## WITNESS THE ALLURE

Pilot

Written by

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EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

A shiny jet black mint 1970 Cadillac Deville convertible roars down a two lane highway.

The humming engine revs the beast past a doppler blur of pine trees, their scent whips in the air.

An older thin mustached man, right out of a Sicilian passport picture, knee on the wheel, leans right and grabs the lighter that has just popped out and presses the bright red filament onto the end of his Montecristo cigar.

His puffs of thick smoke blow into the passenger window of a red Honda Civic as it races past at eighty miles an hour.

Cadillac man raises his arm and flips the bird.

Suddenly a Dodge Challenger blast by as it signals left in front of the Cadillac and almost cuts it off, then screams past the Civic at a hundred.

Cadillac man whirls up his two arms and flips double birds.

INT. RED HONDA CIVIC - DAY

BRENDAN FARRELL late forties, fit, salt and pepper hair is dressed in sharkskin suite. His Armani loafer tromps on the gas pedal.

The speedometer reads eighty five.

A cell phone rings over and over.

A wedding picture of a smiling couple duct taped to the dash wind flutters as the electric windows grinds up.

Brendan with a calm gesture, lifts his phone out of his suit coat pocket and answers.

BRENDAN

(slight Brooklyn accent)

What's up? Kind of busy.

(pause)

No, no, guess I'm never to busy for you.

Brendan thumbs the phone on speaker and tosses in in the passenger seat as he tromps the gas, revs the engine, his head pressed into the headrest.

LOVE FARRELL his wife sounds irked.

LOVE (O.S.)

Did you take your blood pressure and you heart pill?

He white knuckle grips the wheel into a tight head tilt turn.

BRENDAN

You're all the heart I need, aspirin and the statins too.

LOVE (O.S.)

Well I counted your pills this morning and you forgot to take your blood pressure and your heart pill.

BRENDAN

You stopped counting the Viagra?

LOVE (O.S.)

You know how dangerous it is if you skip them. Your heads gonna pop of someday. You're supposed to reduce your stress.

**BRENDAN** 

The industrial revolution and its consequences.

LOVE (O.S.)

I'm not gonna be a widow stuck in this shit town.

BRENDAN

Ok, Ok. I have some spares in my wallet. I'm going to the diner now to check in.

Brendan flips open his wallet on the console and digs out a little baggie with his finger while he keeps glancing up quick at the road.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

I'll take them right when I get there. Isn't the view on?

LOVE (O.S.)

Another repeat, half of them got suspended again. Watching Reservoir Dogs again.

BRENDAN

That's a fun wake up and get the blood flowing morning movie.

Brendan slaps the wheel as the Challenger zooms over a hill and out of site.

The Hondas four cylinders whine with a car chase movie complex.

LOVE (O.S.)

I think Heck is burning bugs again.

BRENDAN

You're the one who gave him the magnifying glass to get him into science.

LOVE (O.S.)

Eight years ago.

**BRENDAN** 

(Thomas Dolby style)

SCIENCE!

LOVE (O.S.)

This is serious my lighters are all empty, I had to use the stove. An electric fucking stove. I miss my gas stove.

BRENDAN

When did you ever cook?

Brendan jerks the wheel hard taking a tight turn.

LOVE

That's my point, it was clean, Steak Fromage at Sparks Steakhouse, Crab Carbonara at Rao's, here its Sonic drive in and Half Fancy Diner.

**BRENDAN** 

We have the Picked Fish.

LOVE

They can't even cook the fish. Next you'll mention the culinary delights of Moose Lodge 2362. And you sure as hell can't shop for furs at a souvenir shop, but forget that 'cause I can't even wear them Or I'll stick out.

The Honda Civic swings out onto the highway shoulder racing through a tight turn.

BRENDAN

Well have fun at the beauty parlor.

LOVEL (O.S.)

Have you at least talked to the new girl yet about how loud she being. During the day even now. Sex is one thing but she sounds possessed.

BRENDAN

Just turn the AC on.

LOVE (O.S.)

I have a right to have my window open and should be no means have to turn up my TV.

**BRENDAN** 

Ok but you should be the one. You good?

LOVE (O.S.)

