ALBINO CROWS

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY

The sounds of thunderous car engines echo through the dry land.

Three muscle cars speed down a desolate highway. Sand and dust pick up into the air.

EXT. DESERT GAS STATION - DAY

The THREE BLACK MUSCLE CARS rev up to a gas station the sand and blistering sun claimed years ago. The building and everything around it looks abandoned.

A sign out front reads: Gas & Bait

The black muscle car leading the others stops at a gas pump, the others do donuts off to the side.

Rocks, sand and gravel fly everywhere.

The rocks hit the window to the gas station.

The lead car kills its engine.

Out steps a leather clad warrior. Meet AZ, he's young and the leader of these pack of hooligans. He wears all leather, keeps his eyes covered by a pair of dark sunglasses.

He tosses his hands up, the others swerve their cars around, come to a dead halt.

JOHNNY steps out of his muscle car along with BILLY. They both wear all leather, covered in tattoos and piercings.

The car next to theirs pulls up next to Johnny. Inside rides BENJAMIN.

He tosses a beer bottle out the window.

BENJAMIN

We need more fuckin' beer.

JOHNNY

Get it yourself, you lazy bastard.

Benjamin laughs and speeds away.

AZ walks over to the gas station.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

AZ, see if they got any smokes.

AZ

Haven't you heard, Johnny? Smokin' is bad for you.

JOHNNY

Anything bad is good, right?

AZ smiles, walks to the entrance of the gas station when the door busts open. There stands an OLD MAN with a shotgun in hand.

He shoves the barrel in AZ's face.

OLD MAN

You damn punks! Look what you did to my winder!

Α7.

Easy, Old Man. We ain't lookin' for no trouble.

AZ tosses his hands up. He backs away from the crazy person pointing a shotgun at him.

OLD MAN

You sure found it!

Johnny walks over.

JOHNNY

You don't wanna be doin' that.

ΑZ

I like that shotgun.

OLD MAN

Yeah? You want a closer look?!

He shoves the shotgun in AZ's face again.

AZ smiles.

He quickly grabs the shotgun, yanks it away from the Old Man.

AZ checks the barrels, two shells are inside waiting to be fired.

JOHNNY

Jesus, he could have blown your goddamn head off.

AZ

Johnny, go inside, see if there's any beer, cigarettes, maybe grab us a map while you're at it.

**JOHNNY** 

Got it.

Α7.

Oh, see if there are any apples.

JOHNNY

Apples?

ΑZ

Yeah. A nice big shiny red one.

Johnny smiles, runs off into the gas station.

AZ looks over at Benjamin off in the distance, still doing donuts in the desert.

The Old Man stands there with his hands up.

OLD MAN

What you gonna do to me?

Α7

Hold your horses. We'll get to you in a minute.

AZ walks over to his car. He tosses the shotgun in the passenger seat, grabs a walkie talkie.

AZ (CONT'D)

Benjamin, get your ass back here.

He tosses the walkie talkie next to the shotgun.

AZ walks back over to the Old Man.

AZ (CONT'D)

Billy, why don't you come on over here.

Billy leans against Johnny's car, smoking a cigarette. He walks over, tosses the half finished cig to the ground.

Benjamin comes storming up next to Johnny's car. He gets out and stretches.

He runs over to Billy.

BENJAMIN

We havin' some fun?

BILLY

Sure looks it.

Benjamin laughs.

They walk over to AZ and the Old Man.

Johnny runs out of the store with his hands full of beer bottles and packs of cigarettes. In his mouth, a brown paper bag.

A7

Billy, help him out.

Billy walks over and grabs the paper bag.

AZ (CONT'D)

Hand it here.

Billy tosses the paper bag over. AZ catches it and pulls out a red apple.

Johnny walks back over to his car, tosses the supplies in.

AZ holds up the apple.

AZ (CONT'D)

(to the Old Man)

Look what I found. This your lunch?

He tosses the paper bag on the ground.

**BENJAMIN** 

What's the plan here, AZ?

ΑZ

We're going to play a little game. You boys like games, don't ya?

They laugh.

BILLY

Sure we do.

AZ

Good. Get him on his knees.

Billy and Benjamin get on both sides of the Old Man, push him down until he's on his knees.

He struggles.

AZ (CONT'D)

Easy, brittle bones.

OLD MAN

What are you going to do to me?!

AZ

You ever bob for apples? It's real simple. First thing you need is an apple.

AZ kneels down in front of the Old Man, shows him the red apple.

AZ (CONT'D)

Second thing you need is a bucket.

AZ looks around.

There's a metal bucket by the gas pump. An old rag and a squeegee rest inside.

AZ gets up, walks over to the bucket, tosses the things inside of it out on to the ground.

AZ (CONT'D)

The last thing you need is water.

(looks around)

I don't see much of that around here

(thinks)

I know.

AZ drops the bucket on the ground, takes the gas pump nozzle.

AZ (CONT'D)

This will do.

He fills up the bucket with gasoline.

The Old Man gags from the fumes.

OLD MAN

Just take the money.

AZ

Money? Me and my Crows don't believe in money. Ain't that right, Johnny?

Johnny walks back over to watch the game.

JOHNNY

Sure is. We ain't got a cent to our names.

AZ picks up the bucket and walks it over to the Old Man. He lies it down in front of him.

AZ

Okay, so here are the rules to the game. One, no hands.

(to Benjamin and Billy)
Boys.

Benjamin and Billy pin the Old Man's arms behind his back.

AZ (CONT'D)

Second rule is the most important rule, so listen up. You have to grab the apple only using your mouth. You can't come up for air unless you have the apple in your mouth. You hear me? I can't stress enough the importance of coming back up with that apple in your mouth.

AZ reaches behind his back, pulls out a giant .45 Magnum.

AZ (CONT'D)

If you don't, you lose the game. If you lose the game, you lose your head. Got it? Told you it's a simple game. Now bob for that apple.

Benjamin and Billy force the Old Man's head into the bucket of gasoline.

He thrashes around.

BENJAMIN

How long should we give him?

Flailing.

Drowning.

Relinquishing.

BILLY

AZ?

AZ

Okay. Let him go.

They let go of the Old Man. He lifts his head up, gasping for air. No apple in his mouth.

AZ (CONT'D)

Looks like you lose.

AZ shoves the gun in his face, pulls back the hammer...

The Old Man closes his eyes...

The trigger gets pulled-

Nothing.

The Old Man slowly opens his eyes.

AZ (CONT'D)

The first chamber is always empty.

Everyone laughs but the Old Man.

AZ (CONT'D)

Alright, let's saddle up, boys! Billy, you're riding with me!

Everyone runs back to their cars. They rev up their engines, speed away in a fury of dust and testosterone.

INT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (MOVING) - DAY

They speed down the long highway, going well past 100 MPH.

Billy puts on a pair of black goggles over his eyes. He grabs the Old Man's shotgun and smiles.

He leans out of the window and aims it at a sign that reads: Welcome to Junction.

Billy BLASTS the sign in half as they pass by.

INT. MOLLY'S DINER - DAY

SINDY, 20's, beautiful, sits behind a counter, reads a fashion magazine. She could give a young Bridget Bardot a run for her money. But her beauty is dimmed a little by the unadorned pink and white waitress uniform she has to wear.

Wiping off the counter is BARB. She's older, 40's, wears the same outfit.

I can't believe how totally hot these girls are.

**BARB** 

How do you think they get that way?

SINDY

A good diet?

BARB

Try finger diet.

Barb simulates shoving fingers down her throat.

STNDY

Gross. You ever try that?

BARB

Of course.

SINDY

You do? For real?

BARB

How do you think I keep this sexy figure you see before you?

She smiles.

SINDY

I wonder what Hollywood is like, Barb. I wonder what I'd be doing if I was born there instead of Junction.

BARB

I know what I'd be doin'.

SINDY

What?

BARB

The exact same damn thing I'm doin' now.

SINDY

You gotta have bigger aspirations than cleaning tables, Barb.

BARB

Sure, when I was your age, I was going to leave this town and be a showgirl.

Are you for real?

BARB

I don't know why I had it in my pretty little head that was what I wanted to be, but it was. I came pretty close too.

SINDY

What happened?

BARB

Got pregnant. Best thing to ever happen to me.

The bell on the entrance door dings. In steps BRAD, he's young, 20's, all American handsome, blonde hair, blue eyes, wears a deputy sheriff uniform and a ten gallon hat. On his ring finger sits his high school football ring.

Sindy lights up as he walks over to her.

SINDY

Howdy, deputy.

He takes a seat at the counter.

BRAD

I hear tell of some illegal activities going on in here.

SINDY

Is that so?

He takes off his hat and lays it down on the counter next to him.

BRAD

That's what I hear. You two ain't selling drugs are ya?

Sindy looks over at Barb.

SINDY

Not us.

BRAD

You two been sellin' guns to the Ruskis again?

SINDY

Not us, comrade.

BARB

Sounds like your information was off, officer.

BRAD

Hey, keep your hands where I can see 'em.

Barb tosses her hands up. She walks behind the counter, heads for the back.

BARB

If you excuse me, deputy, I need to go check on that cocaine we got in the back here.

She leaves for the back.

Sindy wraps her arms around him and plants a giant wet kiss on his lips.

BRAD

You trying to seduce an officer of the law?

SINDY

Sure am. How am I doing?

BRAD

Pretty well.

He picks her up, brings her over the counter.

SINDY

Ready for lunch?

BRAD

Starved.

EXT. BAD WATER POND - DAY

A tiny pond in the middle of the desert hosts our lovely couple Brad and Sindy.

They get out of the water and run over to a yellow 1970's Buick GSX.

INT. BRAD'S CAR (PARKED) - SAME

Sindy lays in the back, looking sexy. She takes off her bikini top.

Brad gets on top of her, kisses her passionately.

BRAD

I love our lunches.

SINDY

Me too.

She pulls him in closer.

INT. BRAD'S CAR (PARKED) - MOMENTS LATER

Brad and Sindy have sex in the backseat of his car. She grinds on his lap. The car stereo blasts music.

The sound of muscle car engines crack through the music.

AZ and his band of Crows drive up behind them.

EXT. BAD WATER POND - SAME

AZ steps out of his car and watches Sindy have sex with Brad. Their eyes meet for a split second before she ducks behind the seat to cover herself.

AZ smiles as he waves dust out of his face.

His fellow Crows drive around, doing donuts, spitting up even more dust.

AZ walks over to the Buick.

INT. BRAD'S CAR (PARKED) - SAME

Sindy puts on the rest of her clothes, so does Brad.

SINDY

Who the hell are they? What do they want?

BRAD

I don't know. Stay here.

EXT. BRAD'S CAR (PARKED) - SAME

Brad steps out of his car, getting on his deputy sheriff uniform.

BRAD

Can I help you folks?

AZ

I was passing by when I noticed your car.

AZ moves around to the front, touches the hood. He looks at Sindy, who is still changing in the backseat.

AZ (CONT'D)

She is a beauty.

He smiles slightly, walks back over to Brad.

AZ (CONT'D)

Name's AZ.

He presents a hand for shaking.

BRAD

Brad.

They politely shake hands.

AZ

Nice to meet you, Brad. You and your lovely lady. Sorry to interrupt. Curiosity got the best of me. I'm a sucker for anything that shines in the sunlight.

AZ walks back to his car. Brad watches them all very closely.

INT. BRAD'S CAR (PARKED) - DAY

Brad stops outside Molly's Diner. Sindy gives him a big kiss.

SINDY

See you tonight?

