

FADE IN:

On a map of Southern Illinois.

WE HEAR: TAMMY BANKS, 33, NO-NONSENSE, GRUFF, FROM THE PART OF THE COUNTRY WHERE A SMALL MULLET IS SEEN AS A SIGN OF ACCOMPLISHMENT, singing loudly and off key to the song "Your Love," by The Outfield.

TAMMY (V.O.)

I don't wanna lose your love
tonight, I just wanna use your love
tonight...

We PUSH IN on the map and the names of small towns and the lines of the highways and roads become larger.

We PUSH IN further on the town of Murphysboro, Illinois, the black dot signifying the town becoming larger and larger.

We PUSH IN to the black dot and go through the darkness to reveal that we are now in the night sky looking down...

EXT. MURPHYSBORO, ILLINOIS - HIGHWAY 13 - NIGHT

A 1996 Toyota Corolla glides down the road. The car is green, and the driver's side door is yellow. A real beater.

WE HEAR: Tammy continuing to sing the song.

INT. 1996 TOYOTA COROLLA - CONTINUOUS

Tammy drives to work as she sings.

Suddenly, the Corolla SLAMS INTO SOMETHING HARD.

Tammy's head HITS THE STEERING WHEEL.

EXT. HIGHWAY 13 - CONTINUOUS

The Corolla skids to a halt. Something under the hood is smoking and making a loud noise.

INT. 1996 TOYOTA COROLLA - CONTINUOUS

Tammy picks her head up off of the steering wheel. It's bleeding a bit.

She touches her forehead, sees the blood on her fingers.

TAMMY

Damn.

Tammy gets out of the car.

EXT. HIGHWAY 13 - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy sees a dead deer crumpled underneath her car. She gets emotional.

TAMMY

Oh, man. Sorry, buddy. Sorry. I didn't see you there. Shit.

Tammy cries a little as struggles with the deer and pulls it to the side of the road, apologizing the whole way. She gets a good bit of deer blood on her.

She gets back into the car, which is smoking and conking, with the windshield cracked like a spiderweb.

She puts her head out of the window and starts driving.

EXT. HARDEE'S - LATER

Tammy pulls up in her wheezing, almost-dead Corolla with blood on the front.

She walks inside.

INT. HARDEE'S - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy walks into work, she's pretty bloody.

DAN MORGAN, 19, 120 POUNDS, BLONDE, COCKY YET CHICKENSHIT, THE KIND OF GUY THAT NO ONE TRULY LIKES, AND TAMMY'S BOSS, sees Tammy.

DAN

What happened?

TAMMY

I was driving down old 13 and -

DAN

You're fifteen minutes late!
May I have a word with you in my office?

TAMMY

Yes, Dan.

INT. CRAPPY OFFICE - LATER

Dan sits proudly in his crappy "office." It is actually a supply closet with a tiny desk and chair set inside. There are industrial-sized boxes of condiments of all of the shelves.

Tammy has to stand, as there's no room for another chair.

DAN
Tammy. I have to let you go.

TAMMY
What?

DAN
You're late again. I gave you a warning last week.

TAMMY
My car hit a deer, Dan. I'm bleeding.

DAN
That's not a great excuse.

TAMMY
You're shitting me.

A WORKER enters.

WORKER
Hey, excuse me...sorry. Dan - we need more ketchup.

The worker notices Tammy's bloody face and shirt.

WORKER (CONT'D)
Damn, Tammy.

TAMMY
I hit a deer.

WORKER
Dammnnnnnn.

Dan stands on his chair, so he can reach up to a shelf and get the ketchup.

DAN
Alright, Javier. Here you go.
See, Tammy? The show must go on.

Dan hands the ketchup to the worker.

WORKER/JAVIER

Thanks.

DAN

You are welcome.

WORKER/JAVIER

(to Tammy)

You should maybe see a doctor.

Javier/Worker exits.

DAN

We're not making any money here.
If I don't fire someone, I'm gonna
get fired.

TAMMY

Well, if you want more customers,
maybe you should start putting
better meat in the fresh oven-baked
sandwiches, Dan.

DAN

See? That's what I'm saying - we
can't afford better meat, Tammy!
You don't understand business.

TAMMY

You're a creepy little guy. Real
creepy.

DAN

Yeah, well you're fired. So who
wins?

TAMMY

I honestly don't know how to answer
that, Dan.

She starts to leave. She rummages in her pocket.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Oh, I forgot, I have to give you
something before I go.

She pulls her hand out her pocket to reveal her middle
finger. She waves it at Dan and walks out.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Boom! There it is, I found it, you
shithead.

DAN
(calling after her)
Real mature, Tammy!

INT. 1996 TOYOTA COROLLA - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy fumes as she drives home.

EXT. HIGHWAY 13 - MOMENTS LATER

The Corolla starts smoking even more, and making bad noises. The muffler sparks as it drags on the ground.

The engine finally dies. Tammy pulls over with the last of the car's momentum, and gets out.

She opens the hood, and something is on fire.

TAMMY
You've gotta be kidding me.

She starts the long walk home.

In the distance, we see that her car is now completely on fire.

EXT. TAMMY'S STREET - NIGHT

Tammy walks. Blood has dried and caked on her forehead. It's been a rotten day.

EXT. TAMMY'S HOUSE - LATER

Tammy, a bit winded, walks up the steps towards her small unremarkable house.

She opens the door.

INT. TAMMY'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy walks into the living room. There is generic jazz playing.

She walks down the hall to the dining room to REVEAL

INT. DINING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

GREG JOHN, 36, MEDIOCRE, is having a romantic candlelit dinner, with MISSI MANN, 38, ALMOST PRETTY, MOSTLY NICE.

TAMMY
What the fuck is going on?

GREG
I'm sorry, Tammy.

MISSI
Sorry.

TAMMY
(to Greg)
She made you dinner?

GREG
Uh, no. I made her dinner.

TAMMY RUSHES AT MISSI.

TAMMY
You're about to get your ass
whipped, bitch!

TAMMY TAKES A SWING AT MISSI, MISSI DODGES IT.

MISSI THROWS A COUNTER-PUNCH, AND IT LANDS SQUARE ON TAMMY'S
NOSE.

TAMMY FALLS TO THE FLOOR.

MISSI
Sorry, Tammy.

Tammy lays on the ground, crying.

TAMMY
What the fuck?

There is an awkward silence.

TAMMY (CONT'D)
I'm leaving you, Greg. I'm packing
up my stuff.

She leaves.

Greg and Missi sit back down. Greg puts his face in his hands. Missi rubs his back.

GREG
Did you have to hit her?

MISSI
It was self-defense.

We HEAR Tammy loudly packing off camera.

MISSI (CONT'D)
Do you think she'll be OK?

GREG
I don't know.

Tammy re-enters, carrying a crummy suitcase.

TAMMY
I'm taking the household money,
Greg. I'm divorcing you, and I'm
suing you, you bitch!

MISSI
For what?

TAMMY
You know for what! Goddammit!

Tammy turns to leave the dining room. As she starts to leave, the suitcase FALLS OPEN. Tammy's underwear and shirts go everywhere.

Greg gets up to help her pick up her things.

GREG
Let me help you...

TAMMY
Don't touch my underwear! Just
leave it there! You never made me
dinner!

She starts to leave, gets to the front door, turns back.

TAMMY (CONT'D)
Don't let that bitch touch my
underwear!

She exits, Greg and Missi watch he front door slam.

Greg and Missi sit in an uncomfortable silence.

EXT. TAMMY'S HOUSE - EVENING

Tammy, in a daze, walks down her front steps and down the street.

EXT. TAMMY'S STREET - MOMENTS LATER

WE FOLLOW Tammy as she walks four houses up to her Parents' unremarkable house.

The driveway and half of the yard are filled with cars in various stages of disrepair.

EXT. TAMMY'S PARENTS' HOUSE - LATER

Tammy knocks loudly on the door.

TAMMY

Mom! Answer the door! It's Tammy!

DEB BANKS, 51, GRUFF, WORLD-WEARY, fumbles with the locks on the door.

MOM (O.S.)

Tammy?

TAMMY

Yeah!

Deb opens the door.

DEB

Tammy?

Tammy barges in, through the living room into

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

The kitchen is small and Midwestern. There are pictures on the wall of Tammy's Wedding, bad high school portraits, etc.

TAMMY

Greg's cheating, Mom.

DEB

I knew it.

TAMMY

Where's Dad?

DEB
Bowling.

TAMMY
I need money.

DEB
Why?

TAMMY
I'm getting out of here.

DEB
Don't be crazy, Tammy.

TAMMY
I'm not crazy. Give me some money,
I'll pay you back.

DEB
I'm not giving you any money.
You're crazy right now. You're
screaming.

Tammy has not been screaming at all.

TAMMY
No, I'm not. I just need to borrow
your old car.

DEB
I'm sorry, no. You're crazy right
now.

TAMMY
I'm borrowing your car, Mom, you've
got six.

DEB
I can't help it that your dad likes
to fix up cars!

TAMMY
Then I'm taking Grandma's car.
Where is she?

DEB
She's asleep, like everyone in the
world should be.

Tammy walks towards her Grandmother's bedroom.

TAMMY
It's 8:30, Mom.

DEB
Your Grandmother is a sick woman,
Tammy!

Tammy opens the door to the bedroom.

INT. GRANDMA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

A small, disheveled bedroom.

PEARL BANKS, 70, SEMI-PROPER, SMART AS HELL, stands there,
fully dressed, holding her purse and a small suitcase.

Tammy walks into the room, followed by Deb.

PEARL
I heard everything you were
screaming. I'm coming with you.

TAMMY
Sorry Grandma, I'm flying solo.

PEARL
I've had a bag packed for a year.
I'm just dying in this stupid
house.

DEB
Mom!

PEARL
It is, it's a stupid house. I hate
it. I'm so bored, I don't wanna
die in this dumb house alone.

DEB
You are not going on a road trip,
Mom! You're sick.

TAMMY
Grandma, you know I think you're
awesome, but I don't want company
right now, I just need your car.

PEARL
I've got 2,322 dollars in my purse.

TAMMY
Let's light this candle.

They brush past Deb on the way out of the door. They pass
back through -

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

DEB
Where are you going?

TAMMY
Out of Murphysboro, for starters.