Are you going to get a new job soon?

Brendan leans forward and squints up the highways horizon.

BRENDAN

My job is my job Love.

LOVE (O.S.)

You job is death, it's not respectable, I can't be the wife of a morticians ASSISTANT anymore, at least give me that.

He rounds a corner, a man with a wide grin leans against the Challenger in the HALF FANCY DINER parking lot.

**BRENDAN** 

Your Roomba gets delivered on Monday. I'm here, have to go.

LOVE (O.S.)

Don't you dare talk to Donna Do You Wanna.

BRENDAN

Why would you say such a thing? You were the best ever this morning.

Brendan pulls into the parking lot next to the Challenger.

LOVE (O.S.)

Well I'm not forgetting Daddies mistress is somewhere in here with us.

**BRENDAN** 

Getting out of the car now.

LOVE (O.S.)

Bring home chocolate cake, an overdose amount.

**BRENDAN** 

Death by chocolate it is.

LOVE (O.S.)

From Nellie's Custom Cakes.

The man leaning on the Challenger makes a cracking a whip motion.

**BRENDAN** 

(annoyed)

Bye Love.

LOVE (O.S.)

(rushed)

And a shaker full of sprinkles!

**BRENDAN** 

All the colors.

Brendan looks up and shakes his head at the man.

LOVE (O.S.)

Egg whites and oatmeal remember

**BRENDAN** 

Waffles are life bye.

Brendan starts to get out of the car and in the rearview mirror we see the black Cadillac convertible roll by slow.

The older mustached man now in sunglasses taps a fully ringed hand on the steering wheel.

INT. HALF FANCY DINER - DAY

Brendan and VINCE HAYES, dressed in a dark suit, sit across from each other in a booth near the window of this typical rundown diner on the edge of town.

VINCE

You going to get the waffles?

BRENDAN

Hell yes I am. Extra boysenberry syrup too.

Brendan waves his arm at a bug flying by his face.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

Enough to drown a rando fly.

VINCE

What the hell is a boysenberry? Sounds like they ran out of fruit names.

**BRENDAN** 

I actually looked it up once.

VINCE

Of course you did.

**BRENDAN** 

Cross between a raspberry, dewberry and loganberry.

VINCE

Guess Frankenberry was taken huh.

BRENDAN

They're soft so they don't ship well, so they grind them into syrup.

VINCE

The boys are back in town. Speaking of that I hate to be the one to tell you but--

DONNA a dive bar and diner hot waitress bumps her hip into the booth table.

DONNA

You hotties ready to order?

VINCE

He'll have egg whites and oatmeal.

DONNA

(smiling)

I already wrote down waffles.

She steps back and grabs another boysenberry mini pitcher from the neighboring table and spins it towards Brendan.

DONNA (CONT'D)

There you go baby.

**BRENDAN** 

You always read my mind.

DONNA

You should let me read my tarot cards on you.

BRENDAN

Then you'd put a spell on me.

DONNA

Already have, I'm sure you can feel it.

VINCE

I think I feel it.

Donna sticks her pen in her mouth and chews with a glance over at Vince.

DONNA

What'll you have Egg White?

Brendan LAUGHS.

VINCE

Oh uh, I'll have the biscuits and gravy please.

DONNA

Can't Johnny lost a Band-Aid three days ago and I won the pool when we found it this morning.

VINCE

0k...

Vince grabs a menu from the condiment holder.

VINCE (CONT'D)

How about... chicken fried steak.

DONNA

Can't, uses the same gravy.

Vince taps his finger on the menu.

VINCE

Uh...

DONNA

If it helps you any, I already wrote down waffles.

**BRENDAN** 

Waffles are life.

Vince flips the menu up to Donna as she catches it like a pro, leans way over the table and sticks the landing.

VINCE

Waffles it is then. More boysenberry to please.

Donna bumps the table again with her hip as she pushes off.

DONNA

You go easy on that stuff Egg White I can tell you're a beginner. It's the loganberry part that gets ya.

Vince looks at Donna's wiggling butt as she sashays away.

INT. FARRELL KITCHEN - DAY

Love still in her white nightgown leans over the sink and slams the window shut, cracking the glass in the corner.