**BRAD** 

You know it.

She smiles and gets out of the car. He watches as she goes back inside the diner.

EXT. AUTO DEALERS - DAY

Brad pulls his car up to a car dealership. He parks the car in the lot and gets out.

Brad's father BOB walks over to him. He's in his 50's, looks like a typical car salesman. His name tag reads: Just ask for Bob.

Brad tosses the keys to the car to him. He catches them and smiles.

BOB

How does she run?

BRAD

Do you even need to ask?

BOB

She's yours if you ever change your mind.

BRAD

Sorry, dad. My mind is made up.

BOB

I know, Johnny Law. There's always a job for you if you're interested.

Brad walks over to his pops and gives him a hug.

BOB (CONT'D)

You and Sindy comin' over tonight for supper?

BRAD

Was thinkin' about it.

BOB

I could make ribs.

They walk over to the entrance to the dealership. His father holds the door open for him.

INT. AUTO DEALERS - SAME

They enter the dealership. Fancy vintage cars are parked inside on display.

BRAD

God, pop. Not ribs again.

BOB

What's wrong with my ribs?

BRAD

Nothin' is wrong with them, it's just you make them all the damn time.

BOB

It's the only thing I know how to make.

Brad stops in his tracks.

BRAD

Holy shit, it came?

BOB

It sure did.

Bob walks over to a glass display with a mannequin wearing a leather jacket. Behind it is a shrine to James Dean.

BRAD

How do you know it's authentic?

BOE

I got it certified. It's the real deal.

Brad touches the glass case.

EXT. BIKER BAR - DAY

AZ and his Crows drive up to a rundown looking biker bar. They get out and stretch their legs.

AZ

Johnny, what town is close by?

Johnny takes out the map and looks it over.

JOHNNY

This dusty town called Junction seems to be the only one for miles.

Benjamin walks up to them.

**BENJAMIN** 

I'm gettin' piss drunk, fellas!

He runs into the bar with Billy by his side.

**JOHNNY** 

So what you thinkin'?

AZ

Thinkin' we need a place to keep low. A sleepy dusty town might be the thing we need.

JOHNNY

Sounds good. Will give us time to resupply at least.

Benjamin flies out of the entrance to the bar. His lip bleeding down his chin.

A GIANT BIKER runs out of the bar, comes after Benjamin.

Billy jumps on the Giant Biker's back.

GIANT BIKER

Get the fuck off me!

He swings Billy off him.

Benjamin gets to his feet and punches the Giant Biker in the face. He shakes it off and picks him up in the air.

AZ and Johnny walk over. They laugh at the situation.

AZ

You find yourself a new friend, Benjamin?

BENJAMIN

Fuck you! Help me out!

ΑZ

No way, this is your hoedown.

The Giant Biker tosses him on the ground.

**BENJAMIN** 

Fuckin' hell.

Billy takes his belt off, wraps it tight around his hands.

He runs over to the Giant Biker, jumps on his back again and tosses the belt around his neck.

The Giant Biker grabs at his throat.

A7

Now what did you do to piss this fella off, Benjamin?

BENJAMIN

All I did was ask him if he was a Buddy Holly fan.

The Giant Biker gets free, tosses Billy to the ground.

Benjamin painfully gets to his feet. The Giant Biker rushes for him, Benjamin kicks him in the balls.

AZ

That's all? Well that don't sound fair.

(to Johnny)

That sound fair to you?

The Giant Biker holds himself in pain. Billy takes the chance to jump up on his back yet again.

JOHNNY

Sure don't.

AZ

Then why don't you go help them out?

JOHNNY

What?

AZ

Just tryin' to make this fight a little more fair. Look at him, Johnny, the man's a beast.

Johnny takes off his leather jacket, drops it on the floor.

**JOHNNY** 

Fine. You owe me a beer.

AZ

Only if you win.

Johnny jumps into the fight, punching the Giant Biker in the face. He drops to his knees, spitting teeth.

Benjamin kicks him in the face.

He tumbles over on top of Billy.

Benjamin throws his hands up in victory. He steps on the biker's belly and walks back to the bar.

Johnny helps Billy out from under the biker.

AZ walks over, looks down at the biker.

AZ (CONT'D)

Tell me, what are your thoughts on The King?

EXT. TOWN OF JUNCTION - DAY

Brad walks down the street in his deputy uniform. He tips his hat to the people on the street.

The sound of engines revving up.

Coming down the street, AZ and his Crows. They speed by him, picking up dust. He holds on to his cowboy hat to keep it from flying off.

AZ pulls his car up next to Brad.

AZ

Hey there, deputy. Remember me?

Brad peeks through the open lowered windshield. He takes off his hat, lowers his sunglasses.

BRAD

AZ, if I remember correctly.

AZ

And correctly you do. Nice bumping into you again. Where's that car of yours?

BRAD

To be honest she ain't mine.

AZ

Is that right?

BRAD

Not yet at least.

AZ

I hate to hear that, she is a beauty. Pretty nice town you got here.

BRAD

Can't complain.

AZ

Don't worry, my band of hooligans are just passing through.

AZ smiles.

AZ (CONT'D)

Anyway, I better go catch up to them. Can't leave them unsupervised for too long.

(MORE)

AZ (CONT'D)

Who knows what kinda trouble they'll get in. Guess I'll be seeing you around.

BRAD

I guess so.

Brad puts his hat on.

AZ takes off down the highway.

INT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (MOVING) - SAME

AZ drives past Molly's Diner, spots Sindy behind the counter, reading a magazine.

He takes notice of her and smiles.

AZ

Not bad at all.

EXT. JUNKYARD - DAY

AZ pulls into a car graveyard. The rest of his Crows are there waiting for him.

He gets out and walks over.

**JOHNNY** 

What do you think?

AZ

I like it!

Benjamin walks over holding up a muffler.

**BENJAMIN** 

Ain't no one here. Place is all ours.

He tosses the muffler into a pile of rusted metal drums.

Α7

Make camp, boys. I think we're going to be staying a while.

INT. MOLLY'S DINER - DAY

The bell on the door rings, in steps AZ. Sindy glances over at him.

He walks up to the counter and takes a seat.

Α7

Nice to run into you again.

SINDY

Have we met?

AZ

The encounter was brief. Brief but I was hoping memorable.

SINDY

Not ringin' any bells.

AZ

That's how it goes, I reckon. Molly's Diner. Nice place you got here. You wouldn't happen to be Molly would you?

She sneaks out a smile.

SINDY

No. Named after the owner's wife.

AZ takes out a pack of cigarettes, pops one in his mouth.

SINDY (CONT'D)

No smoking.

AZ

You serious?

SINDY

Them's the rules.

ΑZ

You always do what you're told?

SINDY

If I wanna keep my job, I do.

AZ tosses the cigarette in a glass of water next to him.

AZ

So what's good to eat?

SINDY

What are you hungry for?

AZ

Not what I asked. I asked what is good to eat.

The burger ain't too bad.

AZ

It does sound good. Do you cook it yourself?

SINDY

No. I just serve it.

AZ

So what would it take for you to cook me a delicious meal?

STNDY

A million bucks.

AZ laughs.

AZ

You can be sure I don't got that. You see, I don't believe in money.

SINDY

You don't? Then how were you going to pay for that burger?

Α7

I never said I was going to pay for it.

SINDY

If you're thinkin' of robbing this place, know I got a shotgun under this counter with your name on it.

He smiles.

AZ

I bet you look good holdin' a shotgun. But how does it have my name on it when you don't even know my name?

SINDY

I know your name.

AZ

Yeah?

SINDY

AZ, right?

AZ

So you do remember me?

SINDY

Maybe.

AZ

Here you and your shotgun are knowing my name but me not knowing yours. That doesn't sound fair, does it?

She points to her name tag.

SINDY

That's why we wear these.

AZ

Sindy with an S. I like that. So, tell me Sindy with an S, where does one go to have a good time in this town?

SINDY

There's a disco a little ways out we sometimes go to.

Α7

We being?

SINDY

Me and my boyfriend. Some friends too.

AZ

So when do you sometimes go to this disco?

SINDY

We're going tonight.

Α7.

We are?

He smiles at her.

SINDY

Me and my friends.

AZ

Boyfriend too, I assume?

SINDY

Assumed right.

AZ

Maybe I'll see you there.

SINDY

Maybe you will.

He gets up and walks out of the diner.

INT. MOLLY'S DINER - NIGHT

Sindy turns off all the lights in the diner.

BARB (O.C.)

Hold on!

Barb comes out of the kitchen holding a glass dish with BBQ beans.

BARB (CONT'D)

Don't forget the beans.

Sindy flips back on the light and takes the beans.

SINDY

Thanks, Barb. Can't forget the beans.

The bell dings, in steps Brad.

**BARB** 

Hey there, sugar.

BRAD

Howdy, ma'am.

He tips his hat to her.

BARB

I like him.

SINDY

He's a keeper.

BRAD

Ready?

SINDY

Almost forgot the beans.

BRAD

Can't have that.

Brad walks over and takes the glass dish of beans off her hands.

SINDY

Thanks.

They kiss.

SINDY (CONT'D)

I gotta finish lockin' up.

BRAD

I'll be outside.

Brad exits the diner.

INT. SQUAD CAR (PARKED) - MOMENTS LATER

Brad sits behind the wheel of his littered filled squad car. A shotgun hangs from a rack behind him.

Sindy comes out of the diner with Barb. Barb waves to them as she leaves.

Sindy stays to lock the front door.

Brad honks the horn, she jumps and laughs it off.

She runs up the car and gets in.

SINDY

You got me.

BRAD

You ready to eat some ribs for the fifteenth time this week?

SINDY

You know it. I see you brought the junkmobile.

BRAD

Only the finest for you, my dear.

He starts the car.

SINDY

We should change first.

BRAD

Pop won't mind.

I was thinking we could hit up Trolic's after we eat.

They drive past Barb, she waves.

BRAD

Okay, sounds good.

INT. BOB'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The doorbell rings and Bob answers it with a smile. There stands Brad and Sindy, dressed up nice, holding containers of food.

BOB

There they are!

SINDY

Hey, Bob.

BOB

C'mon in!

He sees them in.

INT. BOB'S KITCHEN - LATER

Brad and his father are out back messing with the grill. Sindy is in the kitchen taking the beans out of the oven.

SINDY

Okay, fellas. We about done out there?

They walk in with a plate of smoking ribs.

Bob sits them down on the kitchen table.

BOB

Alrighty, time to dig in.

Sindy brings the beans over with a bunch of plates.

SINDY

Here you go.

BOB

So why you two all dressed up so fancy? Not for my benefit, I hope.

No, we were thinkin' about hitting the disco later.

Bob takes a seat at the kitchen table.

BOB

That sounds like fun.

SINDY

You should come, Bob. Might find you a cutie to dance with.

He laughs.

BOB

I was never much of a dancer.

SINDY

Must run in the family.

BRAD

Hey. I'm a good dancer.

SINDY

For someone with two left feet, you are pretty good.

BOB

You know, Sindy. That secretary job is still available at work.

SINDY

I don't know. I don't think I'd be any good at that.

BOB

Never know.

He takes a big bite off a slab of ribs.

Brad looks over at Sindy as she moves her fork around in her beans.

INT. SQUAD CAR (MOVING) - NIGHT

Brad drives as Sindy checks her makeup in the mirror. They drive up into the busy parking lot of Trolic's, a happening nightclub.

BRAD

You're pretty anxious tonight.

She puts on some lipstick.

SINDY

Maybe I'm just pretty.

