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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

car, cornfield, gas, angela, hank, lee, charlie, david, successes, hear, highway, roll, drive, driving, spanish, find, clementine, corn, turn, people

SPEAKERS

Billy, Dave, Radio, Angela, Jesus

- B** Billy 00:05
While traveling on The Long Drive, make sure to stop if you see any of the following Patreon members who made this recording possible. Jared Rascher, Matt Burr, Goat Throne Covenant, ILB 760, Business Wolf Studios, Andrew Henkes, Tom Bransfield, Mike Whalen and Gregory Larsen, thank you for your contribution, and good luck in your travels. Three friends on the open road, they have no destination in mind because right now they are truly lost in a sea of asphalt. With nothing more than a name to hunt down, a face to find in a scattering of old crops and forgotten cars. Our trio picks a direction and just drives, trying to ignore the shadows in the peripheral, in the haunts that wish to keep them on The Long Drive: Episode Two, Fueled By Hunger brought to you by the Fandible Podcast Network. Hey, everybody, this is Billy from the Fandible Podcast Network and welcome to Episode Two of our Chronicles of Darkness game called The Long Drive. We have Jesus, we have Angela and of course we have the wonderful David on the mic. How y'all doing today?
- A** Angela 01:40
All right!
- J** Jesus 01:41
Doing all right. I'm ready to be terrified.

- B** Billy 01:43
Great. Do you think we're gonna insult any other states? I mean, last time it was North and South Dakota or whatever, y'know whatever Dakota it is?
- J** Jesus 01:48
Yup. Well, let me roll the dice. Screw you, Colorado,
- B** Billy 01:52
Colorado, it is okay. Yeah, they have it coming.
- A** Angela 01:55
Feel like we've turned backwards from where we were trying to go. But I'll take it.
- D** Dave 01:59
I mean, maybe I don't know where is north south, maybe Dakota, honestly, except for in our hearts.
- B** Billy 02:05
In our hearts,
- A** Angela 02:06
The true Dakotas were the friends we made along the way.
- B** Billy 02:09
So we're gonna start out just, I'm going to announce a few things that you guys know. And then I'm going to toss the introduction stick towards whoever I decide to take the scene, you guys will take the scene, and we will go from there. So right now you have been on the long drive for not that long of a time. less than an hour ago, you were told by a hook man, that you were stuck on some place called the other side, the highway. That you weren't dead. But you were no longer in the land of the living. You were in the area between those two places. Where the things of the highway exist. He told you a few things to remember: he said that the only person that can get you out of here is Clementine. No matter what.

Even if you found and you were able to persuade another creature of the highway to cross over with you. They can't bring you out of it. The only person that can bring you out is the person who brought you in. And that was Clementine, you also learn that Clementine is somewhere on the highway. You have no idea where though you did hear her on the radio, screaming for help. Something about Ricky which might be the person who originally killed Clementine. Jesus, we're gonna start with you. Your character, introduce yourself, of course, introduce your character. But you're the one driving and what was the car's name again that you were driving?

J Jesus 03:45
Lucille.

B Billy 03:45
Lucille. Tell me where you're driving. Or if you're just driving in any direction, and how you were doing mentally. It has been one hour since the last episode.

J Jesus 03:57
Guys, this is Jesus. I'm playing Hank. Before this started, I was just a regular college student I played sports, actually, I have a football scholarship. That doesn't mean I'm stupid or anything. Just you know, it's a convenient that I go to school for free. Because I'm so good. But there I am driving after that situation with certain hookman a certain oil man, a certain terrifying place I'm in and I'm actually driving down this highway. Just in a direction. I have no idea where I'm going. And I have been silent the entire time. I have not sung one word of the fantastic music of Bruno Mars. I didn't even turn on my radio. And my- both my friends know. I must be feeling really, really scared if I'm not trying to sing Bruno Mars right now.

B Billy 04:43
So Hank is driving. Definitely white knuckling that wheel? Who's the copilot?

D Dave 04:50
If I recall correctly, that was me by happenstance, because Charlie- Angela's character, dove into the backseat and I happened to get into the passenger seat while we were all escaping the oil man. So, hey everybody, this is Dave and I am reprising my role as Lee, the introverted man, I am giving moral support and looking for turn offs from the highway

that we are currently racing down, but it's a highway in the middle of the sticks. We are buffered on either side by soybean or corn or, you know who the fuck knows. And Lee is is a skinny white boy with a shaved head and a patchy beard and a Metallica t-shirt and had aspirations for this trip that had to do with reading a bunch and maybe camping, because camping- How hard could that be? And now it's more down to how can we possibly get the hell out of here and find a normal town.

B

Billy 05:52

Lee as you are sitting there in silence, looking at the window as you pass corn or soy or maybe it's just weeds at this point. At first you think it's the wind rushing through the stalks, but then you just get a feeling that it's not so much the wind, it's something following you almost. It's unseen. It's not like you see any scales or feathers, but it just feels like instead of the wind blowing, something's in that corn just running as fast as it can. Almost like it's waiting for you to stop. Or maybe it's in your head. Who knows.

D

Dave 06:32

I adjust the sideview mirror to check to make sure nothing's behind us. Because it's Lucille, and Lucille will show you whatever she damn well pleases. It just shows me what's behind me for a moment and then just creaks and then just shows the cornfield as it races by.

B

Billy 06:46

When you adjust the mirror, David, there's a flash of light, almost like it's electricity of something sparking and you think maybe there's headlights behind you. But when you go back to adjust it, there's nothing. The only thing that you see is Charlie, which is Angela's character sitting back there currently staring at her camera. Angela, introduce yourself and your character.

A

Angela 07:12

Hi, everyone. This is Angela and I am back playing Charlie, the artist of the group who has her camera that sometimes shows interesting things, I think, is the best way to describe this camera, because it's a Polaroid, right Billy?

