

TRACKS

By

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FADE IN:

EXT. OLD HIGHWAY 40 SODA SPRINGS - DAY

Josh, 21, is on his LONGBOARD bombing down the biway.

JOSH (V.O.)
Where do I belong? Where the hell
am I heading? Blink and the memory
is old but fresh to the mind.

He approaches his HOUSE, gets off his board, and enters the front door.

INT. JOSH'S HOUSE - DAY

In the living room, he looks for his mom.

JOSH
Mom! I'm home! Any munchies?

JOSH'S MOM, 43, emerges from the kitchen, holding a SHOT GLASS containing a clear liquid.

JOSH'S MOM
Where have you been all day! You
know you were supposed to be here
getting stuff done!

JOSH
I've just been out boardin'.

JOSH'S MOM
Did you clean your room like I
asked you to?

Josh wanders into the KITCHEN, looking for something to eat.

JOSH
Uh, I'll do it later.

JOSH'S MOM
No you will do it now! I'm so tired
of always telling you to do shit.
Did you help Mr. Thompson with his
fence?

JOSH
I haven't yet.

JOSH'S MOM

You know you're nothing but a lazy slacker!

JOSH

We go through this every single fuckin' time, mom.

JOSH'S MOM

Because you don't do as you're told!

JOSH

I'm outta here.

JOSH'S MOM

You get your ass back in here!

EXT. JOSH'S HOUSE - DAY

Josh walks to the DOOR. Someone is knocking. He opens it and sees his GIRLFRIEND, MIKAELA, 20.

MIKAELA

Why haven't you called or answered my text?

JOSH

I'm busy what's up?

MIKAELA

I really need to talk with you about things.

JOSH

You never have anything good to say.

MIKAELA

I'm tired of you always being busy and not having enough time for me.

JOSH

I'm tired of this shit. I have a better relationship with my snowboard.

MIKAELA

How dare you. You're mother did poorly raising you, you're pathetic.

JOSH

Who are you to talk about my momma when your momma is no better than mine. You're mom can't even make a PBJ.

Josh ignores her and walks towards the street.

MIKAELA

Where do you think you're going! I'm suppose to be your girlfriend!

JOSH

Then I guess it's over.

EXT. SUGAR BOWL GAS STATION - DAY

FIREWALKER, 22, a long-haired daredevil thrill-seeker type, is sweeping around one of the gas pumps at the corner GAS STATION where he works. He is wearing sunglasses. Josh skates up to the gas station.

FIREWALKER

I get Thursday off. Might go ride if Ariel isn't passed out at my house again.

JOSH

Wake his lazy ass up.

FIREWALKER

I'm fed up with people who don't do anything but leach off other people.

JOSH

Mikaela's getting on my nerves. Sick of all her drama shit. Mom's bitching at me as always.

Firewalker looks into the distance and thinks for a moment.

FIREWALKER

Dude I was thinking. We need to get outta town. Change our scenery. We should go work and live at our local mountain and get some free boardin'.

JOSH

Sick idea dude. I'd be down. Lets
get the fuck outta here.

EXT. JUDAH LODGE - SUGAR BOWL - DAY

Josh and Firewalker have completed their work shift for the day and exit the employee-only DOOR by the loading dock at the lodge. Josh has EARBUDS in his ear. As they descend the stairs, they talk about their favorite MUSIC.

FIREWALKER

You always listen to that EDM
stuff?

JOSH

Yup deep house, tech house,
psytrance, chill wave, all that
shit.

FIREWALKER

Alternative and hardstyle is where
it's at.

JOSH

Nah, heavy bass sounds is really
popular now.

FIREWALKER

Dubstep?

JOSH

I like some of Skrillex's less
dubsteppy stuff. I like what he did
with that Doors song.

FIREWALKER

Wasn't he married to Ellie
Goulding?

JOSH

I don't know. I'm not into that
culture. What do you think of trap?

FIREWALKER

Trap is like wannabe gangsta rap.

JOSH

Trap is the shit.

EXT. DONNER SUMMIT TUNNEL #6 - DAY

Josh and Firewalker exit the old train TUNNEL. Ample graffiti is seen in the background along the walls.

JOSH

So my manager says he's going to cut my hours.

