

WELCOME TO THE HORIZON

Part 1: Rick

By

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Welcome to the Horizon

Part 1: Rick

WE HEAR SOUND OF THE SHEEP'S EYE ROADHOUSE. PEOPLE ARE CONTINUALLY FILING IN AS FRANK AND JUNE SIT AT THE BAR.

JUNE

... So that was fun.

FRANK

Yeah.

JUNE

Kinda been looking for a category to put that whole experience in.

FRANK

Me too.

JUNE

All night. I've been doing that all night.

FRANK

You didn't sleep either?

JUNE

Sleep? Ha! Sure. Sleep.

FRANK

...

JUNE

It's like... Everybody has weird shit happen to them, right? They swear they saw a ghost or a UFO or Sasquatch.

FRANK

But that's easy to understand.

JUNE

Right. I know what a UFO is or Bigfoot but this...

FRANK

Hard to describe.

JUNE

"Gather round the campfire, everyone, and let me tell you of the time an entire diner appeared in our parking lot."

FRANK

"And how right before that, several copies of my mom and dad started arguing in said parking lot."

JUNE

"And how some leggy redhead showed up and apparently started unravelling reality."

FRANK

"And how it was all solved by the... I don't know... the universe being rebooted or something."

JUNE

"And before all that, Frank was disintegrated and then put back together again by that same redhead."

FRANK

...

JUNE

Sorry, too soon?

DEIDRA

Hey, you two. What can I get you?

JUNE

Deidra.

DEIDRA

Hey.

FRANK

You're back.

DEIDRA

Yeah, I'm back.

JUNE

I thought you joined the Peace Corp or something.

DEIDRA

You did? Why?

JUNE

I asked TJ where his granddaughter went and he said "She joined the Peace Corp or something."

DEIDRA

Oh. No, I was doing some community organizing in the city.

FRANK

What were you doing?

DEIDRA

It was the "Stop the Tram" project?

JUNE

There's a tram? What tram are you stopping?

DEIDRA

The Mt. Hood Tram?

JUNE

Am I supposed to know about this?

FRANK

I don't know anything about this.

DEIDRA

They want to build an arial tram that takes people all the way to the top of the mountain.

FRANK

Really?

DEIDRA

Yes.

JUNE

And you stopped it?

DEIDRA

(Trying to stay positive.)  
Nope. They're totally building it. We totally failed. Months and months of getting the word out and we totally failed. And then I fell into a deep "what the hell am I doing with my life" depression, so I figured I should probably come work for my grandpaw again. So, I am now back, completely humiliated, serving drinks to locals.

JUNE

That sucks, Deidra, I'm sorry. How're you holding up?

DEIDRA

Still super depressed, successfully covering it all up by being chipper.

JUNE

Atta girl.

FRANK

Hey Deidra, let me ask you something, have you noticed anything weird lately?

DEIDRA

Weird?

FRANK

Out of the ordinary.

DEIDRA

Does being a grown-ass woman without any direction in life count?

FRANK

Let's say no.

DEIDRA

Then, no.

FRANK

If you notice anything out of the ordinary, could you give me a call? You have my number, right?

DEIDRA

Sure. That's kind of a weird thing to say, Frank.

JUNE

That is kind of a weird thing to say, Frank.

FRANK

Just give me a call, okay?

DEIDRA

Okay. What can I get you?

FRANK

Two IPAs?

DEIDRA

Sure.

JUNE

What are you doing?

FRANK

You heard what they said last night. Things could get weird here, we should keep a lookout.

JUNE

That was last night.

FRANK

I know I just figured, Clementine was here a few times, maybe... I don't know.

JUNE

You're going to start a neighborhood watch for strangeness?

FRANK

I don't know.

JUNE

... Frank, are you maybe a little freaked out right now?

FRANK

Aren't you?

JUNE

Yeah... I think I'm still in shock.

FRANK

Let me know when that wears off.

JUNE

But that scientist lady didn't tell me that I got... I forget her exact words.

FRANK

She said, "At one point she disintegrated your body... and then she reconstructed your body from ambient molecules in the atmosphere."

JUNE

Yeah... that's not great.

FRANK

No.

JUNE

But look... look I'm poking you right now.