DEB
(to Pearl)
Mom, you've got Diabetes.

PEARL
Of course I do, honey.

Pearl opens the refrigerator, takes out a six pack of beer.

PEARL (CONT'D)
We'll probably need this.

TAMMY
Now you're talking, Grandma. Let's
go. Bye, Mom.

They exit the house.

DEB
This is not a good idea, Tammy.

They keep walking.

DEB (CONT'D)
You don't know everything, Tammy.
You may think you do, but you
don't!

EXT. DRIVEWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy opens the trunk of an old blue TRANS AM and throws
Grandma's bag in the back.

INT. TRANS AM - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy turns the key, the car starts loudly.

TAMMY
Here we go.

EXT. TAMMY'S PARENTS' HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

They pull off in the TRANS AM, leaving Deb watching them from the front steps.

DEB
(yelling after them)
Come back soon! Tammy, look after
your Grandma!

EXT. MURPHYSBORO, ILLINOIS

We see the TRANS AM heading down side streets and heading onto the Highway as we...

ROLL CREDITS

INT. TRANS AM - LATER

Tammy drives. Pearl looks out the window.

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

PEARL
Well, I've always wanted to see Mt.
Rushmore.

Tammy pulls hard left at the wheel.

EXT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

The TRANS AM does a U-turn on the highway.

INT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

PEARL
I'm pretty sure Mt. Rushmore is the
other way, honey.

Tammy pulls hard left at the wheel.

EXT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

The Trans Am does another U-turn and goes back the way they were going.

INT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

Pearl settles in her seat.

PEARL
Would you like a beer?

TAMMY
I'm driving.

Beat.

TAMMY (CONT'D)
Sure.

Pearl pulls two beers from the six pack by her feet and pops the caps. They drink.

Tammy settles down a bit.

TAMMY (CONT'D)
Why Mt. Rushmore?

PEARL
I've never seen it, and I've thought about it for quite some time.

TAMMY
Sittin' in that dark little bedroom by yourself.

PEARL
You don't have to make it sound so depressing - you're passing the 134, get over, get over!

Tammy turns right hard.

TAMMY
See you later, Murphysboro! We're on the road now!

EXT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

The TRANS AM drives over two lanes quickly to get to the exit.

A police car in a hiding spot flips on its sirens and follows them.

INT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

TAMMY
Oh, shit. You gotta be kidding me!

Tammy pulls over.

EXT. HIGHWAY 134 - CONTINUOUS

The TRANS AM and Cop car pull over.

The cop gets out of his car and walks to the TRANS AM.

INT/EXT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

TAMMY
Hide these, Grandma!

PEARL
I'm too old to hide. I'm not
ashamed.

TAMMY
I'm gonna go to jail, dummy! Hide
'em!

PEARL
Watch your mouth!

The Cop comes up to the window.

He sees the bottles.

COP
Hello, Ladies. Doing a little
drinking today?

TAMMY
I've had one sip, Eric.

COP
It's against the law to have open
containers, Tammy. Let's get out
of the car, ma'am.

TAMMY
Ma'am? Oh, man. I'm a "ma'am"
now.

EXT. HIGHWAY 134 - CONTINUOUS

Tammy gets out of the car.

Pearl gets out of the car and walks over.

PEARL
Eric Spencer?

ERIC/COP
Mrs. Balzan?

PEARL
Yes, indeed.

ERIC
I'm very sorry, but I'm gonna have
to take Tammy to the station.

PEARL
You will do no such thing.

ERIC
I'm afraid so, Ma'am. And if you
don't drop the tone, I'm taking you
down there as well.

PEARL
If you don't unhand my
Granddaughter, everyone in
Murphysboro will soon learn your
secret.

Eric starts leading Tammy back to his car.

ERIC
Let's go, Tammy.

PEARL
I have no problem with the gays,
but I'm sure some people do. Your
wife might.

Eric stops walking, and looks back at Pearl.

PEARL (CONT'D)
There is a gay bar outside of
Marion, and very few people know
about it. My cousin Lenore does,
however, as she's quite an old
Lesbian. She's seen quite a few
people down there, that's all I'm
saying.

Beat.

ERIC

I'm gonna let y'all go on this one,
because you're not drunk, Tammy.

TAMMY

Wow, you're queer, Eric? I never
woulda known. You're good, man.
You're like Houdini or something.

ERIC

But I want you to get rid of that
beer.

PEARL

We will do no such thing.

ERIC

Come on, Mrs. Balzan. I could get
in trouble.

PEARL

We're adults, and we will continue
to drink and drive. But we will
not get truly drunk until we get to
Pinkneyville. Well out of your
jurisdiction.

ERIC

Alright, then. Have a nice day.

He hurries back to his car and drives away.

Tammy and Pearl watch him drive away.

TAMMY

I never really had Lenore pegged as
a lesbo.

PEARL

She's practically wearing a sign.
But, I'll have to thank her. She's
gotten me out of quite a few jams.

They get back into the car.

INT. TRANS AM - LATER

TAMMY

Man, that's an omen. Pulled over
before we even started.

PEARL
And we got away.

TAMMY
I guess it's how you look at it.

PEARL
That's always true. Finish your
beer.

EXT. HIGHWAY 134 - NIGHT

Tammy and Pearl drive and drink their beers.

TAMMY
How far should we go?

PEARL
You're driving.

Pearl looks out the window, relaxed.

TAMMY
OK, I'll have one more beer.

Pearl gets another beer for both of them.

PEARL
We should probably stop and get
more, I don't know that this will
do the trick.

DISSOLVE TO:

THE NEXT DAY - MORNING

EXT. HIGHWAY 134

The TRANS AM is pulled over on the side of the road.

A bird sits on a telephone pole. It chirps.

INT. TRANS AM - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy sleeps with her face crushed against the window. There are empty beer bottles everywhere. Tammy wakes up slowly and remembers where she is. She looks over to see Pearl, already awake and holding a beer. Pearl watches the bird.

PEARL

I can't tell what kind of bird that is. I should know it, but I can't remember. It's not a bluebird and it's not a -

Tammy HONKS THE HORN LOUDLY.

The bird FLIES AWAY.

TAMMY

Let's get some breakfast.

She puts the car in gear and they start driving.

A beat.

PEARL

I'm having fun on our adventure.

TAMMY

Oh, man. Don't call it an adventure. Makes us sound like retards.

PEARL

It does not, and be nice. The fact is, we're on a grand adventure.

TAMMY

Well, I'm hung over - is that part of the "grand adventure?"

PEARL

If yesterday wasn't worth a damn, then it follows that you should try something new and different today. I'd say we're off to a fine start.

TAMMY

If you say so.

PEARL

You just need breakfast. You'll perk right up.

TAMMY

Now you're making some sense.

Pearl takes a swig of her beer, it's very early in the morning.

Tammy notices.

INSERT:

The same map from the opening sequence shows their progress.

The blue line that they follow shows them just passing Pinkneyville. They don't get incredibly far on the Highway, just to a Burger Joint. It is labelled, "Burger Joint," on the map.

EXT. BURGER PLACE/INT. TRANS AM - INTERCUT - MORNING

Tammy pulls into the drive-through window at a burger place, and talks into the microphone.

TAMMY
(to Grandma)
What time is it?

PEARL
(checks her watch)
10:45.

TAMMY
(to microphone)
Are you serving lunch yet?

BURGER WORKER (V.O.)
Yes, we are.

TAMMY
Nice. I'll have two double
cheeseburgers - two large fries and
a large coke. Grandma, what do you
want?

BURGER WORKER (V.O.)
You actually get another drink with
a combo meal.

PEARL
(appalled)
That's all for you?

TAMMY
I'm starving.

PEARL
(leaning into microphone)
I'll have a small chicken sandwich
and a small fries and a diet Pepsi.

BURGER WORKER (V.O.)
You still get one more drink.

TAMMY

Then we'll take a witch's brew.

BURGER WORKER (V.O.)

What's that?

TAMMY

Every soda you have except Diet mixed together, heavy on the Mountain Dew.

Tammy shoots a defiant look at Pearl.

BURGER WORKER (V.O.)

OK.

Pearl looks disapprovingly at Tammy as they pull forward.

INT. TRANS AM - DAY

Tammy has polished off her first Burger, and is eyeing the bag for the second. Pearl is still only a third of the way through her Chicken Sandwich.

Tammy rustles in the bag for the second burger, takes it out, and takes a bite.

TAMMY

Better. Blood sugar, you know?

PEARL

Why do you eat so many cheeseburgers?

TAMMY

I don't.

PEARL

How many do you eat a week?

TAMMY

I don't know. Fifteen?

Beat.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

I'm stressed out, OK?

PEARL

That's a lot of burgers.

TAMMY
I work at Hardee's, OK?

PEARL
Not anymore.

Tammy starts to throw her burger out the window.

TAMMY
Jesus, give me a break! Are you
happy now? Are you happy? It's
gone, OK?

Tammy throws out her whole bag of food. She tries to take
final bites of the burger as she's throwing it away. She
takes a few final bites and then furiously throws it out the
window.

TAMMY (CONT'D)
See? It's all gone. Damn! Happy
now?

Beat.

She looks at Pearl's bag of food.

TAMMY (CONT'D)
Can I have just like three of those
french fries?

EXT. REST STOP - LATER

They've stopped at an unremarkable rest stop. They sit at a
picnic table.

Tammy is eating a cupcake.

TAMMY
Man, it feels good to stretch my
legs.

PEARL
Where did you even find the
cupcake?

TAMMY
It was in my purse, OK?

PEARL
It may be time to re-think your
eating habits altogether. If
you're going to eat like that, you
at least have to exercise.

TAMMY

Change the subject, Jesus. (Re:
Birds) Where do you think they're
heading?

PEARL

(stern)

South. Come on, Tammy. Every bozo
knows that - be smart for a change.

TAMMY

See, you gotta just bring a shitty
element all the time, Grandma!
Come on, we're going.

They get back into the car.

INT. TRANS AM - LATER

They drive in an uncomfortable silence.

PEARL

I'm sorry that I implied that
you're stupid. And told you what
to eat. You're a grown woman, you
should do what you like.

Tammy doesn't answer.

PEARL (CONT'D)

I've always believed I'm smarter
than whoever I'm talking to. It's
a poor quality.

TAMMY

You are smarter than most people.
Smarter than me.

