WEAK END

by
Michel J. Duthin

Phone: 33 623233561
FADE IN:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

A forest path leading to a glade.

A SUV slowly pulls in and stops. A group of young adults gets off the car. Three guys and two girls: ALEX, PAUL, IRVIN, KATE and MADDY.

    ALEX
    I told you. The perfect place for a picnic.

As everyone starts to unpack blankets, baskets, beer and music for a picnic, Kate stays by the car, shivering.

    KATE
    I don’t like it here. Let’s go somewhere else.

    ALEX
    Stop it, Kate. It’s lovely.

    MADDY
    Alex’s right. Lot of shade. Nobody in sight.

    KATE
    I have a bad feeling about it.

    IRVIN
    Don’t start with your bad feeling thing.

They keep unpack. Kate stays immobile, staring at them.

EXT. FOREST - GLADE - DAY (LATER)

Alex, Irvin and Paul are playing frisbee. The toy sometimes glides out of reach, but they get it, laughing.

The blankets are laid on the ground and Maddy and Kate serve several salads.

    MADDY
    You see. There’s nothing to worry about.

    KATE
    Maddy, do you remember the last time I had that feeling?
MADDY

Nope.

(confidentially)
And I don’t give a fuck.

She turns to the guys.

MADDY (cont’d)
Hey, guy. Lunch’s ready!

ALEX
‘coming!

He throws the frisbee a last time to Paul, but the toy flies off through the bushes.

PAUL
This time, you get it back, buddy.

IRVIN
Alright, alright! Don’t get mad at me!

Irvin runs to the bushes and disappears behind.

Paul and Alex sprint to the two girls and sit by them.

MADDY
Fuck. The knives are missing.

Alex gets up.

ALEX
Get them.

He runs to the car as Paul starts to open beer cans. Laughing, they start to eat as Alex comes back with the knives.

ALEX (cont’d)
Here they are.

KATE
Where’s Irvin?

PAUL
Off to get the frisbee back.

They all turn in the direction where Paul has disappeared.
Paul gets up.

PAUL (cont’d)
Where’s that nerd?
3.

EXT. FOREST - DAY
Paul paces to the bushes.

    PAUL
    Irvin?
No answer.

    PAUL (cont’d)
    Irvin? Are you there?
He checks behind the bushes.

    PAUL (cont’d)
    Stop your shit, man!
He keeps walking.

    PAUL (cont’d)
    Irvin! That ain’t funny!
Paul notices the frisbee on the ground. He picks it up and scans around.

    PAUL (cont’d)
    Irvin?!
    MADDY
    (to Paul)
    Paul! Where is he?
    PAUL
    I can’t see him! Just this!
He raises his hand and shows the toy to the group.

EXT. FOREST - GLADE - DAY
Alex gets up and paces to Paul.

    ALEX
    Where’s that fucking retarded?
Maddy gets up at her turn.

    MADDY
    Wait for me. Coming with you.
    KATE
    No way I wait here. Stay with me, Maddy.
She’s shivering again.
EXT. FOREST - DAY

However, she is joining Alex. They both reach Paul under Kate’s worried look.

ALEX (to Paul)
So?

PAUL (showing the frisbee)
Just this.

ALEX (calling out)
Irving! Stop that fucking game! You’re scaring the girls!

MADDY
I’m not.

ALEX
Anyway. I’m sure he’s hiding somewhere.

MADDY
I’m sick of his fucking tricks. (to Paul) That’s the last time you bring that lame-brain.

PAUL
It was Kate’s idea.

ALEX
Listen guys. Let’s split. He shouldn’t be very far. Paul, you search that way. Maddy, that way, and I’m going that way. Okay?

MADDY
I’m gonna kick his balls off.

They split and start to search on their own.

EXT. FOREST - GLADE - DAY

Kate is scanning around, apprehensive. Sometimes, she discerns a head and can hear her friends calling out.
ALEX (V.O.)
Irvin!

PAUL (V.O.)
Irvin!

MADDY (V.O.)
Sucker!

EXT. FOREST - DAY
Paul steps through the forest, pushing the bushes away. He hears a CRACKING on his left.

He paces to the spot and finds Irvin’s body. His throat has been torn apart.

Horrified, he steps back and falls on his butt. Under his hand, he feels something. He raises his hand and sees—

A VOODOO BRAN DOLL
The doll has a piece of Irvin’s tee-shirt attached on it and a needle is stuck in its throat.

