

Traffic Stop

by

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INT. CAR - DAY

STEVE RUEGGER is a sunglass-wearing 21 year old whose adequate posture and lack of athleticism disallows him from having any bit of a rebellious nature. Each time he takes one of the strings of his hooded sweatshirt out from in between his teeth is almost guaranteed to be followed by a wise crack said with a thick lisp.

JAKE, also 21, is his seemingly always happy roommate who has that face you just want to punch. His smile is so big that it opens his entire mouth, usually along with too many words.

The two are driving home from a day at the local ski resort.

JAKE

This song bumps dude, turn this
shit up!

STEVE

Alright, alright.

Steve turns the volume up ever so gently.

JAKE

And would you step on the gas, man
I'm trying to get home before dark.

STEVE

You know what I wish I had? One of
those sound systems that gets
louder when you speed up.

JAKE

Yeah too bad you'll never be able
to hear any music because you drive
so damn slow.

STEVE

Relax, okay? I'm going like five
over the speed limit.

JAKE

Woah dude you're bad ass. Where'd
you learn to drive, Danica Patrick.

Jake turns the music up even higher.

INT. COP CAR - MEANWHILE

OFFICER DANA GOODSSELL is a 47 year old police officer who is convinced that her Spiderman watch she borrowed from her son makes her look cool. Her hair is back in a ponytail, making her look tougher than she really is.

OFFICER MIKE MCDONNELL is sitting passenger with a goatee to match his douchebag persona. He is 59, but it seems as if the salt and pepper hair color he went for should have more pepper in it.

OFFICER MCDONNELL

The youth just doesn't understand.
We need a president who will make
our country amazing like it used to
be.

OFFICER GOODSSELL

Again with this? Donald Trump just
isn't going to win.

OFFICER MCDONNELL

You want to bet? The country is
ready for change.

OFFICER GOODSSELL

Exactly.

Officer Goodsell hears a call coming in over the microphone and lowers the volume.

OFFICER MCDONNELL

Turn that back up, it could be
about the car!

OFFICER GOODSSELL

Okay, jeez! It was hurting my ears.

Officer Goodsell turns the radio back up to around the same level it was at before. She rubs her forehead as if she has a headache.

OFFICER GOODSSELL

I need some pot or something. My
head is killing me.

OFFICER MCDONNELL

Are you nuts? You better-

A car drives on the highway by the parked squad car, capturing both the officers attention.

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER MCDONNELL
Drive! Drive!

INT. CAR - MEANWHILE

STEVE
Because it's my car! You shouldn't
be complaining because you could be
driving.. oh wait. Your car is a
piece of shit.

JAKE
Hey watch the way you talk. I
worked on that car a lot over the
summer.

STEVE
Yeah, it's just too bad the car
doesn't work.

Steve laughs.

JAKE
Yeah good one dude. Keep sitting on
your ass and your parents will buy
you a new car you lazy-

STEVE
Oh my god. I think that cop is
after us.

JAKE
Yeah they gotta watch out for Dale
Earnhardt the third. Or maybe the
music was too loud.

STEVE
No dude I'm serious. Look.

Steve points to the rearview window. The two are in awe at
the blue and red lights flashing behind them.

INT. COP CAR - MEANWHILE

OFFICER GOODSSELL
I was just joking.

OFFICER MCDONNELL
It's not funny.

OFFICER GOODSSELL
It was a joke!

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER MCDONNELL
Just drive, don't let these guys
get away.

Officer Goodsell speeds up.

OFFICER MCDONNELL
You don't have any pot on you,
right?

OFFICER GOODSSELL
I told you it was a joke. Quit with
that!

OFFICER MCDONNELL
Okay that's good to hear. I
wouldn't want to get pulled over.

Officer McDonnell laughs.

Officer Goodsell stares at him with a look that could kill.

INT. CAR - DAY

Steve is signaling to the right median of the highway to
pull over.

STEVE
Oh my god I can't get another
ticket my parents are gonna kill
me.

JAKE
Yet they still pay for your
tickets.

STEVE
That's not the point, Jake. Ugh.

JAKE
It's all good bro. No worries.

STEVE
Why are you so calm? Freaking
delinquent. You don't have any weed
on you, right?

Jake motions his head away from Steve. Sighing and mumbling
profanity.

STEVE
Right?

No reply.

(CONTINUED)

Steve slams his fist on the steering wheel, letting out a loud grunt.

STEVE

The one thing. One thing I asked you to do and you.. oh my god I'm so freaking pissed right now.

JAKE

I'm sorry bro, I didn't mean to- if we get caught I'll take the blame.

STEVE

(sarcastically)

Oh you'll take the blame? That's so nice of you.

You better take the fucking blame. Where is it?

JAKE

Don't worry bro, it's in the glove compartment.

Steve pulls the car over, then places both hands on his head in disbelief.

He goes to open the glove compartment. Jake stops him.

STEVE

What are you doing? We gotta move it somewhere else.

JAKE

No way man, it's gonna stink up your whole car. This is some good shit.

Steve is at a loss of words, and at a loss of energy for even attempting to correct his friend.

JAKE

You really ain't gotta worry like that, man. I know my rights. They can't open the glove compartment without a warrant.

STEVE

This isn't a joke, this is a real situation.

(CONTINUED)

JAKE

Nah bro, I'm serious! You've never heard that Jay-Z song before?

STEVE

This can't be happening right now.

Officer Goodsell walks up to the passenger window.

OFFICER GOODSSELL

Hi, license and registration please.

(pointing to Jake)

And uh, I'm gonna need your license as well, sir.

Steve hands her the license.

STEVE

Here you go, officer. How fast was I going.

Jake laughs to himself, then hands over his driver's license to the officer.

Officer Goodsell is looking over the licenses.

