

THE SUREM

Written by

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SCENE 1

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON-DAY

High noon. A MEXICAN GANG is riding across the desert landscape with a heavily loaded mule train. Text appears and reads "July 1881" MEXICAN 1 leading the convoy is approached by MEXICAN 2.

MEXICAN 1

Vamos a tomar un descanso aquí por un tiempo. Yo estoy con hambre.
(Let's take a rest here for a while. I'm getting hungry.)

MEXICAN 2

Sí, señor. (to the rest of the group) Desmontar!
(Yes sir. (to the rest of the group) Dismount!)

Mexican 2 rides off. Mexican 1 dismounts. He removes his hat and wipes his head with a bandana.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -TOP OF A HILL- DAY.

JIM, BILLY and ZWING are watching the group of Mexicans resting in the shade.

BILLY

How much did you say there was?

JIM

I never heard how much exactly. But they hit the town of Monterrey.

ZWING

I count thirty mules. All heavily loaded.

BILLY

There must be thousands down there.

ZWING

We should hit 'em now, Jim. They wouldn't expect it.

JIM

We wait.

BILLY

Why?

JIM

In a little while, they're gonna be asleep. Only a few are gonna be on the lookout.

ZWING

Old Man Clanton ain't gonna like this.

JIM

That's why I'm in charge of this. Spread the word for the men to wait for my signal.

Zwing exits scene.

JIM (CONT'D)

Billy, you keep an eye on them. I gotta go see the old man.

Billy nods his head and turns to watch the Mexicans. Jim exits scene.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -BEHIND THE HILL- DAY.

OLD MAN CLANTON is hunched down under a bush. Jim approaches him.

OLD MAN CLANTON

Are we ready?

JIM

Just about, boss. There's a lot more than I expected. Counted thirty mules.

OLD MAN CLANTON

Thirty?! What's the hold up? Are they on the move?

JIM

No. They're taking a break.

OLD MAN CLANTON

(getting up) Well, hell, let's go get 'em.

JIM

If we wait just a little bit longer, we can take 'em by surprise.

OLD MAN CLANTON

How's that?

JIM

They're eating and getting tired. Eventually, they're gonna take a siesta. That's when we hit 'em.

OLD MAN CLANTON

(big grin) That's a good plan. How are you gonna hit 'em?

JIM

You keep some men up here, and keep their attention with your rifles. I'll take Zwing, Billy and the rest of the men. We'll ride down through the canyon and hit 'em up close. It'll be quick.

OLD MAN CLANTON

Goddam, I like that plan, son. When you want us to make the first shot?

JIM

Wait till we're in position right there (pointing) I'll signal you. As soon as you make the first shot, we'll ride in.

OLD MAN CLANTON

That sounds like a damn good plan. How much longer?

JIM

I give 'em about ten, twenty minutes. They just sat down. That'll be enough time to get the men ready and into position.

OLD MAN CLANTON

Alright. Let's get going. Gonna lose the light.

JIM

Billy is up there a ways keeping an eye on things. It's a good position with plenty of cover. Send him back this way and we'll get going.

OLD MAN CLANTON

We'll do.

Old Man Clanton walks away. A few men get up and walk with him.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLERS' CANYON -MEXICAN CAMP- DAY.

Mexican 1 is sitting under a bush in the shade with Mexican 2. He pulls his hat down over his face as he lays down.

MEXICAN 1

Dile a los hombres a descansar un poco. Nos pondremos en marcha cuando la luz desaparece. Mantener una mirada hacia fuera para los bandidos.

(Tell the men to get a little rest. We'll get going when the light goes away. Keep a look out for bandits.)
(laughs)

Mexican 2 laughs. He gets up and exits scene carrying a rifle.

MEXICAN 1 (CONT'D)

(snickering) Banditos.
(Bandits)

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -ON THE HILL- DAY.

Old Man Clanton is watching the Mexicans sleep. Only a few Mexicans are awake on guard.

Jim, Zwing, Billy and four other men mounted on horses. Rifles and pistols in hand. Jim looks up at Old Man Clanton and nods. Old Man Clanton, nods raises his rifle and takes aim. Jim and his group start riding.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -MEXICAN CAMP- DAY.

One of the MEXICAN GUARDS is standing, looking around. A bullet passes through his chest, then the gun shot is heard. Mexican 2 falls to the ground looking around, then fires his rifle.

Jim and his group ride into camp shooting. The Mexicans scramble to get up. Some of the Mexicans take up their rifles and start to return fire in all directions, others get on their horses. Old Man Clanton and his group continue to fire down on the gang sporadically killing a few of the Mexicans. Jim and his group kill the Mexicans one by one. The mules are trying to get away from the noise of gunfire and yelling. Some are shot down, while a few get away. A single Mexican manages to get on his horse and begins to ride away.

JIM

Zwing!

Zwing looks at Jim, who is pointing in the direction of the escaping Mexican. Zwing raises his rifle and fires, killing the Mexican out of the saddle. The massacre is over.

Mexicans and dead mules litter the canyon floor. The remaining mules are uneasy, stamping and kicking around, trying to get away. Old Man Clanton's group rides into the scene.

BILLY

That was a hell of a shot.

ZWING

(Smiling, reloading his
rifle)

Like that did ya?

OLD MAN CLANTON

Somebody settle down them damn
mules!

JIM

They're just spooked boss. They'll
calm down.

OLD MAN CLANTON

And by the time they do that,
they'll be back in Mexico!

Old Man Clanton raises his rifle and starts to fire, killing some of the mules. He hands his rifle to another rider.

OLD MAN CLANTON (CONT'D)

Now we can carry on. (dismounts)
What do we got, Jim?

Jim walks to a dead mule and pulls back a covered load. Gold coins and jewels fall out of a large bag. Jim looks up at Old Man Clanton and the two begin to laugh.

OLD MAN CLANTON (CONT'D)

We hit the big one, boys!

The rest of the men cheer wildly, and start to uncover the loaded mules.

OLD MAN CLANTON (CONT'D)

You did good, Jim. (smiling) I'm
proud of you, son.

JIM
 (smiling) Thanks, boss. (pause,
 looking around) How we gonna get
 all this outta here now? It's too
 heavy for the horses to carry.

OLD MAN CLANTON
 (looking around) Shit, I didn't
 think 'bout that.

JIM
 We can hide it somewhere.

OLD MAN CLANTON
 Are you nuts, boy?! And someone
 else happen on it? No. There's a
 couple mules still alive. We can
 use them.

JIM
 They can't carry it all.

OLD MAN CLANTON
 What do you suggest, Jim?

JIM
 We divi up what our horses and them
 mules can carry and hide the rest.
 I saw a cave up in the canyon a
 ways. We could hide it there and
 come back for it in a few days.

OLD MAN CLANTON
 I can live with that. We better
 hurry. We're losing light, and I
 gotta get.

JIM
 Alright. Listen up, men! Start
 getting this stuff together and
 packed up! We're burning daylight!

The men pack up the loot.

END SCENE 1

SCENE 2

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -THE WASH- DAY.

The group is riding in the wash, spread out searching for the
 cave.

JIM

It's got to be around here. I saw it when we came in.

ZWING

Hell, Jim. It could've been anywhere out here. Old Man Clanton leave?

JIM

Yep. Had some pressing business back in Tombstone.

ZWING

Grabbed his loot and ran, huh?

JIM

That's fine with me. The less he knows where the loot is, the better.

ZWING

What're you saying, Jim?

Jim is silent and does not look at Zwing.

ZWING (CONT'D)

You planning something, I want to know about it. At least cut me in.

Jim starts to speak when Billy calls out.

BILLY

(O.S.) Jim! Zwing! I found it!

JIM

C'mon. We'll talk later.

Jim and Zwing exit scene.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -THE CAVE- DAY.

Jim, Billy and Zwing are looking into the cave.

LOW CREATURE NOISE

JIM (CONT'D)

Good work, Billy. Let's get the others and get the loot in here. We'll make camp close by tonight, then skin out first light.

CUT TO. EXT. CAMPFIRE -NIGHT

The men are sitting around a small campfire idly talking, while some are asleep. Billy, Zwing and Jim are sitting around the fire in conversation.

ZWING

What you gonna do with your share,
Billy?

BILLY

I'm going to Tucson. Get me a
bottle, a room and a woman.

The men chuckle.

BILLY (CONT'D)

What about you Zwing? What you
gonna do?

ZWING

Not sure yet. Haven't given it much
thought. You Jim?

JIM

I got plans.

BILLY

What kind of plans?

JIM

Just...plans.

Jim lays back on his saddle and pulls his hat over his face. Billy looks at Zwing.

BILLY

(whispering) Plans?

JIM

(not looking up) Yes, Billy. Plans.
Now get some rest, so we can skin
out come first light.

Billy lays back. Zwing gets up and checks his shotgun.

ZWING

I'll keep an eye out for a bit.

JIM

Good thinking. Wake me first sign
of trouble.

Zwing stands there for a moment looking at the group. He picks up his rifle and heads into the darkness.

FADE TO BLACK

END SCENE 2

SCENE 3

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAMP- NIGHT.

FULL MOON.

COYOTES CALLING.

Billy quickly sits up, scared and looking around. He reaches for his rifle, but is stopped by Zwing's foot stepping on it. Billy looks up at Zwing. Zwing lights a match then a cigarette.

ZWING

It's just coyotes, Billy. Go back to sleep.

Billy lays back down, but does not go back to sleep. He watches as Zwing sits down by the fire. Zwing looks into the fire.

BILLY

I heard stories of this place at night.

ZWING

(looks at Billy) What did you hear, Billy? You hear about the monsters out here?

Billy looks away.

ZWING (CONT'D)

Hell, Billy. We're the only monsters out here. Us and the Apaches.

Zwing chuckles as he looks at Billy. Billy has a serious look on his face.

ZWING (CONT'D)

What's wrong Billy? What'd you hear?

BILLY

I heard this canyon has spirits.
Evil spirits. Sometimes when people
come in here, they never come out.

ZWING

(chuckles) Stories, Billy. Nothing
more than stories to scare people
away. If anything is to blame, it's
those damned Apaches. Killing,
stealing and what not. That's all.

Billy forces a smile, then lays his head back down covering
his face with his hat.

BILLY

I'll be glad when the sun comes up.
Then we can get the hell out of
here.

Zwing sits and looks at Billy for a moment. Jim approaches
him from the darkness.

JIM

What's going on?

Billy looks up.

ZWING

Oh, Billy telling ghost stories
again. I think he's afraid of the
dark.

Billy sits upright. Jim moves to his bed, as Billy watches
him.

BILLY

What do you think, Jim?

JIM

Bout what?

BILLY

Bout the stories of people
disappearing in this canyon.

Jim is silent for a moment.

JIM

Well, Billy, it's like this. A lot
of smugglers come through here,
Mexicans and Indians alike.
Sometimes they run into each other
and sometimes they kill each other.

ZWING

There. You see Billy?

JIM

But we're also in Apache country,
see. They have all sorts of beliefs
and practice ungodly ways.

Jim lays down and pulls his hat down.

JIM (CONT'D)

We all best be on edge out here at
night. We ain't the only things out
here.

BILLY

You mean people.

JIM

No, Billy. There are other things
even the Apache are afraid of. We
should be afraid of them too.

The three sit in silence for a moment.

SPOOKED HORSES.

ZWING

Did you hear that?

Jim sits up and grabs his rifle. Billy grabs his rifle.

BILLY

(fearful) What is it? Apaches?

COYOTES CALLING.

LOW CREATURE GROWLS.

ZWING

Damned coyotes. Trying to get at
the horses.

JIM

(standing up) They probably smell
the blood over there. (pause) Get
up Billy. Let's go run em off.

Billy gets to his feet. As he looks into the darkness, the
sound of the horses and coyotes stops. Something can be seen
coming into the fading light. All three raise their rifles in
it's direction.

BILLY

What is that, Zwing? What is that?

Zwing looks into the darkness.

ZWING

Can't really tell. Something moving, though.

Zwing starts to back up. Jim creeps forward, and looks into the darkness. A horse emerges from the darkness.

JIM

It's just on of the horses.

The three men relax a bit. Jim moves to the horse and notices blood on the horses front legs.

JIM (CONT'D)

Damned coyotes! Zwing, you and Billy go have a look at the other horses. See if they're OK. And get rid of them coyotes.

Zwing moves into the darkness. Billy is still standing there looking at the horse.

JIM (CONT'D)

Billy! Go have a look see.

Billy reluctantly moves into the darkness. Jim stands calming the horse.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -NEAR THE CAMP- NIGHT.

Zwig cautiously walks in the dark, rifle held up. Billy comes running up behind, scaring Zwing.

ZWIG

Goddammit, Billy! Don't run up on me like that.

BILLY

Sorry Zwig.

Zwig takes a breath.

ZWING

Damn near got yourself shot.

BILLY

Can you see anything?

The two creep up on a makeshift corral.

ZWING

The horses should be here. (looks
at Billy) Where'd they go?

The two walk a little further, and Billy trips and falls.

ZWING (CONT'D)

Billy, You alright?

BILLY

(getting up) Yeah I'm alright. What
the hell did fall over?

Zwing looks closer.

ZWING

I think we found the horses.

Billy and Zwing see dead horses in the faint light. Their
insides protruding from their bellies.

COYOTE CALLS MIXED WITH CREATURE GROWLS.

BILLY

Was it coyotes that did this?

ZWING

Wern't no coyote did this. (pause
looking around) Let's get back to
the camp.