FIREWALKER

That sucks. Why?

JOSH

Snow conditions. I guess we're entering the dry season. Not many people are coming up.

Josh kicks a rock aside.

JOSH (CONT'D)

I guess it's back to Top Ramen again.

FIREWALKER

Can't you snag some grub from the kitchen?

JOSH

Yeah, but pizza and chicken tenders get old after awhile.

FIREWALKER

Then snag some for me, dude.

JOSH

Last week some lady threw a plate of pasta at me. Fuckin' pissed me off. She said it was too cold and I was too slow.

FIREWALKER

Damn dude. Some people. You must have did something to make her throw that plate at ya.

JOSH

Nah! She just had an attitude or a bad day or something.

INT. TUNNEL - DAY

Josh and Firewalker walk out a broken door in the tunnel's door.

FIREWALKER

Yeah I lost the keys to the lodge manager's office a few nights ago. I'm not too stoked about that.

JOSH

What happened?

FIREWALKER

I dunno. I think I have a hole in my pocket. I also drank a little too much that night. Lets go to the bar.

EXT. TUNNEL - DAY

JOSH

I'm down.

EXT. PRECIPICE - DAY

Josh and Firewalker step on to a PRECIPICE overlooking Donner Lake and I-80. There are patches of snow throughout the mountainside. Josh is in front of Firewalker. Josh stops and faces the VALLEY below.

JOSH

We should kick it here and enjoy this excellent scenery.

FIREWALKER

We see it everyday.

JOSH

I know. But can't you appreciate it? Let's take in the serenity.

FIREWALKER

I do. But I want to head back now.

JOSH

Where the fuck is the snow! There should be more snow here, we need it we need more.

FIREWALKER

Yeah, like you need more weed.

JOSH

Do you think it's global warming? Or is it natural?

FIREWALKER

I think it's caused by man. I think it's a little bit of both, actually.

JOSH

What's going on with this world? What are we coming to?

FIREWALKER

We're all becoming dumb fucks, that's what.

JOSH

Nah, I think it's caused by us.

Josh raises his ARMS in the air, displaying a sudden release of EMOTIONS.

JOSH (CONT'D)

We need a sacrifice! To the snow gods!

Firewalker turns around, starts for the tunnel.

JOSH (CONT'D)

And I think I know who should be the proverbial sacrificial virgin.

FIREWALKER

We're not going to solve it standing here. C'mon, let's get to the bar!

JOSH

It should be Stacy, man.

FIREWALKER

What? No way, she's a fuckin' slut and a crackhead!

JOSH

That's exactly why she should be the sacrifice.

FIREWALKER

The snow gods won't accept her. I heard she slept with Kai who already has a girlfriend. And I heard she's super lazy at work. I'm so glad they fired her ass.

JOSH
 I can't believe I once cared for
 her. Hearing her name now makes me
 cringe. Hey, wait up man!

EXT. CHINA WALL DONNER SUMMIT - DAY

Josh and Firewalker are walking side by side in front of a large retaining WALL made of granite rocks. A tunnel entrance is seen behind them. Sporadic GRAFFITI adorn the surface.

JOSH
 I don't know what do with my life.
 I'm tired of people who are always
 bringing me down.

Josh takes out a CIG and lights it.

FIREWALKER
 Guess who sent me a friend request?

JOSH
 I don't think I want to know.

DJANGO (O.S.)
 Amazing, isn't?

The two, startled by the unexpected presence, look to the source and see a DUDE with long DREADS sitting atop a small ledge at the corner of the entrance and the rock wall.

DJANGO (CONT'D)
 Amazing, that it was built by
 Chinese workers without mortar and
 it's still standing today.

FIREWALKER
 Better than some of the cheap shit
 we build today. People don't care
 about crap anymore.

DJANGO
 See that's one of the problems
 today.

DJANGO, 24, gets up and walks briskly to the other end of the wall, and climbs down the large STEPS where the wall terminates. He has a BACKPACK on. Firewalker and Josh continue walking and met Django at the end of the wall.

DJANGO (CONT'D)
What's happening guys, name's
Django.

JOSH
I'm Josh.

FIREWALKER
Firewalker.

DJANGO
Hey cool name. You guys from around
here?

