

American Graffiti

Curt and Steve have gotten into a prestigious college, but Curt is having second thoughts on the night before they're going to leave for the school. That night, Curt searches relentlessly for a spellbinding woman in a white T-Bird while Steve tries to patch things up with his girlfriend after suggesting they date other people while he's away. Their two other friends John and Terry also have a wild night, John when he's forced to chauffeur a little girl and Terry when he borrows Steve's car and picks up a girl but then has trouble living up to the expectations set by the car.

CANAL BANK--STEVE'S '58 CHEVY

The crickets chirp under the full moon. We hear "I Only Have Eyes for You" playing as the Chevy slowly comes to a stop in an isolated spot along the irrigation canal.

Terry gets out of the car, pops the top off two cokes and pours half of them into the canal. He hums, refilling them with bourbon. He goes back to the car.

TERRY

Tootie fruiti all ruti...It's Super Cola!

He hands her one of the bottles and takes a long drink out of the other. He grabs the steering wheel for support and his eyes begin to water.

TERRY

It's a... a little... strong, I think.

DEBBIE (drinking)

It's the living end.

Terry takes a smaller sip this time...

TERRY

Yeaah, I guess it wasn't mixed.

DEBBIE

Wow, it's pretty tonight. It's a perfect night to go horseback riding--I was going with a guy once who had a horse.

Terry chokes.

TERRY

Oh yeah? I used to have a couple of horses myself.

DEBBIE

Really?

TERRY

I used them for hunting. I do a lot of hunting. Deer mostly, although I got a couple of bear last year. Yep, they were good ponies--hunting ponies. I had to train 'em special, you know.

DEBBIE

Do you still have 'em? We could go for a ride.

TERRY

No, I had to sell 'em. To get these wheels...and a jeep. I also have a jeep pick-up, with four-wheel drive. It's got a gun rack. And I use that for hunting mostly.

DEBBIE

Why do you kill little animals? I think that's terrible.

TERRY

Oh, well, yeah, I figure with bears, though, it's either me or them...You know, I think you're really neat.

He suddenly grabs at her, putting his arms around her. She's caught off-guard and tries to move away.

DEBBIE
Wait a second.

Terry immediately lets go of her.

TERRY
Oh, jeez, I'm sorry. I don't know what got into me--I didn't mean to--maybe it's the booze or something.

She puts her coke on the floor. She unfastens the chain holding her sweater together and takes it off.

DEBBIE
There--now.

Suddenly, she grabs him and pulls him down on top of herself. She kisses him madly. At first he's surprised, but then gets the hang of it. They begin to neck passionately, encountering many obstacles in the cramped front seat.

DEBBIE
Ow--you pinched me.

TERRY
I'm sorry.

DEBBIE
Let me get my head over here--okay, now you get up--

TERRY
Ow--my leg, my leg. Ow, watch it!

DEBBIE
Ummm, I just love tuck 'n roll upholstery.

As they roll around, a couple of guys walk by the car laughing. Terry manages to sit up and watches them go off into the night.

TERRY
Geez, it's like Grand Central Station around here. Why don't we go someplace else.

Debbie pulls him back down on top of her.

DEBBIE
Nah, come on. They won't come back.