

HIGH ROAD

FADE IN:

EXT. BIG CITY SKYLINE - NIGHT

City lights cover the ground like a blanket as tall buildings stretch across the horizon.

EXT. GENTLEMEN'S CLUB - NIGHT

A car drives up and parks on the side of the street. DY (mid 20's) gets out of the car carrying a duffle bag. He walks up to a Gentlemen's club and walks right pass the burly door guy and the cashier into the club.

INT. GENTLEMEN'S CLUB - MOMENTS LATER

DY walks into the club where there is a stripper dancing on a pole on the main stage, guys are in chairs watching, and half-naked strippers are walking around. DY walks through a hallway pass a VIP lounge where a stripper is giving a lap dance on a couch. He walks into a small office and sitting behind a desk is the HOUSE MOM (mid 40's). DY takes out stacks of money and places them on the desk. The House Mom takes out bags of pills and cocaine from behind the desk and places it on the desk. DY puts the drugs in his duffle bag and walks out the office.

EXT. BIG CITY STREETS - DUSK

The neon signs and bright lights of the city reflect off the car as DY drives through the city.

INT. CITY BUS STATION - DUSK

DY standing in line at the greyhound bus station and getting on the bus.

INT. BUS - MORNING

DY is on the bus looking out the window as the landscape changes from urban to rural, clutching his bag tightly, and checking the butterfly knife on the inside of his forearm hidden underneath his shirt sleeve.

EXT. SMALL TOWN BUS STATION - MORNING

DY steps off the bus into a dusty desert small town and walks along the lonely road flipping his butterfly knife.

Under a pile of rocks he digs up a handgun wrapped in a protective cloth. He tucks the gun in the back of his pants.

DY (V.O.)

So.. What am I doing in a place like this... business. In this day and age you have to make your money when you can and by any means necessary. I run a solo operation and I look out for me and only me. I'm on the road 300 days a year moving weight under the radar from one small town to the next. Cops, DEA, Homeland Security are all concerned with big cities, airports, the borders and don't worry about small town America. I've got this interstate wired. Station agents on the payroll, whores for the drivers, pharmacy connections and the occasional payoff to the local sheriff...Any way, I've had action in this town for years. Its been steady for a while. This go 'round shouldn't be too bumpy. A quick four stops and back on the road.

He walks into a truck stop diner.

INT. DINER - MORNING

DY finishes eating breakfast and coffee, quickly scans the check, and leaves money on the counter.

He picks up his bags, and notices he's being eyeballed by MURRAY (cook/owner, late 40's) from behind the grill and HOOVER and TAPEWORM (tweaker thugs, early 20's) from a table nearby.

DY exits and looks back slightly in silent response.

EXT. SMALL TOWN ROAD - MORNING

DY steps outside of the diner and walks down the small town road and starts to send a text message:

TEXT MESSAGE "THE PRESCRIPTION REQUIRES A SIGNATURE"

INT. WEBER'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Cell phone on desk lights up. WEBER (Blue collar, late 20's) is lying on his bed rocking out to music with head phones on in a small dirty studio apartment with an Aryan Nation flag on his wall.

DY (V.O.)

First up is Weber. Weber supplies all kinds of peps to the hard hat and lunch pail crowd down at the paper mill. Peps being speedballs, yellow specials, industrial strength no dose...all that stuff. He's also got some clientele at the local pool hall. He keeps the local hustlers hopped up so that they can shoot nine ball all weekend long.

There's a knock on the door but Weber doesn't hear it. The knocks turn to pounding as Weber finally hears it and answers the door.

DY

Damn man what took you so long!

WEBER

Hey sorry didn't hear you. You got my shit?

DY

You know I always come through.

DY takes a bag of pills out of his duffle bag and throws it to Weber. Weber quickly checks the bag and tosses DY the money.

WEBER

Took you long enough to get here.

DY

Hey, two days ago I said I would be here in two days so what's the problem.

WEBER

All I'm sayin is it only takes me 15 hours to get to you.

DY

Well you just remember that when you owe me money, small town! Besides, you think I'm gonna risk getting pulled over in this redneck town with all this weight on me? The Jonnies aint pullin over the greyhound. What you in such a hurry for anyway?

Weber grabs a cigarette and lights it.

DY (V.O.)

Even if I did drive here he would never know. I'd park my car miles away and step up to his dusty ass porch like I'd been on the road for a week. You cant trust these small town yahoos.

WEBER

It's just that business has picked up at the mill.

DY

I thought they were cutting back at the mill

WEBER

They are. And everyone left is on 10 hour shifts..plus O.T.! Which means more business for me. Shoot! I need even more pills next time.

