THE PURPLE FLOWER

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EXT. BIG BOX STORE PARKING LOT - DAY

SUPER: Tallahassee, Florida

An older station wagon pulls into the lot of a big box store near the city limit. Doesn't matter which one, not important.

The station wagon parks at the far end of the parking lot, away from the building and near a large van marked Tallahassee Community College.

Cleaning the windshield with a spray bottle and a fresh cloth is STANLEY JIGGS, WM, 40s. He wears a white, button-down short-sleeve shirt, khaki pants and loafers. He has shaggy black hair and a porn 'stache.

Stanley smiles at the station wagon, then quickly finishes the window and stows the spray bottle and cloth.

CHRISTIAN, WM, 20, steps out of the back seat of the station wagon. He wears khaki pants and a Fellowship of Christian Athletes T-shirt, tucked in, with a belt.

He waits patiently as his parents, MILLIE and SANFORD step out of the car, dressed in their Sunday best. Sanford drove and Millie walks with a cane.

Christian waits at the edge of the car with his backpack and duffel bag. Once his parents reach his side, they walk to the van as a group.

STANLEY

Hi.

A salesman's smile.

MILLIE Are you the chaperone?

Stanley grins.

STANLEY I'm the adviser, yes. I mean they're adults, they don't need a chaperone.

He laughs. No one joins him. He frowns.

MILLIE Christian does. Too much temptation when he's alone, you know? Stanley responds with a neutral face.

STANLEY Yes, ma'am. I will definitely be by your son's side. Him and the other kids... uh... students.

Millie gives him a SERIOUS look.

MILLIE You keep an eye on him. If anything were to happen to him, there would be a special punishment.

Her eyes look up to God. Stanley looks up, too. Then he nods.

STANLEY

Yes, ma'am.

Millie turns to Christian.

MILLIE

Now--

CHRISTIAN

I know, mom--

Her eyes narrow. Sanford moves closer to Christian, into his personal space.

SANFORD What did I tell you about talking back to your mother?

There's no humor in Sanford's soul.

CHRISTIAN

Not to.

SANFORD That's your LAST warning.

CHRISTIAN

Yes, sir.

Millie nods sharply, emphasizing the point as if she said it. They get back in the station wagon. Stanley waves awkwardly.

STANLEY

Chomp, chomp.

Christian cocks an eye, he hasn't heard that one before.

Let's go!

Stanley goes for the driver's seat. Christian puts his bags in the back and gets in the van. He waves to the students already in the van.

KEVIN, BM, 22, Busta Rhymes T-shirt, jeans and sneakers. Kevin waves back.

KEVIN

Hey.

BENTE, white trans female, 26, flowery summer dress and Mary Janes. Bente smiles.

BENTE Hello, Christian.

DONITA, BF, 21, khaki shorts, Keds, T-shirt says "TCC Environmental Clean-Up Club." Donita nods a greeting.

BIANCA, WF, 23, plaid shirt, blue jeans, Western boots, big blonde hair.

BIANCA

'Sup, Chris.

Stanley pulls out of the parking lot and onto Capitol Circle.

EXT. COUNTRY ROADS - LATER

Stanley drives along a lonely country road, a canopy of trees nearly making the road a tunnel. He holds a paper map and tries to read it as they go. Bianca sits up front, puzzled.

BIANCA

Don't you know where we're going?

He tosses the map into the back seat. Christian dodges it, even though it's nowhere near him. He looks around sheepishly. Kevin laughs at him. Christian looks down in shame.

> STANLEY Of course. I just haven't been there in 20 years. Just... umm... making sure.

BIANCA I thought you were an expert at camping or whatever? STANLEY Last time I camped was when I was 13.

Bianca starts to get worried.

BIANCA But what about all that gear?

CHRISTIAN It is a lot of really good stuff. My parents have that same tent.

Bianca stares at him for a moment. She doesn't know him.

STANLEY Just bought it.

He holds up a school credit card and grins.

STANLEY (CONT'D) Well, the school just bought it.

He laughs. It's kinda creepy.

BIANCA What do you teach again?

Stanley gets serious.

STANLEY I don't teach. Well, aerobics sometimes. I run the gymnasium.

