DEAD LOST

screenplay by

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WGA: 1260092 (c)2008 Jack Cook & Cindy Keller EXT. MORGUE - NIGHT

FLIP, a paramedic in his 30s, stomps down a sidewalk toward a nondescript building.

FLIP (mumbling) Someone might steal the radio. Give me a break.

He waves his hands around excitedly.

FLIP We're at a morgue! It's the middle of the night! Who's gonna' steal the radio?! The walking dead?!

He GROWLS with anger. A sign on the door reads: MORGUE. He KNOCKS. The door opens. A frowning MORTICIAN, 40s, stands inside.

## MORTICIAN Where's the fat one?

Flip lifts a thumb over his shoulder. The mortician stretches to look where he points.

MORTICIAN Did he give you the papers?

## FLIP

Check.

Flip reaches to his back pant pocket, pulls out papers, and hands them to him. The mortician closes the door.

Flip turns around, waits. He folds his arms in front of him. His finger taps his arm. He HUMS out a tune, and nods his head. He hums LOUDER.

The door opens back up. The mortician clears his throat.

## MORTICIAN

Ah HUM!

Flip swings around, startled. The mortician pushes a gurney. On top is a sealed plastic BODY BAG. Flip reaches out and checks the TAG. Looks at the Mortician. FLIP Time of death?

MORTICIAN 2:37pm. Don't worry. He's packed in dry ice so--

FLIP Don't open it. We know the drill. What's his name?

MORTICIAN Why? Taking him out to dinner?

Flip gives the Mortician a frown.

MORTICIAN Now beat it before someone sees you.

FLIP Don't sweat it, pops. This ain't rocket science.

The mortician watches Flip pull the gurney outside. Flip struts down the sidewalk, toward an AMBULANCE. The mortician shakes his head. He looks around in different directions, then closes the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

Flip makes it to the back door of the ambulance.

EDDIE, another paramedic in his 30s, comes around the ambulance from the opposite side. Stops and notices the "AMBULANCE" sticker plastered on the side is peeling off. Eddie makes a half-hearted attempt to stick it back on. Continues to the ambulance rear door. Opens it.

> FLIP Did anyone steal the radio?

Eddie looks confused.

EDDIE

No.

FLIP

Lazy!

EDDIE You're lazy! Open the other side.

FLIP You open the other side.

Anger builds on Eddie's face.

EDDIE If you don't open the other door, I'm gonna stick your face in a pile of roadkill.

Flip looks off in thought for a second. He opens the other door.

THE INSIDE OF THE AMBULANCE

looks like a cargo van. A very messy cargo van. Fast food wrappers. Garbage. Plastic crates. Blankets. And just plain junk. Flip clears a path.

> EDDIE I told you to clean it out yesterday.

FLIP You're not my boss. And it's your van.

EDDIE Stick him in there.

Flip and Eddie exchange a frown. They stare at each other. Flip throws his hands up in the air.

> FLIP I do everything!

Eddie makes a face, oh really.

Flip reaches for the body. Eddie reaches for the body at the same time. They lift it up, and toss it inside the ambulance. It lands with a PLOP.

Flip and Eddie head to the front of the ambulance, open the doors and get inside. The MOTOR starts. It revs a few times. They drive away.

WIPE TO:

INT. HOUSE BASEMENT - NIGHT

ROY, a wiry man in his 60s, descends a staircase. He COUGHS onto a tray of food as he reaches the bottom.

ROY Now you sit down or you won't get nothin'. Don't want any misbehavin' like this morning.

He walks into a dimly lit, musty room. Anger strikes across his face. He slams the tray to the ground.

ROY I'll be horn toad.

A HEAVY STEELE CHAIN lays on the floor. Close by, a pile of bones on a plate. He turns and stomps back up the stairs.

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODED ROAD - NIGHT

Creepy, dark and secluded area. Acres and acres of trees and only one road cuts through it. In the distance the ambulance gradually cruises into the foreground.

MUSIC rises - it's coming from the ambulance. It's THE PINA COLADA SONG. And Eddie is singing along. Badly.

EDDIE (SINGING) ... And in the personals column, there was this letter I read: If you like Pina Coladas, and getting caught in the rain. If you're not into yoga, if you have half-abrain...