DY

You think you can handle the extra weight small town?

Weber slightly offended.

WEBER

Oh! You think you are just the cocks crow!

DY

Huh!

WEBER

Struttin into town tellin rednecks  
how to handle bidness. Maybe I'll  
tell some of my boys in the nation  
about some black city boy dealing  
in their town.

DY quickly grabs his butterfly knife from his forearm, twists  
it in the air, pushes Weber to the wall and puts the knife to  
his neck.

DY

Muthafucka if I you ever say shit  
about me to anyone I will gut your  
ass like a pig. You got that!

WEBER

(Struggling)

I'm just sayin, there's a lot shit  
going down in this town. I heard  
someone got shot at the truck stop.

DY

Oh yea who?

WEBER

Some old burnt out hippie that got  
in the way.

DY

Yahoos been talking that wanna be  
tough shit since before I put your  
ass in business.

DY pulls the knife off of him, twists it close, and puts it  
in the knife sheath on his forearm. He backs away from  
Weber.

DY

What ever man, I'm gone. Next time  
I'll have 1000 extra pills. That'll  
be an extra 4 bills. Got it?  
I'm outta here. This place reeks  
of ass.

DY opens the door and leaves.

EXT. SMALL TOWN ROAD - DAY

From a distance, Tapeworm sitting in his truck sees DY leaving Weber's house and reaches for his phone.

INT. T.J. AND MISSY'S APARTMENT - DAY

T.J. (clean cut college student) picks up his buzzing phone and reads the message: "The prescription requires a signature".

He has books spread out all over the kitchen table and studying. MISSY (clean cut college student) is in the kitchen helping him study.

DY (V.O)

My next drop is for the All-Americans. TJ and Missy are a young couple hustlin their way through school. I like working with them because they stay way below radar. For the most part they conduct their business undetected because they got that wholesome vibe down pat. They both go to school, they got jobs,...and they just happen to supply half of the college with blow.

MISSY

What does economic growth measure?

T.J.

The increase in output.

MISSY

Right. The concept of opportunity cost is based upon the principle of?

T.J.

Scarcity.

MISSY

Right. OK true or false, economic growth is necessary and sufficient to eradicate most of absolute poverty?

T.J.

False.

MISSY

Right again. You're ready for this test baby.

She gives him a kiss on his head. He rushes to gather all of his books and put them in his backpack.

T.J.

I have to go soon or I'm gonna be late.

There's a knock on the door and T.J. answers it. DY is at the door and walks into the apartment.

TJ

Man you are here just in time! Have a seat. Missy! DY is here with our goodies.

Missy comes in from the kitchen.

T.J.

Missy have you seen my test hat?

MISSY

I think its upstairs on the dresser.

T.J. runs upstairs. DY walks up close to Missy and she smiles.

DY

Test hat?

He grabs her tit and she pushes it away. He grabs her by the waist and kisses her. She kisses him back. DY pulls back as T.J. comes back down. DY sits on the sofa.

MISSY

It's a good thing you're here!  
We're down to our last gram.

DY

(Surprised)  
Really? So things are going good for you guys huh?

TJ

We've got all the frat houses and half the dorms on Lincoln lined up. We might need more of a frequent visit.



DY

Good! You guys are doing better than I expected.

MISSY

Ever since old man Benny died there's just more business up for grabs.

DY (V.O.)

What the Fuck!

MISSY

Yes sir, Dublin told me somebody shot him at that pool hall on the other side of town.

DY (V.O.)

So it is true. DAMN!

TJ

Did you know Benny DY?

DY

(Flustered)

Uh, no. I mean...I heard Dublin speak about him once or twice.

DY reaches in his backpack and pulls out five bags of cocaine.

TJ

That's five?

DY

Five. Go ahead and weigh it.

TJ

It's cool. We'll weigh it later. Your packages always weigh out.

Missy gives DY a roll of money and he starts counting it.

T.J.

Are you going to count it here?

D.Y.

Do you have a problem with that?

T.J.

No no. Um I'm going to be late so I gotta go.

MISSY

Its ok baby I'll make sure  
everything works out.

T.J.

Ok see yall later. I love you.

MISSY

Love you to.

Missy walks to the door and locks it. She walks up to DY  
sitting on the couch and gets on her knees and starts  
unbuckling his pants.

FADE OUT.

BLACK SCREEN WITH THE WORDS **"THREE DAYS EARLIER"**

FADE IN:

INT. DINER - DAY

In the back of the kitchen Murray, Hoover, and Tapeworm are  
huddled up talking.