The two turn to walk away as a black mist creeps up on them.
Billy is dragged down below view, screaming. Zwing turns and
raises his rifle and sees Billy being dragged into the black
mist. Billy continues to scream.

CREATURE SCREAMS LOUDLY, BILLY'S SCREAM STOPS.

ZWING

Billy! Where'd you go?! (Pause)
Billy!

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAMP- NIGHT.

Jim hears Billy's screams and Zwing's cries for help. He
moves to the other men and starts to wake them.

ZWING (CONT'D)

(O.S.) Jim! Help!

JIM

Get up boys! Something's happening!
Get your guns!

Jim grabs his rifle and runs into the darkness. The others follow.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -NEAR THE CAMP- NIGHT.

Jim and the others run up towards Zwing. Zwing looks at them. Jim and the others stop. Zwing begins to step towards them and is grabbed by a CREATURE'S hand. Zwing screams as he is dragged into the black mist. After a moment, Zwing's screams stop.

COWBOY 1

Apaches!

JIM

That was no man. Let's get out of here, boys!

The men turn and start to run. In the faint light, the Creatures take them one at a time in the black mist. The men scream as blood flies. Jim draws his pistol and starts firing wildly into the night, screaming as he does. Jim begins to run and is clawed on the back and then the front. He falls to the ground and sees his rifle. He throws down his pistol, grabs the rifle and starts to fire.

JIM (CONT'D)

(screaming) Come get me you sons of bitches!

A Creature screams in pain. Jim's rifle is empty. He throws it aside, gets up and runs. In the distance he sees the horse. He jumps up on the horse's back and rides off into the night.

The camp fire slowly burns out. As the black mist fades into the darkness, Jim's rifle and pistol are left in the fading light.

CREATURES SCREAM.

FADE BLACK.

END SCENE 3

SCENE 4

EXT. WESTERN TOWN -STREETS- NIGHT.

People are walking around in the night. A horse and Jim trot in from the darkness. Jim is slumped over the horse's neck cut up and bleeding badly.

The horse continues towards the saloon and stops at the hitch post. After a moment, the rider falls off the horse. PEDESTRIAN 1 rushes to his aid.

PEDESTRIAN 1
Somebody go get the doc!

A man rushes off as other bystanders help Pedestrian 1. A group gathers to watch. Idle chatter among the group.

PEDESTRIAN 1 (CONT'D)
Come on. Give me a hand. Let's get
him to the doc's place.

The bystanders and Pedestrian 1 pick up the man and exit scene.

CUT TO. WESTERN TOWN -DOC ROWE'S OFFICE- NIGHT.

Jim slowly opens and closes his eyes, but cannot clearly see who is in the room with him. His consciousness fades. DOC ROWE and PEDESTRIAN 1 are in the room with Jim.

PEDESTRIAN 1 (CONT'D)
What could've done that? Mountain
lion?

DOC ROWE
Not quite sure. Have to wait till
he wakes up.

PEDESTRIAN 1
He doesn't look too good.

DOC ROWE
He's lost a lot of blood. No
telling where he came from. He
probably won't make it.

FADE BLACK.

CUT TO. INT. WESTERN TOWN -DOC ROWE'S OFFICE- NIGHT.

Jim wakes up abruptly and sits upright looking around. The light is faint. He is laying in a bed in a room. Doc Rowe enters the room. As Jim sees him, he becomes fearful and withdraws into the wall.

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)
Hey, it's okay. It's okay. You're
safe here.

Doc Rowe looks at him for a moment then approaches him.

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)

Do you remember what happened? How you got all those cuts?

Jim thinks for a moment. As he begins to speak, flash backs of the massacre events run through his mind. Jim looks up at Doc Rowe and stands up quickly, taking Doc Rowe's shirt.

JIM

(hysterical) Don't look for it! You hear?! Leave it be!

DOC ROWE

Don't look for what? What are you talking bout?

JIM

The treasure! Leave it be! They're all dead! All of them!

Jim lets go of Doc Rowe and sits down on the bed. He looks into nothing for a moment, then starts to cry. Doc Rowe sits next to Jim.

DOC ROWE

Take it easy. No body is gonna hurt you here. Come on. You need to rest.

Doc Rowe stands up and helps Jim get back in bed.

JIM

(sobbing) They're all dead. It got them. Killed them. They're all dead.

DOC ROWE

You just rest for now. Come the morning, you'll be right as rain.

Jim pulls the blankets over his head and sobs. Doc Rowe looks at him in silence for a moment, then moves to the light and turns it down.

FADE TO BLACK.

END SCENE 4

SCENE 5

EXT. WESTERN TOWN -STREETS- DAY.

The SHERIFF is walking down the main street. He comes to the Doc's building, turns and enters Doc Rowe's office.

CUT TO. INT. WESTERN TOWN -DOC ROWE'S OFFICE- DAY.

Doc Rowe sits at a table drinking coffee. He looks up as the SHERIFF enters the room.

SHERIFF

Morning Doc!

DOC ROWE

Morning Sheriff. What's the good word?

SHERIFF

Well, the word is that a man came into town last night cut up something fierce.

DOC ROWE

That is correct. Although, what ever got a hold of him, tore him up purty bad.

SHERIFF

Any idea who he is?

DOC ROWE

Not a clue. He woke up briefly last night. Muttering incoherences and what not. Didn't get his name or where he's from.

SHERIFF

Hmm. Well, let me know if there's any change in his condition.

DOC ROWE

We'll do Sheriff. Have a good day.

SHERIFF

(moves to the door) You wanna get some breakfast?

DOC ROWE

I should really stay here, in case he wakes up again.

SHERIFF

(nods) You might wanna let him know, that his horse died.

Doc Rowe nods his head. Sheriff exits scene. Doc Rowe sits for a moment, then gets up, pours a cup of coffee and moves into Jim's room.

CUT TO. INT. WESTERN TOWN -JIM'S ROOM- DAY.

Jim is awake looking blankly out the window. He pays no attention to Doc Rowe as he enters the room.

DOC ROWE
Morning. How you feeling?

No response from Jim.

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)
Brought you some coffee.

Jim turns his head to face Doc Rowe for a moment. He sits up and with a blank look on his face takes the cup of coffee from Doc Rowe. He takes a sip.

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)
Do you remember anything that happened to you?

Jim looks at him blankly for a long moment.

JIM
We killed them all. The mules too.
Then we found the cave. That's
where we hid it.

DOC ROWE
Killed who? Hid what in a cave?

JIM
Don't go looking for it. It will
kill you, just like the others.
They're all dead.

DOC ROWE
Who's dead? What killed them?
Apaches? Mexicans? What happened?

JIM
It got dark. Real dark. (tears in
his eyes) It...it all happened so
quick. It was so dark. So dark.

DOC ROWE
You're not making any sense. What's
your name?

JIM
(thinking) My name? My name...

Jim looks away blankly. Flash backs of the events flash rapidly. Jim starts to break down.

DOC ROWE
It's okay. We'll talk about this later.

Doc Rowe helps Jim back into bed.

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)
You need to rest, now.

JIM
(sobbing) They're all dead. I...I heard the coyotes...they're all dead.

Jim fades off to sleep. Doc Rowe looks at him for a moment, then drops his head. He notices Jim's clothes on the floor and a gold coin barely visible from underneath the clothes. Doc Rowe picks up the coin and looks at it, then at Jim. Doc Rowe exits scene.

CUT TO. EXT. WESTERN TOWN -STREETS- DAY.

Doc Rowe exits the door of his building and walks up the street. He passes by PEDESTRIANS who casually greet him. He does not return the greetings. He comes to the door the saloon and enters.

CUT TO. INT. WESTERN TOWN -SALOON- DAY.

Inside the building, are various people eating breakfast and gambling. Doc Rowe looks around and spots the Sheriff. The Sheriff notices Doc Rowe and motions to him. Doc Rowe moves to the Sheriff's table.

SHERIFF
Have a sit, Doc. You change your mind about breakfast?

DOC ROWE
No thanks. I'm fine.

SHERIFF
What's on your mind, then?

Doc Rowe puts the gold coin on the table in front of the Sheriff.

DOC ROWE

Take a gander at that. Tell me,
what do you think.

The Sheriff picks it up, looks at the coin and sets it back
on the table.

SHERIFF

Looks like Mexican gold. Where'd
you get it?

DOC ROWE

I found it sitting on the floor
underneath our mystery man's
clothes.

SHERIFF

And?

DOC ROWE

Well, this morning he was talking
crazy again. But he talked about
killing some people and their mules
too. Then he said it was hidden in
a cave. Mentioned gold.

The Sheriff chuckles.

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)

What's so funny?

SHERIFF

That man has been in the desert for
days. Maybe attacked by some sort
of animal, mountain lion or
something. He's lost a lot of blood
and delirious from the heat. You
know how the sun can play on
people's minds.

DOC ROWE

You may be right. (gets up) I just
thought I might relay what I heard.

Doc Rowe begins to leave the table.

SHERIFF

Doc. Give him some time to recover.
He'll come around. And if he is
some sort gang member, someone will
be looking for him. And we'll catch
them.

Doc Rowe nods and exits scene. A WAITRESS brings out a breakfast plate and sets it in front of the Sheriff. The Sheriff picks up a paper and begins to read it.

END SCENE 4

SCENE 5

INT. WESTERN TOWN -DOC ROWE'S OFFICE -DAY.

Doc Rowe enters his office. Jim sits at the table scribbling on a piece of paper. He stops and looks up as Doc Rowe enters scene.

DOC ROWE

I see you're feeling a bit better.

Jim does not respond and continues to scribble. Doc Rowe watches him for a moment, then moves behind Jim.

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)

What you writing there?

No response.

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)

What is that? Is that a map of some sort?

Jim nods his head.

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)

Is that where your treasure is?

No response. Doc Rowe looks at him in silence.

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)

Where is that place?

Jim looks up for a moment.

JIM

You'd be better off not knowing.

Jim looks back down and scribbles more.

JIM (CONT'D)

It'll kill you too.

Doc Rowe takes a seat next to Jim at the table.

DOC ROWE
What happened out there? Who got
killed?

Jim looks up at Doc Rowe.

JIM
Everyone. (pause looking down)
Except me.

DOC ROWE
What's out there?

Jim looks up at Doc Rowe in fear.

JIM
I don't know. Wasn't no man, I can
tell you that. It moved in the
dark. Quick like. Killed everyone.

Jim and Doc Rowe look at each other for a moment. Jim gets up
and moves to the bed and sits down looking out the window.
Doc Rowe follows him.

JIM (CONT'D)
I heard the stories of that canyon,
too. 'Bout people going in and not
coming out. (pause) I always
thought it was Apaches or Mexicans.
But not this.

Jim puts his face into his hands.

JIM (CONT'D)
Billy...Zwing...Everyone. They're
all gone.

Jim cries.

DOC ROWE
What canyon? Where did you lose
your friends?

There is a long pause.

JIM
Smuggler's canyon.

Doc Rowe looks at Jim for a moment, then gets up.

DOC ROWE
Get some rest. I'm sorry for your
friends. But you're alive, and
that's what matters now.

Doc Rowe leaves the room. At the table, he sits down and looks at the map for a moment, thinking. He gets up, taking the map, and exits scene.

CUT TO. INT. WESTERN TOWN -SHERIFF'S OFFICE -DAY.

The Sheriff is sitting at a table talking with a DEPUTY. Doc Rowe comes through the front door.

SHERIFF
Hello Doc. What brings you in?

DOC ROWE
This.

Doc Rowe hands the map to the Sheriff.

SHERIFF
What's this?

DOC ROWE
That there, is a map to some sort of treasure that our mystery man scribbled that up.

SHERIFF
So he's getting better?

DOC ROWE
He's still not making any sense, but I think he'll come around.

SHERIFF
That's good. You get him making some sense, then maybe we can talk about this map.

The sheriff sets the map on his desk.

DOC ROWE
Don't you even wanna take a look at it?

SHERIFF
Whatever this map says, rest assured, some body else know about. And they'll be looking for it, or that man. This is our leverage, Doc.

DOC ROWE
According to what I could make out, every one of his friends are dead, because of whatever is on that map.
(MORE)

DOC ROWE (CONT'D)
No body is gonna come looking for
him.

SHERIFF
Then it's a useless piece of paper.

DOC ROWE
That may lead to something very
valuable, Sheriff.

The Sheriff stands up.

SHERIFF
Doc, just let me do my job. And you
do yours. And right now, your job
is to get that man making sense.

Doc Rowe nods with disappointment. He starts to retrieve the
map.

SHERIFF (CONT'D)
I'll just keep an eye on this, Doc.
Go tend to your man. Keep him
alive.

Doc Rowe pulls away and exits scene.

CUT TO. EXT. WESTERN TOWN -STREETS- DAY.

Doc Rowe is walking the main street. A KID comes running up
to him.

KID
Doc Rowe! Doc Rowe! Come quick!
That stranger is gettin' away!

The kid and Doc Rowe run off to the Doc's office.

CUT TO. INT. DOC ROWE'S OFFICE -DAY.

Doc Rowe burst through the door to an empty room. He makes
his way to the bed. Jim is gone.

KID (CONT'D)
(O.S.) Doc Rowe! Over there!

Doc Rowe rushes outside. The kid is pointing in the "out of
town" direction. Doc Rowe looks and sees Jim riding off. On
the table in Doc Rowe's office is a note, weighted down with
precious stones and gold coins.

NOTE
For your horse. Thanks for
everything.
(MORE)

NOTE (CONT'D)

-Jim

SCENE FADES BLACK.

