

Option A or Option B

by

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EXT. DESERT - HOT ASS DAY OUT. TRAILER HOME.

SHEILA (20'-30's) stands at the door frame of her trailer home. TED (50's-60's) looks up at her wearing a cowboy hat.

TED  
You know who I am?

Sheila nods.

That saves us a load of time.  
Where's Billy?

SHEILA  
He's gone.

TED  
Where's he gone to?

SHEILA  
He took off early this morning.  
Didn't leave word.

TED  
I can do anything I want with you  
right now.

SHEILA  
What makes you think I'll allow  
it?

TED (CHUCKLES)  
That's good. Billy, he won't be  
back for you and he won't be  
meeting you at any pre-ordained  
destination that you both may have  
agreed upon, prior to my arrival.  
My advice to you is to go away,  
start a new life, forget Billy  
boy.

SHEILA  
That's alright.

TED  
What's alright?

SHEILA  
I'm done with him anyhow. It's  
been brewing.

TED  
Has it now?

SHEILA

But that's all the business you're gonna know about.

TED

That's fair. I don't mind none.  
(beat) What do you think I should do?

SHEILA

About what?

TED

There's really only two options. I can A, wait here until Billy shows up or B, track Billy down until I find him.

SHEILA

Or C, leave the whole damn thing behind.

TED (CHUCKLES)

I like you. I can see why Billy took to ya.

SHEILA

We done?

TED

You didn't answer my question. Should I take option A or option B?

Billy comes out of the trailer.

Oh, hello Billy.

BILLY

Hello, Ted.

Billy throws a black duffle bag down to the ground before Ted.

You can leave us alone now, Ted.

TED

I could but what about all the trouble you caused?

BILLY

Giving this back to you...don't this make it right between us?

TED

You waited till the very last second, didn't you?

BILLY  
Yeah, I had a better conscious.

TED  
I bet you did. Putting your girl  
up to bat. Man, does she have any  
real idea what's going on right  
now?

Billy nods for Sheila to go inside the trailer.

BILLY  
It's just us now, Ted.

TED  
Just us. I like that.

BILLY  
There's your money.

TED  
Expect me to pick it up, smile and  
walk on by?

BILLY  
I do.

Ted fires a round into Billy's thigh. Billy drops to the  
ground.

Sheila comes running to the door and screams.

BILLY (TO SHEILA)  
Get your ass back inside girl!

Sheila closes door.

TED  
That's for taking my money.

Ted shoots Billy in the opposite thigh.  
And that's for trying to get away  
with my money.  
Alright now...I could pump you up  
with more holes than your body can  
take. You realize that, don't ya?

BILLY  
I do...

TED  
We're gonna put an unnatural spin  
on things.

(MORE)

TED (CONT'D)

Lately, I've had an epiphany of some kind, call it a spiritual awakening of some kind, I don't know what the hell you call it but something happened to me recently that opened up a world of question. You're looking at a dying man, Billy. Don't have more than a few months time and it gives one a time of ultimate reflection. Makes you wonder if you gave enough in your life. Looking back, I don't think I have...given enough. So, starting today, this very Goddamn day, I'm going to give. That money is being given to you and that hot piece of ass girlfriend of yours. Damn, she's got beef! (chuckles) What I wouldn't have done to her yesterday that I have changed today. Ha, Ha. I'm stripping down boy! Giving away everything I own, down to my shorts and then I'm gonna walk out to the center of this here desert and hope the Lord take me. Do you think the Lord will take me? Billy?

BILLY

I can't speak for 'em.

TED

That's right. That's right, good answer Billy boy. Well, okay now. We're done. That's my plan. Adios, amigos.

Ted walks to his car and drives off.