



Scripts.com

# Trucker

By James Mottern

[ Woman Moaning ]  
[ Moaning Continues ]  
[ Woman On TV,  
Indistinct ]  
[ Moaning ]  
[ Panting ]  
[ Grunts ] That  
was pretty good, right?  
Yeah.  
Yeah.  
You know, I get this really  
stupid employee discount  
at that restaurant.  
If we walked over there,  
they'd pretty much give me  
an entre for free.  
But that's not  
really my style,  
you know?  
Or we could head back  
to my place.  
My shift doesn't start until  
a movie or something.  
Like I said,  
I get paid by the mile.  
[ Sighs ]  
Sounds like that's  
a pretty dangerous job.  
A lot more dangerous things  
if you made a list.  
You got a list?  
No. [ Laughs ]  
No, I don't have a list.  
You sure you're not hungry?  
Do you wanna  
watch TV?  
Got to make it to Reno  
in the morning.  
Oh, yeah. Of course.  
Hey, um, listen.  
I really appreciate  
the motel room.  
It's not really my style  
to let the female pay.

And I-I don't want you to think  
that I just used you  
or-or anything.  
- I don't.  
- Oh, okay.  
That's good.  
Um, you want my e-mail?  
Take it easy.  
[ Engine Starts ]  
[ Engine Revving ]  
[ Beeping ]  
[ Boy Laughing ]  
[ Door Squeaking ]  
[ Keys Dropped On Counter ]  
[ Sighs ]  
[ Breathing Heavily ]  
[ Phone Rings ]  
[ Answering Machine Beeps ]  
Diane, it's Jenny Bell again--  
Len's fiance.  
Will you please call me back?  
I really need to talk  
to you today.  
Diane, call me.  
[ Beeps ]  
[ Knocking ]  
[ Knocking ]  
[ Knocking ]  
[ Sighs ]  
Saw your rig.  
Ladies night.  
Well, I guess  
you'll be getting  
some discounted drinks then.  
Just got paid.  
You're going with me.  
[ Grunts ]  
I can't, Runner.  
I just got back.  
You know it's a dream  
of every man in California...  
have an opportunity  
to get drunk with you.  
I'm not sure that's

a compliment, Runner.

Well, it ain't an insult.

Come on.

[ Sighs ]

It's that

country-western crap?

Seventies night.

Seventies night

at the V.F.W.?

[ Gasps ]

Let me get

my lipstick.

[ Disco ]

[ Man Laughing ]

[ Glass Hits Table ]

You just gonna

sit there all night?

You gonna let me

sit here all night?

[ Funky Soul ]

[ Female Back-up Singers ]

We found the spark

[ Female Singer ]

Oh, baby, you're glowing

Started a fire

Oh, baby, you're burning

Looks like we made

a soul connection

We found a soul connection

To find out

Find out

That what we have

is real

Have is real

We had to find out

Find out

That what we have

is real

To find out

Find out

That what we have

is real

[ Ends ]

This is fucking great.

That's-That's  
a pretty drink.  
[ Laughs ]  
I'm going to the bathroom.  
[ Chuckles ]  
[ Country Western ]  
[ Door Opens ]  
Hey there.  
Hey there.  
Do-- [ Chuckles ]  
Do you know me?  
No, I don't you.  
Maybe I could though  
if I tried real hard.  
Yeah. Um--  
[ Chuckles ]  
Well, I'm Rick.  
I'm Runner's  
brother-in-law.  
[ Mumbling ]  
Oh. Rick.  
Yeah, he's mentioned you.  
Oh, good.  
Hey. Excuse me.  
Hey.  
Excuse me.  
Yeah, he's married.  
Yeah, but we're not  
fucking each other.  
So excuse me.  
I'd like to avoid  
a bladder infection.  
Oh, well, did you ever  
hear of that term,  
"playing with fire"?  
Yeah. I think you're  
doing it right now.  
No. You are.  
No. You are.  
Move it, shithead.  
Don't be  
a home wrecker now.  
A good one.  
Hey, Rick,

how's it going?  
Well, not as good as you.  
Go home, Rick.  
You're a lucky guy, Runner.  
You're a real fucking  
lucky guy.

**[ Radio:**

What the fuck do you  
have this thing set for?  
What?  
That's Christian rock.  
You caught me listening  
to Christian rock?  
Yeah.  
It's soft rock.  
Have you ever  
heard of F.M.?  
- There's a difference.  
- Oh, my God.  
What is this? This is reggae.  
- [ Reggae ]  
- Just don't go poking  
and banging at it like that.  
Basic radio,  
for Christ's sake.  
Don't punch it.  
[ Laughing ]  
Keep hitting the bottle.  
[ Chuckling ]  
[ Reggae Continues ]  
What?  
[ Tires Squeal ]  
Jesus!  
[ Groans ]  
[ Continues ]  
Okay.  
Oh, my wife's  
gonna kill me.  
She's gonna have  
to stand in line.  
Ow! Ow.  
Slide over.  
Ow.