B

Billy 07:28

Yes, it is a Polaroid. It's one of the newer models- newer as in like it was made before camera phones really got into popularity.



Angela 07:36

So like it's- it's vintage itself. It's not one of the retro new ones.



Billy 07:40

It is a vintage, but it's a newer vintage. It's not like something from the 70s/80s/90s, it's early 2000s.



Angela 07:47

Okay.



Billy 07:48

But you love it. You love it.



Angela 07:50

It is a good camera. It is good camera when it's not freaking me the hell out. So Charlie is in the back, looking at her camera, occasionally like looking from side to side or even turning around to look at the rear window. Because she can't shake the feeling that something's got to still be following them. Like getting away from the horrors of the police station of the rest stop before all those things. It can't be this easy, something is going to come and drag them back.



Billy 08:18

You're right, you do feel like something's gonna drag you back. Or you feel like no matter how far you drive, you're always going to be stuck in those two places. Jesus, you are driving, again, just in silence. The whole car is just filled of silence. Because what do you talk about? After finding out that you are in a realm that no one has ever thought about. The idea of a highway being between life and death. But the thing that you are keenly aware of, Jesus, is that your gas light is blinking. It just came on to alert you that you are on maybe your last gallon. If not less than that. You are running out of gas. And you are in the sticks and you are far, far, far too far away to call AAA.



Jesus 09:11

Why are we almost out of gas? We're in the land of the fucking dead. Why does gas

fucking matter?

D Dave 09:18
We didn't remember to fill it up.

J Jesus 09:20
Not what I was-

B Billy 09:21
Well, you did. But you stopped off at the gas station about three, four, or five hours ago and you just kind of haven't been focusing on it since. Your car never got great gas mileage, Jesus. This doesn't feel supernatural in nature that your car has been eating through this much gas. It feels like this is the right time that you would normally fill it up. But you've not passed anywhere that has any gas. You haven't passed anything that has any sign of life. Right now, you've just been driving and it feels like that corn soy wheat field that surrounds you are getting narrower and narrower.

J Jesus 09:56
I haven't seen any like parked cars or anything. It's just been road and wheat.


B Billy 10:00
No, you haven't. There's not been any cars. There's not been parked cars, there's not been anybody. Right now you honestly could be on the same road and just be repeating it over and over. I mean, there's just nothing that really distinguishes one spot from the next.


J Jesus 10:16
We need gas. And I have no idea if there's a gas station in this this place.

B Billy 10:22
And not only do you need gas, but you're also hungry, you guys. I mean, especially David, he had hoped to grab a hot dog at that rest stop at some point, but that never came to be. And right now, you've just been left in silence. And that silence has allowed you to think of a lot of things. How screwed you are, how scary this is, and just how hungry you


are. And you know, you did pack a cooler full of food, but that's currently in the trunk, because you moved everything to the trunk when you made room for Clementine.


- D** Dave 10:55
Okay, um, how much further do you think we can get on this- on, on less than a quarter of a tank?
- J** Jesus 11:01
Probably an hour or so
- A** Angela 11:02
An hour that may not actually get us anywhere?
- J** Jesus 11:05
Yeah, this is road has been going on for a long time. I've seen a lot of horror movies where road just keeps going. I don't know if that's happening right now.
- D** Dave 11:12
Okay, well, we have two ideas, we have two things, we can either keep going and run out of gas. Or we can pull over and figure out what we want to do with the last gas that we've got. I suggest that we pull over and we take a look at what we've got. And then figure out if we do need to go on foot, either now or all of a sudden, then- then then we know what we've gotten. We know what we can grab.
- A** Angela 11:35
What's the point in stopping. We have two options. We go ahead, we go back. We shouldn't go back because there's crazy hook man. So the only option is to go forward because I don't know about you, but I have seen enough horror movies to know I am not going into the fucking corn.
- J** Jesus 11:48
Is everyone else hungry?


 Dave 11:50
Yeah, I'm pretty hungry. And also I don't I don't really watch a lot of horror movies. So I'm just gonna have to trust you guys on this one.


 Angela 11:56
Do not go into the corn. Do not go into the light. Avoid scary children.


 Jesus 12:01
Outerspace is evil.

 Angela 12:02
Avoid clowns

 Jesus 12:03
Sewer grates.

 Dave 12:04
I mean, if they don't have knives on them, I don't understand why clowns are a bad thing.

 Jesus 12:07
Okay, but how about this, how about this- because I think we're- it's been a couple of hours, we will stop but just to grab something from the from the trunk in the back that we put in there because of fucking Clementine. And I'm gonna pull to the side of the road. Let's just eat something quickly.

 12:26
That's right, the- the hook sheriff. That's- that's a sentence.

 Jesus 12:32
Hook sheriff. Is that his murder name?

- D** Dave 12:35
Well, he didn't kill anybody. As far as we know. He said he got himself there so he wouldn't. And then he didn't- he didn't kill us. So so we're gonna, I'm not gonna call him the sheriff, which is an honorary title because he had the badge and didn't- didn't murder us with a hook. So he said that the only one who could get us out was Clementine, if that makes any sense.
- B** Billy 13:02
Jesus, you pull over as you're having this discussion. Do you shut off the engine.
- J** Jesus 13:07
I shut off the engine. Save me some gas.
- B** Billy 13:11
I just wanted to make sure you parked as David was bringing up some stuff. The car is now silent save for that small ticking that a car usually indicates hey, your keys are still in there. But that's the only thing you hear. Even with one of the windows, Charlie, one of your windows is slightly cracked. You don't hear things like bugs or crickets or just the wind blowing. It's just nothing. It's an eerie sort of silence. But go on David, you were speaking.
- D** Dave 13:38
So um, Clementine was on the road near the cornfield when we last saw her and then we met her and then she left into the cornfield. So maybe if we can just meet her again. She can be like, might be, here you go. You're no longer in whatever- whatever nightmare. This is right.
- J** Jesus 14:11
The problem is finding her.
- A** Angela 14:13
Cause again not going into the corn.