PEARL

Definitely. But I shouldn't be
such an asshole about it. Will you
accept my apology?

TAMMY

I don't understand what you just
said. I'm too stupid to get it.
Duhhhh... I'm just kiddin'. Yeah,
I accept it.

They drive for a moment.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

You were pretty quick with that "definitely," though. (Imitating her) "*Definitely, I'm definitely smarter than your dumb ass.*"

PEARL

(laughing)

I told you it was a poor quality that I have!

TAMMY

You're too old to change!

PEARL

I'm too old!

Pearl giggles and they drive on.

PEARL (CONT'D)

We should make some stops, see some sights.

FADE TO WHITE:

INSERT:

The blue line on the map from the beginning sequence shows their progress.

It follows them up through Illinois, into Missouri, and into Jefferson City.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Tammy and Pearl have wound up in the middle of nowhere, next to a roadside attraction of sorts.

It is a giant pacifier made out of Cigarette Butts.

They stand next to it, Tammy has somehow managed to get her hands on some nachos.

TAMMY

Wait. This is one of the "sights" you wanted to see?

PEARL

We are on a road trip, young lady. This is what we're supposed to be doing. Lenore said it's amazing.

Tammy sizes up the giant pacifier made of cigarette butts.

TAMMY

What do you think of it?

PEARL

I think that Lenore was exaggerating. She gets bored, she thinks everything is just a little better than it is.

Tammy takes a noisy bite of her nachos.

Pearl looks at her disapprovingly.

TAMMY

(re: dirty look)

What?

PEARL

Let's go.

TAMMY

Don't you want to look at this giant idiot thing some more?

Pearl walks away.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

No more stops!

Tammy looks at the giant pacifier one more time.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

This thing is retarded!

EXT. TRANS AM - EVENING

Tammy and Pearl drive. Pearl looks over at Tammy and sees that she's tired.

PEARL

Should we stop and get some sleep somewhere?

TAMMY

I could use some shuteye.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOTEL - EVENING

This is the kind of crappy place where the best thing that they offer is basic cable and a lock on the door.

The Trans Am pulls in.

INT. TRANS AM - EVENING

Tammy looks at the motel dubiously.

TAMMY
Looks like a real crap-box.

PEARL
It sure does.

CUT TO:

INT. MOTEL ROOM - LATER

This is a small motel room with two twin beds. It's small and cheap, but fairly clean.

Tammy and Pearl walk in.

TAMMY
Well, I thought it'd be worse.

PEARL
So did I.

TAMMY
You want first shower?

Pearl puts her bag down and lays on the bed.

PEARL
No, I may just rest a bit.

Tammy walks into the bathroom.

TAMMY
Alright, I'm gonna hit the rain locker.

PUSH IN:

INT. MOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Pearl looks really tired as she lays on the bed and shuts her eyes.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MOTEL - NEXT DAY - MORNING

Tammy sits outside the motel on a step, dressed in jogging clothes.

INT. MOTEL - MORNING.

Pearl wakes up. Looks over and does not see Tammy in the bed next to her. Pearl wakes up heads to the bathroom.

She hears a rattling at the door.

The door opens, and Tammy opens it, breathing hard. She fakes as if she's been out running.

TAMMY

Whooh! Good morning, Grandma.

PEARL

Good morning.

TAMMY

I was just running. My usual.

PEARL

Oh, I see.

Tammy starts ostentatiously stretching.

TAMMY

Man, I was booking it today. I guess I probably went like 5k today.

PEARL

You jog?

TAMMY

Oh, yeah. That's like my big thing. Come on, let's get some eggs, I'm starving.

EXT. TRANS AM - AFTERNOON

The Trans Am roars down the highway.

INT. TRANS AM - LATER

They drive in silence.

Pearl yawns loudly, and makes a strange noise at the end of her yawn.

Beat.

TAMMY

What was that?

PEARL

What?

TAMMY

That noise you just made, what was that?

PEARL

I didn't make a noise.

TAMMY

You sure as shit did, Grandma.

PEARL

I don't know. I was bored, I guess. Reminding myself that I'm alive.

TAMMY

What a load of bullshit. You're just weird.

Pearl grabs a bottle of beer from the six pack that she seems to have parked under her feet for the entire trip.

Tammy notices her grabbing a beer, and looks towards Pearl's feet.

CU. Pearl's ankles - they are discolored and bloated. A sign of diabetes. Tammy flinches, it doesn't look good at all.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

(forced casual)

Hey, are you taking your diabetes pills?

PEARL
I keep forgetting. I don't really
need them anyway.

Pearl draws her ankles close to the car seat, to keep them
out of Tammy's view.

Tammy weighs the thought of talking further to Pearl about
this, and decides not to.

FADE TO WHITE:

EXT. HIGHWAYS - LATER

They travel on in silence.

EXT. KANSAS CITY LIMITS - LATER

They pass a sign that says they're in Kansas City, MO.

INT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

PEARL
Would you look at that? We're in
Kansas City.

TAMMY
I'm starving, man. Let's get some
'Cue.

PEARL
I'm not a man, and slang is for
Urban People. If you want
barbecue, we should go to Oklahoma
Joe's for dinner. I've heard it's
quite good.

TAMMY
From who?

PEARL
Lenore.

TAMMY
That Lesbo really gets around, huh?

PEARL
That she does. And I admire her in
many ways, so don't be a smart
aleck.

(MORE)

PEARL (CONT'D)
 She takes life by the horns,
 something that I believe you could
 learn from.

TAMMY
 What's that supposed to mean?

PEARL
 It means that sometimes to make
 life what you want it to be, you
 have to grab it.

TAMMY
 I don't want to be a lesbian.

PEARL
 That's not what I'm saying.

Tammy doesn't get it. Pearl sighs.

PEARL (CONT'D)
 Now, the barbecue place is supposed
 to be on the main drag.

TAMMY
 Where's the main drag?

PEARL
 Now you're just being difficult.
 Let's stop and ask for directions.

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

The TRANS AM pulls into a Gas Station.

Tammy gets out of the car.

INT/EXT. TRANS AM - INTERCUT

PEARL
 (calling after her)
 And get me a pint of Johnny Walker
 Black, please!

Tammy stops.

TAMMY
 (embarrassed)
 I don't have any money.

Pearl reaches into her purse, and hands Tammy some money.

INT. GAS STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy walks into the gas station.

An attendant is behind the counter.

TAMMY

Have you heard of Oklahoma Joe's
BBQ?

ATTENDANT

Yeah, it's on W. 47th Street.

TAMMY

Is that far away?

ATTENDANT

It's three lefts. Olive, Main and
Green.

TAMMY

Alright. Sounds easy.

The attendant looks down at something behind the counter.

Tammy sees a display of Maps.

She TAKES ONE and puts it in her purse, and quickly walks out
of the Gas Station.

EXT. GAS STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy walks quickly back to the car and gets in.

INT. TRANS AM - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy gets in the car quickly, breathing hard. She's
obviously very excited.

PEARL

What's the matter with you?

TAMMY

I stole this map! I stole it!

PEARL

Well, take it back.

TAMMY

No! Don't you see? I never stole
anything in my life, I'm free! I
did what you said!

PEARL

I told you to grab life by the horns.

TAMMY

That's what I did!

PEARL

No, you stole a map. You're not a cat burglar, Tammy.

TAMMY

Don't be a dick about this -

Tammy takes out a SLIM JIM and starts sneak-eating it.

PEARL

Didn't you just eat something?

TAMMY

No! I'm stressed out, you don't have to be a bitch about every little thing, Grandma!

PEARL

How dare you curse at me? How dare you?

TAMMY

I jog!

PEARL

You go back in there and do the right thing.

INT. GAS STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy obediently marches back into the gas station with Pearl at her heels. Tammy's holding the map she stole.

The Gas Station Attendant looks up at them.

PEARL

My granddaughter has something to tell you.

TAMMY

Yeah.

ATTENDANT

OK.

TAMMY

I stole a map from you guys. And I guess I want to say I'm sorry, but I've had a kind of rough couple of days. My husband - uh, well, I'll start at the beginning. My car hit a deer, I lost my job, my husband is having an affair, and I got punched in the nose, too - so it was just a tough time so maybe that's a reason that I stole this map. Anyway, I feel bad about it, and just wanted to return it and say I'm sorry.

Pearl seems satisfied.

ATTENDANT

Oh, sorry you're having a rough time, but those maps are free. We get 'em from the Tourism Board.

Tammy looks closer at the display to reveal that underneath the maps, it does indeed say, "Free."

TAMMY

Well, fuck me.

CUT TO:

EXT. OKLAHOMA JOE'S - LATER

The TRANS AM pulls into the restaurant parking lot.

INT. OKLAHOMA JOE'S - MOMENTS LATER

This is the kind of dirty small place that you just know has good BBQ.

Tammy and Pearl sit down at an empty table.

TAMMY

Man, I'm starving.

PEARL

You've said that already.

TAMMY

Well, it's true. What are you going to get?

PEARL
Always brisket.

TAMMY
What part is the brisket?

PEARL
I'm sure I don't know.

They unfold their napkins.

PEARL (CONT'D)
We're on each other's nerves.
Somehow I never got my Johnny
Walker.

TAMMY
(caught)
Oh, yeah...I forgot.

PEARL
Fair enough. What we need are a
couple few drinks.

TAMMY
Alright, then.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. OKLAHOMA JOE'S - LATER

Tammy and Pearl sit with most of their food eaten, and some empty beer bottles in front of them. Their moods have improved with a few drinks.

PEARL
Those two gentlemen are looking at
us.

TAMMY
Who?

Tammy's POV - ACROSS THE RESTAURANT

A man in his late twenties and his father, late 50's are indeed looking over and smiling.

INT. OKLAHOMA JOE'S - THEIR TABLE - CONTINUOUS

TAMMY
Oh, shit. I looked at them.

PEARL
What's the problem?

TAMMY
Well, they're gonna come over now.

PEARL
Why?

TAMMY
Men are drawn to me Grandma, they
can't help it.

The guys have indeed walked over.

The younger one, BOBBY, grabs a chair.

BOBBY
Mind if my father and I sit down?

TAMMY
Uh, I don't know.

PEARL
Please do.

The older man, FREDERICK, sits next to Pearl.