God.  
Where you going?  
I'm suffering here.  
Goddamn.  
You're really a bleeder.  
Kind of like what  
you're doing though.  
Shut up. [ Laughing ]  
Oh, wait, wait.  
Here. Here.  
Here. Here.  
[ Continues ]  
Hold it down.  
Are those--  
Shove 'em up in there.  
I'm not putting tampons  
in my nose.  
Yeah, that or bleed to that.  
No, I'm not gonna--  
I'm not gonna do it.  
Oh, yeah.  
[ Chuckling ]  
[ Muttering ]  
Oh!  
Oh!  
[ Both Laughing ]  
Ah, I wanna live.  
[ Chuckling ]  
Oh, God.  
You're lucky  
I didn't bring the ones  
with the applicator in it.  
[ Laughs ]  
Shit.  
Just sit back now.  
You're gonna be fine.  
Oh, I swear to God.  
[ Engine Starts ]  
[ Tires Squeal ]  
[ Brakes Squeak ]  
[ Engine Off ]  
[ Grunts ]  
Oh, Jesus Christ.  
- [ Door Closes ]

- [ Groans ]  
Ooh, you really  
did it this time.  
[ Grunts ]  
[ Grunts ]  
This is the last time  
we're going out.  
[ Groans ]  
Tonight was  
a wake-up call.  
You lead  
a lonely life.  
Ow!  
Shut up, Runner.  
You did that on purpose.  
Yeah, you think?  
Ow!  
[ Groans ]  
God, you're  
a heavy sack of shit.  
Why don't you settle down?  
Why don't you--  
Why don't you find Jesus?  
What do you know  
about Jesus?  
[ Runner ]  
Nothing.  
Then why do you suggest  
that I find him?  
I don't know.  
I heard he makes  
people happy.  
- Shut up.  
- Oh! [ Laughs ]  
[ Laughing ]  
Oh, you are dead weight.  
Okay.  
[ Chuckles ]  
[ Chuckles, Groans ]  
Shh. You're gonna  
get me in trouble.  
Shh. Shh. Shh.  
[ Exhales ]  
[ Both Laughing ]



[ Panting ]

- Diane?

- Yeah.

[ Panting Continues ]

You're so pretty.

Thank you, I think.

Oh, idiot.

[ Chuckles ]

Yeah. Nice, sis.

I told you, Molly.

Shut up, Rick.

Hey.

[ Engine Running ]

[ Engine Stops ]

[ Door Opens, Closes ]

[ Keys Jingling ]

[ Footsteps Approaching ]

- Diane! Hey!

- [ Grunts ]

What the hell

are you doing?

Who the hell are you?

You know who I am.

I'm Jenny Bell.

I've been calling you

and writing you.

Well, Jenny Bell,

I don't check my messages

all that often.

Diane, listen,

Len's got an infection.

All right?

And he's in the hospital

for a few days.

And I have to leave

tomorrow night to go

to my mother's funeral.

So you can see I have

somewhat of a dilemma.

Well, Len and I

have an agreement.

Yeah, well, it was Len's idea.

Don't you have

some neighbors or

some friends or something?

I guess not.

All right, Diane, listen,  
you don't owe me anything,  
all right?

But I can't work  
and take care of Len...  
and go to my dead mother's  
send-off and watch your  
fucking kid right now.

Yeah, well, I'm  
on the road all the time.

It's three weeks.

Three weeks?

Yeah.

Peter, come on  
over here.

No. Mm-mmm.

Peter, come over here.

No, Jenny.

No.

Peter, come on.

Jenny.

Fuck you.

Peter, come on.

Listen, we talked  
about this.

Peter.

Peter, listen to me.

[ Grunts ]

Listen to me, all right?

It's just for a little while  
until your dad's feeling better.

All right? Listen.

He loves you, and he needs you  
to do this for him.

Can you do this for him?

All right?

Say "okay."

Come on.

Thanks a lot, Diane.

I'm gonna call you  
in a few days, all right?

[ Door Opens, Closes ]

[ Engine Starts ]

You're gonna  
stand there all night?  
Go on.  
So you can crash  
right there, all right?  
I'm gonna get this whole  
mix-up resolved tomorrow.  
All right? I'm gonna  
go see Leonard in L.A.  
Runner will watch you.  
He's my friend.  
He'll probably be  
pretty hungover though.  
Yeah.

[ Foot Tapping ]

So I just got  
the one-bedroom house.  
Just a one-bedroom.

[ Exhales ]

Don't like to talk, huh?  
I don't like  
to talk to bitches.  
Fair enough.  
Ooh.  
You ever had  
a breakfast  
burrito before?  
Not bad  
for a dollar, twenty-nine.  
Come here nearly  
every day before work.  
What do you do?  
You ever heard of  
a jack-of-all-trades?  
Well, that's me.  
Actually,  
I'm more of a--  
more of a six  
of diamonds-of-all-trades.  
You see those guys  
right over there?  
I work with them  
sometimes.

[ Speaking Spanish ]

Aren't they illegal immigrants?

Well, I guess

it depends on who you ask.

Yeah. Sure.

It's good. Take a big bite.

It's full of eggs.

You're gonna like it.

So your dad's got

the big "C," huh?

Sorry to hear about that.

Yeah, well,

it's just in his colon.

No big deal.

He'll get better.

Yeah. Sure he will.

You'll go back

to your old school

and your pals,

and your mom

can get back

to her regular life.

I hate my school,

and I don't have any pals.

You got to have

a best friend.

Me and my dad

are best friends.

Well, I guess you're

the sort of guy...

who's choosy about

who he's buddies with.

I can relate to that.

I'm a bit of a-- a bit

of a lone wolf myself.

You're gonna use

your hot sauce?

[ Woman On P.A.,

Indistinct ]

Excuse me. I'm looking

for Leonard Bonner's room,

please.