J Jesus 14:16
No, we've all seen Children of the Corn, we're not going to the corn.

D Dave 14:18
I have no idea what that is.

A Angela 14:19
Well no apparently he hasn't because he's like-

J Jesus 14:22
Yeah, yeah.

A Angela 14:23
Fucking pretentious.

B Billy 14:24
I want you guys to roll intelligence This is a memory thing. I'm gonna give you guys some advice if you're interested in what you could do to find Clementine.

J Jesus 14:31
Just straight intelligence?

B Billy 14:32
Just straight intelligence. I just want to see if you're able to remember it.

A Angela 14:35
I have one success.

J Jesus 14:36
I got nothing.

D Dave 14:38
Nope, negative.

B Billy 14:39
As you're talking about where you guys could go. You don't know. I mean honestly, as the guy said, this highway stretches across everywhere. This is a massive amount of land to find one person this is truly a needle in the haystack situation. So with that in mind as you are trying to figure out where are you could possibly go where you could start your hunt. Angela remembers one pertinent thing. You do know where Clementine lived? She gave you the name of the town. Does anybody remember the town's name?

A Angela 15:13
Bakersville. Sounds familiar. Bakersville.

J Jesus 15:15
Baker's what?

A Angela 15:16
Bakersville- it's where Clementine said she was from.

J Jesus 15:19
Yep, is that- are you saying, she might be-

A Angela 15:22
I'm saying that we have no other ideas. Unless you unless you have something. I mean, if you have something, share it now. This is sharing time.

J Jesus 15:31
No, my mind is just full of terror. So that's something. Anyone else because I- we're- that sounds like good idea to me.



Dave 15:36

No, I, hey, you know, I just want to, I just want to grab my Powerbar from the back and then figure stuff out.



Billy 15:42

Okay. So the idea I would say is to go to Bakersville. Or at least that's the destination. There's two things: First off, definitely need to go out and get the food out of the trunk. Secondly, you don't really know where you've been driving. Again, it's been just a steady drive as you've guys try to absorb what's been going on. So you need to figure out where you are at. Luckily for you, David, you do have those map index cards?



Dave 16:11

Yes, I do.



Billy 16:12

You look up in the sky, and there are stars, they look a little dimmer than what you remember. And it might be maybe in South North Dakota or a Dakota, that's just how they look. Or maybe it's because you're somewhere else. But with those aspects, you might be able to figure out where you currently are located. Or at least get an estimate of which direction you need to drive.



Dave 16:35

Yeah.



Billy 16:36

Okay, with that in mind, who's getting food? Who's studying the map? What are you all doing? Starting with Hank.



Jesus 16:42

I am going into the back and I am grabbing a sandwich I made.



Billy 16:48

So you're going in the back, Angela?

A Angela 16:50
I'm gonna go to the trunk as well grab some food.

B Billy 16:54
Okay, and David, what are you doing?

D Dave 16:56
I'm going to also go to the trunk and grab food and batteries, because I established I had a flashlight last time, he's anticipating they're gonna run out of gas, and we're gonna have to hoof it. So yeah, making a small like afternoon pack.

B Billy 17:12
Great. So this is what happens. You all meet up in the back and you open up the trunk. And the first thing you notice when you open it up is there is a stench.

A Angela 17:24
Nooo.

B Billy 17:27
It's a bad stench. I mean, this is not just like rotten eggs bad. David, you actually remember it- one time you were asked to help clean out your grandmother's apartment after she died.

D Dave 17:40
Mm hmm.

B Billy 17:41
And there was some miscommunications and her electricity got turned off a week before you even were able to get there. So you had to clean out the refrigerator.

D Dave 17:50
Oh, no.

B Billy 17:52
So that is what kind of hits the back of your mind.

D Dave 17:56
Nana was on a keto diet, too. That's-

B Billy 17:58
Does anybody want to open the cooler?

A Angela 18:00
Nope.

D Dave 18:02
Yep, no, I'm doing it. I'm really grossed out. I take out a handkerchief and then like, I walk away. I'm like, Oh, that's so gross. And then I stop and I look right at that the cooler like it just said something about me. And then it's gonna storm up and whip it open.

B Billy 18:16
You rip this thing open. And a cloud of insects- a swarm of insects fly out. And David, you're going to need to make a dexterity plus dodge to avoid swallowing some of these things. Since you are right there in front of it. This is going to be at a negative one. I am not going to give you any more negatives because of the smell because you have that concentration merit. Angela and Jesus though, you're not so close to it. So it's just make a dexterity plus dodge roll for yourself if you want to avoid these as well.

A Angela 18:52
Uh obviously.

J Jesus 18:53
Yeah, yeah, that's gonna happen.

B Billy 18:54
So go ahead and roll everybody.

D Dave 18:56
One success.

J Jesus 18:57
Oh, four successes.

A Angela 18:59
Three successes.

B Billy 19:00
You guys are able to stumble away. Hank and Charlie are further away. So it is easy for you guys to just kind of run down the road with your hands up saying Nope, nope, nope, nope. David, you do scream. But then there's that like lizard part of your brain that says close your damn mouth now and you do as you get a face full of bugs and you could feel them trying to get into your mouth into your nose. But you're just slapping yourself silly. You're just banging on your face like it's a bongo until you finally feel like the remaining bugs on your face are dead. And that the other bugs have decided to fly off into the wonderful nature of South Dakota or North Dakota. Dakota. But it does break up that silence for about a half a minute as you hear the buzzing get further and further and further away. But yeah, it was like they were trying to enter your- what kind of creature tries to be eaten. It doesn't make sense. But it looks like right now, the swarm has left the car. And you just see the darkened outline of the open cooler. Even from this far away as far as you ran, Dave, you could still kind of smell. Something's coming from there.

