

THE CURSE OF THE DANCING SCORPION



FADE IN

EXT. TRAVELLING FAIR-MOSS'S SHOOTING GALLERY-DAY

One hand raised; a model SILVER GIRL rides a model motorbike on a spinning wheel.

CAPTION:1973

A panel of painted cheering crowds catches stray pellets; their garnished attire- pot marked.

SOUND OF PAINTED CROWD (brief) CHEERING.

A pellet slams a spinning male model rider down.

HARLEY (O/S)

Your good.

PING: another rider bites the dust. Now it's just the silver girl.

HARLEY

Bad- ass-superfly.

LAURA

Harley.

HARLEY

Bad ass isn't cussing mom.

It's a... it's a naughty donkey.

LAURA SKY (30s, aka Albatross) smiles.

HARLEY SKY (13, aka Smudge, aka Cloud Buster) eyes her dream
socket set: prize for shooting down all three spinning riders.

A mother-of-pearl charm bracelet with a silver MERMAID
charm(prize)lies on top of it.

Harley squeezes her father's wedding ring, chained round her
neck. Hanging from her belt, a silver transistor radio crackles
music.

MOSS (60s, owner) presses a button; speeding the wheel up;
whizzing the silver girl.

Harley skims Moss a scowl, her eyes cage the silver girl.

Harley desperate need to have the socket set melts Moss's tough
heart.

He presses a button to slow down the spinning wheel to snail
pace.

SHELLEY SKY (16) aims the pellet rifle at the silver girl-

PEBBLE (shaggy dog) bounds into him; spoiling his shot: his
pellet scars the painted crowd.

A GIRL chases Pepple.

GIRL

Bad Dog.

Harley gapes at the spinning silver girl. The shock of her brother missing tunnels to temper.

She boots a jutting rock fails to budge it. Head down aims a savage kick at it.

LAURA

You'll hurt your toes.

Harley halts her boot mid-swing grins at her mum.

His fingers twisted with arthritis, Moss hands Harley a consolation bagged goldfish.

Harley's oil-stained hands smudge the bag as she rises the goldfish to her eyes.

HARLEY

(Naming the goldfish)

Lady Drift.

Shelley peeks under the goldfish.

SHELLEY

(About the goldfish)

It's a boy.

Confused, Harley scans its nether regions.

EXT.UNDER CANOPY-DAY

Wheelchair bound, LEON eyes mist as he stares at a faded PHOTO: Angel's café, Eifel Tower shadows CLAIRE (17, long dyed BLOND hair, his daughter) her hand entwines Leon's as she hugs him. A silver ANGEL pennant hangs around her neck. (Claire died a year after the photo was taken from cancer.)

Blazing sun.

MAL1 (Personalized) the Rolls-Royce's number plate.

It dusts the heat haze.

Pulls up.

A glitter girl rides a diamond on TRIxie GLITTER SPICE'S (18) thigh as her leg yawns out the Rolls.

She pops her parasol, dons' shades. Strokes the Roll's angel as she sashays to Leon-breaking his reverie.

Leon snaps close the photo's silver case before Trixie can see the photo.

LEON

(To Trixie about the bike)

Sorry, it's out of bounds.

SKYBLAZER: beautiful dirt bike.

Trixie smiles at Leon, checks her glittered nails.

Her PHOTOGRAPER stares at the Rolls.

PITT CARVER (40s, big, Mal's bodyguard) gets out.
Grinds Brazilion nuts with a scorpion tattooed clenched fist.

INT.LAURA'S MOBILE TRAILER-DAY.

FRAMED PHOTOS: LUKE (Harley's dad) pushes a young Harley on a swing.

YOUNG HARLEY (V/O)

Higher daddy higher.

Hair streaming, hand reaching to touch heaven, Laura leaping a river on Skyblazer.

Eyes on the Laura photo, Harley gulps chocolate milk. She wipes her mouth smearing oil, from her hand, and chocolate over her face.

Laura wipes the stains of Harley's face, strokes Harley's DARK short spiky hair.

Harley's hand entwines with Laura's.

Laura's looks at a photo of a farmhouse and corn fields.

LAURA

We're going to get our
home back Smudge... one
last puddle to leap.

EXT.DANCING SCORPIAN CANYON-DAY

A ramp angles over the canyon; receiving ramp on the other side.

A sheer death drops to rocks, the Colorado river a sliver of blue.

Shelley checks the ramp's sturdy structure; a splinter stings his finger.

EXT.UNDER CANOPY-DAY

Prostrated on Skyblazer, Trixie pierced tongue laps (Golden flower the stud's head).

Photographer snaps her.

PHOTOGRAPER

(To Trixie)

We're done.

Shelley strides past the Rolls and Pitt, notices Leon's growling face.

He's shading under Trixie's parasol: marks in the sand show where Pitt has dragged Leon; in his wheelchair.

Trixie lifts her shades.

TRIXIE

Hi sweetie.

SHELLEY

Shelley

He offers her his hand; she ropes climbs his arm...her fingers
feather his face.

TRIXIE

Trixie...

She pinches glitter from pouch on her glamour belt, sprinkles
Shelley with stars, unicorns, and angel's glitter.

TRIXIE (CONT'D)

Glitter Spice.

Plucks her parasol of Leon as Shelley escorts her to the Rolls.
Its tinted window buzzes down.

MAL SHERMAN (O/S)

My green paid for that pretty
bike (Skyblazer)boy!

SHELLEY

She's pretty

(Gives Trixie a smile)

But you don't own her-boy!

On Shelley saying boy, Trixie giggles.

The Roll's door is shoved open, and Mal's manicured hand beckons
Trixie- vipers a slap to send her reeling.

SHELLEY

Animal!

Pitt clamps Shelley as he launches for Mal.

Snake's skin his boots, belt and gaze, MAL SHERMAN (50s) steps out the Rolls.

MAL

You know what I do own
boy-a tent cent whore...

His fingers greases Laura's signature on a contract.

MAL (CONT'D)

slut left her mark here.
And I reckon
(Licks his lips)
Colorado be getting her
wet tonight.

SHELLEY

Contracts can be broken.

Shelley struggles to snatch the contract.

Harley charges Pitt-stamps on his foot.

HARLEY

(To Pitt)

Let him go!

MAL

(To Shelley about Harley)

So can little girls' backs.

Mal slides into the Rolls; Pitt frees Shelley.

Rocketing to her tiptoes, Harley thrusts Pitt the finger.

Plastic hand fan cooling her face, eyes on Shelley, Trixie yawns into the Rolls.

Harley scowls at her, dusts a glitter star of Shelley it spins in the air.

EXT.DANCING SCORPIAN CANYON-DAY

A helicopter buzzes the sky trailing a banner: DANCING SCORPION CANYON'S 100 THOUSAND DOLLARS CHALLENGE.

SILKY SPARKS'S (HOT news reporter) toothpick rolls inside her mouth she's wearing CARL "the maddest" MUSTARD'S star-spangled cowboy hat.

SILKY

(To Carl)

Wallflower or rocking it
with the scorpion?

SPLIT SCREEN:1 runs footage of Carl's daredevil stunts. 2 CARL MUSTARD (40s, tough, star-spangled jacket: Evel Knievel) and Silky.

CARL

Ain't a bone I ain't broken...

He stares hard at the canyon.

CARL (CONT'D

Laura-the Albatross got more
grit than the Rockies.

(beat)

More gravel than me.

Albatross emblazon on her jacket, Laura kisses Leon's cheeks.

LEON

Glide the ramp at a hundred
you'll Albatross it.

She hugs and kisses Shelley.

SHELLEY

You don't have -

Her fingers touch his lips.

HARLEY

Touch heaven mom.

Harley hugs her mum.

Laura dons her helmet, mounts Skyblazer.

CHEERLEADERS

Albatross your so fly you
touch the sky.

Wheeling, Laura waves at the crowd.

RAISED PLATFORM: NIGEL (Mal's salesperson) demonstrates a toy bike with a Laura doll rider on it.

NIGEL

We are doing fifty thousand
units a week, projected to be
Santa's number one sack filler.

MAL

You'll shift a million tomorrow...

Mal switches on the battery motorized bike-it clatters of the table spilling the Laura doll.

MAL (CONT'D)

after they scrap the whore of
the canyon's wall.