It's Room 608,

and it's right

down the hall.  
Thanks.  
You got it?  
Got it.  
You got the I.V.,  
sweetie?  
I got it, baby.  
[ Len Groaning ]  
Damn it.  
All right, we'll  
clean that up later.  
[ Sighs ]  
- [ Grunts ]  
- [ Jenny ]  
Does it hurt?  
No. I'm all right.  
Just a little sore.  
Okay.  
[ Monitor Beeping ]  
Hey, baby.  
Yeah?  
Can you get me  
some water?  
[ Door Opens ]  
Three weeks.  
Don't you have a home?  
Me or him?  
[ Fingers Snapping ]  
- Where you going?  
- Oklahoma City.  
Get up.  
You're going with me.  
Where's  
Oklahoma City?  
Take a guess.  
I'm not going.  
I can take care of myself.  
Dude, I'm trying to pay  
my bills here, all right?  
I don't have time  
to play nice right now.  
Well, then, why don't you  
ask me and not just tell me?  
All right, listen,

do you wanna go?  
I don't know.  
Do you want me to go?  
Why don't you tell me  
if you wanna go?  
You tell me first.  
Why don't you tell me first?  
'Cause I was the one  
who asked first.  
So?  
So that's  
how it works.  
Dude, man,  
I got to get on the road.  
This is too much for me.  
If you ask me  
and act like you  
want me to go,  
then I'll go.  
All right, man,  
do you wanna go?  
Do you wanna go with me?  
Do you wanna go  
to Oklahoma City with me?  
Please.  
I'll think about it.  
[ Exhales ]  
[ Country Western ]  
Everybody calls me the girl  
in the little pink Mack  
The bumpers are chrome  
and so are the wheels  
and the stack  
It's got polka dot curtains  
hanging in a sleeper of pink  
Ha-ha, this Mack's a dandy  
Some kind of truck  
they think  
In my truck-drivin' boots  
I stand about 5 foot 3  
But don't let  
the size fool you  
Man, I can take care of me  
When you see a flash of pink

go flyin' by  
The next thing you know  
there's a taillight  
in your eye  
Everybody wonders who'd drive  
such a rig like that  
All the truckers would ask  
"Who's the gal in the little  
pink Mack"  
- [ Radio Off ]  
- Big country, huh?  
Stay in the truck.  
What's up?  
Just about everything,  
darlin'.  
Hey, you see  
a little kid around?  
Hey, you see a little shit  
of an 11-year-old boy  
roaming around here?  
Hey! You seen  
an 11-year-old kid  
running around here?  
He might be  
over there.  
[ Panting ]  
Shit.  
Hey!  
Hey!  
Shit.  
Oh, shit.  
Goddamn it.  
You little goddamn shit.  
What the hell  
are you doing out here?  
I was just looking around.  
Do you understand  
what this fucking place is?  
It's people coming  
in and out of here  
from God knows where.  
They'd like nothing better than  
to get their grimy little hands  
on your pretty little face.

You're crazy.  
Damn it. I told you  
to stay in that truck.  
Listen, I'm sorry  
I smacked you, all right?  
But I don't wanna  
be reading about you in  
the newspaper tomorrow morning.  
Okay?  
Let's go.  
I don't feel like it yet.  
Listen to me.  
I wanna make  
the New Mexico line  
by nightfall, all right?  
I want my on-time bonus.  
So? My ass hurts now,  
and I just feel  
like sitting.  
You got two minutes.  
You give Len  
this much trouble?  
I don't make trouble.  
People make trouble for me.  
[ Scoffs ]  
Ever get into fights?  
Kids picking on me,  
calling me names.  
I don't care.  
You ever win?  
Well, I just freeze up.  
Whatever.  
I'll go back there soon,  
and you won't have  
to worry about anything.  
I'm not worried  
about anything.  
It seems weird  
for a woman  
to be driving a truck.  
Yeah, well,  
what should I be doing?  
I don't know.  
Something else.



Yeah, well,  
I like being my own boss.  
I own that truck.  
I paid it off this year.  
It's a hell of a lot better  
than being a nurse  
or a waitress or something.  
Wiping tables  
or wiping asses.  
Just seems  
pretty lonely  
and boring.  
Yeah.  
Not everyone's cut out  
like everyone else.  
Come on.  
New Mexico's calling.  
Wait up.  
Why are you  
walking so fast?  
[ Mocking ]  
"I wanna get  
my on-time bonus."  
Give it a rest, kid.  
[ Sets Brake ]  
Why are we stopping?  
Get some sleep.  
- Where?  
- Back there in the bunk.  
Where else?  
Okay, I am not sleeping  
back there. No way.  
I wanna stay at a hotel.  
Oh, damn it.  
There are only a couple  
of reasons to get a hotel room  
when you're out on the road,  
and this ain't one of 'em.  
Get your ass back there.  
[ Sighs ]  
[ Blows Lips ]  
[ Sighs ]  
Shouldn't you brush  
your teeth or something?

