

INTERSTATE JUGGERNAUT

by

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EXT. IMPERIAL VALLEY, CALIFORNIA - DAY

The rocky sand-swept badlands barren and desolate, wind lightly rustling the bush bar sage.

JESS MCCORKELL, a petite but hardy young woman, sits on a rocky outcrop alone and lights what remains of a cigarette.

She savors the nicotine as she gazes around contemplative.

JESS (V.O.)

We were supposed to be the answer here, but now we're left for dead. If you've ever wondered how quick the world can turn to shit, it's a lot quicker than you think.

EXT. LOS ANGELES

Charred palm tree trunks stand silhouetted against burnt car shells, everything gray with ash.

JESS (V.O.)

It didn't go down like you think it would. People didn't run for the hills. They sat back and did what they always did, waited for someone to tell them what to do.

EXT. LOS ANGELES CITY STREET

An armored personnel carrier creeps by, SOLDIERS scanning.

JESS (V.O.)

We followed it on the airwaves. The cities resources ran dry and desperation took over. The government locked the problem areas down fast.

EXT. BEVERLEY HILLS

ARMY TROOPS guard the partially exposed Venoco Flower Tower oil derrick behind a makeshift security fence.

JESS (V.O.)

But L.A was a different story. When your city is built on an active oil field, the government has another agenda.

RESISTANCE TROOPS swarm from hiding places and open fire.

JESS (V.O.)
And the desperate have something
worth fighting for.

EXT. HOLLYWOOD HILLS

The Hollywood sign burns, the letters collapsing to form what reads like HELL.

JESS (V.O.)
Trading your Hummer for that Prius
suddenly didn't seem so smart.

EXT. MILITARY CHECKPOINT

SOLDIERS usher a FAMILY out of their car at gun point, their possessions crammed inside and spilling over the roof.

JESS (V.O.)
The military built a firewall
around the city and left the rest
of Southern California to fend for
itself. Like someone hit a big
reset button, and took everybody
back to the Wild West.

The CREW of a BlackHawk military helicopter relax around it. A soldier practices boxing with another.

EXT. IMPERIAL VALLEY

Sand blows across old rusting farm machinery.

JESS (V.O.)
We always thought we'd be the ones
to help, the perfect environment to
grow crops for food and fuel.

The stark white dried shoreline of the Salton Sea glistens under dead trees and derelict piers.

JESS (V.O.)
But when the irrigation canals ran
dry, it was clear something had
happened upstream.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY

A DEAD HITCHHIKER left beside the highway, belongings ransacked.

JESS (V.O.)
Most fled, leaving behind this sour
valley of ghosts.

EXT. GALLETA MEDOWS ESTATE, BORREGO SPRINGS

A huge glaring serpent sculpture stands coiled in the desert, a campfire crackling underneath.

JESS (V.O.)

When we moved to the springs,
people said we couldn't make it
work, but we did, this place is
tough at the best of times.

EXT. BORREGO SPRINGS BADLANDS

Jess scowls as she sucks the cigarette hard.

JESS (V.O.)

Now it favors two kinds of people,
those skilled in looking after
themselves. And those skilled in
taking from others.

The cigarette burns down to the filter. She tosses it onto the rocks and sighs.

As she gazes into the sky, she spots a plume of smoke rising in the distance.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY

A road stretches endlessly ahead. A Cop Car races up and skids to halt. Out steps an OLD COP, cautious and wary.

A car wreck lies in the dirt, another Cop Car already at the scene.

He creeps slowly toward the wreck. He spots a pair of legs, reaches for his weapon and works his way round to find --

A DEAD CRASH VICTIM, thrown from the wreck, really messed up, their blood weeping into the dirt, a YOUNG COP already squatted over the body, searching through the pockets.

Old Cop spots a red tool box and searches it.

Young Cop finds a knife on the body and admires it. He spots a glistening object reflected in the blade. He searches the sand and discovers a silver lighter beside some tracks.

He follows the tracks to bushes and peers in. Glowering eyes stare back and --

WILL MADINA, a well built man, bursts out and punches Young Cop in the jaw. It's one hell of a hit, but it's all he has left, he's exhausted, his arm injured.

Old Cop discards the toolbox, stands up and smiles, he knows what's coming. Young Cop gets back up and beats Will to the ground, he's fast, strong and cunning.

Will lies coughing. Young Cop grabs him by the hair and exposes his jugular. He raises the knife, his stare icy.

BANG! Young Cop hits the ground. Old Cop snaps round, pulls his pistol and FIRES! BANG! BANG! CLICK! He flees and --

BANG! He crashes to the ground in a cloud of dust.

Will lies worried. Crunching footsteps draw close.

Jess slowly passes over him, silhouetted against the sun, rifle aimed ready. A mean look on her face.

She crosses to Young Cop's body and swipes the lighter and a cigarette packet. She crosses back lighting one and studies Will.

He squints back. She grabs her rifle with both hands, clenches the cigarette between her teeth and knocks him clean out with the butt.

INT. FARM CABIN - DAY

Will stirs awake to find a .45 Magnum in his face and Jess staring down the sights.

JESS

Look, I'm not going to fuck with you, okay? You're only alive because I need your advice, and I don't have much time.

He finds his wrists bound. A table between them.

WILL

Yeah, well here's some advice. Next time you tie somebody up.
(leaning in)
Make sure to do the feet too.

She frowns.

He bursts up, kicking the table into her and knocking the revolver out her hand.

She pulls a knife, reflexes cat like. His eyes bulge.

She swipes. He dodges and circles around her, his back to the wall.

She jabs but misses and stabs the wooden wall, unable to tug the knife back out. She looks back worried.

SMACK! He knocks down and goes to grab the knife but --

She's up quick and punches him on his shoulder wound. He screams and smacks her into the wall.

He grabs the knife and lunges at her, pinning her back, his bound arms against her throat.

She chokes as he readies the knife. She struggles, her tiny twitching feet off the ground. She tugs at his arms and pounds on his torso. She just wont give in then --

She pauses, glares and kicks for the crotch. He see's it coming and shimmies to one side. She kicks again and misses. He shakes his head disapproving.

She's not done yet, her hand scavenges a bottle and smashes it against the wall. His eyes widen. She glares back, drawing the broken bottle to his crotch.

They stare in deadlock, him panting as she defiantly struggles her final breaths and --

He backs away. She GASPS. He stares intense.

BURT, an old tough guy, storms in, rifle raised.

BURT

Hold it right there, asshole!

WILL

Hey! Wait! I'm... I'm not looking for trouble, okay?

BURT

Yeah? Sure looks like that.

WILL

No! look!

He drops the knife and holds up his palms.

WILL (CONT'D)

I don't trust anybody out here, I've learn't the hard way.

BURT

Well that's something we have in common.

WILL

Look, last time I saw your daughter, she killed two cops okay? Then knocked me out cold.

JESS

(clutching throat)
I saved your life, you idiot.

WILL
(glaring at Jess)
You said you were only keeping me
alive for advice.
(looking to Burt)
She had a gun in my face.

JESS
I was trying to scare you.

Will stares sincere.

WILL
Look I'm a good guy, okay? I'm just
a mechanic, I'm just trying to get
the hell away from all this chaos.

Burt stares back, working him out.

WILL (CONT'D)
You want advice? How about you
lower the gun and just try asking?

Burt lowers his rifle.

INT. CABIN BEDROOM

Burt, Will and Jess stare down sober. ERN, an old friendly
faced man, lies wheezing. Jess mops his brow.

WILL
What's wrong with him?

JESS
He's diabetic, he needs insulin.

WILL
Is he going to die?

BURT
Probably.

JESS
He's nearly in a coma. I want to
make a run to a trade post. But I
don't know where to go.

BURT
We're good people here, this guy is
the only person who's passed by who
hasn't tried to either kill us, or
steal what little we have.

Barking. Will glances out the window to find dogs in pens.

WILL

You know how dangerous it is out there, right?

(to Burt)

You just going to let her go? On her own?

BURT

Look I appreciate your concern, buddy, but either I let her go, or she sneaks off anyway.

JESS

I'm not going to just sit back and let a good man die. I'm going. You can't stop me.

BURT

See?

WILL

I know a place. It's as close as you can get to the city. I need to get there. Take me with you.

JESS

You promise not to pull the same shit you just pulled in there?

WILL

(raises bound wrists)
My hands are tied.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY

A pickup truck cruises down the empty highway.

INT. JESS'S PICKUP TRUCK

Will in the passenger seat, his wrists still bound. Jess takes out a cigarette and lights up.

WILL

You know those are valuable, right?

JESS

Yeah, well, I'll be forced to quit soon anyway. At least until I kill another cop and steal a new pack.

WILL

I'm pretty sure that's a sign of addiction.

She smirks slightly.

JESS

That guy you were traveling with,
was he a friend of yours?

WILL

He was like everybody else, just
looking out for himself. I've got
no attachments.

JESS

You say that like it's a good
thing.

WILL

Isn't it?

They peer ahead. A dead body on the side of the highway.

JESS

Didn't work out well for this guy.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - MOMENTS LATER

A dehydrated dog lies next to a dead body, it's lead still
clutched in the corpses hand.

Jess comforts the dog as Will looks at the body, the face
missing and skull visible.

WILL

What kind of fucked up person does
that?

JESS

This guy's probably been licking
their face to wake them up and
well, got hungry.

He winces. She picks the dog up.

WILL

What are you doing?

JESS

I'm taking him home.

WILL

You can barely keep yourself alive.

JESS

I actually have a conscious, okay?

She puts the dog in the truck bed and gives it some water.

WILL

Oh I have a conscious, I just don't see the point in tying yourself down at every opportunity.

JESS

I'm not a drifter like you, I'm still a person.

INT. JESS'S PICKUP TRUCK

They slam the doors shut. She starts the engine.

JESS

Have you ever saved a life? Did you feel you had a choice?

Will reflects as he stares at the truck keys swinging.

EXT. INTERSTATE

A bright sunny day. Traffic flows toward central L.A.

INT./EXT. WILL'S CAR - PAST

A set of car keys swing. Will nods to music. Honking. He checks his mirror to find someone tailgating.

He lets them pass, watches them tailgate the next car and shakes his head disproving.

Sirens howl. He checks his mirror to find lights strobing and Police approaching fast. They dash by as he smirks to himself.

Gridlock ahead. He brings the car to halt and watches the Police disappear. He gets comfortable and --

A car blasts by the other way, going hell for leather.

Cars in the traffic around him honk. People shout. Cars try to cut round the queue using the verge. Will watches incredulous.

Drivers gesture abuse at each other. More cars race past then --

A truck thunders by, rocking the car. Will's eyes widen.

MOTORISTS get out their cars shouting.

He gets out and gazes around bewildered, helicopters flying in and out of L.A., a mass of gridlock around him. He stands on the door sill.

WILL

Woah!

A snarled queue as far as the eye can see. He looks back to find the tailback endless. Police cars trapped within it.

CRASH! Screeching tires. Two cars slide to a halt. One quickly screeches away, no remorse or concern, pure self preservation.

Will stares alarmed at the stranded car, a family inside, the kids screaming.

WILL (CONT'D)

Shit!

He races to help and leaps the barrier. Speeding cars glance by. The Driver gets the stranded car going and limps it away, stopping for nothing. Will freezing stunned.

WOMAN IN CAR

(shouting to Will)

What's happening? What's going on?

WILL

I don't know! This is crazy!

He spots a CROWD by a Police car and crosses over.

POLICE OFFICER

Everybody has got to calm down!
There's no reason to panic!

MAN

I heard Washington! That's all I heard!

WOMAN

They said New York City! I swear they said New York!

The rowdy group shout over one another, speculation ripe.

MAN IN CAR

Listen listen listen!

He turns up his car radio. Everyone falls silent.

NEWSCASTER

We'll be back with more reports from Washington as soon as we get them. We can confirm that there have been explosions in both Washington City and New York City.

(MORE)

NEWSCASTER (CONT'D)

Evacuations of some major US cities are now in progress and citizens are being encouraged to remain calm as we're being told these are only precautionary.

The crowd gasps.

YOUNG GUY

Guys, I told you! It's fucking world war three! My sister says they're evacuating all the cities!

Panic sets in and people flee back through the traffic away from L.A. Drivers try to force vehicles back. The crowd spills over the barrier into speeding traffic.

Will sprints, negotiating the assault course of cars.

OFFICER IN ROAD

Everyone this way! C'mon you gotta move! This way! Everyone's gotta go this way, now!

A pickup truck scrabbles along the embankment. People try to climb into the bed.

Will runs to exhaustion and has to rest. He clutches his knees panting.

GIRL (O.S.)

Help me! Please! I need help!

He crosses toward the pleading to find a girl pinned between two cars, writhing for her life.

WILL

I got you! I got you!

He grabs her arms and pulls.

