

JOSIE

3.

8

EXT. LONG PINE FIRST NATION ROAD - DAY (1985)

8

The sound of Esther's pee hitting the ground as her squatting POV looks out onto the vast prairie. She is really taking in how the prairie sprawls into the distance, as far as the eye can see. She takes in how the sky is endless. The clouds are bright white. The reeds bending with the breeze and how the light bounces off of them, shining. Her pee sound slows.

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She is crouched tight to the side of her car, and when she's done peeing, gets up, and straightens her clothes. She comes back around to the driver's side of the car and as she does so, she sees two Anishnaabe elders, **JOSIE** (70) and **PEGGY** (80) approaching.

The women are carrying baskets of Saskatoon berries. They walk along the side of the dirt road. They wave to Esther, who awkwardly waves back as she opens her car door.

Josie looks at Esther inquisitively. Esther, unsure of what to do waves again. Josie squints, trying to recognize her. She doesn't.

JOSIE

You lost?

Start

ESTHER

I'm definitely lost. The map I got doesn't have all these little roads on it.

Esther gets back in the driver seat to get her map to show them. She shows them the map and they don't look at it.

JOSIE

Where you trying to go?

ESTHER

I don't actually know.

Esther takes in Josie's little face. She blinks, waiting for Esther to say more.

ESTHER (CONT'D)

Uh, I think I'm from here? But I haven't been here since I was five. Other than Long Pine, I have no other information.

Josie leans in and takes a closer look at Esther. She squints hard, willing herself to recognize her.

JOSIE

How old?

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JOSIE

4.

ESTHER

Uh - I'm 22.

Josie confers with Peggy, quieter now.

JOSIE

(To Peggy)

Gotta be round '68 then eh?

PEGGY

Could be the Anaquod girl?

Esther strains to hear them.

JOSIE

No, can't be her, too old.

Peggy lights up. Gestures to Josie.

~~REDACTED~~

~~REDACTED~~

Josie throws Peggy a look. Peggy loud whispers and Esther strains to hear as they move to their respective car doors.

PEGGY (CONT'D)

Morris 'n Patti's girl..

End

They open the car doors and...

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INT./EXT. RENTAL CAR/LONG PINE FIRST NATION - CONTINUOUS (1985)

...get into the car.

Josie eyes widen in disbelief. Esther's taken aback, but moves her stuff off the front seat to make room for Peggy while Josie climbs into the back.

ESTHER

Oh. Um. Ok.

PEGGY

Turn around. Go back that way.

Esther does. Anxious now.

ESTHER

Do you - do you know me?

Peggy shrugs.

PEGGY

Could be.

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