

SUMMER TEMPER

by

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FADE IN

EXT. FARMHOUSE - DAY

A tall, young MAN, early 20s, walks out the house with a tool box in his hand.

He pops the boot of his CADILLAC SERIES 61 and places the toolbox inside, shutting it afterwards.

Following him is a beautiful LADY, early 20s, elegantly dressed.

JJ

I only did a quick fix but you'll have to tell your mother to replace those C. pipes, they don't hold up for long.

DONNA

I'll tell her. Thanks for helping out.

He smiles as he walks towards her. She smiles back. Suddenly he grabs her into a warm embrace. She laughs and they kiss.

She then turns her head back to the house as if cautious.

DONNA (cont'd)

That's enough.

JJ

Why?

DONNA

She could be watching.

JJ

Let her, I don't care.

DONNA

Well I do, she puts a roof over my head.

JJ backs off, disappointed.

DONNA (cont'd)

I'll get time to meet you on the weekend.

JJ
Run away with me.

DONNA
What?

JJ
RightNow, let's go get married.

He opens the passenger side door signaling her in.

DONNA
Am not going to elope with you JJ,
you'll have to do it the old
fashioned way, with my mother's
blessing.

JJ
Those odds don't look good now do
they?

DONNA
That's my only condition.

JJ
Alright, but am not leaving until I
get one more kiss.

DONNA
Just one.

He nods. She leans in to kiss him as he shuts his eyes as if
tasting fruit.

DONNA (cont'd)
There you go.

There's a tap by the kitchen window.

JJ
I guess that's my queue to leave.

DONNA
Where are you heading?

JJ
My uncle's shop, got to return the
toolbox. So see you on the weekend?

DONNA
That's right.

JJ

Alright.

He gets in and drives off.

INT. CAR - DAY [DRIVING]

The country road is quiet and silent with trees surrounding each side.

He realizes it's going to be a long drive as he glances at his watch from time to time.

He turns on the radio only getting static as he tunes it from station to station. He finally lands on a station.

DJ (V.O)

This is the jam everyone's talking about, it'll cool down your hot summer and have you grooving like no one's watching.. listen.

ROY ORBISON'S "BLUE BAYOU" fades in.

JJ taps his fingers on the wheel as he turns up the volume.

To his right, he notices a car that must have veered off the road.

He slows down a few feet ahead along the road. He turns the radio off, shuts the engine off and gets out to investigate the matter.

EXT. ROADSIDE - CONTINUOUS

A tall MAN, late 30s, impeccably greased hair, rough on the face and dark eyes, seems to be changing a flat tire on the right side of his GREY PONTIAC.

He's also MUMBLES to himself.

JJ (O.S)

Need some help with that?

The man turns to the towering figure behind him. He stands up to get a better view

ALLAN

Almost done here, just caught a flat tire. Name's Allan.

JJ

JJ. Alright then, I'll be on my way.

Allan turns back to replacing the Tyre.

As JJ leaves he notices in the corner of his eye a lady's purse in the back seat. Baffled, he stares back at Allan. Who notices.

ALLAN

It's ok, I got this.

JJ nods his head as he reluctantly fakes a smile. He turns back to leave.

A few more steps and at the end of the car, he notices a piece of soft clothe stuck between the boot door. His eyes widen in disbelief when the the clothe slips inside as if swallowed by boot.

JJ is certain something isn't right.

JJ (O.S)

Hey, I've got some tools in my car,
I'd be...

ALLAN

(Frustrated)

I said I got this BOY!

JJ can sense the tension. And he quickly leaves.

Moments Later.

Allan can hear footsteps steadily approaching him.

ALLAN (cont'd)

(To himself)

This kid doesn't give up easy.

He stands up to confront him.

ALLAN

I thought I told you....

SMACK! Right across the face before he can realize it. Allan drops to ground unconscious with blood dripping down his temple.

INT. PONTIAC BOOT - CONTINUOUS

The door is open and a tall dark figure looks down upon the boot. His hands reach out calmly.

JJ
It's alright. Your safe now.

EXT. CADILLAC - CONTINUOUS

JJ carries an unconscious WOMAN, early 30s, a bruise on the left side of her forehead, in a floral dress, hair a mess, to his car.

She tries to make some words but he can't understand a single one.

He places her in the passenger seat and walks round to get the car started.

JJ
Let's get you to a hospital.

He drives off.

INT. CADILLAC - DAY [DRIVING]

JJ glances at her from time to time as he keeps his eyes on the road.

She suddenly shows movement.

JJ
Hey, you're awake, am taking you to the hospital.

ADA
Thirsty.

JJ
You want water? I've got some.

He reaches for a bottle in the back seat and hands it to her

JJ (cont'd)
Am JJ, what's your name?

ADA
Ada. How did you know I was in there?

JJ

I didn't but purse in the back set off an alarm.

ADA

Am so stupid. What was I thinking that going on a date with a stranger would be a good idea.

JJ

You're not at fault.

ADA

He knew all the right words to lure me in. Like a fool I fell for it. What will my daughter think?

JJ

You get to see her again.

ADA

Oh my God, we've got to go back.

JJ

What? Back to the scene of the crime?

ADA

No! My daughter, I left her alone at the house. We've got to go back.

JJ

We need to get you some help. We almost there.

ADA

You don't understand. He said he'd kill me and then kill her. I might not find my daughter alive by the time I get back.

JJ

There's a police station just ahead. We can report the matter to them.

ADA

Stop the fucking car!!

JJ hits the breaks. Ada bursts out in tears as she tries to unbuckle herself.

JJ helps her out.