END SCENE 5

SCENE 6

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON-WILL'S CAMP- DAY.

POLICE OFFICER 1 is walking in the desert wash. Text "Present Day" appears. He stops at a hand holding a camcorder laying inside the cab of a truck. He picks up the camcorder and looks at it for a moment, then turns the camcorder on. Screams are heard from the camcorder. POLICE OFFICER 1 watches for a moment, disgusted. He turns it off and goes to his vehicle, and gets on his radio.

POLICE OFFICER 1
Central, this is unit 12.

CENTRAL DISPATCH
(O.S.) Unit 12, go ahead.

POLICE OFFICER 1
Yeah, I think I found those missing persons.

CENTRAL DISPATCH
(O.S) Say again, unit 12.

POLICE OFFICER 1
I think I found those missing persons. I'm gonna need a Coroner, and some other units.

CENTRAL DISPATCH
(O.S.) Copy that, unit 12. What's your location?

The Police Officer hesitates and looks down.

CENTRAL DISPATCH (CONT'D)
Unit 12, what's your location?

Police Officer 1 raises the mic to his mouth. He presses the mic key.

CUT TO BLACK.

CUT TO. INT. ANTIQUE'S STORE -DAY.

FADE IN.

Text "One Week Earlier" appears. DANNY sits behind the counter reading a text book. A small doorbell gets his attention as he looks up. WOMAN enters the door carrying a box

DANNY
Good afternoon.

WOMAN
Hello there.

The Woman approaches the counter and sets the box down on the counter. Danny sets down his book.

DANNY
And what do we have here?

WOMAN
Well, my husband has passed on and I was doing some cleaning and found all this stuff in the attic. I really have no need for it, so I'd like to donate to you.

DANNY
I'm sorry to hear about your husband.

Danny notices a picture frame in the box. He takes it out, looks at it and shows it to the Woman.

DANNY (CONT'D)
Is this him?

The woman looks at the picture and smiles.

WOMAN
That's him and his old treasure-hunting buddy. Don't remember his name though. They both went missing quite a few years ago.

The woman looks at the picture and smiles.

DANNY
Are you sure you want to donate all this? I mean, sentimental reasons.

The Woman smiles.

WOMAN

Oh, no. This was just stuff that was collected over the years. It doesn't really have any sentimental value.

DANNY

I can give you some cash for it.

WOMAN

No, thanks. I was going to throw it out, but then thought, why not donate it. You know, one man's trash is another man's treasure.

DANNY

You are correct there ma'am.

WOMAN

Well, you have a nice day.

DANNY

You too ma'am. And thank you.

The Woman nods her head and exits scene as JERRY enters. Danny pulls things out of the box and sets them down on the counter. The last thing he takes out is an old book.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Hey Jerry. What's going on?

JERRY

Not much, man. What you up to?

DANNY

Not much. Just pricing some of this stuff.

JERRY

Anything good?

DANNY

Just nick knacks and old books.

Jerry picks up a few things, taking a look at them, including the picture of the Woman's husband. He shows it to Danny with question.

DANNY (CONT'D)

That's the Woman's missing husband and his treasure-hunting buddy.

Jerry sets down the picture frame and picks up the old book.

JERRY
(reading the title) Lost Treasures
of the South West. Hmm. Sounds
interesting.

Jerry opens the book and thumbs through it for a moment. A folded piece of paper falls out on the counter. Danny and Jerry look at it, then at each other.

DANNY
Old book.

Jerry picks up the piece of paper, unfolds it and takes a look at it.

JERRY
I don't think this is part of the
book.

DANNY
What is it?

JERRY
Take a look. Looks like a map.

Danny stands up and Jerry hand him the map. Danny looks at it for a moment, then sets it down on the counter, and the two look at the map, then at each other.

DANNY
Do you think it's real?

JERRY
I don't know. It's possible. How
much for the book?

Jerry smiles.

DANNY
Where did it fall out from?

Jerry reads the chapter title.

JERRY
(reading the title) The Lost
Treasure of Smuggler's Canyon.

DANNY
Smuggler's Canyon? Isn't that
around here?

JERRY
I think it's up the road a ways.

Danny looks at the map, Jerry reads the book for a moment, then sets the book down and looks at Danny.

JERRY (CONT'D)

I'll tell you what. I came by to see if you wanted to come over and barbecue tonight. Since you won't sell me the book, come by and we'll take a better look at this, maybe look it up on the internet or something.

DANNY

That sounds good. I think I'll close up early today.

Jerry chuckles.

JERRY

Gold fever?

DANNY

(laughs) Just a little bit at the moment.

JERRY

Well, lets get out of here.

DANNY

Cool. Let me lock up and we're out.

Danny turns off the lights and sets the security alarm. He grabs the map, puts it back in the book, then into his backpack and the two head towards the door.

JERRY

How's school going?

DANNY

Not bad. Almost done with the semester, and then summer break.

JERRY

Any plans for the summer?

DANNY

Just working at the store.

JERRY

Sounds like a great time. Oh, just a heads up. Lewis and Donna are going to be there, and probably Donna's friend Stacy.

DANNY
Seriously?

JERRY
Yep. Why's that?

DANNY
I like Lewis and all, but that wife
of his...

Danny makes a choking motion. Jerry laughs

DANNY (CONT'D)
Stacy is alright. She's hot. But
the fact she hangs out with Donna
is just...

JERRY
I know.

Jerry laughs as Danny closes and locks the door.

CUT TO. EXT. OUTSIDE THE ANTIQUE'S STORE -DAY.

Outside the shop Danny locks the door.

JERRY (CONT'D)
Stacy's just along for the ride,
you know. She's not a bad chick
either.

DANNY
Once she's away from Donna. I just
can't stand Donna.

The two move to their vehicles.

JERRY
Nobody can. Lewis is my own
brother, and I don't hang around
much because of his wife. So I'll
meet you at the house?

DANNY
Sure. You need me to pick up
anything?

JERRY
Nah. Just bring your appetite.

DANNY
Cool. I'll meet you there.

Jerry and Danny get into their vehicles and drive off.

END SCENE 6

SCENE 7

EXT. JERRY'S HOUSE -EVENING.

Jerry, Danny and LEWIS at the barbecue grill, drinking beer in conversation.

LEWIS

...so I told the guy to get out of his vehicle, and he wouldn't. It's like two in the morning and I can't tell if he has a weapon or not. So I grab my shotgun and rack one in the chamber then guy gets out of the vehicle. Best part, he's wearing a dress.

The group laughs.

DANNY

No shit?!

LEWIS

Yeah. And we're like, what the hell?

JERRY

Costume party?

LEWIS

Nope. Just a drunk cross dresser.

DANNY

That's classic.

LEWIS

It's funny now. But, holy shit, you never know what people are gonna do.

JERRY

People are getting crazy these days.

LEWIS

You're telling me. Serve and protect. Break a mugger's neck. So what's up with map you guys found?

JERRY

Just wanted to run it by you and
get your opinion on it.

LEWIS

I'll be glad to take a look at it.

Danny retrieves the book from his back pack and hands it to
Lewis.

DANNY

Got this book in today from this
lady just donating antiques.

LEWIS

Uh huh.

DANNY

Jerry was looking at it and this
fell out of it.

Lewis carefully unfolds the map and, moving into better
light, takes a look at it.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Just wanted you to look at it and
see what you think.

LEWIS

Looks like an old map. Do you know
of where?

JERRY

Ever heard of Smuggler's Canyon?

LEWIS

Sure. That's up the road a ways.

JERRY

Yeah. Take a look at what the
chapter is called.

LEWIS

(reading the title) The Lost
Treasure of Smuggler's Canyon.
I heard of so many different
stories about that place.

DANNY

That's exactly what we found.

JERRY

Yeah, but almost every story points to the same thing. And in most of the stories, there is a lost map involved.

LEWIS

And you think it's this map?

JERRY

Hard to tell. It looks authentic.

LEWIS

That is true. It doesn't seem to give a location as to where this treasure might be.

JERRY

True. But it does give markers to look for. May be clues as to where this treasure is hidden.

LEWIS

How much is suppose to be there?

DANNY

Well, as the story goes, \$75,000.

LEWIS

Are you shitting me?!

JERRY

In 1881.

LEWIS

That's gotta be worth millions today!

Lewis looks up at Jerry and Danny.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

Surely somebody's found it by now.

JERRY

Not according to the story.

LEWIS

What do you mean?

DANNY

As the story goes, the gang who hid the treasure was never seen again.

(MORE)

DANNY (CONT'D)

A stranger showed up here in Silver City, delirious from the sun, but nobody knew who he was. He stole a horse and left town, and was never seen again.

LEWIS

What happened to the gang?

DANNY

Nobody really knows. But I think it's still there. Somewhere in that canyon. Waiting to be found.

LEWIS

And what if it's not?

DANNY

At least we can say that we tried. Right?

LEWIS

You're serious about this?

JERRY

We were talking about taking a camping trip this weekend and see if we could find some of these markers.

DANNY

We have something nobody else had.

REK

What's that?

DANNY

We have a map. I found out that lady's dead husband was some sort of treasure hunter or something. Spent a lot of time in the canyons.

LEWIS

And what happened to him?

DANNY

Died of old age, I guess. I didn't really pry on that.

The three men look at each other for a moment.

JERRY

Even if we don't find anything, it will still be fun just to go out there for the hunt.

LEWIS

Hell, I'm off this weekend. I'm in.

JERRY

Cool. Let's do it then.

DANNY

Just the three of us. Leave the women at home.

LEWIS

I don't know how that's gonna go over with Donna.

DANNY

Just tell her it's a weekend for the boys.

LEWIS

We're still trying to work things out. Maybe it would be a good thing just to have a weekend with the boys.

JERRY

Good. That gives us a few days to get some things together.

STACEY enters the scene.

STACEY

Lewis. Your wife is looking for you.

LEWIS

Tell her I'll be right there.

STACEY

What are you guys doing?

JERRY

Men talk. Wanna join?

Stacy turns to leave

STACEY

No thanks.

DANNY

You're more than welcome to hang out here with us. We can change the topic.

Stacey is near the door.

STACEY

No thanks. I'm fine inside.

LEWIS

I'll be right back guys.

Lewis exits scene. After Lewis is inside.

DANNY

Probably needs him to wipe her ass or something.

Jerry and Danny laugh.

DANNY (CONT'D)

So, what are we gonna need for this trip.

FADE BLACK.

END SCENE 7

SCENE 8

INT. ANTIQUE'S STORE -DAY.

Danny is sitting behind the counter. He is looking at his laptop intently. He takes a look at the map, then back at the computer.

SMALL BELL RINGS IN THE BACKGROUND.

Danny looks up and sees Lewis in uniform enter the store carrying a folder. Danny puts his hands up in the air.

DANNY

(playful) I didn't do it!

Lewis playfully reaches for his sidearm.

LEWIS

That's not what I heard. Hand's where I can see them.

Danny acts like he is going to run. Lewis and Danny laugh. Lewis approaches the counter and the two shake hands.

DANNY
What's going on?

LEWIS
Not much. I was thinking about that map and story, and did a little research of my own.

DANNY
What did you find out?

Lewis sets the folder down on the counter and takes out some papers.

LEWIS
I found some old maps. Take a look.

Danny looks at the papers on the counter and picks up one that is a map.

LEWIS (CONT'D)
That map is from the early 1900s of that same area. See any similarities?

DANNY
I sure do.

Danny picks up his map and sets both down side by side.

LEWIS
I think the map is real.

Danny looks up at him.

LEWIS (CONT'D)
I think we got a good chance at finding what ever is out there with this map.

Danny smiles.

DANNY
I think you're right.

LEWIS
We should meet up tonight. That way we all have a better idea of what this is.

DANNY
Sounds like a plan.

LEWIS
Good. I gotta get to the range, but I wanted to stop by and let you know what I found. Come over to the house when you close up. I'll get a hold of Jerry and let him know.

DANNY
I'll be there.

Lewis gathers the papers and puts them back into the folder.

LEWIS
See you then.

Lewis makes his way to the door as a customer walks in. Lewis exits scene. Danny stands up as the customer approaches.

CUT TO. EXT. SHOOTING RANGE -DAY.

Small group of POLICE OFFICERS are at a shooting range for qualifications. Lewis is standing, ready to draw his weapon. The OFFICER IN CHARGE gives the command and the group draw their weapons and begin to fire at the targets down range. Lewis' target shows a tight group of holes in the center mass of the target.

CUT TO. EXT. SHOOTING RANGE -PARKING LOT-DAY

After qualification, a few of the POLICE OFFICERS are standing in a group in the parking lot, bragging to each other about their shots. Lewis walks near them carrying his gun cases and his targets. Police Officer 1 calls out to him.

POLICE OFFICER 1
Hey Lewis! How did you shoot today?

Lewis sets his cases down and unrolls his targets.

LEWIS
(bragging) I didn't do too bad.

The men look at the target.

LEWIS (CONT'D)
I qualified.

POLICE OFFICER 1
Qualified my ass. You should be training the rest of us.

The other men chuckle. Lewis gathers his cases.

LEWIS
(smiling) Yeah, well, they haven't
asked me to yet.

Lewis unlocking his vehicle when his phone rings. He stuffs
the targets under his arm and answers the phone.

LEWIS (CONT'D)
(setting his weapons in his
vehicle) Hello....Nah, I just
finished qualifying....Hey, you
busy later on tonight? Good. Come
by the house, you need to see what
I found....Okay, we'll see you
then.

Lewis exits scene in his vehicle.