CRYSTAL BOWL: engraved in silver it depicts a forlorn MERMAID watching her PRINCE on a marble cliff reaching for a glowing gold flower (Sky Flower); stars form a zodiac scorpion: Pearl's Lake.

Oysters lie in the bowl's melting ice.

Mal slits open an oyster's suck- swallows it contents as he leers at Trixie.

Roped of tarmac stretches to the ramp. Laura races up it, turns at the top, kisses her chained crucifix-revs Skyblazer.

Crowds roaring as she flashes by them; her speed monitor nudging ninety.

Shelley closes his eyes, doesn't see Pebble bounding towards the ramp the girl chasing him-Leon does.

He shoves his wheelchair gets tangled in the cordon ropes as he tries to intercept the dog.

LEON

Harley!

Harley darts under the cordon rope-Pebble dodges her.

Laura's bike speed monitor hits a hundred-Laura slams on the breaks. Skidding, she shaves Pebble-smashes into one of the ramps supporting post.

SLOW MOTION: a trapped piece of Trixie's angel glitter is flung from Skyblazer.

Laura is catapulted, broken arm failing, clings onto the edge of the ramp one handed; a hundred feet below her death on the rocks awaits.

Her hand slips.

Harley dives; Laura gripes Harley's hand-dragging Harley over the ramp's edge. Knowing she is pulling Harley to join her in death, she LETS GO- too soon: Shelley dives supporting Harley.

HARLEY

Mom!

Trixie's silver glitter angel lands on Harley's tear-stained cheek.

She takes a step over the abyss- Shelley yanks her back.

Roaring crowd goes silent; MAL smiles, slits an oyster finds a PEARL-crushes it between his perfect white teeth.

INT.BONNIE AND CLYDE'S DINNER-DAY

CAPTION: one year later.

MUSIC PLAYING: RAY PETERSON (Tell Laura I Love Her).

Name sewed into her uniform, PEARL SUMMER (17) sings as she cleans chocolate of CURT'S (boy)fingers.

His farther watches.

PEARL

(sings)

Tell Laura I love her; tell

Laura, I need her; tell Laura I

may be late there something I need

to do- (Sings fast) clean chocolate
fingers-that cannot wait.

She checks Curt's clean fingers.

PEARL

(To Curt)

Sparklers.

BILLY CARR (17) gives Pearl's back shy furtive glances.

Nervously, he forks holes, shapes a love heart in his fried egg.

Behind the counter, BONNIE GOODSOUL (70s, black) reads her
bible, sniffs the air.

INT. BONNIE AND CLYDE'S KITCHEN-(CONT'D)

CLYDE GOODSOUL (70s, black) deliberately burns burgers; smoke
dodges a dying fume extractor.

Pearl tags an order onto a tack.

Bonnie bustles in, eyes her husband.

BONNIE

Them burgers sinners?

CLYDE

Nope.

BONNIE

Then why you are sending them
to hell?

PEARL

(To Bonnie)

Sheriff wants them fried
like a...

CLYDE

(Imitating sheriff Hogg)

Death row convict.

BONNIE

(To Clyde)

Hush!

Bonnie bustles to exit, slows as Clyde sings.

CLYDE

(sings)

Tell Bonnie I love her; tell
Bonnie, I need her...

INT. BONNIE AND CLYDE'S DINNER-DAY.

Pearl places the plated burgers in front of sheriff ROY HOGG. Pinned to his shirt is Paster Eugene church badge (Pearl wears the same badge).

From her apron's pocket, Pearl takes out a special hot sauce (red devil design) puts it on the table.

Hogg smiles at Pearl.

HOGG

Much obliged Pearl.

TEENAGERS finish their milkshakes. One slaps the back of Billy's head as he passes.

TEENAGER

(To Billy)

Been lighting anymore fires-
Billy boy?

Billy keeps his head down.

They rag him; eyes on Hogg's back so he doesn't turn round and spot their actions.

One of them, squirts Ketchup on Billy's overalls.

TEENAGER

(To Billy)

Liar, liar- your pants
are on fire.

Pearl moves to shoo them; Hogg turns his stare stampedes the teenagers out the dinner.

Billy crushes the love heart, poked in the egg, before Pearl can spot it.

Pearl gives Billy tissues; he wipes his overalls.

When Billy speaks, he always covers his mouth with his hand; like he's hiding a harelip.

BILLY

(Head down not looking at Pearl)

Last night of the travelling
fair...you going?

Billy doesn't see Pearl shake her head: her heart is crying out to help him.

BILLY

Billy, do you want to take me?

He gives her a nervous glance, expecting she's joking.
Billy nods shyly.

PEARL

I'll meet you outside here at six.

Pearl joins Bonnie: she has been watching them.

BONNIE

(About Billy)

Poor child.

Billy shuffles out the dinner.

INT. TRENT'S GARAGE-DAY.

SANDY (Small dog) sniffs at a poisoned rat trap.

Billy enters, scoops her up.

Under a car, TRENT'S CARR (40s, wiry) hand shoots out, Billy flinches.

TRENT

Screwdriver!

Several screwdrivers to choose from, Billy panics- hands one: Trent slings it.

Faded love heart tattoo on his arm, Trent swift to his feet.

Fixes Billy his intimidating stare.

TRENT

Your fucking useless.

BILLY

Sorry Pa.

TRENT

Where you been?

Billy looks down, he never looks directly into Trent's eyes.

BILLY

Bonnies.

Trent seethes with contempt.

TRENT

Pearl. You're ain't going to
catch rainbow trout. Best you
hope for is a blind catfish.

BILLY

(mumbles)

We're going to the fair.

Billy flinches as Trent boots a wrecked starting motor into the air.

EXT.FIELDS-DAY

Riding her dirt bike, NO HELMET, Harley glides... lands, jumps of her bike. She shifts a flag to mark the new distance she has jump.

She rides the ramp-lands in a rut- flies over the handlebars.

Shelley sprints to her.

Harley clambers springs to her feet (silver laces in her boots), checks her bike.

HARLEY

(To Shelley about her bike)
Ain't broken.

SHELLEY

Wear your helmet- do you want
break your neck?

She plants her flag forward to the new distance she has jumped.

Catches Shelley pushing her bike; wrestles it from him.

HARLEY

I've just started.

SHELLEY

School's in.

Leon sits behind a table loaded with textbooks.

Harley's schoolbooks cover has her logo draw on it: silver girl,
hand raised, riding a motorbike.

Leon selects an A level maths book (Well advanced for someone of
Harleys age).

Harley eyes the ramp.

Leon places a pint of chilled chocolate milk onto the table.

MILK BOTTLE: chocolate cow smacking its lips.

LEON

(Emphasizes MOO)

MOOlicious.

Harley grins, sits down at the table.

INT.BONNIE AND CLYDE'S DINNER-DAY

Using a pencil, tipped with a mermaid rubber, Pearl guides a wasp out the window.

Pearl's POV through window: DIRT and NELSON (Stone scorpion bikers) lounge on their gleaming chrome hogs (Harley Davis bikes}).

Harley pulls up, dismounts.

A filthy stone scorpion badge rags Dirt's leather jacket. He hoists up his bike chain belt.

DIRT

(To Harley about her not the bike)

Nice ride does it come with fur?

Nelson laughs.

HARLEY

It comes with this.

She thrusts him the finger.

DIRT

Popsicle.

HARLEY

Goldfish dick.

Pearl grins.

Dirt fuming, Harley skips into the dinner...

INT.BONNIE AND CLYDE'S DINNER-(CONT'D)

breaks Pearl's fall as she spasms. Helps her to stand.

Pearl rubs her back.

PEARL

Thanks.

HARLEY

Bruise? I've got a home made
salve stings like nettles-then
heaven. I'll bring you some (Checks
name tag) Pearl.

Harley gives Bonnie a flyer (Promoting the river jump.)

HARLEY

Chocolate milkshake please.

It's poured; Harley goes to pay.

PEARL

It's on me.

BONNIE

It's on the house.

They watch as Harley drains the glass in one go.

PEARL

(To Harley)

Smudge.

LAURA (V/O)

(Harley hears)

Smudge.

Harley's POV: Laura wipes the chocolate smudge off Harley's face.

Laura's face morphs into Pearl's.

PEARL

Sorry...force of habit.

Harley turns to leave, stops, fishes her V.I.P free access to all areas of the show card.

Gives it to Pearl.