GIRL

Argh! It hurts!

WILL

Breath in!

He tries again, but can't pull her free.

GIRL

Argh! Don't leave me please! Please get me out!

A FLEEING MAN pauses, looks at them and runs on. Will tries a car door but finds it locked. A SECURITY MAN appears.

SECURITY MAN

Grab her arms!

WILL
We need to move the cars!

SECURITY MAN
Just grab her damn arms!

Will clammers onto the hood and grabs her arms.

SECURITY MAN (CONT'D)
Now pull!

Security Man heaves up the SUV body and Will pulls her out.

GIRL
Thank you! Thank you so much!

SECURITY MAN
Follow me!

He leads them through the maze of cars to a van. He bangs on the side. Locks clunk. A SECURITY WOMAN ushers them in.

WILL
Lady! We've got to get further
away! We've got to get to safety!

SECURITY MAN
This is as safe as you're gonna get
mister!

He glances around at the big tires, the small windows and the thick slabbed sides. An armored security van. He climbs in.

INT. ARMORED SECURITY VAN

Will shuffles to the window and peers out at the swarming crowd. People shoving, tripping and getting trampled.

A bright light intensifies to the point it seers everything it casts over. It burns the screaming crowd and a rumbling grows to the point it's deafening.

Everyone in the van exchanges glances. The security van shudders violently.

Will continues to watch the devastation. People, cars and a helicopter hurls past tumbling.

BANG! A shockwave punches everything back and dust envelopes the area in darkness.

Pure white noise accompanies the shaking and suddenly --

Silence.

They sit panting, trying to take it all in for a few moments.

SECURITY WOMAN
 (patting van)
 I'm so glad I didn't take that
 mailman job right now.

INT. JESS'S PICKUP TRUCK - PRESENT

Will stares out the window at the Salton Sea's dried up shore, the wooden docks derelict.

A burnt out school bus sits abandoned in the highway.

Jess peers ahead at a body in the road. They look at each other worried.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY

Jess's Pickup squeaks to a halt. In the road lies BARONY IRK, a young goth girl, her eyes closed and limbs splayed out angelically. Her long red hair fanning out.

Jess gets out and tosses her cigarette. Will watches pensive.

JESS
 (calling)
 You're not fooling anybody, Barony.
 I'm going to give you till the
 count of three.
 (aiming revolver)
 And then I'm going to shoot you in
 the fucking head. One.

Will watches her. Jess stares down the sights and clicks back the hammer.

JESS (CONT'D)
 Two.

Barony's face draws a wry smile.

Will's spots a face in one of the school bus windows. A musket raised.

JESS (CONT'D)
 Thre-

Will pulls Jess inside. BANG! The windshield cracks.

An engine roars into life. Barony sits up and glares at Jess.

A Hot-Rod lurches out from behind the bus. BUSTER and SAVAGE, two huge biker types, inside.

Barony leaps in and they SCREECH away, vanishing into the distance.

Will and Jess sit pressed together. She shivers with nerves, staring into the distance as the Hot Rod's engine echoes in the distance.

She looks at Will, eases off him and sits staring.

WILL

You okay?

Her shaking wears off and she nods. She takes out her knife, pulls across his hands and cuts him free.

JESS

I guess that kinda makes us even.

He smiles warmly as he flexes his arms.

WILL

You know that girl?

She retrieves her cigarette and slams the door shut

JESS

She was a friend back when we had a farm here. That was before she tried to screw us over and formed her little gang. Thankfully she hasn't worked out where we've moved to yet. That's what happens to people in the desert, if they don't die they go stir fucking crazy.

EXT. OUTSIDE HOPE MARKET - NIGHT

A tall mesh security fence lines an abandoned fairground. Music pumps and festoon lights glow in the dust.

Will and Jess step out of the Pickup Truck and look at the tall arched metal entrance, the word HOPE cut out of steel. She carefully puts the dog inside truck.

WILL

Aren't you worried what it might do in there? He doesn't look well.

JESS

He looks just fine to some starving bastard.

She goes to enter.

WILL

Wait, no weapons allowed inside.

He nods down to her holstered revolver.

WILL (CONT'D)
You can leave it at the gate.

She opens the door, hides the revolver and slams it shut.

EXT. HOPE MARKET SECURITY GATE

Jess and Will get padded down. A SECURITY GUARD hands Will his red toolbox.

EXT. INSIDE HOPE MARKET

They walk through the market surrounding an overturned ferris wheel.

Music echoes through the tannoy speakers. Colored lights dance patterns by games, rides and stalls. The crowd mixed, everything from GANGS to FAMILIES and OLD COUPLES.

Jess stops in her tracks.

JESS
Oh my god! Are you kidding me?

WILL
Medicine?

JESS
Liquor.

She crosses to a stall lined with bottles. Will follows, shaking his head surprised. She points at a bottle.

JESS (CONT'D)
Is that genuine?

The STALL LADY pours a tiny sample.

STALL LADY
You tell me.

Jess knocks it back and gasps satisfied.

JESS
I have to have some of this.

She fumbles through pockets and pulls out cigarettes.

JESS (CONT'D)
Would you be willing to trade for.
(pops open packet)
Oh, one cigarette? Wow, I really need do need to cut down.

STALL LADY

I'm sorry, we could maybe pour you
a shot for that?

Jess baulks disappointed.

WILL

I hate to say I told you so.

JESS

I need some decent liquor in my
life.

WILL

More than cigarettes obviously, and
I've seen what you'll do for a pack
of those.

Will looks at a truck by the stall.

WILL (CONT'D)

Hey, is that your truck?

STALL LADY

You interested in my truck? I hope
you got a lot more smokes.

WILL

Has it got any issues?

STALL LADY

You find a vehicle out here that
hasn't. That's a good truck, only
problem is the damn cooling fan.

WILL

How about I fix that? And in
exchange I take that whole bottle?

STALL LADY

Deal.

Jess looks at Will confused and surprised.

WILL

Medical tent's right over there.
I've upheld my side of the deal.
It's up to you if you want to hang
around and share this with me.

JESS

I guess you'll just have to wait
and see.

He smiles confident. She walks away smiling.

EXT. HOPE MARKET LIQUOR STALL

Will pops open the bonnet of the truck, clatters through tools and starts work.

Barony skulks in the shadows, watching him and disappears.

EXT. HOPE MARKET DANCE AREA - LATER

The atmosphere at the market more party like, the crowd rowdy and music loud. Burning drums crackle, the neon lights illuminate clouds of stirred up dust.

Jess crosses from the medical tent, shoving medicine into her pocket.

She pauses and stares at Will working on the truck. She slumps against a fence and lights her last cigarette.

BARONY (O.S.)
(overly friendly)
Jess hi! How's your dad and the farm?

Jess realizes it's Barony and seethes.

JESS
We left the Salton just like you did. So seriously, fuck off, you little witch.

BARONY
I wanted to say I'm sorry about earlier. If I'd known it was you, that totally would never of happened. Oh I like your boyfriend by the way, a mechanic, wow!

Jess shakes her head defensive.

JESS
Just stay out of my life, okay? Oh and next time you pull a stunt like that, I won't count to three.

Barony rolls her eyes and giggles unafraid.

BARONY
Oh he's not your boyfriend? Same old Jess, crying out for a man but nobody wants the baggage.

Barony leaves amused. Jess watches her glaring and spots Will crossing over.

He raises the liquor bottle triumphant. She forces a smile.

WILL
You okay?

JESS
It doesn't matter.

WILL
Here, you get first dibs.

He hands over the bottle. She takes a swig, spills some down her chin and smirks embarrassed as she hands it back. He chuckles and takes a swig.

She notices his bloody shoulder weeping into his shirt.

JESS
Hey, let me take a look at your shoulder.

WILL
It's nothing, it's fine.

She peels up the sleeve to find a nasty wound.

JESS
This could get infected, here-

She sits him down and pulls out a bandana. She folds up the fabric, pours alcohol onto it and dabs at the wound.

WILL
That's strong stuff.

JESS
Don't be such a baby.

He watches her as he swigs, trying working her out.

WILL
You just can't help it can you?

JESS
What?

WILL
You have to look after people, it's in your blood.

JESS
That's what a woman does right?

WILL
Maybe, they don't usually have such a strong right hook though.

She smiles warmly.

WILL (CONT'D)
Just maternal instinct I guess?

Her smile fades. She focuses on his wound.

JESS
There place for that anymore?

She frowns disappointed and wipes his wound clean. She pulls his sleeve back down and they sit drinking together.

They watch a Man in a wheelchair struggle by.

JESS (CONT'D)
Why are we struggling so hard to survive? So we can watch the world fall apart? I just want things to go back to how they were.

WILL
You need to stop kidding yourself that's going to happen. We need to fix the overall problem. Then we can start caring about all that family and community stuff again.

They look at each other frank.

JESS
Good grows outward. It doesn't trickle down the system after you win a war. People like you become so consumed with winning the fight you risk having nothing left worth fighting for.

WILL
You're so weird. I mean, how can you kill two guys like it's nothing and then pick up a dying dog like it means the world to you? I just don't get it.

JESS
I didn't kill two guys, I saved one.

An uncomfortable silence broods.

JESS (CONT'D)
You want to know something weird? I've actually enjoyed tonight.

She looks at him hoping the feeling is mutual, he smiles and laughs.

An acoustic guitar strums from the speakers.

JESS (CONT'D)
Come on, no more arguing, dance
with me.

He puts the liquor in his toolbox and lets her lead him into the dance area.

EXT. HOPE MARKET DANCE AREA

She draws his arms around her and rests her hands around him.

A female vocalist sings softly as they rock slow, the colored lights glowing behind them. She rests her head against his chest solemn.

He holds her tight. Her eyes glisten. A beat kicks in and the femal vocalist howls.

She fights her emotions back but it's too much and she breaks down in his arms.

He rubs her back as she clutches him tightly. They continue to slowly dance embraced, guitars echoing.

He gazes down. She wipes her eyes and laughs embarrassed.

JESS
Sorry, I just needed to let that
out. You must think I'm crazy.

WILL
You're the sanest thing around
here.

Their stare lingers then --

A horn blasts long and loud as people scream.

They jolt and look across startled at a huge yellow roaring fireball bellowing into the sky.

People flee screaming. Stall owners desperately pack away goods.

Gunshots ring out. People run to fences terrified and try to climb them.

CREW MEMBERS in military clothing run through the crowd firing and beating people down. A person runs through screaming on fire.

Will and Jess glance around. Jess spots Barony grinning at her and Wheelchair Man struggling to escape.

Jess points to Wheelchair Man. They run to him grab his chair and push him but --

Crew Members swarm around and grab Jess. Will hurls himself into the mix and punches a few thuggish faces.

Jess wriggles free, her jaw drops.

A BIKER GIRL raises a crossbow, aims for Wheelchair Man and fires.

Jess runs toward him. A leg sweeps round and smacks her hard. She stumbles back to find Biker Girl coiled.

Biker Girl sweeps round another kick. Jess hunches and takes it. Biker Girl jabs in chops and elbow jabs.

BIKER GIRL

Stay down, bitch! Taekwondo, first dan!

Jess kicks her shin, smacks her with an uppercut, grabs her hair and head-butts her to the ground.

JESS

Lacrosse, eighth grade! Bitch!

Will fights but he's vastly outnumbered. He gets wrestled down to the ground

Jess runs to Wheelchair Man to find blood pouring from his gut. She clutches at him. He groans in pain as he gazes back. He jolts as he dies. She holds his hand.

JESS (CONT'D)

No!

His hand goes limp in hers as he slips away.

JESS (CONT'D)

No! Fucking no!

She looks around for Will and finds him being dragged out the entrance.

She runs through the market toward entrance arch licking with flames. She blows by burnt bodies everywhere and ducks through the flames.

The silhouette of a huge object on the highway. A horn blasts as the Crew Members retreat to it.

A diesel engine revs. Jess runs to her Pickup Truck, opens the food and pulls out her revolver. She runs back to the highway as the object roars into the darkness.

She sprints to exhaustion and stares hopeless. She looks back and forth between the darkness and the road home and stamps her foot.

JESS (CONT'D)

Shit!

INT. JESS'S PICKUP TRUCK

Jess slams her door shut and tries to compose herself. She checks the medicine is okay and fires up the engine.

EXT. OUTSIDE HOPE MARKET

Jess's Pickup pulls onto the highway and roars toward home. An engine fires up. The Hot Rod creeps out and follows.

INT. JUGGERNAUT BARRACKS - NIGHT

Will awakens, gagged and his wrists bound. An engine roars as he looks around the shuddering truck trailer converted into barracks.

Crew Members mill around, talking in hushed tones. Two other KIDNAP VICTIMS sit bound and gagged, staring scared.

The engine roar grows as HAYDEN, an old militant man, enters.