She reaches over and jerks a box of wine up to her open mouth and pours it full of Merlot. So full the wine overflows, dribbles down and stains the white flannel fabric.

She is unbothered by the mess.

Love starts to tap out the beat to Queens "We Will Rock You", getting louder and louder, as her wedding ring whacks on the fake marble counter top.

She stares out at the grill in the backyard, Brendan's "Best Dad Ever" apron leans over it.

Out of the corner of her eyeroll she spy's two squirrels doing it on the perfect manicured lawn.

She reaches down without looking, opens a drawer and pulls out a long boning knife.

Her eyes squint, her nostrils flare.

INT. HALF FANCY DINER - DAY

VINCE

So everything going Ok? Seems like your finally settled into your life of garage beers and TV.

**BRENDAN** 

Me more than Love. Don't make fun of me but I love the town. Calming ocean waves, great scenery, smell of pine, people are nice if not a lotta quirky, low crime (laughing)

Brendan makes an origami rose out of a napkin.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

A tourist trinket Mayberry. Born here you always want to leave and end up at a Starbucks in some city. I love it. I never have to watch the Hallmark channel. But Love she misses everything. New York to here is... Friends, places we ate... The family.

VINCE

It's hard on the spouses but harder on the kids, how's Henry.

BRENDAN

Oh he's never been happier. He's changed Henry to Heck, but everything seems fine.

VINCE

Great spaghetti western name "Heck."

Vince cracks his knuckles.

VINCE (CONT'D)

There is one bit of news.

**BRENDAN** 

They're increasing the stipend from sixty thousand to seventy thousand?

VINCE

No, and don't forget that runs out at the end of the month.

BRENDAN

Love with be so thrilled.

VINCE

Sylvesto's out.

BRENDAN

Wait, What!? How?

VINCE

Technicality, one of the FBI agents was dirty. Every case is back out on bail, if you will, until everyone is recharged.

**BRENDAN** 

(sarcastically)

Figures, so all of you Federal Marshals are boy scouts right?

VINCE

Well the witness relocation program hasn't lost anyone yet. And I'll have you know, I was an Eagle scout.

BRENDAN

Of course you were.

Vince throws up a stiff three fingers boy scout salute for Brendan.

Brendan pours a little boysenberry syrup on a saucer, dabs his finger in it, then taste it.

VINCE

You going to tell Love? Every girl is a Daddies girl, and he's going to want to see his grandson at any cost.

BRENDAN

He's not going to mess up my family, my family!

Vince's eye grow wide and he leans over to Brendan.

VINCE

Lets not set off the pyro.

**BRENDAN** 

(eyes glaring)

Sylvesto "Icepick" Armone.

VINCE

At least you know how you'll get it. I'd hate to think how a "Bobby two fingers" starts and finishes.

Brendan unfolds the origami rose back into a napkin.

**BRENDAN** 

You all keep saying you have never lost anyone.

VINCE

Let me do the worrying.

**BRENDAN** 

I had to do what I had to do.

VINCE

We don't know that he whacked Johnny.

**BRENDAN** 

My right hand man, in solitary? Sylvesto's the only one. That's from the inside.

VINCE

You did you best to get him a life sentence.

**BRENDAN** 

His life or mine. I should have taken him out when I had the chance.

VINCE

Well now I have a chance.

**BRENDAN** 

He skinned Heck's birthday puppy, had it taxidermized with red glass eyes and mailed it to Heck's classroom marked "Show and Tell" 'cause Heck disowned him.

VINCE

Could be seen as a bit evil.

BRENDAN

He wears my pinky toe bone on a chain around his neck.

VINCE

An evolutionary non starter really.

BRENDAN

You're an evolutionary non starter.

JOHNNY (O.S.)

WAFFLES UP!

VINCE

Bet your life on it.

Right next to their window a sheriffs car pulls up sharp to the diner.

Out pops BARRY DERRYBERRRY and MARY DERRYBERRY, the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff. Their smiles beam and their uniforms full of military junta like flare

A bell dings above the door as they walk in.

Donna yanks the waffles off the pass and sashays over to Brendan and vince.

**BARRY** 

What is the special of the day baby?

