

The Bridge
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FADE IN:

EXT. FAR END OF BRIDGE - NIGHT

A late 70's Mercedes Benz blocks the right lane of the rusted bridge.

The hazard lights flash on and off, illuminating the pitch black forest ahead.

Glassy water below reflects the full moon up through the bridge decking.

The driver, BILLY, 18, exits the car and inspects the front left tire. His breath, visible in the cold air.

BILLY

I told you it was a flat.

SHAWN, 17, exits the passenger side.

SHAWN

It could have been the spark plugs.

BILLY

On a diesel engine? Go get the spare.

Billy throws the keys at Shawn.

They bounce off Shawn's chest and land on the bridge deck. The shadows below the bridge move slightly.

Shawn picks up the keys and walks to the back of the car.

MARK and KATIE , both 17, exit the back doors and walk to the front by Billy. Katie wraps a SCARF around her neck.

MARK

What happened?

BILLY

A flat.

Shawn opens the trunk.

SHAWN

You just have one spare?

BILLY

No Shawn. I keep four spare tires in my pocket just in case someone asks me a stupid question.

SHAWN

Good, because the back tires are flat too.

BILLY

What?

KATIE

So's this one.

Katie points to the front right tire.

MARK

What'd you run over?

BILLY

Nothing! This is bullshit!

Mark rolls his eyes and walks away from the group.

MARK

I gotta piss.

EXT. MIDDLE OF BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Mark walks to the railing and urinates off the side of the bridge.

The stream of urine splashes in the water ten feet below.

There's a faint sound of metal tapping on metal, TINK TINK.

EXT. FAR END OF BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Billy dials a number on his cell phone.

SHAWN

Who you callin'?

BILLY

Your mom. I'm going to see if I can ride her ass home.

SHAWN

Fuck you Billy! Fix your piece of shit car yourself!

Shawn and Billy argue back and forth.

The sound of splashing urine suddenly stops.

Katie looks toward Mark. He's not there.

KATIE
Where's Mark?

Shawn and Billy don't hear her, too busy arguing.

EXT. MIDDLE OF BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Katie walks over to the railing where Mark was just standing.

KATIE
Mark?

She looks over the rail, a dark patch of water flows by.

EXT. FAR END OF BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

BILLY
You're going to fix one of these
flats or your ass is walking home!

SHAWN
I'm not fixing shit!

In the b.g. Katie silently gets ripped over the side.

SHAWN (CONT'D)
Hey Mark, let's walk back to your
place.

He turns to face Mark and Katie. They're gone.

Shawn looks to each end of the bridge.

SHAWN (CONT'D)
Mark! Katie!

Shawn listens for a reply.

Silence.

EXT. MIDDLE OF BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Shawn walks over to the spot where Mark and Katie were just standing. Billy joins him.

BILLY
Where the fuck'd they go?

Billy looks over the railing. Katie's scarf floats away in another dark patch of water.

Shawn stands in the middle of the bridge, looking in all directions for Mark and Katie.

Billy turns toward Shawn, then stops suddenly.

BILLY (CONT'D)
 (scared)
 Shawn.

Shawn whips around and yells at Billy.

SHAWN
 What!

Billy gets yanked off his feet and dragged over the side of the railing. TINK TINK TINK.

Shawn's eyes go wide. He rushes to the rail and looks over.

Billy holds on to the lower railing with a death grip.

Two metallic claws dig into his torso, ripping through his jacket, trying to pull him under the bridge.

Blood seeps out where the claws pierce his flesh.

Shawn reaches down and grabs Billy's wrists.

Absolute terror reads across Billy's face.

BILLY
 Don't let go Shawn! Don't let go!

Billy's eyes go vacant. His body weakens.

SHAWN
 I got you! I won't let go!

Billy's hands slip off the lower rail.

Shawn's grip slips from Billy's wrists to his hands.

SHAWN (CONT'D)
 You're slipping. Billy! You're slipping!

A third claw appears from behind Billy and sinks itself into Billy's shoulder. His hands slip away.

BILLY
 Shawn!

Shawn stumbles back and falls down in the middle of the bridge.

Something scurries around the underside of the bridge deck. TINK TINK TINK.

The sound of bones crushing, flesh ripping apart. Billy's scream is cut off.

EXT. BELOW BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Blood and entrails dump into the creek. A dark patch of blood flows down stream.

EXT. MIDDLE OF BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Shawn stands up.

SHAWN

What the fuck is going on!

He looks down through the metal deck and sees a dozen shadows moving around.

The TINK TINK TINK of their claws, rings in his ears.

He stares in disbelief as a pair of yellow eyes stare back.

His heart races.

Shawn looks toward the car.

A cloud blocks the moonlight and casts a slow moving shadow over the car. TINK TINK TINK.

Faint shapes crawl out from under the bridge and climb on top of the car. The back hazard lights shatter and go dark.

The creatures lumber toward him from within the shadow.

The front hazard lights continue to illuminate the forest beyond, with every pulse.

The squat form of the creatures, silhouetted with each flash.

Shawn looks toward the other end of the bridge. It's more than 100' away.

He tries to run but his feet won't move.

He looks down, some of the creatures are beneath him. Their claws grip his shoes through the metal deck.

The shadow moves closer.

In a frenzy, Shawn struggles with all his might to rip his shoes free from the claws. They won't budge.

The shadow is almost upon him.

Shawn crouches and frantically tries to untie his shoes.

The shadow is mere feet away.

The creatures HISS.

He can make out the oblong shape of the creature's head.

Dozens of glowing eyes glare at him.

He struggles with the knots on his shoes, the shadow is almost upon him, his feet are free!

EXT. BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

He sprints for the other end of the bridge.

The creatures shriek!

Underneath, the creatures move with incredible speed, slashing at Shawn's feet through the decking.

He bobs and weaves to avoid having his feet shredded.

He gets a cut on his right foot. A slash on his left. They get bits and pieces of him but he continues to run.

75 feet to go. He zigzags trying to confuse the creatures. Their claws are everywhere.

50 feet. Their claws shimmer in the moonlight like deadly diamonds strewn all over the road.

25 feet. The creatures stop nipping at his feet and the claws disappear. He quits zigzagging and runs full speed.

10 feet. He's almost there.

He gets ready to jump the last few feet when...

Claws pop up through the decking in front of him, every inch covered, nowhere safe to step.

His foot slams down on a claw, it pierces straight through.

The surrounding claws latch down on top of his foot.

His momentum carries his upper half forward but the claws hold tight on his foot.

He slams face down on the claws. He screams as they shred the front of his entire body.

Just as quickly as the claws rip into him...

They stop.

He slowly pushes himself up to a kneeling position.

Deep slashes cover his front. Blood seeps from every inch.

He raises his head up.

His left eye is missing, the other is barely recognizable.

His lips are ripped off, exposing bare teeth.

His nose dangles by a thin piece of flesh.

Deep gouges along the sides of his face ooze blood.

He looks down at his arms.

Exposed bone glistens in the moonlight.

Pulsing pools of blood fill the voids in his flesh.

He looks up.

Glowing yellow eyes hover directly behind him.

A HISS.

He turns his head to look behind him.

The shadow covers him.

CUT TO BLACK.