He mutters to Crew Members. One raises the red tool box and points at Will. Hayden rests his hands on Will's shoulders.

HAYDEN

You, you're a mechanic.

Will nods cautious.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Son, looks it's your lucky day.

Hayden strolls down the trailer. Crew Members grab Will, force him up and kick him along after Hayden.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - SUNRISE

Jess's Pickup screeches onto the highway in a hurry.

INT. JESS'S PICKUP TRUCK

Jess sits worried, the engine racing. The Hot Rod following in her mirror. She cuts the wheel hard and --

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY

The Pickup squeals across an intersection. The Hot Rod races after.

INT. JESS'S PICKUP TRUCK

Jess shakes her head, pissed off.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY

The Pickup screeches to a halt and Jess leaps out, gun raised. The Hot Rod creeps up and Barony ducks out smiling.

BARONY

Hey Jess, where you goin'?

JESS

None of your business. Now back off and stop following me.

BARONY

(laughing)

Or what?

JESS

Or I blow your fucked up mind out the back of your skull, that's what.

A musket is offered out the roof of the Hot-Rod. Barony hastily ushers it away and forces a smile to Jess.

BARONY

Just let me come to the farm, Jess. It'll be like old times.

JESS

Barony, you've five seconds to turn around and get out of here.

BARONY

Now Jess-

Jess FIRES! Barony stands frozen and looks down, to find a mark in the asphalt. She glares back.

BARONY (CONT'D)

That wasn't five seconds!

JESS

Just stay the hell away from me and my family.

Jess goes to get back in her Pickup.

BARONY

See you around, Jess.

Jess gets in her Pickup and roars away. The Pickup dives off the highway, crashes across the desert and comes to a sudden halt.

Jess is thrown forward in her seat. She floors it.

The Pickup spins its wheels in the soft dirt.

Jess bounces in her seat worried, gunning the engine.

Barony cackles, grabs the musket and marches toward the stuck Pickup, the engine revving hard.

Jess rocks the Pickup back and forth. She looks back at Barony closing in and aiming.

JESS

Come on please!

The Pickup pulls away. Barony fires and misses.

Jess looks back at Barony and sighs with relief.

Barony watches the Pickup disappearing. She glances up at Coyote Mountain towering above the plains and smiles sly.

INT. JUGGERNAUT WORKSHOP - NIGHT

Will stands in a trailer converted into a Workshop, a buggy towering over him. It's a real beast, a gunners seat at the rear but no gun. SKOOTER, a grubby young girl, works on it.

HAYDEN

What you're looking at is the highly prized experimental Desert Patrol Vehicle. Or, as we call it, the Hammertail.

(he stands admiring it)

We're running this mean son of a bitch right into L.A, once it's tooled up with some firepower it's going to change the game there. Now I'm not going to tear into the detail but it aint running too well, and that's where you come in. Now we'd fix it ourselves, that is, if our girl here knew how to, which she don't.

He curls his arm around Skooter. Will narrows his eyes.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Ain't that right, Skooter?

Skooter winces and nods terrified.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

I'm the man in charge round here. You work for me now, you do exactly what I say, or-

Hayden nods to WARD cocking his pistol and strolls to the door. He pauses and looks back with a mean grin.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Welcome to the Juggernaut.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY

Jess's truck drives up the highway alone.

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN

The Hot-Rod growls up a dirt trail, drifting round bends.

INT. HOT-ROD

Barony grins manically as she wrestles with the wheel. Savage and Buster cling on in the back.

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN

The Hot-Rod skids to a halt at the peak. Barony climbs out and draws a pair of binoculars. She watches Jess's truck pulling into the farm.

BARONY
So this is where you've been
hiding.

EXT. BOREGGO SPRINGS FARM

Jess's Pickup Truck skids to a halt by Burt. Jess climbs out and they hug tight, he's been worried.

BURT
Thank god you're okay.

She leans back into the truck and lifts out the dog.

BURT (CONT'D)
Do you have to bring back a half
dead animal every time you go out?

She glares back, cradling the dog defensively. He spots the cracked windshield and her blood stained hands.

BURT (CONT'D)
What happened? Are you okay?

JESS
I'm fine. I got the medicine.

She marches away angry.

INT. JUGGERNAUT WORKSHOP - DAY

Will and Skooter work on the Hammertail. Will searches his way through a mess of cables and finds a bundle of wires wrapped in electrical tape.

He unravels it to find a hidden connector separated. He looks up at Skooter. She looks back pensive. He smiles. She raises her eyebrows devious.

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN - DAY

Barony watches the farm, her hair whipping in the wind.

BARONY
(into radio)
Barony to Juggernaut.

RADIO
Yeah, go ahead.

BARONY
Put Hayden on.

INT. JUGGERNAUT CAB

Hayden sits slouched in the cab, surrounded by a RADIO GUY, NAVIGATOR and DRIVER.

RADIO GUY
(offering mic)
It's that fucked up goth girl for you again.

HAYDEN
What the does she want now?
(into radio)
Yeah, this is Hayden.

INTERCUT BARONY AND HAYDEN

BARONY
How'd the mechanic work out?

HAYDEN
We'll wait and see on that one.

BARONY
What would you say if I told you I'd found a farm?

HAYDEN
I'd say, why should I give a damn?

BARONY

Oh you should give a damn about
this, crops, fuel, supplies.

Barony draws a devious grin. Hayden thinks for a moment.

HAYDEN

You just plant your asses there and
I'll get back to you.

Hayden hands back the mic.

RADIO GUY

What do you think?

HAYDEN

What could be there that would be
any interest? I got a war to win.
To hell with her ideas, she can sit
there like a frog on a log.

INT. CABIN BEDROOM - DAY

A bottle of insulin glints. Jess tilts it from side to side. A needle spears through the snout and draws in units. Jess taps the needle.

Ern lies on the bed, wheezing. She kneels beside him. The needle pierces his flesh. She winces nervous, takes a breath and pushes down the plunger.

She watches Ern pensive. Burt stares worried behind her.

BURT

You think it's going to work?

JESS

It's our best shot.

She grabs medicine book and studies it. Burt smiles proud.

BURT

You're doing a great job.

She smiles back unconvinced.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY

The Juggernaut roars past a wind farm. Painted all black, the tractor unit hauls three long trailers with protective fences lining the tops around junk piled under tarpaulins, one hell of a war rig.

It thunders past a red WARNING RESTRICTED AREA sign. A Blackhawk helicopter swoops out and takes chase.

INT. JUGGERNAUT WORKSHOP

Will, Skooter and Ward glance up through a mesh window, and watch the Blackhawk pass over.

INT. BLACKHAWK

The Blackhawk gunner scans along the Juggernaut. The Driver confidently gives them the finger from the cab window.

INT. JUGGERNAUT CAB

The Driver turns to Hayden.

DIVER

I was told not to expect much heat?

HAYDEN

These kids haven't got the balls
nor the resources to make a move.
Batten down and keep on truckin.

They crest the hill and Hayden's eyes light up.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Well shut my mouth. Stop, stop
right here.

The Juggernaut growls as the Jake brake engages.

INT. JUGGERNAUT WORKSHOP

Will and Skooter are thrown forward.

EXT. DESERT HILLS ENFORCEMENT FACILITY

A COMBAT TEAM block the highway by concrete barriers, a dozen soldiers out on point in a show of force.

The Juggernaut sits stationary, tarpaulins rustling in the breeze. COLONEL BECKER strolls into the highway with a loud hailer.

INTERCUT HAYDEN, BECKER AND WILL

Hayden watches intrigued.

HAYDEN

You ever had that feeling that
somebodies been expecting you?

COLONEL BECKER
 This is Colonel Becker of the
 California State Military Reserve.
 State your identity.

Will listens intently.

HAYDEN
 Well if it isn't the goddamn
 National Guard. Someone's got too
 big for their britches. Switch on
 that P.A.

Speakers on the Juggernaut pop and squeal.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
 This is Colonel Hayden of the 1st
 Armored Division.

COLONEL BECKER
 Well, well, well, the infamous
 Hayden. You're no Colonel, you and
 you're gang of reprobates are
 nothing but war criminals, scum.

HAYDEN
 Every dog should have a few fleas.
 Let me teach you a little lesson
 about scum, Becker.

Hayden slips out the Cab and walks into the highway. He grins menacingly and looks back at the Juggernaut.

Crew Members emerge from everywhere, creeping into positions, gathering on the highway and standing on the trailers. They cock firearms, draw knives and pat bats.

SOLDIER #1
 We can take these guys.

SOLDIER #2
 Look! Just above the prime mover!

Becker glances up. A BAZOOKA GUY squatted above the Juggernaut Cab with rocket launcher on his shoulder.

SOLDIER #1
 That's a god damn AT4!

COLONEL BECKER
 Get that Hawk out of here!

Becker's Soldiers take up defensive positions. The Blackhawk blades crackle as it ducks away to land.

The door to the Juggernaut Workshop unlocks. Ward, pistol pointed, ushers Will and Skooter out.

Will and Skooter are led into the highway, among the Crew Members.

SOLDIER #2
(eyes wide)
Hostages!

The Two Kidnap Victims are pulled out the Juggernaut, writhing and moaning through gags. The Male Kidnap Victim is kicked along as he shuffles. The Female Kidnap Victim screams as she's dragged by the hair.

Will and Skooter watch concerned as the Two Kidnap Victims are lined up, on their knees, side by side.

HAYDEN
Let me tell you all about scum.

SOLDIER #1
We should do something!

COLONEL BECKER
What happens beyond this checkpoint is not our concern!

SOLDIER #1
(punching ground)
Damn!

COLONEL BECKER
(into inhaler)
You're barking up the wrong tree, Hayden, we won't negotiate over hostages.

Hayden scoffs and grins back meanly.

HAYDEN
Hostage negotiation? Oh hell no.
This is an initiation ceremony!

Hayden nods to a Crew Member. They pull away Male Kidnap Victim's gag. He gasps desperate.

MALE KIDNAP VICTIM
Please! Do something!

Hayden leans into the Male Kidnap Victim.

HAYDEN
What's your name?

He holds the microphone to the Male Kidnap Victims mouth.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Tell them!

MALE KIDNAP VICTIM

Larry, erm, Larry... Miller.

HAYDEN

That's a good old American name.
Tell me, Larry, are you the scum
Colonel Becker here is so kindly
referring to?

Larry looks up at Hayden, unsure what to say.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Are you scum!

LARRY

No! No I'm not!

HAYDEN

Then you're no use to me, boy.

Hayden nods to a Crew Member. They approach with a knife.

LARRY

No please!

Will and Skooter go wide eyed. Becker and his Soldiers watch
concerned and --

They cut rope binding Larry's wrists.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Thank you! Thank you so much.

The Female Kidnap Victim stares and wriggles, her pleading
muffled.

Larry stands up and gazes around. Hayden smiles. Larry looks
back confused.

A loop of rope is thrown over Larry's head and snaps tight.
Will and Skooter jolt.

Larry clutches at the rope as he staggers around, a Crew
Member holding the rope like a leash. Hayden marches down the
middle of the road and points at Becker, his eyes wild.

HAYDEN

Now the initiation begins!

Jingling. Will and Skooter glance round and their mouths
drop. Becker and his Soldiers peer ahead, faces shocked.

ROACH, a guy in orange jumpsuit with shaved head, is lead
along in chains to Hayden.

The Female Kidnap Victim looks up as he passes by, her eyes
bulging, Larry looks around terrified.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Name!

ROACH
Roach!

HAYDEN
Are you scum, Roach!

ROACH
Yes sir!

Hayden paces back and forth, nodding delighted.

HAYDEN
Now we're cookin.

Skooter looks at Will concerned. Will tenses and glances at Ward, sizing him up. Ward cocks his pistol.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Tell everyone here just how much of a scumbag you are, Roach!

ROACH
Three accounts of rape, triple homicide, sir!

HAYDEN
Oh, you are scum alright.
(raising eyebrows)
Death row?

ROACH
Yes sir!

HAYDEN
Not anymore! Aint war just grand!

Roach grins and nods slowly at Hayden. Becker and his Soldiers look at each other disapproving.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
(glaring at Becker)
Let me show how the world works out here now, Becker.

Hayden nods to his Crew Members. One runs in and cuts the chains on Roach as another hands him a box knife. ROACH breathes deeply, grins and stares at Larry.

A knife is offered to Larry. He glances around confused.

LARRY
No! Please!

HAYDEN

Believe me when I say this, Larry.
You want that knife right now.

Larry takes the knife in his quivering hand. Becker watches disgusted. Skooter clutches Will's arm.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Watch and learn, Becker! Lets see
what happens when the weak and
innocent who've been left behind
meet the scum that have been
persecuted. Who's it going to be?
(grinning)
Good ol' Larry or Death Row Roach?

