

MURDER AT ROUTE 66

By Nadine.

FADE IN.

INT. CAR - DAY

A Latino-American family are driving through the desert.

The father (Bob) is driving, he is medium height, he is in his 40s, he has bleached light brown curly hair, he is wearing a light brown shirt and dark blue trousers.

His wife (Maria) is in her 40s, she is tall, not too tall, taller than the husband, she is skinny, she has dark hair, it is in a bun sitting on the top of her head, she is wearing earrings, a green blouse and cream trousers.

The son (Hector) is a young adult, 19, he is medium height, the same height as his dad, he has earrings, he is wearing a black hoodie and dark gray joggers.

MARIA

How about we stop at the nearest cafe? Get something to eat.

BOB

Yep! Sounds good.

EXT. CAFE

Car pulls up.

The family get out of the car.

They walk into the cafe.

INT. CAFE

The cafe is not all that, it is shabby, dull cream colors all over. Red seats, gray / silver tables.

It is half packed, half empty.

The family find an empty table and sit down.

They pick up the menu's.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN.

INT. CAFE

There is a tip on the table, the family get up and leave the Cafe.

EXT. CAFE

The family are walking to the car.

BOB

Son, how are you enjoying the trip so far?

HECTOR

It's good, dad.

Bob puts his arm around his son for a second.

They all get into the car and drive away.

INT. CAFE

A late 20 something year old white lady (Jill) comes out of the bathroom, she is medium height, she has short ginger / red hair (the hairstyle is similar to Bridget Fonda's in Single White Female), she is wearing a light green jacket, and blue jeans.
She leaves the Cafe.

CAFE. EXT

Jill is standing outside, she grabs her phone from her jacket pocket, she is texting or whatever.

All of a SUDDEN there is a woman's scream coming from the Cafe.

Jill looks shocked and turns straight round towards the cafe.

She doesn't go back into the cafe.

INT. CAFE

A woman starts shouting.

WOMAN

THERE'S A DEAD BODY IN THE BATHROOM.
(crying and upset). OH MY GOD.

MAN BEHIND THE COUNTER

What are you talking about, lady?

WOMAN

THERE'S A DEAD BODY! (crying).

The man behind the counter rushes towards the bathroom.

The woman starts running out of the diner, still upset and crying.

MAN BEHIND THE COUNTER
Hey, where are you going, lady?
Get back here!

She ignores him and leaves the cafe.

CAFE. EXT
The woman runs past Jill.
Jill walks away from the cafe.

CAFE. INT
The man working at the cafe opens the bathroom main door, there is a dead white man in his mid 20s on the floor, his head is smashed in, there is blood everywhere.
The cafe worker looks shocked.

CUSTOMER 1
What the hell is going on?!

CUSTOMER 2
I'm calling the cops.

Customer 2 grabs his cellphone from his jacket pocket and dials a number.

INT. CAR
The latino american family have stopped outside the cafe.

MARIA
I don't believe it!
We drove in a square, back to where we started. (sighs).

BOB
It's gonna be evening soon, we need to find a motel.
I'll ask in the cafe if they know any nearby.

HECTOR
Dad, we don't need strangers knowing our business.
I'll look on Google.

BOB
Okay.

Hector looks through his phone.

MARIA (To Bob)
I think we should have planned this trip, honey.

BOB
But then it wouldn't be spontaneous (chuckles).
It's what we decided.

Bob leans in for a kiss.
Maria leans in. They both give each other a quick kiss.

HECTOR
Eww.

BOB
Hector, have you found anything yet?

HECTOR
Yeah, there's a motel, about five minutes

drive

From here.

MARIA
Alright, let's go then.

Bob starts the car and drives away from the cafe.

EXT. CAFE - NIGHT

Police are outside the cafe.

There's inaudible talking.

The cafe workers are talking to the police, inaudible police radio static noise is also on.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

The latino american family are in a motel.

The motel is the standard boring dull looking motel with a shoddy old tv and two beds.

MARIA
I'm going to bed.
Night everyone.

Maria gets into one of the beds.

HECTOR
Night, mom.

BOB
Night sweetheart.

Hector has his earphones in via his phone, he sits on the other bed, he is looking through his phone.
Bob is sorting out things in the suitcases.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - MORNING

The latino american family are asleep, they awaken to a loud intimidating banging on the door.