D Dave 20:20
Somebody- I think something's wrong with the sandwiches.

J Jesus 20:23
No. Shit.

A Angela 20:25
I knew that without opening that thing.

J Jesus 20:27
I carefully go forward and look inside the cooler.

B Billy 20:30
What did you pack for food? I mean, I'm going to give you some staples of things that are still fine. You packed crackers. Those look like they're still in their package. You packed some peanut butter. You ate half the peanut butter on your drive here. But the other peanut butter looks a little crusty but still fine, though. It's caked in a variety of decomposition from the other food. You have some gummy treats as well. Oh, and you also have a 12 pack of water. What are those bottled waters? Those are the things that are fine. I want you each to tell me one thing that is certainly not fine. And that's because it was a perishable

D Dave 21:08
I definitely brought Lunchables like a goddamn 12 year old that I am because we're going camping and we've established that Lee is ill equipped to camp. And that's what he brought.

? 21:20
Those Lunchables. I mean, they're so disgustingly covered in mold and filth that you don't even think for a second to try to save the candy bar that comes with each lunchable. I mean, it's just it's not worth it. Even if you've like cleaned it and unwrapped it and disinfected it, you'd still probably taste a little bit of that funk.


D Dave 21:39
I mean, it's a Three Musketeers. So, yeah.


- B** Billy 21:42
Charlie.
- A** Angela 21:43
Charlie had brought some fresh fruit like she brought oranges and apples and bananas. And those are the first to go. I'm sure.
- B** Billy 21:52
Half of them have already collapsed in on themselves. It's disgusting. Jesus.
- J** Jesus 21:57
As we were driving back I of course stopped by at one of the most famous sandwich shops in south or north dakota called Big Joe's. And they are they made custom 12 inch long but very high sandwiches. I picked the all-meat special where they put all the meat, several types of cheese and I was just planning to eat it in parts along the trip.
- B** Billy 22:15
Even though it's been pristinely wrapped yet. You haven't touched this thing, you were dreaming about this thing no longer than like three hours ago. It's shrunken and shriveled and just is gross. There's no saving those. Honestly, there's no really saving the cooler or you shouldn't really want to save the cooler but you like I said you guys do get half a jar of peanut butter, a sleeve of crackers and six fruit snacks. That's what you have left on the long drive.
- J** Jesus 22:43
I'd say this is weird, but compared to everything else so far. I take out the stuff and I dump the cooler out of the car.
- B** Billy 22:49
Okay, so what are you guys doing now that you've taken stock of the situation? Are you eating some food? Are you walking around the outskirts? Are you taking a pee near the cornfield? You know basic don't do this in a horror movie stuff.


- J** Jesus 23:03
I have seen a horror movie. So I'm not going near the corn field. I'm turning my back towards my friends and I am peeing.
- B** Billy 23:10
On the road?
- J** Jesus 23:11
On the road. I'm not going to the corn field- I'm not going near a cornfield.
- B** Billy 23:14
Great.
- J** Jesus 23:15
It's embarrassing. But oil man.
- B** Billy 23:18
Charlie.
- A** Angela 23:18
Charlie is not touching a goddamn thing that was in that cooler or anywhere near it. She will take some of the bottled water because that was not gross. But otherwise, yeah, she'll take the water and she'll go try to study this map.
- B** Billy 23:32
Great. Lee, what are you doing?
- D** Dave 23:34
Well, if no one's gonna run against him, Lee is going to become the mayor of flavortown. And he's going to eat a bit of everything because he's hungry as hell. And then he's going to kind of wander off towards the cornfield, and say I'll be right back!


 Angela 23:47
Where are you going?


 Dave 23:48
To pee!

 Jesus 23:49
Hey, hey- hey- I'm trying to stop but I'm still mid flow- god dammit, man!


 Dave 23:54
I'm glad that you're comfortable with that. But I gotta pee somewhere where, like-

 23:59
David and Jesus, I need you to make a perception check. Perception plus Alertness. You're gonna do a negative two, both of you. It's dark. You guys are arguing. Angela. You have a negative one if you're interested in this perception check as well.

 Angela 24:12
Sure.

 Jesus 24:14
All right, let's see what happens. Nope. I got a 0.

 Dave 24:18
9, 9, 8.

 Angela 24:19
4 successes.



Jesus 24:21

Look at you with your eyes. Oh, both of you. Congratulations.



Billy 24:24

Hank, you are focusing on a delicate situation here. You're trying to stop yourself from peeing, which is hard to do. Let's be honest with you. And you're trying to save your friend from going into the most- they should practically just name this field, this cornfield, Murder Field because that's exactly what it looks like. People go into this field to die and Lee has no filter for that sort of even understanding of this is a bad idea.



Dave 24:50

Yeah, he's seen years of Hee Haw, people just tell jokes in there. It's fine.



Billy 24:54

Angela, you kind of step towards lead to stop him. But then you catch something moving through the field, and you turn your eyes towards it. And you realize that you've found a gap between the crops. It's like an alleyway. Through these stalks. You wouldn't have even noticed it if you weren't standing right where you're standing. And you could see into the cornfield. Lee, you see, Charlie, her face just kind of falling a little bit as she's looking into the cornfield, and you follow where she's looking. And you too can see into the cornfield, about 100 feet into that cornfield, it seems to stop with the corn or the soil, whatever tall weeds and it's just a flattened area, maybe even the start of a crop circle. And in that crop circle, standing in the moonlight, are people. Naked people, but not just- not just naked people, genderless people. There's no breasts, they have the shaping of an butt, but there's no orifice, there's nothing, it's almost like they are made out of just white wax or a simile of what a person should look like. There's four of them. And they're just scattered around this little opening, all crouched down, and they're digging.



Dave 26:14

Oh, they're moving.



Billy 26:14

Yes, they are moving and not like jumping around their arms just moving frantically as if they're kinda like a dog trying to unearth a bone. And that's all they're doing. They haven't

noticed you. Even with the arguing, they just seem to be focused on digging.