FREDERICK
(to Tammy)
Is this lovely lady your Mother?

TAMMY
That's my Gr-

PEARL
Yes, I'm her mother.

FREDERICK
I definitely see the resemblance.

PEARL
We're so close. Mother and child.

BOBBY
Hope you don't mind, but we brought
over a few more beers for you
ladies?

TAMMY
That's alright with me. What about
you, Grandma?

PEARL

Buy us a couple of shots of
tequila, and that sounds more like
a deal.

BOBBY

Alright!

They all clink their glasses together.

CUT TO:

INT. BBQ JOINT - LATER

They're all dancing, having fun.

CUT TO:

INT. BBQ JOINT - THEIR TABLE - LATER

The place is louder and darker, and has filled with people.
A band is playing, and people are dancing.

Beer bottles and shots are scattered across the table.
They're all laughing.

BOBBY

If you'll excuse me, I have to use
the little boys room.

TAMMY

Me, too.

They all laugh, as Tammy and Bobby head towards the
bathrooms.

INT. BBQ JOINT - HALLWAY - EVENING

The hallway to this BBQ place isn't the cleanest place in the
world.

Tammy and Bobby wait for their respective bathrooms.

Tammy gets right in Bobby's face and KISSES HIM HARD ON THE
MOUTH.

TAMMY

Let's light this candle.

BOBBY

I don't know. I'm not sure you're my type.

TAMMY

What are you talking about?

BOBBY

You might be a little old for me.

TAMMY

You wish.

BOBBY

What?

TAMMY

Fuck off.

BOBBY

Also I'm married. So if you'll excuse me, I'm going to get my father out of here. He's also married...to my Mom.

A man comes out of the rest room and Bobby goes in.

TAMMY

(to the Man, seductively)
Everything turn out alright in there?

MAN

What?

TAMMY

You know what.

MAN

That's gross, lady.

TAMMY

(calling after him)
You know what? It's not. I'm not.
You are! You're gross!

He walks away.

CUT TO:

INT. BBQ JOINT - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy walks back to the table.

Pearl and the Frederick are finishing shots of tequila, with their arms intertwined.

PEARL
Now, see? That just tastes good!

TAMMY
Come on, Grandma, we're leaving.

PEARL
Oh, no we are not.

FREDRICK
Young lady, live a little bit.

Bobby walks back to the table.

BOBBY
Dad, we gotta go.

FREDERICK
No, Sir. I'm having too much fun
with this lovely lady.

TAMMY
Oh, is that what you tell your
wife?

Beat.

FREDERICK
(makes "shh" gesture)
Sshhhhhhh!

Frederick and Pearl laugh.

BOBBY
Alright, I'm out of here.

Bobby walks away.

FREDERICK
I'll see you later, Son! Nice
dining with you!

Pearl and Frederick laugh again.

TAMMY
Grandma - this ends right now.

CUT TO:

INT. TRANS AM - NIGHT

Tammy drives along.

We PAN BACK to REVEAL

Pearl and Frederick MAKING OUT IN THE BACK SEAT.

TAMMY

Uh, Grandma? Where should we stay?

Pearl extricates herself from Frederick's embrace.

PEARL

Frederick, can you recommend
overnight accommodations for two
travelers?

FREDERICK

(pointing)

There's a Red Roof Inn down Neal
Street here.

PEARL

A Red Roof Inn it is.

They go back to making out.

TAMMY

I'm gonna barf, you guys.

Tammy turns the wheel.

EXT. RED ROOF INN - LATER

The TRANS AM pulls into the parking lot.

INT. TRANS AM - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy turns back to try and get Pearl's attention, and now
sees that Pearl and Frederick are a tangle of arms and legs.

TAMMY

Grandma! I'm gonna go get us a
room.

She gets out of the car.

POV - from the back seat.

We see Tammy walk into the hotel office and try to check in.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

A dumpy hotel office.

HOTEL EMPLOYEE

She has to come in and sign.

TAMMY

She's making out with some old
married guy in the back of our car.
How can we work this?

EXT. RED ROOF INN - PARKING LOT.

Tammy and the Hotel Employee stand outside of the Trans Am.

The Hotel Employee has a mobile credit card machine in his
hands.

Tammy tries to get Pearl to give her the Credit Card, Pearl
won't take it.

Finally, Tammy opens the back door and gets Pearl to sign the
credit card and hands it to the Hotel Employee.

CLERK

Whew. They're really going at it,
huh?

TAMMY

Shut up, Man.

EXT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Pearl and Frederick can barely keep their hands off one
another in the hallway outside of the room.

Tammy starts to open the door.

PEARL

(to Tammy)

Why don't you go enjoy the
nightlife a little bit?

TAMMY

What?

PEARL
So Frederick and I can have a
little chat.

TAMMY
You gotta be kidding me.

PEARL
Just keep your ass outside.

Pearl and Frederick walk in, leaving Tammy standing on the outdoor hallway.

EXT. HOTEL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Pearl shuts the door in Tammy's face, leaving Tammy outside.

Tammy quickly realizes that she has nowhere to go, and just sits in front of the hotel door, with her knees pulled into her chest.

The door opens, and we Pearl's arm reaches through, handing Tammy a pillow.

TAMMY
Jesus H. Christ.

Tammy tries to get comfortable on the cement with her pillow.

Tammy hears some amorous noises that she does not want to hear. She shudders, puts the pillow over her ears.

TAMMY (CONT'D)
(yelling to the door)
Come on, you guys!

Tammy pulls out a candy bar, and starts eating it.

CUT TO:

INT. DINER - MORNING

Tammy and Pearl are at breakfast. Pearl is in a great mood. Tammy is not.

Pearl is drinking a Bloody Mary with breakfast.

TAMMY
Pass me the ketchup, please.

Pearl does so.

TAMMY (CONT'D)
 (re: Pearl's Bloody Mary)
 Man, you've been hitting the booze pretty hard, Grandma. Think you should slow down, maybe?

PEARL
 (taking a drink)
 I will. Don't be nosy.

Beat.

TAMMY
 I promised Mom, because of your diabetes -

PEARL
 (interrupting)
 I'll tell you, it's been quite a while since I've had a good servicing.

TAMMY
 (disgusted)
 Oh my God. Don't say that.

PEARL
 Why? Because I'm old? You find sex between old people distasteful?

TAMMY
 Yes.

PEARL
 I'm not the most disgusting person in the world, you know. And you're not the easiest person to look at that I've ever seen.

TAMMY
 Hey!

PEARL
 Hey, what? I'm just upset, that's all. I'm not saying you're ugly. You're quite pretty and young - but you should be congratulating me on my servicing. Isn't that what ladies do?

TAMMY
 I've never seen my Grandma get laid before. I'm not really sure of the protocol.

PEARL
Well, I'm telling you to
congratulate me.

TAMMY
(half-hearted)
Way to go.

PEARL
Good enough.

CUT TO:

INT. - TAMMY'S PARENTS' HOUSE - DAY

Deb is watching TV. The phone rings, she picks it up.

DEB
Hello?

INT. TRUCKSTOP - CONTINUOUS

Tammy is standing at the last pay phone in North America.

TAMMY
Hey, Mom.

INTERCUT TAMMY'S PARENT'S HOUSE/TRUCKSTOP

DEB
Tammy! Why aren't you home?

TAMMY
I'm on a road trip, Mom.

DEB
Your Grandmother is very sick,
Tammy. This is irresponsible. How
is she doing?

We see this register on Tammy's face. She's in a personal
battle, deciding what to say or not say next. Finally...

TAMMY
(lying)
She's fine, Mom. How's things
there?

DEB
I don't know - your father hunts
and reads the Bible.

(MORE)

DEB (CONT'D)

My garden is looking like a wreck,
and that bothers me, though I know
you think it's silly, your father
says that -

TAMMY

(interrupting)
How's Greg?

Deb sighs. She knew this is what this call was really about.

DEB

You may think I'm mean. You may
think I'm nasty, and wasn't a good
Mom to you. So you won't believe
that it gives me no pleasure at all
to tell you I'm pretty sure that
Missi and Greg have moved in
together.

It's as if Tammy has been slapped.

TAMMY

Wow. OK.

DEB

I'm sorry, Honey.

TAMMY

Thanks for letting me know the
score.

DEB

I love you, honey.

TAMMY

I love you too, Mom. Sorry.

DEB

What are you apologizing to me for?

TAMMY

(still dazed)
I...I don't know.

DEB

You know what? You have fun on
your adventure.

Tammy flinches at the use of this hated word.

TAMMY

Adventure?

DEB

And you keep an eye on your Grandma
for me, please.

TAMMY

I'll do it. Bye.

DEB

Take care, honey.

INT. TRANS AM - LATER

Tammy and Pearl drive once again. There are magazines
littered around, the car is pretty trashed. They've been
going for a while.

Pearl is drinking a beer.

Tammy still has a very dazed look in her eyes. She looks
over to Pearl, who has obviously been talking for a while...

PEARL

I'm just saying the idea of Satan
torturing people is ludicrous.

TAMMY

What?

PEARL

That's what we were talking about,
honey. I swear you keep just
drifting off.

TAMMY

Sorry.

PEARL

You said you hoped that Greg would
be tortured forever by the Devil
and I -

TAMMY

Yeah, I want the Devil to poke his
Gonads and stuff.

PEARL

I'm sure he deserves it, but -

TAMMY

Hell yeah, he does.

PEARL

And I'm just saying the idea of Satan directing demons to torture souls is a misnomer. Lucifer was cast from heaven because he wished for power, and that's that.

TAMMY

So what's hell?

PEARL

A long way from heaven. And that's the despair.

TAMMY

Oh.

PEARL

So, I'm sorry - but the Devil won't be poking Greg's privates with a pitchfork.

TAMMY

Fuck. I was kind of counting on that.

EXT. OPEN ROAD - LATER

They drive on.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

They are in yet another cheap hotel with two small beds in one room.. Pearl is watching television with a drink in hand, and dozing off in her bed. One her ankles is sticking out from underneath the blanket. It's swollen.

Tammy sees it, but doesn't have the energy to mention it. She picks up the phone next to her bed and dials.

She slumps over to give herself as much privacy as possible.

INT. TAMMY'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Greg is making a very questionable looking pasta sauce for Missi.

GREG

Taste this.

He puts the spoon in her mouth. Her reaction is guarded.