BOB
What the?...

Everyone gets out of bed.

BOB
HOLD ON A SECOND.

Maria and Hector quickly change their clothes. Bob goes to the door and opens it slightly. Two police officers are at the door, a man and a woman officer.

FEMALE POLICE OFFICER
Sir, there was a murder 5 minutes away from here at 'The Mojave Cafe', did you see or hear anything?

BOB
Oh my God, a murder? No, me and my family are on a Road trip, we were there, but there was no disturbance, We didn't see or hear anything.

MALE POLICE OFFICER
Sir, can we come in please?

BOB
My family are just getting changed.
You guys woke us up (nervous chuckle).

MARIA (O.S. = OFF SCREEN)
You can let them in, Bob.

BOB
Okay.

Bob lets the police officers into the motel room.

BOB
Come in, officers.

The officers walk into the motel room.

DISSOLVE TO

SOMEWHERE AT ROUTE 66 - DAY

Jill is at an abandoned gas station. She is on her cellphone, it looks like an intense conversation, she is pacing up and down, she is talking on the phone, but her conversation is inaudible.

EARLY EVENING

Jill is still outside the abandoned gas station.

A car drives up, the car stops, a late 20 something year old slim white bald woman (Kellie) gets out of the car, medium height, feminine clothing, casual blouse, and leggings. She gets out of the car.

JILL
It's about time!

DISSOLVE TO

INT. POLICE CAR - NIGHT

The two police officers from earlier are driving around.

FEMALE POLICE OFFICER
There's no leads, at all. (sighs out of frustration).

MALE POLICE OFFICER

No leads, but a ton of suspects.

FEMALE POLICE OFFICER
There's no proof whatsoever!

MALE POLICE OFFICER
All those people in the cafe, people coming and
Going?! And *nobody* saw *anything*?! And *nobody*
Did it?!

FEMALE POLICE OFFICER
Of course, somebody did it, but...who?!

They drive up to the abandoned gas station.
There is no one in sight.
The police car drives off.

Jill and Kellie appear from behind the abandoned gas station.

KELLIE
I don't need to see the cops right now (sighs).

JILL
I almost didn't recognize ya when you pulled up.
Got fed up of your hair?

KELLIE
Yep! Going for the 90s Sinead O' Connor look.

JILL
Listen, you gotta get me out of here.
Anthony is dead!

KELLIE
What?

JILL
I didn't do it, but I don't wanna be here.

KELLIE
Look, if you run away from this place now and
The police find out you knew him....that's
Going to look bad for you.

police

JILL
I know, but...

KELLIE
Jill, let's get in the car and find those
Officers.

JILL
No way, Kellie.

KELLIE
At least tell me what happened.

JILL
He followed me out here. I tried to get away
From him, but...

KELLIE
He followed you *all the way from Vegas?*

JILL
Yeah.

JILL (CONT'D)
He lived by the mindset that if you're family, you're
In it for the long haul.

KELLIE
I know you guys weren't getting along, but
You could have told me, I mean if it was that bad that
You had to run away...

JILL
A verbally abusive cousin who won't leave me
alone...too ashamed to talk about it.

JILL (CONT'D)
But, I did not kill him!

EXT. MOTEL - DAY

Latino American family are putting their bags into the car.

BOB

I'm not coming back here anytime soon!
Wanted a nice simply time with my family,
Not getting caught up in murder (shakes his head in
disappointment.)

MARIA

Are we allowed to just leave?

BOB

Of course we are! We didn't do anything wrong.
The police just asked us questions and we don't know
Anything.

The family get into the car and drive away.

As the latino family drive away, Kellie and Jill drive past them towards the same motel. They stop at the motel.

Kellie and Jill are entering both their separate motel rooms, the motel rooms are right next to each other.

KELLIE

If you need anything, just knock, okay?

JILL

Yeah, thanks (smiles).

They both enter their hotel rooms.

INT. JILL'S MOTEL ROOM

Jill puts her bag on the bed, she does a double take at the bag.

JILL (To herself)

This isn't my bag.

Jill unzips the bag, there is a baseball cap and a BRICK with BLOOD on it.
Jill looks stunned.

There is a knock on her door.