J

Jesus 26:32

Hank doesn't see this, by the way, like Lee don't go into it. He's getting louder, Lee, I swear to fucking-

B

Billy 26:37

You guys are staring at this very odd sight. Hank, on the other hand, has decided to raise his voice and say what's going on? Why you guys staring, just being loud, like Hank is usually. So as soon as Hank raises his voice, they immediately turn and focus on the three of you. Hank, you definitely see them now.

J

Jesus 27:03

Oh.

B

Billy 27:04

And they look almost like they're about to pounce and start running after you, charging down that small corridor. But that energy that they're building, that flexing of their muscles is not to chase you or pounce you. It's to escape themselves. They launched themselves onto the ground and they start digging faster. And one even pauses to look at you. And that just seems to make him more terrified. Within 10-15 seconds. They've all buried their heads into the ground. And their bodies go limp. Make a courage roll.

J

Jesus 27:48

One success.

A

Angela 27:49

Two successes.

D

Dave 27:51

Zero successes.

B Billy 27:53
Lee you- you don't have to pee anymore. That's not to say you piss yourself. That's just you decided on an intellectual level that you could hold it.

D Dave 28:03
Yeah, the hierarchy of needs just got flipped around significantly.

B Billy 28:06
Yeah, exactly. You didn't botch. So you didn't immediately wet yourself. But you're done. You're so scared that you don't seem scared. You just simply turn around, walk to the car, open up the side door, get inside, sit down, snap in your seatbelt, and then just lock the door. You're just ready to go. You're ready to go. You're done. You're done.

D Dave 28:28
Yep.

B Billy 28:29
Hank and Charlie, you're terrified. But you don't feel that direct need, you can just kind of stand there and watch them. And that's all you seem to have to do. They're not charging. There's nothing else coming at you. It's just these lumps of people burying their head in the sand or in the ground. And just remaining there still. Now that you know that these little small corridors exist in the corn. As you look down each one. You see people taking you're not people. These lump people. Some of them are burying their head in the ground and some of them are just trying to dig further.

J Jesus 29:07
Charlie,

A Angela 29:08
What?

J Jesus 29:09

What are we looking at?

A Angela 29:10
Why are you asking me?

J Jesus 29:12
I'm asking you to someone because I can't ask myself that question.

A Angela 29:16
We are looking at things that we shouldn't be looking at because we should still be driving.

B Billy 29:22
There's a shaking of the cornstalk near you, and one of these lump people walk out of the stocks, they look towards you and again it is just a lump of a person. There's no eyes, there's no mouth, but it is looking at you. But then immediately looks down towards the soil, falls down, and starts digging. And after one or two scoops, you see something in that hole that they've dug. You can't get a glimpse of it, but you do see it's almost like the light of a screen is in that hole. And this thing is just digging. It's trying to kind of get rid of the dirt that's covering whatever it is, if anybody wants to get closer to see what it is you can, but again, that would be a stealth check. Because you know, these things are very jumpy.

J Jesus 30:09
Hank turns around and starts walking towards the car.

A Angela 30:13
Hank has done something smart. You know what? I'm pretty stealthy. So despite my better instincts, I'm gonna give this a try.

B Billy 30:22
What's your vice?

A Angela 30:23
We didn't give me a vice.

B Billy 30:24
Wanna do curiosity?

A Angela 30:25
I can go with that.

B Billy 30:26
You can get one willpower back from the last session. As you fulfill this vice.

A Angela 30:31
Woot.

J Jesus 30:32
Question: Do I see her doing this?

B Billy 30:33
You're walking away. You'll see her in a little bit. But right now Angela, roll me a stealth check. No difficulty. Try to get close to this thing.

 30:42
Three successes.

B Billy 30:43
You absolutely stealth towards this thing. You take one step and it just keeps it's back to you. Two step, you are right behind it. And by the third step, as it pulls its head back-and you kind of know that this is going to be the telltale sign of it's about to sink its head in that hole and bury itself, you get a glimpse of what it's unearthing. It's a cell phone with a text message. You don't get the chance to read it. But you do see that stereotypical green

blue bubbles and this thing, presses his head against the screen and then just buries its head.

A Angela 31:16
So it is like a modern smartphone. It's not like some 90s Nokia brick?

B Billy 31:22
This looks like a somewhat modern- might be an iPhone second generation and so not modern but an iPhone. And there it is. It just seems content with keeping its face glued to the screen. Its head buried in the sand.

A Angela 31:36
Okay, so like it put its face- Like that's what it was going for. It's not just coincidentally there's a phone and all these holes it was that it wants to be like-

B Billy 31:43
It seems so, yeah, like I said, Hank, as you open the door to your car to get in, and you turn, you see that Charlie is right standing above this thing looking down.

J Jesus 31:53
What are you doing?

A Angela 31:55
Charlie turns back around just like holds her finger up to her mouth like shh, and then carefully backing away.

B Billy 32:03
You don't need to make another stealth check- are you getting to the car?

A Angela 32:06
Yes.

- B** Billy 32:06
You get into the car. Dave, this is the fifth time you've asked. And finally someone's there to maybe respond to you of- can we start driving?
- A** Angela 32:15
I never wanted to stop just putting that out there.
- B** Billy 32:18
So you guys all get into the car.
- J** Jesus 32:20
We get into the car. I turn it on. I start driving in the agreed upon direction of Bakersfield.
- B** Billy 32:26
Well, there's no agreed upon section.
- J** Jesus 32:28
Oh.
- B** Billy 32:29
You have no idea.
- J** Jesus 32:30
I just drive. Stay silent for like, two minutes. And then I look at the rearview mirror at Charlie and say, what were you fucking thinking?
- A** Angela 32:39
I just want to point out I never wanted to go near that. You two, guys- yeah, especially you, Lee, me be like, Oh, I'm so dainty and needy and I need to go find a private place to pee. Wah, wah, wah.