Donna spins the waffle plates down in front of Brendan and Vince with a grin on her face.

DONNA

Biscuits and gravy Sheriff, biscuits and gravy.

MARY

I can eat those 'till I damn well hurt.

DONNA

I'll get you a Band-Aid.

EXT. SMALL TOWN SIDEWALK - DAY

A Roman Goddess of a young blonde woman, tall and thin in a flowing white dress, races in a forceful walk, her heals click in long leggy strides.

She stares straight ahead, doesn't blink, as she flashes a smirkish Kubrick smile.

A tall lumberjack looking man well ahead of her keeps turning around to look at her as he tries to quicken his pace.

The young woman suddenly smacks her hands together with a POP!, as she laughs like a feasting hyena.

Lumberjack man stumbles then begins to boot clomp into a run.

EXT. SMALL TOWN DOWNTOWN - DAY

We see a main street in quaint tourist town on the western coast of Washington state, where everyone leaves with a souvenir unless you can't ever leave.

Angle parking spaces in front of the bustling downtown shops full of pick up trucks and visiting sedans plastered with state park bumper stickers.

Brendan hurries down the sidewalk snaking his way through the townsfolk and tourist.

He suddenly stops, gazes down, a Montecristo cigar butt smolders on the sidewalk.

Brendan quick looks all around, his eyes glaring, his face tight, as he stomps on and twists the butt out.

He spots his wife as she smiles and talks with Mary Derryberry, Mary's arm around Love, in front of the beauty salon.

Brendan lowers his head and ducks into "Pete's Hardware" store.

He keeps glances out through the front window as he stands in front of the shovels and rakes.

A clerk moseys up to him.

PETES CLERK

Can I help you Sir, are you looking for a new shovel? Those are the top of the line, ready to dig.

BRENDAN

Got a sick cat at home.

PETES CLERK

Lime is in isle four near the litter.

**BRENDAN** 

Thanks, you're the best.

Brendan rolls his eyes towards the clerk as he smirks and paces away.

Brendan glances up again at his wife and Mary in an animated chat.

Love throws her hands up and storms into the beauty shop.

Brendan smiles then catches a glimpse of a shovel price tag.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

(mumbling to himself)

Fifty one dollars for a shovel.

MONSIGNOR (O.S.)

(Jersey accent, slightly

out of breath)

In our day you could get a shovel for the cost of a cannoli.

Brendan spins around startled.

It's the man who was being followed earlier. MONSIGNOR a tall very tanned man dressed in a short sleeve plaid flannel shirt, Dad jeans and hiking boots, holds his arms out in front of him wide.

MONSIGNOR (CONT'D)

And the cost of rope and zip ties overheard would bury us.

BRENDAN

(laughing)

I can't believe this, you're a lumberjack, and it's OK.

They embrace and kiss each others cheeks as the clerk looks on, his eyebrows raised.

MONSIGNOR

You're here?

BRENDAN

I heard you were in. So Humptulips Washington. What a name huh?

MONSIGNOR

What a life, but I'm just visiting my new wife's sister, she owns the beauty parlor. But yeah, some town name.

Brenden glances up out at the parlor.

BRENDAN

The 'ol love God right here in town.

MONSTGNOR

But you got the Love.

**BRENDAN** 

So much Love.

MONSIGNOR

So what job you got? I'm a church secretary of all things.

BRENDAN

Took your nickname seriously. I'm still in the death business so to speak.

A ding comes from Monsignor jeans pocket. He pulls his phone out and glances down at it.

MONSIGNOR

Hey I got to be going. My wife's almost done shopping, Got to carry bags to the car.

BRENDAN

(sarcastically)

We're still the same guys.

MONSIGNOR

We should meet for dinner tomorrow night. Drove by a place called Scallywags on the way in, is that good?

BRENDAN

No one's died there yet.

Monsignor turns to leave.

MONSIGNOR

Seven baby.

The clerk looks over again with a look on his face like he didn't hear.

Brendan watches Monsignor dart across the street, dodging a slow roll black Cadillac convertible, then into the salon.

Brendan white knuckle grips a shovel, stares down at the price tag, then jerks it out of the display rack.

