

The Point of No Return

By

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FADE IN

INT. CAFE - NIGHT

A dingy little cafe tucked into a little Alabama town called Linden.

What might have been a fine establishment 50 years ago is now a run down hole of a place where those who don't wish to be seen can thrive.

CONNOR MCGEE (19, tall, lean, and weary eyed) sits across from his girlfriend, JESSICA BAKER(18, a pretty little thing who looks like she might break into tears at any moment).

A fly lands on Jessica's untouched scrambled eggs. She shudders.

Both of them are staring at their plates. They haven't touched their food and it's starting to look cold and nasty.

Beat. Connor finally lifts up his head and speaks.

CONNOR

So, what are you gonna do about it?

JESSICA looks up. It takes a moment for her to get the words out.

JESSICA

What do you want me to do about it?

CONNOR

I mean, it's not really my call is it?

Jessica's face hardens. She doesn't appreciate Connor's passivity.

JESSICA

I told you because I wanted to know how you felt about this.

Connor tilts his head back toward the ground. He's considering his next words very carefully

CONNOR

I feel that...

Beat.

CONNOR

...The smart thing for us to do is
to, get our money together, drive
out to North Carolina and...

Connor looks up and stares right into Jessica's eyes.

CONNOR

...get, "it" taken care of.

Beat. Jessica looks at her plate. Her eggs look truly
disgusting now.

CONNOR

What are you thinking, Jessica?

JESSICA

I think I'm gonna throw up.

Jessica covers her mouth, jumps out of her seat, and rushes
over to the ladies room.

Connor sits in his chair feeling powerless.

Jessica VOMITS off screen. She then FLUSHES it away and
returns to the table looking empty.

JESSICA

(her throats clogged from the
filth)

When do you wanna leave?

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Connor cracks open the door to his room and walks in.

He tip toes over to his dresser and slides the top
compartment open. The wood RUBS. He stops to make sure no
one in the house can hear.

Beat.

He opens it a little more and squeezes his hand in.

After a few moments of searching he pulls out a thick wad of
cash held together by a few thin rubber bands.

He closes the dresser gently, and makes his way out quietly.

The door CLICKS softly when he shuts it.

INT. CONNOR'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Connor opens the door on the drivers side and hops in. Jessica is in the passenger seat. She's shivering.

CONNOR
You alright.

JESSICA
Uh huh.

She isn't. Connor takes her hand and brings it up to his chest.

CONNOR
You know everything is gonna be ok,
right?

JESSICA
(shaking her head nervously)
Yeah...

Connor kisses her hand. She leans in toward him and rest her head.

Beat.

Connor puts the key in the ignition.

EXT. CONNOR'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

The engine of the car CHOKES a little before finally starting. Than they slowly pull out of the drive way and into the long road ahead.

A MONTAGE

CONNOR AND JESSICA PASS BY VARIOUS HIGH WAY SIGNS.

MONTGOMERY

PINE MOUNTAIN

ATLANTA

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Jessica's eyes open and close sleepily. She's fighting to stay awake, and losing.

After, a few more moments of struggle she leans her head on Connors shoulder and closes here eyes.

Connor doesn't acknowledge her, he just keeps his tired eyes on the road and sighs.

MONTAGE ENDS

EXT. HOSPITAL IN ALABAMA - NIGHT

The lights in the parking lot shine on the cars like spotlights. Dozens of people walk in and out of the front doors. It's clear that this place never sleeps.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Connor is sitting by himself in the corner next to a small coffee table covered in magazines.

He looks at them, considers picking one up, and then turns his head over to a long hallway lined with doors.

Though he isn't alone in the room, he seems disconnected and small.

A NURSE comes rushing out of one of the doors down the hall.

Connor jerks his head up.

CONNOR

Mrs. Baker is asking for a Connor
Mcgee.

Connor raises his hand and gets up like a student being called to the office.

CONNOR

That's me.

NURSE

She wants to talk to you.

CONNOR

Is something wrong.

The nurse take Connor aside and talks in a low whisper.

NURSE

She's feeling a little nervous
about the procedure. She's starting
to reconsider.

Connors eyes widen and his mouth drops.

INT. EXAMINATION ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Jessica is sitting on the hospital bed with her face buried in her hands. She's draped in a blue polyester gown.

Connor stands in front of her with his hands placed gently on her shoulders. He's trying to look into her eyes.

CONNOR

Why are you doing this right now?
What's wrong? I thought we both
agreed this was the right thing for
us to do.

Jessica lifts her head up and looks at Connor. Her eyes are full of tears.

JESSICA

It is the right thing for us to do.

CONNOR

Then what's wrong? Where is this
coming from?

JESSICA

(Though sobs)
I'm afraid.

CONNOR

Afraid of what? Don't they just
vacuum you out?

JESSICA

(She's really not keeping it
together)
My parents. I'm gonna have to face
them. They'll never look at me the
same...

CONNOR

They won't find out. No one will.

JESSICA

My mother's been texting me like
crazy! She knows about us and she
knows we're gone! I had to take
money from her! How am I gonna
explain?

CONNOR

(trying to stay cool)
We'll think of something...

JESSICA

What!

CONNOR

(he snaps)

I don't know!

Beat. Jessica sobs even more. It's almost like she feels physical pain.

Connors face softens with remorse. He embraces her.

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING LOT- DAWN

The sky is colored red. It would be beautiful if it weren't for the circumstances.

Connor and Jessica walk out of the hospital and make there way over to the car.

They both seem exhausted, but Jessica is in even rougher shape. Her hand is on her abdomen, and she's walking noticeably slower than Connor.

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

They get in the car. Connor is in the driver's seat and Jessica is in the passenger

Jessica leans back in the seat. Connor rest his head on the steering wheel.

Beat

Connor turn to Jessica.

CONNOR

You sure you're ready to leave.

JESSICA

uh huh...

CONNOR

They'll let you stay there to rest as long as you want. If you wanna stay longer we can.

JESSICA

No, I wanna leave.

CONNOR

You sure? We don't have to go right back home if you don't want. We can

(MORE)

CONNOR (cont'd)
go somewhere else. Disappear for
awhile.

Jessica leans up and looks at Connor with eyes that seem to
have lost something.

JESSICA
Connor, just let it be over.
Please...

Beat. Connor stares at Jessica, at first with uncertainty,
but then with understanding.

He starts the ignition.

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

The little car pulls out of it's parking space and goes
toward the road. Once it joins all the other moving vehicles
it becomes completely indistinguishable. It blends right in
with all the other cars going down there own paths.

FADE OUT