MURRAY

Now that that old FUCK Benny is out  
of the way we can move up in the  
world.

HOOVER

Why start a war. We've got half the  
truckers in the state comin down  
our highway.

TAPEWORM

Yeah boss... our highway is the way  
to get high. Dang it we don't need  
the town.

Murray let's out an evil laugh while the thugs look on in  
disagreement.

MURRAY

Well it's just to bad for you that  
I'm in charge of things around  
here...Now I want ALL of this town!  
Pool hall, the mill, and that  
college over there!

HOOVER

Come on boss let's be smart.

MURRAY

Shut up!.. Now we gonna start  
puttin the squeeze on these  
suppliers. And if they don't go  
along ...Cover up your tracks  
(motioning to his gun) know what I  
mean. Hoover, Tapeworm...No  
witnesses!

FADE OUT:

EXT. SMALL TOWN ROAD - DAY

DY leaves TJ and Missy's apartment still flustered about the news of Benny's death.

DY (V.O.)

In this business, you can never be  
to shocked when someone gets waxed.  
Old man Benny was the biggest  
supplier of Meth in town. His Ice  
was cooler then any I've ever come  
across. And made me some serious  
paper from other towns on my route.  
I must admit I didn't see that  
coming.

EXT. BENNY'S HOUSE - DAY - FLASHBACK

Benny is sitting on his back porch drinking a beer. DY standing at a table full of bags of crystal meth. He puts the bags in an army duffle bag and carries it on his shoulder.

DY

I'll be back for the rest of this  
next month.

BENNY

Whatever you say partner.

DY

I mean it old man. I got to hit the  
road and my stash box is about to  
pop as it is. Take care of my stash  
you hear?

Benny starts to laugh

DY  
What's funny?

BENNY  
Do you know why I decided to work  
with you.

DY  
Because I be movin that weight  
that's why.

BENNY  
Because nobody on my circuit would  
ever think I would do business with  
you. Your gonna be my secret  
weapon.

They both lift up their beer bottles and clash them together  
in agreement.

BACK TO PRESENT DAY

EXT. SMALL TOWN ROAD - DAY

DY walks down the road.

DY (V.O.)  
I needed someone from Benny's world  
and he needed someone from mine.  
It turned out to be a successful  
partnership. And now the party is  
over. I got to get to Dublin's  
house and find out what the fuck is  
going on.

DY takes out his phone and types the message, "The  
prescription requires a signature". DY hits the send button  
as he continues through town.

INT. WEBER'S APARTMENT - DAY

Weber is putting the bag of pills into smaller individual  
bags. He puts them in his pocket, grabs his keys, and walks  
to the front door. He opens the door and Hoover and Tapeworm  
are standing there waiting for him. They show Weber their  
guns and walk in.

HOOVER  
Hey Weber. What was that spade  
doing here earlier?

WEBER

I don't know what you're talkin  
about.

TAPEWORM

Man he's fuckin lyin, I saw him  
here this morning.

Weber scared and nervous.

WEBER

I don't know. I don't know. He  
just gave me some uppers and that's  
it.

HOOVER

Where was he going next?

WEBER

I don't know. I swear to god.

Hoover raises his gun and shoots him.

TAPEWORM

Hey, boss said we should try to  
flip him first.

HOOVER

Fuck him. I want the mill.

EXT. TRAILER PARK - DAY

DY walks into a trailer park.

DY (V.O.)

Me and Dublin go way back. We've  
been doin business for years. Being  
an ex raver, he established himself  
with all the ravers, goth kids,  
punk rockers, and the rest of the  
freaks. He blew up with the party  
promoters so hard he had to start  
paying the sheriffs out here.  
That's why he always knows when  
someone gets busted. If anyone  
knows who or what is behind Benny's  
murder it's him.

INT. DUBLIN'S TRAILER HOME - DAY

DY walks up to the door, DUBLIN (flaming homosexual, hard nosed, late 30's) opens the door and hurries him into the trailer home.

DY

What happened to Benny?

DUBLIN

What about Benny?

DY

Hey! Don't play me like those fucking rookies that you keep in business. I'm not going to ask you again.

DUBLIN

Well what you don't know is that your life is in danger.

DY

Why me?

DUBLIN

Because! Everyone that conducted business with Benny better be watching their back!

DY

That doesn't make sense. Everyone in this town needs Benny for one reason or another. Why kill him?

DUBLIN

Everyone except Murray!..

DY

Who's that

DUBLIN

Murray is the guy who doesn't need Benny. Doesn't want Benny. And could definitely benefit from the absence of Benny. Oh and by the way,

(Emphatically)

he's the killing type! They don't fuck around out there in trucker world!

