

Breakfast in Vietnam

Written By

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FADE IN:

INT. DINER - DAY

Two soldiers, BEN (23) and JOHN (25), sit across from each other in an American-style Diner.

SUPER: FEBRUARY 7, 1965, Pleiku, Vietnam

They are both drinking coffee and eating Waffles. John is smoking a cigarette.

JOHN
Fuckin' Vietnamese can't even make
a damn waffle right.

John takes one long toke of the cigarette and burns it into the waffle.

BEN
Mine ain't that bad.

JOHN
Sometimes I wish I went to college.
I could be in some college some
place bangin' every little lady I
could get my hands on.

BEN
Don't we all?

JOHN
Stupid President. What business do
we have in Vietnam? We have enough
of our own problems.

BEN
That's what I been sayin' for quite
some time.

John flags down a WAITRESS.

JOHN
(to Waitress)
Can I have some more coffee?

She stares at him.

JOHN (cont'd)
(waving hand)
Hello?

BEN
I don't think she understands
English.

JOHN
(to Ben)
Well, It's an American restaurant.

Ben looks up at the waitress.

BEN
(in Vietnamese)
Could you bring us some more
coffee?

She walks away.

JOHN
Holy shit.

BEN
What?

JOHN
I think I lost 'em.

John grabs Ben by the cheeks.

JOHN (cont'd)
Hello?! Anyone there?!

Ben nudges him off.

BEN
Fuck you.

JOHN
I'm joking, buddy.

The Waitress comes back with a whole glass jug full of coffee. She fills up both of their cups and then leaves to tend to the other restaurant patrons.

JOHN (cont'd)
(pointing at Cashier)
I got me one of those back home.

BEN
(looking over)
A Viet?

JOHN
No, you moron. A redhead.

BEN
Oh really?

JOHN
Oh yeah. Name's Honey.

BEN
(laughing)
Honey?

JOHN
Yeah, Honey. Honey McClain.

BEN
You're shitting me.

JOHN
No I am not my friend.

BEN
Describe 'er.

JOHN
Five-foot two. 'Bout one-hundred
ten pounds. Big, luscious breasts.
Nice, apple bottom that you could
take a bite out of. And of course,
the red hair. Her hair ain't no
ordinary red either. It's
strawberry blonde.

BEN
Strawberry?

JOHN
Strawberry. Looks so sweet you
could taste it in your mouth by
just looking at her.

BEN
You sure she's waiting for you?

JOHN
One-hundred percent.

BEN
She ain't got no beau on the side?

JOHN

Not that I know of. I'd kill any man that even complements her. She knows.

BEN

Honey McClain.

JOHN

Sounds nice, don't it?

BEN

Hell yeah.

JOHN

Her name rolls off your tongue all smooth-like.

BEN

She got a sister?

JOHN

Nope.

BEN

Damn.

JOHN

Don't worry, Ben. You'll find yours someday.

BEN

I sure as shit won't find no Honey McClain.

JOHN

Sure you will. I'll help you as soon as we get back.

John takes out a cigarette.

BEN

Your second one already?

JOHN

Everybody smokes, Ben. Get used to it.

BEN

You didn't hear about that health study?

JOHN

(lighting cigarette)

That study is all bullshit. Doctors have been prescribing cigarettes for dozens of years, and they're gonna be prescribing them for dozens of years more.

BEN

It gives you cancer.

JOHN

I know bullshit when I see it, and that , my friend, is bullshit.

BEN

Whatever, man. You're killing yourself slowly.

JOHN

I think I'll take my chances. I'd rather die from cancer than a bullet to the chest or gut.

BEN

You got me there.

Ben takes a cigarette from John's pack on the table. John lights it.

BEN (cont'd)

Haven't smoked one of these in ages.

JOHN

Feels good, don't it?

BEN

Calms me down.

JOHN

Have you tried reefer yet?

BEN

That Mexican shit everyone is always talkin' about?

JOHN

Nah, man. It ain't only Mexican. It's everywhere. Shit, they grow it here.

BEN

You tried it before?

JOHN

Once when I could get my hands on it. Shit's like gold over here with all these damn soldiers trying it.

BEN

What was it like?

JOHN

It relaxes the fuck out of you. Makes you happy, hungry, sleepy.

BEN

Did you listen to music when you were on it?

JOHN

No, why?

BEN

This one guy told me that if you listen to music while you're on it that the music becomes better sounding.

JOHN

Never heard of that.

BEN

He told me he listened to the Stones, and the Doors.

JOHN

What did they sound like?

BEN

He said that it felt like giant speakers came out of the sky and played the music exclusively for him.

JOHN

We definitely gotta try that sometime.

BEN

(pointing out the window)
What the fuck is that?

JOHN
I don't--

The whole restaurant BLOWS up. Body parts comes flying towards the camera and...

FADE OUT: