FADE IN

EXT. GAS STATION IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE - NIGHT

Two vintage gas pumps and a small office. A light on a pole shines down on the gas pumps.

The office is twenty yards away. One light hangs low inside.

An old van rolls out of the dark up to the pumps.

Two twenty five year old men, RANDY and GARY, Jump from the van.

    RANDY
    We made it! I think we were running on fumes the last thirty miles.

    GARY
    That's how long I've had to pee.

Randy goes round to the pump and puts the nozzle in the van.

    RANDY
    I love this van. I once ran on fumes all the way to Modesto.

    GARY
    That's a long way. Are you sure your gas gauge wasn't broken.

    RANDY
    Never thought of that. Go empty your bladder. I'll fill the tank.

Gary takes off to the Andy Gump near the office.

Randy sees the silhouette of a man looking out the glass door window.

    RANDY (CONT'D)
    Hey. Could you turn on pump number...

Randy looks for a number on the pump and can't find one.

    RANDY (CONT'D)
    Could you turn on this one?
A large black mass moves fast behind Randy and creates a breeze enough to muss his hair.

Randy fixes his hair and looks behind him.

A mass moves past in front of Randy.

Randy looks back at the office.

RANDY (CONT'D)
Hey, hey, could you turn on the gas? You want me to pay first?

Randy takes a step toward the office and is hit then mauled by several creatures.

Like mythical beings with hideous faces. They have claw hands and evil faces. Some winged some not, but all are demons.

Two winged demons drag Randy toward the Andy Gump then up in the air just before Gary steps out of the door.

Gary walks to the car and pulls the nozzle out of the gas tank.

GARY
Randy. Hey, Ran-dy...let's go.

Gary tries to see into the darkness. An odd feeling comes over him and he looks at the camera with a puzzled expression.

Wings flair out from behind Gary as though he had wings.

Gary jerks and looks concerned. A demon hand clutching Gary's heart pushes through his shirt.

Gary takes pause as he identifies what the hand is holding.

Gary slides off of the demon's arm. The demon looks at the heart then at the camera, opens it's mouth with a shriek and bites the lens.

CUT TO BLACK:

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

This dirty, vintage station stands alone on the road, in the desert, in the middle of nowhere.
SAM, an old scruffy, weather worn man shuffles up to the old time beverage dispenser. The kind you open from the top.

Sam puts his money in.

The coins drop in coin box.

Sam opens the top, reaches in and grabs a bottle of soda. After several tugs he cannot get his selection out of the machine.

SAM
Damn machine. If I can't fix you I'm going to tear you apart.

Sam goes in the office and brings out a tool box from behind the small counter.

A motorcycle with a lone rider coasts in with chain dragging. The rider, JOHNNY, is a twenty five year old good looking man. He has on a helmet, jeans and leather coat.

Johnny pulls off his helmet, dismounts and inspects his chain.

JOHNNY
Hey old timer. You got any tools I can use?

SAM
We don't lend tools. Company policy.

JOHNNY
You think I'll run off with a wrench?

SAM
Company policy.

JOHNNY
Where would I go?

Johnny sweeps his hand to indicate the barren wasteland all around. A hawk screeches in the distance.

SAM
Bring it over in the shade. Let's see what you got.

Johnny wheels the motorcycle over and puts the kickstand down.
SAM (CONT'D)
What do you need?

JOHNNY
Screwdriver and pliers ought to do it.

Sam digs the tools from the tool chest and hands them to Johnny.

SAM
Is it bad?

JOHNNY
The connector pin fell out. Not serious. Unless you don't have a connector pin.

SAM
Sorry.

Johnny wipes his hands on a rag and stands.

JOHNNY
You got a truck around back?

SAM
No. I don't.

JOHNNY
Unless someone comes by I'll be cooling my heels here till morning.

Johnny and Sam take a look up and down the deserted desert road.

SAM
Going to Vegas?

JOHNNY
Yep.

SAM
Going to try your luck?

JOHNNY
I'm looking for something.

SAM
You think you'll find it in Vegas? You're not alone, brother.
JOHNNY
Could be in Vegas. Could be here.

