

TCM
(1st Sequence)

By

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TITLE CARD: THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE

FADE TO:

EXT. ROAD - DAY

A dead possum lay on the side of the road, guts hanging out, flies hovering over, maggots crawling within.

RADIO HOST

(V/O)

Hey, out there to all you early risers. You're listenin' to K-K-O-L-A.

The sun beats down.

RADIO HOST(CONT'D)

(V/O)

I'm your host, Stretch and here's a little early mornin' love to start yer day off.

CUE SONG: "MAN ON YOUR MIND" by LITTLE RIVER BAND

A crow lands close to the carcass, stepping toward it. But before it can even reach it, the crow is startled off by a blue 1979 Volkswagen Beetle passing by, a Georgia license plate on the back.

INT. CAR - DAY

PETE, the driver, 19, long dirty blonde hair, good looking and wearing yellow aviator sunglasses snorts a line of cocaine off of the side of his finger.

TYLER, 18, bi-racial and sporting a smaller afro, sits next to PETE in the passenger's seat, snorting a line off of a little mirror. Equally as handsome as his cousin, the two slightly resembling each other.

Sitting in the back seat is DANI, 17, blonde and very attractive. She sits in the center of her brother and cousin, rolling a joint.

After jerking his head back and sniffing hard, Tyler glances back at Dani.

TYLER

(laughs)

If Grandma only saw us now.

(CONTINUED)

DANI

Yeah, she'd have a stroke if she caught her "precious little boys" doing blow off a mirror.

TYLER

And she'd have a heart attack if she knew the kind of trouble you were getting into lately, Little Cuz.

Dani smirks before rolling up the paper and licking it. She then lights it.

PETE

Well, at least we're driving all this way to see her. Ain't like she comes to see us.

DANI

Petey, you know she hates Daddy. [hits joint] It's no coincidence that she moved all the way to New Mexico.

Dani passes the joint to Tyler.

TYLER

My mom hates her and she hates Uncle Dave. [smokes]

DANI

Ha. And he hates me.

PETE

(glances over at Dani and Tyler)

You were my daughter, I'd hate ya too.

DANI

(sarcastic smile)

Says the guy who never sees his three year old? Ha. Thanks, bro.

TYLER

Oooh!

PETE

Eat me.

Pete takes the joint from Tyler and hits it, rocking to the beat of the song.

EXT. MID-TEXAS ROAD - DAY

MUSIC PICKS UP

The Beetle speeds down the road, passing right through the Texas plains.

An old 1967 Ford Chaplain passes them, going in the opposite direction.

The sun is bright and the clouds are scarce. The sky is a true morning blue.

Clouds of smoke are ripped out from inside the car.

INT. PICKUP - CONTINUOUS

ZOOM OUT from a radio playing the SONG.

We're now in a different car.

RICK, early 30's, dark featured, hunky, a bad-boy type. He smokes a cigarette as he drives with only his left hand. A wedding band is visible on his ring finger. He looks to the right of him, smiling.

Sitting there is SUSAN, his wife, late 20's, early 30's. Conservative in appearance, she masks her face with large bifocal glasses, styles her deep red hair simply and covers her legs in bell-bottom jeans. With one or two turns, she completes a Rubik's Cube before tossing it in the back behind her.

SUSAN

(fanning self)

I knew I should've brought my book.
I hate car rides.

RICK

Well, we got a long ways ahead
until San Diego. Don't forget that
you're the one that wants to make
this trip.

SUSAN

Well if I don't take that nursing
job, someone else will. And that
someone else is gonna have a lot
more money than us. And for the
record, I wanted to *fly* there, but
since you're a chicken-shit--

(CONTINUED)

RICK
(laughs)
Hey!

Rick grabs Susan's thigh and tickles her.

SUSAN
(laughing)
Stop! Stop!

RICK
Come on, really, though, you wanna
work all the way in California?

SUSAN
(shrugs)
Well, one of us has to.

RICK
Ha. [displeased]

SUSAN
Aw, baby I didn't mean it like
that.

Susan leans over and drapes her arms around Rick's
shoulders. She kisses his cheek, but Rick doesn't respond.
He just focuses on the road.

SUSAN(CONT'D)
Look, this could be a new start for
us. New place, new people...

RICK
Maybe I'll be able to find some
work on the docks or something...
[shrugs] Somewhere that doesn't
care if you've done time.

