

PICNIC SNITCH

FADE IN:

INT. NONDESCRIPT TEENAGER'S BEDROOM - MIDMORNING - SUMMER DAY

SUPER. Small town in Wisconsin 1974

GARY (17, skinny, tall, long hair) is lying on the bed wearing a T-shirt and jean cut-off shorts. Gary hears a car pull in the drive way. The music is blaring loud rock music from inside the car. Gary hurriedly exits the bed room.

EXT. DRIVEWAY OUTSIDE GARY'S HOUSE

DAN (17, stocky build, dark curly hair, handsome) is waiting in his car. Gary approaches. Dan turns down the music.

GARY

Damn it Dan. Get some new music to play! I heard you when you pulled out of your driveway. So, what's up today - work? Waterskiing?

DAN

I was thinking about going to the quarry today with Megan.

GARY

The cheerleader? She's hot. What about your girlfriend?

DAN

She can still think she's my girlfriend. Anyway, my Dad will be looking for me to help with the yard work. So as far as anybody knows, I am at the store working.

GARY

You didn't have to stop here to tell me that. Now I know too much. No witnesses!

DAN

Cover for me at work this afternoon?

INT. HEAD SHOP - NOON

Gary enters wearing an over-sized button shirt, tie and slacks. VINCE (40s, greasy long hair, yellowed teeth with a body and face like a ferret's) is the owner and sole occupant.

VINCE

Hi. Gary, I don't see your sidekick.

GARY

Dan? He's out with his new girlfriend. Some cheerleader he met from the other team at last week's game.

Gary moves past the head shop into the section where the vinyl records are kept.

VINCE

It's noon. What kind of date is he on?

GARY

He's gone to the quarry to go swimming with her. Bikini lust would be my guess. A couple of beers are also probable guests.

VINCE

I'd switch places with him in a second..

Gary flips through some records and doesn't find what he's looking for. He looks at Vince.

GARY

I've heard of a new group called Cheap Trick. Got it?

VINCE

Do you see it there? You know if I got it, I put it out.

GARY

Later. Gotta go work at the store.

VINCE

Idiot, buy something next time, will ya?

EXT. SHOP-RITE GROCERY STORE

Gary pulls up into the parking lot in his shit brown '70 Gremlin. The engine sputters before quitting. Gary enters the store.

GARY

Welcome to the biggest hole above ground.

INT. SHOP-RITE GROCERY STORE

The BOSS is standing by the office when Gary punches in.

BOSS

What are you doing here?

GARY

I'm filling in for Dan. Besides, I could use a few extra bucks. Mind?

BOSS

Fill the displays and help up front if they get busy.

Gary finishes the display work and walks up front to check out his purchases for break. He is glad to see that Dan's sometime girlfriend DAWN (17, blonde, cute) is going on break too. He grins.

GARY

Dawn. Looking good. Going to Dan's family picnic tonight?

DAWN

I might. I expected him to ask me this afternoon. Why are you here?

GARY

Dan asked me to cover for him.

DAWN

Duh. What's he doing?

GARY

Waterskiing and then helping his Dad get the yard ready. You know I only live a few houses down from Dan's house? Right?

DAWN

Maybe I will see you there.

EXT. QUARRY MIDAFTERNOON

Dan and MEGAN (17, dark hair, slim) are at the quarry.

SERIES OF SHOTS

Dan in his cut-off jeans is splashing water at Megan. Both are laughing.

Megan is catching a Frisbee in the shallow water. Her one piece swim suit shows off her tan.

Dan and Megan are each drinking a soda while sitting close to each other on a quarry rock near the water's edge.

END OF SERIES OF SHOTS

EXT. DAN'S HOUSE - YARD - LATE AFTERNOON

STU (40, beer gut), Dan's father, is working in his yard. He's already has a bottle of beer out.

STU

Where the hell is that boy?

DIANE (40s, chain smoker, loud), Dan's mother, is on her way to the driveway.

DIANE

He's at work Stu. I've told you that twice now. Jesus!

Diane gets in the car, starts it, and then yells out the open window.

DIANE (CONT'D)

I'll stop at my sister's house to make sure we can use her picnic table.

Then, I am going to the corner store for more booze and cigarettes.

STU

Hell woman! Don't sit there and tell me again what you just told me. Just go!

Diane speeds off in her car.

EXT. THE QUARRY - EARLY EVENING

Dan's car is alone at the quarry.

INT. DAN'S CAR - AN INSTANT LATER

Dan and Megan are making out. Their bare feet leave prints on the inside of the windows.

EXT. DAN'S HOUSE - DUSK

The picnic has started with about 30 family members and friends in attendance. Indistinct chatter and laughing is heard. All the adults and older teenagers have a beer. Stu is standing possessively over a glowing charcoal grill.

STU

We got a few steaks here. Dan is going to be hungry tonight. He should be home soon?

DIANE

Did you know that my sister was going out with Vince the head shop guy?

STU

Hell. That ferret? Is he here?

Dawn arrives in her car, looks about nervously, and approaches the people around the grill.

DAWN

Hey Stu and Diane. Is Dan here? I was just driving by and...

DIANE

We haven't seen him since he left for work this morning...

DAWN

Work? Gary worked this afternoon for Dan and said he was home waterskiing and helping get ready for the picnic.

STU

Not this afternoon, he didn't. That son of a...

DIANE

So Gary snitched to Vince who told my sister who told me that Dan was out with some cheap trick of a beer chugging cheerleader wearing a skimpy bikini!

Dawn and Diane are mad. Stu pauses for a moment then grins.

EXT. DRIVEWAY OUTSIDE GARY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Dan pulls his car into the driveway. Gary enters.

INT. DAN'S CAR

Gary can't sit still. He's excited about hearing Dan's report about his date. Gary notices the footprints on the window.

GARY

Guess I don't have to ask how things went at the quarry this afternoon.

DAN

It was good. What do you say  
we go see if Stu's got some  
steak left?

GARY

Affirmative. Let's go.

DAN

Covered my shift? Everything  
cool?

GARY

No worries whatsoever.

FADE OUT