GREG (CONT'D)
Too much garlic?

She doesn't give anything away.

GREG (CONT'D)
Just kind of terrible?

They both laugh.

MISSI
Kind of terrible.

The phone rings. Still laughing, he picks it up.

GREG
Hello?

There's no sound on the other line. Greg stops laughing, and Missi, sensing who may be on the phone, stops laughing as well.

GREG (CONT'D)
Hello?

INT. HOTEL ROOM/TAMMY'S KITCHEN INTERCUT - CONTINUOUS

TAMMY
Hey.

GREG
Hey, Tammy.

TAMMY
Greg, listen. I cheated on you,
too. Maybe five years ago.

GREG
Oh.

TAMMY
Yeah. Blank slate. I guess I'm
saying, do you want to work it out?

GREG
I guess right now, I'd have to say
no.

Tammy starts to cry. She does a good job hiding it, though, and Greg doesn't really pick up on it.

They're just quiet for a second.

TAMMY
OK.

GREG
OK.

TAMMY
Bye.

GREG
Bye, Tammy.

Greg hangs up.

END INTERCUT

INT. HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

Tammy hangs up, upset.

Pearl is awake and looking over from her bed.

PEARL
Oh, I'm sorry honey.

TAMMY
Don't worry about me. That
fucker's the one missing the boat.

Tammy rustles in her bed and tries to get comfortable. She's unsuccessful.

In the dark, WE HEAR the poptop of a beer can.

CUT TO:

INT. TRANS AM - MORNING

They're on the road.

Pearl is, of course, drinking a beer.

TAMMY
Grandma, I don't think I'm a very
good person.

PEARL
Why?

TAMMY
I get mad a lot. I've adulterated,
did I ever tell you that?

PEARL

No.

TAMMY

Well, I've done that, and I've stolen from the till at pretty much every job I ever had, and I always want more than my fair share.

PEARL

I feel like french fries.

TAMMY

So maybe I feel like the world's coming down on me, and like "Why Me?" But maybe it's "why not me?" You know? What do you think?

PEARL

About what?

TAMMY

About what I just told you! What.

PEARL

I think that young people call old people boring because we don't talk as much. But there are a finite amount of things or events that are worth talking about. You beating yourself up is a waste of both of our time. It's not worth discussing.

TAMMY

Well. OK. But let me say this - you seem really buzzed right now and it's 9 in the morning.

Beat.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

(serious)

I think you might be an alcoholic, Grandma.

PEARL

(laughs)

See? You just proved my point perfectly. Not worth discussion. Oooh, McDonald's. Pull over.

INT. MCDONALD'S - LATER

Tammy and Pearl sit in a patio area where there is a small playground.

Pearl is eating french fries and drinking from a pint of Johnny Walker. She's shitfaced.

TAMMY

You know the worst part? The guy I cheated on Greg with was an Ice Cream Man.

Pearl giggles.

PEARL

I didn't even know Murphysboro had an ice cream man.

TAMMY

He wasn't in business too long.

PEARL

(taking a swig)
Honestly, that's so pathetic I don't even know what to say.

Pearl looks over at the bounce house. She's drunk and concentrating on the balls.

PEARL (CONT'D)

Do you know why I want to see Mt. Rushmore?

TAMMY

No.

PEARL

My dad was supposed to take me there one summer. I think I was maybe eight. Anyway, he never took me. He was too busy working. Then he was too busy getting sick and then dying. So I never saw it.

TAMMY

Yikes. I never met your Dad, right?

PEARL

Your mother would have made you call him Paw-Paw or some other obscenity. You would have liked him.

(MORE)

PEARL (CONT'D)

Anyway, I figure I've never gotten around to seeing that damn mountain, and maybe things would be better for me if I saw it.

TAMMY

You've thought about this a lot, huh? Lucky I was going on a road trip.

PEARL

Look at all of those balls. What is that called, a bounce house? I'm gonna take a bounce in that fucker.

Pearl takes another swig, and staggers to her feet.

TAMMY

Grandma, maybe take it easy with the booze, OK?

PEARL

Oh, fuck off Tammy. You're no fun.

TAMMY

Grandma!

PEARL

I didn't mean to swear. I'm just saying, let's have some fun.

Pearl does a cruddy dance move.

TAMMY

Wait, that's fun?

PEARL

Yes, it's fun. Let's go jump in that bounce house.

TAMMY

I don't want to.

PEARL

You're crazy.

TAMMY'S POV -

Pearl gets up, very unsteadily and makes her way over to the bounce house.

She bounces, once, twice and ungracefully passes out among the balls.

CU. TAMMY'S FACE

She seems worried, yet also somewhat relieved. She finally laughs.

TAMMY
(under her breath)
You gotta be kidding me.

INT. TRANS AM - LATER

Tammy drives the car, with Pearl passed out in the passenger seat.

She pulls the car back into their motel parking lot.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - LATER

Tammy gets out of the car. Slams the door. Walks to the other side, and opens the door. She attempts to pull Pearl out of the car.

CU. On PEARL, who suddenly wakes up with a startle.

PEARL
Get your hands off of me!

Pearl shoves at Tammy and tries to take a swing at her.

TAMMY
Grandma, Jesus! It's me!

PEARL
How dare you! Where am I?

TAMMY
We're at our Motel, Grandma.

Pearl straightens herself up and stands up. Tammy tries to hold her up.

PEARL
I don't need your help.

TAMMY
Yes you do, Grandma - and you drink too much. You gotta stop it.

PEARL
Tell me, Tammy. Why would I take advice from a loser like you?

Tammy is too stunned to speak. She takes her hands off of Pearl, who slides to the ground, too drunk to stand.

PEARL (CONT'D)
 Seriously, who are you to tell me
 what to do with my life? You are a
 loser, Tammy!

Pearl sizes up Tammy with a scathing look.

PEARL (CONT'D)
 You're literally white trash.

Tammy starts to cry, and walks around to the driver side door. She gets in.

INT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

Tammy guns the engine in reverse.

WE HEAR A BIG THUD, AND TAMMY SLAMS THE BRAKES.

EXT. TRANS AM - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy jumps out of the car and sees that she's backed into a guy in a wheelchair.

His wheelchair has tipped over, and he's lying on the ground, bleeding and moaning.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Tammy rushes over to the guy.

TAMMY
 Oh my God, I'm so sorry, are you
 OK?

She reaches down and tries to help him up.

GUY
 Ow, you really plowed into me.

TAMMY
 I didn't see you -

GUY
 I was gonna see if I could help you
 guys out - you were yelling -

TAMMY

And I blasted into you. I'm so sorry man.

She's got him up now.

GUY

I'm OK, I think. The wheel here got the worst of it.

It's true. The bumper hit the right wheel of his wheelchair and dented it really badly.

The Guy tries to make the wheel chair roll, but the wheel is hopeless dinged up and it won't work.

GUY (CONT'D)

I don't think this is gonna work...

TAMMY

Shit, man. I'm sorry. What's your name?

GUY

Stephen.

TAMMY

Listen, Stephen, I don't have insurance...but, I'm gonna fix up your chair. I promise that.

Tammy looks over to Pearl.

TAMMY'S POV - on Pearl. She's passed out on the sidewalk.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Tammy looks back and forth between her passed out Grandma and STEPHAN WALSH, 45, GOATEE, HUSKY, who's stuck in his chair.

TAMMY

I think I better go get some help.

Tammy looks over again at Pearl, who is now slumped against the motel wall, awake.

PEARL

Let's go on a picnic.

Stephan starts laughing.

STEPHAN

She's loaded. I could like, sue you guys, but she wants to go on a picnic.

PEARL

(laughing)

Picnic! Ask him to go with us, Tammy! What a delight.

TAMMY

Grandma! You need a nap.

PEARL

Yes, yes, but then after - an apology picnic! I am serious, young lady, show some manners.

TAMMY

Jesus. (To Stephan) Do you have plans later, so we can have an apology picnic?

STEPHAN

My schedule is pretty open.

CUT TO:

INT. TRANS AM - EVENING

Tammy and Pearl sit in the front seats. Stephan sits in the back seat, with his wheelchair haphazardly shoved behind the passenger seat in the back.

There is an active, angry silence between Tammy and Pearl.

Stephan notices their faces, and feels the awkwardness. They've been driving this way for a while.

STEPHAN

So, where is this place?

A beat. Finally...

TAMMY

Not far. I may be a loser, but I know the way.

PEARL

We've been driving a long time.

TAMMY

So what?

PEARL

So I don't believe you. How do you know the way, Tammy?

TAMMY

I asked the hotel guy, *when you were passed out*, and he told me, that's how, goddammit.

PEARL

Don't you swear at me, you little -

TAMMY

(exploding)
You are an asshole!

PEARL

How dare you!

TAMMY

Asshole!

They quiet down. Poor Stephan. He's stuck in the middle.

STEPHAN

So you guys are having a disagreement, huh?

TAMMY

Jesus Christ.

STEPHAN

I'm just asking, that's all. Dumb question, huh?

TAMMY

Pretty stupid, man.

PEARL

Don't be rude, Tammy. Yes, what is your name again?

STEPHAN

Stephan.

PEARL

Yes, Stephan, we are having a disagreement.

CU. On Stephan in the backseat, wondering what the hell he is doing there.

WE HEAR the pop top of a beer can.

TAMMY (O.C.)
Oh, Jesus. Are you kidding me?

PEARL (O.C.)
Just SHUT UP, Tammy.

Stephan looks really uncomfortable.

EXT. LAKEFRONT - SUNSET - LATER

It's a stunning Midwestern evening.

Pearl and Tammy attempt to wheel Stephan down to the lake through the sand. Tammy also has a crappy cooler balanced on the back of the wheelchair. It's tough sledding.

TAMMY
Damn, this is tough.

PEARL
Keep pushing, you're sturdy.

Tammy stops pushing.

TAMMY
What's that supposed to mean?

STEPHAN
You know what, I'll just walk.

There is a beat.

TAMMY
What?

STEPHAN
Just kidding. A little joke, you know? Break up the mood.

TAMMY
Oh. Good one.

Pearl starts laughing, really hard.

PEARL
Oh, my. That's a good one. A good joke!!

Pearl takes a mammoth slug of beer from a can and throws the can to the ground.

