

GODWIN'S LAW
a short for 2016.

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EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING (NIGHT)

A towering, upper middle-class apartment building. Nice brickwork.

LEAVES RUSTLE in the autumn wind.

A chill is in the air.

PUSH IN on an OPEN WINDOW on one of the higher floors...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - BABY'S ROOM (NIGHT)

The room is filled to the brim with TOYS and STUFFED ANIMALS and assorted baby bric-a-brac. Somebody really loves their kid.

ON THE CRIB:

A WOMAN gently places her bundle of joy down to sleep. She KISSES her SLEEPING BABY on the forehead.

Taking care with each step she leaves the room. Gingerly CLOSING THE DOOR behind her.

ON THE sweet sleeping baby.

ON THE WHITE CURTAINS gently fluttering in the breeze.

ON THE sweet sweet baby, dreaming baby dreams.

ON the DOORKNOB. It slowly TURNS.

The door CRACKS OPEN. A MAN, with dark features and tired eyes, peers into the room.

This is GODWIN.

Taking one last look behind him, Godwin steps into the room and closes the door as quietly as he opened it.

He looks across the room at the crib. A gulf between them.

Godwin slowly, deliberately walks toward it, until finally he's

standing over the crib.

He looks down at the baby. Tilts his head to get a good look at its face in that way you do when you look at a baby.

Godwin closes his eyes. Does an ABOUT FACE. He can't stand to look at it.

He takes a moment. Grinds his jaw. Opens his eyes and turns back to the crib.

He reaches down and picks up a PILLOW from the floor. Holds it with both hands, white-knuckled.

Now's his time. He takes the pillow and starts to SMOTHER THE BABY.

Before he knows what's happening there's a

BLINDING FLASH from behind. He darts around and comes face-to-face with a

GUN BARREL. Thirty-eight special. Pointed right at his head.

POLLAK

Don't do it, Godwin.

POLLAK: 50s, balding, slight, wearing a BEIGE RAINCOAT. He slides his FEDORA back on his head.

GODWIN

How did you--

POLLAK

I picked out the spike of the temporal incursion in the background noise.

(beat)

I never miss a spike.

GODWIN

Are you going to shoot me?

POLLAK

November 5th. Election day. You have a fine sense of irony.

GODWIN

Pollak--

POLLAK

--don't. Just don't.

(beat)

You're better than this, Godwin.

GODWIN

I know the rules. I know the code.
But this one...just this once...

POLLAK

Can't happen. Won't happen.

GODWIN

You know what he is. What he does.
He's a monster.

POLLAK

You're about to commit infanticide.
Who's the monster.

GODWIN

Don't get sanctimonious with me.
I've seen what you've done. What
we've done.

POLLAK

It's not too late, Godwin. I'm here
alone. Didn't log the trip. Come
back with me and we'll pretend like
this never happened. You can
retire. You burned out. Happens to
the best of us. You'll still get
your pension.

Godwin considers this, when the

DOOR OPENS. A mustachioed MAN steps inside, who's face
CRINKLES at the sight of the two armed men standing over his
child.

MUSTACHIOED MAN

What the hell is--

POLLAK turns, grabs a handheld device from his pocket and
presses a button that

ZAPS the Mustachioed Man, who crumples into a heap on the
floor. Out cold.

Pollak turns to see

GODWIN DANGLING THE BABY OUT THE WINDOW.

Pollak reflexively brings his PISTOL TO BEAR:

GODWIN

Blinker won't work on me. You're
gonna have to shoot.

POLLAK
Godwin--

GODWIN
(yelling)
Stop...saying my name!

POLLAK
(calmly)
Godwin. Put the kid down and come
with me.

GODWIN
(re: the gun)
You won't.

POLLAK
You know better than to cross the
bulldog.

GODWIN
Me? For him? All those people! All
that suffering! All because of him!

POLLAK
Godwin, this isn't how we do
things!
(beat)
This is the last time I'll say it.

GODWIN
(shaking head)
...I won't let it happen again. I
won't. I won't!

Godwin TOSSES THE BABY OUT THE WINDOW.

Pollak SHOOTS and Godwin FALLS TO THE FLOOR.

Without skipping a beat Pollak grabs another DEVICE from his
pocket, activates it and he DISAPPEARS IN A FLASH.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING (NIGHT)

POLLAK MATERIALIZES out of thin air in a BURST OF COLORFUL
ENERGY and

CATCHES THE BABY.

Pollak lets out a sigh.

The baby starts to cry.

He starts to rock it, gently shushing, calming it down.

He adjusts his hat.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - BABY'S ROOM

Pollak sets the baby back down in the crib.

He looks at the lifeless body of Godwin on the floor. Places a small SILVER DEVICE on his forehead and an indicator light FLAHERS GREEN.

Godwin's body disappears in a brilliant FLASH, leaving nothing but the faint IMPRINT of his body on the carpet.

Not looking away from the empty space, Pollak retrieves another simple device, about the size of a USB drive.

POLLAK

(into the device)

Pollak, reporting. November 5th
1946.

(beat)

It's started.

(beat)

Recommend we classify this as a
category one incursion point. I'll
start recruiting some new personnel
when I get back...though we might
want someone else to train them. I
might be losing my touch.

(beat)

Until then, suggest we divert
agents from the Hitler detail.

He snaps the device off, puts it back in his pocket.

POLLAK (CONT'D)

(sotto)

Godwin.

CUT TO:

POV--POLLAK'S FACE COMES INTO FOCUS.

ON the MUSTACHIOED MAN'S FACE. He's coming to.

POLLAK

No cause for alarm, sir. We got him
before he could do any harm.

MUSTACHIOED MAN
(confused)
What...what happened?

POLLAK
You had an intruder in your home,
sir. He was after your son.

MUSTACHIOED MAN
(standing)
What...what kind of person would
want to harm an innocent baby?

POLLAK
Your son.

MUSTACHIOED MAN
(confused)
Yes, my son. What of it?

POLLAK
(beat)
There are monsters in this world,
sir. Never forget that.
(tips his hat)
Have a good night, Mr. Trump.

BLACK.

SUPER:

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE.

Godwin's law: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Godwin%27s_law

TED-ED How Did Hitler Rise to Power? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFICRFKtAc4>

5 Ways Donald Trump Perfectly Mirrors Hitler's Rise To Power:

<http://www.cracked.com/blog/why-comparing-donald-trump-to-hitler-makes-perfect-sense/>

Trump's Proposed First Move Eerily Like Hitler's:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/eric-schmeltzer/trumps-proposed-first-mov_b_11084210.html