KEVIN (under his breath) Gymnasium? Who still says gymnasium?

BIANCA And no classes in camping or anything?

CHRISTIAN Wait, aren't you the adviser for the Environmental Clean-Up Club?

Stanley laughs.

STANLEY

No. That's the hippie's job. I'm just filling in because he's sick.

Ignore him.

They sit quietly for a while. Christian keeps sneaking looks at Bente. She catches him.

BENTE May I help you?

He's flustered.

CHRISTIAN I... uhhhh... What kind of name is Bente?

She smirks.

BENTE Mine. What kind of name is Christian?

CHRISTIAN (humorless) A Christian one.

BENTE A little on the nose, no?

He shrugs.

CHRISTIAN

I like it.

She looks away. Kevin laughs contemptuously.

KEVIN (under his breath) You would.

Christian turns around and glares at Kevin.

CHRISTIAN Do you have some kind of problem with me?

Kevin laughs.

KEVIN Nah, Opie. We're good.

CHRISTIAN Don't call-- He gives up and turns around in a huff. Kevin chuckles. Donita punches him in the shoulder.

They drive along in silence for a while. They come to a part of the road with a couple of houses, spaced out quite a bit. At one of the houses, two blonde girls, probably middle school age, kick a soccer ball around their front yard.

Stanley stares over at them and whistles.

Bianca is grossed out. Everyone else looks over at the girls briefly.

DONITA Dude, those girls are like 12.

Stanley shrugs.

STANLEY Old enough to pee, old enough for me.*

FX: Bell

SUPER: *Actual quote from an actual adult man to actual teenage boys in the 1990s.

Stanley laughs, but no one joins him.

BIANCA

Gross.

CHRISTIAN My mother would NOT think that joke was funny.

STANLEY Who says it's a joke?

Kevin laughs, but he's not laughing WITH Stanley. Christian is uncomfortable and stares out the window.

DONITA This is getting weird. Let's play a game!

STANLEY

Ugh.

DONITA No one said you had to play. Why don't you just stick to the driving and find some music? KEVIN Yeah, I'm tired of hearing all of y'all already.

Donita swats him on the shoulder. He dodges and they slip into a fake slapfight. Christian leans forward to stay out of their way.

CHRISTIAN What kinda game is that?

DONITA An ass-whooping game?

She laughs and swats at his hands harder, making sure not to really hit him.

STANLEY

Hey!

They stop.

STANLEY (CONT'D) Language?! What would Christian's mother say?

Everyone breaks into laughter. Except Christian. He looks down and then looks out the window. Donita feels bad.

DONITA What do we call you? Chris?

Bianca turns around and looks at him.

BIANCA Christian?

KEVIN (under his breath) Jesus?

Some laughter. Donita shoots Kevin a dirty look.

DONITA

Let's play.

CHRISTIAN I don't know how.

DONITA Don't worry, it's easy. You'll catch on.

KEVIN (chuckling) Maybe. Christian steadfastly avoids looking at Kevin. DONITA I'll start. KEVIN You always start. DONITA I don't, but whatever. You start. KEVIN Michael Jordan. BIANCA You ALWAYS say Jordan. You playing Mr. Jiggs? STANLEY No, that game's silly. And call me, Stanley. He grins at her. It's creepy. She ignores it. BENTE Michael Jackson. DONITA Bianca? BIANCA Jackson Browne. KEVIN Who? BIANCA Some singer my mom likes. KEVIN Sounds made up. CHRISTIAN No, he's real--He makes eye contact with Kevin. Kevin scowls. DONITA

Your turn, Christian? It's Christian, right? Christian looks away from Kevin towards Donita.

CHRISTIAN Yeah. What do I do?

Kevin laughs.

STANLEY Just name something using whatever the last person did.

It takes Christian a second, but he figures it out.

CHRISTIAN

Jim Brown?

Donita, Bianca and Bente cheer for him.

KEVIN

You took mine.

Christian looks at Kevin quickly. He's scared. Kevin laughs.

CHRISTIAN

I didn't--

KEVIN I'm kidding, dude. That's what you're supposed to do.

Cristian looks around, everyone nods.

CHRISTIAN Oh... uh... sorry.

KEVIN (still staring at Christian) Jimmy Johnson.