I don't have  
a toothbrush.  
Yeah? Well, what have  
you been using then?  
- My finger.  
- Yeah? How's that?  
[ Scoffs ]  
That's disgusting.  
You're gonna catch  
something like that.  
Well, give me some money,  
and I'll go across  
the street.  
I saw a store.  
[ Bag Unzips ]  
[ Objects Hit Counter ]  
[ Sighs ]  
Hey! That's my shit.  
That's personal.  
Not anymore.  
Hey, dude! Dude!  
Listen to me.  
You can't go out there  
by yourself, dude.  
It's dark out there.  
[ Boy Speaking,  
Indistinct ]  
Hey, faggot.  
Go buy me something.  
[ Door Bell Rings ]  
Do you think  
he'll buy you something?  
Hey, homo,  
what did you get us?  
Nothing, dickhead.  
What'd you just say?  
[ Grunts ]  
Shit, man, what  
did you do that for?  
I wasn't-- I was trying--  
Hey, come back here!  
Dude, I wasn't  
trying to do that.  
[ Grunts ]

Hey! Hey!  
Who did that? Who?  
Some boys across the street.  
[ Door Opens, Closes ]  
[ Horn Honking ]  
[ Speaking,  
Indistinct ]  
Hey!  
Wha--  
You fucking better watch  
who you fuck with!  
All right? You got it!  
[ Door Bell Rings ]  
Fuck was that?  
Whoa.  
And a pack of generics.  
[ Panting ]  
[ Panting Continues ]  
I'll get dressed.  
Ow.  
[ Monitor Beeps ]  
Ow.  
[ Grunts ]  
I know  
it hurts, son.  
You could hold  
his hand.  
Sorry.  
Here you go.  
You drink coffee?  
Yeah. Why not?  
Thanks.  
I like a lot of cream.  
Can we stop  
and see some stuff  
along the way?  
We already lost  
half a day.  
Right.  
That's a good stick  
you got there.  
Thanks.  
Oh, no, you didn't.  
Get back here. Hey!

Hey, Diane!  
[ Laughs ]  
Just hang tight,  
all right?  
Hey.  
Okay, we're  
all set, honey.  
Great.  
I just can't give you  
your on-time pay.  
Jonnie, I always  
deliver early.  
I know.  
My boss just won't let me--  
Jon, that's  
a bunch of bullshit.  
Is that your kid, hon?  
Yeah, it's my kid.  
But I'm gonna be rid of him  
in less than a month.  
All right?  
He lives with his dad.  
Does he go to school?  
No, he don't go to school.  
Yeah, Di,  
but federal law and all.  
Jon, I need new tires.  
Look, it's been  
a little light here.  
I'll-I'll call you  
when we get  
something in.  
Right.  
All right, let's go.  
And I'll be rid of you  
in a month too. Bitch.  
I didn't mean that.  
[ Door Opens ]  
You didn't say one word  
since Texas.  
You think it's easy being stuck  
in a cab with an 11-year-old  
who doesn't say anything?  
Well, it ain't easy, all right?

It'll drive a person crazy.  
Dude, and that's what  
you're doing right now, man.  
Living with you  
will drive me crazy.  
[ Objects Clattering ]  
Listen, you have no idea  
what my life was like  
before you got here.  
And you walked through this  
door and expect everybody  
to roll right over for you.  
Well, I didn't ask  
for your dad to get cancer,  
and I didn't ask  
for you to show up either.  
Well, then why  
did you have me then?  
- I didn't wanna have you,  
goddamn it.  
- [ Objects Hits Window ]  
[ Object Hits Counter ]  
I didn't mean that.  
I wanna see my dad,  
and I'm gonna  
tell him everything.  
Everything!  
Hey.  
Hey! Hey!  
I got a name, bitch!  
You stop calling me that.  
I am not a bitch.  
Look, I knew what you were--  
just a lot lizard tramping  
around in dirty truck stops.  
That's not  
was I was, dude.  
You little shit.  
That's not what I was.  
Goddamn you.  
[ Quietly ]  
That's not what I was.  
[ Water Starts Running ]  
[ Water Stops ]

Dad!

[ Len ]

Oh!

[ Speaking, Indistinct ]

I missed you.

Wow. I missed you.

How you been?

All right?

Dad, I'm gonna  
get some ice cream.

Hey, get some  
whip cream on mine.

Okay. I'll get some too.

[ Sighs ]

You know,  
after you took off,  
I-I planned on  
how it was gonna be  
when I saw you again.

[ Laughs ]

Well, 10 years later,  
this ain't it.

You look fine.

You dating anybody?

Dating?

Yeah?

You ever think  
about marrying again?

To who?

Not me, I guess.

I'm not very good  
future husband material  
these days.

Yeah, well, you'll be  
making Jenny miserable  
soon enough.

So did he turn out at all  
like you thought he would?

He looks like you,  
doesn't he?

He did when he came out,  
so I figured he'd stay that way.

What the hell are you  
trying to pull, Leonard?

Listen, Di, I--  
[ Chuckles ]  
I had no choice.  
All right? I--  
I couldn't find anybody  
to take him.  
Well, when is Jenny coming back?  
She's staying with her dad  
a little bit longer.  
I can't keep asking her  
to watch after him  
all the time anyway.  
I mean,  
she's got to work too.  
I need your help.  
I'm-- I'm talking  
about a month maybe.  
I'm on the road  
two weeks at a time,  
sometimes more, Len.  
[ Exhales ]  
I'll pay you.  
Fuck you.  
Goddamn it.  
You always knew just  
what to say to make me  
wanna break your neck.  
We made this arrangement  
Yeah, we did.  
Yeah, we did.  
I know.  
Ten years ago,  
and that's that.  
So shut the hell up,  
'cause you're gonna  
be just fine.  
Oh, Jesus Christ.  
[ Sighs ]  
They're all  
white trash out here.  
Yeah, but they're  
California white trash,  
and they all got suntans.  
Listen, I got

to make that run, but  
I won't be back too late.  
I'm trusting you now,  
right?