The Crew Members form half a ring, keeping Larry's rope tight. Roach circles, grinning. Larry staggers, glancing around.

The Juggernaut HORN BLASTS. The Female Kidnap Victim jolts. Roach lunges at Larry and dances around him confident. Larry stumbles and waves his knife around.

Skooter buries her face against Will's arm. Roach swings. Larry ducks. Crew Members goad and cheer for both of them.

Larry swipes at Roach. Roach sweeps to one side and grins. Larry swipes frantic.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Seems Larry can be quite the
tenacious little fucker when backed
into a corner.

Becker shakes his head angry.

Roach stares at Larry. Larry freezes. Roach lunges, smacks the knife from his hand and dives on him.

Hayden stares down smiling. Roach draws the knife to Larry's neck and --

A gargling scream. Skooter pushes her face into Will's arm. Will puts his arm around her, seething and glancing at Ward, wishing he could do something.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Listen to this, Becker!

Hayden crouches down beside Larry and holds the mic to his mouth. Gargling crackles through the speakers.

Becker and his Soldiers glower as his final croaks echo.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

When the World turns to shit, it's
the scum that rises to the surface!
(MORE)

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

And I am here to make sure we rise together! I shall walk this desert recruiting, I will destroy those who do not join my cause!

Hayden marches down the highway, pointing venomously, his voice through the speakers becoming distorted.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

We will slaughter, we will rape, we will pillage, we will grow stronger! And I will lead us back here, where we shall roar like the Horns of Jericho! And I will lead them into L.A where I will reign supreme over a whole army of scum!

Hayden pauses and wipes drool from his mouth.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Who are we!

CREW MEMBERS

(punching air)

Scum!

Hayden glares at Becker, his eyes wild.

HAYDEN

WHO ARE WE!

CREW MEMBERS

(punching air)

SCUM!

Becker and his Soldiers stare fearful. Hayden strolls slowly backward.

HAYDEN

Next!

Roach spins round and grins. Will glares at Ward, tensing his arms.

The Female Kidnap Victim gets up and slips free. She sprints away, wrists bound, eyes bulging and legs pumping.

Biker Girl creeps out of the crowd, raises her cross bow and fires!

Skooter covers her mouth shocked. The Female Kidnap Victim crashes down hard, arrow through her skull.

Biker girl smirks. The Crew Members applaud. Hayden grins to himself. Becker and his Soldiers wince.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

I made my point. Shows over.

Hayden strolls to the Juggernaut as Crew Members hurry back onboard. Ward ushers Will and Skooter back to the Workshop.

The Juggernaut creeps along. The Soldiers take aim. It swings round in a lazy u-turn across the median.

The Soldiers look at each other angry. The Juggernaut roars away, leaving the Kidnap Victim's bodies in the road.

SOLDIER #1

We should have done something!

COLONEL BECKER

(furious)

Done what? Done what, with what?
You see this line?

(drags foot across)

That's our official give a fuck
line, you know that! You know how
low our resources are!

Soldier #1 and Becker lock glares.

COLONEL BECKER (CONT'D)

We're the last stand between
civilization and anarchy. That's
tough titties for every poor soul
out there, but it's the card fate
has drawn for them.

Soldier #1 sighs and nods.

COLONEL BECKER (CONT'D)

But believe this, if this guy gets
into the city, he'll bring a war.
If he tries to cross this line,
we'll unleash the wrath of god, and
I don't care who's god it is
either, because I'm pretty sure,
when it comes to this guy, they're
all on our side.

He nods confidently at his troops.

COLONEL BECKER (CONT'D)

Hooah!

SOLDIERS

Hooah!

INT. CABIN BEDROOM - DAY

Ern's eyes slowly open and look around. A smile creeps across his face as he see's Jess looking over him, a beaming smile covered by her fingers.

ERN

Hey.

JESS

Hey you.

She gets up and starts fixing some food. Burt walks in.

BURT

Hey, old man! Good to see you back!
(crouching down)
You feeling okay?

ERN

(coughing)
Don't count me out just yet.

Burt pat Ern proud and crosses to Jess.

BURT

(quietly concerned)
We've got a situation you need to
check out.

EXT. FARM - DAY

Burt leads Jess into the desert and hands her binoculars.

BURT

(pointing)
Up there, on the peak of ol'
Coyote.

She peers at the Coyote Mountain peak, to find three silhouettes and whipping red hair glowing in the sun.

BURT (CONT'D)

Been sat there for a while now, not
sure how long, hopefully just
passing through.

JESS

(sighing)
Shit.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY

The Juggernaut charges along the highway out the wind-farms, kicking up dust settled on the asphalt.

INT. JUGGERNAUT CAB

Hayden sits studying a map with his Navigator.

HAYDEN

They can't protect the whole damn city. We just have to find them, and catch them with their pants down.

NAVIGATOR

North's our best bet. South ain't nothing but mountains and Mexicans.

Hayden nods in agreement.

EXT. HIGHWAY OFF RAMP

The Juggernaut cruises off the highway and swings through an intersection, the signals still aimlessly operating.

EXT. JUGGERNAUT ROOF

A SPOTTER downs his binoculars and grabs a radio.

SPOTTER

I got a big bogey on our two.

INT. JUGGERNAUT CAB

HAYDEN

Check that out.

The Navigator checks and spots a Box Truck racing along.

NAVIGATOR

Looks like a box truck.

HAYDEN

Any company?

NAVIGATOR

Nope, nothing.

HAYDEN

Well, ain't that a turn up for the books. Time to live up to my word. Battle stations, men. Let's run this thing like we mean it.

The Driver guns it and gives the horn three long blasts.

INT. JUGGERNAUT WORKSHOP

Will and Skooter glance up as Ward excitedly leaves.

SKOOTER

Things are about to get bad.

Will looks curious at Skooter. She points to a mesh panel in the ceiling.

SKOOTER (CONT'D)
Knock yourself out.

He climbs up to the panel and crawls through.

EXT. JUGGERNAUT ROOF

Will crouches hidden within a flapping tarpaulin cover, watching Crew Members preparing for attack. The Juggernaut's roaring exhausts pump out black smoke.

SPOTTER
(turning to everyone)
Brace yourselves!

They all cling on.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - CAR CHASE

The Juggernaut turns onto a desert road, tires scrubbing and the trailers leaning precariously as it corners hard and cuts across the desert kicking up dust.

CREW MEMBER
Look! They don't stand a chance!

WARD
It's going to be one hell of a show!

They distribute weapons as they close in behind the Box Truck, flames spitting from the exhausts.

WARD (CONT'D)
They don't know what's coming!

SPOTTER
This is it!

They brace themselves.

The Juggernaut hits the asphalt just behind the Box Truck, swings out and slowly passes.

Hayden and the others check the truck out as they draw alongside. The Navigator leans across with a rifle then --

A MASKED GIRL swings out the Box Truck cab window with a pistol and FIRES!

HAYDEN
Well there goes her chances of being recruited.

The Navigator FIRES! She FIRES! He aims, FIRES and hits her in the chest. She hangs from the window.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Okay board these, sons of bitches.

The Juggernaut edges up to the Box Truck. The Spotter gives an up and over gesture.

Three Crew Members leap across and hack a hole in the roof with a circular saw. They slither in as Crew Members cheer.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Lets see what we got for the taking.

The Juggernaut drops back behind the Box Truck. The Box Truck trailer doors burst open. Crew Members inside. It's near empty.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Slim pickings, boys. Looks like this is now just for shits and giggles. Bring up the Zippo.

The Driver gives the horn one long blast.

The Crew Members are electrified with excitement. They scabble along the roof and rush down ladders.

WARD
Zippo! Yes! They're going to use the Zippo!

At the back of the third Juggernaut trailer, a ramp drops and a large black Pickup Truck backs out.

A BIKER GUY and Biker Girl run down the trailers, lift up tarpaulin covers and get onto motocross bikes.

The Pickup races by Juggernaut as the Bikes leap from the trailer. The Crew Members cheer.

A black Muscle Car backs down the ramp and storms after the Bikes.

A black Jeep creeps out and cruises alongside the Juggernaut. The JEEP GUNNER gestures a fist to the Crew Members. They roar with applause and make fists back.

The Bikes race either side of the Box Truck. It swerves, trying to take them out. Biker Girl barely makes it by.

The Pickup and Muscle Car try the same but the Box Truck snakes along the highway blocking them, throwing the Crew Members inside the trailer around.

The Bikes dart back and forth slowing it down. The Jeep skips across the dirt alongside, creeping past.

HAYDEN
Come on, come on.

The Jeep squirms onto the road in front of the Box Truck.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Hoo-ah!

The Pickup and Muscle Car ease back. The Bikes swerve into the desert.

The Crew Members go silent.

The Jeep Gunner grins darkly at the Box Truck. A huge flame roars from the Jeep, engulfing the Box Truck cab and --

BOOM! One of the Box Truck's fuel tanks explodes. The Crew Members cheer ecstatic.

Hayden grins, flames in his eyes.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Ain't that the berries?

Will watches deplored. The Box Truck races away, the driver beating off flames, not giving in.

The Crew Members in the trailer look helplessly back.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Drive right up that trucks asshole.
I want at least something out of
this.

The Juggernaut races up to the trailer, bashing against it. The Crew Members gather what they can.

One sprints down the trailer, leaps onto the Juggernaut hood and clambers down to the doorstep. Another follows suit and clambers down the other side.

Hayden watches concerned.

The last waddles down the trailer carrying too much, shorts the jump and crashes onto hood. He drops the items and clings onto the grill by the roaring engine.

Hayden and others wince, watching him struggle.

He screams, slips and crunches under the rusty bumper.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Make a note we need to go back and
get whatever the hell he was
carrying.

The burning Box Truck Driver slumps over the wheel. It loses track of the road, sending out a cloud of dust.

The Crew Members watch in anticipation and --

It crashes. BOOM! A fuel tank explodes.

Crew Members cheer and punch the air. Will sits shocked.

The Box Truck burns furiously by the side of the highway, the fire crackling within the twisted metal carcass.

INT. CABIN KITCHEN - NIGHT

Ern walks gingerly through the cabin, still weak. He pours a glass of water and stares outside.

Jess in the distance, stood by a Bighorn Sheep. He frowns.

EXT. FARM

The huge Sheep chews at a bundle of grass in Jess's hands. She watches it solemn, stroking its nose.

Footsteps. The Sheep bolts. She turns to find Ern stood looking guilty. She wipes her eyes, hiding her tears.

ERN

Sorry, they only seem to be comfortable around you.

JESS

They're getting thinner, I'm worried about them. I thought I told you to stay in bed.

ERN

Well I escaped.

They both chuckle as she crosses to him.

ERN (CONT'D)

What's the matter?

She shrugs.

ERN (CONT'D)

You run out of cigarettes?

She can't help but laugh.

JESS

Have you ever felt like life is just dangling what you want right above your head, just out of arms reach?

(MORE)

JESS (CONT'D)
 And you just keep on jumping,
 trying to grab it, until your too
 worn out to try anymore?

He says nothing, just listens.

JESS (CONT'D)
 I saw a glimmer of hope last night.
 I thought, there was a chance
 things can get better. And as soon
 as I starting thinking that, it was
 destroyed in seconds.

She gazes around the farm at the dogs.

JESS (CONT'D)
 What have we created here? A false
 promise of a future, a desperate
 last clutch at civilization.
 (pointing at mountain)
 It's only a matter of time before
 someone tries to either take it all
 or destroy it.

ERN
 This isn't like you.

JESS
 I got a reality check okay? I've
 been living in a fantasy world.

She stares at him upset. He smiles warmly.

ERN
 What's so bad about living in a
 fantasy world?

She winces confused. He leads her by the arm toward the
 cabin.

ERN (CONT'D)
 The world needs dreamers, Jess.
 More now than ever.

Jess smiles to herself unsure.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The Juggernaut cruises through the darkness, trailers
 crashing along as animals howl in the distance.

INT. JUGGERNAUT WORKSHOP

Will and Skooter work as Ward watches them tired. The door
 opens. TANK climbs in with a creepy smile.

TANK

Okay children, baby sitters here.

WARD

Oh is it that time already? How time flies when you're having fun.

Tank chuckles as Ward leaves. Will and Skooter down tools and make their way to filthy blankets. Tank eases down and sits on the floor.

TANK

No hanky panky, you hear?

Tank switches on a boom box. Music echoes through the trailer. He puts on a pair of shades and sits back.

Skooter tries to get comfortable and looks across at Will staring at the floor consumed. He looks back. She smiles kind. He forces a smile back.

WILL

I've got to get off this thing. You coming with me.

SKOOTER

You got a plan?

WILL

There's a couple of bikes on the third trailer. We wait till they stop, we take out this fat fuck, get on the roof, grab a bike and make a run across the desert.