ADA (cont'd)
You're a good man. And I understand
why you wouldn't want to get
involved but am not taking a chance
on losing my daughter because of my
stupidity.

She unlocks the door to leave.

JJ
How will you get there?

ADA
I'll run if I have to.

She exits the car.

EXT. CADILLAC - CONTINUOUS

From his side mirror, JJ can see Ada staggering as she finds
the strength to walk.

He turns the car around and slowly drives towards her.

JJ
How far is this place of yours?

ADA
Just off yellow Creek.

JJ
Hop in, I know a shortcut.

ADA
Thank you. Thank you so much.

She jumps in and he sets off.

EXT. ADA HOUSE - DAY

The Cadillac slowly approaches the driveway and parks some
distance from the house, on a small perch of land surrounded
by trees.

I/E. CADILLAC - CONTINUOUS

JJ looks in every direction and then gives Ada the nod.

JJ
It looks clear to me. Go get her.

ADA
Could you please wait for us, I don't think I'll be staying here tonight. You could drop us at my mother's. She doesn't live far.

JJ
Sure.

ADA
You're so kind. Thank you for everything.

She pecks him on the cheek and gets out the car, leaving the door.

As she walks to the house, JJ turns on the radio.

The same radio station is on.

DJ (V.O)
What did I tell you folks? Didn't I say you'd loved it?! Just in case you missed it! Here it is again...

"BLUE BAYOU" fades in again. JJ taps his fingers to the rhythm of the song with his head bowed down and eyes closed.

ADA (O.S)
Sussy?! Mom's....

BANG!

SUSSY (O.S)
Mom?!!

JJ taken aback from the loud noise lifts his head up in the direction of the source of the sound.

BANG! BANG!

It's shots coming from the trees.

JJ looks back at Ada to warn her but she's nowhere to be seen.

The music plays on: "...saving nickels, saving dimes. Working till the sun don't shine..."

JJ looks down at the ground and there she is, she appears to have been struck down by a bullet.

He slowly drives the car towards her to shield her from the bullets.

BANG!

He ducks as he has one hand on the wheel.

He can see her from the passenger side. He unbuckles and leans forward to pull her in. She's too heavy, he makes his way out through the passenger side.

JJ

Ada can you talk to me?

As he lifts her, his hand is soaked in blood. She screams in pain. He rests her against the car.

JJ (cont'd)

He shot you in your lower back.
We've got to get you out of here.

ADA

Susie..

JJ

Stay here let me get Susie.

He turns to leave.

ADA

There's...a phone..in the kitchen.

JJ

Okay.

JJ makes for the house.

Allan in a distance reveals himself from the thick crowd of trees. He walks calmly towards the car.

He AIMS the rival at her. She doesn't flinch.

ALLAN

Pew! Pew! Pew! I got you good but
I'll save you for later, Ada.

He turns to the house.

ALLAN

You cruising for a bruising boy?!!
You did a number on me, I intend to
pay back the favour!!

INT. ADA HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

JJ
(On the telephone)
Please hurry quick!! Up by the
creek and bring the ambulance.

He can spot Allan turning towards the house.

JJ (cont'd)
Shit! Shit! Susie?!!

JJ dashes up the stairs.

INT. ADA HOUSE - BEDROOM -DAY

JJ's eyes dart around the room looking for any sign of movement.

Just as he is about to leave, he hears some movement under the bed.

He crouches down to take a closer look. There SHE is.

SUSIE, 8 years old, scared and frightened.

JJ reaches out his hand to her.

JJ
Susie, is it?

She nods.

JJ (cont'd)
Am a friend of your mom. I came to
get you.

SUSSY
Where's my mom?

JJ
She's hurt, am going to take you to
her and get her some help.

SUSSY
I want my mom.

They can hear the door being kicked down from the kitchen entrance.

JJ
Stay right here, I'll be back.

INT. ADA HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

JJ carefully walks down the staircase to the kitchen looking out for Allan.

He can't see him.

SMACK! The end of the rival meets JJ's face. He stumbles across the kitchen sink.

ALLAN
I told you I'd get you boy!

In quick reflex JJ spears him in the abdomen with his shoulders.

The rival falls on the ground.

Allan flips him on the ground and lands a couple of blows left and right. JJ shields some while receiving most.

ALLAN (cont'd)
You just had to ruin my plans, look
what it got ya!

He chocks him by the neck with both hands. He can see it now, JJ running out of breath, any minute now he'll be dead. His eyes roll backwards. An evil grin appears on Allan's face as he's eyes brighten in excitement.

JJ shuts his eyes as he struggles to fight back with whatever energy left.

Just then, the squeezing stops. A body drops to the ground right next to JJ.

He opens his eyes to see what's happened.

Allan's lifeless face stares at JJ, accompanied by a long kitchen KNIFE stuck at the back of his head.

JJ shifts his sight to Susie. She's between a state of frightened and relieved.

SUSIE
I told mommy he wasn't a good man.

JJ
(Holding his neck)
Thank you. Let's go get your mom.

EXT. ADA HOUSE - DAY

JJ walks out with Susie by his side. She runs to her mother the moment she spots her.

She hugs her despite the pain she's in.

ADA
Am so sorry baby.

SUSIE
Are you going to be alright?

ADA
I will be.

JJ
The police are on their way. So is the ambulance.

ADA
Is he dead?

JJ and Susie exchange glances.

JJ
Yup, he's..gone.

ADA
There was a gun under my bed.

JJ
Maybe you should have started with that.

They both try laugh but the pain is unbearable.

The sound of the sirens can be heard from a distance.

JJ (cont'd)
Here they come.

ADA
You could leave if you want, you don't have to be around for this.

JJ
No, its fine. I'll stay.

THE END.