

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

Traveling

Written by

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Draft  
Third

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EXT. SOUTH DAKOTA STATE SIGN

Walking down a rural highway is GHOST, a young man with a hitchhiker backpack and a camera around his neck. He is on the phone with his sister, AMALIA, who's unheard as we see footage of him walking down back highways or shaking his head at truckers who have stopped for him.

GHOST (V.O.)

Yeah... I just reached South Dakota. I told you, you don't need to always worry about me... No. I can do this Amalia. You just... focus on feeling better alright?

We see long scenic shots of ghost traveling down the road on foot, cars passing by him.

GHOST (V.O.) (cont'd)

No really. It only took two pickups to get this far. If this rate keeps up, I'll see you in about a week or so.

Ghost grows a bit annoyed at something Amalia says

GHOST (V.O.) (cont'd)

I'm *fine* Amalia. I haven't had to talk to anyone yet really so its not that bad. Just a nod and which direction I'm heading usually does it.

Ghost gives a nervous laugh as we cut to his current time, walking down the right side of the road. We see him talking now.

GHOST

Truckers are usually quiet people. Though I haven't had a pickup in a full day...

Ghost looks up and we see the South Dakota State Sign. This is important later.

Rain starts to pickup

GHOST (cont'd)

Hey. The rain is starting to come down now. I'll find a place to set up my tent and call you again, okay? Love you.

Coming up from behind him down the road is a minivan that slowly becomes audible in the distance. He starts to panic now.

The rain picks up to a heavy fall. Ghost covers his camera protectively.

Ghost hitchhikes, frequently looking back at the minivan, thumb out, dread rising on his face that hes fighting.

The minivan slows to pick Ghost up. MARION, a middle aged mom, rolls down her window.

MARION

Hey, shotguns open if you want out of the rain. We're heading west.

Ghost looks into the minivan and sees the back 5 seats filled with kids of various ages and quite the mess of toys and snacks and such. Pop music plays on the radio at odds with the outside. Alarm and tension seep into Ghost's words as he beholds the chaos.

GHOST

(Bending down to the passenger window)

N-no. You look full. Don't uh- mind me.

MARION

Nonsense. We got the spare seat, plus that's a Canon X4 right? Not exactly waterproof.

She points to his camera excitedly.

GHOST

I'm really alright.

MARION

Now young man, I haven't seen another car on these back highways for a few hours now. It might be your only chance today.

He stands up straight taking a moment to look over the desolate rainy road. Ghost thinks and then resolves himself as he nods, another moment to breathe.

GHOST

(to himself)

You can do this. It's why you're here.