SKOOTER

They'll cut you down the second you get on the roof, or chase you into the desert.

WILL

You got a better plan?

She looks him in the eye smiling and nodding.

SKOOTER

Yeah.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY

The Juggernaut roars across the foot of the mountains.

INT. JUGGERNAUT WORKSHOP

Tank snores as Skooter's tiny hand waves across his face. Will and Skooter study him. Will raises a breaker bar like a golf club, swings it hard and --

THWACK! Tank jolts awake and instinctively tackles Will to the floor with a BANG!

INT. JUGGERNAUT BARRACKS

Crew Members play cards. Ward reluctantly gets up.

WARD
(yawning)
Right, time for me to baby sit,
again.

Ward crosses to the door with a coffee.

INT. JUGGERNAUT WORKSHOP

Tank chokes Will. Skooter smacks him over the head with a pair of bolt cutters until he's knocked unconscious.

WILL
(gasping)
Quick, lock the door.

She grabs the keys and crosses to the door.

Ward steps out the Barracks into the gust.

Skooter frantically tries each key the lock.

Ward crosses to the Workshop, reaches for the handle and --

She locks it. The handle rattles. She leaps back.

Ward tries the handle again and bangs the door.

WARD
Tank, you asshole! Open up!

Skooter pours fuel into the Hammertail as Will unravels the bundle of tape. He pushes the connectors together.

Ward unlocks the door and opens it to find Will firing up the Hammertail.

Ward freezes. Skooter smiles back sly.

Will guns the Hammertail. It flies backwards, crashes into the workshop wall and --

Ward fires out the Workshop, smacks into the Barracks, drops and crunches under the wheels.

INT. JUGGERNAUT CAB

Hayden frowns and grabs the radio mic.

HAYDEN
(into radio)
Can someone tell me what the hell
that was?

RADIO
It's the mechanics! They've
barricaded themselves in the
workshop!

HAYDEN
Hold tight, I'm coming up.

INT. JUGGERNAUT BARRACKS

Crew Members gather weapons. Hayden marches through.

HAYDEN
Hey! Hand me that shotgun.

It's tossed across. He casually pumps in a shell.

EXT. JUGGERNAUT

Hayden climbs out to see the blood, coffee smeared up the wall.

HAYDEN
Oh you're in a heap of trouble now.

He clambers up to the Workshop roof. Crew Members bang and shout through the grate --

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Cut the damn roof!

CREW MEMBER
No tools!

HAYDEN
Well where the hell are they?

INT./EXT. JUGGERNAUT WORKSHOP

The circular saw rasps into life. Will starts sawing down the length of the roof. Skooter adjusts the roaring flame of a cutting torch and cuts along the other side.

Hayden aims through the mesh grid and FIRES!

Will flinches, shot glancing by. He tosses down the saw.

WILL
I'm done, are you?

SKOOTER
Almost!

She climbs onto the Hammertail and cuts across the roof. He grabs a battery booster and clips it to the wall and the Hammertail. He climbs in and revs the engine.

HAYDEN
That vehicle does not leave!

Skooter nearly completes her cut.

SKOOTER
Ready?

WILL
Go for it!

She leaps back as half the roof folds down and crashes onto the floor. Crew Members fall through with it. She kicks over a fuel barrel and climbs into the Hammertail.

Hayden glowers down at the Hammertail below. Skooter wriggles into her harness and gives him the finger.

HAYDEN
You have got to be kidding me!

Skooter's harness clicks. Will floors it. The booster pack drops to the floor. The Hammertail races up the collapsed roof. The booster pack sparks. Fuel floods toward it and --

BOOM! The Hammertail launches into the air as a huge fireball erupts behind. It crashes onto the roof of the Car Hauler.

Crew Members duck the flames. Will keeps his foot to floor. Skooter winces and --

The Hammertail smashes through the gear and bikes on the top of the Car Hauler, ramps off the back off the Juggernaut, glides through the air and hits the road

The ramp slams down. The Pickup backs out and j-turns.

The Pickup Driver smiles deviously to herself as she watches the Hammertail swerve into the desert.

PICKUP DRIVER
I see you!

The Pickup roars toward the dust cloud as The Muscle Car backs down the ramp, spins round and joins the chase.

The Hammertail dives back onto the asphalt. The Pickup bursts out the bushes behind. The Muscle Car swoops in down the highway.

Skooter points to a sign for a mountain trail. Will sticks his thumb up.

The Hammertail swerves onto the trail. The Muscle Car screeches to a halt. The Pickup dives after.

The Hammertail and Pickup race up rugged trail. The Hammertail takes the rocks in its stride. The Pickup crashes after struggling.

PICKUP DRIVER (CONT'D)
(fighting wheel)
Come on, come on, baby!

The Pickup comes to a halt. She looks out at the spinning wheels and bashes the steering wheel angry.

PICKUP DRIVER (CONT'D)
Damn this rocky mountain bullshit!

The Hammertail scrabbles out of sight, over the crest.

INT. FARM CABIN - LATER

The rescued dog rests in a basket. Jess sits eating by a window. A radio base station scans through channels, the counter stops and garbled noise hisses.

RADIO
Barony to Hayden

Jess freezes and listens intent.

RADIO (CONT'D)
Barony to Hayden, come back.

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN - DAY

Barony sat bored and wrapped in a blanket. Savage and Buster boiling a kettle over a campfire.

BARONY
(into radio)
Helloooooo? Anybody out there?

Savage carefully pours her some coffee into an old cup.

BARONY (CONT'D)
 Awww thank you.
 (stroking arm)
 So sweet.

EXT. HIGHWAY

The Juggernaut sat stationary, Crew Members repairing it. Hayden storms up to the cab and snatches the radio mic.

HAYDEN
 (into radio)
 What now?

INTERCUT BARONY, JESS AND HAYDEN

BARONY
 We're getting bored here. Are you coming or not?

HAYDEN
 Now you listen here, we got a situation. Your friend decided to take off with my damn Hammertail.

BARONY
 Okay?

HAYDEN
 So unless you can pull a new one out of your ass while we're busy shit-hammering this rig back together, our business is done!

BARONY
 Okay... So... are you interested in the farm or not?

Hayden tosses the mic to the ground in despair.

HAYDEN
 (To Radio Guy)
 This is what happens when you work with goths, from now on, it's professionals only.

BARONY
 (into radio)
 Hello?.. Hello?

Barony sits back forlorn, sighs and sips her coffee.

BARONY (CONT'D)
 Well that went well.

Jess smirks to herself and carries on eating.

EXT. BADLANDS - LATER

The Hammertail leaps over rough terrain, Will and Skooter jostling. They grit their teeth. Will opens it up.

The Hammertail skips across the sand a high speed, a huge dust cloud curling behind.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - LATER

The Hammertail screeches onto the asphalt.

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN - LATER

Barony resentfully punches her sleeping bag into a ruck-sack. She spots something, grabs her binoculars and spies the Hammertail racing along the highway.

BARONY

Interesting.

INT./EXT. FARM CABIN

Jess sits sowing by the window.

BURT (O.S.)

(shouting)

Jess! We got company!

She glances up to see Burt running past the window. She dashes across the room, bursts through the door and sprints after him.

She grabs her revolver and skids down behind an old tractor trailer.

Ern crouches behind a bush. Burt squats behind barrels. A roaring engine approaches.

Jess's takes a deep breath and moves out, revolver raised.

Burt and Ern move out of position, weapons ready.

The Hammertail skids to a halt. The engine shuts off. Will shakes dust from his head and stares at Jess.

WILL

You're okay!

Jess covers her mouth with her trembling fingers. Her gun goes limp in her hand.

BURT

(squinting)

Will? That you?

Will frantically tugs at his harness and wriggles free. Burt downs his weapon and turns to Ern smiling.

BURT (CONT'D)
It's okay, he's a friend.

Will jumps down from the Hammertail. Jess runs to him and they embrace tightly.

Skooter watches, smiling warmly. Burt and Ern watch confused, shrug and turn back to the Hammertail.

Skooter shakes dust from herself and smiles shy.

SKOOTER
Hey.

Will and Jess hold each other, gazing.

JESS
I thought you were dead.

Their gaze lingers. An interrupting cough they look round to find Burt stood palms out, confused. Will and Jess release.

WILL
Guys this is Skooter. Skooter, this is Burt, Ern and this is
(smiling at Jess)
Jess.

Jess smiles back sheepish.

ERN
(to Skooter)
Well howdy, young lady.

Skooter smiles and goes to climb out. Ern offers a hand.

ERN (CONT'D)
Please, allow me.

Skooter holds Ern's hand, hops down and dusts herself off. They all gather together smiling. Burt rests his hand on Will's shoulder proud.

BURT
Ern, this is the guy who helped Jess get your medication, he's a good man, a good man!

Ern firmly shakes Will's hand.

ERN
Good to meet you, much obliged.

WILL
Glad to see you're better, Ern.

Burt gazes up at the Hammertail.

BURT

This military? Would I be right in thinking somebody might be looking for it.

Will nods.

WILL

It's called a Hammertail, and we exactly borrow it exactly.

Jess's pupils flick back and forth.

JESS

The people you took this from, is one of them called... Hayden?

WILL

Yeah, how'd you know that asshole?

Jess shakes her head to herself worried.

JESS

I don't believe this.

WILL

What?

RADIO

Err, Barony to Hayden.

Jess looks Will in the eye dour.

RADIO (CONT'D)

We just found that mechanic again.

Jess, Burt and Ern look back toward Coyote Mountain.

EXT. MOUNTAIN

Barony stands watching.

BARONY

He's come back to the girl we found him through.

JUGGERNAUT CAB

The Juggernaut roars along. Hayden snaps up the mic.

HAYDEN

Tell me, I don't suppose this guy is in a vehicle?

INTERCUT BARONY AND HAYDEN

BARONY

Yeah, he's in a big buggy with some girl.

(adjusts binoculars)

She's kinda cute.

HAYDEN

Where exactly are you right now?

BARONY

Coyote Mountain.

Hayden points at the Navigator who rustles out maps.

HAYDEN

Okay, you've mended some fences. Hold your asses tight. Whatever you do, don't let that vehicle out of your sight.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

(to Driver)

We got to flip flop back South bound like we mean it.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY

The Juggernaut brakes hard, turns round in an abandoned filling station and roars back down the highway.

EXT. MOUNTAIN

Barony grins to herself as she watches the farm.

BARONY

Oh we are so getting that farm now.

(raising hand)

Dibs on cute new girl.

Buster and Savage pause packing and look back confused.

EXT. FARM

Will looks around, pained with guilt.

WILL

I had no idea, honestly.

Burt looks back frank, keeping calm.

BURT

What's done is done, this aint our first rodeo, so lets start talking about what we're gonna do about it.

Burt leads Ern and Skooter away toward the cabin.

WILL

(to Jess)

I'm sorry.

JESS

Don't be, this was inevitable anyway. right?

Will stares back awkward.

JESS (CONT'D)

Where'd you pick up the girl?

WILL

She was with the guys that took me. Look, Jess, I couldn't just leave her there.

Jess trudges away.

JESS

She was worth getting attached to right?

WILL

Jess!

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY

The Juggernaut thunders along the highway, smoke pouring from the stacks. The tires howl and cab leans as it negotiates the curves.

INT. JUGGERNAUT CAB

Hayden glowers ahead, rubbing his hands together.

HAYDEN

Believe me when I say it, we are going to rain down fire from the heavens on those two traitors. Same goes for anybody that tries to protect them. We will destroy them and everything they hold dear. We will leave nothing but scorched earth in our wake.

INT. BOREGGO SPRINGS FARM CABIN - LATER

The bustle of a heated debate. Will and Burt pace around animated. Jess, Ern and Skooter sit watching nervous.

WILL

We can't simply give them what they want back. Burt! They'll take it, kill us and take everything you have here too!

BURT

Then we make a deal, we reason with this Hayden, we have something he needs, we bargain with it, like men.

WILL

This isn't someone you reason with, you can't trust this guy.

Burt pauses, shaking his head frustrated. Jess nods in agreement.

JESS

He's right, I saw what they did at the trade post, they showed no mercy.

SKOOTER

You're either part of his army, or you're one of the enemy.

ERN

So we leave and we get the hell away from here.

JESS

No! I'm not leaving the animals, no way. Seriously, you can go, but I won't leave them.

BURT

And even if we did leave, then what? Get chased to our deaths in the desert.

WILL

Listen, this isn't just about us surviving anymore. This is about fighting something evil. Something that's only going to get stronger and stronger until it's everybody's problem.

Jess shakes her head to herself and folds her arms. Burt stares at Will intense.

BURT
Yeah well, if it's a fight he's
looking for. He's picked the wrong
farmer to mess with.

Will tilts his head intrigued.