CHRISTIAN (puzzled) Jimmy... what?

DONITA It's my turn. Kevin's just being a jerk. Asalways.

Kevin laughs. Christian turns around in his seat, waiting for his turn.

DONITA (CONT'D) Dennis Johnson. BENTE Is that basketball again?

STANLEY Not just basketball, that's the Celtics!

Donita smiles. Like a teacher's pet.

BENTE Dennis the Menace.

CHRISTIAN It doesn't have to be real people?

Bente shakes her head. Christian nods, he's almost got it.

BIANCA Dennis... Q-Q-Quaid? Is that his name?

CHRISTIAN Can I use either name?

Laughter.

KEVIN Dude. I'm calling you speed bump. Every time the game gets to you, it slows down. It's not that hard.

CHRISTIAN Randy Quaid?

KEVIN Is he even famous?

CHRISTIAN Yeah, he's Dennis' brother.

KEVIN That don't make him famous.

CHRISTIAN He was on Saturday Night Live.

Kevin is impressed.

KEVIN He was on after Eddie Murphy left?

Christian nods.

KEVIN (CONT'D) I stopped watching after Eddie.

CHRISTIAN You guys play this game a lot?

BIANCA

Sometimes.

STANLEY It's boring. Grab me one of those CDs.

He gestures towards a CD sleeve on the floor. She reaches to pick it up.

BIANCA

Which one?

STANLEY Eric Clapton. Of course.

An eruption from the back of the van. Everyone except Christian reacts negatively. They boo. They yell "no" and "hell no," they throw things at Stanley: balled up napkins, pretzels, an empty water bottle.

> STANLEY (CONT'D) Okay! Okay! Okay!

Bianca pulls out the Grease Soundtrack and pops it in.

MUSIC PLAYS: "Grease," by Frankie Valli.

Stanley starts to dance along. Bianca too. Donita shrugs. Kevin clicks his mouth and crosses his arms. He stares out the window. Bente's a dancer as well.

KEVIN

Randy White.

Christian takes everything in. This is all kinda new to him.

DONITA

White Men Can't Jump.

Everyone laughs except Christian. He's never heard of the movie.

EXT. CAMPGROUND PARKING LOT - DAY

The van pulls into a campground parking lot and parks close to the trail into the woods. No other cars are around.

The doors fly open in slow motion. Each character hops out of the van in slo-mo, with an instrumental snippet from their walk-on songs. MUSIC PLAYS: Stryper, "To Hell With the Devil" SUPER: Stanley Jiggs, 43 Stanley straightens his mustache, almost in a villainous way. MUSIC PLAYS: The Gemini Method, "Blood of My Enemies" SUPER: Christian, 22 Christian walks towards the back to get his gear. MUSIC PLAYS: Roxx Gang, "Red Rose" SUPER: Kevin, 26 Kevin only has a large backpack, which he's already pulled over the back seat. MUSIC PLAYS: The Cameltoes, "Dama Runka Åsså" SUPER: Bente, 20 Bente walks towards the back of the van. MUSIC PLAYS: L7, "Shitlist" SUPER: Donita, 21 Donita joins the others in getting her bags. MUSIC PLAYS: Betty Blowtorch, "Big Hair, Broken Heart" SUPER: Bianca, 23 Bianca waits for the others to get out of the way before going to the back of the van. Stanley pulls out several bags that hold tents. He hands one to Christian and heads towards the path into the forest. STANLEY Let's go. I want these tents set up before nightfall. Kevin and Christian follow right away. The others grab the extra bags and some grocery bags.

> DONITA What about the cooler?

STANLEY We'll come back for it.

She nods.

DONITA

Star Trek.

Bente laughs.

BENTE

Star Wars.

They shut the van and follow Stanley.

BIANCA You guys are nerds.

KEVIN You still gotta go!

BIANCA Star Search.

Christian is far enough ahead he hasn't heard that the game continued.

KEVIN Hey, speed bump!

Christian is offended and glares at him.

KEVIN (CONT'D) Dude, it's your turn.

CHRISTIAN We're still playing?

KEVIN

Duh.

CHRISTIAN

Uhh...

KEVIN

Bu-bump.

Everyone follows into the forest. Christian stands and thinks for a moment.