INT.BONNIE AND CLYDE'S DINNER-KITCHEN-DAY

Cassette in a boom box plays gospel music.

Clyde mops the floor.

Bonnie gives him a kiss on the cheek.

BONNIE

Behave.

INT. BONNIE AND CLYDE'S DINNER-(CONT'D)

Pearl tidies.

Bonnie bustles out of the kitchen.

BONNIE

Billy's a good boy- but
if he were to get devilish
show him the Lord's knee.

Bonnie mimes kneeling someone in the balls. Kiss pecks Pearl's forehead. Bustles out of the dinner.

Clyde pokes his head out of the kitchen.

CLYDE

Bonnie, gone to bible class?

Unseen by them, Bonnie's bible on the counter.

PEARL

Just left.

Clyde ducks back into the kitchen.

MUSIC: BUSTA RHYMES (Turn It Up) blasts out of the kitchen.

Pearl spots the bible-darts for it as Bonnie rattles the door open.

She rushes to give it to Bonnie, Bonnie steams into the kitchen.

INT.KITCHEN- (CONT'D)

Clyde hip-hop dances with the mop.

BONNIE

Funky damnation!

Bonnie clutches her cross.

BOOM BOX: the reels of the cassette spin.

INT.TRENT'S GARAGE-DAY

Wheels spinning, BEAR and COLE (Stone scorpion bikers) ride their hogs into the garage.

Trent greets them.

Billy eyes the clock:5.00pm, gets ready to leave.

TRENT

Where do you think you're not going?

Billy eyes the floor.

TRENT

Your done when I say.

Trent points at a car wreck.

TRENT

Full moon M.O.T.

Billy shuffles to the wreck.

BEAR

(To Billy taking the piss)

Better pull out your jam rag.

TRENT

(To Bear)

Watch your mouth when you
speak to my boy.

BEAR

I was just joshing.

Trent gives Bear the stare.

TRENT

I'm not.

BEAR

Got it. Beer?

EXT.BONNIE AND CLYDE'S DINNER-NIGHT

Pearl checks her watch:6.05PM.

INT.TRENT'S GARAGE-OFFICE-NIGHT

Clad in lingerie, Trixie's picture rides a motorbike on a calendar.

Whiskey bottle, ashtray brimming, Trent, Cole, and Bear play, with stained pictures of naked women on them, cards.

Through a dirty window, Trent spots Pearl entering the garage.

He drops his winning hand, scatters the pot's dollars as he scrambles to intercept Pearl.

TRENT

He stood you up.

Trent throws Billy a look of disgust: working on the wreck.

Trent sucks in Pearl's scent.

TRENT

(About Pearl)

Peaches and cream.

Pearl thinks he is talking about the boxed apple pie she has brought for Billy.

PEARL

It's an apple pie for Billy.

Trent plucks it off her.

TRENT

I'll make sure he gets it.

You lonesome?

He gestures to his smoke-filled office; Beer and Cole leer at her.

Pearl shakes her head.

PEARL

Bye Billy.

Billy sneaks her a nervous glance.

She backs out; Trent dogs her...one last sniff then his eyes strip her as she half flees.

Grinning at Billy, Trent pops the box-bites into the apple pie, cream spills onto his face.

EXT.STREET-CONT'D

Pearl breezes across a level crossing heading for the dinner.

Hands trembling, she shoves them into her summer jacket's pockets...pulls out Harley's pass.

A bus, going to the FAIRGROUND stops at the bus stop.

No traffic on the road but Pearl, like a good girl, waits at the level crossing.

The bus is nearly loaded.

PEARL

(To level crossing)

Come on.

It signals she can cross- she dashes to the bus.

EXT.TRAVELLING FAIRGROUND-NIGHT

PUNTERS queue at a roped off area to the bike show.

BOB and JAKE (Fairground workers) collect entrance money.

MUSIC: GLEN CAMPBELL (Rhinestone Cowboy) This song encapsulates the essence of Harley Sky.

Seated on planks, punters ignore Harley as she does the warmup act: balances on one wheel...leaps of a small ramp.

DEAN (14) notice Harley and takes snaps of her tricks with a professional camera.

Harley notices the crowd's indifference rides to Leon.

Leon is selling a weathervane to a punter (figurine pedals a cycle as the sails catch the wind, he makes them himself)

HARLEY

He's late.

LEON

Plenty of time.

A ramp arches over the narrow river (Climax of the show). Harley scowls at it.

HARLEY

Let me jump it- a
chocolate cow could jump it.

LEON

Maybe I'd risk a chocolate
cow but not my CLOUD BUSTER
(Giving Harley her moniker).

HARLEY

I'm going to flip a pancake.

She revs- hits the ramp screeching, flips her bike 360degrees;
Dean snaps her.

Lands, waits for the sound of cheering; crowd hasn't noticed her
spectacular feat.

EXT.FIELDS-NIGHT

HARLEY'S RADIO playing ISLEY BROTHERS (Summer Breeze) plays.

Harley steams along.

HARLEY

(To herself)

A chocolate cow could jump it.

A jutting rock catches her boot- her kick doesn't budge it.

She bends her head, aims a mighty kick at it.

PEARL (O/S)

You'll hurt your toes.

LAURA (V/O)

(Harley hears)

You'll hurt your toes.

She looks up, rock forgotten.

Links her arm into Pearl's

HARLEY

C'mon.

PEARL

Where are we going?

HARLEY

Fishing.

PEARL

Don't we need a rod?

HARLEY

We'll use our hands, what you
catch you keep. Okay?

PEARL

Okay.

Harley switches off her radio.

EXT.RIVER-NIGHT

Wearing just denim cut-off jeans, Shelley lies in Honeysuckle.
His foot dangles in the water, baseball hat and long blond hair
shading his face.

Harley puts her finger to her mouth to shush Pearl.

Sneaks...nips Shelley's sunken toe; Shelley jerks it out the water.

HARLEY

(To Shelley)

Barnacle's biting?

She pincers her thumb and forefinger together like a crab.

SHELLEY

A crackling crab.

(Spots Pearl)

A mermaid.

Harley darts, searches Shelley's catch net. Oil from her hands iridescent the water's surface.

Reflected in its rainbow surface, Shelley gives Pearl a GOLDEN flower (Honeysuckle)

SHELLEY(O/S)

(Reflected in water)

Shelley.

PEARL (O/S)

(Reflected in water)

Pearl.

Harley frees a crayfish trapped in Shelley's net.

HARLEY

You haven't even caught a goldfish.

SHELLEY

I need tastier bait.

He swings his sister over the water...lands her gently.

She playfully punches his arm-snatches his baseball cap and plonks it on Pearl's head.

HARLEY

(Quickly whispers in Pearl's ear)

You've caught his heart.

Guards her, hands darting like a defending basketball player.

Shelley gives Pearl it looks good on you look.

Reels in his fishing reel.

EXT.RIVER-NIGHT

Shelley revs his motorbike; speeds up the ramp, glides...lands on the ramp on the other side of the river.

GIRLS whoop and cheer as he jumps his bike back over the river.

LATER:

Love struck girls swarm Shelley seeking his autograph, hoping for a date.

Harley pushes Leon, he's reading the Hunchback of Notor-Dame.

She spots Shelley, jealous of his adoring fans-rockets the wheelchair.

Bumping and bouncing Leon.

LEON

(To Harley in French, English subtitles)

You were magnificent tonight
but please no more flipping
the pancake: my old heart can't
take it.

Leon clutches his bouncing heart; Harley grins, slows down.
They enter the travelling fair grounds.

HARLEY

(In French, English subtitles)

You used to read that to us when
we were little.

LEON

(In French, English subtitles)

Yes.

HARLEY

(In French, English subtitles)

Shelly cried when Esmeralda died
why did Quasimodo lay down and
die next to her? I mean she didn't
love him, she loved the solider.

LEON

(In French, English subtitles)

Would you have shed your tears if
he had packed up his hump and
skipped away singing the bells
the bells.

Harley grins.

They arrive at the candyfloss store.

LEON

(To vender)

Two candyfloss please.

He pays, gives Harley the two candyfloss; she mingles them
together.

Leon spots Dean.

LEON

(In French, English subtitles)

You have an admirer.

Harley spots Dean: he gives her a wave.

She launches her middle finger-crashes it back into her palm before she gives Dean the finger.

LEON

(In French, English subtitles)

Has my D'artagan broken her
duelling finger.