INT. FARM WORKSHOP - MOMENTS LATER

Burt sweeps a blanket off a a partially assembled Browning M2A proudly sitting on a workbench, Will and Skooter gaze at it, it's a beast of a gun.

WILL
What the hell is that?

SKOOTER
Ma fucking Deuce.

Burt nods, impressed at Skooter.

BURT
Yep, been working on this puppy for
a while now.
(scratches chin meanly)
And to think people say I over
prepare.

WILL
Does it work?

BURT
Not yet, but if we all muck in,
hell, we could be finished by
morning. You game?

SKOOTER
Hell yeah! We're gonna stick it on
the Hammertail right?

Burt turns to her and rests his hand on her shoulder.

BURT
I like you. You're going to fit in
here just fine.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The Juggernaut charges through the murky night, the headlamps piercing.

INT. JUGGERNAUT CAB

Hayden climbs into the Cab and peers into the darkness.

HAYDEN
What's our ETA?

NAVIGATOR
Five hours, give or take.

HAYDEN
Guys we got to cook, I mean put it
on the back burner and cook. I
don't want to be chasing that damn
thing all the way into Mexico.

The Driver nods surely, grabs a lower gear and floors it.

INT./EXT. FARM WORKSHOP - NIGHT

Burt toils away at the Ma Deuce with Skooter helping. Ern searches for ammo among old boxes. Will walks out carrying an engine intake.

Will finds Jess sat against the wall outside.

WILL
Hey, you okay?

JESS
Why'd you even come back here? Did
you have to prove your point or
something?

WILL
You think I'm pleased this has
happened?

He looks offended. She shakes her head apologetic.

JESS
I just don't get it, okay? I just
don't get this.

WILL
What?

JESS
This, why you're here? You told me
you don't get attached to things,
that it just ties you down. Yet
here you are, defending the very
thing you told me I was crazy for
caring about.

WILL
It's like I told you, I'll fight
for what's right.

JESS
 Until there's nothing left to fight
 for?

She lets out a long frustrated sigh and leaves.

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Barony sits watching the farm, the campfire crackling beside her. Buster and Savage skin an animal carcass.

BARONY
 (impression of Jess)
 Oh I love you, love you so much, Mr
 Mechanic man. But I'm so conflicted
 by my lesbian lust for this fresh
 faced new girl, because really, I'm
 a massive dyke, and she makes my
 mimsy all tingly when I look at
 her. Maybe we could all have a
 threesome, but that would be too
 exciting, so I'll just mope around
 like a miserable bitch.

Buster hands Barony some meat on a stick.

BARONY (CONT'D)
 Tomorrow these guys aren't going to
 know what's hit them.

Barony bites into the meat and growls as she stares darkly.

INT. CABIN KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jess pours herself a glass of water. Skooter enters and
 pauses awkward.

SKOOTER
 (trying to leave)
 Oh, it's okay.

JESS
 No, it's fine.

SKOOTER
 I just-

JESS
 You want some water?

Skooter nods. Jess hurriedly pours a glass of water.

JESS (CONT'D)
 It's crazy hot, right?

She hands the glass across. They drink in awkward silence.

SKOOTER
This is nice water.

JESS
Yeah, well, it's from the spring,
so.
(dorky)
It's real good.

They wince, small talk failing.

SKOOTER
Look, I'm telling you this girl to
girl, okay? There's definitely
something there. So don't give in.
(handing back glass)
Thanks for the water.

Jess smiles to herself.

INT./EXT. FARM WORKSHOP - DAY

Skooter slots an ammo belt into the Ma Deuce. Burt and her
heave it up off the workbench.

Burt and Skooter shuffle out the Workshop and lay the Ma
Deuce on the ground. The others gather round.

SKOOTER
Will it fire?

Burt sits behind the Ma Deuce, cocks it and leans back.

BURT
That's what we're about to find
out.

Burt squints down the sights and fires.

BOOM! A round thunder toward Coyote mountain and --

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN

BANG! Barony, Savage and Buster jolt awake, the round
decimating their campfire. More shots reign in. They scabble
away behind a huge rock.

The shooting stops the area falls silent.

BARONY
This complicates matters.

EXT. FARM WORKSHOP

Smokes creeps from the Ma Deuce barrel. Burt gets up.

SKOOTER
Yeah, that shoots.

Skooter, Ern and Will stare astonished into the distance.

ERN
You don't say.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY

Wind whistles through bushes, carrying sand across the desert in a thick grey cloud. The Juggernaut bursts through, lights ablaze.

The Juggernaut pulls in a dirt area. Crew Members leap out. The Car Hauler ramp slams down. The Muscle Car's engine thunders from inside. Hayden hops down from the cab.

RADIO GUY
Once we got these vehicles unloaded
we're pretty much good to go, how
do you wanna do this?

HAYDEN
Get me that goth girl.

Radio Guy pulls out the radio mic and hands it over.

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN

Barony and Savage peer over the huge rock at the radio lying within the destroyed camping gear.

RADIO
Hayden to Barony, come back.

Buster crawls wary toward the radio, he looks back worried. Barony smiles and gestures for him to hurry up. He crawls to the radio, grabs it, runs back and hands it to her.

BARONY
This is she.

INT. FARM WORKSHOP

Jess sharpens a knife. Burt and Skooter work on the Ma Deuce. Will and Ern work on a car part. The radio crackles with chatter.

BURT
Listen, the radio!

The rooms falls silent.

RADIO

(Hayden)

Yeah we just rolled on in a few miles from your location. We're just getting comfortable now.

RADIO (CONT'D)

(Barony)

When do we attack?

RADIO (CONT'D)

(Hayden)

Soon enough, eager beaver, and it's going to be spectacular, nobody shall be spared.

They all glance at each other nervous.

RADIO (CONT'D)

(Hayden)

You just hang tight, let us know if they make a move first.

ERN

How's this for a first move.

A boom box strapped to a radio. He presses play and --

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN

KING OF THE ROAD plays through Barony's radio. She reels.

BARONY

(rattling radio)

Hellooooo?

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY

Hayden stares puzzled at the Radio Guy. KING OF THE ROAD playing loudly.

HAYDEN

(concerned)

Well that sure aint no kids pirate radio station, keep a look out.

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN

Barony stands thinking and nods along to the song.

BARONY

I do love this song.

She sings along badly and Buster and Savage wince.

EXT. FARM - DAY

The Hammertail and a Cop Car sat side by side. Will and Burt lower the Ma Deuce down onto the Hammertail. Skooter cocks the charging handle, ready to fight.

Will drops into the drivers seat beside Jess and fires it up. She snaps the cylinder back in her revolver.

Burt gets into the Cop Car passenger seat beside Ern. He cocks his rifle and smiles back at Will.

BURT

Sure is a beautiful day for a fight, ain't it?

WILL

(calling)

If anybody wants to back out now, feel free.

Burt leans out and FIRES! A speed limit sign pings.

BURT

Does that answer your question?

Will turns to Jess. She aims FIRES! The sign dents. She smiles back.

BOOM! The sign explodes. They look up. Skooter stares ahead vengeful, the Ma Deuce smoking.

WILL

Okay, hold on tight.

The Hammertail launches. Jess sits back shocked. Skooter hangs on to the Ma Deuce. The Cop Car slithers onto the asphalt chasing.

EXT. COYOTE MOUNTAIN

Barony throws down her binoculars, runs to the Hot Rod and leaps through the roof. The Hot Rod growls away.

She cackles in the back seat as she prepares her musket.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - CAR CHASE

Skooter spots the Hot Rod approaching and tries to swing the Ma Deuce around but it wont rotate far enough. She alerts Jess, Burt and Ern. They take position.

The Hot Rod roars alongside the highway on a dirt road.

Barony pounds on Buster's shoulder.

BARONY
Faster! Faster!

The Hot Rod swerves behind the Cop Car. Barony perches above the rear window and FIRES. The Cop Car trunk lid takes a hit.

Burt FIRES back. Barony doesn't even flinch as the round whistles past. She reloads.

Burt FIRES again. The back window of the Hot Rod smashes. Barony cackles and FIRES back. Burt slides back inside.

BURT
That crazy bitch is shooting at us
with a damn powder rifle!

ERN
Powder, I'll powder her damn face!

The Cop Car puts two wheels in the dirt, sending out a dust cloud. Barony chokes and flails her arms.

On top of the Juggernaut, the Spotter stares alarmed as she spots the chase approaching.

SPOTTER
We got company!

Commotion spreads. Hayden leaps out to see the the Hammertail growl across the dirt, Hot Rod following. The Cop Car roars past down the highway.

HAYDEN
Move! Move! Move! What are you
waiting for? Parental permission?

Skooter fires off a few rounds. Hayden ducks shocked.

Barony laughs as she's thrown around over the rough ground. She loses her balance, squeals and falls off onto the dirt.

The Pickup roars away. The Jeep scrabbles after. The Spotter gets into the Muscle Car, slams the door shut and shakes a rifle.

SPOTTER
(to driver)
Rubbin's racing, boy, give it the
bejesus!

The Muscle Car screams onto the asphalt. Hayden stares up at the huge bullet holes in the Juggernaut.

HAYDEN
God damn Ma Deuce.

He looks round to see Barony running to the hotrod and dropping her radio. He shakes his head and marches to the Cab.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Get up on that radio, they got a damn fifty cal on that thing. I don't want anybody going near it until I say so.

The Hammertail weaves back onto the Highway, the Pickup and Jeep chasing. The Muscle car screams up and closes in on the Cop Car.

Inside the Cop Car, the roar of the engine fills the cabin.

RADIO

(barely audible)

Stay back from the Hammertail until instructed otherwise. Repeat. Stay back from the Hammertail!

The Pickup Driver watches Muscle Car racing ahead.

PICKUP DRIVER

Stay your asses back, you damn fools!

Burt FIRES at the Muscle Car as it passes but misses.

BURT

Damn.

Jess aims and FIRES! A headlamp on the Muscle Car smashes.

SPOTTER

Get on in front of it, boy, this ends here!

The Spotter leans out the Muscle Car with the rifle.

The Muscle Car swoops in front of the Hammertail and --

Skooter tears it to bloody shreds with the Ma Deuce. It flips into the dirt. The Pickup BLASTS through the dust cloud.

PICKUP DRIVER

Stupid ass redneck fools. Listen to your damn radio!

The Hammertail and Cop Car swing into a clearing and skid round to a halt. Skooter fires back at the highway.

The Pickup Truck and Jeep screech up as bullets reign in. Crew Members leap out and take up defensive positions.

Skooter relentlessly chops Crew Members to pieces.

Burt leans out the Cop Car window FIRING!

The Hot Rod races up. Barony leaps out.

The Juggernaut snarls to a halt.

Hayden peers out the cab ahead. His Crew Members pinned in.

HAYDEN

Flank them!

Radio Guy grabs a rifle, leaps out and sprints through bushes, the Ma Deuce cackling in the background.

Skooter grins as bullets streams toward Crew Members. Radio Guy aims. Skooter in his sights. He FIRES!

BANG! She jolts. Will and Jess flinch. Jess looks at blood splattered over her and looks back up worried.

Skooter's down but not out. She continues FIRING!

Radio Guy FIRES!

BANG! Skooter whips to one side. But she wont give in.

Radio Guy shakes his head, cocks the rifle bolt and --

A gunshot echoes through the desert. Jess looks up at Skooter to see blood pouring from her nose and mouth.

JESS

No!

Hayden tilts his head forward, grinning meanly.

Burt desperately tries to pick off advancing Crew Members. Jess hands her revolver to Will.

WILL

What are you doing?

She wriggles out her harness and climbs out her seat.

WILL (CONT'D)

Jess no!

A shot pings by her. He FIRES and takes out a Crew Member.

WILL (CONT'D)

Jess, come down!

Jess tends to Skooter. Will glances around. They are getting swarmed, they can't hold them back.

Radio Guy grins and FIRES!

A bullet by Jess. She slips and falls.

WILL (CONT'D)

Jess!

She thuds to the ground. Burt spots Radio Guy.

BURT

(pointing)

Over there!

Ern floors it. The Cop Car races across the dirt.

Will is out of bullets. Crew Members approach from everywhere. Jess rubs her head.

WILL

Get in! Quick!

She looks around dazed. A shot pings. Will flinches.

The Cop Car skids round. Burt FIRES. Radio Guy runs.

Will leaps out the Hammertail and grabs Jess. Crew Members swarm in and pull them apart.

WILL (CONT'D)

No! Jess!

Jess is dragged away. Crew Members grab Will and carry him away on his side, writhing and shouting.

Hayden narrows his eyes and smiles.

Burt aims but he can't fire without endangering Jess.

BURT

They've got, Jess!

ERN

(getting an idea)

Hold on!

The Cop Car races toward the Crew Members carrying Will and slews sideways, knocking them down. Will flies out of their grasp and crashes to the dirt.