BRAD

You didn't eat much, you feelin' all right?

SINDY

I'm watching my weight.

INT. TROLIC'S - NIGHT

The place is packed full of sexy girls and badly dressed guys. The music, loud earth shattering disco.

Pushing through the crowd, Sindy and Brad.

BRAD

I'm gonna get us a drink.

He walks off to the bar. Sindy stands by herself, watching everyone dance.

AZ walks up to her.

AZ

Let's get down.

SINDY

I'm with my boyfriend.

AZ

So you come here to stand around with your boyfriend? That doesn't sound like fun.

SINDY

Loads of fun.

AZ

A girl like you needs to boogie.

She smirks.

SINDY

A girl like me?

AZ

Yeah. A girl like you needs to be seen, because you are out of sight. C'mon.

He grabs her hand and brings her into the crowd of people dancing.

He holds her tight, while looking intensely into her eyes. They dance to the music.

He touches her face, brushes some hair away from her eyes.

AZ smiles and backs away from her.

SINDY

Where are you going?

The crowd engulfs him.

Brad walks over to her, holding a beer bottle.

BRAD

There you are.

She grabs the beer and drinks it down.

SINDY

Let's get out of here.

BRAD

What?

SINDY

I'm tired, take me home.

**BRAD** 

Okay.

INT. SQUAD CAR (MOVING) - NIGHT

Brad and Sindy drive in silence. She looks out the window.

BRAD

Something wrong?

SINDY

No, just tired.

A long pause between them...

BRAD

So I ran into our friend this afternoon.

SINDY

What friend?

BRAD

Guy that caught us down at Bad Water.

She looks over at him.

SINDY

Yeah?

BRAD

I guess he's in town for awhile. Guy looks like trouble to me.

SINDY

How do you know what trouble looks like?

**BRAD** 

If trouble had a look, it would look like him.

She looks back out the window.

SINDY

Yeah, I guess so.

EXT. BAD WATER POND - DAY

AZ swims around in the pond. He's naked and doing backstrokes.

He dunks his head under the water.

INT. SINDY'S MOM'S CAR (PARKED) - SAME

Sindy drives up to the pond. She parks next to AZ's car.

SINDY

Crap.

She watches as AZ swims around in the pond.

EXT. BAD WATER POND - MOMENTS LATER

Sindy walks over to the pond, steps her foot in the water. She wears a sexy yellow bathing suit.

AZ pops his head out of the water and notices her.

He smiles.

AZ

Is this another clandestine meeting with your boyfriend or is fate telling me something?

SINDY

What are you doing here?

Α7.

What does it look like? I'm takin' a swim. You thinking of coming in or are you going to gawk at me all day?

SINDY

I'm not gawking.

AZ

No?

He swims off.

She slowly steps into the water.

Sindy dunks her head under the water, gets her hair wet. She looks around for AZ, but he's nowhere to be seen.

SINDY

AZ?

He pops out of the water, right in front of her.

She laughs.

SINDY (CONT'D)

You frightened me.

ΑZ

Thought I drowned?

She splashes him with water.

SINDY

What are you doing here?

AZ

I told ya.

SINDY

In this town, I mean.

AZ

Was passin' by. But then I saw you, decided maybe I should stick around a little longer.

SINDY

That was a dumb idea.

AZ

Was it?

SINDY

I love Brad.

He smiles.

Α7

I love Brad, too.

She splashes him again.

SINDY

Shut up.

AZ

I'm serious.

She laughs, dunks his head under water. He comes back up with a smile that kills.

AZ (CONT'D)

Can I ask you something?

SINDY

What?

AZ

Why are you here?

SINDY

I was born here.

AZ

Yeah, but why are you still here? You seem like the kind of person that would head off to LA or Vegas the second they got the chance.

SINDY

It's not like I haven't thought
about it.

AZ

So, why don't you?

Brad loves it here. Ever since he was a kid, he's wanted to someday be sheriff.

AZ

What about you? Do you love it here?

SINDY

I love Brad.

ΑZ

So you're going to work at that diner the rest of your life? Maybe pop out a few of Johnny Ringo's kids? That really the life you want for yourself?

SINDY

I don't think I should be taking personal advice from a man who takes baths in ponds.

A 7.

You know, I'm not much for ponds. They remind me of oversized stagnant rain puddles, but this one I've taken a likin' to.

He flashes her another death blow smile.

SINDY

Who are you?

He swims closer to her.

ΑZ

You really wanna find out?

He touches her face.

She goes down under the water, swims away from him.

LATER

Sindy lies on a beach towel by the pond. She dips her toes in the water.

AZ is behind her, getting his clothes back on.

A7

We should do something.

AZ sits in his car, gets his boots back on.

SINDY

I gotta get back to work.

AZ

Play hooky. There's this new movie playing at the matinee. Death Race 2000. Ever hear of it?

SINDY

No.

He stands up and walks over to her. She looks up at him.

AZ

So how about it? You wanna see a movie with me?

INT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (MOVING) - DAY

AZ speeds down the highway in his muscle car. Sindy rides up front with him.

She sticks her head out of the window and screams for joy.

SINDY

Go faster!

AZ shifts gears and goes even faster down the road.

EXT. THE MATINEE - DAY

AZ waits outside his car as Sindy finishes getting changed out of her swimsuit, into some normal clothes.

She finishes and jumps on his back.

SINDY

Did you look?

ΑZ

Nope. Was a good boy.

She gets off his back and they walk over to the movie theater.

SINDY

What's this movie about anyway?

A7

Killing people with your car.

(sarcastically)

So it's a date movie?

He smiles.

AZ

You'll like it, I promise.

INT. THE MATINEE THEATER - DAY

AZ and Sindy sit and watch the 1975 film "Death Race 2000". He eats a handful of popcorn, while Sindy has her eyes covered with her hands.

SINDY

Are they going to run over that baby?

He laughs.

ΑZ

You'll have to watch and find out.

She looks at the screen.

A car is headed right for a family having a picnic.

The car explodes.

SINDY

What happened?

AZ

Baby was a fake. It was actually a bomb.

INT. THE MATINEE THEATER - LATER

On the theater screen, Sylvester Stallone's character Machine Gun Joe Viterbo, chase and eventually run down a fisherman.

AZ keeps his eyes fixated on the screen, a cold look etched on his face.

EXT. THE MATINEE - DAY

They walk out of the movie theater.

A7

So, what did you think?

Do you think the future will be like that?

AZ

Maybe.

SINDY

God, I hope not.

ΑZ

That's because women can't drive.

She playfully punches his shoulder.

SINDY

I can so drive.

AZ

Yeah? Prove it.

He tosses her the keys to his car. She catches them and smiles.

SINDY

Seriously?

INT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (MOVING) - DAY

Sindy speeds down the highway. AZ sits beside her, smiling.

SINDY

Woohoo!

ΑZ

She can go faster.

SINDY

I'm scared.

ΑZ

Don't be. I got you.

She looks over at him and smiles.

SINDY

Hold on.

The car goes even faster down the highway.

They pass a billboard, behind it waits a squad car. He blasts his sirens and drives after them.

SINDY (CONT'D)

Oh shit. Oh no.

AZ

Pull over.

The car slows down and moves off to the side before coming to a complete stop.

The squad car pulls up behind them.

She tips her head on the steering wheel.

A tap is at the window.

She looks over and rolls the window down.

BRAD (O.C.)

License and registration, ma'am.

Brad sees who is behind the wheel.

AZ

Hey there, deputy.

He sees AZ sitting beside her with a shit eating grin on his face.

BRAD

Sindy, what the hell are you doing?

SINDY

It's not what you think.

BRAD

I can't believe this.

He walks away from the car.

EXT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (STOPPED) - SAME

Sindy gets out of the car and runs up to Brad.

Brad tosses his hat on the ground, kicks it. He points to AZ still in the car.

BRAD

What are you doing with him?!

SINDY

We went to go see a movie. Nothing happened.

BRAD

You expect me to believe that?

SINDY

It's the truth.

AZ

Chill, deputy. Be cool.

**BRAD** 

(points to AZ)

Stay out of this, ace!

Brad grabs her arm.

BRAD (CONT'D)

C'mon, you're coming with me.

She pushes away.

SINDY

Let go! You're hurting me!

AZ gets out of the car, walks up to them.

AZ

Hey! Let her go. You're hurting her arm.

Brad lets her arm go and points to AZ.

BRAD

Get back into your vehicle.

AZ

That piece of shit you're driving is a vehicle. This right here, is a beast.

AZ touches the side of his car.

BRAD

Get in your car and leave.

AZ smiles.

He walks around to the driver's side.

Az

You're the boss, deputy. Was just trying to show your girl a good time.

BRAD

I don't need you showin' my girl nothin'! Now you get in that car of yours and drive the hell out of here before I do something I'll regret.

AZ

Never regret the things you do in life, deputy. It's no way to live.

AZ gets behind the wheel and takes off down the road.

EXT. LONELY HIGHWAY - SAME

Brad and Sindy wave dust out of their faces. He walks over to her.

BRAD

What are you doing, Sindy?

SINDY

I'm having a little fun, okay.

BRAD

You don't have fun with me? I don't take you places?

SINDY

Not the places I want.

BRAD

Not this again.

SINDY

Yes, this again. You know I'm not happy here. You know I'm sick of working at that damn diner and living in this godforsaken town.

BRAD

What about me? Are you sick of me too?

SINDY

I don't want to do this here.

BRAD

Do what? Break up with me? Because of him?

STNDY

No. It has nothing to do with him.

Sindy picks up his hat, hands it to him. He takes it, dusts it off.

BRAD

C'mon. I'll take you home and we can talk about this.

SINDY

I left my mom's car back at Bad Water.

BRAD

Okay, then I'll drive you to Bad Water. Talk to me, Sindy.

SINDY

I don't want to talk anymore. All we ever do is talk and nothing ever changes.

(beat)

If you mind, I kind of want to be left alone right now.

BRAD

Do you know how far we are from Bad Water? It would be dark before you come anywhere close-

SINDY

I don't want to get in that damn car with you.

BRAD

Why?

SINDY

Because if I do, I might change my mind.

He touches her face. Tears form in her eyes.

BRAD

Good, change your mind. Think about what you're doing.

She touches his hand and pulls away from him.

SINDY

I can't.

BRAD

So that's it? Just like that?

He storms off to his squad car and drives away.

Sindy is left alone on the isolated highway. The sun is dropping fast. Tears run down her face as a gust of wind blows dirt and sand around her.

She watches as Brad's car gets smaller in the distance.

EXT. BAD WATER POND - NIGHT

Sindy shuffles over to her car. The headlights to AZ's muscle car engulfs the area in light.

AZ steps out of his car, smiles and walks over to her.

SINDY

What are you doing here?

Α7.

I knew you'd have to come back eventually to get your car.

SINDY

You've been waiting all day?

He smiles.

She grabs his face and kisses him deeply. They walk toward the pond, still kissing.

Sindy and AZ fall into the pond, still kissing. They pull at each other's clothes. She pulls his shirt off and rubs her hands over his chest. He discards the shirt somewhere on the shore.

The headlights shine perfectly on them.

AZ takes her dress and shirt off. He kisses her breasts, neck, tossing her head back in ecstacy.

They fall under the water, come back up kissing each other passionately.

They have sex in the pond under the moonlight, engulfed in the light of a steel beast.

INT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (PARKED) - NIGHT

AZ and Sindy lie in the back of his car, naked, holding each other. Some beach towels are wrapped around them to keep them warm.

They listen to music on the car stereo.