He checks Harley's middle finger.

LEON

(In French, English subtitles)

No! Have fun.

Leon wheels himself away heading for his trailer.

Harley tears candyfloss-scoffs it.

Heads into the crowd, sneaks a peek: Dean follows her.

EXT. RIVER-NIGHT

MUSIC: BREAD (Make It with You).

Adoring girls swamp Shelley.

Pearl glides by, avoids Shelley's seeking eyes, cocks his baseball cap at a jaunty angle.

Smells the flower he given her.

EXT. TRAVELING FAIRGROUND-MOSS'S SHOTING GALLERY-NIGHT

MUSIC: BREAD (CONT'D).

Dirt's pellet misses the silver girl.

He clatters his rifle onto the counter.

DIRT

(To Moss)

It's a con.

(Spots Pearl)

Popsicle.

Pearl backs away as Dirt and Nelson target her.

PEARL

(Smells Shelley's scent)

Honeysuckle.

Her hand drifts behind her back; Shelley takes it.

SHELLEY

(To Dirt and Nelson)

Bedtime boys.

Dirt and Nelson go to smash him-back-up as Bob and Jake storm up behind Shelley.

With glares, they depart.

Holding hands, Pearl, and Shelley head to Moss's stall.

Pearl's eyes light on the silver mermaid on the mother-of-pearl bracelet.

In the crowd, Billy watches them.

EXT.TRAVELLING FAIR- NIGHT

Harley ducks washing lines, dodges barking dogs, hides behind a mobile trailer.

Dean passes the trailer-Harley springs.

Locks his arm in a half nelson.

HARLEY

(In French, English subtitles)

Why are you dogging me?

DEAN

I don't-

HARLEY

(In French, English subtitles)

I have ways to make you squawk.

She shoves his arm up higher.

DEAN

I just wanted your autograph.

Instantly, she releases him.

HARLEY

My autograph?

DEAN

Yes.

Dean massages his shoulder. Hands her an autograph book.

She snatches it, her fingers trembling with excitement.

EXT.MOSS'S SHOOTING GALLERY-NIGHT

Two riders shot down; Shelley aims at the whizzing silver girl.

EXT.TRAVELLING FAIR-NIGHT

AUTOGRAPH BOOK: Harley has drawn her silver girl, hand raised, on a motorbike logo.

She bites the pen's end ... adds CLOUD BUSTER around the logo.

HARLEY

Want to see my bike?

EXT.HARLEY'S MOBILE TRAILER-NIGHT

Harley sits on her bike.

HARLEY

I can strip its motor down
And put it back together-
blindfolded!

She covers her eyes with her palm, peeks through her fingers.
Grins.
Dean snaps her.

EXT.BOX IRON BRIDGE-NIGHT

POV through bridge's slats: Pearl and Shelley cross the bridge
on his bike.

The mermaid bracelet glitters on Pearl's wrist.

EXT.PEARL'S LAKE-NIGHT

MUSIC: BELINDA CARLISLE (Circles in The Sand) plays.

Pearl's head rests on Shelley's chest.

Her eyes on the lake.

A full moon mellows rock-stone cliffs.

She plays with her mermaid charm bracelet.

PEARL

(Sings Belinda Carlisle: Circles in The Sand)

Circles in the sand going round
and round where you go, I will
follow for we are bound together...

SHELLEY

You have a soulful... haunting
voice, your song?

PEARL

It's the mermaid's song for
this is her lake.

SHELLEY

(Teasing)

I thought mermaids were salty fish.

Pearl grins.

PEARL

Not this mermaid. She swims
in pristine water away from

the sharks and razor clams.

EXT.FANTASY PEARL'S LAKE-MORNING

A MERMAID(Pearl)sings. Tiny seashells weaved in her hair, silver heart scales her fish tail.

A lovestruck SCORPIAN dances to her song.
Its sting draws a love heart in the sand.

PEARL (V/O)

She sings for her true love
Prince Moonshell.

The scorpion hides behind a rock as PRINCE
MOONSHELL(Shelley)brings the mermaid flowers.

A flower falls from Pearl's hand and unseen by them, the
scorpion steals it.

PEARL (V/O)

Each morning he would bring
her the wildflowers she adored,
but the SKY FLOWER she craved
more than anything.

Sunbeams rainbow through the marble cliff, high up the glowing
gold SKYFLOWER gleams.

PEARL (V/O)

Its petals contained the power

of metamorphosis. Her tail could
become feet and she run with her
Prince amongst the wildflowers.

MERMAID

(To Prince Moonshell)

I forbid you to quest for the
SKY FLOWER.

PEARL (V/O)

She desired the Sky Flower
but loved him more; for her
Prince to risk his life on
the marble cliffs.

EXT.FANTASY PEARL'S LAKE-DAY

Prince Moonshell scans the cliffs for the Sky Flower.

PRINCE MOONSHELL

(To himself)

Tonight, I will pluck the
Sky Flower so, my love and
I can dance the world's
flowering meadows.

PEARL (V/O)

Unaware to him, the jealous
scorpion listened.

The scorpion hiding behind a rock.

EXT.FANTASY PEARL'S LAKE-NIGHT

The mermaid awakes from a nightmare-sees her Prince scaling the marble cliffs.

Twinkling stars: Zodiac scorpion.

Moonshell plucks the glowing Sky Flower- the scorpion stings him (hiding behind the flower).

Moonshell topples to the rocks below, the Sky Flower floats lands on his shattered body.

Rocks lacerating her, the mermaid crawls to him.

Crushes the Sky Flower; dies in his arms.

EXT.PEARL'S LAKE-NIGHT

Shelley strokes Pearl's hair.

PEARL

They die in each other's arms.

SHELLEY

So sad.

PEARL

No. Their hearts are bound from
this life into the next.

Headlights approach, engines rumble.

PEARL

Let's go.

They mount up as the Stone Scorpions arrive.

DIRT

(To Pearl)

Popsicle!

Dirt circles his hog around them.

They make a break- the Scorpions hot on their trail.

Shelley bent low; Pearl clinging to him, they blaze stony
ground.

Whooping, the fun of the chase, the Scorpions split: some to
chase, others to cut off any escape route.

Shelley rockets to the box bridge- sees Scorpions waiting.

He serves as Dirt swings his bike chain, hoping to slash
Shelley's face.

Shelley ducks a bottle launched at his head; dodges Scorpion's
hogs- burns along the riverbank.

He spots the ramp he used to jump the river; twists his bike back onto the plains- brakes.

He turns to Pearl; she nods- clings as if she's holding on for her life; which she is.

Building speed, zigzagging Scorpions they hit the ramp; glide... rear tyre explodes, suspension buckles but they land in one piece.

Pearl's breath- heart races; her eyes wild.

Clinging to him in a death hold, her lips lock onto his.

Behind a rock, Billy glares- hates.

EXT.SHELLEY'S MOBILE TRAILER-NIGHT

HARLEY'S RADIO: FLEETWOOD MAC (The Chain) plays.

Pearl watches Shelley as he fixes his bike.

Swinging her radio by its strap, Harley drifts over.

She smiles at Pearl' eyes the damaged bike.

HARLEY

Your folks know your safe?

PEARL

They're in heaven

(Off Harley's sad look)

Accident...brakes failed... I've
phoned Bonnie: I live with her
and Clyde.

Shelley searches for a spanner; Harley hands him the right one.

HARLEY

Best you stay the night

(Off Pearl's concern, Shelley's eyes lighting up)

With me.

Harley grins at her brother.

INT.HARLEY'S MOBILE TRIALER-NIGHT

Pearl scans: motor bike books stacked high, blindfold and engine parts, a bag with chocolate cow bottles' token tops, face (Dean's) drawn on chocolate kissed paper (Harley been practicing kissing Dean.

Pearl quickly looks away from the drawn face so not to embarrasses Harley.

Looks at the photo off Laura jumping the river.

HARLEY

(About the photo)

My mom touching heaven.

Two goldfish swims in a spotless tank, a plastic mermaid sleeps at the bottom.

Harley sinks, eyes level with the goldfish, blows her cheeks out like a goldfish, kisses the tank.

HARLEY

(Naming the goldfish)

Lady Drift and Big G.

She gives a quick peek at Lady Drift's nether regions.

A hammock is slung across the room, a chocolate cow doll on it (Send milk top tokens to get one).

