

78 CONTINUED:

78

Dustin and Lucas follow his gaze to a find a LINE OF POLICE TAPE, wrapped around a row of trees along the side of the road.

The reality of what happened hits our boys right here. This isn't some make-believe D&D campaign. This is... *real*.

BOOM! HEAVY RUMBLE SHATTERS THE SILENCE.

They boys look up. Sheet LIGHTNING flashes the sky, illuminating dark STORM CLOUDS.

A PLOP OF WATER hits Dustin in the face.

DUSTIN

Oh man. You guys feel that?

Dustin holds out a hand. Watches water strike his palm.

It's raining.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)

Maybe we should go back.

Mike isn't listening. Or if he is, he doesn't care. He removes a walkie from his backpack, hands it to Dustin.

MIKE

No splitting up or anything stupid like that, but stay on channel six. Just in case.

With that, Mike heads into the woods, ducking under the caution tape. Lucas follows.

Dustin is now all alone.

BOOM! Another thunder crash! It scares the shit out of him.

DUSTIN

Hey, guys, wait up! WAIT UP!

He races after his friends as ANOTHER BOOM rattles us and --

79 INT. WHEELER HOUSE - NANCY'S ROOM - NIGHT

79

Steve and Nancy now sit on her bed. A few feet apart.

Steve reads homemade flash cards, while Nancy answers the questions. MUSIC PLAYS on a boombox ("Sweet Dreams" by The Eurythmics) loud enough that their voices don't carry out of the room...

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED:

79

STEVE

"... Which Polymers occur naturally?"

NANCY

... Starch and cellulose.

STEVE

(yup, switches cards)

"In a molecule of CH₄, the hydrogen atoms are spatially oriented toward the centers of a regular -- "

NANCY

Tetrahedron.

STEVE

(switches card)

Jesus, how many of these did you make?

NANCY

You said you wanted to help!

STEVE

How 'bout this: Every time you get something right, I have to take off an item of clothing. Every time you get something wrong...

NANCY

Uh, pass.

STEVE

Come on, it'll be fun --

NANCY

No!

STEVE

(next card)

"During fractional distillation, hydrocarbons are separated according to their -- "

NANCY

Melting points.

STEVE

EEEEEE! *Boiling* points.

NANCY

That's what I meant --

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED: (2)

79

STEVE

But it's not what you said.

He mimes unbuttoning a shirt.

NANCY

No. NO!

STEVE

No? You need help?

Steve pushes down on the bed, and kisses her. Soon they're going at it, hot and heavy. After a moment of making out, Steve begins to unbutton her top but --

Nancy stops him.

NANCY

Steve, come on --

STEVE

What?

NANCY

Are you crazy? My *parents* are here --

STEVE

(looking around)

Weird. I don't see them.

Nancy slides away.

NANCY

Was this your plan all along? Get in my room, then... get another notch on your belt?

STEVE

What -- no! Jesus, no.

NANCY

I'm not like Laurie. Or Amy. Or -- or Becky --

STEVE

You mean you're not a slut.

NANCY

That's not what I'm saying.

STEVE

You're cute when you lie.

(CONTINUED)

79 CONTINUED: (3)

79

NANCY

Shut up.

Steve smiles. He picks up a Holly Hobbie doll and makes it shake its head in disapproval, speaks in a squeaky voice:

STEVE

"Bad Steve, bad; stay away from Miss Nancy!"

Nancy can't help but laugh.

NANCY

You're an idiot, Steve Harrington.

STEVE

You're beautiful, Nancy Wheeler.

Nancy blushes.

Steve picks up the flash cards. Clears his throat. And...

STEVE (CONT'D)

"Compared to the rate of inorganic reactions, the rate of organic reactions generally is..."

Off Nancy, falling for this guy...

80 **OMITTED**

80

&

&

81

81

82 **INT. BYERS HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

82

Jonathan and Joyce sit around the coffee table.

They are working on the MISSING PERSONS POSTER for Will. Bold red letters at the top read: "HAVE YOU SEEN ME?"

There is an EMPTY SPACE for a photo in the middle.

They flip through the portfolio, looking for a photo. There are many photos of Joyce and Will, as well as the town, and the people who live here. All artfully taken by Jonathan.

JOYCE

Wow. Jonathan. These are great...

Jonathan doesn't say anything, embarrassed by the compliment.

She flips through more pages.

(CONTINUED)