END SCENE 8

SCENE 9

INT. LEWIS' HOUSE -KITCHEN TABLE- NIGHT.

Lewis, Jerry and Danny are sitting at Lewis' kitchen table.
Papers are spread out on the table, and each of them are
looking at the different papers and in conversation.

LEWIS
I'm just saying that there is a
good possibility that this map is
real. I was looking at some
archive mining maps at the office,
when I came across all of this.

Lewis, Jerry and Danny look at the maps.

JERRY
They're damn close. I mean, some of
the background is missing, but the
important parts are there.

LEWIS
Right. It shows the canyon, the
creek and more importantly, a
possible location of the treasure.

The front door opens, and DONNA enters the scene.

LEWIS (CONT'D)
Hey sweetie. How was your day?

DONNA
Good. What are you guys doing?

Donna approaches the table and kisses Lewis.

JERRY
Lewis was showing us some stuff he found on the internet.

Donna looks at the papers on the table.

DONNA
(picking up Danny's map) Looks like a treasure map. You boys gonna go dig in the back yard?

JERRY
We were more or less thinking of the front yard, but we can start in the back.

DONNA
(sarcastic) Really? Can I go? Please.

Donna leaves the room, then calls out from off screen.

DONNA (O.S.) (CONT'D)
And while you're out there don't forget to rake up the dog crap. I don't need you tracking that into my house.

Jerry snickers.

JERRY
You guys working things out?

LEWIS
More or less. Just need some time.

JERRY
Maybe you should bring her along.

LEWIS
Nah. This is our weekend. Besides, she doesn't like camping, let alone the fact that we're going treasure hunting.

JERRY

I'm just saying, it might be a good way for the both of you to connect.

LEWIS

Out in the desert?

Jerry and Lewis look at each other for a moment.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

She's not gonna want to go and be the only female out there amongst us men.

JERRY

So bring along Stacey. At least she can keep Danny occupied so we can take his share.

The three men laugh.

DANNY

(jokingly) So that's the plan, is it? Draw my attention away and cut me out?

LEWIS

Money only goes so far, bro. Besides, money can't buy you love.

DANNY

No, but it sure helps out.

The three men laugh.

DANNY (CONT'D)

(to Jerry) I thought you had a thing with her?

JERRY

Nah. Just a fling. Didn't really go anywhere. Besides, you know there's just too much of me to share with other women. I can't be too tied down to any one woman.

Danny nods in agreement.

JERRY (CONT'D)

So, we in agreement? Lewis is bringing Donna....for him. Donna is bringing Stacey for Danny and me and Lewis are gonna take the gold and run.

The three men laugh.

LEWIS
Hey, babe!

DONNA (O.S.)
(sarcastic) Yes my love?

LEWIS
Danny wants you to go camping with us so he can set to know Stacey more. Wanna go?

No response.

LEWIS (CONT'D)
Babe?

Donna enters scene.

DONNA
(to Danny) You want me to go camping? With you guys?

Donna looks at Danny, Jerry and Lewis individually.

DANNY
Only if you want to.

DONNA
An you want me to bring Stacey along so you can 'get to know her better?'

Danny is uneasy in his chair.

DANNY
Of course. That is, only if you want to go. I mean, if you do go, I wouldn't want you to feel out of place with all of us boys.

Donna examines Danny for a moment.

DONNA
I'll see if she want to go.

Donna exits scene. Lewis clinches his fist in silent victory.

DONNA (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Not making any promises, though!

DANNY
(sarcastic) That's okay. Thank
you.

The three sit in silence for a moment.

JERRY
So, who's bringing what?

END SCENE 9

SCENE 10

INT. GROCERY STORE- DAY.

Donna and Stacey are food shopping for the camping trip.

STACEY
(V.O.) I just don't understand why
you don't like to go camping.

DONNA
Well, first off, there's no
facilities. Second, you spend days
out there without taking a shower.
Do you know how gross that is?

STACEY
It's not all that bad.

DONNA
Speak for yourself. Being out there
with a bunch of stinky guys for
three days. Imagine the ride home.

STACEY
Well, I agree with you there. But
there is something about a guy's
scent when he's been working hard.

Donna stops and looks at Stacey.

DONNA
(disgusted, rolling her eyes) Ugh.

Donna walks off, leaving Stacey standing. Stacey smiles and
follows after Donna.

STACEY
Didn't your parents ever take you
out camping?

DONNA

Why? We lived in the city. The closest we ever got to the outdoors was the park.

STACEY

Wow. Such a deprived childhood.

Donna stops and looks at Stacey.

DONNA

What's that suppose to mean?

STACEY

Nothing. I just think you'd be more open to the idea, if you did these things as a child, that's all.

DONNA

Well, for your information, I did do things as a child. Just not those sort of things.

Donna walks off. Stacey stands looking at Donna for a moment. She shakes her head and follows.

STACEY

So you and Lewis working things out?

DONNA

We're trying to. I just wish he wouldn't spend so much time working. I mean, I know he's trying to make Lieutenant and all, but I want to spend more time with him. I want to start a family.

STACEY

Well have you talked to him about the subject?

DONNA

Yes. But he says we're not ready financially and wants to wait until he makes Lieutenant.

STACEY

Well, that is probably the whole reason why he works so much.

DONNA

I know. I just thought we would have been to that point by now.

STACEY
Just give it time.

Donna and Stacey exit scene.

CUT TO. INT. GROCERY STORE -CHECKOUT COUNTER- DAY.

DONNA
Do you need anything before we get
out of here?

STACEY
I don't think so.

DONNA
You don't need condoms for all
those stinky, attractive boys?

Stacey makes an obvious fake laugh.

STACEY
(playful laugh) Bitch.

DONNA
You're the one who said it.

A MAN carrying a gallon of milk comes up behind Stacey.

MAN
Excuse me ma'am. Would you mind if
I cut in there ahead of you. My
baby really needs this.

STACEY
(smiles) Oh, sure. Not a problem.

MAN
Thank you so much.

The man proceeds past Stacey and Donna. Donna looks at him
sternly, then at Stacey.

STACEY
What?

DONNA
You see, that's your problem right
there. You're too nice to people.

STACEY
His baby needed...

DONNA

Sure. Believe anything some stranger tells you. Or was it his smell that got you all hot and bothered?

Stacey shakes her head, and continues loading the check out counter.

DONNA (CONT'D)

I swear. The nerve of some people.

MAN

Excuse me, ma'am. I'm standing right here. I can hear everything you're saying.

Donna looks up at him.

DONNA

Well, I sure hope so, cause I was making it pretty obvious.

MAN

Well, it's kind of rude don't you think?

DONNA

Rude? You cutting ahead of me was rude.

MAN

I asked your friend if it was okay.

DONNA

She wasn't the one you should have asked.

MAN

Well excuse me. I thought you could hear me.

DONNA

So now I'm deaf?!

MAN

Obviously. You know, a little courtesy goes a long way. Why don't you try being nice to people for a change. You might be a happier person.

The CASHIER, trying not to laugh, hands the man his change.

DONNA
You listen to me...

MAN
No. You listen to me. I have more important things to do than stand here arguing with you.

DONNA
My husband is a cop!

MAN
Well congratulations. Maybe he can head up an investigation to find out what crawled up your ass to make you such an unpleasant person.

The Man begins walks off.

MAN (CONT'D)
Somebody needs to crack that case!

Donna stands there flustered. She looks at the Cashier, then at Stacey. Both are trying not to laugh.

DONNA
How come you didn't back me up?!

STACEY
You were doing pretty good by yourself. Besides, I was unloading the cart. He did smell good, though.

Donna sighs heavily, then looks at the Cashier who is snickering.

DONNA
And what's so damned funny?

CASHIER
Nothing ma'am.

DONNA
Oh, forget it! Just hurry up!

The Cashier continues checking the items, holding back an outburst of laughter.

END SCENE 10

SCENE 11

EXT. CHURCH -STREETS- DAY.

Jerry and Danny are driving by a church, when Jerry sees HOT CHICK going into the church. Jerry turns around in the middle of the street, cutting off traffic, throwing Danny to the side and parks in front of the church. Jerry gets out of the vehicle.

DANNY
Where you going?

JERRY
Give me two minutes.

Jerry quickly chases after HOT CHICK leaving Danny in the vehicle.

DANNY
(as Jerry is leaving) We don't have
time for this.

CUT TO. INT. CHURCH -DAY.

Jerry is standing inside the doorway of the church looking for HOT CHICK. A few people pass by him, dipping their fingers in the holy water and making the sign of the cross. Jerry sees HOT CHICK and, without looking, dips his fingers in the holy water and makes the sign of the cross backwards. He walks to where she is and kneels beside her. HOT CHICK looks at Jerry and he looks at her. They both smile at each other.

CUT TO. EXT. CHURCH -JERRY'S VEHICLE- DAY.

Danny is sitting in Jerry's vehicle, impatiently looking at his watch then at the front doors of the church. He looks around the vehicle, at the front doors and one more time at his watch.

DANNY
As if she was the last chick in the
world.

Danny impatiently gets out of the vehicle and briskly walks to the front doors.

DANNY (CONT'D)
Like we have time for this.

Danny enters the church.

CUT TO. INT. CHURCH -DAY.

Danny is searching for Jerry among the people inside the church. He spots Jerry's ex-girlfriend, EMILY, then he sees Jerry sitting next to HOT CHICK in a pew. He looks back at EMILY who is looking at him, then EMILY sees Jerry with HOT CHICK. Danny quickly moves to the pew behind Jerry and HOT CHICK.

JERRY

....I know this place that makes great fish....

DANNY

I hate to cut in, Jerry, but we gotta go.

JERRY

Not now, I'm busy.

DANNY

No. We need to go, now.

Jerry looks up at Danny, who motions with his head towards EMILY.

DANNY (CONT'D)

We really need to go. Now.

Jerry turns away from HOT CHICK and Danny to hide his face. HOT CHICK is telling Jerry her number, as he is putting it in his phone. EMILY calls out from across the room.

EMILY (O.S.)

Jerry? Is that you?

Jerry is still hiding his face.

JERRY

Holy Mary Mother of God, she's seen me.

DANNY

Let's get out of here now.

HOT CHICK

Who is that? Is she talking to you?

JERRY

No. Must be some other Jerry around.

Emily is quickly walking to the group, but is slowed down by other people in the pews.

DANNY

Let's go.

Jerry looks up and notices Emily stumbling to get to him.

JERRY

Ok. I'll call you.

Jerry and Danny get up to leave, but Jerry drops his phone. As he reaches for it, he accidentally kicks it into the confession booth. Jerry goes inside to retrieve it, when he hears Danny.

DANNY

Hide!

Danny pulls the curtain of the booth closed. Jerry peeks out to see Emily talking to Danny.

EMILY

Danny?

DANNY

Emily? I thought that was you.

Emily hugs Danny, who looks at Jerry. As Jerry sits back in the chair, his elbow opens the confession door.

CUT TO. INT. CHURCH -CONFESSIOIN BOOTH- DAY.

MIDDLE AGED MAN is kneeling in the confession booth when the confession door opens. He immediately begins his confession.

MIDDLE AGED MAN

Bless me Father, for I have sinned.

JERRY

What?

MIDDLE AGED MAN

It has been one month since my last confession, and these are my sins.

JERRY

Oh. Continue, my child.

MIDDLE AGED MAN

I just don't know what to do anymore. I mean, I still love my wife, but this other girl is just great. She makes me feel young again.

JERRY

Go on.

MIDDLE AGED MAN

I mean, my wife doesn't even want to ride with me on the bike. Sex with her is practically nonexistent. The kids are gone, and I'm thinking about leaving my wife.

Jerry looks towards the curtain and can hear Emily interrogating Danny about Jerry's whereabouts.

CUT TO. INT. CHURCH -DAY.

EMILY

...he doesn't return my calls or emails. I mean what's going on with him.

DANNY

I really don't know. I haven't seen him for a while. You know him. (Emphasis) He's always thinking about the worst things at the wrong time.

CUT TO. INT. CHURCH -CONFESSION BOOTH- DAY.

Jerry rolls his eyes, then turns his attention back to the Middle Aged Man.

MIDDLE AGED MAN

Well, what do you think, Father?

JERRY

Honestly, I think you should just keep the bike, get rid of the girlfriend and stay with your wife. You're going through a mid-life crisis and you're confused about what you really want, not what you have.

Jerry peeks out of the confession booth and sees Emily giving Danny a hug as she is leaving.

MIDDLE AGED MAN

But...

JERRY

Honestly, what I think you need to do, is just grow a pair, be a man and stop whining about how confused you really are and how hard your life is. Everybody has it hard.

The two sit in silence for a moment. Danny opens the curtain.

DANNY

She's gone. Now let's get the hell out of here.

JERRY

Unfortunately, our time is up.

MIDDLE AGED MAN

But....

JERRY

Say ten Hail Mary's and ten Our Father's for your penance.

Jerry stands up to exit the booth.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Now, you have a great weekend. God bless you my child and I'll see you next week.

Jerry and Danny exit scene.

CUT TO. EXT. - CHURCH -DAY.

Jerry and Danny run towards Jerry's vehicle and drive away.

END SCENE 11

SCENE 12

EXT. LEWIS' HOUSE -DAY.

Lewis is loading up his truck. Jerry and Danny drive up and get out.

LEWIS

What's going on?

JERRY

Not much. Just wanted to see if you needed a hand with anything.

LEWIS

We're just about ready. Just waiting on Donna and Stacey.

JERRY

As usual.

LEWIS

What can you do? I'll be right back.