Will watches Jess being carried away. A shot whizzes past him.

He runs to the Cop Car and leaps in as shots ping against it. It scrabbles away to a safe distance.

Will, Burt and Ern watch Jess being carried toward the Juggernaut, nothing they can do to stop it. Burt desperately aims his rifle.

BURT

Damn it, I can't get a clean shot!
Come on, please! Come on!

Will tries to open his door but can't from the inside. He tears the handle clean off --

WILL
No! Fucking no!

INT. JUGGERNAUT CAB

Hayden peers as Jess looking around terrified as she's held up proudly, weapons being raised, an execution immanent.

HAYDEN
(into radio)
Woah... hold up now.

INT. COP CAR

Will rattles the mesh divide between the seats.

WILL
(screaming)
Let me out! Let me out now!

Radio chatter. Ern glances down at the dashboard and turns up the radio.

ERN
Hey, listen!

RADIO
(Hayden)
Just wait there, don't go laying a hand on her pretty little head.

They look at each other.

EXT. BADLANDS

The Crew Members back off and hold Jess down as she writhes and fights back.

Hayden drops out of the Cab. The area falls silent. He marches across as birds of prey shriek overhead.

Will, Burt and Ern watch intently.

BURT
If he so much as touches her.

Hayden strolls up to her. She glares back defiant, her energy expired.

HAYDEN
Now would you just look at that.

He looks her up and down and strokes his jaw thinking.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
Haul out! She comes with us, for
the next initiation ceremony!

The Crew Members cheer and drag her to the Juggernaut.

Will freezes.

ERN
Initiation ceremony?

BURT
(concerned)
That mean anything to you, Will?

WILL
It means they aren't going to kill
her. For now.

Burt rubs his neck, the stress killing him.

They watch the Crew Members return to vehicles.

Jess is shoved onto the Juggernaut.

The Navigator, Radio Guy and a Crew Member drag Skooter's
body out the Hammertail and get in.

HAYDEN
(to Barony)
Now you, tag team, wait here, you
keep your beady eye on them.

Hayden and Barony look over at the Cop Car. She nods
obediently.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
You make sure they don't go
thinking they can follow us okay?

Barony narrows her eyes and nods.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)
We'll rendezvous with you on the
Interstate. One hour.

Hayden climbs aboard the Juggernaut. The vehicles roar away
into the distance, engines echoing on the wind.

Barony glares across at the Cop Car.

Will, Burt and Ern cringe as they watch the vehicles leaving.
Barony stands guard with Savage and Buster. Burt smacks the
dashboard.

BURT

Damn!

INT. JUGGERNAUT BARRACKS

Jess sits on a chair as roach binds her wrists and feet.

Hayden smiles down at her. She stares back blank.

HAYDEN

All you and you're backward ass
country bumpkin posse have done is
fast forward my plans. Now I don't
need to comb this desert for new
recruits no more. I got hardware
now, serious hardware.

He leans into her, deadly serious.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

So I'm going straight into L.A with
firepower I could only dream of.
I'm going to be a king, and it's
all thanks to you.

She continues her blank stare.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

(to Roach, Bazooka Guy)
You two, batten down the hatches,
she goes nowhere.

He opens the door and grins back.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

(to Jess)
See you when we get to L.A, it's
going to be one hell of a show.

INT. JUGGERNAUT CAB

Hayden slouches down by the Driver and grabs the radio.

HAYDEN

(into radio)
Now, you all listen up. We're going
to run this thing as hard as we can
and revisit our friends the
National Guard. Becker and his girl
scouts won't know what's hit them.

EXT. BADLANDS

Will, Burt and Ern sit listening to Hayden on the radio.

RADIO
 (Crew Member)
 Sir, what about the rendezvous with
 the goth girl?

RADIO (CONT'D)
 (Hayden)
 Rendezvous? Oh there aint gonna be
 no rendezvous, boy.

They watch Barony, Buster and Savage stood oblivious.

WILL
 (pointing at dash)
 Quick, the PA system.

Burt searches and switches on the Cop Car's PA system. The
 speaker squeals.

COP CAR LOUDSPEAKER
 (Hayden)
 She can sit rotting on the
 interstate waiting for us, she'll
 give the vultures something circle.

Barony glances round confused.

COP CAR LOUDSPEAKER (CONT'D)
 (Hayden)
 That crazy fucked up goth bitch
 would be likely to cause us more
 problems than she solves.

Barony narrows her eyes.

COP CAR LOUDSPEAKER (CONT'D)
 (Hayden)
 This will be a good way to shake
 her off our tail, she's starting to
 chap my ass anyhow. The girl's a
 bad headline waiting to be written,
 fuck her, and those pair of
 inbreds.

INT. JUGGERNAUT CAB

Hayden chuckles to himself as he tosses down the mic.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY

The Juggernaut thunders toward L.A, the Hammertail ahead, the
 Pickup flanking the side and Jeep at the rear.

EXT. BADLANDS

Barony glares down the highway and shrieks like a banshee. She gets in the Hot Rod. Buster and Savage climb in after. She fires it up glaring.

The Hot Rod roars down the highway.

The Cop Car races over to Skooter. Burt and Ern rush out. Burt opens Will's door and they crouch over Skooter.

BURT

Damn!

ERN

She helped us, she worked so hard!

Will stares at Skooter lying dead in the dirt. He crosses to the Cop Car.

WILL

I'm going after Jess, don't try and stop me!

BURT

Stop you?
(shaking rifle)
Buddy, you got company.

ERN

I think it's fair to say, this is a suicide mission.

WILL

And chances are we'll fail. But we can't go back knowing we didn't at least try.

They all nod darkly. Burt cocks his rifle.

BURT

Okay sluggers, pep talk over, batter up.

EXT. BADLANDS - MOMENTS LATER

The Cop Car roars away and screeches onto the highway.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY, CAR CHASE

The Hot Rod howls as Barony sits vengeful behind the wheel. Pickup Driver spots them in her mirror and grabs her radio.

PICKUP DRIVER

I got that goth girl coming up fast
on our six.

Hayden shakes his head and sighs.

HAYDEN

(into radio)

Kill the crazy little bitch.

The Jeep Gunner sweeps fire across the highway. The Hot Rod races over it and swerves around the Pickup.

As it passes, Biker Guy leans out the Pickup Truck with a shot gun.

Buster stands up in the Hot Rod and forces the shotgun up as it FIRES! He grabs Biker Guy and pulls him part way out the window.

Biker Girl screams and grabs at his flailing legs but Buster pulls him clean out.

Biker Guy clings to the side of the Hot Rod, his legs dragging on the highway.

Savage snatches the shotgun and smacks him in the face with the butt. However Biker Guy hangs on, his face blooded.

Savage flips the shotgun round and blasts Biker Guy's head off but --

His body still clings on. Buster sighs. He prizes the fingers away and the body flops into the highway.

The Hot Rod roars ahead. Savage carefully aims for the Juggernaut and shoots the chain holding up the Car Hauler ramp. BANG! The ramp slams down, sparking on the road.

The Hot Rod aims for it. Biker Girl leans out the Pickup with her crossbow and FIRES!

An arrow spears into the Hot Rod body as it roars away up the ramp, into the Car Hauler.

Barony, Buster and Savage get out. They run to a door but find it locked.

They climb the ladder to the roof and --

Buster gets the shotgun kicked out of his hands. A Crew Member swings a sledgehammer. Buster grabs it, pulls himself up and fights back.

Savage races up to find a Crew Member waiting with a baseball bat. Savage takes the blow and tackles him.

Barony clambers up. She looks at Savage and Buster fighting, stares down the length of the Juggernaut and grins vengeful.

Jess writhes in the chair. She spots a box knife on a table to her side. She looks at Roach and Bazooka Guy watching her smiling.

The Cop Car's engine sings as it draws in on the convoy fast.

Burt pops up from behind the dash, feeling around.

BURT

Damn it!

WILL

What?

BURT

I can't find my ammo.
 (turning to Will)
 I got one shot.

Will and Ern look back concerned.

The Cop Car lights flick on and the siren wails.

Ern smiles back at Will and Burt.

ERN

I always wanted to do that.

They pass the Pickup. Biker Girl fires and misses.

The Pickup swerves into the Cop Car, trying to pit it. The Cop Car fishtails.

Ern paddles frantically at the wheel.

ERN (CONT'D)

I got it, I got it.

The Cop Car gets back under control.

Will stares at the ramp sparking on the highway.

WILL

Get up by the ramp.

BURT

Rather you than me.

Will tries the window switch but finds it disabled.

WILL

Get the window down?

ERN

Hang on.

Ern fumbles with the buttons on his door.

BURT

No you gotta use the window over-ride switches.

ERN

These?

The side mirrors whirr and adjust.

BURT

No, craphands! The window switches!

SMASH! The back window of the Cop Car shatters into the road.

Ern glances back to find Will lying on the back seat, his feet through the window. Ern looks back ahead.

ERN

Got it.

Will climbs out as The Cop Car eases up to the ramp.

The Jeep looms out from the behind the Juggernaut. The Jeep Gunner leans out and prepares to fire.

BURT

Oh no you don't.

Burt leans out and aims. The Jeep Gunner hoses the ramp with fire and the Jeep ducks back behind the Juggernaut.

Burt slides back into the car and grins at Ern.

BURT (CONT'D)

I may only have one round left but that suckers gonna count!

Will balances as he prepares to jump then --

BANG! The Cop Car smashes against the ramp. Will slips and hangs from the light-bar. He scrabbles back up and looks round to find The Pickup towering alongside.

PICKUP DRIVER

Looks like we got ourself a pork sandwich! And boys, I like mine with extra stuffing!

She cuts the wheel hard. BANG! BANG! BANG! The Pickup slams into the Cop Car over and over.

Will watches the gap widening and narrowing bellow him. He spots Biker Girl aiming for him. He leaps and --

Crashes onto the ramp, flames around him. Biker Girl FIRES! He freezes as the arrow hits right by him.

He crawls up the ramp, runs inside and tries the door. He finds it locked and climbs the ladder.

The Pickup passes the Cop Car on the dirt.

PICKUP DRIVER (CONT'D)
Take care of that shit, girl!

BIKER GIRL
Here comes cupid!

Biker Girl crosses to the window and climbs out. She aims at the Cop Car and FIRES!

Ern flinches. The arrow wedged in the windshield by his face.

Will gets to the top of the ladder to find Savage and Buster still fighting two Crew Members.

Buster throws his opponent into the junk. The Crew Member grabs some metal and smacks him back. Buster stumbles to the edge and --

The Crew Member kicks him in the back. Buster falls from the side and hangs on.

Savage releases his opponent and runs to help Buster. He grabs his arm and holds him from falling.

The Crew Members kick Buster in the back. He slips from the side, pulling Savage with him. Savage manages to grab a Crew Member and they fall into the Highway, tumbling along the asphalt.

The remaining Crew Member looks back with no remorse. He spits blood and turns back to find Will coiled ready to fight.

CREW MEMBER
(picking up metal)
End of the line, asshole, time to
throw you off this train!

Burt climbs out the Cop Car window and aims at Biker Girl. She FIRES! He flinches, aims carefully and FIRES!

BANG! She falls part way out the window and hangs on by her legs.

Burt finds an arrow wedged in the side mirror by his crotch. He looks up to the sky and mouths a thank you.

Biker Girl screams, her head scuffing on the asphalt.

The Pickup Driver grabs Biker Girl's boot.

PICKUP DRIVER
Don't worry, girl, I got you!

Biker Girl's long hair unravels. She reaches for the Pickup.

BIKER GIRL

I got this!

She pulls her body up. Her hair dances on the road and snatches under the Pickup Truck rear wheel, snapping her under the tire. She thuds under the Cop Car.

The Pickup Truck holds Biker Girl's empty boot shocked.

Will and the Crew Member circle one another. Will ducks a swing and punches back. He ducks another swing and punches hard. The Crew Member stumbles and the junk.

Will lands a hard blow and the Crew Member crashes down.

Will grimaces as he works his fingers. He gazes up the Juggernaut, takes a deep breath and sprints.

He leaps to the Workshop Trailer and runs along it then --

A huge flame roars up the side. He dives for cover.

The Jeep races alongside, Jeep Gunner firing up at Will.

Jess winces trying to shuffle her chair toward the knife. Roach's tattooed face draws a creepy leer.

Hayden peers down the highway ahead and grabs the radio.

HAYDEN

Get that AT4 ready on the roof!

Bazooka Guy leaves. Roach licks his lips and slowly approaches Jess as she writhes desperately.

Bazooka Guy climbs up onto the roof, rocket launcher in arms. He makes his way along the trailer.

Hayden spots red trickling down the windshield. He gorges confused. Barony's glaring face appears, upside down.

Barony lies over the roof of cab peering in.