Jill walks towards the door and opens it.
Kellie walks straight in while talking.

KELLIE
Sorry, I need to borrow your...

Kellie sees the bag open with the bloody brick in it.

JILL
What's going on, Kellie?

KELLIE
Um, this is nothing, this is paint.

JILL
Don't lie to me.

KELLIE
I'm not lying. You shouldn't be going through my bag anyway.

JILL
Maybe I shouldn't have, but I'm glad I did.

JILL (CONT'D)
Too coincidental, Kellie.
My cousin is found dead and now my friend has a
brick
Covered in blood in her bag....Looks kind of
Suspicious, don't you think?!

Kellie sighs and sits on the bed.

KELLIE
Okay...I'll tell you the truth.

Jill sits down on the bed.

KELLIE (CONT'D)
Ever since you told me your cousin was harassing you, it bothered me more than it should, I
didn't like to see my best friend going through this, so I kept an eye on Anthony, I followed

him...ended up here, I followed him to the cafe, into the bathroom, I confronted him, he laughed at me, he went to leave, I lost it and hit him with the brick.

(Flashback of the murder while Kellie is talking about it...Kellie is sitting at the corner back part of the cafe, wearing a baseball cap, Jill and Anthony are at the cafe at the same time, but they do not see Kellie...Jill is having an obvious intense and unpleasant conversation with Anthony, he grabs Jill's arm for a few seconds, he lets go of her arm...Jill leaves the cafe for a minute and is standing outside, looking on her phone...that is when Kellie follows Anthony to the bathroom...and the inaudible confrontation and murder happens)

JILL

You just happened to have a random brick in
Your bag?

KELLIE

Okay, I planned it.
I planned to kill Anthony.

Jill has a worried, disappointed and sad look on her face.

KELLIE

Why are you even sad right now?! I did this for you! He would not leave you alone.

JILL

Look, I'm not sad that Anthony's dead...he would always turn up unannounced at my house, talking crap about me and my life...the sexism, constantly going on at me to get a boyfriend when I enjoy being single...I know that's how he was raised, but he was affecting my self-esteem with his dangerous sexist talk everyday.

Jill sighs.

JILL (CONT'D)

I think he clinged to me because I took care of him when we were growing up. His parents were neglectful, and when they *were* around...his dad would drill into his head how women are inferior to men...my aunt Phyllis, didn't take him out of that situation...or maybe she just couldn't.

JILL (CONT'D)

Anthony never got help and he just clung to me...he just wouldn't leave me alone.

KELLIE

I know...that's why I killed him!

KELLIE (CONT'D)

You were already going through low confidence issues...and just as you were starting to live...this man tracked you down and would not get out of your life! he had to keep putting you down...moving from place to place and restraining orders don't work with people like Anthony. Me and you have been friends since kindergarten...you're my girl...I had to stop him from hurting you.

Kellie sighs.

KELLIE (CONT'D)

I was gonna turn myself in, that's why I was urging you to find those cops, I was gonna tell them and you everything.

We can still go to the police, I'll make it clear that you had nothing to do with your cousin's death. Our friendship is extremely important to me. I will go to prison, I'm just glad that you're safe and that he's gone.

JILL

I can't go to the cops.
You were just trying to protect me.
I won't let you go to prison,
You're my best friend.
We can take this to our graves.

KELLIE

I was careful to make sure nothing traced back to me.

Jill and Kellie hug each other.

DISSOLVE TO

INT. CAFE

Police are at the cafe again talking to the staff and checking out the cafe.

FEMALE POLICE OFFICER

So you didn't see anyone suspicious near the TV camera Unit?

FEMALE CAFE OWNER

No, we sometimes get busy here, and there is Only one camera, we don't have money for more cameras, the camera tape was Removed.

(Flashback. The man behind the counter, leaves for a moment and walks out the back to get something...Kellie casually walks up to the TV Camera unit, it is one of those built in tape televisions, it is behind the counter near the window, Kellie casually removes the tape from the tv and walks back to her seat and puts the tape in her bag)

FEMALE POLICE OFFICER

Okay, thank you.

The female police officer walks towards her partner.

DISSOLVE TO

EXT. MOTEL

Kellie and Jill are driving away.

FADE TO BLACK.