Harley points at a tidy bed.

HARLEY

The bed's yours; I like
to sleep-fly.

She smiles, gives Pearl a lost look of hopeless stops herself from biting her knuckles.

PEARL

You've met a boy.

Harley nods.

EXT.SHELLEY'S TRAILER-NIGHT

Bike fixed; Shelley rides out into the night.

INT.STONE SCORPIONS' LODGE-NIGHT

Scorpion's regalia.

Beer bottles scatter the floor.

Drunk bikers snore.

Explosion shatters the windows.

Dirt stumbles to the broken window- misses seeing Billy scarping away.

Tanks erupting; Hogs in flames.

INT.HARLEY'S TRAILER-MORNING

Harley pours chocolate milk over a bowl of popping rice-crispies.

Door KNOCK.

SHELLEY (O/S)

You up Smudge?

HARLEY

Who is it?

SHELLEY(O/S)

Shelley.

Harley grins at Pearl.

HARLEY

Shelley? We don't know no

Shelley around here.

Hands behind his back, Shelley enters.

HARLEY

What are you hiding handsome?

Shelley gives Harley a bag with a baby goldfish in it.

She kisses his cheek, rushes to make a goldfish family.

Wildflowers, he gives Pearl.

EXT.FIELDS-DAY

Pearl smells the flowers.

SHELLEY

Back in a tic.

He heads off towards his trailer.

HARLEY

(Teasing)

Shelley, Shelley I love you, pick
me some flowers, ring me a bell.

Harley links her arm into Pearl's

HARLEY

C'mon.

INT.STORAGE TRAILER-DAY

Harley slides a dust sheet off Skyblazer.

HARLEY

Skyblazer, my mom's bike.

Harley strokes its twisted frame.

PEARL

It's beautiful.

HARLEY

It's the best; Leon design it.

She slides onto the bike.

HARLEY

He won't let me fix her.

PEARL

Why not?

HARLEY

I don't know.

Harley crouches low, her soft eyes now flint.

HARLEY

I could jump the moon on
Skyblazer.

EXT.FIELDS-DAY

Sheriff Hogg slaps handcuffs onto Shelley.

Harley races - wrenches to release the handcuffs.

HARLEY

(To Hogg)

Let him go!

PEARL

Roy...Sheriff why are you
arresting him?

HOGG

Suspect. The Scorpions' bikes
got barbecued last night.

HARLEY

He was with me last night!

HOGG

Reading you a bedtime story,
Goldilocks and the 3 bears?

HARLEY

We were fixing his bike.

HOGG

That so Pinocchio. Well, I'm
the big bad wolf and this little
piggy (Shelley)going to the pokey.

Harley raises her boot to stamp Hogg's foot.

Hogg eyes Harley's raised foot.

HOGG

Pokeys got plenty of space.
Aint no straw beds!

PEARL

He was with me.

HOGG

All night?

Pearl looks deep into Shelley's eyes; Hogg watches sees the lie coming before Pearl says:

PEARL

Yes.

Hogg unlocks the handcuffs.

HOGG

(To Shelley)

You've got yourself a moonshine
alibi: 100 percent proof.

(Says low so only Shelley hears)
Ruin that girl and I'll bury you.

Hogg tips his hat to Pearl.

HOGG

Pearl.

(To Harley)

Pinocchio.

Hogg strides to his cruiser.

Harley gives Hogg's back the finger, licks it and tests the wind.

EXT. RAPE FIELDS-DAY.

Holding a kite, Leon is being pushed by Harley.

Flowered rape (Beautiful site) dusts them with yellow pollen.

Shelley piggybacks Pearl.

Latched onto the wheelchair, Harley's radio plays THE BANGLES
(Walk Like an Egyptian)

Harley does the dance moves to the song.

LATER: Pearl still on Shelley's back fingers his hair.

PEARL

You'll be gone tomorrow
will you miss me?

SHELLEY

Nope.

Pearl grins.

PEARL

Not even a little bit?

Shelley contemplates.

SHELLEY

Nope.

PEARL

Lips can lie, hearts

tattoo the truth.

She rubs his heart; checks the palm of her hand; sees an
IMAGINARY tattooed heart with Shelley loves Pearl in it.

PEARL

Your heart says you love me.

SHELLEY

Forever.

Forever is now tattooed in the IMAGINARY heart.

LATER:

A windmill's sails rotate.

HARLEY'S RADIO PLAYS: ISLEY BROTHERS (Summer Breeze)

Harley darts through wildflowers-leaping trying to get lift to
her kite.

Her boot catches a jutting rock.

She goes to boot it, shrugs her shoulders, runs with the kite.

Kite takes flight; Leon holds its string.

Shelley weaves straw into an IMAGINARY GOLD RING.

He slips it on Pearl's finger.

INT.PASTER EUGENE'S HOUSE-DAY

PASTER EUGENE (50s BLACK) watches Harley as she wrinkles her nose at a glass of milk... sniffs it suspiciously.

EUGENE

It's milk from a cow.

HARLEY

Not a chocolate cow.

Eugene eyes the star struck lovers.

EUGENE

(To Pearl and Shelley)

It's not Vegas.

Holding her nose, Harley downs the swirling white milk.

INT.HARLEY'S TRAILER-DAY

Pearl spins, she's wearing Laura's wedding dress.

HARLEY

Mom will be so happy.

Harley fingers her father's wedding ring.

FLASHBACK: INT.LAURA'S FARMHOUSE-DAY

Lying on the bed, her fancy dress angel wings chocolate stained,
Harley (Child) plays with her father's wedding ring.

Tears in her eyes, Laura packs up their belongings; they are
leaving bank has repossessed their farm.

HARLEY

Won't daddy need his ring
in heaven?

Laura threads the wedding ring onto a chain, slips it around
Harley's neck.

LAURA

Daddy wants you to look after
it till Shelley is a man... he
sent an angel to tell me.

HARLEY

An angel.

Harley's hand reaches under the bed holds Shelley's hand.

INT.HARLEY'S TRAILER-DAY

Harley gives Pearl her father's ring.

HARLEY
It's Shelley's.

INT.EUGENE'S CHURCH-DAY

Eugene smiling as Shelley slips the wedding ring onto Pearl's finger.

Pews filled with people from the travelling fair, Leon next to Harley.

Bonnie staring misty eyed, Clyde beaming with pride.

Dean snapping the lovers; Harley watching him.

EXT.FIELDS-NIGHT

Pearl and Shelley; fairground people; Bonnie and Clyde dancing.

Leon, alone, staring at his PHOTO.

Unseen by him, Harley watching him.

HARLEY
(To Dean)
There is someone very special
to me that want you to kiss.
(Off Dean's confused look)
like this.

Harley kisses Dean on his cheeks.

They go over to Leon; he closes the photo's silver case.

HARLEY

(To Leon)

Leon this is Dean

(Mouths to Leon)

my fly guy.

Leon kisses Leon on his cheeks.

DEAN

Pleasure to meet you sir.

LEON

The pleasure's mine.

Leon cuts slices of wedding cake for them.

Scoffing cake, Harley watches her brother and Pearl dance.

Pearl's mermaid glints as they twirl.

EXT. PEARL'S LAKE

Dean riding pillion, Harley pulls up.

HARLEY

Pearl's lake.

They dismount.

Harley races into the darkness.

HARLEY

Catch me- if you can!

She hides in the shadows of the cliffs-jumps Dean as he passes.

Going to kiss him, she bottles it.

Climbs.

A narrow path zigzags the cliff.

Harley sees a wildflower growing on a ledge. A twenty-foot vertical- death- climb to it.

HARLEY

(Pearl has told her the mermaid's tale)

The Sky Flower.

Dean sees Harley wants the flower, starts to climb for it; she stops him.

HARLEY

I'll get it. It's not for me
it's for the mermaid.

She climbs, clinging to crags, does not see Dean shadowing her.

Higher and higher.

She reaches the wildflower- scups it- slips.

Her hand reaches out as she falls.

BLACK SCREEN.

Sprawled on a rock (As if she has fallen on it) Harley moans.

She rolls onto her back, gently cradles the wildflower in her hand.

HARLEY

(Playfully groans)

Chocolate milkshake.

Dean gives her bottled chocolate milk.

She gulps it, smudges chocolate as she wipes her mouth.

HARLEY

(To Dean)

Twice you have saved my life.