Hayden grabs his pistol but she's gone. He looks at The Driver confused then --

SMASH! Barony grabs The Driver through his window.

The Juggernaut swerves violently.

Jess's chair slides and crashes against the table. Roach falls over. She grabs the knife and fumbles with it.

Will clings on. Bazooka Guy drops the rocket launcher and tumbles over the side, hanging upside down by one leg.

Hayden tries to aim at Barony as she she scratches at the screaming Drivers face.

The Juggernaut swings the other way.

Jess slides away from the table and slams against the wall. The knife slips out her fingers. Roach rolls around on the floor trying to get up.

Bazooka Guy falls and hits the asphalt face first.

Barony cackles as The Driver fights with her.

The Juggernaut lurches across the highway.

Jess crashes over and winces. She spots the knife on the floor and writhes in the chair, trying to move toward it.

Will spots a gap in the damaged roof.

The Driver smacks Barony with his elbow and The Juggernaut straightens up

Jess slides on her side, gritting her teeth. She grabs the knife as she passes and looks up. The table approaching fast, she ducks and smashes into the table.

Roach slowly staggers up as she hacks at the rope.

The Driver elbows Barony's face until she drops from the window. He wipes his bloody cheek.

DRIVER

Fuck you, fire crotch!

Will slithers into the gap in the roof and crashes to the Workshop floor. He runs to the door and reels, clutching his hand. He looks around, the sound of roaring of flames sweeping across the wall outside.

The Jeep Gunner soaks the workshop with fire.

Hayden stares at a side mirror concerned.

HAYDEN

(into radio)

Move on back to the Zippo, and see what's happening. I don't like what I'm seeing in these mirrors.

The Hammertail drops back. The Jeep Gunner continues to soak the Workshop Trailer with fire.

JEEP GUNNER

Come out little piggy or I'll burn your house down!

Roach creeps toward Jess. She leaps up and raises the box knife glaring.

Roach smiles and slides out a machete. She backs away, glances around desperately and --

Leaps onto the table. She grabs a fluorescent light tube, tears it from the ceiling, crashes down and smashes the end against the wall. Sparks shower from the fitting above her.

She whips her hair out of her face, teeth gritted. He raises his eyebrows impressed and approaches.

The Cop Car races up behind the Jeep.

Ern grins menacingly and clutches the wheel.

ERN

I always wanted to try this too.

The Cop Car clips the Jeep, sending it into a fishtail. Jeep Gunner drops the flame thrower. The canopy catches fire.

The Jeep Driver fights with the wheel but --

The Jeep slams into the Juggernaut and pins under it.

The Jeep driver screams, trapped as he beats away flames.

The screeching tires of the Jeep bellow smoke. The Jeep Gunner flails on fire. The Jeep explodes, setting fire to the side of the Juggernaut and the hood of the Cop Car.

Burt and Ern stare alarmed at the burning hood.

The Jeep's tires pop. The wreck detaches, just missing the Cop Car, passing the back of the Juggernaut and --

SMASH! The snarling Hammertail crashes through it. It races up fast and rams the Cop Car.

The Cop Car serves into a violent fishtail.

Ern paddles at the wheel.

ERN (CONT'D)

I don't got this! I don't got this!

The Cop Car spins out into the desert in a cloud of dust.

NAVIGATOR

(banging Hammertail)

Go go go!

The Hammertail races along the Juggernaut. Navigator and Radio Guy searching eagerly for Will.

Will tries the handle and opens the door to find the Navigator swinging the Ma Deuce to aim at him.

He runs back inside, jumps into a pile of junk and --

The Navigator LETS RIP! Rounds chop straight through the Juggernaut and burst out the other side in front of the Pickup Truck.

PICKUP DRIVER

Oh we getting serious now!

Will lies cornered on the floor, staring at The Hammertail through the bullet holes in the wall.

Jess swipes at Roach with the glass tube. He ducks and jabs back. She screams, her waist cut. He swings and she blocks. They circle interlocked --

Bullets soar over Will. He spots his burnt red toolbox, opens it and smiles.

WILL

Oh baby, am I pleased to see you!

The Navigator laughs manically as he continues to FIRE!

The Pick Up driver's eyes bulge, bullets exiting toward her.

PICKUP DRIVER

Oh hell no!

Bullets chop into the Pick Up and blood explodes across the windshield. It smashes against the Juggernaut and crashes into the badlands.

Roach shoves Jess against the wall. She pushes back, clutching the glass tube as it crackles and splinters.

She looks up at him and grits her teeth. She kicks him in the crotch, hard. He staggers back. She swipes him with the glass tube, shattering a section off.

He falls back. She swipes again, blood spraying across the wall. She raises the tube, furious and thrusts it down.

Will smiles, stands up and raises the liquor bottle in his hand. He hurls it at the flaming wall and --

Flaming liquor soaks the Navigator. He flails on fire.

Will rushes to the door and leaps across to the Barracks.

Will rushes in and freezes. Roach on the floor, dead, the glass tube speared into his crotch with Jess stood over him. Sparks crackle from ceiling. She looks back panting.

JESS

About time, prince charming.

Will looks Jess in the eye. He grabs her and, to her surprise, kisses her passionately.

Clunk. The door at the other end of the trailer slowly shuts. They snap round to find Hayden standing in the shadows, glowering under the sparks with a gun aimed

He chuckles as he slowly shakes his head.

HAYDEN

You love birds think you've achieved anything? Let me tell you, you've accomplished nothing! Those grunts you've taken out, expendable.

Will and Jess stare angry.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

You've given me all I need. Once I'm inside the city I will recruit hundreds, and they will bring me thousands. And you can stay onboard and watch it all happen.

Hayden backs out the door,

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Next stop! L.A!

Hayden leaves, the door lock clunks shut.

Will and Jess gaze at one another.

JESS

Well what are you waiting for? I can find my own way off this thing. Good luck stopping him.

She kisses him farewell. He looks at the door to the cab and back at Jess.

WILL

I'm not here to stop him. Come on.

They run to the door.

Hayden slouches into his seat confident and peers ahead as the red WARNING RESTRICTED AREA sign passes by.

HAYDEN

(into radio)

Bring that Hammertail up front, now!

The Hammertail pulls ahead. The passenger heaves the burning Navigator out the gunners seat, throws him into the road and climbs into the seat.

Will and Jess climb on the roof, look ahead and look back at each other.

Hayden stares ahead at the Hammertail storming down the highway. He grins darkly then suddenly.

A SOARING SHRIEK! He goes wide eyed. A streak of smoke heads toward the Hammertail. BOOM! It explodes, parts flying everywhere. His jaw drops.

Will squats crouched on the Juggernaut Barracks beside Jess, the smoking rocket launcher on his shoulder.

He stands up and throws the launcher forward over the cab.

The rocket launcher crashes onto the hood. Hayden and the Driver jolt.

The Juggernaut smashes through the Hammertail carcass.

Will and Jess run down the Juggernaut, looking for a way off.

Hanging from the side of the cab, Barony comes to, asphalt streaming past her head. She grits her teeth and pulls herself up.

Hayden stares ahead vacant for a few moments and points to a small gap in the Barricade.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

The gap, we'll crash our way through!

DRIVER

We'll never make it!

HAYDEN

Aim for it!

The Driver looks at Hayden, shakes his head, opens his door, throws himself out and tumbles down the asphalt.

Hayden gets behind the wheel and floors the throttle, grinning menacingly.

Will and Jess stand at the rear of the Car Hauler and spot The Enforcement Facility approaching, they look at each other hopeless.

Colonel Becker's squad poise ready. The Blackhawk hovering overhead. The Juggernaut crests the hill.

Will and Jess search for a way off. Something catches Will's eye. He grabs Jess and points. They smile.

The Juggernaut thunders down the highway. The Cop Car roars after it, hood still licking with flames.

Burt and Ern stare ahead determined. Burt points.

BURT

Look! There they are!

Will and Jess turn to cross to the ladder but find Barony standing by it seething. Will and Jess stare fixed. Barony starts climbing down ladder.

JESS

Shit! Nothing's changed has it? It never will! If it isn't this war machine then it will just be her, and people like her!

WILL

We're getting off this thing.

Barony drops from the ladder. Something catches her eye. Tarpaulin sheet drops from the back of the Juggernaut.

Will hangs from the sheet, lowering himself down. Jess watches pensive. She glances down to see the tarpaulin ripping from some of its fixings.

Will falls into the road, rolls down the tarpaulin and grabs the end, dragging along behind it on the asphalt.

Jess covers her mouth. An engine roars into life. She looks down through a mesh grate to find Barony cackling manically as she revs the Hot Rod.

Jess spots a barrel of oil and kicks it over. It gluts through the mesh grate, trickles down and pools by the Hot Rod.

Burt and Ern watch Will worried.

Will clutches at the tarpaulin and pulls himself onto it.

Barony puts the Hot Rod in reverse and floors it. The Hot Rod lurches back and hits the oil. The back wheels spin, shrieking against the slippery metal.

Barony sits confused, rocking and gunning the engine.

Will waves to Jess to slide down to him.

Barony watches the tires spinning and smoking.

Jess looks down terrified. The tarpaulin like a slip and slide to hell. She pauses and looks over her shoulder.

Becker turns to his soldiers and raises his hand.

COLONEL BECKER

When these guys get to hell I want
the devil himself shocked by the
smell of hot lead in the air!

Jess looks through the mesh grate. The Hot Rod rocking and engine howling. She closes her eyes and --

Leaps from the Juggernaut. She zips down the tarpaulin. Will catches her and they lie embraced.

Barony stares angrily at them.

The Cop Car draws up. Burt leans out the window. Jess grabs his hands and climbs through the back window.

Becker drops his arm. The squad open up. The M60 on the Blackhawk cackles overhead.

Hayden stares on defiantly and grips the wheel tight.

Barony braces herself as gunfire strikes metal.

Burt and Jess reach to Will. He grabs their hands and pulls himself up through the back window.

Barony lets out a furious blood curdling scream.

The Cop Car brakes hard, tires smoking.

Hayden glares, aiming the Juggernaut for the gap.

Will, Jess, Burt and Ern stare on.

Hayden winces as windshield spits glass in his face.

The Juggernaut thunders down the hill, body sparking with ping-pong bullets. Then suddenly --

One of the front tires explodes.

The wheel cuts hard. Hayden tries to wrestle it back, fear in his eyes.

The Juggernaut swerves. Soldiers flee.

Hayden clenches his eyes shut terrified.

HAYDEN

No!

The Juggernaut hits the barricade. The Barracks punch through the cab. The trailers concertina. The whole wreck heaves and creaks to a halt then.

BOOM! It explodes, tearing apart.

The Blackhawk is blown from its position. Soldiers are thrown to the ground.

Becker cranes his neck back, his sunglasses reflecting a huge boiling fireball towering above him.

Will, Jess, Burt and Ern get out the Cop Car and watch the fireball slowly growing, gradually turning to smoke, fading to gray and blowing into the wind in a long trail.

BURT

Yeah! That's what you get! That's what you get for messing with us! Just another day on the farm, you dumb bastards!

ERN

Would you look at that mess, would you just look at that mess!

Jess and Will hug each other tight.

Burt and Ern punch the air, scowl and gesticulate.

Jess, looks up at Will hopefully. He shakes his head glum, Skooter never made it. She rests her head against him and stares solemnly back down the highway.

The Juggernaut burns in the distance, the plume of smoke swirling under the downdraft of the Black Hawk.

Burt and Ern hug and pat each other.

Will and Jess continue to stare down the highway embraced, a tear runs down her cheek.

JESS (V.O.)

Whatever the scenario, there's that moment loss hits you and it always hurts your heart. For a few brief moments you couldn't hate the world more, you curse whatever force dictates the rules, beat yourself up for what you could have done to prevent it.

They walk back to the Cop Car, get in and head home.

JESS (V.O.)

But this time something was different, something in processing the grief, something that followed the despair with hope rather than emptiness.

EXT. FARM - LATER

A dirt clearing, a mound of earth surrounded by carefully placed stones.

JESS (V.O.)

Skooter died a hero, not simply because she was fighting, but because she believed so strongly and defeating something genuinely evil.

Jess delicately places down a lovingly arranged collection of yellow and white flowers. She crosses back to Will. He wraps his arms around her waist as she wipes her eyes.

Ern stands solemn. Burt leans on a shovel proud.

Jess stares at the flowers twitching in the breeze.

JESS (V.O.)

And it makes me realize something.

Will clutches Jess's waist as she looks back up at him. She smiles. He smiles back.

JESS (V.O.)

Fighting by itself isn't the answer, that I was right about. But I was wrong to think just dreaming was the answer too. Fighting for a dream however? A dream that's worth fighting for?

They all look up, stood by the grave, on the desert farm, in the rocky springs, within the mountainous valley.

JESS (V.O.)

That's all the hope we need to survive.

THE END