JOSH
Yea, we work at the resort back
there. What are you doing out here?

The three men resume walking down the old train track path.

DJANGO
I'm a graffiti artist. Just scoping
out these tunnels this afternoon. I
make some of these artwork that you
see around here. This is what I do
in my free time.

FIREWALKER
Awesome dude.

DJANGO
They say you can sometimes hear the
ghosts of the workmen who died
digging these tunnels.

JOSH
That's hella dope.

DJANGO
What do you guys do in your free
time?

JOSH
Girls. I'm so horny.

FIREWALKER
Drink, smoke, get stoned. Talking
shit, problems, drama.

They stop at the entrance to the next tunnel.

DJANGO
Typical snowboarders.

JOSH

Fuck yeah.

DJANGO

There's so much more to life than those things you mentioned.

Josh takes out his PHONE and plays a tune with heavy bass.

DJANGO (CONT'D)

Life is too short to listen to one genre of music. It isn't worth it to worry about things out of our control.

One should enjoy life, explore new avenues other than the conventional and take the path less taken.

FIREWALKER

Get out of your comfort zone. Expand that horizon.

DJANGO

Exactly. Here let me show you an example.

Django also takes out his phone and thumbs through a couple of menu items. We then hear Shake It Off by TAYLOR SWIFT.

FIREWALKER

No, not Taylor Swift!

DJANGO

I bet no one showed you how to do this...

Django proceeds to move his posterior in a CIRCULAR motion, then turns around, teasing the two surprised spectators.

FIREWALKER

What the fuck. This is freaking me out.

Django places his hands against the WALL (or some other surface), accentuating his behind. Josh starts laughing.

DJANGO

C'mon guys, get into it! Lets twerk! It's about learning something new!

JOSH

Uhh what the hell.

Josh starts to imitate Django's movements. He takes a few steps and starts to get into this unfamiliar butt-shaking activity.

DJANGO
A little too fast, dude. Slow down,
get into the groove.

Josh looks at Firewalker.

JOSH
C'mon man don't be a douche!

FIREWALKER
Only if I can have Mikaela!

JOSH
Deal! She's yours!

Firewalker timidly starts moving his behind. Then he and Josh lock their movements in unison. Josh occasionally laughs, and begins to really enjoy moving his body in this seductive manner.

DJANGO
Awesome guys! See how it feels?
Work that booty!

Josh and Firewalker start to actually enjoy themselves, as they show off their new twerking skills.

CUT TO:

EXT. RAILROAD TRACKS - NEAR DONNER SUMMIT LODGE - DUSK

The three are walking along a pair of railroad TRACKS, lined with tall trees. There is a light layer of SNOW on the ground.

JOSH
(At Firewalker)
So you like Mikaela?

FIREWALKER
She's hot.

DJANGO
Where do you guys live?

JOSH
We live in employee housing a few
miles down from the resort.

DJANGO

Cool.

A freight TRAIN, headed by several locomotives, approaches as it makes its way up the mountain.

Django reaches down and grabs a handful of snow, making a SNOWBALL. He throws it at one of the CARS of the moving train. He repeats the process. Josh, then Firewalker, follow suit.

DJANGO (CONT'D)

Imagine the snowball is your stress wrapped up in a little package.

And the train represents a vehicle or conduit for taking that stress away. It's all about symbolism.

JOSH

Hella! Take that stress and tension!

FIREWALKER

This is freakin' badass. You're the boss, Django!

With the TRAIN well off-screen, the three resume their hike along the train tracks. Josh steps onto one of the RAILS.

JOSH

I want to do something meaningful. Like travel and work around the world, maybe like New Zealand.

FIREWALKER

I've thought about working in something that has to do with environmental science.

JOSH

Environmental science?

FIREWALKER

Yeah, something outdoorsy.

JOSH

Go for it then.

DJANGO

See what a little twerking can do for you?

Josh, Firewalker and Django walk side-by-side into the direction of the SUNSET.

JOSH (V.O.)

Life is full of loss, but does not give us a reason to destroy ourselves. It makes us stronger. Surpassing expectations that we have, especially our own, is worth its weight in gold.

Be a trailblazer. Walk in the path you make for yourself, and leave your worries and insecurities in your tracks behind you.

FADE OUT.