problem. In a meeting, where everyone can see him, he has to keep up his macho, masculine, probably really well toned underneath that suit image. What you need to do is approach him in private.

GREG

Yeah. Get him somewhere comfortable where he can unwind and you two can work things out without all the public grandstanding.

FRANCINE

Hey, that's a great idea! Stan and I used to communicate so much better than we do in those stuffy meetings!

(MORE)

FRANCINE (CONT'D)

I'll get him when he doesn't need to put on a show, and we can work things out! Thanks guys. I can always count on you to help out.

Francine walks out. Greg and Terry start to unwrap the sofa.

GREG

Honestly, why can't you just let Stinky finish the job? It's a primetime opportunity right across the street!

TERRY

And you're going to pay for a baby sitter when she goes to jail?

GREG

Oh, right.

EXT. STREET SEWER ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Darryl sits in a car next to the sewer entrance, dressed in a black turtleneck. The sewer lid has been pried off.

INT. SEWER

The thieves and Roger are walking through the sewer pipe, also dressed in their black turtlenecks. They come to a ladder leading up and stop.

ROGER

All right, the vault is just above us. If all goes to plan, we'll be in and out in half an hour, and on our way to a life of fantastic wealth. Also, I just want to point out: if any of you are planning on betraying the rest of us and taking the loot etc., when we're leaving the building would be a really good time to do it. Just saying. Okay, let's go!

Roger starts climbing the ladder.

EXT. STREET SEWER ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Darryl is still waiting, then suddenly the thieves run out of the sewer toward the car.

They are carrying bags now filled with money. They pack into the car. Roger grabs a machine gun from the back seat.

ROGER

Okay, let's go! We've got to move fast; the cops are on to us!

VAHN

But I thought we got out clean, Heat. What makes you think they're on to us?

ROGER

Don't ask me how I know. I just know.

DARRYL

Seems quiet to me.

ROGER

Hey, hey you're right. What the hell?

Roger get outs and looks around the area. It's so quiet there are crickets chirping.

ROGER (CONT'D)

(To himself)

But I left them an anonymous tip!
We can't have a chase scene like this!

DARRYL

Hey Danny! We've gotta roll!

Roger sees a police car come to a stop at a nearby light. The two officers inside are POLICE MAN DRIVER and POLICE MAN PASSENGER. They're not paying the thieves any attention. Roger looks back and forth from his crew to the police car, then opens fire on the police.

A few bullets hit the car, but the police are unharmed.

ROGER

COPS!

Roger jumps back into the car.

ROGER (CONT'D)

I told you they were on to us!
Drive!

The thieves and police enter a car chase. Roger yells excitedly as he fires at the pursuers from his window. Cline joins in with a pistol.

The policeman in the passenger seat returns fire. The police car starts to slow down for no apparent reason, and then coasts to a halt.

POLICE MAN PASSENGER

What happened?

POLICE MAN DRIVER

I must have forgot to get gas! Why haven't you called for backup yet?

The police man passenger fiddles with the radio in his hand.

POLICE MAN PASSENGER

It's not working! Oh right, I was supposed to get somebody to fix it.

POLICE MAN DRIVER

We came out really unprepared tonight.

BACK TO THE THIEVES' CAR

We see the thieves looking back at an empty road.

DARRYL

We lost 'em!

The thieves all cheer. Roger is flabbergasted.

ROGER

Wha-? Whe-? How? I don't even care anymore.

EXT. THE SMITHS' HOUSE - NIGHT

INT. LIVING ROOM

Francine sits on the couch, waiting. Stan walks into the room.

STAN

Francine, what are you doing in here? Where are the kids, and Claus? I thought you called a family meeting.

FRANCINE

This is a special meeting. Haley's off to save the world from plastic bags, Steve is crying again, and Claus is, you know, wherever.

CLAUS (O.S. FROM THE KITCHEN)

I'm right over here.

FRANCINE

So it's just the two of us, and I thought we could have a proper heart to heart about what's bothering you.

Francine guides Stan down to the couch, and they sit facing each other. She holds up a bottle and a glass.

FRANCINE (CONT'D)

Scotch?

STAN

Oh. Uh, yeah, I'll take one of those. Thanks.

Stan drinks. So does Francine.

STAN (CONT'D)

Ah, that's good stuff. I gotta say, thanks for keeping the kids and the fish out of this one. This has been one hell of a stressful week.

FRANCINE

I know. Isn't this better? I feel like we could get a lot more done like this, without all that bureaucracy and arguing.

STAN

Yeah, I--

Stan realizes something, and then bolts upright, completely serious.

STAN (CONT'D)

I know what you're trying to do.

FRANCINE

What?

STAN

You're trying to defuse the atmosphere of disagreement and partisan strife that's been tearing this house apart!

FRANCINE

Well yeah, I-

STAN

Well it won't work! I will not allow you to trick me into negotiating!

FRANCINE

What the WHAT?

Francine bolts upright as well.

FRANCINE (CONT'D)

You won't be tricked into negotiating? You've been trying to pressure us into negotiating with you all week!

STAN

Of course I have! My side is right, and you're side is wrong! I shouldn't have to budge an inch; you're the ones who need to negotiate!

FRANCINE

Stan, this is insane! You've never been this stubborn before!

STAN

I'm not going to be disrespected; I have to get something out of this. And I don't know what that even is.

Stan walks away. Francine growls and shakes her fists again.

INT. PARENT'S BEDROOM

Stan walks toward the parents' bathroom, mumbling along the way. He finds the door shut.