OFFICER GOODSSELL

Well you weren't speeding, I'm gonna need that registration too.

STEVE

Yeah sure. Let me just look for it.

OFFICER GOODSSELL

Yeah we actually have a report of a stolen vehicle matching the make and model of this car, so if you could just let me verify the registration and you can be on your way.

STEVE

It's in the glove compartment.

Steve and Jake look at each other in disbelief.

OFFICER GOODSSELL

That's fine, uh, Steven. If you could just go ahead and grab it for me that would be great.

(CONTINUED)

JAKE

Excuse me officer, but I think we're going to reserve our second amendment right and ask you to please move away while we open the glove compartment being that you don't have a warrant with you.

Officer Goodsell motions to her hip.

Steve punches Jake in the arm.

STEVE

(whispering but yelling)
You fucking idiot.

Sorry, officer. I think he means the fourth amendment.

OFFICER GOODSSELL

Now you guys better have permits if you're carrying a concealed weapon.

STEVE

No we're not, I swear! You want to see what's in there, it's just a small amount of marijuana, I'm sorry.

Jake punches Steve in the arm.

OFFICER GOODSSELL

Alright, thanks for being honest. Now which one of you two is going to own up to it?

STEVE & JAKE

(in unison)
It's mine.

The two boys look at each other, as if they just became best friends.

STEVE

We actually don't have any weed on us, we were just playing.

OFFICER GOODSSELL

I see. You boys figure out where the hell that registration is by the time I get back, okay? I'm going to go have a word with my partner about this.

Officer Goodsell walks back to her car.

INT. COP CAR - MEANWHILE

Officer Goodsell gets back into the car.

OFFICER MCDONNELL
So, is that the car?

OFFICER GOODSSELL
I think these guys are high on something. Probably smoking pot, but I didn't smell anything so I don't think we can search.

OFFICER MCDONNELL
Damn I want to get these bastards. Let's run these ID's and see what we find.

INT. CAR - MEANWHILE

Steve looking behind at the cop car.

STEVE
Okay, it's clear. Let's hide that shit.

JAKE
Hey man, what you did back there was nice of you. You didn't have to do that.

STEVE
Yeah, yeah whatever. Just open it up and let's move the weed somewhere's else.

JAKE
Nah I can't let you do that man.

STEVE
What? Why? I'll freaking eat it I don't give a shit.

JAKE
Well, there isn't any weed in it, that's the thing.

STEVE
Are you kidding me?

INT. COP CAR - MEANWHILE

OFFICER GOODSSELL
Public urination? That's it?

OFFICER MCDONNELL
And the other one is clean. I can't believe this crap.

OFFICER GOODSSELL
What do we do?

OFFICER MCDONNELL
Let's do it the old fashioned way,
scare the shit out of them.

OFFICER GOODSSELL
I don't see why not.

INT. CAR - MEANWHILE

STEVE
You're kidding me! You absolutely got to be joking.

JAKE
Hah! You should've seen your face!

STEVE
This isn't funny. You have serious issues dude. You almost got us arrested!

JAKE
It's all good. Oh look, look! Here they come!

STEVE
Alright, we're good. Just let me do the talking this time, would you?

JAKE
(laughing)
Okay, okay.

The two police officers walk up to the car, one on either side.

OFFICER MCDONNELL
Let me do the talking, alright?

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER GOODSSELL
Good with me.

The cops arrive at the car and the boys roll down their windows.

STEVE
Hi, Officer... McDonnell.

OFFICER MCDONNELL
Don't try that nice stuff with me,
we know you guys are holding.

JAKE
(urging to butt in)
But sir-

OFFICER MCDONNELL
No butts! Get out of the damn car
now.

JAKE
Sir, don't you think that's a
little extreme? I mean we-

OFFICER GOODSSELL
You heard him. Get out of the car
now!

STEVE
Just do what they say, Jake. We've
got nothing to hide.

Jake reaches for the glove compartment and opens it. The cops motion to their weapons until they realize there isn't a real threat to their safety.

The glove compartment swings open, exposing a bag of marijuana inside.

Steve and Jake are in disbelief.

OFFICER MCDONNELL
There it is! We caught you guys.

OFFICER GOODSSELL
Okay, wow, I actually thought you
guys didn't have anything on you to
be honest.

OFFICER MCDONNELL
Now do one of you want to 'fess up
to this?

(CONTINUED)

STEVE
Officer, the bag of weed-

All four of the heads turn toward another car flying by the side of them. It is the make and model of the car they are driving, although the color and the year may be off by a bit.

Officer Goodsell tosses the two ID's into the car and sprints back to get into hers.

OFFICER GOODSSELL
You boys drive safe, alright? Let's go McDonnell!

OFFICER MCDONNELL
Aw, but-

Oh shit. You boys got lucky this time.

Officer McDonnell jogs seemingly fast for someone his age back to the cop car.

The two boys are speechless, and stare at each other in awe.

JAKE
What just happened?

STEVE
I have no idea.

JAKE
That guy just saved your ass.

STEVE
My ass?

JAKE
Yeah your ass, you were about to 'fess up. What, you were gonna rat me out?

The two cops whizz past them with their sirens on and lights flashing.

STEVE
You told me there wasn't anything in there!

JAKE
I forgot I put it in there!

(CONTINUED)

STEVE
Throw it out the window. All of it.

JAKE
C'mon but.

STEVE
Throw it out.

Jake empties the bag outside.

JAKE
Once again, I save the day.

Steve laughs at that.

The two boys drive off, still in shock at what just occurred. Laughing as they get back on the road, and continue home.

The car moves farther away off screen, as the audio fades.

JAKE (O.S.)
Speed up, will ya?

STEVE (O.S.)
Watch it.

FADE OUT

THE END