JOHNNY goes to the old pop dispenser.

SAM
Nothing here but me and the buzzards.

SAM looks up then Johnny looks up at buzzards making lazy circles in the sky.

JOHNNY
I don't know why they stay in a place like this.

JOHNNY digs in his pocket for change. He puts the coins in the machine and they drop in the coin box.

SAM
A buzzard is an opportunist. They go where the food is.

JOHNNY pulls a bottle of pop out of the dispenser.

Sam is surprised Johnny got a drink.

JOHNNY opens his drink, leans on the machine and focuses back on the birds.

SAM goes to the open machine, reaches in and cannot pull out a soda.

JOHNNY
A buzzard is a scavenger. They circle where something is about to die.

JOHNNY notices Sam's trouble and pulls some coins from his pocket.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
Here, let me, old timer.

JOHNNY puts coins in the machine.

Sam licks his lips with anticipation.

The coins drop in the box, Sam reaches in, grabs a bottle of soda and can't get it out. He backs off in a frustrated huff.
SAM
I swear...there's one of these in the waiting room to hell.

Sam clicks the coin return and bends down to the return slot. Nothing falls in the slot. He looks up at Johnny.

Johnny holds another bottle of soda from the machine. He uses the opener on the machine and opens the bottle.

Sam is dumfounded as he stands.

Johnny holds out the bottle to Sam.

JOHNNY
Take it.

Sam is slow as he reaches out and takes the bottle.

As Sam is about to drink an old beat up van rumbles in the drive way and up to the building. Steam billows from under the hood

SAM
Maybe you can get a ride with this fellow.

JOHNNY
Some how, I doubt it.

Sam tips back the bottle and drinks.

ANTHONY, a black thirty three year old, clean cut, collegiate fellow gets out of the van and looks at the front of the vehicle.

Water pours out from the bottom of the radiator. Steam is everywhere.

ANTHONY
I seem to be overheating. Could you help?

Sam holds up one finger and keeps drinking.

JOHNNY
Where you headed?

ANTHONY
Uh...I...uh...
JOHNNY
Vegas?

ANTHONY
I'm trying to get...yes, Las Vegas, and I'm lost.

Sam lowers the half empty bottle of pop.

SAM
None is so lost as he who will not see.

ANTHONY
Do you know the last rites too? My van seems to be at death's door.

Sam belches, hands his soda to Johnny, pops the hood and looks at the engine.

Johnny pops his head under the hood.

JOHNNY
Sam? I don't mean to criticize, but the quote is, none is so blind as he who will not see.

SAM
Well, this is how it is, see, your radiator is cracked.

ANTHONY
Can you fix it?

Sam takes his soda back from Johnny.

SAM
Yes I can. All I need to do is replace it with a new radiator.

Sam takes a drink of his soda.

ANTHONY
And?

SAM
I can't get one till morning.

ANTHONY
There's no way you could get one sooner?
SAM
You could pray.

ANTHONY
I'd rather use cash.

Sam drops the hood.

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
What's the chance of getting a ride?

SAM
Nothing until morning.

ANTHONY
Can you suggest a good hotel?

SAM
I hear the Venetian is nice.

ANTHONY
You mean the one in Las Vegas. What are you saying? You're saying I need to stay here?

SAM
You don't need to. You have to.

JOHNNY
You won't be alone. My name's Johnny. Our host here is...

SAM
They call me, Sam. Glad to have the company.

Sam wipes his hand on his pants and holds it out to Anthony.

Anthony gives Sam's hand an uninspired shake.

ANTHONY
Anthony.

(to Johnny)
Are you sure? I really need to get to Las Vegas.

JOHNNY
We don't have a choice.

ANTHONY
I have a cell phone.
Anthony pulls it out and searches for bars.

ANTHONY (CONT'D)
I can't get a signal. What about you?

JOHNNY
I don't have a cell phone.

ANTHONY
Sam?

SAM
No no. No service here. Everything is dead.

JOHNNY
The buzzards seem to agree with him.

Johnny points up and Anthony looks at the buzzards.