FRANK

I can see that.

JUNE

That's solid Frank, right there. You're right there.

FRANK

Am I?

JUNE

Yes.

FRANK

If my truck was destroyed and then someone made a new truck out of thin air that looks like my truck, is that my truck?

JUNE

I don't know, did you check the glove compartment for that road flare you keep in there?

FRANK

I'm being serious.

JUNE

Yeah, I know Frank, but you brought up some serious philosophical shit just now, I don't know if we're going to get that worked out in an afternoon at the Sheep's Eye Roadhouse.

FRANK

Guess not.

JUNE

You're Frank. You're right there.

FRANK

Okay.

FLAT DOUG

Hey, Frank?

FRANK

Flat Doug.

FLAT DOUG

... I asked people to stop calling me Flat Doug.

FRANK

Sorry. Doug. Hi.

FLAT DOUG

I heard you were asking around about weird shit?

FRANK

You... How did you hear about that already?

FLAT DOUG

I don't know.

FRANK

That was like ninety seconds ago.

FLAT DOUG

Look, I heard it, okay?

JUNE

Are you seeing some weird shit, Doug?

FLAT DOUG

No.

JUNE

Okay.

FRANK

... Okay. What are we talking about then, Doug?

FLAT DOUG

I just want to be warned if there's anything weird going on.

FRANK

I see.

FLAT DOUG

I don't like weird shit, Frank.

JUNE

We understand.

FLAT DOUG

I've been hit by two snow plows, I don't like weird shit. It's a pattern with me.

FRANK

We get it.

JUNE

Technically, getting hit by three snow plows would be a pattern. Twice is just a coincidence.

FLAT DOUG

Why would you even put that out into the world, June?

JUNE

I'm sorry.

FLAT DOUG

Now I'm freaked out about a third snow plow.

JUNE

You weren't before? I would be.

FRANK

She's really sorry.

JUNE

It's currently Spring, so, you've got that working for you.

FRANK

We didn't mean renegade snow plows, we were just talking about... just, if you see anything out of the ordinary give me a call at the Motel, okay?



FLAT DOUG

You guys have got to tell me if something's going on.

FRANK

We will, Doug, I promise. Give me a call?

FLAT DOUG

Yeah, okay.

JUNE

Look both ways when you cross the street... I mean, seriously though, who doesn't hear a snow plow coming? And then doesn't hear a snow plow coming the second time?

FRANK

We have to protect Flat Doug. No one else is going to work at the convenience store, it takes a particular brand of human to do that.

JUNE

The "plow magnet" brand, apparently.

CELESTE

Frank?

FRANK

Celeste. Hello.

CELESTE

I heard you were looking for weird shit?

FRANK

Jesus.

JUNE

See what you did?

FRANK

I was... Sure, Celeste, what have you got?

CELESTE

Well, the raccoons were back at my place again.

FRANK

Celeste, you've really got to fix your garbage cans okay?

CELESTE

There were two of them. I heard them back there, they knocked over my trash cans, so I rush out back to shoo them away, and when I hit them with the porch lights, one of them he...

(MORE)

CELESTE (CONT'D)

instead of running away he just stood up. Like a man. And he stood there with his arms wide, like this... He just stood there like he wanted a hug or something. He stood there like that for five minutes...

JUNE

You stood there, staring down a raccoon for five minutes?

CELESTE

Well what was I supposed to do?

JUNE

Discuss current events?

FRANK

I don't think that's the kind of weird thing we're talking about, Celeste, but you really need some locking trash cans.

CELESTE

Why am I going to spend money on something I put garbage in?

FRANK

We just replaced ours at the motel, I'll bring a couple of our old ones by your place, okay?

CELESTE

Yeah, okay... Standing there like a man.

FRANK

I understand.

JUNE

... I would say she needs to quit drinking but I think I'm more scared of a sober Celeste. Oh shit, Edgy Steve alert.

EDGY STEVE

Frank, how're you doing, pal?

FRANK

Steve.

EDGY STEVE

Listen, I'm hearing rumblings in town about weird shit going on.

FRANK

How does this happen in two minutes?

EDGY STEVE

I'd like to get the inside track on this. I need to know what's going on at all times. I don't want any surprises.

