

TRUE HORROR

Written by Jeffrey Bridges

13 QUIN
I only packed two sandwiches!

14 TAMARA
Well you didn't really plan ahead
then, did you?

15 QUIN
This isn't a picnic!

16 TAMARA
No no, it's a "monster hunt", I
remember.

17 QUIN
Why do you have to say it like
that?

18 TAMARA
 (oh so innocent)
Like what?

19 QUIN
You know! You know exactly what I
mean. This entire excursion is just
you humoring me, isn't it?

20 TAMARA
Well... yes.

21 QUIN
I knew it!

22 TAMARA
Don't see why you wouldn't, I TOLD
you that before we left.

23 QUIN
I know what I saw.

24 TAMARA
Uh huh. From your bedroom window, I
know. Lurking out in the forest.

25 QUIN
You telling me this place isn't
creepy?

26 TAMARA
Those are words I've never said.

27 QUIN
Right!

28 TAMARA
But Quin... just because a forest
is creepy at 3 am doesn't mean it's
full of snarling, roaming monsters.

Sound FX - way in the distance, what sounds like a snarling,
roaming monster

29 QUIN
Then what the hell was that?

30 TAMARA
...ironic timing?

31 QUIN
Table the snark. Come on.

32 TAMARA
Well *I* don't know. Maybe it's...
construction from the freeway.

33 QUIN
Are you kidding?

34 TAMARA
I'm sure it's the foreman out for
a... pleasure stroll at night
through... an unlit, densely packed
tree field.

35 QUIN
"Tree field"?

36 TAMARA
I'm tired of the word "forest".

37 QUIN
That noise we heard was no human!

38 TAMARA
Then what, pray tell, was it?

39 QUIN
That's the point of this entire
thing. To find out! Geez.

Sound FX - they begin walking

40 TAMARA
All right, all right. I admit there
may be some strange goings-on.

41 QUIN
A-HA!

42 TAMARA
But I'm sure there's no monsters.

43 QUIN
How can you know?

44 TAMARA
Because there's no such thing.

Sound FX - they walk in silence for a couple seconds, we hear only their footsteps, and then stop when they come to a small stream

45 QUIN
We'll have to cross.

46 TAMARA
I'm not getting my shoes wet.

47 QUIN
It's not like there's a bridge,
there's no other choice.

48 TAMARA
Then this is where our journey
ends. Been great wasting all this
time with you, Quin, but I'll be
off now.

Sound FX - Tam begins to leave

49 QUIN
Tam! Wait!

Sound FX - Tam stops

50 TAMARA
(sighs)
What is it?

51 QUIN
I think this is it.

52 TAMARA
You're just saying that because I'm
leaving.

53 QUIN
No no, look! By the banks of the
stream. There's fresh tracks.

54 TAMARA
So? Plenty of animals live here in
the tree field.

55 QUIN
FOREST. And the tracks are huge!

56 TAMARA
It's probably just a...
preternaturally large... squirrel.

57 QUIN
I think it lives on the other side
of the water.

58 TAMARA
I told you, I'm not crossing. I
just bought these shoes! And then
I'd have to walk back home with wet
socks and my feet would chafe and
my toes would get all wrinkly and-

59 QUIN
Fine fine! Just... just stay here
while I go look, okay?

60 TAMARA
Will you give me the sandwiches?

61 QUIN
Yes! Wait. BOTH of them?

Sound FX - a long beat

62 QUIN (CONT'D)
FINE!

63 TAMARA
We have an accord!

Sound FX - tam walks back, a bag is handed over

64 QUIN
Just don't go anywhere until I come
back, okay?

65 TAMARA
Very well. Have fun exploring the
tree field.

Sound FX - Quin splashes off through the stream, then comes
out of it and crunches through more leaves and twigs on the
other side

66 QUIN
 (hissing)
FOREST.

Sound FX - quin's footsteps recede
 Sound FX - just the stream and the creepy, creepy forest for
 a few seconds
 Sound FX - tam opens the bag, unwraps a sandwich, takes a
 bite

67

TAMARA
 (chewing, and disgusted)
 PEANUT BUTTER AND POTATO CHIPS?
 (much coughing and hacking
 as the food is spit out)

Sound FX - under the coughing and hacking, way off in the
 distance, another snarl, and then the crunching of bones

68

QUIN
 (way off in the distance,
 being eaten)
 Agghhgghgghhhhhhaaahaahhh!

Sound FX - the coughing and screaming stop at the same time

69

TAMARA
 How could anyone or anything think
 something so chewy and so crunchy
 at the same time was any good?

Sound FX - giant, earth-shaking footsteps approach, a tense
 moment, and then...

Sound FX - the monster belches

70

TAMARA (CONT'D)
 I dunno how you can stand it,
 honestly. That's the true horror
 here.
 (beat)
 Blech. Ah well, at least one of us
 has a full belly.

71

MONSTER
 Thaaaaank youuuuu.

72

TAMARA
 (sighs)
 Oh no problem.
 (beat)
 You wouldn't by any chance have a
 sandwich on you?