AZ

I feel like doing somethin' far out.

SINDY

We just did something pretty far out.

A7

I mean something with our clothes on. Somethin' righteous.

SINDY

Like what?

Α7.

We can head to the City of Angels.

SINDY

That's crazy.

AZ

What's crazy about it? We could leave now if you wanted.

SINDY

I don't know...

(pause)

Here I'm kind of like this pond. Something beautiful stuck out in the middle of plain and boring. Nothing interesting around it for miles. If I leave this place, I'm afraid I'll be a little pond surrounded by lakes and oceans.

AZ

I've been all around this country. Granted, mostly being chased by the pigs or getting into fights, but every once and a while, I run across something beautiful. And I ain't ever seen anything as beautiful as you, Sindy.

She looks up at him and smiles. He kisses her on the mouth.

BLACK FRAME: TITLE CARD

A FEW DAYS LATER

INT. BOB'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Brad eats depressingly at the kitchen table. He gets some barbecue sauce on his deputy uniform.

His father stares at him, not sure what to say. An awkward silence fills the atmosphere.

BOB

So, where's that pretty lady of yours tonight?

BRAD

Probably fucking that bastard who came to town.

Bob tosses his rib down on the plate.

BOB

Now hear this. I don't want that kind of language at my dinner table, you hear me? Hell, I don't want that kind of language anywhere in my house.

BRAD

I hate it!

Brad bangs his fist down on the table.

BOB

Look at yourself, son. Get a damn grip. Tell me what happened.

BRAD

She dumped me, dad. She tossed me away like I wasn't worth a damn.

BOB

You gotta fight for her, son. You gotta do something besides sit around with goddamn barbecue sauce on your shirt.

BRAD

I don't know what to do. She's already seeing someone else.

BOB

Then you put the fear of god in him, boy.

INT. SQUAD CAR (PARKED) - MORNING

Brad sits in his trash filled squad car. He's parked across the street from Molly's Diner.

He watches from afar, Sindy cleaning the tables.

The sound of engines fill the silent streets. Up the road, AZ and his Crows.

They park out front and get out of their cars.

AZ looks over at Brad and shoots his finger like a gun at him.

MAGGIE (O.S.)

(walkie)

Hey, darlin'?

Brad grabs his walkie.

BRAD

How's it go, Maggie?

MAGGIE (O.S.)

(walkie)

Got a call from the Whealer farm. Told them I'd send someone on up there later.

**BRAD** 

Take it I'm that lucky someone?

MAGGIE (O.S.)

(walkie)

Bingo.

He looks over at the diner.

BRAD

Alright. I got somethin' I need to take care of first. I'll head on up there when I'm done.

MAGGIE (O.S.)

(walkie)

Sounds good, sugar.

INT. MOLLY'S DINER - MORNING

AZ walks into the almost empty diner. A couple of folks sit at booths, drinking coffee, reading the local paper.

Sindy lights up when she sees AZ walk up to her.

He picks her up and kisses her.

His Crows take a seat at the counter.

AZ

Sindy, I wanna introduce you to my Crows.

SINDY

Crows?

AZ

My Albino Crows. It's what we call ourselves.

SINDY

Okay. Nice to meet you boys.

BENJAMIN

Since you're fuckin' AZ, that mean we get to eat for free?

SINDY

Um... I don't know.

A 7

Don't mind him. He was raised by a bunch of degenerate outlaws. He doesn't have the same social skills that we have. So sometimes he needs to be disciplined.

AZ punches Benjamin in the face. The rest of the Crows laugh.

SINDY

Jesus.

AZ

So let me introduce you to everyone. The one holding a bloody lip is Benjamin. He's the rebel rouser of the group.

Benjamin smiles with a mouth full of blood.

BENJAMIN

Nice to meet you.

SINDY

(hesitant)

Nice to meet you.

We move over to Billy.

ΑZ

Now this baby-faced young punk is Billy.

BILLY

Nice to meet you, ma'am.

Billy smiles an innocent smile.

We move over to Johnny who is sitting at the end.

AZ

And this is the brains of the group.

JOHNNY

Hi, name's Johnny.

SINDY

Nice to meet you.

Α7

And that's my crew.

SINDY

What about you? What's your part to play?

AZ

I guess you could say I'm the heart.

SINDY

Yes you are.

She gives him another kiss on the mouth.

AZ takes a seat at the counter.

AZ

So, what's good? And free.

SINDY

Water.

AZ

I'd like four glasses of your best water, please.

SINDY

Comin' right up.

She goes off into the back.

Billy reaches over the counter, into the register, pulls out some money.

AZ grabs his wrist.

AZ

What is it you think you're doin', Billy?

BILLY

What?

AZ

Do I have to remind you our code?

BILLY

No.

AZ

Put it back.

Billy reaches over the counter to put the money back. AZ stops him.

AZ (CONT'D)

Hold on. I got a better idea.

AZ slides the tip jar over to Billy.

AZ (CONT'D)

All of it.

Billy shoves the money he stole into the tip jar.

AZ spins around and turns his attention to the others eating their meals.

AZ (CONT'D)

How about it, folks? Anyone else feel like giving somethin'?

He gets up, shakes the tip jar. He walks over to a couple having their breakfast.

AZ (CONT'D)

How about you two? You look like you could give a nice tip.

They nervously look at each other, reach for their money and donate a large tip for the jar.

AZ smiles.

AZ (CONT'D)

You are so kind.

AZ walks over to a COWBOY having his cup of coffee and a quiet paper read.

AZ (CONT'D)

What about you, Cowboy?

COWBOY

Piss off.

AZ laughs.

AZ

That's not very nice.

COWBOY

I ain't gonna tell you again.

Α7.

You ain't? Look at this cool cat, fellas.

AZ punches the Cowboy in the back, grabs a handful of his hair and SLAMS his head down on the table.

He grabs a few of his fingers and bends them back.

AZ SLAMS the tip jar down in front of the Cowboy.

AZ (CONT'D)

Reach into that fat wallet of yours and help my girl out, will ya?

COWBOY

Okay!

He reaches into his pants pocket, pulls out his rawhide wallet.

AZ takes the wallet and empties all the money out into the tip jar.

ΑZ

See how easy that was?

AZ lets go of the Cowboy's fingers.

COWBOY

You broke my goddamn fingers, you crazy bastard.

The Cowboy runs out of the diner, holding his fingers in pain.

AZ takes a seat at the counter. Sindy comes back with a tray with four glasses of water.

She lays them down in front of each of them. AZ slides over the now full tip jar.

AZ

Surprise.

SINDY

Did you guys do this?

AZ

I believe it had more to do with your great service and bubbly personality.

He flashes her a smile.

INT. SQUAD CAR (PARKED) - LATER

Brad watches AZ and his band of ruffians leave the diner. He starts his car when they start theirs.

Slowly, he follows them as they drive off down the street.

EXT. JUNKYARD - DAY

Brad pulls up into the abandoned junkyard. AZ and his Crows are hard at work on their muscle cars.

Brad gets out of his car, puts on his cowboy hat, walks over to them.

AZ looks up from his car hood.

BRAD

This is private property. You all will have to leave.

AZ

We quite like it here, deputy.

AZ cleans his dirty hands off with an even dirtier rag.

BRAD

The law is the law.

AZ

Could this have anything to do with me seeing Sindy?

BRAD

Don't say her name.

AZ walks up to him.

AZ

You wouldn't be harassing us, would you, deputy?

BRAD

If that's how you want to look at it.

AZ

I couldn't help but notice that ring of yours. High school football captain, right? I asked around about you, some say you could have gone pro. But instead, you join the local police department. Now why would someone with all that potential just walk away from it? I know what it was, must have been the sweet pussy this town has.

**BRAD** 

I warned you.

Brad punches AZ in the face. He falls over on the ground. His Crows run over to help.

Brad goes for his gun in the holster.

BRAD (CONT'D)

That's far enough.

AZ

That's okay, boys. I deserved it.

BRAD

I want you out of this town.

AZ gets to his feet, wipes some blood from his lip.

AZ

You get one free shot. After that you have to pay the price.

Brad fingers the gun in his holster.

BRAD

You want to collect, go for it.

AZ smiles.

AZ

Not today, deputy.

**BRAD** 

There's a good chance some of you burn outs have a record. Maybe even a few outstanding warrants for your arrest. Now I can either run your names in now or you can leave town, let you be someone else's problem.

Brad walks back to his squad car. He gets in, rolls down the window.

AZ

Nice of you to drop by, deputy.

**BRAD** 

You have by tonight to get out of my town.

Brad backs out of the junkyard and drives off down the road.

Johnny walks up to AZ.

JOHNNY

What do we do?

AZ

You heard the man. It seems we wore out our welcome.

EXT. THE WHEALER FARM - DAY

Brad drives his squad car up to a farm out in the middle of nowhere.

A fence keeps some horses and cattle from wandering off.

Brad pulls up into the dirt road, to a farm house. He gets out and puts on his cowboy hat.

BUCKY WHEALER, steps out of his house. He's about 50, wears overalls.

BUCKY

Good thing you're here, officer.

He walks over to Brad.

BRAD

What seems to be the problem, Bucky?

He points to a red paint chipped shack.

BUCKY

Some kids were going through my shed.

BRAD

That so?

BUCKY

They stole some shells for my shotgun.

BRAD

Let's have a look.

EXT. THE WHEALER FARM SHED - MOMENTS LATER

Brad looks at the shed door, which looks to have been kicked open.

Bucky in inside rummaging around in the dark.

BUCKY (O.C.)

They broke the lock. Took what they could inside.

BRAD

A few shotgun shells the only thing missing?

Bucky comes out of the shed holding a sawed off shotqun.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Jesus, Bucky.

BUCKY

They would have took this too if I hadn't scared them off.

BRAD

You know it's illegal to modify these?

BUCKY

What?

BRAD

I need to confiscate this.

BUCKY

Are you serious?

Brad takes the shotgun away, walks back to his car.

Bucky follows.

BRAD

They take anything else?

BUCKY

Some gas cans.

BRAD

They got gas in them?

BUCKY

Yeah, filled them up the other day.

BRAD

Did you get a good look at them?

BUCKY

Sure did. They was red with a yellow nozzle.

BRAD

The ones who stole 'em, Bucky.

BUCKY

Oh. Not really. It was dark.

EXT. SQUAD CAR (PARKED) - SAME

Brad pops the trunk to his squad car and drops the sawed off shotgun inside.

BUCKY

So what are you going to do about it?

BRAD

I'll look into it.

He slams the trunk door, walks over to the passenger side.

BUCKY

Hell, you ain't going to do nothin'.

BRAD

I told ya I'll look into it. In the meantime, I suggest you keep anything valuable inside your house, not your shed.

Brad gets in his car and drives off.

BUCKY

Thanks for nothin'!

EXT. MOLLY'S DINER - NIGHT

AZ stands by his car, parked out front of Molly's Diner.

Sindy and Barb are still inside, cleaning up, getting ready to call it a night.

INT. MOLLY'S DINER - NIGHT

Barb looks out the window, sees AZ waiting for Sindy.

**BARB** 

So that's him?

Sindy smiles.

SINDY

Yeah.

Barb shakes her head in disapprovement.

SINDY (CONT'D)

I saw that. What?

BARB

It ain't none of my business. But he ain't right for you, girl.

SINDY

I know you liked Brad.

BARB

It ain't about him either. It's...
I've known guys like him. They're nothing but trouble, darlin'.

SINDY

Maybe that's what I want. I'm tired of the straight and narrow all the time.