DY  
Trucker world?

Dublin gives a big sigh as he's about to spill the beans

DUBLIN  
You know that diner by the truck  
stop?

DY  
Yeah.

DUBLIN  
Well that truck stop is supplying a  
whole lot of truckers with a whole  
lot a... all kinds of... what the  
fuck is the difference. The bottom  
line is that Murray can, and will  
start a war to pick up where Benny  
left off. See... Benny was an old  
timer; had built in respect. Murray  
is an outsider who came up with the  
truckers. Those truckers are a  
rowdy bunch. Rape, murder,...bunch  
a ruffians.

DY  
If they're big time like that, how  
come I've never heard of 'em ?

DUBLIN  
Because your just a city boy.

DY  
I'm no stranger to the sticks!

DUBLIN  
You may slang out in the sticks,  
but you ain't from the sticks.

DY  
But if the heat is on, then why are  
you here? Why are you not in one  
of your other little towns dealing?

DUBLIN  
I'm here because I have business  
here. And no one is pushing me  
out. From now on, me and you need  
to pick another town to do  
business. This town is about to  
change for the worse.

DY

Damn. You are really sweating this Murray guy.

DUBLIN

You've been warned... Anyway you got my 5000 pills?

DY reaches into his duffle bag and gets Dublin's pills. Dublin checks the pills, gives DY the money, and DY counts it.

DUBLIN

Now don't fuck around. Finish up in this town and get the fuck out! Your no good to me dead.

INT. TJ AND MISSY'S APARTMENT - DAY

T.J. and Missy are sitting on the sofa looking at the cocaine they bought from DY when suddenly there is an abrupt knock at the door. T.J. grabs the cocaine and takes it upstairs.

T.J.

That's probably Jeff. Answer the door while I take this in the back.

MISSY

Who is it? (no answer) T.J. tell your friends to act their age when they....

Missy opens the door and gets a gun to her head. Tapeworm grabs Missy and covers her mouth. T.J. walks back into the living room and sees Missy apprehended but before he can react, Hoover puts a gun to his head, and he puts his hands up. Missy continues to struggle and gets pistol whipped to the ground.

HOOVER

Now listen up! We're taking over your little operation. You work for us starting now.

TAPEWORM

Until further notice, our cut is 30%. You got that prepster.



HOOVER

If you love this Betty Sue of yours, you won't be causing us any problems. You got that!

EXT. DUBLIN'S TRAILER HOME - DAY

Hoover and Tapeworm are sitting in the truck. They light a glass pipe full of crystal meth and take a hit and get out of the truck. They walk into Dublin's trailer. A long pause and gun shots are heard going off inside the trailer. Moments later Hoover and Tapeworm walk out.

EXT. SMALL TOWN ROAD - DAY

DY walks down the road when Tapeworm and Hoover pull up next to him in their truck. Tapeworm in the driver's seat.

TAPEWORM

Where you going boy?

DY continues walking.

DY

Who you callin boy redneck?

Tapeworm pulls out a double-barrel shotgun.

TAPEWORM

I said where you going boy!

DY

Careful redneck or someone's gonna get hurt.

Tapeworm pulls the truck in front of him. Tapeworm and Hoover get out.

TAPEWORM

Put your hands up!

DY puts his hands up as Hoover pats him down and takes the gun out from the back of his pants.

HOOVER

This town belongs to us now. So you no longer work for Benny, you work for us.

DY

I don't work for anyone.

Hoover gives Tapeworm a look. Tapeworm hits DY in the stomach with the but of his shotgun. DY falls to the ground. Hoover kneels down to speak to DY close.

HOOVER

Listen nigger. If I see you in this town dealing to anyone else but us, I'm going to take pleasure in watching you die a slow painful death.

Hoover gets up takes DY's bag of drugs and money and walks back to the truck. Tapeworm hits him again in the stomach with the shotgun and gets in the truck and drives off.

INT. HOLIDAY'S APARTMENT - LATE AFTERNOON

DY knocks on the front door. HOLIDAY (early 20s, attractively run down) opens the door and lets DY inside.

HOLIDAY

You're late!

DY

Yea I got side tracked a little bit.

HOLIDAY

Wait in the living room. I have to get dressed for work.

DY sits on the sofa as Holiday goes to the bathroom to change clothes and put on her makeup. From his view on the sofa, DY can partially see her in the bathroom getting changed.

DY (V.O.)

Holiday is all right with me. She's a no nonsense type of gal. Twenty-two years old single mom with two kids. She works the graveyard shift at that diner. Being on a schedule like that, she deals with all the insomniac weirdos. And the action is always a good with those types. Her and me use to kick it a few years ago. It was real passionate for awhile but once you break a woman's trust its never the same. Now everything is strictly business between us.