CHRISTIAN Search for Tomorrow?

He runs to catch up.

EXT. CAMPGROUND - LATER

The sun has begun to set. Stanley and the students have finished setting up three large tents. A large cooler is surrounded by several bags of food.

The students sit around the fire. Stanley walks over holding a clipboard.

STANLEY Alright, hopefully this won't take too long and then you can have free time while I cook.

KEVIN

Let's eat!

STANLEY Talk first. Eat later.

Kevin frowns.

BENTE Why do we have to do this?

STANLEY School says. It's how we make it qualify as "educational."

DONITA You could actually MAKE it educational.

Laughter.

STANLEY Why would I do that?

DONITA

Why indeed?

If Stanley hears her, he doesn't respond.

STANLEY

What everybody has to do is tell us why they joined the Environmental Clean-Up Club. Why did you come on this trip?

Boos. Jeers.

STANLEY (CONT'D) If not, we can pack up and go home tonight.

(MORE)

STANLEY (CONT'D) Wanna have me call your parents and tell them you failed the school camping trip?

He grins. Bianca panics.

BIANCA Wait, we aren't getting graded on this, are we?

Everyone laughs. She sighs in relief. Stanley holds up the clipboard, showing that there's no room for writing anything down on his attendance sheet. Just a check box for each of them under a column that reads "Completed Self-Reflection Exercise."

STANLEY Hurry up. I'm getting hungry.

KEVIN

Me, too.

DONITA You're always hungry.

Laughter. Kevin laughs along.

KEVIN

In fact, that's why I came on this trip. The free food. Do I look like Duck Dynasty over here?

Christian shakes his head, exaggerated, but stops when Kevin sees him. He looks a way. Kevin chuckles.

KEVIN (CONT'D) That enough? Or do you need to know what my feelings are or something?

Stanley laughs and shows the clipboard to Kevin as he puts a big check mark next to Kevin's name. Kevin nods.

KEVIN (CONT'D) Y'all hurry up with this crap, I'm about to eat these hot dogs raw.

He gets up and rifles through the food bags, finding generic barbecue chips. He opens the bag and starts eating. He doesn't offer the bag to anyone else.

STANLEY Let's get this going. I've got basketball to watch.

CHRISTIAN

(under his breath) In the woods?

STANLEY

You can volunteer or I can call on you. I do know your names already.

He taps on the clipboard and list of names.

BENTE Fine. I'm here because I actually believe in all this stuff.

She waves her hand around at the forest.

KEVIN You a big fan of the great outdoors?

He laughs.

BENTE

No. I love Mother Nature, but I tend to keep the relationship more... at a distance.

CHRISTIAN Then why'd you come?

BENTE Extra credit for my Earth Science class, I'm barely passing.

Laughter.

STANLEY Good enough. Check. Next?

DONITA I'm majoring in botany. I love being out here. I love plants.

CHRISTIAN Botany? What kinda job can you get with that?

DONITA

Botanist.

He's embarrassed at first, but he realizes she's just messing with him and they laugh.

KEVIN

Bu-bump.

CHRISTIAN I... My parents made me come to this.

DONITA Why would they do that?

CHRISTIAN To teach me about "preserving God's gifts."

Nobody responds.

STANLEY Check. Check. One to go.

BIANCA I... uh... screw it, let's go with the extra credit thing.

Stanley raises an eyebrow.

STANLEY You in the same class as Bente?

BIANCA Something like that.

He shrugs.

STANLEY

Check.

He tosses the clipboard into his tent and works on getting the grill going.

STANLEY (CONT'D) It's gonna be a while. While don't y'all go for a hike. Build up your appetite.

Donita hops up, eager to go. Bente and Bianca join her. Christian wants to go, but is hesitant.

> DONITA C'mon, Christian.

He smiles and joins them. Donita notices that Kevin hasn't moved the whole time.

DONITA (CONT'D) C'mon, Kevin.

He shakes his head. She frowns.

DONITA (CONT'D) How are you not going?

KEVIN

Too hungry.

DONITA

Didn't you just eat an entire bag of chips?

KEVIN Yep. Started a second one, too. That's just the appetizer.

He does, indeed have a second bag of chips. He munches away.