BARB

Make sure you're careful.

EXT. MOLLY'S DINER - LATER

Sindy and Barb walk out of the diner. Barb locks the door as Sindy runs over to AZ, jumps into his arms.

ΑZ

Hey, good lookin'.

SINDY

I've missed you.

She kisses him.

BARB

See ya.

SINDY

Bye, Barb.

Barb walks off down the street.

Sindy gives AZ a big kiss on the lips. AZ flinches from the bruised lip Brad gave him.

SINDY (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

AZ touches his lip.

AZ

Nothin'.

She touches his face.

SINDY

What happened?

AZ

Your boyfriend wanted to have a little talk with me.

SINDY

Brad did this to you?

AZ

It's nothin'. I'm fine. I deserved
it.

SINDY

I get that he's upset, but that's still no reason to attack you.

AZ

Listen, we need to talk.

SINDY

Okay.

AZ

He left me with an ultimatum. Leave town now or get arrested.

SINDY

He can't do that.

AZ

He's the law, honey. He can do whatever the fuck he wants. As much as I like you, I like my freedom more.

SINDY

So you're leavin'?

AZ

Yeah.

SINDY

You weren't even going to say goodbye?

AZ

No, I wasn't.

(pause)

I was hoping you'd come with me.

Beat.

SINDY

What?

AZ

I'm serious. Come with me. We'll head to Vegas or LA. Up to you. How does that sound?

SINDY

I don't know. I need time to think about it.

AZ

How about this, I remember going by some what looked to be abandoned cabins a few miles back.

SINDY

Yeah, I know it.

AZ

Me and the boys are going to stay there a couple of nights. You think that will give you enough time to think everything over?

SINDY

Yeah. Okay.

ΑZ

All right. So in two days if you decided to leave with me, I want you to meet me at Bad Water Pond.

SINDY

Okay.

EXT. TOWN OF JUNCTION - NIGHT

Brad watches as AZ and his Crows hoot and holler as they drive by in their earsplitting muscle cars.

Brad tips his hat to them as they leave town.

He smiles as their tail lights are swallowed by the darkness.

Sindy walks up behind him.

SINDY

I can't believe you.

He turns around to face her.

BRAD

Just doing my job, ma'am.

He walks over to his squad car, Sindy follows and continues her beratement.

SINDY

Don't ma'am me, Brad. I know what you were doing.

BRAD

And what was that?

SINDY

You're jealous. You think if you run him out of town, I'll come back to you. Well, I won't.

**BRAD** 

Like I'd want you.

He gets in his squad car and drives off.

SINDY

It won't work! You hear me! It won't work!

She stands alone in the middle of the street, yelling at the dark.

INT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (MOVING) - NIGHT

AZ drives as Billy sits up front. He looks over at AZ.

AZ

What's on your mind, Billy?

BILLY

Not really seeing what it is you're doing.

AZ

I'm havin' a little fun.

BILLY

What about that cop? You gonna let him get away with hitting you?

AZ

No, Billy, I don't think I will.

BILLY

So what are we gonna do?

AZ smiles.

AZ

Something fun. I can promise you that.

Benjamin pulls up next to them and honks his horn.

He holds up a walkie talkie.

AZ (CONT'D)

Billy.

BILLY

On it.

Billy reaches in the back and pulls out a walkie talkie. He hands it to AZ.

BENJAMIN (O.S.)

(walkie)

Let's play a game of Nite Owl.

BILLY

Right on!

Everyone smiles.

AZ

(into walkie)

Johnny?

JOHNNY (O.S.)

(walkie)

I heard. Sounds righteous.

AZ

(into walkie)

Johnny's in.

Johnny pulls his car over to the passenger side of AZ's car. He's driving, holding up his walkie.

JOHNNY (O.S.)

(walkie)

On the count of three.

BILLY

One!

Benjamin turns his headlights out.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Two!

Johnny turns his headlights out.

AZ

Three.

AZ turns off his headlights.

AZ and his Crows speed down the long lonely highway in pitch black darkness.

They all have their windows down, heads out, yelling out at the abyss.

Headlights shine up ahead.

They get closer and larger.

Benjamin swerves out of the way of a giant passing semitractor trailer.

BILLY

Holy shit!

AZ laughs.

AZ

(into walkie)

You're out, Benjamin.

Benjamin switches on his headlights. He speeds up ahead of them.

AZ (CONT'D)

(into walkie)

Down to you and me, Johnny.

Benjamin's tail lights disappear.

BENJAMIN (O.S.)

(walkie)

Heads up.

The two of them drive closely, side by side. Completely in darkness.

Headlights beam in the distance.

Another semi heads right for them. Johnny speeds away but AZ stays put.

The truck swerves to miss them, tires screeching on the pavement. The semi flips on its side, crashes into a telephone pole.

AZ hits the brakes.

ΑZ

Shit.

Billy looks back.

BILLY

What the fuck!

EXT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (PARKED) - SAME

AZ and Billy jump out of the car and look at the mess they caused.

Johnny pulls up beside them.

JOHNNY

What the fuck did you do?!

The tractor trailer explodes.

The giant fireball fills the night sky.

AZ looks on in amazement.

A 7

Jesus, if ain't that the most righteous thing you've ever seen...

Billy runs out into the street and celebrates it.

**JOHNNY** 

This is madness. We need to get the fuck out of here!

Johnny takes off down the road.

The cargo the semi was carrying ignites. The second explosion can be seen for miles around.

Police sirens howl in the distance.

AZ

Time to go.

INT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (MOVING) - MOMENTS LATER

AZ drives, Billy sits up front with his head out the window. Police cars speed by, blaring their sirens.

A fleet of fire trucks and a few ambulances right behind the police, rocket past.

ΑZ

These are exciting times, Billy. We are on the cusp of a new dawn. One day soon, this whole world will be all dried up. Will be nothing but roads that go on for miles which all lead to absolutely nowhere.

(MORE)

AZ (CONT'D)

People like us will rule this new world, Billy. And I plan to be there. Leading the way.

BLACK FRAME: TITLE CARD

DAY 1

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE - MORNING

Benjamin kicks open the door to a small decaying house.

AZ walks in with a giant smile on his face. The rest of the Crows aren't as pleased.

The place his falling apart. In the middle of the room, an old burnt tipped over couch.

AZ notices an old smashed out TV on the floor. He picks it up and shows the guys.

ΑZ

Hey, look! They even got TV!

He tosses it up against the wall. The wall crumbles.

AZ (CONT'D)

Shit.

JOHNNY

This place is going to fall down on top of us while we're asleep. I can feel it.

ΑZ

Where is your sense of adventure!

Benjamin and Billy run off to go explore.

AZ (CONT'D)

The kids are having a good time. Why do you always have to spoil their fun?

JOHNNY

What are we doing, AZ? That guy in the semi probably died last night.

Δ7

We'll be fine. Those truckers are always full of pills.
(MORE)

AZ (CONT'D)

They'll figure he dozed off and had himself a tumble.

**JOHNNY** 

Would you listen to yourself? You sound like a fuckin' crazy person. You talk like you're out of your goddamn mind.

AZ flips the couch over and lays down on it.

AZ

Okay, since you're acting like my shrink, might as well tell me everything that's wrong with me.

JOHNNY

What are you doing with this chick?

A7

I don't know. The plan keeps evolving as I go.

JOHNNY

Don't get me wrong, she's a fox. But are we really taking her with us?

AZ

Why not?

JOHNNY

She doesn't really know who we are, but if she hangs out with us long enough, she'll see pretty quickly.

A7

Let her see.

JOHNNY

You really think a bunny like that is going to enjoy staying in places like this?

Α7

What's wrong with this place?

A few dead rats rest in a corner. Across from them, a turned over fridge.

JOHNNY

And what about Mexico? You know we can't go back to LA.

AZ

Semantics.

JOHNNY

I'm pretty sure that girl has her eyes set on Hollywood. What do you think will happen when she realizes we're headed the opposite fuckin' direction?

AZ gets off the couch.

AZ

Chill out, you think too much.

JOHNNY

And you don't think at all. We cheat, we steal, we fuck dirty hookers and now apparently we kill. There is no room for girlfriends in this life. I can't believe I'm reminding you of this.

A 7

Reminding me?

AZ walks over to him and punches Johnny in the mouth.

He falls over on some broken boards already lying on the dirty floor.

AZ (CONT'D)

I don't need you reminding me of anything, Johnny. I think it's you that has forgotten what we stand for.

EXT. ABANDONED HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Johnny is tosses out the front door. He lands on the sand, mouth and nose bleeding.

AZ walks over to him.

AZ

We take what we want, when we want it. I want her, so I'm taking her. If you stand in my way, I'll even take your life.

He pulls out a hunting buck knife, shows it to Johnny.

JOHNNY

Don't. All I want are things to go back to how they were.

AZ

Then let me have my fun, Johnny.

Johnny rests his head in the sand.

JOHNNY

Fine. Do what you like.

A7

It's what I'm best at.

Billy and Benjamin walk around the house. They hold up old bent labeless cans of food.

BILLY

Look what we found!

AZ throws the buck knife, it lands right into the can Billy is holding.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Jesus!

ΑZ

Let's eat some breakfast.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - MORNING

Brad walks into an empty police station, eating a donut. He smiles at MAGGIE, who works at the front desk. She's beautiful, in her late 30's, has curly bright red hair.

He walks over to her, leans over her desk, finishes off his donut.

**BRAD** 

Hey, Maggie.

MAGGIE

You hear about the big truck accident last night?

BRAD

No, what happened?

MAGGIE

A semi-tractor trailer flipped, they say you could see the flames from miles away. BRAD

Jesus, when was this?

MAGGIE

Some time last night.

Brad takes his hat off.

BRAD

Was there any witnesses?

MAGGIE

Was a report about some cars not having their headlights on.

BRAD

The trucker, he die?

MAGGIE

Badly. Still peeling him out of the wreckage.

BRAD

What does the chief think?

The SHERIFF walks out of his office holding some papers. He's in his late 60's, wears a giant cowboy hat and a handlebar mustache.

SHERIFF

Can you not call me chief? Makes me sound like some damn action movie hero.

BRAD

Sorry, Sheriff.

SHERIFF

Maggie been telling you about the big semi accident last night?

BRAD

Yeah. You think it could have been those punks that were here?

SHERIFF

Who knows, they're state police's problem now.

The Sheriff hands Maggie the papers and has a seat. He takes his cowboy boot off.

SHERIFF (CONT'D)

You know you're getting old when even your favorite pair of boots start to hurt your feet.

He rubs his foot.

BRAD

Any calls come in?

Maggie goes through some posted notes.

MAGGIE

Let's see. Nothing yet, but we do have someone sleeping off the few too many he had last night.

Brad walks over to the cells. There sleeps the Cowboy AZ assaulted. He wears a shirt covered in vomit and a giant cowboy hat over his face.

Brad bangs on the bars to wake him up.

BRAD

Hey, Cowboy. Knew I'd be seein' you in here again.

COWBOY

Go to hell, deputy. I'm trying to get some sleep.

BRAD

I can see that. You have a little too much last night?

The Cowboy tosses the hat off his face and sits up.

COWBOY

Yeah, maybe I did. My fingers that crazy bastard broke still hurt. So I eased my troubles with a little drink. That a problem?

BRAD

What fingers?

The Cowboy shows him his two taped broken fingers.

COWBOY

That crazy son of a bitch almost broke my damn nose, too.

BRAD

Jesus. Who did that?

COWBOY

That punk and his boys. Bastard came in wanting money.