EXT. LAKEFRONT - SUNSET - LATER

Tammy and Stephan are now sprawled on a blanket a bit off of the lake, with the cooler opened in front of them. There are convenience-store sandwiches, cheap beer and sodas strewn in front of them.

They've finished their feast.

Pearl is onto a new six-pack of beer, and is dipping her feet in the water in front of them.

TAMMY

Where are you from, man?

STEPHAN

Florida.

TAMMY

Wow. Lotta crazy people from Florida.

STEPHAN

Like you can talk. Your Grandma's drunk as hell - I bet she's gonna jump in that lake.

PEARL

(yelling over)

Who wants to jump in the water with me?

TAMMY

(laughing)

Nice call.

Pearl splashes into the lake water, laughing.

STEPHAN

You know, it's funny - when people get older, they get more like kids again.

TAMMY

Man. I'm glad I never had kids.

Pearl submerges herself, fully clothed, into the water and pops her head up. She's triumphant.

PEARL

(yelling over)

Hey everybody, I'm fun!

TAMMY
 (yelling back, sarcastic)
 That's right, Grandma - you're very
 fun!

PEARL
 (yelling over)
 You're right, I'm so much fun!

Pearl looks over to Stephan.

PEARL (CONT'D)
 (yelling over - to
 Stephan)
 Hey, what's your name again?

STEPHAN
 (yelling back)
 Stephan!

PEARL
 Stephan, let me just say to
 you...You're welcome for what I'm
 about to do!

EXT. LAKE - SUNSET - MOMENTS LATER

We are a bit behind Pearl and we see Tammy and Stephan's
 reactions as Pearl takes off her shirt.

PEARL
 Whoooooo! You're welcome!

Tammy jumps up and runs towards the water.

TAMMY
 Grandma, get out of the water!

Pearl splashes her with water.

PEARL
 Marco!

TAMMY
 GET OUT OF THERE!

PEARL
 Not until you say Polo!

TAMMY
 No, goddammit, get out of there!

PEARL
Say Polo!

TAMMY
OK - Polo! Polo! Polo!

Pearl walks in from the water, laughing.

PEARL
Wasn't that fun? Wheeee!

CUT TO:

INT. TRANS AM - LATER

Tammy drives. Pearl is passed out in the front seat, still pretty wet from the Lake. She is, however, fully clothed.

Stephan sits in the back seat.

TAMMY
(to Stephan)
So what's your story, man?

STEPHAN
I want to hear yours.

TAMMY
Alright. Everything got real weird all at once and I decided to take a road trip with my Grandma. Now she's driving me apeshit.

STEPHAN
I feel like I might have got the short version.

TAMMY
That's all there is to it.

STEPHAN
Alright. Short version, too: I lost my job and now I kinda bounce around, staying with friends. In fact, I don't know what direction you guys are headed, but I was hoping to catch a ride with you to Sioux Falls.

TAMMY
Where's that?

STEPHAN
South Dakota.

TAMMY
That's where we're going.

STEPHAN
Sweet. Works out.

TAMMY
What's the deal with your legs?

STEPHAN
Wow, that's refreshing.

TAMMY
What?

STEPHAN
Usually people don't want to talk
about my legs and stuff.

TAMMY
Well, they don't work. It's
notable.

STEPHAN
Yeah. They've never worked right.
Born that way.

TAMMY
Bummer.

STEPHAN
Yeah. You should be nice to your
Grandma, you know? Because things
can get fucked up real fast.

TAMMY
I like you, man. You're no
bullshit.

STEPHAN
Thanks. I could say the same about
you.

TAMMY
And not everybody would be so cool
about my Grandma. I appreciate it.

STEPHAN
Your Grandma's cool, she just got a
little loaded. Wanna beer?

TAMMY

Yeah. Let's have a beer.

Stephan opens a few beers, and they drive on.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - LATER

They are all out of the car.

Pearl is slumped over Stephan's wheelchair, passed out - as Tammy pushes them both towards her room.

She fumbles with her room key and opens the door.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

She pushes Stephan towards one of the twin beds, with Pearl still in tow.

They push Pearl onto a bed, so she's almost sitting straight up against the pillows on the headboard.

TAMMY

(whispered)

Thanks for your help, Stephan.

STEPHAN

(whispered)

No problem.

Tammy reaches down to his crotch.

TAMMY

(whispered)

This still work?

STEPHAN

(whispered)

Yeah.

They kiss.

WE HEAR Pearl from her bed -

PEARL

(scared)

Tammy? Tammy?

TAMMY'S POV -

Tammy turns towards Pearl. Pearl's eyes have fluttered back into her head. She's having a serious looking seizure.

TAMMY

Oh my god!

Tammy rushes over and tries to lift Pearl up.

STEPHAN

No, no! Don't lift her up!

TAMMY

Grandma! Grandma!

STEPHAN

Don't lift her - put her down!

TAMMY

She's gonna choke on her puke!

STEPHAN

No, just lay her on her side!
She's having a seizure!

Tammy rolls Pearl over onto her side.

TAMMY

(crying)

What? Grandma! Grandma!

Pearl makes involuntary noises, vomits a little, and tries to get up.

STEPHAN

Do you have any orange juice or anything?

TAMMY

Do I look like I have any fucking orange juice on me?

STEPHAN

I'm gonna go get something - she needs some sugar.

The spell seems to be passing a bit for Pearl. She's stopped shaking quite so much and is no longer vomiting.

TAMMY

What about a Coke? I have a left-over witch's brew from Hardee's.

STEPHAN

I don't know...

TAMMY

It's gotta have sugar, man! It's
on the sink!

Stephan rolls over to the bathroom sink and retrieves the Big Gulp looking thing.

He gives it to Tammy. Tammy shoves the straw into Pearl's mouth.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Here, Grandma - have some witch's
brew.

PEARL

(garbled)
Wiches...brrew?

TAMMY

Just drink it - it'll make you feel
better.

Pearl drinks some witch's brew. It seems to perk her up.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

I'm gonna call a doctor.

PEARL

No. I'm fine. I just want to
sleep.

Pearl closes her eyes in Tammy's arms.

TAMMY

(to Stephan)
What do you think?

STEPHAN

I don't know...sometimes people
just pass out real bad. Maybe wait
and see how she feels in a little
while?

TAMMY

Yeah. That seems smart.

STEPHAN

Well, I'm gonna go back to my room,
unless you think you need me.

TAMMY

No, I should just stay up and watch
her. Clean her up.

STEPHAN

Alright, I'm in 114 if you need me.

TAMMY

OK, thanks. Good idea with the witch's brew.

STEPHAN

No problem. I'll come by in the morning, see how you're doing.

TAMMY

OK. Thanks.

STEPHAN

OK.

He wheels slowly out of the room, and closes the door behind him.

Tammy shifts around, and tries to get comfortable holding her Grandma.

TAMMY

You're alright, Grandma. You're alright.

Tammy rocks her Grandma back and forth.

For the first time in a while, she doesn't seem angry.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Tammy sits on the crappy chair towards the crappy window of the motel room and watches Pearl sleep. Tammy looks tired and older.

She looks over to Pearl, who is sleeping rather peaceably.

Tammy takes a sip of her Witch's brew, and continues the vigil.

EXT. MOTEL - MORNING

The sun has come up. The motel still looks crappy.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - MORNING

Tammy sleeps in her crappy chair.

Pearl is awake and standing over her. She gently shakes Tammy.

PEARL
Wake up, honey.

TAMMY
(groggy)
Huh? I'm up. I'm up. You OK?

PEARL
I'm alright.

Pearl sits down on the bed.

PEARL (CONT'D)
What happened last night?

CUT TO:

INT. DINER - MORNING

It's yet another run-down diner.

They're eating breakfast.

PEARL
Well, I've made up my mind. You're playing a prank.

TAMMY
A prank?

Pearl laughs nervously.

PEARL
Yes. It's a good one, too. But I would never exhibit the behavior you've described.

TAMMY
Grandma.

PEARL
No, it's very funny!

Tammy looks serious, and Pearl eventually stops laughing.

PEARL (CONT'D)
Oh my God. I took my shirt off?

TAMMY
Yeah.

PEARL
And the man with the wheelchair -

TAMMY
Stephan.

PEARL
Stephan saw this?

TAMMY
Yeah.

PEARL
I'm humiliated.

TAMMY
So, here's the bottom line. I've gotta take you to a doctor. You had a bad seizure and you've got diabetes -

PEARL
I'm not going to the doctor.

TAMMY
Yes, you are.

PEARL
No, I'm not. It's as simple as that.

TAMMY
OK. I'm not gonna wrestle you and make you go. But if you take another drink on this trip, I'm just gonna walk away. And you're on your own.

Beat, as Pearl takes this in.

PEARL
Fair enough.

TAMMY
OK. I'm gonna go drain the main vein.

PEARL
Tammy!

TAMMY
I'm just kiddin', Grandma! Jeez. Pay the check, will you?

(MORE)

TAMMY (CONT'D)

We gotta find Stephan, I promised
him a ride to Sioux Falls.

PEARL

Hold on, I have to use the
facilities as well.

Pearl leaves some money on the table, and they walk to the
bathroom.

They turn a corner out of the dining area, into

INT. CRAMPED HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Stephan is in his chair, talking on the last pay phone in
North America. His back is to the ladies.

STEPHAN

(laughing)

Oh, man. You should have seen
them. This Grandma was standing in
the lake shaking her old titties at
me! But they're giving me a ride
up to see you, Man. Maybe we can
both get some pussy. No, the
younger one! She's ugly, but I
know she'll fuck. If the old lady
hadn't started -

Pearl steps in front of Stephan.

PEARL

How dare you?

Pearl PUNCHES HIM HARD IN THE MOUTH.

Stephan SLUMPS OVER IN HIS CHAIR.

TAMMY

Holy shit! Run, Grandma!

Grandma runs.

Stephan rouses himself, and tries to follow them, but has
some trouble navigating his chair in the small hallway.

EXT. DINER - MORNING - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy and Pearl run to the car. They jump in.

Stephan follows, but he's too late. They're already in the
car.

STEPHAN
You fucking bitches!

Tammy and Pearl drive away.

INT. TRANS AM - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy and Pearl drive, excited and out of breath.

Tammy's laughing, Pearl is more serious.

TAMMY
You popped him right in his goddamn
mouth! Bam!