FRANK

There's nothing to tell, Steve. It's just a question I asked Deidre literally two minutes ago.

EDGY STEVE

I need to stay abreast of these things, Frank.

FRANK

Abreast?

EDGY STEVE

A guy like me? I'm an entrepreneur.

FRANK

You're a meth dealer.

EDGY STEVE

And as an entrepreneur I need to have my finger on the pulse of the community. I need to be jacked into the nervous system, I need to stay on top of trends.

FRANK

In a town of six hundred people?

EDGY STEVE

I have a lot of projects coming down the pipeline, if there's weird shit going on, I need to know about it.

JUNE

What are these projects, Steve?

EDGY STEVE

I can't talk about it, it's proprietary.

JUNE

What does proprietary mean?

EDGY STEVE

Proprietary means I can't talk about it.

JUNE

That's not what proprietary means.

FRANK

Okay, I promise I'll keep you updated, Steve.

EDGY STEVE  
Thanks, man. Hey, are you on LinkedIn?

FRANK  
Please go away now.

DEIDRE PUTS TWO PINTS OF BEER ON THE BAR.

DEIDRA  
Two IPAs.

FRANK  
Thank you.

DEIDRA  
Hey, Frank, my grandpaw just called, he wants to know why you're asking around about weird things going on.

FRANK  
Your-... Where is your grandfather right now?

DEIDRA  
Fishing.

FRANK  
How did... Does he have security cameras up in this place or something?

DEIDRA  
Uh, I don't know, maybe?

FRANK  
Okay.  
(Addressing the entire bar.)  
Everybody-can you cut the music for a second Deidra-  
Everybody listen up. Everybody... Look, I know I just asked Deidra literally a few minutes ago if she's seen anything weird lately. That doesn't mean it's time for people to panic-it was an innocent question it's not anything to worry about.

FLAT DOUG  
Did you hear about Celeste's raccoons?

CELESTE  
Standing up like a man.

FRANK  
That's not what I'm talking about at all. Raccoons do weird things, we've all seen it, that's not what I'm talking about.

JUNE  
What are you talking about, though?

FRANK  
Are you going to help me here?

JUNE  
This is what happens when you don't discuss things with me beforehand.

EDGY STEVE  
Frank, we all live here, okay? If there's something you're not telling us, I feel like we have a right to know what it is.

FLAT DOUG  
And if it involves snow plows.

FRANK  
It doesn't involve snow plows.

FLAT DOUG  
Is this about the secret military base?

FRANK  
There's no secret military base.

FLAT DOUG  
I mean, the very nature of a secret military base is that you don't know about it.

CELESTE  
Their transmissions break into my radio station sometimes.

FRANK  
No, they don't.

JUNE  
I'm with Celeste, I think they've got one of those listening stations hidden around the other side of the mountain.

CELESTE  
That's what it is, a listening station.

FRANK  
Really? Can either of you tell me what a listening station is?

CELESTE  
It's a...

JUNE

It's where they listen to things.

FRANK

No, you can't. You can't say it's nearby if you don't know what it is.

CELESTE

Agree to disagree.

FLAT DOUG

Frank, you can't start asking about weird shit going on without telling us why.

FRANK

Never mind. Okay? Forget I said anything. I'm not asking about anything, I'm not curious, I'm not suspicious. I'm nothing. Okay? I'm Frank. I'm sitting here at the bar having a beer. That's it. No weird shit is going on. Everything's fine. Everything's normal.

WE HEAR SEVERAL SHOTS FROM A REVOLVER ECHOING OUTSIDE.

FRANK (CONT'D)

What was that?

JUNE

Were those gunshots?

FRANK

What is that, hunters? Doug, when is hunting season?

FLAT DOUG

Not til October.

WE HEAR SEVERAL MORE GUNSHOTS.

FLAT DOUG (CONT'D)

Also that's not a rifle.

FRANK WALKS OUTSIDE THE SHEEP'S EYE. EVERYONE FOLLOWS. THEY ALL LISTEN.

FRANK

Doug, what do you mean it wasn't a rifle?

FLAT DOUG

Sounded more like a pistol.

JUNE

(To Frank.)

Is Flat Doug a gun person?