STAN

What the? Is somebody in there?

STEVE (O.S.)

I'm almost done, Dad.

STAN

Well hurry up. I need to whisper to the toilet that I don't know what that even is.

Steve steps out of the room.

STAN (CONT'D)

What were you doing in there, anyway? This is your mother and my's private bathroom.

STEVE

Sorry dad, but all the other toilets are already full.

STAN

What do you mean-

Stan suddenly has a horrifying revelation.

STAN (CONT'D)

No.

Stan rushes into the room. He comes to the toilet. We don't see inside it, but what he sees shocks and revolts him.

STAN (CONT'D)

NOOOOOOOOO!

INT. THIEVES' HIDEOUT

The thieves celebrate, throwing tons of money in the air.

CLINE

We're rich! We're stinking rich!

Everyone cheers.

DARRYL

I can finally start up my own business!

VAHN

I can finally pay off my college loans!

AMBER

I can finally afford not to go to college!

More cheering. We pan to the side and see Roger by himself, packing a bag with money.

ROGER

This whole heist has been stupid waste of time. No drama, no clichés, not even a freaking chase! All we did was work together in a productive fashion and get away clean! Well, I'm not going to let it end this way! There's still time for someone to betray us and take all the loot for himself--

Roger holds up a pistol.

ROGER (CONT'D)

Me. I'm going to betray us. And take all the loot for myself. I have a gun.

We see the thieves, still celebrating and oblivious to Roger. He walks up behind them with the gun.

ROGER (CONT'D)

All right! Nobody move or I-AH!

Roger trips and the gun goes off. It ricochets around the room, comes back, and hits Roger in the chest. The bullet then travels through a window behind him, shattering it. The thieves have not seen the origin or the path of the bullet, and react in alarm.

VAHN

Danny!

DARRYL

Oh my god!

CLINE

Everybody down!

All the thieves hit the floor except Cline. He moves along the wall toward the window, and peaks out carefully.

CLINE'S POV

Down the street, a gold hummer peels away.

CLINE (CONT'D)

A gold hummer. Silvestro.

INT. GOLD HUMMER

An AVERAGE JOE is driving the hummer. Nothing is particularly special or stereotypical about him. He is calm, just driving. After a moment, he looks directly at us.

AVERAGE JOE

I'm not Silvestro. It's just a crazy coincidence. Also, I have terrible taste in cars.

EXT. GRASSY HILL - SUNRISE

The hill is a calm, scenic spot with the view of the city far away. The thieves are gathered in front of a grave labeled "Heat". Amber puts flowers on the grave.

CLINE

Heat was right about Silvestro. The man's a killer, and he took our leader from us. He probably thinks he's untouchable right now, that he's gotten away with what he did.

DARRYL

Well, I intend on proving him wrong.

VAHN

Me too.

AMBER

I couldn't just walk away now, not after what happened to Danny.

CLINE

I hope you're ready, Silvestro, because you've started a war. Even if it costs us everything, we are going to bring you and your entire empire down. For Danny Heat.

IN THE COFFIN

We see Roger lying in gentle repose. As Cline finishes talking, Roger's eyes open. He has an immensely satisfied look on his face.

ROGER

Nice.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Francine is standing with a PLUMBER 1. He's going over her bill as PLUMBER 2 takes out one of the old toilets on a dolly. Steve and Haley happily and quietly type on their respective devices, which are plugged into wall sockets. Claus happily swims circles in his bowl, which is now full of clean water.

PLUMBER 1

All right ma'am, new toilets are installed. Here's your bill, and you have a good day.

FRANCINE

Thank you.

Francine walks out toward the living room.

EXT. BACK YARD

Stan sits on the doorstep, staring vacantly ahead. He's a broken man. Francine steps out and sits down next to him.

FRANCINE

Okay Stan, it's all taken care of. Your old toilet is in a better place.

STAN

When the water came back on--did it at least flush?

Francine puts her hand on Stan's shoulder.

FRANCINE

We tried, Stan.

Stan starts sobbing.

STAN

I just don't understand. How did things get so out of hand?

FRANCINE

Honey, I'm sorry about the whole toilet changeover. Really, I am. But you took your own opinion and put it above everything else. Look, maybe you were right; maybe Obamacare isn't right for us,

STAN

Obama-what?

FRANCINE

The toilets! Sorry, I meant the new toilets. Maybe they're not the right change to make, but the family had spoken and the decision was made. You can't just go breaking the system every time you disagree with it; that system is our family, and the agreements we make get us through every day. Like it or not, a place where your opinion can always be heard is more important than the opinion itself.

Stan sighs.

STAN

I know.

FRANCINE

You do?

STAN

Yeah, I get the whole idea. It's just that recently I've felt left behind. All these decisions are being made, and the house is changing, and I don't want it to. I'm worried if this goes on, I might not recognize the place I live anymore.

FRANCINE

I wish I had something to make you feel better, Stan, but I guess that's just part of life. If it's of any consolation, no matter what your house looks like, you'll always be welcome in it.

STAN

Thanks, Francine.

Roger walks into the shot. He's still in his Danny Heat disguise, but the clothes are messed up and he's covered in dirt.

ROGER

Hey guys! Wow, you look a mess. Is the stansanity over with and the utilities back up?

FRANCINE

Yeah, it's over.

ROGER

Good, because I just travelled two thousand miles after digging myself out of a grave and uh, apparently I didn't wash the entire way, for some reason. I need a shower.

THE END