EXT. BRENDAN AND LOVES HOUSE - DAY

Brendan stands in a lazy stance at the back part of his driveway that runs along the side of his and Love's copycat row, Frank Lloyd Wright style home.

He has a garden hose in his hand as he waters some newly planted Chrysanthemums along the end of the driveway.

He whistles as he sways the hose with a lackadaisical back and forth. Swirls and takes a sip from the old fashioned that's in his other hand.

Suddenly a Porsche 718 Boxster speeds up and stops short at the end of the driveway that mirrors Brendan and Love's.

Door swings open wide and out steps a long sexy leg belonging to in block heels attached to a young thin blonde woman ALANZA, in a white silk dress who loves a challenge.

It's the woman from in town who was following the Monsignor.

Brendan swings around as the garden hose splashes water on her part of the driveway.

ALANZA

Please don't splash water on my car dude.

**BRENDAN** 

You must be the new neighbor.

Alanza shakes her head a him, clutch in one hand, keys twirl on the other.

ALANZA

So now you want to trade pie recipes or something.

BRENDAN

I just wanted--

ALANZA

Exchange safe words? Expect me to ask and remember your name?

BRENDAN

I'm Brendan.

ALANZA

I'll never care, and you don't look like a Brendan, more like a Carmine or a Doof.

BRENDAN

And you're Alanza.

ALANZA

Not creepy at all you know that.

BRENDAN

Wife read your mailbox.

ALANZA

How nice of her to bring back my
misdelivered mail.
 (awkward pause)

**BRENDAN** 

Well my wife's a bit concerned about--

ALANZA

So you're going to mansplain a woman's concern?

BRENDAN

Oh you know how it goes.

ALANZA

Never have.

**BRENDAN** 

Well it's about the noise. The wife likes to have the window open... Well she wanted to make sure... The noise is awkward.

ALANZA

Maybe to her. Sounds like she needs to make her own noise. Does she need singing lessons.

Brendan notices a deep bruise on her wrist and biceps.

ALANZA (CONT'D)

It was a hit song that made those. By consensual opera.

**BRENDAN** 

I heard it had quite the aria.

ALANZA

I'm sure you've heard of the Three Tenors.

BRENDAN

(annoyed)

Bravo, so we have a maestro.

Alanza pretends to conduct Brendan with her keys as a baton.

A splash of water from the yard of Brendan's other neighbor as Barry Derryberry shoots up from his hot tub, dressed in a black speedo with the Sheriffs emblem as a banana sticker.

BARRY

Hey, you all wanna join us in the hottie tub? Hubba, hubba tubba, tubba.

ALANZA

(Quietly to Brendan)
Oh he was allowed to cuss his Mom out.

Brendan, as her turns around towards Barry, douses Alanza with hose water across her mid section.

She doesn't flinch.

ALANZA (CONT'D)

On purpose.

BARRY

Looks like you're already wet, come on in.

Up pops Mary Derryberry from below the water sporting a teeny white bikini and Sheriffs Deputy ball cap, waving a cupped pageant hand.

MARY

Ladies drink free, with suntan lotion rubs from me.

ALANZA

(quietly to Brendan)
We live next to the sheriff and his wife? Cute couple.

BRENDAN

No, I live next to the Sheriff and his deputy sisters upside down pineapple plantation. You live next to a concerned citizen who can save your life right now.

ALANZA

I feel so much safer.

BARRY

You comin'? Waters warm and cozy.

MARY

If it's too hot, clothing optional.

Suddenly Brendan's Patio door slides open quick into a slam.

Love Holds a box a merlot wine and stares right at Alanza.

LOVE

Brendan I think you've been out there long enough.

ALANZA

Sorry my fault, he was just admiring my lovely soprano voice.

The patio door bangs shut. Love is still standing there staring.

ALANZA (CONT'D)

She is going to sing to you so hard, your ears are going to bleed.

Brendan flashes a hook 'em horns sign at her.

BARRY

OK, well we are having a party next weekend. It's gonna be a seven keg rager. Grill fired up, all the wieners you can eat.

MARY

Bring your keys.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

A cell phone rings on a nightstand. The alarm clock read 3AM.

Brendan's arm swings over wild and whacks it.