Lewis exits scene. Danny and Jerry move to the back of Lewis' truck.

DANNY

That's a lot of stuff for the weekend.

JERRY

(laughing) Seriously. But when you got two women tagging along, you never know what you might need.

DANNY

Makes for an interesting weekend.

JERRY

No doubt.

Stacey and Donna enter scene. Stacey waves at Jerry and Danny, and climbs into the truck.

DONNA

Hello boys. How are you doing?

JERRY

Doing good. You?

DONNA

Ugh. Stressed. I don't like camping, but Lewis insisted. Besides, I couldn't leave Stacey with all you boys.

Lewis enters scene.

LEWIS

Yeah. That would be like throwing a three-legged cat to a pack of wild dogs.

Lewis, Jerry and Danny laugh. Donna gives Lewis a stern look.

JERRY

Well, you might change your mind
after this weekend.

DONNA

Doubt it.

DANNY

I promise you'll have fun this
weekend. This weekend is one that
you'll never forget.

DONNA.

We'll see.

Donna climbs into the truck and honks the horn, startling the
three men.

DONNA

Lewis! Hurry up! It's getting hot.

LEWIS

Ready?

DANNY

Yeah, for like an hour.

LEWIS

It's still gonna be there. Hasn't
been found in over a hundred years.

DONNA

What hasn't been found?

Lewis looks at Donna and says nothing.

DONNA (CONT'D)

Lewis?!

LEWIS

Nothing.

JERRY

You didn't tell her?

LEWIS

She wouldn't let me go if I did.

JERRY

You better tell her.

LEWIS

I'll tell her on the way there.

JERRY

Alright.

The three men get into their respective vehicles.

DONNA

Tell me what?

Lewis starts his truck.

LEWIS

Are we ready?

STACEY

Oh yeah!

The vehicles leave the driveway and go down the road.

DONNA (V.O.)

Lewis! Tell me what?!

END SCENE 12

SCENE 13

EXT. ON THE ROAD -DAY.

The two vehicles are driving down a deserted highway playing "tag." Everyone in the group is laughing, drinking and having fun. Stacey is filming the scene on her camcorder. Donna sits by herself trying to ignore the others and have fun at the same time. Lewis hits a bump in the road as he is taking a drink and spills the contents all over himself. Stacey burst with laughter. Donna turns away, and smiles, trying not to laugh. Jerry pulls up alongside Lewis.

DANNY

(loudly) We're gonna have to pull off and get some gas, or we're not gonna make it.

LEWIS

(loudly) There's a small town up the road about ten, fifteen miles. Can you make it there?

Danny looks over at the fuel gage.

DANNY

(loudly) Barely.

LEWIS
(loudly) See you there.

The two vehicles race down the road.

END SCENE 13

SCENE 14

EXT. GAS STATION -DAY

The two vehicles race into the gas station and stop at the pumps. Everyone gets out of the vehicles.

JERRY
You fly, I'll buy.

Jerry hands Danny some money, and Danny goes into the gas station.

STACEY
You guys want anything?

JERRY
Sodas and water.

STACEY
You got it.

Stacey and Donna go inside the gas station. Jerry and Lewis pump gas.

CUT TO. INT. GAS STATION -DAY

Stacey is getting water out of the refrigerators. Danny is filling up cups with sodas. Donna approaches him.

DONNA
So, Danny. You really think there's something out there to find?

DANNY
I don't know. We'll find out once we get out there.

DONNA
And what if there's nothing there? Then what?

DANNY

Then nothing. The fun is in the hunt. The find is just a perk.

DONNA

Uh-huh. Look, I'm not the bitch I've been made out to be. Me and Lewis are trying to work things out between us, and maybe I'm projecting on you guys. I know you don't like me that much.

Danny sets down the drinks and faces Donna.

DANNY

I do like you, Donna. Sometimes you come across a little harsh, but given the circumstances, it's understandable. We're all like family. We're gonna get on each other's nerves at some point, but that's what families do. It's normal.

DONNA

I just want to say I'm sorry.

DANNY

Apology accepted.

Donna hugs Danny as Stacey walks up and hugs them both.

STACEY

You guys made up. Now let's go have a great weekend.

The three exit scene.

CUT TO. EXT. GAS STATION -DAY.

Jerry and Lewis is standing on the side of the building with a water balloon waiting. Danny, Stacey and Donna exit the station holding drinks. As they exit they are hit with water balloons. Jerry and Lewis burst with laughter. Stacey and Donna run for the truck. Danny hands Jerry a drink.

DANNY

I danmed near dropped your drink.

JERRY

That's okay. I would've just sent you in for another one. Saw you hugging Donna and Stacey in there. You gonna....

DANNY
It's not like that.

JERRY
Really.

DANNY
Donna was just apologizing for
being bitchy lately.

JERRY
And Stacey?

DANNY
(smiling) Just along for the ride.

JERRY
I'm sure she is.

DANNY
What's the real story with you and
Stacey?

JERRY
Nothing.

DANNY
C'mon. I know you, there's always
some story.

JERRY
We went out a couple of times, had
some fun and just became good
friends. That's it.

DANNY
So, you two never...

JERRY
No! Goodness no. We kissed a few
times, but that's it. You thinking
about making a move on her?

Danny and Jerry look at Stacey, who is throwing water balloons with Donna and Lewis.

DANNY
Thinking about it. I just didn't
want things to be weird, you know.

JERRY
It's all good. Hey, this is the
perfect weekend to make your move.

Danny looks at Jerry.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Trust me.

Jerry puts his hand on Danny's shoulder. Danny smiles and the two move towards the jeep.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Now let's get a move on! We're
burning daylight.

The group get into their vehicles and drive off.

END SCENE 13

SCENE 14

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -IN THE WASH- DAY.

The two vehicles are driving along in the canyon wash. Jerry's vehicle stops. Danny gets out and walks to Lewis' truck.

LEWIS

Are we there yet?

DANNY

Not hardly. We need to find a place to make camp. It's gonna be dark soon and I don't want to set up camp in the dark.

LEWIS

For sure. There was a nice big tree back around the bend. We could make camp there tonight.

DANNY

Sounds good. I'll tell Jerry to turn around and we'll follow you guys.

LEWIS

Alright.

Danny exits to Jerry's vehicle.

JERRY

What's up?

DANNY

Lewis found a spot to make camp for the night, so we're gonna turn around and go back down the wash.

JERRY

Cool. Spot me.

Danny spots Jerry as he turns around, then get into the vehicle and the two vehicles drive down wash to the camping spot.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAMP- DAY.

The group is setting up camp, having fun hitting each other with the left over water balloons. Lewis is chasing Donna. Stacey is chasing Danny. Jerry is sitting in a chair under a tree, feet propped up on an ice chest, drinking a cold drink and watching the action. Stacey and Danny chase each other up the wash.

LEWIS

(to Jerry) There they go.

Lewis points at Stacey and Danny. Jerry looks in their direction as the two disappear up wash. Jerry smiles.

JERRY

(with a chuckle) Yeah. Let's get some meat burning.

Jerry stands up, opens the ice chest and get out some steaks.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -UP THE WASH- DAY.

Danny and Stacey are walking together along the water's edge.

STACEY

Danny, how come you never asked me out?

DANNY

'Cause we were always just friends. I didn't think you were interested. Besides you were with Jerry.

STACEY

We were never really "together."
But I was...I am interested. I always was.

Danny looks at her intently.

DANNY

It was never the right time. We were always seeing other people at the time.

STACEY

But we're not seeing other people now.

Danny kisses Stacey. The two continue walking up the wash. Danny takes Stacey's hand, and as they walk, Danny slips and falls into the water. Stacey laughs as she is standing on the shore.

FADE TO BLACK.

END SCENE 14

SCENE 15

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CANYONS- DAY.

FADE IN.

The group is walking in the canyons looking for signs that are present on the map. Everyone is carrying a pack on their backs. Danny is leading the group and stops to take a look at the map. The others rest in the shade of the trees and brush. Stacey stands next to Danny.

STACEY

Danny, do you have any water?

DANNY

Yeah.

Danny hands her a tube hanging off of the shoulder strap of his pack. Stacey takes a long drink as Danny looks at the map, then at the scenery in front of him.

STACEY

Thanks. We getting close?

DANNY

I think so. Look up there on the side of the canyon.

Stacey looks to see multiple single stone formations standing tall.

DANNY (CONT'D)
And on the map, it looks like the
same formation.

Stacey looks at the map as the others approach.

LEWIS
(smiling) Are we there yet?

STACEY
We're getting closer. (pointing)
That rock formation looks like the
one on the map.

Stacey walks off mumbling about getting the shot on camera.

JERRY
So we're on the right track?

DANNY
You said it.

JERRY
Well, let's get going.

Jerry starts walking off.

JERRY (CONT'D)
Burning daylight here.

The rest of the group follow after Jerry.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CLIFF SIDE ROCKS- DAY.

The group is near the rock formation looking for a way down
into the canyon. There is a sheer drop down into the canyon.
At the bottom is a wash with some water running in it.

LEWIS
Well, this is a bummer.

JERRY
Nonsense. It's just a minor
setback.

Lewis exits scene looking around.

DANNY
We can double back and come up the
wash.

JERRY

We'll find a way around. Let's step out of the box for a moment and just look. There's always a way down.

DANNY

Yeah. About a fifty foot drop way down.

JERRY

C'mon. Let's find Lewis, the girls can hang out under the shade for a few.

Danny and Jerry take off their packs, then exit scene. Donna and Stacey sit in the shade drinking water.

DONNA

I gotta pee. Do you have any toilet paper?

Stacey digs through her pack, finding toilet paper and hands it to Donna.

DONNA (CONT'D)

Thanks. I'll be right back.

Donna gets up and exits scene.

STACEY

Watch where you squat.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CLIFF SIDE- DAY.

Danny and Jerry are walking along the cliff side looking for Lewis.

JERRY

So, you and Stacey....

DANNY

Yeah. I guess its official now.

JERRY

That's great. I'm happy for you two. She's an awesome girl. Just treat her right.

DANNY

You know I will.

LEWIS (O.S.)

Hey guys! Over here!

Jerry and Danny move to Lewis' position. Lewis is looking over the edge of the cliff.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

I think I found a way down.

JERRY

Down that? You're crazy.

LEWIS

Nah, its simple. Danny, you brought climbing gear right?

DANNY

Yeah. But I only have a couple of harnesses.

LEWIS

So we rig up and go over the edge here, one at a time. Its not that bad here. The ropes are more for security than repelling. I mean, we could potentially just climb down, but I think it would be easier with gear.

DANNY

(smiling) Let's do it.

JERRY

You're both crazy.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CLIFF SIDE ROCKS- DAY.

Donna is getting ready to squat, looking around. She decides its safe and squats. As she does so she hears a rattle snake, screams and runs. Stacey hears her scream and stands up.

STACEY

Donna?! You okay?!

Donna's screams get louder as she nears Stacey. Stacey sees Donna running towards her.

STACEY (CONT'D)

Donna! Wait! Slow down!

Donna runs past Stacey and as she tries to stop, falls on the ground, sliding towards the edge. Stacey leaps and grabs onto Donna's hand as Donna goes over the edge.

STACEY (CONT'D)

(screaming) Help me!

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CLIFF SIDE- DAY.

Danny, Jerry and Lewis are on their way back to Donna and Stacey when they hear Stacey's screams for help. They run to the scene and see Stacey laying flat on the ground, her arms over the edge holding Donna. Donna is crying and pleading with Stacey.

STACEY (CONT'D)

I can't hold on much longer!

Lewis and Jerry run to Stacey. Jerry grabs onto Stacey and Lewis as Lewis grabs onto Donna's other hand.

LEWIS

I can't pull her up! Jerry, pull on me.

JERRY

I can't. If I let go, everybody will go. Danny!

Danny is rigging up ropes and a harness. He runs to the edge and drops the rope over and finishes rigging his harness to the rope.

JERRY (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

DANNY

This is the only way. When I get down there, I'm gonna rig her up in this harness, and then you guys can pull us both up.

LEWIS

Hurry up! I'm slipping!

Danny goes over the edge. Lewis barely has a hold of Donna. Donna cries out to Danny.

DONNA

Danny....don't...don't let me fall!

DANNY

I won't let you fall. Just stay calm. I'm gonna put you in this harness and hook you up to me. Everything is going to be fine.

DONNA

Please. I don't want to die.

Danny is below Donna and locked in, getting her legs into the harness when her hand slips out of both Stacey and Lewis' hands. Donna screams as she falls, but Danny manages to grab one of her arms. Lewis and Stacey scream. Donna is hysterical now.

LEWIS

Danny, don't you drop her, man.
Please.

Danny is straining to hold on to Donna.

DANNY

Donna, listen to me! I need you to wrap your leg around the rope, then step on the part of the rope that your foot is around. Can you do that for me?

Donna wraps her foot around the rope and steps on it and grabs the rope with her free hand.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Now I need you to reach down and pull the harness up to your waist.

DONNA

I can't! I can't let go!

DANNY

You're okay. Just keep pressure on the rope with your foot, reach down and grab the harness.

Donna Reaches down and pulls the harness around her waist. Danny hands her a "pull strap."

DANNY (CONT'D)

Now hook this into the carabiner on your harness and let go of my hand and grab onto the rope.

DONNA

I'm gonna fall!

DANNY

No you're not. My harness will have your weight. Trust me.

Donna hooks the strap onto the carabiner on her harness and reluctantly lets go of Danny's hand. She grabs onto the rope as she screams. Danny pulls on his portion of the strap, pulling Donna closer to him. Danny laughs in relief.