She grips his hand.

HARLEY (CONT'D)

From falling.

She gulps chocolate milk.

HARLEY (CONT)

From dying from thirst.

(Beat)

Pearl said it would be so easy.

DEAN

What?

Harley kisses Dean.

EXT.DIRT ROAD-NIGHT

Dean's arms around Harley's waist, they motor towards the iron box bridge.

Behind them, Hogg's cruiser lights swirl on.

Police siren wails.

HARLEY

The big bad wolf.

(To Dean)

Do you want to do hard- time
on a chain gang?

DEAN

No.

HARLEY

Hold tight.

Harley twists her bike onto the rocky scrub, cruiser chases.

The dirt bike skips the harsh terrain easy leaving the cruiser trailing.

HARLEY

He huffed and puffed but
he couldn't blow Harley down.

Hogg gives up the chase, heads back to the road- crashes into a ditch.

EXT.RIVER-NIGHT

Holding hands, Pearl and Shelley follow a candle lit path leading to a small pavilion.

SHELLEY

The mermaid's palace.

He lifts, carries her in.

EXT.RIVER-MORNING

Pearl and Shelley frolic in the river.

Hiding the potted wildflower, Harley waves at them.

INT.SILK PAVILLION-MORNING

A knife punctures the silk, slits a hole in it, Bear climbs in.

Harley enters-drops the pot as Bear's hand clamps her mouth.

EXT.RIVER-MORNING

Dirt stamps to the river's edge.

DIRT

(Shouts at Shelley)

Got you a wedding present.

Hand covering Harley's mouth, her legs kicking, Bear hoists Harley.

DIRT

(Shouts at Shelley)

I'll open it.

Dirt points the knife at Harley.

SHELLEY

(To Pearl)

Stay in the water.

Shelley front-crawls to the bank- decks Nelson as he comes to grab him.

Cole crashes Shelley down.

Dean arrives knows he's too puny to save them-dashes for help.

EXT.FIELDS-MORNING

The fairground people pack up their stalls.

A dozen of them and Leon around a campfire cooking breakfast.

Dean charges into them.

DEAN

(To Leon)

The bikers have got Harley!

LEON

(To fairground people)

The bikers are raping Harley.

Snatching crow bars and hammers, the fair people run with Dean.

Hopelessly, Leon tries to keep up with them.

EXT.RIVER-MORNING

Cole bear-hugging Shelley- Dirt punching him.

Pearl swims to help Shelley- grips her spine as she spasms -goes under the water.

Shelley sees Pearl is drowning- back headbutts Cole.

Now free, he storms to the river; Dirt rugby tackles him down.

Shelley grips Dirt's wrist as he tries to stab him.

Harley bites Bear's fingers.

HARLEY

(Screams at Dirt)

Let him go! Pearl's drowning!

Dean jumps onto Bear's back-pummels him.

Dean's arm brakes as Bear flings him.

A Traveller shatters Bear's jaw with a crowbar frees Harley.

Pearl failing in the water; Dirt about to stab Shelley.

Harley's boot shrapnel Dirt's teeth.

Shelley scrambles- dives... surfaces with Pearl.

Pulls her to the bank; she's not breathing.

He pumps her chest, locks onto her mouth breathes life into her...
she sputters to life.

SHELLEY

I thought I had lost you.

PEARL

Mermaids can't drown.

They kiss.

INT.HOSPITALS' WAITING ROOM-DAY

Her legs linked around Dean's legs; Harley draws her Cloud
Busting logo on Dean's arm plaster cast.

Leon reads The Three Musketeers.

INT.CONSULANT'S ROOM-DAY

X-ray of Pearl's tumorous spine.

CONSULANT

Chemotherapy-

PEARL

How long have I got?

CONSULANT

It depends-

PEARL

How long?

CONSULANT

A year.

SHELLEY

She can't die.

CONSULANT

I'm sorry.

(Beat)

There is an eminent surgeon

Doctor Joshua Cox... he's expensive.

SHELLEY

I'll get the money.

(To Pearl)

The Dancing Scorpion.

EXT.FIELDS-NIGHT

Pearl sits on a trye, hanging from a tree, holds Shelley's hand.

PEARL

Don't be a fool with your life.

SHELLEY

I can jump it.

PEARL

I forbid you.

Unseen by them, Harley watches.

SHELLEY

You want me to watch you die?

PEARL

No.

She slips off her wedding ring; press it into his hand.

PEARL

I never loved you

(Off Shelley's face)

you were just a summer fling-

I have them all the time.

She LETS GO of his hand- cut to Harley's face.

PEARL

Go. Go!

SHELLEY

I'm not going to let you die.

Shelley disappears into the night.

Harley darts to Pearl.

HARLEY

(Angry)

You shouldn't have let go.

(Softly)

You shouldn't have let go.

She grips Pearl's hands.

EXT. FIELDS-DAY

CAPTION: ONE WEEK LATER.

Chocolate cow cuddly toy faces a sprawled Harley.

They lie on the top of her mobile trailer.

HARLEY'S RADIO PLAYS DAVID SOUL (Silver lady).

She's chewing the top of her pen and doesn't realize ink is staining her lips.

HARLEY

(Sings along to the song)

Silver lady take my hand I wont

run out on you again believe me...

She clutches her heart, leaving an ink stain on her tee-shirt.

A letter to Pearl is already finished and now she starts on one to Dean.

She writes: Dear Dean- crosses it out. Writes My fly guy.

HARLEY (V/O)

(Thinking aloud)

Last night I dreamt of you.

I was with Wonka, building

a chocolate motorbike. You

were there ... an Oompa Loompa!

Harley grins, smudges ink on her lips.

INT.MAL'S OFFICE-DAY

Mal's nails are being manicured.

He signs a contract with a gold pen, slides it and a plastic pen to Shelley.

PEN: Laura's picture printed on it. She's wearing a dark fluid bikini; when the pen is vertical: fluid drains down to strip Laura naked.

Pitt, ready to grab Shelley.

Shelley snatches the pen signs the contract- shoves it at Mal.

Slams the pen; scratching the expensive table; flushing fluid out of it.

MAL

Pen will cost you ten
cent- table a lot more: my
green isn't going to build you
a pretty bike- boy!

EXT.FIELDS-DAY

Shelley launches of the ramp... lands fifty feet short of a flag:
the distance he needs to cover to cross The Dancing Scorpion
Canyon.

HARLEY

I'm going to mend Skyblazer.

LEON

Let her sleep.

HARLEY

It's mom's bike- not yours!

I can jump it- a chocolate...

(Unsure)

I can jump it.

Leon clenches his wheelchair wheels- shoves it to her.

LEON

Never!

HARLEY

He'll die!

LEON

Yes.

Harley storms away.

LEON (CONT'D)

Unless he breathes fire.

Harley darts to Leon.

He hands her a folder entitled- DRAGON.

She opens it: diagrams to build a motor bike.

LEON

Build it.

EXT. LEON'S MOBILE TRAILER-DAY

Wheels, engine parts, Leon has already brought.

Harley sparks a welder, constructs the bike's lightweight frame.

EXT.GRAVEYARD-DAY

Billy at his mum's grave: died when he was young from cancer.

BILLY

(Mumbles the Lord's pray)

Pearl heading for her parent's grave, gives Billy a flower for his mum's grave.

Billy has been sent out by Trent to get beer and the pack warms in the sun.

INT.TRENT'S FARMHOUSE-LIVING ROOM-DAY

Trent watches horse racing.

Billy enters, flinches as Trent slams the armchair rest with his palm as his horse falls.

Trent snatches the six-pack off Billy.

He pops one, drinks, spits the warm beer at Billy.

TRENT

Warm- your fucking useless.

He springs-headbutts Billy.

As Billy crumbles, the flower, what Pearl gave him, tumbles out of his hiding place.

TRENT

I've spawned a sissy.

Trent's boat crushes the flower.

TRENT

I'll get you a doll
for fucking Christmas.

Not protecting himself, only the flower, Billy covers it with his hand.

Trent stamps Billy's hand.

Snatches Billy's ankle and drags him as Billy tries to scuttle under a table.

Shoves his boot onto Billy's throat- chocking him.

TRENT

Fix me some grub- that
I won't choke on.

EXT.FIELDS-DAY

His back resting against a crumbling wall (His hideaway,) Billy painstakingly glues the crushed petals onto the flower's stem.