The phone still pierces the sleep.

Brendan grabs the phone, leans over on his pillow and answers it.

BRENDAN

Hey

(pause)

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

(sounding tired)

Now?

(pause)

OK, OK, why can't they get there

own morgue?

(pause)

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

OK I'm going. (pause)

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

I got to piss first.

Brendan tossed the phone back on the nightstand with a clunk

LOVE (O.S.)

Again.

**BRENDAN** 

Again...

Love rips the covers down to her waste.

LOVE

I mean dead is dead. You'd think it could wait 'till a decent hour.

BRENDAN

They're coming in the morning to process it.

LOVE

Everything is a process.

INT. RED HONDA CIVIC - NIGHT

Brendan in a pink shirt and black slacks, taps his fingers on the steering wheel, he yawns as he turns a corner.

A fog hangs in the air, it leaves a slight salty taste on the lips.

A street light flickers as he rolls past.

With an annoyed flick of his wrist, he flips the windshield wipers on as it begins to mist and spit sprinkle.

He glances down at the gauges.

BRENDAN

(to himself)

Should have got gas, now I'm an ass.

Suddenly he notices out of the corner of his eye, red taillights in the town kiddie park.

He jerks the wheel and zooms up and almost hits the Dodge Challenger, with a gravel scraping halt.

The Challenger's headlights shine past the kiddie pool with its "Lifeguard Never On Duty" sign, and off into some trees.

## EXT. KIDDIE PARK - NIGHT

Brendan hops out and runs up to the Marshal's Dodge Charger, opens the drivers door and shuts off the engine and pockets the keys.

Runs his hand under the bucket seats, pops open the center console and the glove box and quick rummages through them.

He juts his head back for a quick look around the backseat.

THUMP, THUMP... THUMP, THUMP.

He stretches forward and pops the trunk as he's stands up out of the car.

He races and lifts the trunk, his brow wrinkles into canyons.

A man is in the fetal position is crammed in the rear portion of the trunk and wrapped around him is a gaged woman hands tied behind her back, in a blood soaked white satin dress.

The woman's head suddenly turns back, Alanza's eyelashes bat droplets of fresh rose red.

Brendan eases the trunk lid back down just short of latching it.

THUMP, THUMP... THUMP, THUMP.

He flings the lid up and as Alanza bangs her head on the trunk bed again.

He rips the gag off of her mouth.

ALANZA

What the hell are you doing?

BRENDAN

What did you do?

ALANZA

Get me out of here.

Brendan bends over Alanza turns the mans head, gazes at Vince's open eyed face and pushes his index finger into his neck.

ALANZA (CONT'D)

He's dead, he's dead, stone cold dead!

BRENDAN

Ouiet...

Brendan tried to untie her bound wrist but has trouble with the rope.

ALANZA

Could you move it along a bit.

**BRENDAN** 

The blood soak is swelling the rope.

ALANZA

There's a knife in my purse, where ever that is.

BRENDAN

Nothing in the car or the trunk, didn't see it on the ground.

ALANZA

Great it has my...

**BRENDAN** 

Just call the credit card company.

ALANZA

Maybe you by things on credit.

Brendan grunts in frustration as he gets the rope knot undone.

ALANZA (CONT'D)

Took you long enough MacGyver.

Alanza jumps out of the trunk with Brendan grabbing her pinky to lift her out.

ALANZA (CONT'D)

Don't help too much.

BRENDAN

That's a lot of DNA. Dripping DNA.

ALANZA

Don't worry I'm fine.

She leans back in and grabs the corpses wallet out of his blood wet pants.

ALANZA (CONT'D)

He's a fucking Marshal.

Brendan leans over, pulls the Marshal on his back and pats him down.

**BRENDAN** 

What happened?

ALANZA

(annoyed)

I don't remember, look at me, how can I remember.

**BRENDAN** 

Well you seem to remember who I am pretty good.

ALANZA

Oh you're the one thing I would just love to forget.

**BRENDAN** 

Well something happened and the spotlight shines on the living Dear.

ALANZA

Do you know him?

**BRENDAN** 

How would I know him. Your the one spooning him.

ALANZA

Do I look like I play the spoons?