FRANK

He is.

JUNE

A guy with his kind of luck should not be a gun person.

FRANK

You ever tried to get a gun person to not be a gun person?

MORE SHOTS RING OUT.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Where's it coming from?

EDGY STEVE

I think it's that way.

CELESTE

No, it's the other way, you're hearing the echo.

EDGY STEVE

I think you're hearing the echo.

FLAT DOUG

That's definitely a pistol. Colt 45, I think.

JUNE

It's getting closer.

DEIDRA

Is anybody else hearing a horse?

WE BEGIN TO HEAR A HORSE APPROACHING AT FULL GALLOP. MORE SHOTS RING OUT, GETTING CLOSER AND CLOSER.

FRANK

What the hell?

JUNE

Oh shit, over there.

THE HORSE GETS CLOSER AND CLOSER AND SPEEDS RIGHT PAST THEM WITH A BANDIT RIDING IT.

RELENTLESS RICK

You'll never catch me, Lawman!

RELENTLESS RICK RIDES PAST THEM AT FULL CLIP, FIRING HIS COLT 45. HALFWAY DOWN THE BLOCK, HIS HORSE COMES TO A STOP AND HE LEAPS OFF.

JUNE

What the fuck?

RELENTLESS RICK

Relentless Rick don't surrender for nothin'!

HE FIRES MORE SHOTS.

FRANK

Everybody down!

FLAT DOUG

What the hell is happening?

JUNE

Since when do we have outlaws?

FRANK

Deidra, get down!

DEIDRA

That's Relentless Rick.

FRANK

What?

DEIDRA

That's... He's a bandit.

WE HEAR BREAKING GLASS.

EDGY STEVE

Why is he breaking into the sporting goods store?

FRANK

Deidra, what are you talking about?

DEIDRA

Relentless Rick, he... he robbed the cash stores of timber companies.

FRANK

Robbed? Past tense?

DEIDRA

In the... 1850s?

FRANK

Jesus Christ.

JUNE

Hey Frank. I found something weird.



CELESTE

He couldn't just wait for the store to open?

FRANK

Why is he breaking into the sporting goods store?

JUNE

Maybe he's having a sporting goods emergency?

DEIDRA

The sporting goods store used to be a holding station for a timber company. They kept the payroll there.

RELENTLESS RICK

(Inside the store.)  
Where's the damn money?!

FRANK

Is there anybody in there?

FLAT DOUG

It's the off season. Jeremiah's got the place closed up until September.

EDGY STEVE

Is this some kind of historical reenactment thing? Like for tourists? Because I was thinking of doing something like that, that's my intellectual property in there.

FRANK

That's not how intellectual property works.

DEIDRA

Frank, what's going on?

FRANK

Uhh...

JUNE

Okay, everybody listen up. When Frank was asking about weird shit going on, this is what he was talking about. Some sort of wild west character riding a horse through town shooting a gun. Okay? Weird, right? This is what he meant.

THREE SHOTS RING OUT, ALL OF THEM RICOCHETING OFF OF METAL.

RELENTLESS RICK

(Inside the shop.)  
Gol darn!

FRANK

What the fuck is he doing now?

JUNE

I think he's shooting Jeremiah's safe.

FLAT DOUG

Are we just going to let him go crazy in there?

FRANK

Where is Jeremiah?

CELESTE

He's a paralegal in Eugene during the off-season.

JUNE

Jeremiah's a paralegal?

CELESTE

Helped me file for divorce number two.

FRANK

Okay, can someone get Jeremiah on the phone and tell him what's happening?

DEIDRA

I think we have his number inside.

EDGY STEVE

What are you going to do?

FRANK

I guess I'm going to go talk to him?

FLAT DOUG

He's got a gun, Frank.

FRANK

Well, he hasn't hit anything yet.

JUNE

I'm coming with you.

FRANK

No, stay here-

JUNE

Oh shut up, I'm coming with you.

FRANK

Fine. Everyone else stay here.

CELESTE

Frank. What the hell is going on?

FRANK

Okay... Okay, June's right, this is the weird shit I was talking about, okay? Things may start getting a little weird in town. I can't really explain why. Just... we're going to figure this out okay? Stay here. June and I are going to talk to him.