PEARL
No one insults my Granddaughter.

TAMMY
Was that OK?

PEARL
What?

TAMMY
He's crippled, and you whaled on
him, that's what.

PEARL
I didn't punch a cripple. I
punched a disrespectful asshole.

TAMMY
OK. Remind me not to make you mad
no more.

PEARL
I will. And I'm sorry.

TAMMY
It's alright. People fight.

Pearl grabs Tammy's shoulder.

PEARL
No, Tammy, I'm sorry. I want a
drink. Right now.

Pearl starts to break down.

PEARL (CONT'D)
Help me, honey. I think I need
some help.

Tammy starts to pull over, as Pearl tries to keep herself together.

EXT. TRANS AM - MOMENTS LATER

The Trans Am is pulled over, and we see about a thousand beer bottles, both full and empty - thrown to the side of the road.

The Trans Am speeds off into the morning.

INT. TRANS AM - MORNING

Tammy looks over to Pearl, who is sitting - silently humiliated.

TAMMY
It's no big deal, Grandma. We'll figure it out.

EXT. GAS STATION - MORNING

Tammy pulls the car into the gas station at a startling speed.

INT. GAS STATION - MOMENTS LATER

This is a run of the mill gas station.

Tammy rushes in and sees the cashier. She stops.

TAMMY
Hey, man.

CASHIER
Hey.

TAMMY
You look like you're a user. Am I right?

CASHIER
What?

TAMMY
You like hash, maybe? Like you do some hash and maybe also a lot of booze?

CASHIER

That's none of your business.

TAMMY

I gotta find an AA meeting. It's a real emergency, man. Come on, you know what that's like. It's my Grandma, she's jonesing real bad, she says she feels like her skin's crawling...

CASHIER

There's a meeting in the Library Annex every morning at 11.

TAMMY

Thanks, Man. Write me down some directions.

He starts to write down directions.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Was I right? Hash, mostly? That shit'll kill you, glad you're getting it straightened out.

CUT TO:

EXT. LIBRARY - MORNING.

The Trans Am pulls into the Library Parking Lot. Tammy and Pearl get out.

INT. HALLWAY - LATER

Tammy and Pearl walk through a dingy library and get to a sign on a door that says, "Library Annex."

TAMMY

I guess this is it.

PEARL

Goddamn it.

Tammy opens the door.

INT. MEETING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

This room is musty and functional. There are twelve people sitting there, sharing.

Penelope, 34, dark-haired and pretty - is speaking.

PENELOPE

And sometimes I just want a drink
so bad...it's just really hard.
And then finally it passes, and I'm
just so glad that I didn't do it.

Tammy and Pearl slink their way towards two open seats.

The rest of the people lightly applaud Penelope as she takes
a seat.

The rest of the people eye Tammy and Pearl.

Claudia, 46, sharp - the group leader, takes charge.

CLAUDIA

May I help you?

Tammy looks to Pearl, who is absolutely embarrassed beyond
belief. Tammy waits for Pearl to speak.

Pearl doesn't speak, and gives no indication that she is even
able to speak at all.

TAMMY

Grandma?

Silence from Pearl. She's stunned.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

OK. My name is Tammy Banks, and my
Grandma is a real lush.

The group awkwardly tries to say "Hi, Tammy," but some end up
"Hi, Tammy," and some say, "Hi, Grandma."

It's very odd, and Claudia is annoyed.

CLAUDIA

Well, everyone is welcome here.

TAMMY

Cool beans.

Tammy sits down with Pearl.

CLAUDIA

Everyone *with an alcohol problem* is
welcome here. You can wait
outside.

TAMMY

OK. You gonna be OK, Grandma?

Pearl looks at Tammy like she might pass out from fear.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Sweet. I'll check you guys later.
Just say no...Just kiddin'.

Tammy leaves.

CU. On Pearl. She has a defiant look on her face.

CLAUDIA

Would you like to introduce
yourself?

PEARL

Not just yet.

CUT TO:

INT. LIBRARY - LATER

Tammy sits in a chair and reads an US WEEKLY. She's been waiting for a while.

POV - Tammy looks from her chair to see her Grandma leaving the meeting. She can't hear anything, she just watches as Pearl shakes hands, says goodbye to the group.

Claudia says something private to Pearl, and Pearl laughs.

The group disbands, and Tammy walks towards Pearl.

TAMMY

(to Pearl)
Did it work?

CUT TO:

INT. TRANS AM - LATER

Pearl and Tammy drive along. Pearl has a milk shake, fries, and a humongous burger.

She eats and drinks heartily.

Tammy watches.

TAMMY
Damn, you're really getting after
it.

PEARL
What?

TAMMY
The food. Damn.

PEARL
Yes, it's a startling amount.

Pearl goes back to eating.

TAMMY
At least it's not a beer, right?

PEARL
That's right, honey.

TAMMY
So what do you think? Should we
head home?

PEARL
Not a chance in the world! I came
to see those old men carved in that
goddamned mountain and I will see
it.

TAMMY
Gotcha. We can't be more than
three hours away.

PEARL
Looking forward to it.

TAMMY
Did that meeting help at all?

PEARL
I guess so.

TAMMY
What about the milk shake? That
helping?

PEARL
(smiles)
Yes, it's remarkably helpful,
actually.

EXT. SOUTH DAKOTA HIGHWAY - AFTERNOON

The Trans Am moves along against the landscape.

INT. TRANS AM - LATER

TAMMY

I'm so bored. We gotta play a game or something.

PEARL

Oh, no.

TAMMY

Something. Tell me a story then.

PEARL

I don't have any.

TAMMY

You're a million years old, you don't have one story?

PEARL

No.

TAMMY

Then we gotta play a game.

PEARL

Oh, mercy.

TAMMY

Stop complaining, and just play the G-D game.

PEARL

Alright, what's the game?

TAMMY

You have to tell me a secret. And no bullshit ones, a real shocker.

PEARL

I once participated in a menage-a-trois.

EXT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

The car skids over to the side of the road.

INT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

TAMMY

You are kidding me! A three-way?

PEARL

Of course it's a three-way. You're smart, you knew that. Never pretend to be dumb, honey.

TAMMY

Holy shit! You're a nympho!
You're a lush AND a nympho!

PEARL

Not so. It just seems that way to you at the moment. I've probably had less sexual relations than most people in this world.

TAMMY

Man, a three-way. I don't know what I'd do with an extra guy.

Pearl smiles.

PEARL

Who said anything about an extra guy?

TAMMY

Whoa! It wasn't Lenore was it?

PEARL

We're related! Don't be gross.

EXT. SOUTH DAKOTA HIGHWAY - AFTERNOON

Tammy and Pearl drive on in the Trans Am.

EXT. SOUTH DAKOTA HIGHWAY - AFTERNOON

The dirty Trans Am pulls off the main road and goes onto the smaller road that leads to Mt. Rushmore.

A sign says, "Mt. Rushmore - 3 miles."

EXT. MT. RUSHMORE - EVENING

The ladies stand outside of their car and look up at Mt. Rushmore.

It's stunning, truly something to see.

TAMMY

What do you think, Grandma?

PEARL

I don't know. I suppose I like it.

TAMMY

It's big, huh?

Pearl suddenly starts to cry. It's a hard, ugly cry, from out of nowhere. The kind that seems unstoppable.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

What's the matter?

PEARL

I don't know.

TAMMY

Jesus, something's wrong.

PEARL

I don't know - I built it up so much in my head - you know, to someday get here, and now I'm here and it just doesn't matter.

TAMMY

Come on, Grandma.

PEARL

It doesn't. I'm just another old lady - there's not one special thing about me. I'm the same as the people I spent my whole life looking down on. It doesn't matter if I ever got to this place or not.

TAMMY

It's just a statue, Grandma.

PEARL

So, we understand each other perfectly. It's just a statue.

Pearl gets back into the car.

Tammy looks at it for a bit longer.

TAMMY

Well, that was fun.

Tammy gets back in the car.

EXT. TRANS AM - MOMENTS LATER

Pearl is still shaken up, and very much ready to go.

PEARL
I'm worried about my feet.

TAMMY
Me, too.

PEARL
I try not to look at them, but they seem bad.

TAMMY
Should we stop and see a doctor?

PEARL
No. I'll see Dr. Rodriguez when I get home.

TAMMY
I'll make the appointment.

PEARL
Oh, you have to take care of me now, is that it?

TAMMY
I don't know. Jesus, don't make me sound creepy.

Pearl smiles at Tammy. The resigned smile of an older person who is not going to get their way.

TAMMY (CONT'D)
Creepin' me out.

EXT. MT. RUSHMORE - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy turns the car around and heads back the way they came.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

A series of shots of Tammy and Pearl getting home.

INT. TRANS AM - EVENING

Pearl sleeps in the front seat. Tammy grabs at some old french fries in a bag. She thinks better of it and throws the fries she grabbed out her window. A beat...and then Tammy grabs some more fries out of the bag and eats them.

EXT. TRANS AM - MORNING

The Trans Am is pulled over on the side of the road.

INT. TRANS AM - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy sleeps in the front seat. Pearl looks out the window at the landscape.

EXT. ROADSIDE - AFTERNOON

The Trans Am is pulled over on a different spot of the highway.

Tammy finishes a jog/walk back to the car. She's dressed in her same clothes from Mt. Rushmore, neither of them have changed.

Pearl stands outside of the car, waiting to give Tammy her Big Gulp as a treat for finishing her run.

Pearl gives her a high five and her witch's brew.

PEARL

Nice run!

TAMMY

(exhausted)

Whoooo!

Tammy takes a sip, puts her hands over her head. She's elated that she finished her jog/walk.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

Kick ass! Whoo!

Tammy sits down and then lays down on the roadside, exhausted.

Pearl looks lightly concerned.

EXT. TRANS AM - EVENING

The Trans Am passes the same Hardee's that Tammy used to work at.

EXT. MURPHYSBORO, ILLINOIS - HIGHWAY 13 - EVENING

The Trans Am is back on familiar terrain.

EXT. TAMMY'S STREET. - EVENING

The dirty Trans Am rolls into the driveway of Tammy's house.

END MONTAGE

INT. TAMMY'S HOUSE - EVENING

Greg and Missi are playing Jenga on the dinner table. We HEAR a knock at the door.