Holiday slides a small pistol in her boot. She walks out from the bathroom.

HOLIDAY

Where's the stuff?

DY

I came to tell you this town is dead for me now. Our little arrangement is over.

HOLIDAY

What the hell are you talking about?

DY

Benny's dead, a new crew is taking over, and I'm dead unless I work for them. I'm gettin the fuck out of this small town.

HOLIDAY

So Murray found out about you and Hoover and Tapeworm paid you a visit.

DY

So you know about these guys?

HOLIDAY

Of course I do. What do you think I am stupid. I work at the diner. Murray is taking over Benny's operation and using the truckers to distribute all throughout the Southwest. I count on your side business. Murray is a slimy stingy old pig. I get him more customers than anybody else and he pays me dog shit!

DY

If he finds out, he'll kill you?

HOLIDAY

Yep. Most likely.

DY

Why risk it.

HOLIDAY

Look! I've got two kids, a sick mother, and enough youth to get out of this town and start over. That's why I risk it. Not that it's any of your business.

DY

Hey I feel for your situation but I don't work for no one and I'm sure as hell aint going to war with a group of crazy psycho rednecks. I just came here to tell you what's up with us and that I need to borrow some money to get back home.

HOLIDAY

Just as selfish as ever. But I never thought you'd be a coward. Here's the money and get the fuck out of here. I said get the fuck out of here!

Holiday throws the money at him and it hits the floor. DY picks up the money and leaves.

EXT. HOLIDAY'S APARTMENT - LATE AFTERNOON

Hoover and Tapeworm are sitting in their truck and they see DY leaving Holiday's apartment. Hoover picks up his phone and dials.

HOOVER

Yea its me. Holiday is on it...Will do...Let's go.

Hoover and Tapeworm get out of the truck.

INT. HOLIDAY'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

There's a knock on the door. Holiday opens the door and Hoover and Tapeworm are there.

HOLIDAY

What are you guys doing here?

HOOVER

Boss wants you to come with us.

HOLIDAY

Let me get my things.

Holiday walks to the kitchen to get her purse and dials DY's number and leaves the phone on in her purse.

EXT. SMALL TOWN BUS STATION - LATE AFTERNOON

DY is about to get on the bus to leave town. His phone rings and sees that its Holiday. He answers it.

DY

Hey.

There's no answer but he can hear voices on the other end.

INT. HOLIDAY'S APARTMENT - LATE AFTERNOON

Holiday puts her purse over her shoulder and walks towards the door.

HOLIDAY

So what's this all about?

TAPEWORM

Boss wants to know what you've been doin with that black boy.

Hoover gives Tapeworm a look to shut up.

HOOVER

Come on lets go to the diner.  
You'll find out soon enough.

They all leave.

EXT. SMALL TOWN BUS STATION - LATE AFTERNOON

DY hears the conversation and hangs up. He takes his butterfly knife out and starts twisting and flipping it.

EXT. DINER - LATE AFTERNOON

Tapeworm comes out the back door of the diner to have a cigarette. Out of nowhere DY comes up from behind him and slits his neck with the knife. DY takes Tapeworm's gun and walks into the diner cautiously.

INT. DINER - MOMENTS LATER

DY creeps in from the back door and he hears a woman yelping in pain. Holiday is bent over on a table crying while Hoover has a gun to her head and Murray is raping her from behind.

MURRAY

You want to try and do business on the side and take money from me and fuck me over. Now you are the one getting fucked.

DY quickly appears from the shadows and shoots Hoover dead, takes a shot at Murray but misses, Murray grabs his gun, puts it to Holiday's head, and holds her in front shielding him from DY.

MURRAY

Now put your gun down. I'm not playin games here kid. Put it down!

Holiday looks at DY and then her eyes look down to her boot. DY reluctantly drops the gun.

MURRAY

Too bad it had to end up like this. You could of made a lot of money working for me.

DY

I don't work for anyone. Especially some greasy old, low-life, shit kicking, redneck like you.

Murray takes the gun from Holiday's head and points it at DY.

MURRAY

Adios kid.

Murray is about to squeeze the trigger when Holiday grabs her pistol from her boot and shoots Murray dead.

EXT. HIGHWAY - SUNSET

Greyhound Bus drives off into the distance.

DY (V.O.)

With Murray out of the way and  
Benny and Aaron gone, Holiday wound  
up hiring a crew and took over the  
town. We wound up supplying to  
over half the truckers in the  
region.

FADE OUT.