DANNY (CONT'D)
That's the easy part.

LEWIS
What's the hard part?

DANNY
Pulling us up without cutting the
rope on the rock. Try putting
something under the rope.

Lewis takes off his shirt and shimmies it in between the rope and the rock. Lewis and Jerry move further back on the rope and get ready to pull.

LEWIS
Alright! We're pull you guys up!
Ready?!

DANNY (O.S.)
Ready!

Lewis and Jerry begin pulling, but can't hardly pull Danny and Donna up. Stacey moves to the rope and tries to help. The rope goes back and forth on the rock.

LEWIS
I don't think this is gonna work.
We need a plan.

JERRY
Think of something fast.

WILL enters scene and gets in front of the group on the rope.

WILL
Pull!

The group looks confused for a moment.

WILL (CONT'D)
Pull, dammit! Pull!

The group starts to pull on Will's command. With each pull, the rope starts to cut on the rock. Donna and Danny are slowly pulled to the top. When they reach the top the rope breaks, Donna and Danny fall safely on the ground. The others fall to the ground and Lewis and Stacey rush to Donna and Danny. Lewis and Donna hold and kiss each other, as do Danny and Stacey. Jerry and Will laugh together.

WILL (CONT'D)
Its a good thing I came along when
I did.

Everyone stands up. Danny disconnects the harnesses.

DANNY
Who are you?

WILL
The name is William Henry Conway,
but you can call me Will.

Danny shakes Will's hand.

DANNY
I can't thank you enough, Mister
Conway.

WILL
Please, call me Will.

END SCENE 15

SCENE 16

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -WILL'S CAMP- NIGHT.

Stacey and Donna are sitting around a campfire. Danny enters the scene carrying firewood. He sets it down next to the fire pit and begins to feed the fire with kindling.

DONNA
I hope everything is okay with
those guys.

STACEY
I'm sure they're fine.

DANNY
They're okay, Donna. Besides, Lewis
and Jerry can handle themselves.

DONNA
I know. It's just...I worry about
Lewis when he's out.

DANNY
Lewis is more capable of handling
situations than any one of us. And
Jerry's with him, so someone has
his back. But I don't think
anything bad is going to happen.

DONNA
I hope you're right.

Headlights flash on the group as they look in the direction of the source. Lewis, Jerry and Will drive up in the vehicles and get out, moving towards the rest of the group.

LEWIS

That wasn't too bad of a drive up here.

WILL

I told you it wasn't too far off. Especially when you know where you're going.

JERRY

At least we have more supplies.

Jerry gets a cooler out of his jeep.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Who's hungry?!

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -WILL'S CAMP- NIGHT.

Will's camp is nothing more than a few make-shift shacks, a tent and a make-shift stable with a single horse in it. The group is sitting around a campfire eating, laughing and talking. Tents are set up for the night. Everyone is curious about Will and starts to ask him questions.

DONNA

So, Will, what do you do for a living?

The group is silent.

WILL

Prospecting mostly. I worked in the mines before they shut down. Been a ranch hand a time or two during branding season. But prospecting, that's where the money is.

DANNY

Have you found much out here?

WILL

Sure. Found lots of stuff out here. Mexican gold, Apache arrowheads and pottery, not to mention this.

Will digs into his pocket, pulls out a red jewel and hands it to Danny. Danny looks it over and hands it back.

WILL (CONT'D)

This place here is ripe for the pickings, if you know what you're looking for.

DANNY

Where did you find that, if you don't mind me asking.

WILL

I found this some time back in the wash after a big rain storm. I knelt down to drink some water out of the creek and there she was. Couldn't believe it! Just there shining in the sun. That's when I knew the legend must be true.

LEWIS

What legend is that?

Will is silent for a moment as if he realizes he's said too much.

WILL

Back in the late 1800's a Mexican gang was slaughtered in this very canyon. They were carrying loot from the town of Monterrey that they had hit weeks before. They were ambushed and killed, their loot stolen and hidden. Never to be found again.

LEWIS

What happened to the perpetrators?

WILL

I don't know. There was a sheriff and a doctor went looking for it after a stranger showed up in town and left a map behind. None of them were ever heard from again.

LEWIS

Do you think it's ever been found?

WILL

Many people have tried. But this place has more than just snakes and hot desert.

DONNA

What do you mean?

WILL

This country was once Apache country. But before the Apaches took it, the Yaqui lived here.

The group settle in to hear the story.

WILL (CONT'D)

Long before the conquest of the Spaniards, when all of the land which is now Mexico was wild, this country was called Suré, because it was populated by the Surem, the children of Yomumuli.

STACEY

Who is that?

WILL

The natives believed that she was the creator of all the Indians. Anyway, there was a huge stick that reached from the ground to the sky. This stick kept talking, making a humming noise like bees.

DONNA

(to Lewis) A talking stick?

WILL

Now, only Yomumuli could understand what the stick said. It told how, someday, the conquest would come, how Jesucristo would appear, as he was to appear to all people. Since she did not like what was coming, Yomumuli decided to go away. She was angry and decided to take her river with her. And she took this river, rolled it up, put it under her arm, and walked away on the clouds toward the north.

Danny listens intently.

WILL (CONT'D)

Some of the people did not like the prospect of this conquest. So they descended into the earth to live inside of hills or they went to live in the sea through a parallel universe.

(MORE)

WILL (CONT'D)

Only a few people liked what the stick predicted, so they waited and waited for the Spaniards. These people became the Yaquis. They grew to be taller than the Surem, who were little people, but very strong. The Surem favor man and help him when they can, but all of them are wild pagans.

DONNA

And what does them being pagans have to do with anything?

WILL

Whenever something crosses over into the parallel world, it's opposite energy has to be exchanged in order to keep the balance. That's the rules of the universe.

DONNA

And?

JERRY

And, what is the opposite of good?

Nobody says anything.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Evil. Right? So instead of helping man, what would evil do?

DONNA

Kill them?

JERRY

Exactly.

The group stare into the fire.

WILL

Some say the Surem are very rich and have hidden treasures all over the desert.

The group is silent.

DANNY

I have something I want to show you, Will.

Danny gets the map out of his pack and hands it to Will.

STACEY
(whispering) What are you doing?

DANNY
(whispering) It's okay. Maybe he
can help us.

Will looks at the map, then at Danny. He stands up and moves
closer to the fire light to get a better look.

WILL
Where did you get this?

JERRY
Found it in an old book, as chance
would have it.

WILL
Chance? Or Destiny?

DANNY
That is what brought us out here.
That is what you've been looking
for.

WILL
Why are you showing me this?

DANNY
You have the knowledge and we have
a map. None of us know this area
better than you. If you can get us
to these places, there's enough for
all of us to have an equal share.

Will looks at Danny, then the group and then at the map.

DANNY (CONT'D)
(holding his hand out) Partners?

Will looks for approval from the rest of the group, who nod
and smile.

WILL
(shaking Danny's hand) Partners!

Will hands Danny the map.

WILL (CONT'D)
You better hang onto that. Just so
there's trust between us.

Danny nods and takes the map.

WILL (CONT'D)

Well, better get some shut eye. Big day ahead of us tomorrow. We'll skin out early in the morning, so get some rest.

Will exits scene. Jerry stand up next to Danny.

JERRY

You think its a good idea taking this guy in?

DANNY

Yeah. He knows the area really good and can help us. Trust me, with what's there, there's going to be plenty for all of us.

JERRY

I hope you're right.

Jerry exits scene followed by Lewis and Donna. Stacey and Danny are alone.

STACEY

Don't worry about those guys. You're doing the right thing.

DANNY

I just don't want this to be a big deal.

STACEY

Then don't let it. You're a good man, Danny. And you have a good heart. You're stronger than this, than me, than any of them. Do what your heart tells you.

Danny looks at her.

DANNY

I guess you're right.

STACEY

I know.

Stacey kisses Danny.

STACEY (CONT'D)

Now let's go to bed.

Stacey exits scene.

STACEY (CONT'D)
(enticingly) You coming?

Danny follows her into a tent.

Distant calls of coyotes can be heard under the full moonlight.

LOW CREATURE SOUNDS.

FADE TO BLACK.

END SCENE 16

SCENE 17

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -VARIOUS LOCATIONS- DAY.

The group is being led by Will and Danny to the locations on the map. Stacey takes pictures and recording video of the group along the way.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -THE CAVE AREA- DAY.

The group is spread out across the bottom of the canyon in the wash. Jerry calls out to Danny.

JERRY
How we suppose to find this cave?
We've passed half a dozen already.

DANNY
Obviously is gonna be hidden. Look
for something kind of accessible.
Something you could get a horse
near.

JERRY
(to himself) A horse? (to Danny) I
forgot to bring my horse.

Danny laughs.

DANNY
That makes two of us.

WILL
I think we all forgot to bring our
horses.

The group laughs.

Will stumbles on something protruding from out of the ground. He looks back at what looks like the butt of a rifle sticking out of the ground.

WILL (CONT'D)
Hey guys! Over here!

The group run to Will's position. Will is digging in the sand, Danny helps. After a moment of digging the earth reveals an old rifle.

LEWIS
Holy shit! Look at that!

JERRY
Somebody must have lost it.

Will holds up the rifle, inspecting it. He moves the lever action.

WILL
Seems to be working just fine.
Empty though.

LEWIS
Let me see it for a minute.

Will hand Lewis the rifle and stands up. Lewis looks the rifle over.

LEWIS (CONT'D)
Looks like a 30-30.

WILL
Might be. Looks like a little bit
larger than a 30 caliber.

JERRY
Why do you say that?

Will brings up a pistol from the same area and hands it to Danny.

WILL
Take a look at this.

The group stands looking at the pistol and rifle in awe.

WILL (CONT'D)
I have been in this canyon, must've
been a dozen times, and never come
across anything close to this.

DANNY

Chance?

Danny and Will look at each other.

WILL

Or destiny? Either way, we're close to something. There's still plenty of sunlight left. Maybe we can get into some of those caves before we have to make camp.

DANNY

That sounds like a plan. Maybe we should split up. We'll cover more ground that way.

LEWIS

That sounds like a plan. Donna and I will check out that one (pointing).

DANNY

Good. Stacey and I will go over there (pointing). Will, you and Jerry take that one right there (pointing). Let's meet back in this vicinity in about half hour, forty-five minutes, and we'll go from there.

JERRY

Unless someone finds something.

DANNY

Yes, unless someone finds something. Just holler out and the rest will meet up at your cave. Good?

The group agrees, and each pair start off for their respective cave.

CREATURE SOUNDS.

CUT TO. INT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAVE AREA-Cave 1- DAY.

Lewis and Donna enter the first cave, flashlights in hand. A scared Donna clings closely to Lewis.

DONNA

Lewis, you have your gun right?

LEWIS

Yes I do.

DONNA

Well, pull it out. Just in case there's a mountain lion or something in here.

LEWIS

Do you realize how loud that's gonna be if I shoot in here. Your ears might bleed.

DONNA

Please.

Lewis pulls out his pistol and the two continue to walk into the cave, Lewis ready to fire.

CUT TO. INT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAVE AREA-CAVE 2- DAY.

Danny and Stacey walk side by side in cave 2. Danny shines his flashlight ahead as Stacey records with her camcorder.

DANNY

You getting anything on the screen?

STACEY

Yeah. The light on this is great.

DANNY

Good. Just let me know if you see anything, gold, jewels, lions.

Stacey stops and looks at him. Danny smiles.

STACEY

Danny, how are we gonna get this treasure out of here?

DANNY

I don't know just yet. Let's just find it first.

STACEY

This is a nice first date.

DANNY

Aren't you glad you said yes.

CUT TO. INT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAVE AREA-CAVE 3- DAY.

Will and Jerry are walking in cave 3. Will holds a flashlight, Jerry is using his cellphone as a light.

WILL

You're not gonna get a signal in here.

JERRY

I'm not trying to make a call, I'm trying to see where I'm stepping.

WILL

Just pick 'em up and set 'em down. That's what my daddy always said.

JERRY

Will, do you think that treasure is still out here? I mean, how long ago was this.

WILL

Over a hundred years ago, and yes, I think its still here.

JERRY

And if it's not?

WILL

Then we keep looking.

Jerry trips and falls to the ground. Will chuckles.

WILL (CONT'D)

Pick 'em up...

JERRY

Yeah, yeah I know. Pick 'em up and set 'em down. I got it.

Jerry gets up as Will is looking at him.

WILL

You're learning. Might make a country boy out of you yet.

CUT TO. INT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAVE AREA-CAVE 1- DAY.

Lewis and Donna are deep inside the cave. The only light comes from the flashlights.

DONNA

Lewis, I think we should be getting back now.

LEWIS

Just a little bit further and then we'll turn around.

The two continue and come to the end of the cave.

DONNA
Well, that's that. Let's go.

LEWIS
Hang on.

Lewis shines his light around looking for another passage. Donna leans up against what she thinks is the cave wall, and falls to the ground with a crash.

LEWIS (CONT'D)
Sweetie, you okay?

DONNA
Yeah I'm fine. Can we go now?

Lewis looks beyond her, into the blackness and shines his light. He stops his light and stares beyond Donna.

DONNA (CONT'D)
Lewis? What's wrong.

LEWIS
Sweetie, real slow like, get up.

CREATURE SOUNDS.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLERS CANYON -CAVE AREA- DAY.

Danny and Stacey are awaiting the arrival of the rest of the group. Will and Jerry enter from a distance.