Greg gets up and answers it. It's Tammy. He knew this was coming, and he braces himself for whatever is about to happen.

INT/EXT. - DOORWAY - CONTINUOUS

GREG

Hi, Tammy.

TAMMY

Hey, Greg.

GREG

How was your trip?

TAMMY

Uh, pretty good. Grandma's tired, I think.

GREG

Right.

TAMMY

She's got real bad diabetes. It might be my fault she's feeling bad. I let her drink a lot.

GREG
Wow, really?

TAMMY
Yeah. I'm just here to get my
stuff.

GREG
Oh. OK.

Tammy walks in and sees Missi at the dinner table. Tammy
stares at her, more resigned than angry.

TAMMY
Just so you know, I'm not real wild
about this arrangement.

MISSI
I don't guess you would be. Sorry
about that.

TAMMY
You guys play Jenga?

MISSI
Sometimes. I mean, we were
tonight.

TAMMY
Pretty fun?

MISSI
I guess so. It's shocking when it
falls down.

TAMMY
OK. Alright, I'm just gonna go
grab my stuff and get out of your
hair.

Tammy walks down the hallway to the bedroom.

INT. BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The bedroom is very clean.

Tammy's things are all laid out beautifully on top of a
dresser, with a new suitcase right next to them.

Tammy sees this and gets choked up.

INT. DINING ROOM - LATER

Tammy walks out of the bedroom, still emotional - holding her suitcase.

TAMMY

All my stuff was folded up.

MISSI

I did it. I know you didn't want me to, but I thought someone should fold it nice for you.

Beat.

TAMMY

The oven runs hot. Maybe 30 degrees or so.

MISSI

Oh, thanks.

TAMMY

Watch out. You'll burn a plate of nachos real fast.

MISSI

Thanks, Tammy.

TAMMY

OK. Take care.

There is an awkward moment, as Tammy realizes that she's leaving for good..

Finally, Tammy hugs Missi suddenly, and real tight. She pulls away as quickly as she went in.

She offers out her hand to Greg and he shakes it.

GREG

Bye, Tammy.

TAMMY

Bye.

Tammy leaves her house and walks down the street towards her Mom's house. She's a real mess.

EXT. TAMMY'S STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy lugs her suitcase the four houses up to her Mom's house.

She takes out a key and opens the door.

INT. TAMMY'S PARENTS' HOUSE - LATER

Tammy enters the house, and walks right into the kitchen. Her dad, PAUL BANKS, 58, LARGE, QUIET, DETACHED - sits at the kitchen table reading a fishing periodical.

TAMMY

Daddy? I thought you were hunting.

PAUL

Your Mom told me you might come home. I wanted to see you.

TAMMY

Really? That's a first.

PAUL

Well, I understand that things aren't going your way right now.

TAMMY

I don't want to hear about it, Daddy.

PAUL

Well, just listen for a second.

TAMMY

Me and Greg are done, he's with another Lady now. So I can't fix the marriage, I'm sorry if God hates me.

PAUL

I'm not talking about fixing it. And I'm not talking about the Lord. I'm asking you right now, if you want me to kill that little motherfucker for you.

TAMMY

What?

PAUL

(sincere)

I'll go over there right now and kill him for you. I'm old, I don't care if I go to jail. They probably have bass periodicals in jail.

Tammy rushes over and hugs her Dad.

TAMMY

Thank you, Daddy.

PAUL

I love you, Baby. Now, should I kill him or not?

TAMMY

No, Daddy. I'll be alright.

Paul stands up.

PAUL

Alright. If you change your mind, let me know. I'm gonna drive up to the cabin now.

TAMMY

Alright. Have a good hunt.

PAUL

Always do. Have a nice night, honey.

TAMMY

Bye, Daddy.

He starts to leave.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

You know what? There is one thing you could do for me.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. HARDEE'S - LATER

Dan Morgan, her old boss, is locking up the store for the night. He's on one of those earphone things for your cell phone, talking to a friend.

DAN
 No, I'll bring beer, but you're
 putting in money this time, no - I
 always put in way more than you -

He feels a presence over his shoulder and looks back to see
 CU. On Paul Banks, as he

PUNCHES DAN HARD IN THE MOUTH.

Dan falls with a maximum of noise and cowardliness.

INT. TAMMY'S PARENTS' HOUSE - LATER

Tammy sits on the sofa in the living room with her suitcase
 next to her.

She looks around and takes a deep breath. She really doesn't
 have any place else to go.

She pushes her suitcase to the floor and lies down.

CUT TO:

INT. CLINIC WAITING ROOM - THE NEXT DAY

Tammy reads a health and fitness magazine and waits for Pearl
 to come out from the doctor's office.

A MOTHER and a YOUNG GIRL wait next to her.

The YOUNG GIRL looks at the magazine that Tammy is reading.

Tammy flexes her biceps for the young girl, the girl laughs.

The mother notices this.

MOTHER
 Ashley, quit bothering her.

TAMMY
 Oh, it's no bother. This is just
 kinda what I'm about - fitness.
 It's who I am, I guess.

MOTHER
 OK.

A door opens and Pearl comes into the waiting room. She
 looks OK.

TAMMY
 (whispers)
 How'd it go?

PEARL
 Apparently, I have to change my
 ways.

TAMMY
 Did you get medicine or anything?

PEARL
 Scads of it. I'll be taking horse
 pills until I'm dead. Let's get
 out of here.

They walk out the door.

EXT. CLINIC - LATER

This is an incredibly mediocre looking clinic.

Tammy and Pearl step out in front of the building.

PEARL
 Well, shit.

TAMMY
 Wanna get a beer?

Tammy punches Pearl's arm and laughs hard as they walk
 towards their car.

TAMMY (CONT'D)
 Just kiddin'! Pretty good one,
 right? Man, I'm glad you didn't
 have to go to the hospital. That's
 good, right?

PEARL
 He wasn't averse to putting me in a
 hospital. Luckily, I know some
 information about the good doctor
 that I was able to use to my
 advantage.

TAMMY
 Damn. Gossip is some strong shit.

PEARL
 The strongest thing in the world.

They get in the car.

INT. TRANS AM - MOMENTS LATER

The car looks a little cleaner now.

TAMMY

I'll figure out where the meetings
are around here.

PEARL

Thanks.

Tammy puts the car in gear and they drive off.

EXT. TRANS AM - CONTINUOUS

Tammy drives at high speeds through the tree-line streets of
Carbondale, and heads back towards Murphysboro.

EXT. TAMMY'S PARENTS' HOUSE - KITCHEN - EVENING

Tammy sits with Deb in the kitchen and eats cereal.

TAMMY

So, Grandma's an alcoholic.

DEB

Oh, I know that. Her bedroom is
practically a distillery.

TAMMY

I'm gonna find her some meetings
and stuff. Keep her clean.

DEB

Good luck.

TAMMY

What's that supposed to mean?

DEB

People are going to do what they're
going to do, and that's that.

Beat.

DEB (CONT'D)

I don't mean that to be as mean as
it sounds. It's just true. Do you
want to watch TV?

TAMMY

No, thanks.

DEB

Alright.

Deb walks into the den and WE HEAR her turn on the TV.

Tammy takes another bite of cereal.

She turns the box over and reads the health information.

TAMMY

You gotta be shitting me. 400
calories?

She spits the rest of the cereal in her mouth back into the bowl.

Tammy looks truly depressed. She looks at the cereal box.

She taps it with her finger, and it falls over on the table.

TAMMY (CONT'D)

(to cereal box)

Kicked your ass.

Tammy sighs, and realizes that she doesn't have a thing to do. She's bored and lost.

EXT. TAMMY'S PARENTS' HOUSE - MORNING

It's a lazy Midwestern morning. The house looks the same as it always has.

INT. - TAMMY'S PARENTS' HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Tammy is out cold on the couch.

CU. On a hand gently shaking Tammy's leg until she wakes up.

Tammy wakes up with a start.

TAMMY

(still groggy)
Grandma, are you OK?

PEARL

Ohhh, I need a drink.

Tammy takes that in.

PEARL (CONT'D)

(laughing)
I'm just kidding.

TAMMY
Jesus. You freaked me out.

PEARL
Come outside.

TAMMY
(pulling her cover back
on)
No.

PEARL
You have to see this.

TAMMY
(getting up)
Man, this better be good.

PEARL
Well, we'll see what you think.

They walk to the front door. Pearl opens it.

PEARL (CONT'D)
Ta-Da.

Parked on the street in front of the house is a beautiful RV.

Tammy thinks she knows what this is about. They walk outside.

EXT. TAMMY'S PARENTS' HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

They stand on the sidewalk and take it all in.

TAMMY
Wow. Is that your RV?

PEARL
What do you think?

TAMMY
Pretty cherry.

PEARL
(not quite understanding)
Yes, very cherry.

TAMMY
Man, this is sweet, Grandma. How did you afford this?

Someone inside the RV HONKS LOUDLY. The driver's side window lowers to REVEAL

LENORE, A VERY OLD LADY WHO LOOKS DISTINCTLY LIKE A LESBIAN.

EXT. TAMMY'S PARENTS' HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Tammy is pretty amused by this.

TAMMY

Lenore?

PEARL

She's very wealthy.

TAMMY

Who's the dude in the other seat?

PEARL

That's Marlene. Be nice.

Beat.

PEARL (CONT'D)

So, what do you think?

TAMMY

I think you want me to go on a road trip with you and two old lesbians.

PEARL

Exactly.

Tammy's thinks for a second.

CUT TO:

INT. RV - LATER

Tammy and Pearl are sitting at a small booth in the RV. It's big and roomy, and they are sitting up high. They both have soda pops in their hands, and both are wearing fun trucker-style sunglasses.

They look sexy and badass.

PEARL

Whooooooooooo! Now this is more like it!

TAMMY

It's not bad. Where to?

PEARL
You tell me.

TAMMY
I've never been to Mexico.

PEARL
Lenore! Mexico!

Lenore pulls hard left on the wheel.

EXT. - RV - MOMENTS LATER

The RV does a U-turn in the road, and heads south towards Mexico.

PEARL (V.O.)
Lenore's been to Mexico several
times, I'll bet she has some
recommendations...

TAMMY (V.O.)
Damn, you get around, Lenore!

As the four women continue their conversation about Mexico,
and the good places to go there, we...

FADE OUT.