His hand bruised and swollen.

A rust bitten biscuit tin contains toy tin cars and motor bikes, matches, pilers and a newspaper clipping of Pearl's parent's car "accident".

A love heart has been carved in the wall: Billy loves Pearl.

There is a hole in the wall where Billy can hide the tin.

INT.EUGENE'S CHURCH-DAY

MUSIC: KATE BUSH (A Woman's Work)

Pearl sings with a black choir.

The girls' fingernails painted with the image of the cross and
Jesus loves you.

PEARL AND CHOIR

(Sing simultaneously with Kate Bush's song)

(Gospel version.)

Make it go away...

EXT.CHURCH-DAY

SONG CONTINUES.

Pearl limps to Dean- he rushes to meet her.

Gives her photos of her wedding.

EXT. FIELDS-DAY

Shelley has lost weight; stripped to the waist, he is now just muscle.

Pearl's wedding ring hangs on a chain around his neck.

He launches his bike off the ramp... lands forty feet short of the flag.

INT. BONNIE AND CLYDE'S DINNER-DAY

Pearl sitting behind the counter.

Curt won't let Bonnie clean his chocolate coated fingers.

CURT

Pearl.

Using a walking stick, Pearl hobbles over.

Sings as she cleans Curt's fingers:

PEARL

(Singing)

2,6,9, the monkey drank wine
... and they all went to heaven
in a little rowing boat.
Clap. Clap.

She claps Curt's hands.

EXT.LEON'S MOBILE TRAILER-DAY

Leon claps: Harley sitting on Dragon.

A dragon emblazons its tank.

LEON

Let it breath fire.

Harley revs; its exhausts breaths fire.

EXT.FIELD-DAY

Riding Dragon, Shelley rockets of the ramp... lands twenty feet past the flag.

Harley hugs Leon.

HARLEY

You're the best.

He gives her Claire's silver ANGEL pendant.

HARLEY

I can't take it; it's Claire's

He closes her hand around it.

LEON

Claire wants you to have it.

(Beat)

She sent an angel to tell me.

HARLEY

An angel.

LEON

(Meaning Harley is an angel)

An angel.

Harley wears the pendant.

INT. BONNIE AND CLYDE'S DINNER-MORNING

Pearl picks letters up, turns the door's closed sign to open.

She sits, opens a letter: photos and a letter from Harley.

PHOTOS: Harley, Shelley, Leon, and Dragon.

PEARL

(Looking at Dragon's Photo, cries)

No.

Billy enters sees Pearl's distress at the photo of Dragon.

BILLY

(About photo)

Does it pain you?

PEARL

It fills me with dread

(Beat)

and hope.

She gently touches Billy's bruised face.

PEARL

Oh Billy.

EXT.DANCING SCORPION CANYON-DAY

Toothpick in her mouth, Silky Sparks interviews Shelley.

One of Mal's dolly birds astride Dragon, another one tries to get close to Shelley.

SILKY

So, no nerves? I get vertigo
just thinking about it.

A slight shake of Shelley's head.

SILKY

The strong silent type.

(Turns to the camera)

That what we like ah girls?

(She winks)

Hot bod too.

Harley rushes-pulls the dolly bird off Shelley.

HARLEY

(To Dolly Bird)

Stop licking him.

(Into the Camera)

He needs his mermaid.

INT.BONNIE AND CLYDE'S DINNER-LIVING ROOM-DAY

TELE: Pearl, Bonnie, and Clyde watch Harley imploring the mermaid to come to Shelley.

Pearl's packed suitcase waits close to a beautiful seashell ornament.

BONNIE

(About Shelley)

He's going to get some good gospel.

INT.BONNIE'S CAR-MOTORWAY-DAY

Gospel music playing on the cassette player.

BONNIE'S POV: A signpost twenty miles to the airport.

Car's speedometer: Twenty miles an hour.

BONNIE

We're going to miss the flight.

Bonnie nods to Clyde: he inserts the Buster Rymes tape into the cassette player.

BUSTER RHYMES (Turn IT UP (Knight Rider theme tune) blasts out:

Bonnie steps on the gas.

Speedometer flashes from twenty miles an hour to forty.

BONNIE

Funky Damnations.

EXT.DANCING SCORPION CANYON-NIGHT

Shelley, astride Dragon, views the canyon.

He dismounts... checkouts the ramp.

A wood splinter stings his hand.

He pulls it out.

Shakes his head- snatches at Pearl's wedding ring which is chained around his neck.

The chain snaps; the ring in his hand.

Hand shaking, he holds it over the abyss... slowly opening it...

EXT.DANCING SCORPION CANYON-DAY

Harley lying on the ramp's end, balances the silver ANGEL pendant on her forehead.

As she watches a lone cloud it morphs into Laura's smiling face.

Harley smiles.

Sits up on the edge of the ramp.

The cloud now just a cloud.

Sadness fills her eyes; she looks down at the killing rocks below... eases herself forward... braces herself to slide into oblivion- HEAVEN.

PEARL (O/S)

Smudge.

LAURA (V/O)

(Harley hears)

Smudge.

HARLEY

Mom.

Not looking back, she reaches out her hand; Pearl takes it.

Harley rolls to her feet, softly, embraces Pearl.

EXT.SHELLY'S MOBILE TRAILER-DAY

Harley knocks.

HARLEY

(In French, English subtitles)

Your Pearl has found her oyster.

INT.SHELLEY'S TRAILER-SAME

A wedding photo on bedside table.

Honeysuckle flowers in a jar.

Hair shading his eyes, Shelley lying on the bed in cut-off jeans.

Harley opens the door-nips Shelley's toe.

HARLEY

Barnacle's biting?

She pincers her thumb and finger like a crab.

SHELLEY

A crackling crab.

Pearl enters, she twists Shelley's baseball cap into a jaunty angle.

Smiles.

SHELLEY

My mermaid.

Shelley rushes - kisses her.

EXT.UNDER CANAPY-DAY

Leon guards Dragon.

A photographer is snapping a MODEL sprawled on Dragon.

Pitt crushes almonds shells in his hand.

Harley darts to Leon.

HARLEY

Pearl's home- c'mon lets
go pick them some flowers.

LEON

Dragon?

HARLEY

(To Pitt mocking with slow speech)

Guard the bike- got it Crayfish.

She eyes his scorpion tattoo.

HARLEY (CONT'D)

(In French, English subtitles)

You knuckle dragging ape.

Leon and Harvey leave.

The photographer finishes.

Departing, Pitt leaves the rope cordon open.

EXT.SANDSTONE OUTCROP-DAY.

A bunch of wildflowers in her lap, Harley carves her Cloud Buster logo into the sandstone.

She glances back to Leon, sees his sad face as he stares at his PHOTO. She turns back to her logo.

HARLEY

Leon.

LEON

Yes, my cherry.

HARLEY

Where do chocolate cows live?

I've searched fields, supermarket's
carparks- I can't find them!

She turns to see Leon smiling.

Leon lunges his wheelchair; grabs Harley's hand pulls her back:
Scorpion scuttles near her.

HARLEY

They don't sting unless
you trouble them.

LEON

Let's be safe: who knows
what goes on in a scorpion's
head.

Leon goes to crush the scorpion under his wheelchair's wheels;
Harley stops him.

HARLEY

He might have come to wish
us good luck.

INT.SHELLEY'S MOBILE TRAILER-DAY

In bed, Pearl studies her mermaid charm, lays her hand on
Shelley's heart

PEARL

Our hearts are bound forever.

EXT.DANCING SCORPION CANYON-DAY

CRYSTAL BOWL: The mermaid's anguished face.

CROWDS roaring. CHEERLEADERS cheering.

RAISED PLATFORM: Mal takes an oyster out the crystal bowl, slits it.

Eyes stripping a MODEL next to him, he tastes the oyster's flesh.

Pearl with Harley and Leon.

She scans through the crowd to catches Shelley as he rides towards the tarmac runway.

Spots Billy.

PEARL

(To herself)

Billy?

Her walking stick supporting her, she hobbles through the crowd to Billy.

PEARL

Billy, what you doing here?

BILLY

I came to be with you.

She shows him her finger with her wedding ring on it.

PEARL

I'm married.

Billy pulls out the glued together flowers.

BILLY

You gave me a flower.

PEARL

For your mother's grave.

BILLY

He's poisoned you against
me- just like your parents.

