

A MCCONNELL BIRTHDAY

COLLIN GOSSEL

INT. FESTIVE LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

The room is decorated for a child's birthday. MITCH MCCONNELL stands, setting up a table, in the middle of the room. He is approached by KEN, a young boy in a birthday hat.

KEN

Dad, is it time to open my presents?

MITCH

Almost, Ken. Before that though, I got you something I think you'll enjoy: a clown!

A CLOWN runs into the room and honks its nose.

KEN

Oh my gosh I love clowns! Thanks so much, Dad!

Ken runs and sits with the other kids, watching the clown. Another parent, BARRY, approaches Mitch.

BARRY

Your Ken is a real sweet kid.

MITCH

(aggressive)

I know it. Shut your fucking face, Gary.

BARRY

Jesus, Mitch, there are kids!

MITCH

That's Speaker Mitch McConnell to you, asshole, and the kids don't care. They're watching a clown. I can act however I damn well please.

Barry proffers a wrapped present.

BARRY

I guess as long as the kids are happy. Here's a gift for Ken - I think he'll like it.

Mitch takes the gift and smashes it against the ground repeatedly, then stomps on it, before throwing it out the front door. Ken, slightly distracted, looks behind him.

KEN

Dad, what's going on back there?

MITCH

Well, son, Barry and I haven't been getting along so he decided not to bring you any presents this year.

KEN

(sad)

Awww.

MITCH

Now go back to your clown!

KEN

Haha ok!

Ken turns back.

BARRY

Mitch, what the hell are you doing?

MITCH

Only one person can be loved in this house. Time for cake, kids!

The kids cheer and run over to the table! The clown follows, acting like a stupid goddamn clown. Mitch passes out tiny pre-cut slices of cake - each one barely a sliver with almost no icing. Ken eats his in a single bite.

KEN

Dad, can I have more cake? I'm still hungry.

MITCH

I'm so sorry son, the economy isn't doing well, and I'm afraid there isn't anymore cake to pass out.

KEN

Oh. Well, that's ok - I love you!

MITCH

I love you too, son.

Mitch cues the clown. The clown trips over its shoes and falls flat on its face on the table, ruining a child's slice of cake, but making the rest laugh.

While they're laughing, Mitch sneaks to the corner, where he takes a full 3/4's of the cake out from a drawer and, using his hands, tries to shove the entire thing into his face.

Barry watches the carnage, mouth agape, as Mitch shovels handful after handful of cake into his mouth while the children watch the clown. He finally walks up.

BARRY

Mitch, this is wrong.

MITCH

You think I give a shit about what's right and wrong, taint-face?

BARRY

Well, listen, I've got a friend coming over who might be able to help clean up this mess. He's actually a lot like you, I think you'll get along. Oh, here he comes now!

MERRICK walks in the front door.

BARRY

Hey, Merrick! Over here!

Merrick finds Barry and waves cheerily.

MITCH

He looks nice.

BARRY

He's really nice.

MITCH

I kind of like him.

BARRY

I'm glad.

Mitch takes a revolver out of his pocket and shoots Merrick in the head. Merrick collapses bloody on the ground.

All the kids look at the body, fearful. Then, the clown honks its nose once and, smiling, they look back towards it.

BARRY

Mitch, why?!

MITCH

He was trespassing, I have every right.

BARRY

You're a madman - help me get this body out of here before the kids notice. They'll be traumatized!

MITCH

The won't even fucking care. I could shoot down one man, I could shoot down a hundred men, I could smear my feces across your face and the kids wouldn't care. All they care about is their stupid, ugly, idiot, reality-star clown. I'm Mitch Fucking McConnell. I do whatever I damn well please.

A KID stands up, holding his smart phone.

KID

Hey, Mr. McConnell, I saw what you did and I got the whole thing on video.

MITCH

Hey Ken, you see that kid?

Ken looks over.

MITCH

He's a socialist and wants to kill the white working class. You're not friends anymore.

KEN

Ok, Dad. I love you!

MITCH

And I love you too, you stupid little piece of shit.

CLOWN

I love meeeeeee!

MITCH

Quiet, Donald. Clowns don't talk.