EXT. ROAD
An old Cadillac barrels off the road and up to the pumps.
Fifty nine year old GEORGE and his wife HELEN, a nice looking forty year old trying to cheat age, get out of the car.
Helen hauls up a 35mm digital camera.

HELEN
Smile, George.

Helen snaps several pictures in a row. George looks away from the flash.

GEORGE
I thought you had to pee. Go pee.

HELEN
I do. I have to pee like a dead horse.

GEORGE
You beat a dead horse. You piss like a race horse.

HELEN
Doesn't that get all over the other horses?
They don't pee when they're running.
Could you be any more stupid?

That's not very nice.

George waves Helen off.

Yeah. Yeah.

Mister, where can I use the ladies room?

All we got is the Andy Gump, ma'am.

Looks kind of dirty.

I try to keep it tidy but if you have concerns...

Sam pulls a wad of paper out of his pocket, unfolds it and hands a wrinkled seat protector to Helen.

You can use this.

You're kidding?

Wish I were.

Helen walks to the ANDY GUMP to the left of the office.

Sam speaks under his breath to Anthony and Johnny.

I would have taken the ass gasket if I was her.

Helen walks back, snatches the seat cover from Sam and turns back to the Andy Gump.
EXT. GAS PUMPS

George attempts to pump gas.

SAM
Sorry, mister, I'm out of gas.

GEORGE
How far is the nearest station?

SAM
Where're you headed?

GEORGE
Vegas.

SAM
There's gas in Vegas.

GEORGE
Any between here and Vegas?

SAM
Nope. This was your last chance.

GEORGE
What the hell am I going to do?

George pulls out his cell phone and dials.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
Maxy, Max, yeah this is George. I'm 50 miles outside of Vegas on route 99. I need some gas. Look it up on the computer.

George lowers the phone and yells to Sam.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
Hey, old timer where am I?

SAM
Say again.

GEORGE
Where am I, you old buzzard.

SAM
Last Chance Gas on 99.
GEORGE
What's the address here?

EXT. ANDY GUMP
Anthony gets a quizzical look on his face.

SAM
Nine.

ANTHONY
His phone isn't dead.

Sam strokes his chin and raises an eyebrow.

EXT. GAS PUMPS

GEORGE

George throws his phone on the seat of the car.

Helen comes back from the Andy Gump and Sam follows her.

HELEN
Ok, George, I'm all freshened up.

SAM
Mister. I don't know what to tell you. You'll just have to stay the night here.

HELEN
Stay here? We have reservations at the Venetian.

SAM
I hear that's nice.

GEORGE
Where's a hotel?

SAM
No hotel or motel --- just here.

GEORGE
Helen, give me your cell.

Helen digs in her bottomless purse for her cell.
George

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Jesus, Helen. I could have sent a carrier pigeon by now.

Helen pulls out her cell.

HELEN

Here it is. Oh look, I have a message.

Helen attempts to retrieve her message.

George snatches the phone away from her.

GEORGE

Give me that.

SAM

That wasn't very nice.

GEORGE

You ever been married?

SAM

I owned a mule once.

GEORGE

Not the same thing.

Sam gives George the eye.

George attempts to dial the cell.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

The battery is dead. Anyone have a cell phone?

ANTHONY

No bars.

JOHNNY

No phone.

SAM

Looks like you'll have to make the best of it. Everyone inside. It's almost sundown.

Sam heads back to the office.
ANTHONY
I don't think any of us are afraid of the dark.

SAM
Trust me, Anthony, you don't want to be outside at night.

George rummages around in the trunk of the Cadillac.

HELEN
Is he suggesting we stay in that ratty place?

GEORGE
You've slept in worse.

HELEN
I am not staying in there with those people.

GEORGE
Dammit, Helen. Why can't you just go along with the crowd? Those other guys are in the same boat we're in. You don't hear them complaining do you?

HELEN
Look how filthy it is.

GEORGE
Sleep in the car.

HELEN
Sleep in the car? I don't want to sleep in the car.

GEORGE
Sleep on the ground. Sleep in the outhouse. I don't care.

EXT. OFFICE DOOR

Everyone is in the office. Sam stands in the door and turns to George and Helen.

SAM
Let's go, folks. It'll be dark in a few minutes.