Brendan with a slow push, closes the trunk.

ALANZA (CONT'D)

So no calling the cops?

BRENDAN

We need to hurry and leave. We are in the gone wrong center of the universe right now.

ALANZA

And I was just starting to enjoy our date.

**BRENDAN** 

I think you might be a romantic.

Alanza holds her arms out.

ALANZA

Hug?

A clap of thunder and it begins to rain.

He eyes her over as he looks for a spare white spot on her dress.

She gives him an (oh really look).

ALANZA (CONT'D)

So you don't think I'm attractive?

**BRENDAN** 

That would be a challenging wank.

Alanza slaps her hands together in his face with a splatter of rainy blood.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

(leaning back)

Come on that dress needs to come off and you need to wash up in the kiddie pool.

Brendan bends over and wipes his hands clean in the wet grass, his eyes in a desperate squint.

ALANZA

Oh you would love that wouldn't you, biggest deposit in your bank.

BRENDAN

We just need to get out of here.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

So you expect me to get in your car?

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

If you'd like to put your thumb out feel free.

ALANZA

Well get it all in.

Alanza flips down the straps of her dress and shimmy's out of it with every attitude wiggle she has.

**BRENDAN** 

(smirking)

Acceptable. Now in the pool.

It'll look like someone was piranha chummed in there when I'm done. Think of the kids.

Alanza begins to rub the blood off of her skin with "can't help it" sensual strokes of her hand as the rain pours.

ALANZA (CONT'D)

Nightswimming is my favorite song though.

Brendan stares at Alanza with rapid blinks of his eyes.

His finger suddenly jerks up to his lips.

Alanza's head snaps towards a tapping noise.

An older man in a fedora hat, yellow galoshes and a trench coat, approaches walking his dog, white cane tapping hard on the sidewalk.

Brendan holds his finger to his lips as him and Alanza stand frozen.

The dog stops and flares his nose up in front of them. The dog tugs on his lease towards a fire hydrant and lifts its leg.

The dog finishes, sniffs at his work and runs towards Alanza.

The man jerks on the leash, turns and begins his tapping gate down the sidewalk.

BLIND MAN

You kids have a nice night.

Alanza and Brendan still chilled, watch him tap away.

BLIND MAN (CONT'D)

If you're going to go humpity bumpity, pop it in a bag.

Alanza turns around and shakes her butt at him.

Brendan just shakes his head.

ALANZA

(laughing)

He thought we were horny teenagers.

BRENDAN

None of this seems to bother you at all.

The innocent are never in a hurry to leave are they.

Brendan looks over her body.

**BRENDAN** 

Innocence is in the body of the beholder.

ALANZA

And you're holding the keys.

**BRENDAN** 

What?

ALANZA

Toss me your keys, no way in hell are you driving.

BRENDAN

That ain't happening Pope Alanza Pius the Tenth.

ALANZA

My safe word is Cross In The Pussy.

Brendan tosses her the keys.

**BRENDAN** 

You're not so pretty.

ALANZA

Is that yours?

BRENDAN

You wish.

ALANZA

We gonna torch the car?

BRENDAN

No, they'll arrest some local teenagers for life.

ALANZA

Well look at you McPope Happy Meal.

Brendan begins to undo his shirt.

BRENDAN

Well at least take my shirt. It's wet but--

(laughing)

Oh god no, I'd never be caught dead in pink.

**BRENDAN** 

(bewildered amazement)
Whatever, grab the dress, we'll
toss it in my trunk.

ALANZA

That dress has a rigor stain.

**BRENDAN** 

We have to stop by my work. I have a few things there you can wear.

ALANZA

What the hell do you do that you have women's clothes at your job?

INT. RED HONDA CIVIC - NIGHT

The windshield wipers streak across the glass at breakneck speed.

Alanza with one hand on the top of the wheel, turns on the radio with the other.

Mexican Tejano music thumps out of the speakers.

Brendan has his phone smacked to his ear.

**BRENDAN** 

(quietly)

I said I was on my way.

(pause)

What??! Dark hair?... Very tan?...

(pause)

Flannel shirt, jeans, damn I know

who it is.

(pause)

Fine, fine.