INT. AMBULANCE - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Eddie drives. Flip sits in the passenger seat. Between the two, a citizen's band radio, mounted into the dash. A stocking cap rests on top of the dashboard.

Eddie stops singing and turns off the radio. Looks at Flip.

EDDIE Alright what is it dude. I've seen that look before.

FLIP What look? EDDIE The 'what does it all mean' look. Flip takes the stocking cap, puts it on. FLIP This is it. This is my last run. Eddie looks at him, rolls his eyes. EDDIE Here we go again ... FLIP I mean it this time. EDDIE Yeah, and what are you gonna do? FLIP Go back to school. Become a veterinarian. Eddie LAUGHS. FLIP Look at us Eddie. Here we are in the middle of a creepy town, driving around with a corpse in the back of the van. EDDIE But it pays the bills. FLIP Six years of this crap takes its toll. It's too depressing. This is a dead--(looks at back of the van) Um... end job. EDDIE Hey we started out delivering a kidney, a heart or some eyes. Now they've got us delivering the whole corpse! That's progress baby!

Flip looks at Eddie, perplexed.

FLIP What's next? Kidnapping? I've had bad dreams lately, too.

EDDIE

Dreams?

FLIP Dead guys surround me saying they want their body parts back, then they start ripping me apart.

Eddie's eyes widen.

MALE VOICE (over radio) Breaker. Bullwinkle, you read me?

Eddie picks up the CB microphone, speaks smugly.

EDDIE (into mic) Loud and clear, Captain Midnight.

MALE VOICE (over radio) Did you get the package?

EDDIE (into mic) Right on time.

MALE VOICE (over radio) And time is what I'm calling about. The client needs that package ASAP. You have to be extra careful with this one. He's one of a kind.

EDDIE (into mic) One of a kind?

MALE VOICE (over radio) Very special. Worth a lot of money to everyone. And an extra five hundred to each of you.

Eddie LAUGHS.

EDDIE (into mic) What's so special about him? Does he have giant man parts or something? Flip LAUGHS. Him and Eddie high five each other. EDDIE (to Flip) He's a homo. MALE VOICE (over radio) Hey! Eddie jumps, frightened by the shouting. MALE VOICE (over radio) No screw ups! Or it'll be YOUR lungs we deliver... on a platter! You copy?! EDDIE (into mic) Yeah... geesh.. over. He hangs up the mic and looks at Flip, innocently sucking on a JUICE BOX. EDDIE Have you ever heard of soda? FLIP I like 'em. They're portable. EDDIE

Dude, you need to get out of your parents house.

Flip looks out the windshield. He stiffens in his seat.

FLIP

Tree!

EDDIE

Tree?

Eddie looks back to road, SCREAMS.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD

a large FALLEN TREE obstructs the road.

Eddie and Flip SCREAM together.

Eddie turns the steering wheel in a panic.

Brakes SQUEAL.

CUT TO BLACK

A LOUD CRASH!

CUT TO:

INT./EXT. TRUCK - NIGHT

ROY drives down the road. He scans the dense population of trees whizzing by as he drives.

ROY This is how you treat me after I take you in.

He looks around some more.

ROY You were nothin' but a lab rat 'for I found you. They said you couldn't be trained. But did I listen? Noocoo....

ROY'S TRUCK continues it's journey down the empty road.

ROY(O.S.) Wait till I get my hands on you.

WIPE TO:

INT. AMBULANCE - NIGHT

Eddie's head rests on the steering wheel. He wakes. He reaches over for Flip, head against the passenger door.

EDDIE Flip. Flip you okay?

Flip straightens up. The cap is pulled down over his eyes.

## FLIP I'm blind! I can't see!

Eddie smacks him in his head, and rips the hat off of him. Flip looks around, amazed.

FLIP

Oh.

Eddie and Flip open their doors, stepping out of the ambulance.

CUT TO:

INT. AMBULANCE - NIGHT

Eddie and Flip stand at the back of the ambulance, stunned. Moonlight shines through the door.

The corpse is gone.

FLIP We've been bodyjacked!

EDDIE No, no... we haven't seen a speck of life for the last 25 miles. Must have fell out during the accident. Can't be too far. You gotta go get him.