Jesus 32:52

And you decided to compound that by going near the weird lump creature.



Dave 32:56

Lee rolls down his window and throws out a now-full bottle of Gatorade. And Lee just calmly rolls up the window and says, I'm fine.



Angela 33:08

There was something in there. I wanted to take a look. And I was fine. Because I am not a galumphing oaf, like the two of you. There was- there were cell phones in the bottom of the- or at least that hole.



Jesus 33:22

Wait wait wai, cell phone like actual cell phone?



Angela 33:24

Yeah, that like was lit up like it had just received a text. And the thing just like planted its face. Like it wanted to be like one with the phone.



Jesus 33:36

What?



Angela 33:37

Yeah, just drive.



Jesus 33:39

I-



Angela 33:39

Just drive. Don't think about it.



Jesus 33:41

And just- Yeah, yeah, yeah, it's probably for the best. Where are we driving?



Dave 33:45

I'm going to try to figure that out. I'm going to take out my map and take a look and try to figure out where to go.



Billy 33:51

Okay, David, since you can't really spread out this map, because you are in a very confined area. This is a minus one. But you have the flashlight, you are in a safe space. So that it's only a minus one.



Dave 34:02

I got it.



Billy 34:02

So this is going to be survival plus perception.



Dave 34:06

Okay cool.



Billy 34:07

And does anybody want to try to help him with any way? Give him more dice? Anybody have any suggestions? I'm willing to hear it.



Jesus 34:12

I'm just focused on driving.



Dave 34:13

Yeah, not turning on Bruno Mars is probably the best thing you can do for this roll. I got a eight and a nine.

B Billy 34:21
Great. David, it takes you 10 minutes.

D Dave 34:24
It's like using a phone book. It should be easy, but we're a little bit beyond that now.

B Billy 34:30
Exactly. You're about to say I can't do this. But then you're out of the cornfield. And you see a ramp coming up. And it gives you a number and you know you have to take I-68 East- I mean it's right there. It's not like you have to swerve to find it, but you spot the sign where it says like you are a mile away from the exit the on ramp.

D Dave 34:52
Okay, okay, great. We're actually coming up on something that should be should be on the right it's- it's an on ramp. It'll get us out of here, or at least to Bakersfield.

B Billy 35:02
it's probably going to be two hours, two, maybe three hours, you don't have enough gas to get there. But that would bring you in the right direction. And Jesus, within 30-40 seconds, you see the on ramp. And again, this entire highway is empty. It's a void of life. There's no cars, there's no corn on the side anymore. But now that you're driving, and there's nothing but fields around, you flat surfaces, not even grass, but just kind of like dirt and weed. You're surrounded by white clumps of people, some digging, some already having their heads buried in the ground. It's a disturbing sight. But none of them are on the road. All of them are just standing on the ground around the highway.

J Jesus 35:51
Why? On-ramp?

D Dave 35:54
Yeah yeah yeah, should be coming up on the right.



Jesus 35:57

I'm riding right now, just- I'm on the right I'm on the right I'm un-ramping away from this highway.



Billy 36:03

And you do you climb higher onto the ramp heading towards the east and you are driving, and you drive. And you finally get to the point where since you're so high up, you don't really see any more land and that is actually very preferable because you no longer see people. And by the time you start descending, there's no longer that mile or two of just those lumpy people, it is completely void of life itself or unlife. It is just silence. The only thing you hear is the deafening noise of nothing, that kind of whistle that is growing louder and louder. It's very annoying. Honestly, the idea that it could be this silent.



Dave 36:46

Let's turn on the radio, homie. If I may, I think that Hank and Lee share a look as he like reaches towards the knob. And Lee just kind of nods like an assention. Like he turned on the radio like that moment at Ghostbusters, where they both turn on the radio after talking about the apocalypse.



Billy 37:04

Exactly. That is exactly what it is. You don't realize that there was like a vote for turning on the radio, but there was a vote. And everybody was very pro radio. You turn it on, and they're static. You switch it over, there's more static, static, static static, then you pick up one of those A.M. channels. And it sounds like a talk radio, but it's in Spanish. And it keeps on coming in and out. And the first thing you hear is a man yelling in Spanish.



Radio 37:35

[Spanish] Es una letra, la letra de la cancion.



Billy 37:38

And then the woman replies,



Radio 37:39

[Spanish] Michelle Pfeiffer no es party de ninguna cancion!



Billy 37:42

And then another guy says,



Radio 37:43

[Spanish] Si pero es la mejor Gatuvela, es la mejor Gatuvela y no hay mas 'na!



Billy 37:49

Does anybody here speak Spanish? You need one dot in linguistics and specialized in Spanish?



Dave 37:54

Yes, actually, Lee does. Lee took four years of Spanish in high school and remembers one semester of it.



38:01

Great. You're able to decipher kind of the gist of what they were saying. It was very overdramatic and weirdly spoken. It definitely feels telenovela-ish, but you got one or two sentences before it craps out. And the man says in a very dramatic Spanish voice. It's about the lyrics. The woman says Michelle Pfeiffer is not a lyric and then another guy, oh, a much weaker guy a very nasal-y voice says best Catwoman though, fight me.



Dave 38:32

Lee's kind of listening. He's- His eyes are canted to the side. So he's kind of focusing on what he's hearing, less on what he's seeing. And he smiles. Halfway through he points at the radio and says, Michelle Pfeiffer. We were talking about her. And then his face goes slack.



Angela 38:50

What about Michelle Pfeiffer?

J Jesus 38:55
Lee?

D Dave 38:57
The people on the radio said that the song they were listening to is about lyrics. And then some girl some woman said Michelle Pfeiffer is not a lyric. And, and then a third guy said that she's the best cat woman ever.

A Angela 39:21
I mean, that's not like a unique observation.