[ Bell Ringing ]

Runner will  
check in on you.

I'll be fine.

[ Exhales ]

[ Engine Starts ]

Hey.

Oh, hey, Runner.

What are you doing?

I thought I'd finally build  
that gate for your mom...  
so she can lock up her stuff  
when she's doing long trips.  
Wanna help me?

Oh, I'm not great  
at stuff like that.

Ah, everybody's good  
at stuff like this.

It's easy.

And it makes you feel good  
even if you do it half assed.

[ Sighs ]

Here. Hang on to this.

[ Groans ]

I'm good.

Trust me.

You're gonna love this.

It's lots of fun.

I don't wanna  
mess it up. Here.

Making mistakes  
is the only way you learn.  
And trust me.

I learn like four  
or five things every day.

All right.

All right.

Grab a bunch,  
slap it on the edge,  
just like you're



putting icing on a cake.  
Your mom is gonna  
be real surprised  
when she gets back from Phoenix.  
She's been doing a lot  
of short hauls lately,  
hasn't she?

I guess.

Perfect.

All right.

Grab one of these.

[ Grunts ]

Try to set it down nice.

A little more that way.

Like that?

Uh-- Good.

You know...

when I was a kid,  
my folks got divorced.

I tell ya,  
the best day of my life  
was when my dad left.

Now he had  
the meanest left hook.  
Never could see it coming.

Think that's why I did  
so good in the army.  
Diane said you got shot.

Yeah. And it hurt  
like a son of a bitch.  
Still does sometimes.

So what are you,  
in grade six now?

Yeah.

You into that new school?

Well, there's  
this kid I like.

I might try out for baseball  
even though I suck.

Yeah?

Baseball's good, sure.

Oh, yeah, your dad  
used to play, right?

Yeah.

Yeah, your mom told me.  
She used to go watch him.  
Your mom's pretty good  
with a glove. Should ask her.  
Probably give you  
a few pointers.

Yeah, maybe.

[ Diane's Voice ]

All right, man, you just  
gotta lean into it, okay?  
Really, really lean into it.

[ Peter ]

All right.

Whoa!

What was that?

Oh, my God. I thought it  
was gonna get me.

You just gotta keep  
your eye on it.

All right, I'll be easy  
on you this time.

[ Sighs ]

Whoa! Are you

trying to kill me?

I didn't say walk into it.

Let's do it again.

I'm afraid of you.

What's there to be  
afraid of? Come on.

Just don't get crazy  
with that thing.

Ohh! Ohh!

I didn't mean that.

Goddamn it!

Dude! Dude!

Dude, that is not cool.

I got to go.

Yeah.

But listen.

You have to take a swing at that  
thing if you wanna get anywhere.

I just wanna hit it.

That's all I wanna do.

You can hit a home run.

No, I can't.  
I know what I can do  
and what I can't.  
Why, because  
somebody tells you so?  
No, because I know so.  
And you think you're so tough.  
Trying to tell everyone  
what to think.  
But you're the one who's  
always scared of stuff.  
You're the scariest  
person I know.  
[ Horse Whinnies,  
Nickers ]  
[ Sighs ]  
Hey.  
[ Diane ] Nice gate  
you got going here.  
Well, it's a start.  
You know, I was thinking  
maybe you and me and Peter,  
we could all do something  
together, you know?  
Go dirt biking or something.  
I don't think that's  
such a good idea.  
Yeah. Pretty dangerous.  
Yeah.  
What's he doing right now?  
Watching TV.  
Seems to be taking to it  
out here a little bit.  
Yeah, well, he'll be back  
in L.A. soon enough.  
Yeah.  
You know, I lived  
in this house six years?  
Yep.  
- I'm gonna own it someday.  
- That's right.  
- You agree too much.  
- Am I agreeing?  
Mm-hmm.

Well, sure,  
I'm agreeable.  
Stop looking at me, man.  
You want something  
from the store?  
Nah.  
I'll get on that gate.  
I'll finish it soon.  
[ Dog Barking In Distance ]  
[ TV Playing, Indistinct ]  
Come on. Get up now.  
Turn off the TV.  
Why?  
- [ TV Turned Off ]  
- Go brush your teeth.  
- What are you doing?  
- I'm trying to be nice here.  
[ Sighs ]  
Okay.  
[ Spits ]  
This is my blanket.  
Here.  
It's your dad's.  
It's pretty raggedy, but, uh,  
you can have it to sleep with.  
I don't sleep  
with stuffed animals.  
It's a clown actually.  
But I-- I gotcha.  
Okay.  
Good night, then.  
- Diane?  
- Yeah?  
Dad said that when he was  
on the road with his team...  
he stopped off in Needles,  
California, and saw you  
at a truck stop.  
Yeah, well, flat broke.  
[ Chuckles ]  
You know how that can be.  
He said you were the most  
beautiful girl he ever saw.  
He said that, huh?

