

**The Quiet Man - Ray Matsen**

*Satirical news report for news style comedy The Big News that aired on Channel 7*

NEWSREADER. THE GRAPHIC BEHIND HIM SHOWS A PICTURE OF A BALDING MAN WITH GLASSES AND A GUN NEARBY. THE TITLE READS "QUIET MAN".

NEWSREADER

Random shootings. Wherever or whenever they happen, it's always the quietest man on the street. And sadly it's happened again. This report from our U.S. correspondent Tifinnii Marauder.

CUT TO - FILE FOOTAGE. SLO-MO OF PEACEFUL MIDDLE AMERICAN SUBURBAN STREETS.

SFX: DRAMATIC, SINISTER MUSIC.

CUT TO - FILE FOOTAGE. SLO-MO OF AN AMERICAN PRISONER, WITH A JACKET ON HIS HEAD, BEING LEAD, IN HANDCUFFS, FROM A COURT.

CUT TO - A CRYING WOMAN. SURROUNDED BY POLICE, AMBULANCE MEN AND REPORTERS. SHE LOOKS SHOCKED AND CONFUSED.

WOMAN

(BLUBBERING) He was so quiet...

CUT TO - A THICK LOOKING AMERICAN GUY SURROUNDED BY POLICE, AMBULANCE MEN AND REPORTERS. HE LOOKS SHOCKED AND CONFUSED TOO.

MAN

I don't know... I... I just... he... he just... he just seemed so quiet....

CUT TO - FILE FOOTAGE OF AMERICAN POLICE AND AMBULANCES RUSHING DOWN A ROAD.

VOICE OVER FROM THE AMERICAN REPORTER TIFINNII MARAUDER.

TIFINNII(V/O)

Witnesses of random gun shootings always say the same. He never said a word. He was a quiet man. But... by then it's too late.

DRAMATIC CHORD AND CUT TO - A DEAD BODY.

CUT TO - A TOWN SIGN SAYING "BACONVILLE".

TIFINNII (V/O)

Now, police in the small town of Baconville Kentucky are fighting back. With a new idea to stop these silent psychotics.

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CUT TO: SLOW ZOOM IN ON A STILL (SURVEILLIANCE TYPE) PHOTO OF THE BALDING THIRTY SIX-YEAR-OLD MAN WITH GLASSES, WALKING ON A CITY STREET.

TIFINNII V/O

Thirty-six year old Felix Turdy is a quiet man. Some say too quiet.

C/T: SLO-MO (SURVEILLIANCE TYPE) SHOT OF

FELIX, DRESSED IN SOME COLOURFULL PYJAMAS, PICKING UP THE NEWSPAPER ON THE FRONT LAWN OF A BIG, BUT NORMAL, NEAT LOOKING HOUSE.

TIFINNII V/O (CONT)

This seemingly placid postal worker, has lived in this tiny town all his life, caring for his crippled mother.

C/T: SLO-MO (SURVEILLIANCE TYPE) SHOT OF FELIX PUSHING AN OLD WOMAN ALONG IN A WHEELCHAIR.

C/T: TIFINNII MARAUDER, A TYPICAL AMERICAN FEMALE REPORTER WITH BIG BLONDE HAIR AND A POWER SUIT. SHE IS VERY SERIOUS.

SUPER: "TIFINNII MARAUDER. BACONVILLE, KENTUCKY"

SHE IS STANDING OUTSIDE A PSYCIATRIC HOSPITAL. SHE WALKS TOWARDS THE CAMERA.

TIFINNII

And according to a psychiatrist we paid, this means Felix is a random gunman just waiting to explode.

CUT TO - FILE FOOTAGE. A U.S POST OFFICE.

TIFINNII (V/O)

Bob Greenball has worked with Mr Turdy for fifteen years and spoke of his quietness.

C/T: BOB, A STUPID SOUTHERN AMERICAN REDNECK WEARING A POSTAL OUTFIT. HE IS VERY LOUD.