B Billy 39:24
Yeah, it's not so unique. Because that was the exact conversation you were having before you almost ran into Clementine. I mean, almost the exact- I mean probably had to be changed a little bit because it's not a natural way of speaking Spanish. They don't say it that way. But it's close.

D Dave 39:42
Yeah, that's the- because I said that she's the best Catwoman, fight me. And then we were all like pointing a lot, and Hank was- then Hank hit the brakes and like swerved.

B Billy 39:56
Speaking of hitting the brakes. Jesus, you don't have to make a drive check. As you crest the hill, you slam on the brakes. As you are stopped by at least 12, 13 cars, it's a pile up. It looks like an old crash. And the very front of this crash tipped over on its side. It's a semi truck. T boning across most of this part of the highway. But, you finally found some sign of cars. If you guys want to make a either academics plus intelligence or craft plus perception, I can give you more information.

D Dave 40:42
Yes, I would like to do that.

B Billy 40:44
Just tell me which one you're doing, because one is just the academics of cars. And the other one is, you know, you've worked on cars before.

J Jesus 40:51
I'm doing crafts. Plus wits, sorry, perception.

A Angela 40:53
Now, if we don't have the skill of crafts, could we still make the roll with like a minus one?

B Billy 40:58
Yeah, it's a minus one.

A Angela 41:00
Because that's still better for me, than intelligence plus academics. I got three successes.

J Jesus 41:07
But I failed.

D Dave 41:08
One success.

B Billy 41:09
David, you're the first to notice this. Angela, once David points this out, you're the one that builds on it. David, you just happened to point towards one of the cars and you just say, Wow, that's a 1970s taxi. And you know this, David, because as a kid, you were sickly, surprising, I know.

D Dave 41:29
What about my character?

B Billy 41:30
Yeah, and for a short time you'd like to build model cars. Just something that you picked up. You had a lot of hobbies. This was before your mom finally got you a Gameboy and then- then you focused on the Gameboy. But that was the 1967 taxi.

D Dave 41:45
Like the TV show, Taxi. Yeah, that's why I know it. Yeah.

B Billy 41:49
Yeah. You're just kind of surprised. Like, oh, wow, that's a that is a weird find in this place. But you point that out. Angela. Once he says, oh, wow, it's a weird car, you realize all these cars that you're looking at are almost from a different era. And it's not uncommon to see like a car from the 80s driving along a bunch of cars from 2000s, or whatever. But this seems like an even distribution of cars from the 50's, cars from the 60's, cars from the 70's, 80's, 90's, 2000's. Usually, that's not how it is, you would find like one or two or three rare cars around cars that are about 10 years apart.

A Angela 42:25
Is there like a vintage car show happening?

B Billy 42:29
If it is, then it's the shittiest vintage cars because some of these cars are vintage, but they're also shit.

D Dave 42:35
There's a difference between vintage and fucking old.

B Billy 42:37
Yeah, I mean, there's a Pinto.

D Dave 42:39
Drive slowly.

- B** Billy 42:41
Exactly. It's just like, some of these cars. They're old, but no one's collecting them. Most likely, a lot of the dealerships buried these in Mexico and hope no one found them. I mean, there's a couple of really good finds, but this this doesn't feel like there was an impromptu car show here.
- D** Dave 42:58
Stop the car, stop the car.
- J** Jesus 43:00
I've already stopped. We're in front of a bunch of stopped cars.
- D** Dave 43:02
No, we're in front of a bunch of things that can give us gas.
- J** Jesus 43:05
Oh.
- D** Dave 43:06
You ever siphon gas y'all?
- J** Jesus 43:07
I cannot legally say I did. And I get out of the car.
- B** Billy 43:13
All right. So tell me do you have the gas can? And do you have something that you could use to siphon off?
- D** Dave 43:18
Well, I already got rid of the bottle of Gatorade. So we're down, one of those.

- J** Jesus 43:24
Can I use my Resources to say that I have something of that sort.
- B** Billy 43:28
To have a gas can an empty gas can, that would be 2 Resources.
- A** Angela 43:32
If we have a full gas can we don't actually have a problem.
- B** Billy 43:36
You can have one of those cheap, carries like a gallon of gas, plastic gas cans. And you know what I'll even throw in that you have an old science experiment that you meant to turn in, but you slept through it. So you just kind of left it in your car and got the seat that dealt with like water pressure, and there's a little hose that you used. So you can use that. So yeah, you have a gas can
- J** Jesus 43:58
Do I mark off Resources from my sheet?
- B** Billy 44:00
Yes, just mark off two Resources, they will come back eventually. Okay, now you guys are climbing out of your car. What are you guys doing? Where are you going? I mean, right now this is the only place that you've spotted that had any sign of resource. So right now, hopefully you can get gas but there's also another chance for you guys to investigate to find other things.
- J** Jesus 44:25
Hank is going to focus on getting gas and try to clear away from the Pinto as much as possible.
- B** Billy 44:30
This is a craft check, but, you know what I'm gonna say it's a stamina plus gas just to make

sure you don't swallow anything. Okay, so Hank has decided he's going to be heading towards this collection of cars. What is Charlie and Lee doing?

D

Dave 44:42

Well, Lee is going to hop out of the car. Take his flashlight, and he's going to grab a side bag from the back which is now alleviated of a lot of different snacks. And he's gonna shine the light in on Charlie and say like, I'm gonna look around. See if I can't find anything. Food, or like, I don't know, what would your movies say to do?

A

Angela 45:08

So my movies would say somebody would go do that.

D

Dave 45:12

Okay, I'll go do that and he walks off.

A

Angela 45:15

I'm gonna say with the car, make sure no weird things get into it!

B

Billy 45:19

Okay, so we have three different things. So we're gonna focus on the one that is going to be the easiest, Angela, you're sitting in the car, what do you want to do while you're in the car, you're just kind of looking around. And like I said, the outside is just some kind of brown grass, there's no fields, there's nothing crazy like that. There's no corn, there's no oats, there's just kind of an open field. And there's no people in it. And there's these cars, but is there anything specifically you want to do in your vehicle right now?