Brendan jams his phone into his pocket, brow furrowed.

Alanza glances over at Brendan, eyebrow cocked.

ALANZA

You alright?

**BRENDAN** 

Did you know that Mexican music evolved from the polka music of German settlers that emigrated there.

ALANZA

Driving in a car with a naked woman and that is your conversation topic?

BRENDAN

I'm sorry, where are my manners,
nice tits.

ALANZA

You're my knight in shinning amour. It is refreshing though.

(pause)

ALANZA (CONT'D)

Open the glovebox.

BRENDAN

What? Why?

ALANZA

Oh a girl likes to know if there's some Kleenex or candy she might want, or a gun, yeah lets go with gun in the car in the car. Defiantly a gun.

**BRENDAN** 

No gun.

ALANZA

You're having me drive to your "work" whatever that is, so yeah open it.

BRENDAN

Being nosy a hobby of yours or a profession?

ALANZA

Then home it is.

She jerks the wheel hard throwing Brendan against the door.

BRENDAN

Fine, fine.

Brendan pops open the glove box.

Alanza leans over for a look.

ALANZA

A police scanner? Hobby of yours or occupation?

Brendan slaps up the glovebox shut.

**BRENDAN** 

For my job.

ALANZA

So a?

**BRENDAN** 

Morticians assistant.

Alanza turns to him with an expression of total disbelief.

ALANZA

(laughing)

So you're taking a naked woman to a funeral home, in the middle of the night?

BRENDAN

Happens more often than you would think actually.

ALANZA

Well haven't you planned the perfect first date.

BRENDAN

Still processing your safe word.

ALANZA

And you haven't even tried to kiss me yet.

BRENDAN

You do smell nice. I love that perfume. Still there after all the blood and the rain. You must bathe in it.

ALANZA

I have too.

BRENDAN

I think it's time to play hobby or profession again.

You wish. I have Bromhidrosis.

BRENDAN

What is that?

ALANZA

It's a condition where my natural body oils mix with bacteria, making my armpits stink really bad. So I use a lot of perfume.

Brendan leans over and take in a deep inhale near her armpit.

He suddenly snaps back straight up in his seat and slaps his hand over his mouth.

**BRENDAN** 

Oh yeah, there's defiantly something there.

ALANZA

(in a sexy Marilyn Monroe
 voice)

Does it bother you that much Mr. President?

BRENDAN

It does take the edge off the nudity.

Suddenly red lights flash off the rearview mirror as it bounces off the glass inside the car.

The sound of rain pummels the roof of the sedan.

Alanza looks back as her foot eases into the gas.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

What are you doing, be cool. Just pull over.

ALANZA

I think your forgetting what happened at the restaurant. The little incident with my steak and it being very rare.

BRENDAN

Defiantly a low point of our first date, but that's not the matradee in the cruiser behind us.

Fine, but you get to explain the naked.

She jerks the wheel and pulls over and bumps the curb hard.

**BRENDAN** 

Relax is just a Derryberry. The Sheriff of the Land of Oz Mayberry.

ALANZA

With upside-down pineapple trees.

**BRENDAN** 

Does add a bit of edge back to the nudity.

ALANZA

I do believe you're the romantic.

**BRENDAN** 

Just tell him you're a nudist.

ALANZA

Show and tell is the easy part here.

BRENDAN

Just say you were out for a walk to clear your head of something and it started to rain, you fell in a mud puddle and I picked you up.

ALANZA

But I'm driving.

**BRENDAN** 

I always recommend a couple improv classes for a life of crime.

ALANZA

I'm going to the hot tub party aren't I.

BRENDAN

Oh defiantly, your face will be on the flyer.

Alanza stares into the side mirror as Barry Derryberry strolls up to the car with his hands firm on his hips.

Brendan's phone rings in his pants pocket.

He quick flips it out, then rolls his eyes.

BRENDAN (CONT'D)

It's Love.

He quick thumps at his phone texting. The display reads: "Yes I'm at work, it's why they don't call it Witness Vacation!"

Alanza smiles as she glances up and rolls down the window.

A magnum flashlight glares down onto her breast.

ALANZA

Hi neighbor!

THE END