SUPER: "BOB GREENBALL. FELLOW WORKER"

BOB

Well, 'bout twelve year' ago I asked that quiet bastard if he wanted to go for a bruski after work and, Goddammit, he said he didn't drink!!

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TIFFINNII (OFF)  
Have you talked to him  
since then?

BOB  
(PAUSE, HE THINKS) Nope!!

TIFFINNII (OFF)  
Is he dangerous?

BOB  
(SHOUTING) 'Course he is! He's  
Godamn quiet!!!

C/T: A FAT SOUTHERN WOMAN, WITH HEAPS OF GRUBBY CHILDREN  
STANDING AROUND HER. SHE IS VERY LOUD TOO.  
SUPER: "DAPHENE TROUT. NEIGHBOUR"

WOMAN  
Well, I'm living in fear every  
day!! I got five kids and just  
knowin' I got a quiet guy livin'  
on my block sends a shiver down  
my spine!! He never says a word.  
Just keeps to himself! It's  
scary! (BEAT) If I had a gun I'd  
kill him!!

C/T: A POLICE OFFICER STANDS NEAR HIS POLICE CAR OUTSIDE  
FELIXS' HOUSE. HE IS WEARING A FLAK JACKET AND HELMET.

TIFINNII  
Lieutenant Harry Norwitz is  
a policeman.

SUPER: "LIEUNTENANT HARRY NORWITZ. BACONVILLE P.D."

LIEUNTENANT  
Well, we've had Mr Turdy's house  
under surveillence for several  
years now. A quiet guy like that  
could crack any minute and we  
want to be right there when he  
does!!

ANOTHER POLICE OFFICER IN FLAK JACKET ETC SHOUTS OUT IN A  
PANICKED VOICE.

OFFICER  
He's comin' out! He's got  
something in his hand!

THE CAMERA PANS TO FELIX, ACROSS THE ROAD IN HIS FRONT YARD  
WITH SOME PRUNNING SHEERS. HE BEGINS CUTTING A HEDGE.

THE COPS JUMP BEHIND THE CAR AND AIM THEIR GUNS AT FELIX.

LIEUNTENANT  
Drop the weapon Turdy!

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FELIX  
(CALLING OUT, CHEERFUL) Morning.

LIEUNTENANT  
I said drop it!

FELIX HOLDS UP A HAND TO HIS EAR.

FELIX  
I'm doing the garden.

LIEUNTENANT  
Fire!

THE COPS SHOOT OFF A FEW ROUNDS AND FELIX GOES DOWN.

THERE IS MAYHEM. THE COPS RUN OVER POINTING THEIR GUNS BEHIND THE HEDGE. THE CAMERA FOLLOWS TRYING TO GET A LOOK.

OFFICER  
24. He's dead! He's dead! Yee-  
har! I got the quiet f\*\*k  
Lieutenant! I got him! Hotdang!

THE FAT NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOUR COMES RUNNING IN BEHIND THE HEDGE WITH A SHOTGUN AND SHOOTS AT HIS DEAD BODY.

CUT TO - THE LIEUNTENANT STANDING NEAR HIS CAR. HE IS VERY SERIOUS.

LIEUNTENANT  
25. We've had a policy on  
quietness for sometime and in  
this instance I believe the  
officer has acted in the  
community's best interest. Job  
done.

C/T: TIFINNII STANDS IN FRONT OF AN AMBULANCE AS A BODY BAG IS LOADED IN.

A JUBILANT CROWD, SHOUT AND CHEER AND SHOOT OFF GUNS.

TIFINNII  
(SHOUTING) In this small town  
they say "prevention is better  
than cure" and it seems to be  
working. Random gun shootings by  
civilians are now down twenty two  
percent. And although it's on the  
increase in the police force the  
residents of Baconville are  
happy. The town just lost another  
quiet man and these good folk  
can't stop shouting about it.  
(SMILES) Tifinnii Marauder  
Baconville Kentucky.

End

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