Flip seems surprised.

FLIP Me! Why me?

EDDIE Because I gotta fix the van. Because you don't know the difference between a spark plug and my left testicle. (beat) Just go get him back here.

Flip glares at Eddie and walks into the woods.

FLIP (mumbling) ... my left testicle. Gimme a break.

CUT TO:

Flip walks along looking at the ground.

FLIP When I'm gone, he'll be sorry. He won't have anyone to yell at then. Maybe his new partner will be bigger than he is and will yell at him. See how he likes it.

A SNAP gets his attention. He freezes, listens. Another SNAP turns him in a different direction. Flip pushes some brush aside. He looks between leaves and sees...

A DARK FIGURE

silhouetted against the moonlight, crouched over the remains of a deer. The figure munches away, unaware of Flip.

Flip's jaw drops. He fidgets nervously with fear. He backs away, very cautiously.

CUT TO:

EXT. VAN - NIGHT

Eddie stands in front of the open hood looking at the motor with a flashlight. Flip walks backward, and bumps into him. They face each other.

Eddie turns the flashlight on him, lights his face. Flip stares at him, dazed.

EDDIE Flip! You retard. You almost got yourself kung fu'd.

FLIP I found our guy.

Eddie looks confused.

EDDIE So where's he at?

FLIP He's kinda' busy.

EDDIE (agitated) Dead people aren't busy. FLIP This one is.

EDDIE Come on! There's no time for games.

FLIP I'm not playin'...

Flip's expression becomes serious.

FLIP

He's eating.

Eddie stares numbly at him.

EDDIE Eating? Eating what?

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Eddie and Flip huddle in the bushes. They move branches to get a better look.

We now see more details of the silhouetted figure:

Chowing on the deer is a GANGLY MAN with long spiked hair and powder blue skin. Pupil-less eyes as white as snow. His GNARLY, BLOOD-SOAKED TEETH bite through deer flesh.

Eddie now has the same look of disbelief Flip had earlier.

CUT TO:

EXT. AMBULANCE - NIGHT

Eddie digs through the cluttered back while Flip watches. Eddie pulls out a blanket, jumper cables and a hammer.

> FLIP I gotta bad feeling about this.

EDDIE It'll work. Trust me.

FLIP This ain't in my job description. CONTINUED:

EDDIE Don't be a wuss! Let's go.

Flip frowns at Eddie.

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Flip and Eddie sneak up to the bushes. They push the branches aside, and take a peek. Remains of the deer on the ground.

The monster is gone.

EDDIE Aww, crap! I told you to stay here!

FLIP You did not!

Eddie and Flip exchange looks.

Eddie starts walking deeper into the woods.

EDDIE

C'mon.

FLIP Can I go back and get a juice box first? I'm thirsty.

EDDIE No! We're running out of time!

Flip pouts. Strikes his WALKING STICK against a tree and follows Eddie.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

ROY'S TRUCK screeches to a halt.

Roy gets out with a SHOTGUN in his hands and walks over to

FLIP AND EDDIE'S ABANDONED AMBULANCE

ROY quickly assesses the damaged front hood. Walks over to the side where the PASSENGER DOOR is still open.

CLOSE UP

(CONTINUED)

Passenger seat. There sits a couple unopened JUICE BOXES. Roy's hand enters the frame. And takes one.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Flip walks behind Eddie, both searching the area.

FLIP What if he's from outer space? That would explain why he's so special..

EDDIE Don't be a pinhead. He's just some junkie hopped up on heroine.

As Eddie walks, he grabs his stomach.

EDDIE Oh, man. Revenge of the nachos.

Eddie stops.

EDDIE Shhh. What was that?

Off screen, we hear a deep-throated GROWL. Flip frantically looks to find the source of the sound. Spins around just as

THE BLUE MONSTER MAN

falls from a near by tree with a THUD! He GROWLS, and wobbles toward Flip.

Flip's eyes widen in fear. The monster has Flip cornered against tree!

Eddie throws the jumper cables over his shoulder. Straightens the blanket. Approaches the monster from behind.

> FLIP (trembling) Nice zombie... nice boy...