FRANK AND JUNE APPROACH THE SPORTING GOODS STORE.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Okay, so we're in agreement that this is not some history nut, that this is the actual guy?

JUNE

Oh yeah, that's the guy.

FRANK

What was his name again?

JUNE

Relentless Rick.

FRANK

For fuck's sake. This is not the type of weirdness I was expecting.

JUNE

You know what's funny? This is not the weirdest thing to happen to us in the last 24 hours.

FRANK

That's a good way of looking at it.

JUNE

We're nowhere near "One Thousand Hyundai Sonatas" territory. Though, I wasn't expecting any weird shit we saw to be this... rootin' tootin'.

FRANK

Any idea how to appeal to an outlaw from the 1850s?

JUNE

I don't know? Whiskey? Prostitutes? Hand rolled cigarettes?

FRANK LIGHTLY KNOCKS ON THE DOOR OF THE SPORTING GOODS STORE.

RELENTLESS RICK

(Inside.)

Who's there?

FRANK

Uh, hey there, it's Rick, right?

RELENTLESS RICK

That ain't my name.

FRANK

... Relentless Rick?

RELENTLESS RICK

That's me.

FRANK

Okay, Rick there's not any money in there.

RELENTLESS RICK

I'm lookin' at a safe right now, you're tellin' me there ain't no money in it?

FRANK

It's empty.  
(to June.)  
It's empty, right?

JUNE

I guess so?

FRANK

It's empty. They uh... they empty it out in the off season and they take it to a bank in the city.

RELENTLESS RICK

There ain't no bank in the city.

FRANK

Shit, really?

JUNE

Get it together, 1850s Oregon.

RELENTLESS RICK

Who in the heck are you?

FRANK

I'm Frank. I run the uh... I run the hotel in town.

RELENTLESS RICK

Hotel?

FRANK

Yeah.

RELENTLESS RICK

They got a damn hotel in town now?

FRANK

They do.

RELENTLESS RICK

This place is goin' straight to hell.

JUNE

It really is, Rick.

RELENTLESS RICK

Who's the lady?

JUNE

I'm June. Hi. I run the uh... dress shop?

RELENTLESS RICK

They got a damn Hotel and a damn dress shop now?

JUNE

Sure do.

RELENTLESS RICK

That's a damn shame. Used to be nothin' but trees around here.

JUNE

That's good news for you, Rick, it's really hard to rob a tree.

RELENTLESS RICK

(Laughs.)

Hell I guess that's right.

FRANK

Rick, you've got a lot of people really scared out here.

RELENTLESS RICK

They should be, durn it. If I don't get this safe open I'm going to have to use my last stick of dynamite, and I was saving that for a special occasion.

FRANK

No dynamite, Rick. Really bad idea.

JUNE

Rick, the safe is empty.

RELENTLESS RICK

Ma'am I been all over this territory and I ain't never seen an empty safe. You don't get yourself a safe so's it can sit there empty.

JUNE

That's a fair point, actually. Also, he called me Ma'am. Very classy.

FRANK

Deidre! Did you get Jeremiah on the phone?

DEIDRA

(Taking cover by the Sheep's Eye.)  
I'm on with him right now.

FRANK

Tell him we need the combination to his safe.

DEIDRA

Why?

FRANK

We need to show him that it's empty.

DEIDRA

Oh... okay...

FRANK

Rick, listen, we're going to get you the combination to the safe so you can see it's empty, okay?

RELENTLESS RICK

You better.

FRANK

No dynamite, Rick.

RELENTLESS RICK

Y'all better hurry up.

DEIDRA

36, 22, 31.

FRANK

Okay Rick, it's 36, 22, 31.

RELENTLESS RICK

... I ain't never opened a safe with the combination before.

JUNE

Bless his heart.

FRANK

Go right, then left, then right.

RELENTLESS RICK

... Right.... Left... right...

WE HEAR THE SAFE OPEN.

RELENTLESS RICK (CONT'D)

Well, shit.

FRANK

See?

RELENTLESS RICK

... What in all hell is this safe doin' here empty?

FRANK

It's like you were saying, Rick. The whole town's going to hell.

THREE MORE SHOTS RING OUT, HE'S SHOOTING THE SAFE AGAIN.