Susan strokes his hair, staring sadly at the profile of his
face for a BEAT.

SUSAN
Well, if I take this job, I'll be
making plenty of money to tide us
over. Maybe we could even... try
for a baby, finally? [smiles]

Rick glances over at her, then back at the road with a
smile. He takes the steering wheel with his left hand as he
wraps his right arm around her.

She kisses his neck and then lays her head down on his
shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

SUSAN(CONT'D)
We'll leave everything behind in
Baltimore, Rick. It'll just be us.

The two stare out at the road ahead of them.

FADE SONG OUT

STRETCH
(V/O)
That was the latest hit by the
Little River Band. Stay tuned to
K-K-O-L-A for more great hits after
our morning news break starting
now.

EXT. GAS STATION - CONTINUOUS

The blue Beetle is parked in front of one of the two gas
pumps at the dilapidated GAS STATION. Pete stands with the
driver's side door open, the radio still playing.

NEWSCASTER
(V/O)
This is a County radio morning news
break. Grave robbers in and around
Travis County have stolen some
eighty corpses in the last year,
police said. It's believed that all
graves have been robbed by the same
culprits, any of which remain at
large.

Tyler and Dani walk toward the SHOP.

DANI
I'm so fucking thirsty.

TYLER
I still can't believe someone would
leave their Corvette, *Corvette* like
that.

Pete watches Dani and Tyler walk inside before leaning down
into the car.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

In the driver's seat, Pete does another bump of cocaine.

NEWSCASTER

(V/O)

The temperature is expected to climb as the day continues on. And due to the rise in humidity, be on the look out for some mid afternoon rain showers.

Out the back window, he sees a green and white 1975 Chevy Pickup pull into the gas station.

EXT. GAS STATION - CONTINUOUS

Pete stands back up, sniffing and wiping his nose. He watches the pickup park over by the shop.

INT. PICKUP - CONTINUOUS

Rick turns off the engine.

SUSAN

We're okay on gas?

RICK

Yeah we should be for a while.
Filled her up before we left.

SUSAN

So you just want a Coke?

RICK

Yeah. I'm gonna go call my mother.

The two proceed to get out.

EXT. GAS STATION - CONTINUOUS

They both get out of the car, Susan walking to the shop and Rick to the nearby phone booth.

RICK

Oh, babe...

Susan turns.

(CONTINUED)

RICK(CONT'D)
Grab some beef jerky.

Susan playfully blows him a kiss before opening the door to the shop.

INT. SHOP - CONTINUOUS

Susan comes walking through the door, stopping immediately at the sight of Dani and Tyler standing a few feet from the counter.

A elder WOMAN stands behind the counter at the old cash register.

WOMAN
(yelling)
I told y'all, we don't serve yer kind in here! And you young lady, you should be ashamed of yerself!

DANI
You know what? Fuck you!

TYLER
Yeah, fuck you, bitch!

An elderly MAN comes rolling out from the back in a wheelchair.

MAN
Git outta here before we call the Sheriff! Git!

TYLER
Call the fucking Sheriff, motherfucker!

Susan steps up in between Dani and Tyler.

SUSAN
(to MAN and WOMAN)
Excuse me. Are you two serious, right now? You know what? It's the 1980's, not the 1880's. Why don't you get with the times and stop acting like a pair of bigoted nazis, huh?

Susan turns around and walks back out the door.

Tyler spits on the floor, snapping glares at them before he turns and follows Susan.

(CONTINUED)

DANI
Old fucks...

Dani snatches a bag of chips before leaving also.

EXT. GAS STATION - CONTINUOUS

Susan walks to the pickup, noticing Rick on the pay phone in the booth across the lot.

TYLER
Hey, Miss!

Susan turns to see Tyler approaching her.

Pete looks over as Dani comes walking out.

PETE
(calls over)
They turn the pump on?

DANI
No. Fuck them. We gotta go
somewhere else.

Dani walks up to Tyler and Susan.

Pete throws up his arms.

TYLER
I just wanted thank you.

SUSAN
(shakes head)
I can't believe people still act
like that. [smiles] You two make a
great a couple.

Dani and Tyler laugh.

DANI
We're cousins.

SUSAN
Oh... I'm sorry.

TYLER
It's alright.