EDDIE is almost upon the monster when...

A SHOTGUN BARREL is thrust against Eddie's head!

VOICE (0.S.) What are you doin' on my land!

(CONTINUED)

Flip turns toward the voice and sees ROY holding the shotgun against Eddie's head. Immediately Flip and Eddie both raise their hands. Eddie drops the blanket. The monster remains fixated on Flip.

> ROY (to Eddie) Speak! And what are you doin' with Reggie?

Eddie and Flip look at each other.

EDDIE AND FLIP

Reggie?

The old man points the gun barrel at the monster.

ROY Reggie. (to Blue Monster Man) Filthy beast. Look at the trouble you've caused me. Git back! Git!

The Blue Monster Man growls softly, reluctantly steps back a few feet. He turns the shotgun back on Flip and Eddie.

FLIP Uh, sir... Reggie's with us. Special delivery.

Roy COCKS his shotgun.

FLIP

Or not.

ROY Reggie ain't going nowhere but with me. But then you'll know. Won't you? Can't have that.

Eddie covers his mouth, whispers to Flip.

EDDIE I think I can take him.

Flip takes a step forward. He falls down on his knees.

FLIP No! Please! I'm too young to die!

ROY No such thing.

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Roy takes aim, but...

THE BLUE MONSTER MAN

leaps at Roy, knocking off his feet. Roy's shotgun is jarred from his hands, landing on the ground.

Eddie pulls Flip to his feet. They step back, and huddle together as they watch in horror.

Roy SCREAMS O.S.

Flip picks up the BLANKET and moves toward the monster. But Eddie holds Flip back.

EDDIE No. FLIP What? EDDIE Let 'em go. FLIP Let him go? Eddie nods. Eddie nods. EDDIE Screw the delivery? FLIP And the money?

Eddie shakes his head.

EDDIE He saved our life. We owe Mr. Blue Man. Big time.

More SCREAMS from ROY O.S.

Eddie and Flip watch the monster rough up Roy. They each make a sour face.

O.S. CRUNCHES.

EDDIE That can't be good for anybody.

Flip nods in agreement.

FLIP An arm comes off that easy? Wow...

Roy's shredded body lays on the ground. Blue Monster Man looks at Flip and Eddie. They take a step back. Flip flashes a wave.

> FLIP We'll be going now, Reggie. We won't bother you no more. (beat) Here.

Flip pulls something out of his pocket. Places the item on a rock near Reggie. It's a package of REESE'S PIECES.

FLIP (to Blue Monster Man) Cleans the palette.

The monster returns its attention to feasting on Roy's remains.

CUT TO:

EXT. AMBULANCE - NIGHT

The beat up ambulance inches its way down the empty road. We hear the ENGINE turning - and dying.

EDDIE (0.S.) Keep pushing! Almost there!

Flip enters the frame, pushing from the back, HUFFING and PUFFING.

The engine turns again - and ROARS to life! Eddie yells with glee. Flip jumps in and the ambulance drives off in the distance.

EDDIE (O.S.) You know what? Maybe you becoming a vet isn't a bad idea after all.

FLIP (O.S.)

Really?

EDDIE (O.S.) Yeah. You were pretty slick with Mr. Blue Man back there. FLIP (O.S.) Yeah. I was. Wasn't I?

We begin to drift away from the road and rapidly vanishing ambulance, descending down...

INTO THE WOODS

We SLOWLY TRACK through clusters of trees.

FLIP (O.S.) Eddie, what are we going to tell them? Captain Midnight is gonna be pissed.

EDDIE (0.S.) The truth. It got up and walked away.

DISSOLVE TO:

A CLEARING

STILL TRACKING along the ground we see a smattering of crisp, brand new HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS. As we track, the littered trail of money gets thicker and thicker.

FLIP (O.S.) Yeah. What can they say?

EDDIE (0.S.) Exactly. We got real lucky tonight. It's a sign, kiddo. Good things are comin' are way.

We STOP TRACKING and land on the BODY BAG Flip and Eddie once had in their ambulance. It's ripped open. Dozens more HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS spilling out of the bag.

> FLIP (O.S.) I think you're right, Eddie. I think you're right.

> > FADE OUT:

THE END