I was 18.  
All 18-year-olds  
are beautiful.  
He said you didn't  
leave because of me.  
But I know you did.  
It wasn't you particularly  
that made me leave.  
It's just that your dad's  
a man, and a man's man  
to a fault.  
And a man like that expects  
a woman to do a whole bunch of  
things I wasn't prepared to do.  
Like what?  
Like staying  
around the house...  
and being like a--  
like a woman  
everybody's used to.  
What's wrong with  
staying around the house?  
Some people like  
staying around the house  
and some people don't.  
Doesn't make you  
a bad person, right?  
Does Jenny stay  
around the house?  
No.  
- See?  
- But she wants to.  
Me and your dad were  
staying in this bungalow  
we rented in Hollywood.  
It was a pretty nice place,  
you know?  
I'm getting  
kinda tired, kid.  
Okay.  
I don't know.  
You know, I've been  
thinking about it and...  
being in that house holding you

or feeding you a bottle  
or something,  
and it was like  
I was half there.  
You know?  
It was like I had this body,  
but it wasn't mine,  
and I just moved it  
around or something.  
And then one day  
you were both asleep  
and I just...  
took the money I was saving  
and I just left.  
Did you love me?  
It's getting pretty late.  
I got an early start  
in the morning.  
You comfortable?  
Yeah.  
Good.  
Well, good night.  
Good night.  
[ Sighs ]  
[ Chattering ]  
When are you moving  
back with your dad?  
I don't know.  
Probably about  
a couple of months maybe.  
Do you like  
staying at your mom's?  
Not really.  
But she's not around  
that much.  
What does she do?  
Well, she drives a big rig,  
which is a truck,  
and she goes all over,  
um, the states, you know.  
And, uh, right now,  
she's actually going  
on a trip to San Diego.  
She is?

Yeah.  
What are you doing  
after school?  
All right, do you know  
what a whippet is?  
[ Hissing ]  
[ Hissing ]  
Okay, okay, okay.  
First time, keep it easy.  
[ Laughing ]  
[ Laughing Continues ]  
What the hell  
are you doing?  
Oh, shit.  
You, who the hell  
are you? Out!  
Get the hell out. Out.  
Ah, fuck this.  
But this is my house too.  
The hell it is. Jesus.  
- You're bullshit.  
- You're bullshit, all right?  
Oh, yeah?  
Yeah.  
You see what  
happened to me?  
[ Spraying ]  
Oh, shit!  
Oh, you little fucker!  
You get--  
[ Peter ] Oh, fuck!  
Ohh!  
Yes, you better run!  
Oh, shit! Run! Run!  
You little bastard.  
Well, at least  
he's got a friend.  
Yeah, I don't know.  
He wanted to stay over there  
tonight, but I didn't think  
it was such a good idea.  
Well, don't let it bother you.  
Kids do shit like that  
all the time.

Hell, I did it.  
Look how I turned out.  
Inspire me, why don't you?  
Shit. What do you know  
about raising kids?  
You're barren or sterile  
or shooting blanks  
or whatever.  
You know, sometimes I think  
you'd just best be served  
by just...  
closing your mouth  
every once in a while,  
just walk away once in a while.  
You gotta wife  
to talk to like that.  
I'm ain't your wife.  
Yeah, but you and me  
are friends.  
I won't let my other pals  
talk to me like that.  
Don't think it's  
a little strange you and me  
going out all the time?  
It's not all the time.  
We're neighbors,  
for Christ's sake.  
It's important for people to  
have other interests, you know?  
Friends and such.  
I'm your only friend,  
Runner.  
I got friends, Diane.  
I got pals I served with.  
Well, the guys  
on line down at the V.A.  
don't count, dude.  
Oh, wow, you really--  
[ Chuckles ]  
That don't make me  
feel too good.  
Just keep on drinking that  
creamy drink there, Runner.  
Well, it happens to be



in a to-go cup,  
and I'm to-goin'.  
Come on. Runner!  
Hey!  
What are you littering for?  
Give a hoot, man.  
You just can't--  
You don't see it.  
See what?  
Forget it.  
Where are you going?  
You know, I don't care if you  
just see me as some jerk who  
follows you around like a dog.  
What do I care?  
But damn it, I'm crazy  
about you, Diane.  
Well, I'm crazy  
about you too, Runner.  
You know that.  
But I'm not gonna let you  
get in my underpants.  
Yeah, why not me?  
Why every other dumb Joe Blow?  
It's not every other  
dumb Joe Blow.  
We've been hanging  
around for four years.  
We've been going out.  
We've been palling around.  
And I-- You--  
You can be really  
nasty sometimes.  
But I've never  
thought about a woman  
the way I think about you.  
Well, go ahead.  
I'm waiting for the commentary.  
Hell, Runner,  
I'm not gonna say anything.  
I better go.

[ TV:

[ Man Whistling ]

I got a secret  
I shouldn't tell  
And I'm gonna  
go to heaven in a  
In a split-pea shell  
Lordie me  
Didn't we shake sugaree  
Everything I have  
Down in pawn  
You know I pawned my watch  
I pawned my chain, yeah  
And I'd of sold myself  
But I felt ashamed  
Lordie me  
Didn't we shake up sugaree  
Everything I have  
Down in pawn  
[ Cheering, Applauding ]  
[ Boy ]  
Okay, let's do it!  
Yes, get a hit!  
Hey, you made it.  
Yeah.  
[ Cheering, Applauding ]  
[ Woman ]  
Let's go! Let's go! Yeah!  
[ Man ]  
Okay. Come on, Robert!  
What the hell you doing  
drinking at a kids' game?  
I'm not drinking per se.  
I'm just celebrating life.  
Anyhow, it's in a bag.  
Peter, let's go!  
You can do it!  
Okay, let's a hit!  
Come on, Peter!  
[ Woman ]  
Let's go, Cal!  
That's good pitching!  
Home run!  
[ Umpire ]  
Strike one.  
He needs to choke up a little.