SUSAN
I just assumed. Now I feel like--

(CONTINUED)

DANI
"A pair of bigoted nazis?"

The three of them laugh.

TYLER
That was pretty good in there.

Susan smiles and rolls her eyes.

PETE
(calls over)
Guys, what the fuck?

They all look over.

TYLER
Anyway, thanks again. Hope you have
a safe trip.

SUSAN
(nods)
You too.

DANI
(smiles)
Bye.

Dani and Tyler walk away. Dani waves before stuffing her hand into the open bag of chips she blatantly stole.

Susan turns and looks over at Rick who seems deep in conversation. She opens the passenger side door to the pickup and gets in.

Dani and Tyler come walking up to the Beetle.

TYLER
We gotta find another gas station,
bro. These people are real
assholes.

PETE
We better find one quick. Tank
ain't got much left.

They all get back into the Beetle and pull away.

INT. PICKUP - CONTINUOUS

Susan watches their car pull out through the side mirror. She looks up and sees the WOMAN watching as well through the dirty glass-pane window of the shop.

The woman brings a phone to her ear before noticing Susan staring at her.

Susan quickly turns away, looking nervously around the car. She turns and looks out the back window to see Rick still in the phone booth.

SUSAN

Rick, come on.

She reaches over and honks the horn.

Through the window Rick waves and nods to her, reassuringly.

Susan turns to see the woman no longer standing there. She sits back looking bored before sitting up and opening the glove compartment.

Susan is shocked to see a GUN laying on top of some papers. She reaches in and slowly pulls it out.

EXT. MID-TEXAS ROAD - DAY

On the side of the road sits the CAMPER. It shifts slightly from side to side.

CLETUS

(O/S)

You dumb motherfucker!

INT. CAMPER

Cletus stands in between the driver and passenger seats with a whip in his hand.

CLETUS

Two fucking days it took for these
assholes to stroll through here and
you break the goddamn freezer.

Cletus strikes Leatherface several times with the whip.

Leatherface whimpers, covering his masked face and groaning as if he weren't twice Cletus' size.

(CONTINUED)

CLETUS
Fuckin' retard! Now git them stinky
fuckin' things out my goddamn
camper!

Cletus whips him again and again as Leatherface proceeds to the freezer.

CLETUS
Git! Git!

The freezer is opened and inside we see the three bodies of Jake, Spencer and Becky, stiff and all looking a light shade of green.

CLETUS
Ugh! Hurry the fuck!

Cletus sits back down in the driver's seat as Leatherface lifts the first body up.

CLETUS
Goddamn!

INT. CAR - DAY

CUE SONG: "MY SHARONA" by KNACK

The music plays low. Pete, Tyler and Dani sit as they were, Dani continuing to eat the potato chips.

TYLER
So that broad just basically told
that old bitch off and walked out.

DANI
(mutters)
Racist bitch.

PETE
Ha. And she even thought you two
were a couple? (laughs)

DANI
(sarcastic)
It's hilarious, isn't it?

TYLER
Yeah, so anyway...

Tyler reaches for the vile of cocaine and the mirror.

(CONTINUED)

Dani skooches over and rests her head up against the window, closing her eyes.

Pete glances down, pressing in the car lighter.

EXT. MID-TEXAS ROAD - DAY

The Beetle speeds along.

The car passes right by the bodies laying sprawled across the dry, yellow grass right off the side of the road. Flies hover above.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Dani lays sleeping.

Tyler snorts a line of off the mirror.

Pete taps his fingers to the beat of the song of the steering wheel.

CRSHRRRRCHSHRRRRR - FADE SONG OUT

Pete sucks his teeth and taps the buttons of the radio. All stations are static.

PETE

Fuck.

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

Rick comes jogging to the Pickup and getting back in.

INT. PICKUP - CONTINUOUS

Rick gets into the car.

RICK

Hey.

Susan sits with her arms crossed, looking pissed off. She smokes a cigarette.

RICK

Since when do you smoke?

(CONTINUED)

SUSAN
(turns to him)
How was your mother?

RICK
She seems better, I guess. Did you
get the drinks?

SUSAN
(shakes head)
No. We have to go somewhere else.

Rick stares at her for a BEAT before starting the engine.

Susan stares out her window. She sees the WOMAN staring at her again. Susan takes a drag from the cigarette as the Pickup pulls out.