A

Angela 45:45

So Charlie is gonna like perch on the hood of the car, like very Dean from Supernatural, like just trying to look really cool. Even though she does not feel cool. And just kind of like, leaning against it. Arms crossed defensively across her chest scanning to make sure nothing pops up out of that field.

- B** Billy 46:05
You know, Angela, this is a, it's weird and scary. But it's also very kind of artistic. There's a lot of different cars out in front of you.
- A** Angela 46:13
I'll take a picture!
- B** Billy 46:14
Okay, so you're gonna need two successes on this.
- A** Angela 46:17
So basically, this is I can take the photo, of course, this is to see how I'm interpreting it.
- B** Billy 46:24
No, this is basically to see if you capture anything, just accidentally, like you're gonna take the photo no matter what. But this is to basically say, once you've taken it, you look at it, you're gonna realize that there's something there.
- A** Angela 46:34
Yeah, I've got it. So it's perception plus, alertness. Awareness is not a skill anymore.
- B** Billy 46:40
Yes, let's do that.
- A** Angela 46:41
Let's see it's three successes.
- B** Billy 46:44
Great. You take a picture, the sound of your flash kind of echoes through the silent void, which is this place. And as the photo pops out, you pick it up and you look at it, even though you've taken a picture of the cars, and there's no way to mess this up. It's a picture

of your own face. You can right now roll your occult, intelligence plus occult

A Angela 47:10
One success.

B Billy 47:12
You're looking at something that's not there.

A Angela 47:15
Right. So I'm looking at my face...

B Billy 47:17
It's your face, but there's no life behind it. Hank, you're walking through these cars. Not too far away from Lucille, you're only about two, three cars deep. And as you get closer, somewhere, you hear a growl that kind of reverberates through the night. It doesn't sound like it's close. And it honestly doesn't sound like it's a threatening growl. It's almost like something large is sleeping.

J Jesus 47:43
I'm still looking for a car, but I'm being very quiet about it.

B Billy 47:46
Let's do a stealth check. Stealth check plus dexterity minus two because you're kind of squeezing yourself through all these things, and you don't know what you're stealthing against.

J Jesus 47:55
That's fair. Two successes.

B Billy 47:58
Okay, well, you absolutely make it to the first car and you kneel down. And now roll

stamina plus crafts. No difficulty, you have all the items with you. So that actually gives you a plus one, I'm going to give you a plus one.

J Jesus 48:13
Plus one. Thank you. So one success.

B Billy 48:17
You don't get much gas, but you do get a couple of mouthfuls. The thing is you know what old gas smells like? The gas that you can't reuse? This smells still usable. So you're gonna go to the next car. And I'm not going to continue making you roll. It's just that's kind of how I was going to gauge it to see how quickly you could fill up. You're going from car to car. And each time it's only just a few drops here. a mouthful here, maybe at best, a quarter of a gallon here. But it's going to take you some time. David, I want you to make be a perception plus investigation. As you're going through this.

D Dave 48:56
Cool.

B Billy 48:56
You do not hear a growl. Honestly, you hear only the occasional cough from Hank as he's sucking these tanks dry.

D Dave 49:04
So that's a perception, you said?

B Billy 49:06
Perception plus investigation, you're looking for stuff.

D Dave 49:10
That is one, one success.

B

Billy 49:12

You find like a granola bar here, you find a cool lighter at some point. And you take that as well. You find a bottle opener, you're not finding a lot of stuff. But what you are doing is going deeper and deeper into this field of cars and someone who is more genre savvy would probably think, mmm, no, this is probably not a smart idea. But David, you are known for being kind of hyper focused, you focus on something and that's all you're worried about. So right now you are focused on finding items that could save you. So focused that you almost miss out on the voice calling for help. And you stop finally and you turn and Hank is way far away but the voice it's closer and it's staticky and you realize that you are near that tipped over semi truck and there's a voice on the radio coming from inside the cab. It's muffled, but you can hear someone talking.

D

Dave 50:06

I go for that. Well, I mean, I take my vintage Mickey Mouse bottle opener first and then I go for the cab.

B

Billy 50:12

You're gonna need to make an athletics check. This is not to see if you can make it up to this thing. It's just to see if you don't hurt yourself in the process. You have plenty of footholds, so there's no minuses but you're climbing up the undercarriage and trying to get on to the top. Okay. You can use willpower if you want, but you have to do it before.

D

Dave 50:28

One success.

B

Billy 50:29

You don't hurt yourself. You don't cut yourself. You know honestly, one success. This is the best athletic prowess you can usually expect from yourself, David.

D

Dave 50:37

Yes. 100%

B

Billy 50:39

You climb up, gasping, kind of rolling onto the trailer. But in your head just thinking [Rocky Eye of the Tiger hummed]. Yeah, total Rocky scene.

D Dave 50:49
Throw me the idol, I'll throw you the whip.

B Billy 50:53
You grab the door and you pull it open it then you climb down into this cab. And on the radio. You hear a voice.

A Angela 51:02
Hello? Hello, goddammit- is this thing even working? Hello?

B Billy 51:07
It's Charlie.

D Dave 51:08
I take out my phone and record the rest. And I pick up the CB walkie. Hello. Hello.

A Angela 51:14
Oh my god. You can hear me? Lee? Oh my god. Is that- Lee are you? Are you there?

D Dave 51:21
Charlie, this is me. It's me. Lee. I'm on a CB radio. Where are you? Why are you on the CB radio? Wait, why?

A Angela 51:29
Cuz you guys fucking left me at the rest stop.

D Dave 51:32

No, we didn't. You're in the car with us.



Angela 51:35

Lee, listen to me. Whoever is in the car with you? Is not me.



Billy 51:50

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