

The Thing

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Scene: MacReady's Shack

CHESS WIZARD

Your move....Your move....Your move.

SOUND: ICE DROPPING IN GLASS, LIQUID POURING INTO GLASS

MACREADY

Hold on a sec. I'm gonna need somethin' to keep me warm in the frozen, Antarctic cold.

SOUND: SIP

MACREADY

Okay. Let's get started.

SOUND: TYPING ON A KEYBOARD

CHESS WIZARD

Your move. Bishop to Knight 4. My move. Knight to Rook 3.

MACREADY

Poor baby, you're starting to lose it, are ya?

SOUND: TYPING ON A KEYBOARD

CHESS WIZARD

Your move. King to Rook 1. My move. Rook to Knight 6. Checkmate. Checkmate.

MACREADY

Here. A toast to your celebration.

SOUND: LIQUID POURING INTO BOX. SPARKS

MACREADY

Cheatin' bitch.

SOUND: MUFFLED HELICOPTER SOUND

MACREADY

What the hell is that?

SCENE: ANTARCTIC US OUTPOST BASE

SOUND: OPENING DOOR. WIND HOWLING. HELICOPTER WHIRRING AROUND.

(CONTINUED)

MACREADY

Doesn't look like our helicopter. Hey, Childs!

SOUND: WALKING IN SNOW

MACREADY

Childs. What's that helicopter doin'?

CHILDS

Circlin' the camp.

MACREADY

Who's that helicopter belong to?

CHILDS

It said Norge or somethin' on the side.

SOUND: MORE FOOTSTEPS ON THE SNOW

MACREADY

Norris, you know what that means?

NORRIS

It's Norwegian.

CHILDS

Why are they circlin' around the camp?

NORRIS

No idea.

MACREADY

Could be that they're lookin' for somethin'.

SOUND: MORE FOOTSTEPS ON THE SNOW

BENNINGS

Did I miss anything?

MACREADY

Hey, Bennings. Nothing much. They're just circlin' around the camp.

SOUND: HELICOPTER COMING CLOSER. LANDS

MACREADY

Now what are they doin'?

BENNINGS

Look. There's a dog comin' towards us.

SOUND: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS ON THE SNOW

BENNINGS

Whoa. Hey, boy. What's the matter? Are these guys scarin' ya?

CHILDS

There's a guy coming out of that chopper. Looks like he has something in his hand.

MACREADY

He pulled something out of it. It's a grenade! It slipped out of his hand! Get down!

SOUND: NORWEGIAN SCREAMING IN HIS LANGUAGE. EXPLOSION

CHILDS

Bastard took his own chopper out. Looks like his pilot friend ain't so lucky.

BENNINGS

What the hell?

SOUND: NORWEGIAN TALKING IN HIS LANGUAGE

BENNINGS

What's he sayin'?

CHILDS

I'm guessing it's Norwegian. Don't know what he's sayin'?

MACREADY

Whatever it is, he seems pretty spooked.

SOUND: NORWEGIAN SCREAMING

MACREADY

Hey! Put the gun down!

CHILDS

Put that gun down!

SOUND: GUNSHOTS

BENNINGS

Ah! He's got my leg.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS THROUGH THE SNOW

BENNINGS

Where's he goin'?

MACREADY

He seems intent on killing that dog than us.

BENNINGS

He found the dog. He's ready to fire.

SOUND: DISTANT GUNSHOT

MACREADY

Shot right in the eye.

CHILDS

Tough way to go.

MACREADY

Seems like our ol' Captain Garry took him out.

CHILDS

I was wonderin' when he would use that gun of his.

MACREADY

Bennings, you okay?

BENNINGS

Yeah, I'm fine.

MACREADY

Stay here. Childs, get the rest of the guys out with some fire extinguishers, put some of that fire out.

CHILDS

Okay.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS IN THE SNOW

MACREADY

C'mon, see if you can't kick some of this snow on that fire.

SOUND: KICKING SNOW. MULTIPLE FOOTSTEPS IN SNOW. FIRE EXTINGUISHERS GO OFF

MACREADY

First goddamn week of winter.