JUNE

Rick! Rick, rick, c'mon, man, you're just wasting bullets now, I'm sure they're expensive.

RELENTLESS RICK

... Shit.

JUNE

Rick... Rick you sound a little desperate in there. Are you on the run from a... what do they call it?

FRANK

A posse?

JUNE

A posse! That's it. Rick are you on the run from a posse? I can almost guarantee they're not going to find you.

FRANK

Please, God, don't let a posse start riding through town.

RELENTLESS RICK

I ain't runnin' from no posse.

JUNE

... Rick, what's going on? You sound like a sad little cowboy in there.

RELENTLESS RICK

I ain't runnin' from a posse.

JUNE

What are you running from, Rick?

RELENTLESS RICK

... Progress.

JUNE  
Progress?

FRANK  
Progress... Deidra!

DEIDRA  
What?

FRANK  
When did Oregon become a state?

DEIDRA  
A state?

FRANK  
Yeah.

DEIDRA  
1859.

FRANK  
Ah... progress.

JUNE  
Progress... Hey, Rick... Rick are you worried about the Oregon Territory becoming a state?

RELENTLESS RICK  
Soon as they sign them papers I'm gonna have US Marshalls headed right up my ass.

JUNE  
That's a striking visual, Rick, but are you sure that's true?

RELENTLESS RICK  
That's what happened in California. Soon as they joined up I ran north. You think I want to be up here? I hate the rain.

JUNE  
Yeah, it's a lot. You try and tell people it rains a lot but they just don't hear you.

RELENTLESS RICK  
I feel like I ain't been dry in seven years.

JUNE  
My heart goes out to this guy.

FRANK  
How many people has he killed?



JUNE

Hey. Don't do that to Rick. He has one skill.  
Banditry. What's he supposed to do?

FRANK

I'm sorry, should we talk to him about community  
college?

JUNE

So what was the plan, Rick?

RELENTLESS RICK

Same's everybody else in my line of work.

JUNE

Canada?

RELENTLESS RICK

Canada.

JUNE

And you needed one last score.

RELENTLESS RICK

That's about the size of it.

FRANK

What do you want to do? Start a gofundme for the  
time traveling cowboy?

JUNE

How much did you need, Rick?

RELENTLESS RICK

More than you got on you, Ma'am.

JUNE

Okay, let's run some numbers. Let's see what we can  
do.

RELENTLESS RICK

... Seventy five dollars.

JUNE

... Seventy five dollars?

RELENTLESS RICK

That's right.

JUNE

Seventy five dollars will get you to Canada and get  
you set up with a new life?

RELENTLESS RICK

By my estimations.

JUNE

Goddamn, inflation is real.

FRANK

Everybody come here!

EDGY STEVE

I'm not going over there, he has a gun.

FRANK

I'm pretty sure he used all his bullets on the safe, come here!

JUNE

What are you doing?

FRANK

Have you got seventy-five dollars on you?

JUNE

No.

FRANK

How much do you have?

JUNE

... Eleven.

FRANK

That's a start, give it here.

JUNE

We're giving him the money?

FRANK

We give him the money and he he'll at least get out of town and be Canada's problem.

JUNE

Okay.

FLAT DOUG

Frank, what are we doing?

FRANK

We need seventy-five dollars, how much cash do you have?

FLAT DOUG

Uh, like eight dollars.

CELESTE

Five.

DEIDRA

I could check my tip jar but it's kind of early in the day.

FRANK

Great. Steve?

EDGY STEVE

I don't carry cash.

FRANK

You're a drug dealer.

EDGY STEVE

I am many things, thank you.

FRANK

Steve.

EDGY STEVE

I'm 100% Venmo now.

FRANK

How were you all drinking at the bar just now?

DEIDRA

They're all on a tab.

FRANK

Of course they are. Deidra, can you get seventy-five dollars out of the til. Tell TJ I'll pay him back.

JUNE

And a bottle of whiskey. Preferably one with no label and just a cork in it.

DEIDRA

O...kay.

JUNE

Rick, we're going to try and help you out okay?

RELENTLESS RICK

This ain't the typical reaction when I come to town firin' my gun.