BRAD

He stole money from you?

COWBOY

Not exactly. Just kinda asked roughly for it.

BRAD

Why didn't you report it?

COWBOY

I ain't the kinda guy that runs for help. I got a problem, I take care of it myself. Now if you don't mind, I'd like to take a nap before I'm forced to go back home to that banshee they call my wife.

The Cowboy lays back down on his mat.

The Sheriff walks over barefoot, puts his hand on Brad's shoulder.

SHERIFF

How'd that thing with Bucky work out?

Brad takes notice of his bare feet.

BRAD

Just some stolen gas, nothing important. Probably some dumb bored kids pullin' a prank.

He pats him on the shoulder.

SHERIFF

Good work. Another case solved. I'm gonna go soak this damn foot.

He waddles off to his office and shuts the door behind him.

INT. MOLLY'S DINER - MORNING

Sindy wipes down a table when she notices Brad walking toward the diner.

SINDY

(whispers to herself)

Damn it.

Brad walks in, takes his hat off, walks over to Sindy.

BRAD

I need to talk to you.

SINDY

What do you want?

BRAD

Someone told me that boyfriend of yours robbed this place.

SINDY

You're out of your mind.

BRAD

Says he broke a couple of his fingers while doing it too.

SINDY

What is wrong with you?

BRAD

Me? What is wrong with you?! This guy is-

SINDY

I know what he is. He isn't you. That's what I like about him.

BRAD

--Listen to me! This guy is a killer!

SINDY

So now he's a killer?

BRAD

You hear about the semi last night?

SINDY

You need to move on, Brad. I have.

She tosses the rag down and heads for the counter.

SINDY (CONT'D)

Hey, Barb, I'm gotta go take my break now. She leaves the diner through the kitchen. Barb walks over to Brad.

**BRAD** 

I don't know who she is anymore, Barb. She won't listen to me.

**BARB** 

She's upset. Give her some time.

BRAD

No. I'm done... I'm done with all her shit.

He exits the diner.

**BARB** 

He's gone.

Sindy walks out of the kitchen with tears running down her face.

EXT. CRASH SITE - DAY

Firemen work together trying to extinguish the flames from the steaming heap of twisted metal which used to be a semi truck.

Smoke fills the air, reporters scatter around taking pictures and making live TV reports.

INT. SQUAD CAR (MOVING) - SAME

Brad drives his squad car through the crowd, getting his windshield splashed with water from the hoses blasting at the flames.

EXT. CRASH SITE - LATER

Brad walks around the crash site. He walks over to an officer trying to keep the press and curious bystanders from getting too close.

He lets Brad pass through.

Brad looks at the carnage. Two paramedics wheel a charred body from the smoking wreckage. They quickly zip him up in a body bag.

The sound of a car revving its engines breaks through all the noise in the background.

Brad looks behind him, a black muscle car speeds off down the road.

EXT. ABANDONED HOUSE - DAY

An empty can of food rests on a log. Billy squints, aiming AZ's .45 Magnum at it.

AZ looks over Billy's shoulder.

Α7

Squeeze it.

Billy fires, misses the can and hits the log.

BILLY

Shit!

AZ

You're thinkin' too much. Point and fire.

Billy tries again, misses, hits dirt.

BILLY

Fuck! I ain't good at this.

AZ takes the gun and shoots the can off the log.

ΑZ

All you need is practice.

He spins the gun on his finger like in a western.

BILLY

I'd really like one of them holsters like that deputy has. I'd look like a real-life gunslinger.

Benjamin drives his car up to the dirt road. Him and Johnny get out and walk up to the house.

AZ

Well? What's the skinney?

**BENJAMIN** 

Dead as shit.

BILLY

Fuck, I'm buggin' out, man. What does this mean?

JOHNNY

Means we're fucked. We killed a man.

BILLY

Fuck!

AZ

It don't mean shit. The plan stays the same. We wait here one more night and then we go pick up my girl. After that we head to Mexico.

Benjamin wraps an arm around Billy, calms him down.

**BENJAMIN** 

I'm gonna fuck me a senorita.

Billy shakes off the worry.

BILLY

Only thing you're going to fuck is your liver with all that tequila you'll be drinking.

AZ shoots a snake in the sand. Everyone jumps.

ΑZ

Nailed it.

**BENJAMIN** 

Jesus! What the fuck, AZ!

INT. TROLIC'S - NIGHT

Brad is dressed up nice. The club is packed. The music is pounding with funky disco. He stands around with a beer in his hand, watching couples boogie.

Maggie walks up behind him.

MAGGIE

Hey there, deputy.

He turns around.

BRAD

Maggie? What are you doing here?

MAGGIE

What does it look like?

She wears a sexy dress, Brad notices.

BRAD

You look nice.

MAGGIE

You think so? You should come dance with me then.

BRAD

I'm not much of a dancer, Maggie.

She grabs his shirt and brings him into the crowd to dance.

BLACK FRAME: TITLE CARD

DAY 2

INT. MAGGIE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Brad wakes up naked next to a nude Maggie. She smiles and kisses him.

MAGGIE

You want a drink?

BRAD

What time is it?

MAGGIE

Time for a drink.

Brad sits up hungover.

Maggie runs her fingers down his back.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Did you have fun?

BRAD

Of course.

MAGGIE

Then lay back down with me.

He looks over at her.

She smiles.

BRAD

Okay.

He lays down beside her. She caresses his face.

MAGGIE

You okay?

BRAD

Sindy's the only girl I ever been with.

MAGGIE

That so? How do I stack up?

BRAD

She definitely would never do that thing with her mouth.

MAGGIE

You liked that?

BRAD

Like doesn't do what you did justice.

MAGGIE

I've been picturing doing things to you since the day I saw you walk into the sheriff's office wearing that uniform.

Brad reaches over and puts on his cowboy hat.

BRAD

It's the hat, ain't it?

MAGGIE

It really does wonders for a woman's libido.

BRAD

Hey.

MAGGIE

Hey yourself.

BRAD

You like barbecue?

MAGGIE

What girl doesn't?

BRAD

You wouldn't want to go to my dad's tonight and eat some of his famous ribs, would you?

MAGGIE

How famous are we talking about?

BRAD

World famous.

MAGGIE

Wow, how can I turn down world famous ribs? Sure, I'll be there.

He smiles.

BRAD

Good.

His smile fades and a sadness fills his eyes.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Good.

INT. BOB'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Maggie wipes her mouth with a napkin. Brad takes her plate and walks over to the sink.

Bob downs a beer.

BOB

I do believe she enjoyed it.

MAGGIE

That I did.

BOB

World famous.

MAGGIE

So I hear.

She takes a sip of beer and gets up, walks over to Brad.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I can do that.

BRAD

No way. You're a guest. We don't make guests wash dishes.

MAGGIE

I thought I'd at least ask.

BOB

So, Maggie. How'd you meet my son here?

She sits back down at the kitchen table.

MAGGTE

We work together. He didn't tell you?

BOB

You're a police officer?

MAGGIE

Gosh, no. I work the phones. I'm your everyday ordinary secretary, I guess.

BRAD

You're anything but ordinary, Maggie.

MAGGIE

As long as you think so, deputy.

He looks back at her and smiles.

INT. BRAD'S CAR (PARKED) - NIGHT

Brad and Maggie sit in his yellow Buick. It's still parked in the car dealership parking lot, with a for sale sign on the dash.

BRAD

In a few more years, I'll be able to own this.

MAGGIE

It is a sexy car.

BRAD

I don't know if a car can compete with those legs.

She lifts her skirt a little, shows him her legs.

MAGGIE

You mean these legs?

BRAD

Those are the ones.

He runs his hand up her thigh. She pulls her dress back down.

BRAD (CONT'D)

Awe, tease.

MAGGIE

I always wondered about something.

BRAD

What's that?

MAGGIE

Why be a deputy when you could have gone to college to be a big time football star?

**BRAD** 

Don't get me wrong, I love football. But I never had any plans to do it professionally. My dad always thought I'd work at the dealership with him. Maybe take over once he retires. But I never wanted that either.

MAGGIE

So why police?

**BRAD** 

When I was a kid, someone stole my bike. This was a nice bike, too. I saved up for a birthday and a Christmas to buy this bike. And just like that, some punk steals it from me.

MAGGIE

What happened?

**BRAD** 

You know how it goes. We'll look into it, yadda yadda yadda. But as a kid I remembered this officer walking over to me. He seemed almost like Captain America come to life.

MAGGIE

Don't tell me that was the chief.

He smiles.

BRAD

It was the chief.

She laughs.

MAGGIE

God no. What happened to your bike?

BRAD

Never saw it again.

She laughs again.

MAGGIE

That's a terrible story.

BRAD

True ones normally are.

MAGGIE

You wanna see my legs again?

BRAD

Sure.

MAGGIE

Only if you show me James Dean's jacket.

BRAD

You haven't seen it yet?

MAGGIE

Nope. Was hoping you'd give me the grand tour.

**BRAD** 

Sure.

EXT. AUTO DEALERS - NIGHT

Brad and Maggie stand outside, looking into the dealership. They peek through the glass door.

BRAD

See it?

MAGGIE

I think so. I was kind of hoping you'd take me inside.

BRAD

I don't have a key.

MAGGIE

If we break in, they'd just call you to arrest us.

EXT. TOWN OF JUNCTION - NIGHT

Brad and Maggie hold hands as they walk down the sidewalk of the quiet sleeping town.

MAGGIE

So how are you doing?

BRAD

With what?

MAGGIE

With Sindy. I know you guys were together for a really long time.

BRAD

It happened so fast, you know?

MAGGIE

You know what will make you feel better? Going to my place.

BRAD

I guess you do owe me one leg showing.

MAGGIE

I'm going to show you way more than that, deputy.

BLACK FRAME: TITLE CARD

THE MEET AT BAD WATER POND

INT. MAGGIE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Brad gets his deputy uniform on. He watches Maggie sleeping in her bed.

He opens his wallet and pulls out an old picture of him and Sindy together.

Maggie wakes up and looks over at him.

MAGGIE

Leaving?

He carefully hides the picture back into his wallet.

BRAD

Duty calls.

MAGGIE

Is it that time already?

BRAD

You want breakfast?

MAGGIE

I forgot to go to the store. Only thing I got to eat is gum.

**BRAD** 

What kind of gum?

MAGGIE

Pre-chewed kind.

BRAD

My favorite.

MAGGIE

The trouble with living in a small town, only one place to get breakfast.

BRAD

It's okay. I'll go. I'll get it.

MAGGIE

You sure?

BRAD

Yeah. No problem.

INT. MOLLY'S DINER - MORNING

Brad walks into the diner. The place is empty.

**BRAD** 

Hello?

Barb comes running out of the back, waving a note in her hand.

BARB

You have to stop her!

BRAD

Barb, what's wrong?

She runs over to him and hands him the note.

BARB

She's leaving with him.

**BRAD** 

What?

**BARB** 

Sindy left me this note to say goodbye. She's meeting him at Bad Water right now. You have to get some sense into that head of hers, Brad, before something terrible happens.

EXT. BAD WATER POND - MORNING

Brad drives his squad car up to Bad Water pond. He gets out and looks around.

AZ drives up to him.

Benjamin's car makes circles, tossing up sand and dirt.

AZ gets out of his car and walks over.

**BRAD** 

Where's Sindy?

AZ

Oh, she ain't comin'. She's too busy packin' to bother with you.

CUT TO:

EXT. SINDY'S CAR (PARKED) - MORNING

Sindy tries her best to stuff her luggage in the back of her mom's car.

