

STOP

written by

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EXT. IN CAR DRIVING - DAY

Jason Chen, 30, IS DRIVING IN THE CAR WITH HIS WIFE, ERICA Chen, 26. AS THEY ARE DRIVING, THEY OBSERVE A WOMAN STANDING AT THE SIDE OF THE ROAD, HOLDING UP HER THUMB, IN AN EFFORT TO SOLICIT A RIDE.

JASON

So, did we get everything we needed?

ERICA

Do we ever get everything we need?

They look at each other and laugh.

JASON

Probably not.
I'll get it later, if we missed anything.

ERICA

I'm missing something.

JASON

What's that?

ERICA

Our new house.

Jason takes Erica's hand briefly and squeezes it.

JASON

We'll get there.

ERICA

I know we will.
It's just taking so long. We just need to --

Erica notices a woman standing on the side of the road, holding her thumb out in an attempt to hitch hike.

ERICA (CONT'D)

Hey -- STOP!

Jason jerks the car to a stop and looks at Erica questioningly.

ERICA (CONT'D)

(gestures back to the woman)

That woman.
She needs a ride.

JASON
Are you serious right now?

ERICA
Yes, I am.
(Looks at Jason intently)
Right now.

Jason gives an exasperated sigh and turns the car around.

ERICA (CONT'D)
What if that woman was me?

JASON
Babe, that woman would never be
you. Never.

ERICA
And what makes you so sure?

Jason turns to look at her briefly and kisses her.

JASON
Because you'll always be with me,
and as long as we're together, I'll
take you anywhere you need to go.

ERICA
She's not so lucky.
So let's go and help her.

Jason turns the car around to stop in front of the SARA
WINSTON, 35. Erica rolls her car window down, and smiles.

ERICA (CONT'D)
Need a ride?

SARA
(Sighs gratefully)
I could sure use one.
I just need to get up the road a
bit, if you don't mind.

Erica gestures to the back of the car.

ERICA
(Brightly)
Well, hop in.

Sara gets into the car and they begin to drive again up the
road.

SARA
Thanks so much.
It's tough getting rides.

JASON
How far do you have to go?

SARA
Just a couple of miles or so.

ERICA
It's so hot today... that walk
would have been --

SARA
(Laughs)
Brutal.
Believe me, I know.
I've had to do it a time or two
before.

Jason and Erica look at each other with concern.

SARA (CONT'D)
I work at the convenience store,
and at the end of the day, I'd
rather try to get a ride , when I
can.

JASON
Well, we're happy to help.

They drive along in silence for while.

SARA
So what do you to do, if you don't
mind me asking?

Jason and Erica look at each and chuckle.

JASON
Well, I work with software.
Huge geek.

ERICA
And I'm a writer.
Also, a huge geek.

SARA
(Laughs)
I'm one as well.
(Looks down sadly)
Or at least, I was.

Jason looks over his shoulder.

JASON
Hey, once a geek, always a geek.

Jason and Erica look at each other and chuckle, and Sara joins in.

SARA
Well, I suppose that's true.
I used to be, but I lost my little girl.
She got sick, and then we just lost her.

ERICA
I'm so sorry.

SARA
My husband... he couldn't really handle it, and then he left me.
I've been trying to get back on my feet ever since.

Jason and Erica look at each other, as they come to the end of a road.

SARA (CONT'D)
You can just turn in here.
I can walk the rest of the way.

JASON
Well, how much further is it?
We've gone this far, we might as well take you all the way.

SARA
Well...thanks. Just around that corner.

Jason, Erica and Sara continue driving further and end up in front of a trailer with a couple of cars in front.

SARA (CONT'D)
Right here.

Sara gets out of the car. Erica rolls down her window and yells.

ERICA
Hey!

Erica pulls out a business card, and hands it to Sara.

ERICA (CONT'D)
If you ever need a ride
again...call us.

Sara walks up to the window, and takes Erica's hand. Erica hands Sara the business card.

JASON
We mean it.

SARA
Thanks, I will.
You all are really kind.

Jason and Erica look at each and back to Sara.

JASON
No we're just really --

ERICA
Human.

Jason and Erica drive away, as Sara waves.

FADE TO BLACK.