JUNE

Well, it's like you said, Rick, the whole town's going to Hell.

RELENTLESS RICK

Y'all are gonna pay me to leave town?

JUNE

We are, but don't take it personally, Rick.

DEIDRA

Okay, here's the money. We didn't have any bottles without labels so I got the bottle of Old Granddad because it sounded the old-timey-est.

JUNE

Great work, Deidra. Give it here.

FRANK

You're going in there?

JUNE

Yeah, I'm going to go hang out with the bandit.

FRANK

And then encourage him to leave town?

JUNE

Of course, Frank.

FRANK

He doesn't get to crash on your couch.

JUNE

Oh relax. Rick, I'm coming in.

JUNE OPENS THE DOOR AND WALKS IN.

JUNE (CONT'D)

... Hey there, Cowboy.

RELENTLESS RICK

Ma'am.

JUNE

Here you go. Seventy-five dollars.

RELENTLESS RICK

I can't believe y'all are just giving me money.

JUNE

Consider it a severance package from America.

RELENTLESS RICK

A *what* now?

JUNE

Never mind. Here, have some whiskey.

RELENTLESS RICK  
Obliged.

RICK DRINKS THE WHISKEY.

RELENTLESS RICK (CONT'D)  
What in Hell is all this?

JUNE  
Skiing gear.

RELENTLESS RICK  
Skiing?

JUNE  
Yeah, it's uh... See these here? You go to the top of the mountain, strap these to your feet, and then go down the side of the mountain very fast.

RELENTLESS RICK  
That sounds ill advised.

JUNE  
You rob people for a living, Rick.

RELENTLESS RICK  
I suppose I ain't one to talk, am I?

JUNE  
No, Rick, you're a bonafide crime-doer.

RELENTLESS RICK  
Skiing... The world keeps changin' on me. You ever get that feeling?

JUNE  
Oh yeah. All the time. It's why I live way up here. Seems like big changes happen in the city first and then make their way out here. At least that way I can see them coming, I don't have to wake up one morning and suddenly everything's different. My mom worked a lot and my Dad was always out on a fishing boat, so I never really knew what to expect when I woke up in the morning. Living up here gives me a little lead time.

RELENTLESS RICK  
I always knew what to expect of my daddy.

JUNE  
That's nice.

RELENTLESS RICK  
Expected him to be drunk.

JUNE

Ah.

RELENTLESS RICK

Drove me out of the house when I was eleven years old. Figured I knew how to ride a horse and shoot a gun, what else do I need to know?

JUNE

How to drive stick?

RELENTLESS RICK

Now look. Everything's about to be the United States around here. I don't know how to operate in a land that's got laws. How'm I supposed to keep track of 'em all?

JUNE

There does seem to be a lot of them.

RELENTLESS RICK

Now I gotta' figure how to be a gol' durn Canadian. I ain't learnin' no French, that's for damn sure.

JUNE

Maybe you'll like it up there.

RELENTLESS RICK

I don't even know what they do up there. What transpires in Canada?

JUNE

I think it's mostly beaver hunting and syrup making at this point.

RELENTLESS RICK

Well that's just sad.

JUNE

Yeah, I guess so. Always a white Christmas, though.

RELENTLESS RICK

Maybe I'll get one o' them furry hats.

JUNE

Sure. Grow a beard. Hunt a moose. Get weird with it, Rick.

RELENTLESS RICK

Might not be so bad.

JUNE

That's actually the national motto of Canada:  
"Might not be so bad."

RELENTLESS RICK

... Maybe I'll learn a *little* French.

JUNE

Maybe just a word or two. You never know.

RELENTLESS RICK

... I appreciate y'all helpin' me out.

JUNE

Don't mention it. Come on outside and say hello to everyone before you go.

RELENTLESS RICK

Yeah, alright.

JUNE OPENS THE FRONT DOOR AND THEY WALK INTO THE STREET.

JUNE

Everyone, this is Relentless Rick, the soon-to-be-Canadian.

RELENTLESS RICK

Afternoon all. Sorry about the mess.

DEIDRA

Is... is that actually-

FRANK

Yeah. Yes, it is.

FLAT DOUG

I'm freaking out over here, Man.

FRANK

Just keep it together, Doug.