DANNY
You guys find anything?

JERRY
Nah. You?

STACEY
Not a thing. What happened to you, Jerry?

WILL
He was trying to make a phone call.

JERRY
I was using my phone for a light and I fell down.

DANNY
Well, did you talk to her?

JERRY

To who?

DANNY

Who ever you were trying to call.

JERRY

I was texting her.

They laugh.

WILL

Were's the others?

DANNY

They should be on their way.

WILL

Hope so. We should think about making camp here or getting on down the road.

DANNY

I'm up for that.

WILL

Well, let's go see what's keeping them.

As the group starts off, Lewis is heard screaming for them.

LEWIS (O.S.)

Danny! Guys! Come quick! Hurry!

DANNY

Let's go!

The group run towards Cave 1.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAVE 1- DAY.

The group arrive at the cave entrance, out of breath, to find Donna and Lewis huddled up together. Big smiles on their faces.

DANNY (CONT'D)

You guys okay?

LEWIS

Just fine.

JERRY

What the hell, man? I almost had a heart attack running up here. Thought you guys were in trouble.

Lewis and Donna stand up.

LEWIS

Not this time. Tell 'em what you found, sweetie.

Donna looks at the group, then back at Lewis.

DONNA

(dancing and singing) We're in the money.

Lewis joins in with her, dancing and singing.

DANNY

Whoa, whoa wait a minute. What do you mean, we're in the money?

DONNA

We found it!

JERRY

No shit!? Where?

LEWIS

Inside about fifty, sixty yards.

The group all rush inside the cave.

CUT TO. INT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAVE 1- DAY.

The group stands speechless in front of the horde of treasure. The light from the flashlights shine on gold coins, artifacts and bags stacked on the cave floor. Old pack saddles are covered up with blankets. Danny removes a blanket. A bag falls from its place, hitting the floor and bursts with gold coins. He picks one up and looks at it for a moment, then flicks it to Will.

DANNY

It's what you've been looking for, Will.

Will looks at the coin.

WILL

All these years of searching, never finding a damned thing.

Tears run down his face as he closes his eyes and kisses the coin.

DONNA

There's so much here. We're rich!

Donna throws the coins into the air. The group laugh together, jump and hug with excitement. Will puts his hand on Danny's shoulder.

WILL

Thank you for this.

DANNY

Couldn't have done it alone.

DONNA

How much did you say was here?

WILL

Enough for all of us to do what ever we want, for the rest of our lives.

The group begins to rummage through the treasure. Stacey is recording.

STACEY

There's so much here. How did it get here?

DANNY

It took forty mules to get it here from Mexico. A handful of outlaws to kill the previous owners.

STACEY

Previous owners?

WILL

The twenty or so Mexicans who stole it first. The outlaws couldn't carry it all, so they hid the rest of it here, never to return.

STACEY

Why couldn't they carry it all.

DANNY

Some of the mules were shot in the process.

STACEY
That's horrible.

WILL (O.S.)
Check this out, Danny.

Danny and Stacey look up. Will pulls another blanket back to reveal more treasure. He picks up an old cigar box and looks inside.

WILL (CONT'D)
This is for you, Danny.

Will hands Danny the box. Danny opens it and sees jewels inside.

WILL (CONT'D)
For someone special.

Stacey approaches Danny and puts her arms around him, smiling.

JERRY
I don't mean to be the buzz killer here, but we're gonna need to get camp set up soon.

DANNY
You're absolutely right.

DONNA
And what about all this? We're not just gonna leave it here, are we?

WILL
We can go back for the vehicles. That way, we can load up.

DANNY
Will's right. We can start moving this stuff out of the cave and loaded when these guys get back. It's gonna be dark soon and so we should get moving.

The group stand up and begin to move out. Donna is reluctant and hangs back.

LEWIS
Donna. Let's go.

Donna stands up and moves out of the cave with Lewis. With the fading light something can be seen moving on top of the treasure stack.

CREATURE'S SOUNDS.

FADE TO BLACK.

END SCENE 17

SCENE 18

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAVE AREA- DUSK.

Danny, Jerry, Stacey and Donna are bringing the last of the treasure out of the cave to a place near the campfire. As Jerry sets the last load down, he falls to the ground next to Donna and Stacey, exhausted. Danny is looking at the sunset.

JERRY

That's the last of it. The worst part is we have to load it up into the truck and jeep.

Jerry looks at Danny.

JERRY (CONT'D)

You tired yet?

DANNY

Little bit.

Jerry gets up and approaches Danny.

JERRY

You okay, man?

DANNY

Yeah. I was just thinking.

JERRY

'Bout what?

DANNY

Today is the last day of an old life. Tomorrow is the beginning of a change.

JERRY

Well, at least you'll be richer to start out.

Danny smiles.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Kind of scary isn't it. New day,
new life. It's a day of new
beginnings.

DANNY

I don't know what it is, but I have
a bad feeling about things from
here on out.

JERRY

It's like winning the lottery, man.
Kind of a shocker at first, but
you'll eventually get used to it.

Danny nods.

JERRY (CONT'D)

I just hope these guys get back
soon. I don't want to be at this
all night.

CREATURE SOUNDS.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -WILL'S CAMP- DUSK.

Will and Lewis approach Will's campsite.

LEWIS

There it is. Are you sure we can
get back there in these?

Will is stashing the rifle and pistol in a makeshift shed.

WILL

Sure we can. I know these hills
like the back of my hand.

Will pulls out a OD green tarp.

LEWIS

What's that for?

WILL

So we can cover up our find. Just
in case.

Lewis helps Will with the tarp into the back of the truck.
Lewis starts his truck as Will disappears for a moment. Lewis
looks around for a moment.

LEWIS

Will? Where's you go?

Will is standing n the passenger side of Lewis' truck. Lewis is startled at the reply.

WILL

Right here. You ready to get?

LEWIS

Lead the way sir.

Will gets into the jeep and the two vehicles begin their way up the wash.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAVE AREA- NIGHT.

The campfire is burning down. Donna and Stacey are sitting close to the fire. The sky is light up with clear skies, the stars and full moon.

STACEY

Look at that sky. That's what I love about being out here.

DONNA

It is kind of peaceful out here. Just too quiet, I think.

STACEY

It's okay, Donna. There's nothing to be afraid of out here.

DONNA

I wish those guys would get back with some more firewood. I don't like sitting in the dark.

SNAPPING BRANCH.

DONNA (CONT'D)

(startled) What was that?

Danny and Jerry emerge from the darkness carrying firewood and set it down near the fire.

DANNY

It's just us.

JERRY

We were trying to creep up on you.

DONNA

Well don't do that. Almost gave me a heart attack.

Danny throws some small branches on the fire then sits next to Stacey. He picks up the old cigar box of jewels and looks through them.

DONNA (CONT'D)

What are you gonna do with your share, Jerry?

JERRY

Not sure, really. Haven't given it much thought. You?

DONNA

I want to get away for a while.

JERRY

You and Lewis?

DONNA

Of course, me and Lewis. I want to go to Scotland. Visit the homeland for a while.

Danny picks out a large jewel and tosses it to Donna.

DANNY

That should help you get started.

DONNA

Thank you, Danny. I take back all the mean things I ever said about you.

Danny laughs.

DANNY

Thanks. And you're welcome.

JERRY

(teasing) Where's mine?

DANNY

Of course. I can't forget my best friend.

Danny tosses one to Jerry.

JERRY

Thanks, man. I appreciate it. (Pause, looking at the jewel) What are you going to do with your share.

DANNY
I got plans.

DONNA
What kind of plans.

DANNY
Just plans.

DONNA
Do they involve someone I know?

Danny looks at Stacey and smiles.

DANNY
Maybe.

Danny puts the box in his back pack.

DANNY (CONT'D)
We'll separate these later on.
Don't need them falling out.

Jerry stands up and looks into the darkness at the direction of Will's camp.

JERRY
I hope everything okay with those guys.

DANNY
I'm sure it is. Just takes a little longer in the dark.

JERRY
I know, but I've been having some trouble with the 4 wheel drive. I just don't want to get stuck out here, that's all.

DANNY
They're fine.

STACEY
At least now you can get it fixed.

JERRY
Or buy a new one.

The group laugh. Silence among them for a moment.

CREATURE SOUNDS.

The group stand up and look in the direction of the sounds.

DONNA
What the hell was that?!

JERRY
Might've been a coyote or something.

DANNY
That didn't sound like a coyote, man.

DONNA
It sounded like a lion.

JERRY
Might be a mountain lion or bobcat.

Stacey quickly moves behind Danny and points.

STACEY
Right there! What is that?!

In the darkness, just beyond the firelight, the creature can be faintly seen pacing back and forth. It's eyes glowing red against the firelight as it watches the group. Donna picks up a lot of firewood and throws it on the fire. The fire begins to crackle and roar. As the light gets brighter, the creature retreats into the darkness but keeps watching the group.

DANNY
Jerry, do you have your gun with you?

JERRY
No. I left it in the jeep.

The group look at each other, then back into the darkness at the creature. Jerry picks up a stick.

CUT TO. EXT, SMUGGLER'S CANYON -IN THE WASH- NIGHT.

Lewis is following the jeep in the wash, when the jeep comes to a stop. Lewis stops and the two get out of their vehicles. Will moves around to the front of the jeep.

LEWIS
What happened?

WILL
I think she got a flat.

The two look at the front passenger tire. It's flat.

WILL (CONT'D)

Not a problem. Have her changed in a flash. You go on and I'll catch up.

LEWIS

I'll give you a hand with it. We can do it faster.

WILL

Nonsense. I can take care of this, you get back to the cave and by the time I get there y'all should have the treasure loaded. Then we can all leave together.

LEWIS

But I don't know where I'm going.

WILL

Just follow this wash 'bout another hundred yards or so. Take a right, out of the wash and you'll find a trail. Follow that trail bout a mile and you'll see the hill that the cave is in. Take the left trail at the fork. That'll lead you all the way into the canyon on the other side.

LEWIS

Are you sure?

WILL

Course I'm sure. I can handle a flat tire. It's loading up all that treasure that might do me in. I'd like to be around to spend some of it.

Lewis and Will laugh.

LEWIS

So, up the wash. Take a right to the trail, then left at the fork?

WILL

You got it. Make a tracker out of you yet. Go on now. I'll only be a few behind ya.

Lewis shakes Will's hand and leaves. Will waves as Lewis leaves.

WILL (CONT'D)
Now, let's get you fixed.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -CAVE AREA- NIGHT.

The group is huddled together. Creatures have surrounded the campsite. Jerry drops the last of the firewood onto the fire and it burns bright.

JERRY
That's it. There's no more wood.

DONNA
What do you mean there's no more?

JERRY
There's no more wood and I'm not going out there for more.

Danny moves behind Jerry.

DANNY
Jerry, what the hell are those things?

JERRY
I have no clue. And if those guys don't get here soon, I think we'll find out real quick.

DONNA
(trying to hold her tears) I don't wanna die, Jerry.

DANNY
Nobody is gonna die. Just relax. Look around for some more wood. Anything that will burn.

The group look around for things to burn. They start throwing various things on the fire. Danny finds Stacey's camera.

DANNY (CONT'D)
Stacey, does your camera still have power?

STACEY
A little bit.

She moves to Danny and turns on her camera.

DANNY

Zoom in on one of those things.
Maybe we can figure out what they
are.

The screen on the camera zooms in on one of the creatures. Stacey and Danny look at it, but can't figure out what it is. Accidentally, Stacey takes a picture and the flash sends the creature screaming into the darkness.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Nice. Keep doing that.

Danny leaves to the fire and picks up a stick that is burning. He returns to Stacey. As she takes another picture, Danny throws the flaming stick into the grass. The grass catches fire and the creatures retreat further into the darkness.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Jerry, throw some sticks into the
grass!

Jerry and Danny throw burning sticks into the grass, creating smaller fires around the campsite. The fires on the outer edges burn bright and fast, filling the air with smoke. The campfire begins to fade out.

JERRY

We're not gonna be able to keep
this up for very much longer.

Danny looks at the fire. Then notices headlights coming towards them.

DANNY

They're here!

Lewis drives through one of the smaller fires and stops at the campfire. The others run to the truck and get in.

JERRY

Where's Will?

LEWIS

He's back down the way a ways. What
the hell is going on? You trying to
light the whole desert on fire? I
can see the smoke a mile away!

DONNA

There's something out there! Let's
just get the hell out of here!

LEWIS

What?!

DANNY

Now is not the time to ask questions, just drive!

The group jump into the vehicle and Lewis turns the vehicle around and speed away.

CUT TO. EXT, SMUGGLER'S CANYON -IN THE WASH- NIGHT.

The group is driving quickly down the wash towards the place where Will broke down. Stacey is trying to calm Donna down.

LEWIS

Danny, what the hell happened back there?

Danny looks behind the vehicle.

DANNY

I don't know. We heard some weird sounds and then it started to get real dark.

LEWIS

Danny, it's nighttime.

DANNY

(Irritated) I know it's fucking nighttime, Lewis! Where do you think we are?!

Lewis is silent.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, man. Those things were trying to kill us.

LEWIS

What was trying to kill you?

Danny is silent as he looks behind the moving vehicle once more.

DANNY

I don't know what they were.

JERRY

I know what they were.

Lewis and Danny look back at Jerry.

LEWIS
What were they?

JERRY
It was the Surem.

DONNA
Not now with the bullshit campfire stories, Jerry!

JERRY
What else would they be! We took the treasure from them! We trespassed on their sacred ground! And now they want it back!