Behind her, a black muscle car pulls up.

She turns around and smiles. The smile drops when only Johnny gets out of the car.

SINDY

Johnny?

JOHNNY

Change of plans. You comin'?

BACK TO:

EXT. BAD WATER POND - MORNING

Brad punches AZ in the stomach. He hunches over and laughs it off.

A7

You remember when I said the first one was free? Well, that makes two.

AZ sucker punches Brad in the mouth, he falls over, spits blood.

AZ (CONT'D)

Now you have to pay.

**BRAD** 

No way am I gonna let her leave with a crazy bastard like you.

AZ

You see, I knew you'd say that. Or something along those lines. You're so damn predictable.

The car comes to a stop, out steps Billy and Benjamin, both holding baseball bats in their hands.

Billy smashes the windshield to Brad's squad car.

Brad gets back on his feet.

BRAD

Even if she does leave with you, she'll come back to me eventually.

Α7.

You really think that, don't you?

**BRAD** 

Once she sees who you really are, I know so.

Billy and Benjamin circle around Brad with their baseball bats.

Billy moves in-

Brad punches him in the face. Behind him, Benjamin BASHES him over the back.

Brad falls to his knees. Billy shakes off the punch, picks up his bat.

He cracks Brad over the head with it.

Brad tips over.

Blood trickles down his forehead, wets the sand.

AZ walks over to him.

AZ

Get him on his knees, boys.

Billy and Benjamin prop Brad up. Benjamin holds him by the hair, bat under his chin.

AZ walks over, runs two fingers across Brad's nose.

AZ (CONT'D)

Tell me, deputy. What do you think this smells like? Smell familiar?

They all laugh.

BRAD

You sick fuck!

Α7.

Get his gun belt off.

They take off his holster and toss it to AZ. He hands it to Billy with a smile.

AZ (CONT'D)

You've been wantin' one of these, right, Billy?

BILLY

Are you serious? You gonna let me have it?

AZ

Sure am.

Billy takes the belt and puts it on.

BILLY

Thanks, AZ.

He takes out Brad's pistol and puts it to Brad's head.

AZ

That's a nice gun you got there, deputy. Kinda small though. Mine's bigger.

AZ pulls out his .45 Magnum, shows it to Brad.

AZ (CONT'D)

You lose again, deputy.

He pulls out a switchblade and carves an X on Brad's forehead.

**BRAD** 

Stop!

ΑZ

X marks the spot.

AZ shoves the gun in Brad's bleeding face.

AZ (CONT'D)

Admit my gun is bigger, my car is faster and that I am better than you in every fuckin' way.

BRAD

Go to hell.

AZ presses the gun into the X on his forehead.

A 7

Famous last words. Goodbye, deputy.

AZ pulls the trigger...

Nothing.

Everyone but Brad laughs.

AZ (CONT'D)

The first chamber is always empty.

**BENJAMIN** 

Holy shit, I think he pissed his pants!

AZ

Finish him off, boys.

Billy and Benjamin beat him with their baseball bats. He's nothing but a broken doll now.

AZ kneels down beside him, grabs the football ring off his finger.

AZ (CONT'D)

This is a nice ring. Can I have it?

AZ stands up and puts the ring on.

AZ (CONT'D)

Holy shit. It's a perfect fit.

He shows the fellas the ring on his finger.

AZ (CONT'D)

See ya around, deputy.

BTT<sub>t</sub>Y

Thanks for the belt, officer. I'll take real good care of it. Promise.

AZ

Billy, you're gonna need a man's gun for that holster.

Billy looks at the gun in his hand.

BILLY

But this is all I got.

AZ tosses him his Magnum.

AZ

There you go.

BILLY

Are you serious?

ΑZ

Enjoy, buddy.

Billy tosses Brad's gun in the pond and flattens a tire on Brad's squad car with the switchblade.

They walk back to their cars laughing. Brad watches as they take off.

**BRAD** 

...Sindy...

He slowly passes out from the pain.

EXT. LONELY HIGHWAY - DAY

Sindy and Johnny wait roadside for AZ and the rest of the Crows.

Johnny leans up against his car as Sindy runs out in the middle of the road, waving them down.

 ${\tt AZ}$  and the others drive up beside them. She smiles and hugs him as he gets out of the car.

They kiss.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Brad has his arm and head bandaged. His leg is in a cast, face bruised and broken.

His father sits by his bedside.

Brad slowly opens his eyes. He looks around, sees his dad next to him.

He's asleep.

**BRAD** 

Dad?

Bob wakes up, notices his son looking at him and grabs his hand.

BOB

Oh thank Jesus!

BRAD

What's going on?

BOB

You were in a coma.

BRAD

A coma? Where's Sindy? I need to see her.

He stays silent...

BRAD (CONT'D)

Dad? Why aren't you saying anything?

BOB

Christ, son. I have no idea how to tell you this.

(pause)

She's gone.

**BRAD** 

She went to LA?

BOB

No.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (MOVING) - DAY

AZ speeds down the road with Sindy by his side. Her luggage rests in the back.

AZ looks over at her and smiles.

SINDY

I can't believe I'm really doing it. Finally going to Hollywood.

AZ

About that. I've been meaning to talk to you. The plan has changed some.

SINDY

Changed how?

AZ

Instead of LA, we're headed to Mexico.

SINDY

What? You're joking, right?

AZ

Not this time.

SINDY

I'm not going to Mexico, AZ.

AZ

You ever been to Mexico? It will be out of sight, trust me.

SINDY

I'm not going to fuckin' Mexico!

AZ

Chill out.

SINDY

Don't tell me to chill out. You said we were going to LA.

AZ

That's not happening.

SINDY

I'm so stupid.

AZ wears Brad's high school football ring. Sindy takes notice of it.

SINDY (CONT'D)

What the hell is that?

AZ

What? I hit somethin'?

SINDY

On your finger, AZ!

AZ laughs, holds up his hand with the ring on it.

AZ

You mean this?

SINDY

That's Brad's ring. How did you get that?

AZ

He gave it to me.

SINDY

Stop the car.

AZ

What?

SINDY

I said stop the fucking car! Now!

AZ pulls the car over to the side.

AZ

What is it?

SINDY

What did you do?

AZ

I didn't do anything.

SINDY

He wouldn't give you his ring. Tell me what you did to him.

AZ

We had ourselves a little talk. Made sure he knew you were mine now.

SINDY

I don't belong to you, AZ.

ΑZ

Sure you do.

SINDY

I'm not your fuckin' car!

EXT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (PARKED) - SAME

Sindy quickly exits the vehicle, she's pissed.

AZ steps out with her.

She walks off back the way they came from.

AZ

Where are you going?

SINDY

Leave me alone! This was a mistake!

AZ

Get back in the car, Sindy.

SINDY

Fuck you!

ΑZ

Get back in the fuckin' car!

She ignores him and keeps walking.

He slaps the hood of the car.

AZ (CONT'D)

Get inside!

(bangs)

Get over here!

He slips back into the driver seat.

INT. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (PARKED) - SAME

AZ stares at her from the car's rearview mirrors. He revs the engine.

AZ

I told you to get back in the fuckin' car.

I/E. AZ'S MUSCLE CAR (MOVING) - SAME

AZ shifts the car in reverse, speeds like a bullet toward her. She's too busy walking away in anger to notice the danger headed her way.

He SLAMS the car into her, running her over. Blood splashes over the back windshield.

Sindy's nose his smashed in, teeth missing, jaw broken, busted to the side. She's still conscious, clawing at the pavement.

The car bumps up as the wheels roll over her body. He stops and spins his wheels.

Sindy's head caves in, gore spills out everywhere on the ground.

He shifts gears. Even more blood and sand flies up, hits the car windows.

Sindy's clothes and skin rip off her back. Her long hair gets tangled into the wheel, pulling it from her skull.

After spinning the wheels for a while, he takes off.

AZ stops the car a few feet up the highway, tosses her luggage out the window, onto the pavement.

He speeds off, leaving Sindy's mangled gory body behind.

BACK TO PRESENT

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Tears form in Brad's eyes.

BRAD

What? What are you saying?

His father grabs his son's hand, squeezes it tight.

BOB

She's gone, son.

Brad tries to get out of his hospital bed but his father stops him.

BOB (CONT'D)

You've got a broken leg and a fractured arm. You ain't goin' anywhere.

BRAD

Was it him?!

BOB

We don't know. They got an arrest warrant out after him and his crew.

**BRAD** 

Oh, Jesus, no!

Brad cries out.

His father does his best to restrain him.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - LATER

Brad has calmed down. A nurse gives him some Jell-O, checks his bandages.

His father stands by his side.

BRAD

When's her funeral?

BOB

They already had it. They couldn't wait any longer.

The nurse leaves the room.

BRAD

How long until I can leave?

BOB

A couple more days.

BRAD

Alright, a couple more days it is.

He looks up at the ceiling.

BRAD (V.O.)

I'll sit here and I'll wait.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MORNING

Maggie, Barb, his dad, a few more friends and family we don't know are there by his side. They each carry with them "GET WELL SOON" balloons and bouquet of flowers that make the tiny room feel even smaller.

They talk to him but we don't hear anything they're saying.

BRAD (V.O.)

I'll sit and I'll listen. I'll squeeze out a few fake smiles so they know I'm okay.

He smiles.

BRAD

I'm okay, guys. Really.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

Brad is wheeled down the hall in a wheelchair by a very attractive nurse. His "GET WELL SOON" balloons tied to his wrist.

Everyone in the hospital stares at him as he passes by.

BRAD (V.O.)

I'll take their sympathy. Their stares. Their words of comfort. The pity I see in their eyes.

EXT. HOSPITAL - MOMENTS LATER

Brad is wheeled outside. There his friends and family are waiting for him.

They carry with them even more balloons and flowers.

BRAD (V.O.)

I'll take every bit of it. Because when it's time...

He stands up and walks over to his family.

EXT. AUTO DEALERS - NIGHT

Brad has his cast off, limps his way over to the auto dealership. In his hand, Bucky's sawed off shotgun.

BRAD (V.O.)

When it's time, I'm going to find the ones that did this and kill every last fucking one of them.

He smashes the window with the butt-end of the rifle and enters the building.

INT. AUTO DEALERS - SAME

Brad limps in, heads right for the glass display of the leather jacket James Dean once wore.

Brad stares at his reflection in the glass. He peels the bandage off his forehead, sees the giant nasty scar of an X AZ left him with.

He smashes the glass, takes the jacket.

EXT. AUTO DEALERS - MOMENTS LATER

Brad walks out of the dealership wearing the jacket, limping his way over to the yellow Buick GSX.

He gets in the car and flies off out of the lot. Rubble and dust kicks up as he speeds away, tires screeching the whole way.

EXT. BILLBOARD - DAY

Brad has his car parked behind a giant old sand worn 1930's Jantzen swimsuit billboard that reads "America's finest fitting swimsuit".

INT. BRAD'S CAR (PARKED) - SAME

Brad sits calmly in his car.

SHERIFF (V.O.) How are you doin', son?

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

The Sheriff sits by Brad's side. He looks around the room, sees all the balloons and flowers.

SHERIFF

Jesus, how can you stand it in here? Like a goddamn rainforest.

BRAD

I'm fine, Sheriff. You don't have to worry about me.

SHERIFF

Yeah, you save that shit for everyone else. I know what you got planned in that head of yours, kid.

Brad looks over at him. His fake smile drops.