He'll be all right.  
[ Man ] Watch it, Peter.  
[ Boy ]  
Come on! Come on, Peter!  
Let's go!  
Strike two!  
[ Cheering, Applauding ]  
All right, last one.  
Come on, dude.  
[ Diane ]  
Go, little man!  
Whoo!  
[ Boy #1 ] Come on, Pete!  
[ Boy #2 ]  
Come on, Peter!  
[ Boy #3 ]  
Let's go, Peter!  
[ Boy #4 ] Come on, Pete.  
[ Man ]  
It's all you, Peter.  
Yeah! Go!  
[ Man ]  
Go! Go! Go!  
[ Diane ]  
That's it! Go!  
Shit!  
[ Umpire ]  
That's an out!  
Game's over.  
What the hell's  
he doing?  
Hey!  
Over here!  
Did you see me?  
I hit it.  
Yeah.  
I saw it.  
Kept your eye on the ball.  
[ Runner ]  
Hey, come on.  
Don't be talkin' like that.  
[ Phone Rings ]  
All right, put the porno on  
and, uh, I'll grab some plates.

[ Rings ]

Which one you  
putting in first?

Hello?

[ Sighs ]

Nice.

This is Diane.

'Cause if it's a scary movie  
I gotta have a blanket.

It's gotta  
cover my feet.

Yeah.

And it has to wrap underneath.

It has to be like a taco.

I have to be wrapped.

I see.

A burrito.

[ Door Closes ]

Hey.

Now listen.

If my mom was alive or I knew  
where my dad was,

I would-- I would try to  
fix things up with them, but--

I've been talking to Jenny,  
and she's gonna take him, Di.

But I don't want you to talk  
to him about it just yet, okay?

I'll-- Just let him be.

Does she really want him?

Wants him enough, I guess.

You sent him

out to me on purpose.

You've known for a long time  
how sick you were.

You know, I wish we could've  
seen eye to eye on some things,  
Diane.

That would have been  
cool with me.

I just-- I just never  
knew where I stood.

You know, like I was right there  
with you or making love to you,

but you were always  
somewhere else.  
I could never get a foothold.  
There I was.  
You pulled up in that  
big bus with your team,  
you stepped off.  
I thought I'd never seen  
a better looking man  
in all my life.  
Seemed like you came  
down from heaven or on  
a white horse or something.  
You had your hair slicked back,  
cut over your left eye.  
I would've gone just about  
anywhere with you at that  
moment, and I guess I did.  
You did.  
That's-- That's very true.  
[ Whispering ]  
I like that mouth.  
Your dad wants you  
to come in now.  
Your dad wants you,  
okay?  
Peter, go on.  
We'll be right here  
when you get back.  
Come on now. Go.  
Well, I guess you can tell  
by looking at me I'm not  
in the best shape of my life.  
You look all right.  
You win your game?  
Come on.  
Come sit next to me.  
I got some things that  
I wanted to talk to you about.  
How's your throwing?  
Bad.  
Yeah, well,  
I wasn't so good  
at throwing either.

Or batting, for that matter.

You like your mom?

No.

You love her though, right?

I don't know.

[ Sighs ]

Now I gotta tell you this,  
sweetheart.

I'm not so sure that

I'm gonna be seeing you  
around again before too long.

Now me and you,

we've been together

since you were a baby, right?

That's a long time. That's a--

That's a real long time.

You know, when you first  
came out of your mom, well...

it was the happiest day  
of my life.

Now here, here. Stop-- Stop  
playing with your fingers for  
a second and look at me, okay?

No.

Now listen to me good, okay?

[ Sniffles ]

I want you to try and be  
a good man, if you can.

And I don't mean giving quarters  
to homeless people or whatever.

I'm-- I'm talking about...

treating people right,  
you know?

Or... I don't know,  
standing up for people  
that need you.

Even if you're--

Even if you're scared.

All right, do you know  
what I'm saying?

No.

You do those things.

Maybe if all goes well,  
I'll be sure to see you

before too long, all right?

Okay, now, go get Jenny,  
'cause she needs to make  
some calls.

No!

Go on.

Go-- Go get Jenny.

No, Daddy!

[ Sobbing ]

[ Sobbing ]

[ Woman ]

Wilderness song

Kids and a clown

Lanky boys with

Big mouths

My staircase

A vow leans against my cloud

And all your wanderin'

Wanderin' about

Well, it tells me

I should have bones

to pick with you

And I should feel

the need to kill

Against you

Yes

I should have bones

to pick with you

I don't have no

I don't have no bones

Mmm, grubby hands

My itchy finger

And the tonal tunes and

And their tidy singers

What

Oh, I should have bones

to pick

Oh, I don't have no

I don't have no bones

[ Strumming ]

[ Diane ]

But that run is mine, Frank.

I am dependable.

Listen,

my kid's dad just died.

[ Continues ]

Yeah, sure,

that would be fun.

No, a drink would be great.

Thank you.

Okay.

Thank you.

[ Continues ]

You sound like

a real rock star in there.

[ Dog Barking In Distance ]

Listen, I'm gonna need you  
to go stay with Jenny another  
weekend in, uh, L.A., okay?

Next weekend.

I'm gonna go do Reno.

[ Continues ]

[ Crowd Cheering, Applauding ]

Out!

Peter!

[ Man ] Who's up? Who do we got?