DANNY
But we left it back at the campfire.

DONNA
Yeah. We left their treasure back at the campfire. So they have to leave us alone.

The group is silent.

DONNA (CONT'D)
Right?!

LEWIS
This is the place.

Lewis stops the vehicle and looks out into the area light by the headlights.

DANNY
There's no one here. Where did he go? We should have passed him or at least seen him.

LEWIS
We'll check at the camp. If he's not there, we'll go back and look for him.

DONNA
Are you crazy?! I'm not going back out there with those things!

LEWIS
We've got to find him and warn him. Maybe he knows what those things are.

END SCENE 18

SCENE 19

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -WILL'S CAMP- NIGHT.

Will's camp is empty except for a burning campfire. Lewis' vehicle enters the scene and Lewis and Danny get out, followed by Stacey, Donna and Jerry. The group searches for Will but find nothing. They regroup around the vehicle, except Jerry.

LEWIS

He must be headed back towards the cave.

DANNY

We've got to warn him about those things out there.

LEWIS

Danny, what did you see out there?

DANNY

I told you we couldn't see anything. It was dark and those things were all around us.

LEWIS

Then there is a good possibility that they were coyotes.

Danny looks at Lewis with a let down look.

DANNY

How long have we lived in the desert? All our lives. Do you think that I don't know what a coyote looks like? What they sound like? This wasn't a damned coyote. It was something else.

Lewis looks away and notices Jerry exiting one of Will's shacks with something in his hand. Lewis slowly walks off towards Jerry.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I know what I'm talking about, man.

Danny watches Lewis walk towards Jerry, then follows. Jerry looks as if he's seen a ghost.

DANNY (CONT'D)
What's wrong?

Jerry hands Danny a picture frame. Danny looks at it. The picture is the same one of the Woman's missing husband.

JERRY
Tell me that's not the same picture from that box we found the map in.

Danny looks at the picture, then at Jerry.

JERRY (CONT'D)
(starting to lose it) That's the Woman's missing husband!

Danny looks at the picture again.

JERRY (CONT'D)
And that's his treasure-hunting buddy! Remember? They went missing a few years ago?! Look at it! That's Will!

Danny looks at the picture dumbfounded.

JERRY (CONT'D)
There's more inside. Maps of the area. A map that looks like ours and the same damned book we found ours in!

Danny rushes into the shack. Jerry sits down near the fire and breaks down crying. Lewis sits next to him.

CUT TO. INT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -WILL'S SHACK- NIGHT.

Danny looks at the maps and the book, then back at the picture of Will and his buddy. Danny puts his hands on the small table with the maps and books as if he is sick. He clenches the sides of the table, then overturns everything screaming. Danny notices some treasure laying on the floor. He picks it up and exits scene.

CUT TO. EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -WILL'S CAMP- NIGHT.

Danny enters scene to where Jerry and Lewis are sitting. Donna and Stacey are sitting next to Jerry and Lewis.

DANNY
Let's get out of here.

LEWIS
What's the matter?

DANNY

This whole thing is not right. We just need to get the hell out of here before we can't.

LEWIS

What about the treasure? We can't just leave here.

DANNY

Then you go back for it and deal with whatever is out there! I'm not sticking around here for those things to come.

Danny tosses the treasure to Lewis and exits to stand by the vehicle. Jerry looks at it.

JERRY

They're coming for it. And we don't need to be here when they do.

Jerry exits and stands with Danny by the vehicle. Stacey joins them.

LEWIS

(towards Jerry) What the hell. You really believe that ghost story?

Donna takes Lewis' arm.

DONNA

He's telling the truth. Those weren't coyotes out there. It was something else. Maybe it was those things from the story, I don't know or care. All I know is that I'm scared, Lewis. And we all want to leave.

Lewis looks around at the group.

LEWIS

You're all out of your minds. It's a legend, a damned story. Nothing else. And you want to turn back after we found the treasure?

Donna takes some jewels and gold coins out of her pocket.

LOW CREATURE SOUNDS

HORSE IS UNEASY

DONNA

There are more important things than treasure, right now Lewis. And one of those is getting out of here now.

Lewis takes the treasure from Donna. He looks at it, then at the rest of the group.

LEWIS

(defeated) Okay. Let's get out of here.

Lewis drops the treasure on the ground with the rest. He smiles at Donna and takes her hand, then he and Donna start walking towards the vehicle when they notice a black mist begin to surround the camp. Lewis stops and makes eye-contact with Danny.

DANNY

Get to the fire!

CREATURE SCREAMS

The group is startled, as Danny is shoving Jerry and Stacey in the direction of the campfire. Lewis makes a dash towards the vehicle past the others to grab gun cases. He returns to the fire, opens the cases next to the fire, loads the guns and tosses one to Danny and one to Jerry along with an extra clip.

JERRY

You got 18 ready to go and 18 in the clip. Make 'em count.

DANNY

Thanks. Get anything that will burn and throw it on the fire.

The group grab various pieces of wood and put it on the fire. The fire roars bright.

DANNY (CONT'D)

That should keep them away for a bit.

STACEY

(pointing towards the vehicle) Over there!

Danny, Lewis and Jerry point their guns in the direction. The vehicle is surrounded by black mist. A Creature stands on top of the cab of the vehicle and two more emerge from the black mist on each side of the vehicle.

LEWIS

(backing up) What the fuck is that?! Danny, what are those things?!

DANNY

I don't know.

Jerry starts shooting, then Lewis and Danny start shooting. The Creatures scream and quickly disappear into the black mist. Donna screams for Lewis from behind the group. Everyone turns to see Donna being dragged towards the black mist. Lewis runs to her and grabs her hands. The others get there and Jerry shoots behind Donna.

LEWIS

Danny! Help me! I can't hold on!

Danny grabs onto Donna. Jerry continues to shoot. The Creature screams and Donna gives way. Lewis and Danny pull Donna back and fall to the ground. Jerry looks into the darkness.

JERRY

Take that bitch! Yeah!

Lewis gets to his feet and helps Donna up. She hugs him, crying. Stacey throws more wood onto the fire.

LEWIS

Are you okay?

DONNA

(hysterical) Let's go...I wanna go, I wanna get out of here, Lewis! Let's go!

Lewis is trying to calm her down. All is quiet except for Jerry who is still yelling into the darkness. As Donna and Lewis turn towards the fire, multiple Creatures scream loud. One jumps onto Jerry and takes him to the ground. As they hit the ground Jerry drops his gun towards Stacey as another Creature jumps onto Jerry. Jerry screams out in pain as the Creatures tear at his flesh and start to drag him into the black mist. Stacey picks up the gun and aims it, shaking, towards Jerry.

Danny and Lewis turn towards Jerry as Donna falls to the ground. Lewis is aiming at the creatures but can't get a clear shot. Finally he gets and takes a shot. As the Creature screams, Donna screams. Lewis looks back, makes eye contact with Donna and she is dragged into the black mist screaming. Danny shoots towards the ones on Jerry, as Lewis runs towards the black mist.

DANNY

Lewis, no!

Danny grabs Lewis and Donna's screams stop.

CREATURE SCREAMS

Stacey fires the gun in Jerry's direction only to miss and see Jerry dragged into the black mist screaming. After a moment, Jerry's scream stops.

CREATURES SCREAM

Stacey withdraws closer to the fire and throws more wood onto the fire. She starts throwing burning wood out into the desert. Lewis is crying uncontrollably as Danny is holding onto him.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, brother. They're gone.
I'm so sorry.

Stacey approaches the two and throws burning wood into the desert. Lewis continues to cry.

STACEY

Danny, we got to get out of here.

DANNY

C'mon, man. Let's get out of here.

Danny stands up. Lewis lays on the ground crying. As Danny and Stacey are talking Lewis notices eyes reflecting the firelight in the darkness. Lewis stands up.

STACEY

(crying) Danny, I don't want to die
out here.

DANNY

We're gonna be alright. I think
they might be gone.

As Lewis stands up three Creatures attack him screaming. He fires a shot. Danny and Stacey quickly turn and see Lewis being dragged into the black mist. Danny grabs Lewis' hand and the two make eye contact. Stacey starts to shoot.

LEWIS

Let me go, man.

DANNY

I'm not letting you go!

Lewis looks at Danny and nods. Danny can see Lewis is struggling though the pain he feels. Danny nods and as he lets Lewis go Lewis takes Danny's gun. Lewis screams and shoots as he is dragged into the black mist. Stacey screams. After a moment all is quiet.

CREATURES SCREAM

Danny stands up and looks at Stacey who is crying. As he takes a step towards her a Creature screams behind him. Danny is startled and falls to the ground. As he does, the Creature screams past him but claws him on the back. Danny screams in pain. Stacey starts for him.

DANNY (CONT'D)

No! Get out of here! Get to the truck and lock yourself in!

Stacey hesitates.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Go now!

Stacey runs to the vehicle. As she gets closer the truck is being surrounded by the black mist. She runs faster and gets inside, locking the doors. Her camcorder is on the front seat.

Danny gets to his feet, watching the truck being surrounded by the black mist. Creatures scream. Stacey is screaming and shooting. As Danny turns away from the vehicle, a Creature screams past him, clawing his chest and knocking Danny to the ground. As he hits the ground, Danny notices Will's horse in the make-shift corral. Creatures are screaming all around him. Stacey is still screaming. Glass breaks and Stacey screams violently. After a moment she stops. As Danny starts to get to his feet A Creature grabs his ankle. Danny looks at it and for a moment locks eyes with it. He kicks the Creature in its face. The Creature screams and lets go of Danny's ankle. Danny quickly gets to his feet and runs towards the horse.

Danny jumps over the rail and gets on the horse's back. He gives the horse a kick in the sides and the horse jumps over the rail and a Creature. Then Danny and the horse disappear into the night.

CREATURES SCREAM

The camp is quiet as the black mist dissolves into the darkness, leaving nothing alive but the campfire.

END SCENE 19

SCENE 20

EXT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -WILL'S CAMP- DAY

Police Officer 1 is leaning on the door of his vehicle.
Central Dispatch comes over the radio.

CENTRAL DISPATCH
(O.S.) Unit 12, what's your
location?

The Police Officer puts the mic to his mouth.

POLICE OFFICER
Smuggler's Canyon.

CENTRAL DISPATCH
(O.S.) Copy that. Smuggler's
Canyon. Standby one.

Police Officer 1 drops the mic in the seat of his vehicle and
pick the camera back up. He scrolls through the various video
and stops on a scene from Will's campsite. The video shows
shots of the group sitting around the campfire having a good
time. Then the video shows Will. The Police Officer 1 looks
around at the bodies but doesn't find Will.

CENTRAL DISPATCH (CONT'D)
Dispatch to unit 12.

POLICE OFFICER 1
Unit 12, go ahead.

CENTRAL DISPATCH
Coroner and additional units en
route to your location.

POLICE OFFICER 1
Copy that, dispatch. Thank you

CENTRAL DISPATCH
You're welcome. Central out.

Police Officer 1 walks over to Lewis' body and squats next to
him. He examines Lewis' face and notices him.

POLICE OFFICER 1
(regretfully) Damn, Lewis.

A shovel slams into the back of Police Officer 1's head,
knocking him to the ground. Police Officer rolls over and
reaches for his gun. It isn't in his holster.

As Police Officer 1 looks at his assailant, he see Will standing over him pointing a gun at him.

WILL

I've spent most of my life looking for this treasure and I'll be damned if anyone is taking it from me again.

POLICE OFFICER 1

What are you talking about?

WILL

The lost treasure of Smuggler's Canyon.

POLICE OFFICER 1

It doesn't exist.

WILL

It does! And its mine!

POLICE OFFICER 1

I have other units on their way out here right now. You'll never get out.

WILL

You see, that's where you're wrong. It was all too easy.

Will fires the gun, killing Police Officer 1. He notices the camcorder laying next to Police Officer 1 and picks it up. As he does he accidentally turns the recorder on to record.

Will exits scene to Jerry's vehicle. He tosses the camcorder into the vehicle on top of covered treasure, gets in and drives away.

CUT TO. INT. SMUGGLER'S CANYON -ON THE ROAD- DAY.

From the camera's point of view, Will is carrying on laughing and muttering incoherently like a mad man. Ahead of the vehicle, as Will makes a turn, he notices his horse laying dead in the middle of the road. He stops the vehicle and gets out.

WILL (CONT'D)

(in the distance) What the hell?
How did you get out of your corral?

Will approaches the dead horse and kneels beside it, crying and carrying on. Danny quickly approaches Will from behind with a large rock. He raises the rock as Will turns around.

Will moves out of the way as Danny misses. Danny falls to the ground and Will scrambles to the vehicle. Danny follows closely behind him then stops and backs up with his arms raised. Will comes back into scene holding a rifle.

WILL (CONT'D)

I had a feeling you were still
alive.

DANNY

Why?

WILL

I couldn't get it all out by
myself. Not without a diversion. My
last partner didn't make it when we
first found the treasure, and I
barely made it out alive. I don't
need anymore partners.

DANNY

Do it you son-of-a-bitch!

Will fires his rifle and Danny falls to the ground holding his stomach. Will turns and goes back towards the vehicle. Danny gets up, grabs the large rock and rushes towards Will. Off screen Danny screams. The thud of the large rock is heard as is Will's body hitting the ground.

WILL

(O.S.) No...no...please don't kill
me...No!

A final thud and Will is no longer heard. Silence for a moment. A wounded Danny slowly gets into the vehicle. He shifts gears and drives off.

SLOW FADE TO BLACK

THE END.