PEARL

My parents liked you; It
was your... (Dad)

BILLY

Then why was they leaving?
Stealing you from me.

(Mumbles behind hand)

They paid.

PEARL

Billy what have you done?

BILLY

Nothing.

She grabs the flower crushes it- shakes him.

PEARL

What have you done to his bike!

BILLY

I've stung it.

She shoves him, hobbles through the crushing crowd trying to get to the tarmac runway.

PEARL

(Shouts)

Shelley!

She trips-falls, so he misses seeing her as he turns towards her.

Crawling, stumbling to her feet she barges people trying to get to him- to stop him.

PEARL

(Shouts)

Shelley!

Shelley roars past her, his speedometer on eighty.

Dragon steams the tarmac, exhaust spurting flames.

Speedometer 90,95,100- the bike's engine CRUNCHES.

Speedometer: 90,80,70- he hits the ramp; brakes- too late; heads into the abyss.

SHELLEY

Pearl!

Pearl stumbles, crawls to the canyon's edge

.

Billy offers his hand to help her- she swats it away.

PEARL

I hate you!

Pearl steps over the edge.

PERAL

(As she falls)

Shelley.

EXT.TRENT'S FARMHOUSE-NIGHT

MUSIC: RAY PETERSON (Tell Laura I Love Her) drifts from the farmhouse. OR: BOBBY GOLDSBORO (Honey).

Billy kisses Sandy puts the dog down, shoos her away.

INT.TRENT'S FARMHOUSE-(CONT'D)

MUSIC CONT'D.

Billy locks the farmhouse's door.

KITCHEN CONT'D: rat poison on the tabletop.

Billy carries a can of gasoline.

LIVING ROOM CONT'D: sideboard with built in record player plays
Tell Laura I Love Her.

Crumbled on the floor, his dinner spewed over him, Trent foams
from the mouth (Poisoned by Billy).

He reaches to try and grab Billy.

Billy pours petrol over him, over himself.

BILLY

(To Trent and himself)

I hate you!

He lights the petrol.

EXT. TRENT'S FARMHOUSE-NIGHT.

The farm blazes.

Fire claws out; smoke billows up to the silver star filled sky.

INT.MAL'S OFFICE-DAY

CAPTION: 3 years later.

Her fingers splayed like a star in her silver gloves, Harley regards them.

Blanking Mal as he signs a contract for Harley to get ONE HUNDREAD THOUSAND DOLLARS if she jumps the Dancing Scorpion Canyon.

He shoves the contract and the plastic pen with Laura printed on it.

Silver dye streaks Harley's now long hair, she scowls at Mal.

HARLEY

I want a MILLION dollars, copyright
for the clothes bearing my logo-
you can keep the profits from the
toy bikes and dolls.

MAL

You aint worth more than a
ten-cent whore.

Harley slams her boot onto the plastic pen- it spurts fluid over Mal's face.

She thrusts her middle finger at Pitt as he fronts her.

HARLEY

A MILLION!

Don't you want to watch me DIE?

EXT.DANCING SCORPION CANYON-DAY.

A plane pulls a banner with The Dancing Scorpion Canyon's ONE MILLION DOLLAR challenge printed on it.

EXT.MOSS'S SHOTING GALLERY-DAY

A GIRL wearing a baseball bat cap and tee-shirt with Harley's (Copyrighted to her) logo printed on it.

She tugs at her dad.

GIRL

Dad, we'll miss Cloud Buster.

DAD

One second honey.

Dad fires: his pellet kills the silver girl rider.

DAD

Got her!

EXT.DANCING SCORPION CANYON-DAY

Harley kiss Dean, smudges her silver lipstick

HARLEY

I'll see you on the other side.

Dean runs to a rope bridge that spans the canyon.

She kisses Leon's cheeks, on the back of her silver jacket: her Cloud Buster logo.

Her silver jeans flair over silver boots.

Mother-of-pearl sequins sparkle.

Her silver radio strapped to her leg.

HARLEY

Don't worry I won't flip a
Pancake.

(sings)

I just know that something good
is going to happen... on top of the
world, looking over the edge...

(Kate Bush sings in Cloud Busting)

She slips on her silver helmet, mounts Skyblazer.

MAL'S RAISED PLATFORM:

Mal gives the Harley doll, astride a toy battery bike, a look of hate.

NIGEL

Star Wars dolls are killing us.

Nigel pulls out a Luke Skywalker doll, twist off its head.

MODEL

Everyone loves Cloud Busters'
gear.

Her smile dazzles, she cocks her Cloud Buster logoed baseball hat.

Mal beckons the model to get closer- into slapping range.

CROWD: everyone seems to be wearing Harley's Cloud Buster clothing range.

Wheeling, Harley roars past the cheering crowd.

Brakes in front of Mal's platform- thrusts him the finger.

On her father's back, clutching a bagged goldfish, the girl from Moss's shooting gallery.

GIRL

(As Harley gives Mal the finger)

Bad ass!

Harley motors to the top of the strip of tarmac.

She doesn't seem to see or care about the roaring crowd screaming her name, looks up to the heavens.

She revs- races down the asphalt.

Speedometer: 80, 90,100- she slams on her brakes; burns wood as she skids up the ramp... just stops the bike from flipping over the edge.

Bob and Jake guard each side of the ramp, they look up at her.

Harley tears off her helmet tosses it to Jake-frees her hair from its silver tie.

Peels off her gloves tosses them to Bob.

Tattooed on her fingers, in silver, names: Luke (her farther), Laura, Shelley and Pearl.

She kisses the silver ANGEL pendant.

HARLEY

(If she dies, she will be with her loved ones)

Time to play with the angels.

Press on her RADIO: MUSIC: KATE BUSH (Cloud Busting) plays.

She storms tarmac, spins at the top-roars down it.

Wheels smoking, exhaust firing- she hits the ramp.

SOARS.

In the middle of the rope bridge, Dean waits.

He snaps Harley in mid jump.

HARLEY

Mom.

She closes her eyes.

FREEZE FRAME: Harley her hair streaming behind her, hand raised touching heaven- reaching to hold her mom's hand.

EXT.ANGEL'S CAFÉ-DAY

Eifel Tower shadows Leon (We are at the same café as Leon's PHOTO).

An opened French paper has the headline TRADEGY and photos of Laura and Shelley.

Leon misty eyed as he looks at his PHOTO.

He looks up and smiles.

Closes the silver case.

Opens the paper to the front page it shows the photo Dean took of Harley with her hair streaming, hand raised.

We don't see the headline yet: TRIUMPH.

FLASHBACK: DANCING SCORPION CANYON-DAY

FREEZED FRAME: Harley hair streaming behind, hand raised to heaven.

Her silver ANGEL pendant catches the sun rays- blazes.

LEON (V/O)

Not ever angel needs wings to fly.

MUSIC: KATE BUSH (Cloud Busting): that rousing start when the violins' hearts thump their wooden chests... building...tension rising- UNFREEZE FRAME.

Harley opens her eyes.

Smiling as she glides the sky, Dean sprints.

Harley's bike hits the ramp- bounces, skids to a stop.

She leaps off it- jumps into Dean's arms.

They kiss.

Fireworks explode above them; they contain parcels of glitter angels which snow down.

Mal slams the crystal bowl; it flies off the table- SHATTERS.

EXT.ANGEL'S CAFE-DAY

Her hair dyed BLOND, Harley hugs Leon her hand entwines his.

Dean takes a snap of them: Harley looks like Claire's identical sister.

HARLEY

(In French, English subtitles to waitress)

3 chocolate milkshakes please.

Harley and Dean sit down.

A couple of FANS swamp Harley for her autograph.

She gives them a big smile, signs their autographs, they don't see her NOW pained, bored, annoyed scowl (At being famous) as they skip away.

LEON

Fame.

HARLEY

Rhymes with pain!

She writes out a check for a million dollars for cancer research.

Scowls at the Eifel Tower.

HARLEY

(TO Leon)

I could jump it.

LEON

You'll need a big ramp.

The waitress brings their shakes.

Harley downs hers in one go, smudges chocolate over her lips.

She gives the Eiffel Tower a smile.

HARLEY

(About the Eiffel Tower)

A chocolate cow could jump it.

FADE OUT:

END.

As credits run, MUSIC: Space (avenging angels)

TAGLINE: Not every angel needs wings to fly.