

The Stream, The Cave, Jim, and Dave

by  
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FADE IN:

EXT. TWO LANE HIGHWAY -- DAY

The old blacktop snakes it's way through the wintry country side.

A black FORD EXPLORER cruises past bare trees and dead grass.

INT. FORD EXPLORER

Dave sits behind the wheel -- studies the horizon.

JIM, mid thirties, frail, pale, SNORES loudly from the passenger seat.

DAVE  
Almost there.

He gives Jim a SHAKE.

DAVE  
Just a few more minutes.

Jim rises out of slumber -- RUBS his eyes.

JIM  
Could've used a few more minutes  
with Angelina.

DAVE  
We both know it was Andy Dick.

Jim LAUGHS -- erupts into HARSH COUGHING.

DAVE  
You okay?

JIM  
(coming out of it)  
No more gay jokes.

DAVE  
Clearly they excite you too much.

Jim glances out the window -- a GRASSY FIELD rolls by.

JIM  
What happened to the Andertons'?

DAVE  
Burned down, lightning storm I  
think.

Jim GAZES at the empty field.

JIM  
Perpetual in perpetual change, The  
unknown passing through the  
strange.

DAVE  
Like I said, Andy Dick.

Jim smiles.

EXT. OLD DIRT ROAD

The Explorer sits -- empty.

EXT. THE WOODS

Jim sits, propped up against a tree, next to

THE STREAM

not much more than a trickle of water. Jim gazes at the  
surroundings.

DAVE (O.S.)  
You're not gonna believe this --  
the Spear of Doom is still up here.

THE CAVE

sits atop a rock wall -- nearly hidden by trees and  
underbrush. Dave walks out holding THE SPEAR OF DOOM, a  
rotting stick.

DAVE  
The years have not been kind to the  
Spear of Doom.

JIM

smiles -- rubs his arm.

JIM  
(whispers)  
I know how it feels.

Dave bounds down from the cave -- scampers over to Jim.

DAVE  
The trunk is gone. I bet those  
Playboys would be worth a lot by  
now.

JIM  
You can find out -- they're  
somewhere in my garage.

DAVE  
Bastard! Those were mine.

JIM  
I was horny.

Dave gently passes the old stick to Jim.

JIM  
I'm surprised we didn't have to run  
any kids off.

DAVE  
Thank you PlayStation.

JIM  
Remember Sally Wilbanks?

DAVE  
You won't let me forget.

JIM  
The water was cold that day. She's  
a lesbian now, right?

Dave throws a rock -- SPLASH into the stream.

DAVE  
Let's go.

JIM  
You promised.

DAVE  
You're making it too hard.

JIM  
I'm having a blast.

DAVE  
That's not what I --

JIM  
Remember when we ambushed Jeff  
Pickett, Billy Owens, and Andy Reel  
out here.

DAVE  
Jim --

JIM  
I was afraid. I knew they would  
kick our ass. But they had picked  
on your sister, and I couldn't talk  
you out of it. You were fearless.  
They didn't stand a chance. I  
always wondered why -- I mean, I  
was bigger than you, yet you were  
the one...I always thought it was  
honor or something like that. But  
now I wonder if it wasn't because  
we were here. We were on our turf.

DAVE  
I wasn't fearless, I was stupid  
with anger.

JIM  
Get angry, then.

He COUGHS.

DAVE  
I don't look angry to you?

JIM  
My balls are all shriveled -- I  
can't even take a shit without help  
-- I wanna screw a woman one last  
time, but I'm pretty sure my dick  
is already dead -- I wanna --

Jim HACKS loudly.

Dave pulls a HANDGUN from the back of his pants. Holds it  
out to Jim.

DAVE  
If you're so angry...

Jim laughs -- SPITS out blood.

JIM  
I'm not stupid with anger. I need  
you to be.

A tear ROLLS down Dave's face.

DAVE

I can't.

Jim tilts his head back against the tree -- his lips are COVERED in blood. He WHEEZES loudly -- his eyes WINCE with each breath.

JIM

Bullshit. You're Dave. You'd do anything for me. You got my back.

Dave LEVELS the gun at Jim's head -- his hand SHAKES violently.

JIM

Be fearless.

Dave's finger SQUEEZES the trigger.

EXT. DIRT ROAD

A crow sits on the Explorer -- a single GUN SHOT echoes through the woods -- the crow STARTLES -- flies away.

EXT. THE WOODS

BEGIN MONTAGE

-- A shirtless Dave digs into the earth beneath the cave -- Jim's body lies a few feet away, covered by Dave's shirt.

-- He washes himself in the stream, wipes away tears.

-- He places the Spear of Doom across the fresh grave, looks to the stream, then the cave, walks away.

END MONTAGE

EXT. TWO LANE HIGHWAY

The Explorer pulls onto the road -- crests a hill.

FADE OUT.