SHERIFF (CONT'D)

You listen to me. Them boys ain't got no where to go now. We got them trapped. It's just a matter of time before someone catches them. Gets that girl some justice.

**BRAD** 

It's not justice unless they die.

SHERIFF

I won't be able to look the other way.

BRAD

Then make sure you don't get in my way.

BACK TO PRESENT

INT. BRAD'S CAR (PARKED) - DAY

Brad has his police radio resting next to his shotgun.

POLICE RADIO (O.S.)

In pursuit of suspect.

Brad reaches over and turns off the radio.

A black muscle car speeds past the billboard.

Brad turns the key, starts her up. The car roars to life, driving out into the road.

The car stops-

He gets out...

#### TRUNK

Brad goes around to the trunk, pops it open, pulls out a chain of road spikes.

In the background, roaring police sirens.

He looks up at the crest of the road, walks over to the billboard, lays out the spikes.

Calmly, he walks back to his car, climbs in and revs the gas.

One hand on the gearshift, the other on the wheel.

He takes off after the black muscle car.

The wheels come to life, burning on asphalt.

#### BRAD'S CAR

Brad roars down the highway. Behind him, the police cars show themselves, their tires explode when racing over the spikes. They swerve and come to a stop.

Up ahead, the black muscle car.

He pulls up beside it. Benjamin is behind the wheel. He looks over and sees Brad.

Brad rams the side of Benjamin's car.

# BENJAMIN'S CAR

Benjamin revs the gas, Brad follows in pursuit.

**BENJAMIN** 

You crazy fuck!

They hit the highway at top speeds.

# BRAD'S CAR

The grill of his steel beast nicks Benjamin's bumper. He's coming fast.

He rams the black muscle car from behind.

They crash into each other.

Brad hits the gas. His car shoots forward.

#### BENJAMIN'S CAR

He nervously watches in his rearview as Brad SMASHES into him again.

#### **BENJAMIN**

Fuck!

Brad's car pulls up along the side to the black muscle car.

### BRAD'S CAR

Swerves into him. The sides of the cars grind together.

The two steel and chrome beasts race down the highway. Both ramming into each other.

Brad reaches into the front seat and aims his sawed off shotgun at Benjamin.

Benjamin quickly ducks.

Brad BLASTS both barrels at him.

Benjamin's car swerves, flips up into the air, lands hard and keeps rolling down the road.

## INSIDE VEHICLE

Benjamin gets tossed around, crashing into everything. Completely busted, broken and useless.

## BRAD'S CAR

Brad steps on the brakes, screeching its tires.

Benjamin flies out of the car window, hits the asphalt hard and skids.

## HIGHWAY

Brad steps out of his car, limps his way over to Benjamin. He loads two fresh shotgun shells into his shotgun.

Car debris scatters the empty highway.

Benjamin slowly crawls away from Brad, reaches for a shotgun lying on the pavement. His leg is hanging on by a thread, face riddled with buckshot and broken glass.

BRAD

You really think you can reach that before I reach you?

Brad kicks him over on his back.

BRAD (CONT'D)

I want you to tell me where I can find AZ.

**BENJAMIN** 

Fuck you!

BRAD

I'm going to ask again. If you don't answer after that, I'm going to put the end of this shotgun in your mouth and paint the pavement with whatever brains you may have left. Understand? Tell me where I can find AZ.

He aims the shotgun at Benjamin's head.

BENJAMIN

He's at The Cantina. Please, don't fuckin' kill me.

Police sirens glaring in the background.

BRAD

Were you there when he killed her?

BENJAMIN

What? Fuck no, man. I don't know what the fuck happened. He just fuckin' lost it.

BRAD

Alright, Bengy, I believe you.

BENJAMIN

Jesus, thank you.

**BRAD** 

But I don't forgive you.

BENJAMIN

Hey, wait a minute, man! Just wait
a fuckin' minute!

Brad aims the shotgun at his other leg and blows it off.

Benjamin screams out in pain.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

You sick fuck!

Brad limps back to his car, goes around to the trunk, takes out some barbwire.

He ties it around the bumper hitch to his car. He hobbles over to Benjamin and wraps it around his neck.

BRAD

Come here.

Benjamin puts up a fight.

BENJAMIN

Stop it!

Brad makes sure it's nice and tight.

BRAD

Let's go for a ride.

Brad gets in his car.

**BENJAMIN** 

Please don't do this! You already took my legs!

BRAD

Not enough.

Brad revs the car engine. Benjamin pulls at the barbwire cutting into his neck.

BENJAMIN

Don't fuckin' do this!

Brad takes off down the road. Benjamin gets dragged along behind him.

INT. THE CANTINA - DAY

AZ, Billy, and Johnny sit around a bar, getting drunk.

Johnny gets up and walks over to the pool table.

Some hot BIKER CHICKS are by the jukebox. He walks up to them with a drunken smile.

JOHNNY

You girls wanna play some strip pool?

They roll their eyes and walk away from him.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Place is full of fuckin' lesbians, A7!

AZ downs another beer.

The LADY BARTENDER slides over another.

A7

I like lesbians.

JOHNNY

Yeah, I like lesbians, too.

A 7.

Billy, where the hell is Benjamin?

BILLY

I remember him sayin' somethin' about gettin' some cigarettes.

AZ

Damn it, Billy. I told you to keep an eye on him. We got every fuckin' cop in the state lookin' for us right now.

JOHNNY

And whose fault is that?

AZ

Fuck you, Johnny. Can't you see I'm nursing a broken heart right now?

BILLY

What do you want me to do?

AZ

Go find his sorry ass and make sure it ain't in no trouble.

Billy finishes off his beer and stumbles to the exit.

BILLY

You guys need anything while I'm out?

JOHNNY

Condoms.

BTT.T.Y

Extra tiny ones, right?

JOHNNY

Fuck you.

Billy and AZ laugh.

BILLY

I'm off.

He opens the door-

A shotgun blast tosses him across the room. The buckshot hits the jukebox by the wall.

The biker chicks in the back scream.

Johnny ducks behind the pool table. Billy lies above him, his insides spilling out.

Billy tries his best to put his entrails back inside.

Johnny peeks up at him.

JOHNNY

Jesus, Billy.

BILLY

It's all coming out.

He coughs up some blood.

AZ hides out by the bar.

JOHNNY

God, Billy is hurt real bad.

ΑZ

You see anything out there?

JOHNNY

I don't see shit!

AZ

Pass me his gun.

JOHNNY

What? Fuck no.

AZ

Christ.

AZ quickly runs over and takes the .45 Magnum out of Billy's gun holster.

BILLY

Help me, AZ.

AZ

Shut up, Billy.

Carefully, he makes his way over to the entrance.

AZ (CONT'D)

Who the fuck is out there?!

BRAD (O.C.)

Get out here, AZ.

AZ smiles.

Α7

That you, deputy? You here to arrest us?

BRAD (O.C.)

Does it look like I'm here to arrest you?

AZ looks over at Billy holding up his intestines.

AZ

I guess not.

JOHNNY

What's our play here, AZ?

AZ

I don't know. Shoot him, I guess.

JOHNNY

I ain't got no fuckin' gun!

AZ tosses him his buck knife.

AZ

Here. Use this.

EXT. THE CANTINA - SAME

Brad stands outside The Cantina, armed with his shotgun. He props it up on his shoulder and paces around.

BRAD

You either come out or I come in. It's up to you.

AZ (O.C.)

I step one foot out there and you'll blow it off.

BRAD

What do you suggest?

AZ (O.C.)

How about we put our guns down and have ourselves a knife fight?

BRAD

We don't need knives when we got guns.

AZ (O.C.)

Right now you got the upper hand. I'm tryin' to think of a way to make things a little more fair.

**BRAD** 

Was it fair when you beat me with baseball bats? Or maybe when you murdered Sindy? Was that fair?

AZ (O.C.)

All great fuckin' examples, but I don't see this going very well for either of us if we have ourselves a big ol' shootout. Must I remind you we ain't the only ones in here?

BRAD

This you trying to plead to my reasonable side?

AZ (O.C.)

C'mon, deputy, throw me a bone here.

He stops pacing around.

BRAD

Alright. I promise I won't shoot anyone else.

AZ (O.C.)

I get your word on that?

BRAD

Yeah.

Brad lowers the shotgun. AZ peek out the entrance.

He pops his head out.

AZ

What the fuck?!

AZ walks out of the bar.

Behind Brad we finally see what has AZ so freaked out. Brad has set AZ's car on fire.

AZ (CONT'D)

What the fuck did you do?!

Brad smirks.

AZ (CONT'D)

Are you fuckin' crazy?! You don't set a man's ride on fire!

Brad aims the shotgun at him.

AZ (CONT'D)

Hey! You fuckin' promised!

BRAD

I lied.

Brad shoots him in the crotch. He falls to his knees, unable to make a sound, but his face says it all.

Brad drops the empty shotgun and walks over to him.

He takes the .45 Magnum away from AZ.

AZ

You son of a bitch!

Brad reaches into his stolen leather jacket and pulls out a switchblade.

BRAD

Remember this? X marks the spot, right?

AZ

Don't fuckin' do this, man. It was a fuckin' accident.

BRAD

You accidently backed your car over her?

AZ laughs.

AZ

Yeah. Twice.

AZ yells out in agony as Brad carves an X on to AZ's face.

**BRAD** 

There.

Α7.

You son of a bitch!

Brad puts the gun to AZ's head.

**BRAD** 

Goodbye.

Α7.

Hey, wait. You aren't serious!

He pulls the trigger.

Nothing.

BRAD

The first chamber is always empty.

AZ takes a sigh of relief.

AZ

You crazy, motherfucker, I thought you were-

Brad points the gun at him again and blows a hole into his forehead. The back of his skull explodes.

He tips and falls over dead on the sandy ground. Brad bends down and takes back his high school football ring.

He's hesitant to put the ring back on his finger. A wave of emotion rushes over him and he breaks down crying.

A knife flies through the air, hits Brad square in the back.

Brad tries to look at it but can't. He feels around, can't reach it.

Johnny steps out of the bar.

Brad aims the gun at him, misses, shoots the ground.

Johnny stumbles back, makes a run for it.

Brad watches him run off into the desert.

He aims the gun at him one last time and shoots him in the back. His chest explodes, tipping over dead in the sand.

Police sirens are heard in the background.

AZ's car explodes.

The blast sends Brad flying. He slowly dusts himself off, hobbles his way over to the bar.

In the background, an army of police are on their way.

INT. THE CANTINA - MOMENTS LATER

Brad looks at Billy on the pool table. He's still alive.

BILLY

Help.

Brad ignores him, walks over to the bar.

He sits down on one of the stools, bangs on the counter with the .45 Magnum.

BRAD

Can I get a drink?

The Lady Bartender pops her head up from behind the bar.

BRAD (CONT'D)

You, can I get a beer?

LADY BARTENDER

Here.

She slides over a beer and hides behind the bar again. He drinks the beer down in one gulp.

BRAD

Thanks.

BILLY

Hey. You gotta help me, man. You gotta call for some help or something.

BRAD

Sure, Billy. Let me help you out.

Brad gets up, walks over to Billy and blows his head off.

The biker girls scream.

Brad drops the gun on the pool table and walks out of the bar.

THUD.

The two biker chicks and the Lady Bartender carefully walk over to see what the sound was.

EXT. THE CANTINA - SAME

Brad lies face down in the sand. He doesn't move an inch. The knife in his back still stuck there, glistening in the hot sun.

The girls run out of the bar and into the street, waving the police cars down.

Brad slowly lifts up his head to show us he's still alive.

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END