Paul gets pale when he notices by the dead leaves a second doll with the same linen as his shirt attached on it.

IT HAS A NEEDLE STUCK IN THE HEAD
Terrified, he gets up, staring at the doll. A CRACKING is heard in his back. He turns back when a log crashes on his skull.

EXT. FOREST - GLADE - DAY
Kate is shivering.

EXT. FOREST - DAY
Maddy keeps progressing through the bushes and arrives on a path. There, she stops.

MADDY
(to herself)
What the fuck?
(a sigh)
I’m going back.

She comes back but she looks lost. She starts to distress. She suddenly runs through the forest and finds herself at the foot of a gigantic tree.
Panting, she reclines on the tree and notices on the ground a bran doll with her effigy. There’s a needle stuck in its belly.

Maddy raises her eyes to the top of the tree when something swoops down on her.

HER SCREAMING ECHOES IN THE FOREST

EXT. FOREST - GLADE - DAY

Kate hears her screaming. She turns to that direction when she sees Alex sprinting to her.

ALEX
Kate! Help me!

Suddenly, he falls and disappears behind the bushes. She can hear him moaning and groaning, then, the silence.

Scared to death, Kate springs to the car and gets in it. Behind the steering wheel, she locks every door and puts her hand at the starter.

THE KEY HAS GONE

Like a little child, she huddles on herself, legs in her arms, eyes filled with terror.

Suddenly, the car is like hiccupping, shaking from everywhere on its suspensions.

Hysterical, Kate is shrieking.

The glove box door opens wide and something drop on the passenger seat.

A voodoo bran doll looking like Kate. It has a long needle stuck between its legs.

Horrified, Kate gets off the car.

EXT. FOREST PATH - DAY

A Forest Police Department car is slowly driving on a forest path.

INT. FOREST POLICE DEPARTMENT CAR - DAY

Behind the steering wheel, MORRIS, mid-fifties, fat and big mustache, is quietly driving. At his side, PHILIP, 25, is smoking a joint.
PHILIP
What a fucking bore. Next time, I’ll join the Marines.

MORRIS
Stop complaining and pass the dutchie.

PHILIP
Hey, this one is mine.

MORRIS
Alright. I’ll keep the booze for me.

PHILIP
Okie dokie smokey.

He hands Morris the joint.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Kate is running through the forest like a maniac. She passes through bushes, gets scraped off by the branches, when she stops.

At her feet, Maddy’s disemboweled body.

Kate is too scared to scream.

Behind her, she can hear a kind of buzzing. She has goggled eyes, and starts to sprint off.

The buzz is getting closer.

Kate keeps on sprinting and turns back. She can see the tree limb in front of her, and her head collides with it. She falls on the soil and SCREAMS.

INT. FOREST POLICE DEPARTMENT CAR - DAY

In the patrol car, Philip straightens up on his seat.

PHILIP
Have you seen there?

Morris stops the car.

MORRIS
What?

PHILIP
There.
He points to a direction. The tree where Kate has just bumped into.

MORRIS
What there?

PHILIP
You’d better have a look.

MORRIS
Why me?

PHILIP
Because-- You’re the chief.

Sighing, Morris gives the joint back to Philip, and gets off the patrol car.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Reluctantly, Morris walks on a few feet and sees nothing. He turns back to Philip who indicates a farther spot.

Morris reaches the tree where Kate was and stops there. He listens to the forest. The birds are singing. He scans the surroundings. Nothing.

As he walks back, he steps on something. He lifts his foot and notices Kate’s bran doll. He picks it up and comes back to the patrol car.

PHILIP
So?

MORRIS
(shaking his head)
Stop smoking.
(he sighs)
I found this. You’ll give it to your kid.

He hands him the bran doll.

It had a tiny red spot between the legs.

FADE TO BLACK:

EXT. FOREST - GLADE - DAY

WRITTEN: ONE WEEK LATER

The same glade.

A car slowly pulls in and stops at the edge of the glade.
TWO GUYS and TWO GIRLS get off the car, ready for a picnic.

Another guy gets off through the driver door and joins them: Alex.

    ALEX  
    I told you. The perfect place for a picnic.

He reenters the car.

    ALEX (cont’d)  
    Start to unpack, guys! I’ll be with you in a minute!

INT. ALEX’S CAR - DAY

Alex opens the glove box.

There are four voodoo bran dolls.

Alex takes the first one and pierced it with a needle, right into the heart.

FADE OUT:

the end