[ Man #2 ]

Let's go! Next batter!

[ Crowd Applauding ]

Hey!

Hi.

That was great.

Thanks.

Hey, Peter.

How are you?

Hi, Jenny.

I thought you weren't  
coming until tomorrow.

Where's Runner?

Bringing the truck around.

Listen, Peter, I've gotta  
work tomorrow afternoon,  
so I was thinking we just  
drive back to L.A. tonight.

Well, me and the team  
are gonna go get some pizza.

I got a call a few hours ago  
to make another run after Reno.



Where?

Boston.

Where's Boston.

It's gonna be  
a couple extra days,  
so maybe you wanna stay  
out there with Jenny  
a little while longer, okay?

How long?

A few days.

Just an extra few days.

And then we'll see.

Okay?

See what?

Hey.

Hey.

Hey.

It's just a few days.

A few days, okay?

Listen to me.

You can go back  
and be with your friends,  
all right?

You can stay  
in your old house.

You can have  
a better life.

You can be with people  
who love you.

See, I am who I am,  
all right?

This is who I am.

I'm always gonna be  
like this.

Like what?

Like this.

Jenny is a really  
nice woman.

I don't want a nice woman.

[ Engine Starts ]

I'll be back in a week or so.

Just play it by ear  
or something.

Okay, Diane.

He's a good boy.  
I know.  
How you doing, Jenny?  
[ Sighs ]  
To tell you the truth,  
I'm pretty fucking sad.  
I'll bring him by  
in the morning.  
He'll be fine.  
Good night, Diane.  
Yeah.  
You did good tonight.  
[ Sighs ]  
I could have been  
a good dad, maybe.  
Maybe still could.  
What?  
Nothing.  
[ Sighs ]  
You look  
real pretty tonight.  
Yeah?  
Yeah.  
Thanks.  
I like your legs.  
Never get to  
see 'em much.  
Actually I don't think  
I ever seen 'em.  
Yeah?  
My legs?  
Yeah.  
What else do you  
like about me?  
I like your knees.  
My knees are a part of my legs,  
the part that makes them bend.  
Well, can't it just be me  
saying something?  
Just say something else then.  
You already got  
my legs covered.  
What would you say  
if I leaned in a little

right now?

I guess I'd tell you

when you got here.

Not sure if I like it.

No?

Maybe a little closer.

Can't quite get the full bouquet  
of the whiskey.

[ Chuckles ]

No.

Diane, I'm sorry.

No, it's not you.

I just don't want to  
live like that anymore.

Like what?

Kinda half-assed, you know?

Not thinking things through.

I mean, you got Molly,  
she's okay, but damned  
if you're ever gonna leave her.

I don't know what I'm doing.

But whatever it is  
maybe I've gotta think  
about my future more...

than just what city

I'm running a load of  
two-by-fours to, you know?

You know what I mean,  
Runner?

Not all the way.

But, yeah, I gotcha.

I can support you  
on that.

You better go.

He's gonna be home soon.

You gonna say something?

Uh...

Ah, hell, Diane, you got  
the most beautiful tits  
I ever laid hands on.

Well, if nothing else, you--  
you're a true gentleman.

[ Engine Starts ]

Stay out of trouble.

[ Clanging ]  
Hey!  
What are you guys doing?  
How was the game?  
Get out of here.  
[ Clears Throat ]  
Mmm. Wow. Okay.  
Here you go.  
What, are you  
looking at something?  
[ Chuckles ]  
What are you looking at?  
Are you fucking  
looking at something?  
Nothing.  
Nothing.  
I got my kid coming home.  
Nothing.  
Mmm.  
Look at me.  
No, look.  
Look at me.  
I said I got my kid  
coming home.  
If you get  
out of here right now,  
I won't call the cops.  
Okay.  
Okay.  
You fucker!  
Bitch!  
Get up!  
Come on!  
Ahh! Ahh!  
Look at me! Huh?  
Look at me!  
I'm looking at you!  
I'm fucking  
looking at you!  
Ow! Fuck! Ahh!  
Goddamn it!  
No! No!  
See, I have a son, all right?  
I don't want him coming in

on this, all right?  
Listen, my truck's  
parked outside.  
All right?  
Take me outside. In the truck.  
In the truck. In the truck.  
Oh, God!  
My son! No!  
Goddamn it!  
Get the fuck off her!  
Jesus! That is not  
what I am!  
That is not what I am!  
Diane!  
Diane.  
This is my house.  
Get out of my house!  
Get out of my house!  
[ Panting ]  
Peter.  
Those guys that were  
just here-- [ Sobbing ]  
[ Cigarette Lighter  
Clicks Open ]  
[ Clicks Closed ]  
[ Cars Passing By On Freeway  
In Distance ]  
[ Whispering ]  
The freeway's really loud.  
Sometimes  
it puts me to sleep  
like waves at a beach.  
Are you okay?  
Yeah, I'm okay.  
Are you?  
Yeah.  
Do you want me  
to go with Jenny?  
Do you wanna  
go with Jenny?  
[ Sighs ]  
That's not what I asked you.  
No, I don't want you  
to go with Jenny.

Do you want me  
to stay with you?  
Will you say it?  
I want you  
to stay with me.  
What can I call you then?  
Anything you want.  
Okay.  
Okay.  
[ Guitar ]  
[ Music Fades Out ]  
[ Slow Country Guitar ]  
[ Continues ]  
[ Fades Out ]