EDGY STEVE

I've never seen someone wear that much leather.

CELESTE

I have.

RELENTLESS RICK

I'm all turned around. Which way's north?

FRANK

That way. Keep the sun on your right in the morning, on your left in the afternoon. Eventually you'll hit Canada.

RELENTLESS RICK

Alright y'all.

RELENTLESS RICK MOUNTS HIS HORSE.

RELENTLESS RICK (CONT'D)

I'd uhh... I'd consider it a personal favor if you wouldn't tell nobody about this. Mighty embarrassing for an outlaw to be receivin' charity.

JUNE

We promise to tell them you robbed us.

RELENTLESS RICK

Thank you kindly, Ma'am. Let's ride! HEEEEAW!

RICK'S HORSE TAKES OFF DOWN THE STREET. AFTER A FEW SECONDS, RICK AND HE HORSE DISAPPEAR.

FRANK

...

JUNE

...

EDGY STEVE

Uhhh.

FRANK

Shit.

DEIDRA

He disappeared.

CELESTE

I'm glad everybody else saw that.

FLAT DOUG

Oh, what the hell, Frank.

FRANK

Okay, everybody listen.

EDGY STEVE

I want to get out in front of this: I have not dosed anyone. I don't do that anymore, I'm an adult now.

FRANK

We know, Steve... Look everyone, we've got a lot to talk about, so let's head back inside and we'll all talk about it, okay? Suffice to say: things may get a little weird for a while. We're going to be okay. We'll take it as it comes just like we did today. Let's go.



CELESTE

So, drinks are on you, then?

FRANK

Yeah, Celeste, sure. C'mon.

WE TRANSITION TO THE FRONT DESK OF THE HORIZON MOTEL. THE DOOR OPENS.

JUNE

I have brought beers of celebration.

FRANK

Thank you.

JUNE

Nice work today, cousin.

FRANK

Thank you again.

JUNE

You handled it like a champ.

FRANK

So did you.

JUNE

I must say, I really jumped in there, didn't I?  
Hanging out with outlaws. Look at me.

FRANK

Look at you.

JUNE

Remember when we would watch Babylon 5?

FRANK

Yes. "Why can't that be my life?"

JUNE

I said that all the time, but now look.

FRANK

It's like you've been training for this.

JUNE

Exactly. It's the sci-fi nerds that you turn to  
when the weird shit hits the weird fan. Never  
forget.

FRANK

I won't. But still, let's hope today was it, though. Maybe there was just some residual... something, and now it's done.

JUNE

Boring... Oh hey. Here's an idea. There's a customer coming up the to the door right now, let's judge if the weird shit is over by this next customer.

FRANK

Fine. What are they driving?

JUNE

They appear to be on foot.

FRANK

That doesn't bode well for me.

JUNE

It doesn't.

THE DOOR TO THE OFFICE OPENS.

FRANK

Hey there. Welcome to the Horizon.

VERGE

Thanks.

FRANK

Need a room?

VERGE

Sure, why not?

FRANK

Well, we're in the off-season so you've got your pick of all of them. How about room seven?

VERGE

Okay.

JUNE

It's our best one.

VERGE

Great.

FRANK

Just tonight? How long are you staying?

VERGE  
... Not sure, actually.

FRANK  
No problem. Can I get a credit card to keep on file?

VERGE  
... Mind if I do the other thing?

FRANK  
The other... cash?

VERGE  
That's it.

FRANK  
Sure. I'd need a two-hundred dollar deposit, though.

VERGE  
Okay.

VERGE SETS DOWN A STEEL CASE AND GETS OUT A ROLL OF CASH.

VERGE (CONT'D)  
That work?

FRANK  
Yeah, that's fine. Key is in the bedside table, ice machine is between 3 and 4.

VERGE  
Thanks.

JUNE  
What's your name?

VERGE  
... Verge.

JUNE  
Nice to meet you. I'm June, that's Frank.

VERGE  
Hi.

FRANK  
Enjoy your stay. Let us know if you need anything.

VERGE  
Sure. 'Night.

JUNE

Bye bye.

THE DOOR TO THE OFFICE CLOSES.

FRANK

Okay. See? Totally normal.

**THE END.**