DONITA Suit yourself. Whose turn is it?

Donita and the other students head down the path into the forest.

BIANCA Me. Uh... what's that movie? My brother watches it all the time? Star Trek.

CHRISTIAN Somebody already used that one. And Star Wars. You can't use them--

BIANCA No, the third one. The Search for Spock.

Christian gets it and nods as they head down the path.

Stanley starts putting hot dogs on the grill. Kevin moves closer, rubbing his hands together.

KEVIN Who gets to eat first?

Stanley laughs.

STANLEY No one eats until ALL the food is done. STANLEY That's a Stanley Jiggs rule.

He grins.

KEVIN Yeah, whatever.

He runs to catch up with the other students.

KEVIN (CONT'D) Yo, wait up!

---, ...<u>-</u>---<u>-</u>-

Stanley pulls out a portable, battery-operated TV and turns it on to March Madness.

STANLEY Go 'Cats! Go Big Blue!

The screen is 7" and black and white. Stanley doesn't care. He puts on a Kentucky Wildcats hat.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Bente leads the way through the dark, holding the group's lone flashlight. Christian and Bianca follow, with Kevin and Donita in the back. The CAMERA starts in the back and works its way forward, faster than the students.

> KEVIN KRS-Who? Why you listen to that old crap?

DONITA It's good. Better than what's on the radio.

KEVIN Nah, I don't want to hear anything that ain't got a Baby or someone Lil' in it.

DONITA Stuff all sounds the same to me.

Along the side of the path, several small, purple flowers slowly track the students as they walk by. Nobody notices the flowers.

BIANCA Aren't you in my algebra class?

CHRISTIAN Y-yeah... I think so.

BIANCA

Miller?

CHRISTIAN

Yeah.

They walk in silence for a bit. Bianca never looks at Christian during their conversation.

BIANCA You got the homework done?

CHRISTIAN

Yeah.

BIANCA Can I copy off yours? I'm lost in that class.

Christian looks at her, but she doesn't look at him. He sighs and looks forward again.

CHRISTIAN

Sure.

They walk in silence for a while. Then Bianca catches up to Bente, leaving Christian alone. He watches her go, but doesn't say anything.

BIANCA I have a great idea.

Bente doesn't care.

BIANCA (CONT'D) We need to do a snipe hunt.

BENTE Okay, now that IS an idea. Who?

BIANCA New guy. Of course.

BENTE

Of course.

They laugh.

BIANCA Hey, Christian? You ever been on a snipe hunt?

KEVIN Oh hell yeah!

CHRISTIAN No. My dad hunts, but--

KEVIN

Bu-bump.

Laughter.

BIANCA You are gonna love this.

Christian smiles warily.

EXT. CAMPFIRE - NIGHT

Kevin, Bente, Donita, and Bianca walk back into camp, laughing and playing around.

Kevin goes straight for the food. The others follow.

STANLEY You have a good hike?

He's sitting in a folding lawn chair with the tiny TV in his lap. The basketball game is on.

KEVIN Yeah, it was hilarious.

Stanley looks up.

STANLEY

Hilarious?

He looks around and doesn't see Christian.

STANLEY (CONT'D) Where's the new kid? Christian.

Laughter. He stands up in a huff, dropping his TV accidentally. It shuts off.

STANLEY (CONT'D) This isn't funny.

KEVIN

Calm down. He's on a snipe hunt.

STANLEY

Alone?

More laughter.

STANLEY (CONT'D)

Dammit.

He heads towards the pathway.

STANLEY (CONT'D) Where'd you leave him.

BIANCA In the woods.

In the woodb.

STANLEY Thanks. Real helpful.

DONITA Don't get lost.

Laughter. He waves them off with a dismissive hand.

STANLEY You'd BETTER not eat all the food. Save some for Christian.

More laughs.

EXT. THE FOREST - MOMENTS LATER

Christian crawls through the forest, holding a small bag in one hand. He makes a weak, busted whistling sound.

CHRISTIAN Where are you, little snipe?

He tries the whistle again as he crawls past a few purple flowers. The flowers turn and follow him as he goes past. He doesn't notice them.

> CHRISTIAN (CONT'D) I'm tired of this. Don't even care--

He screams. He struggles to his feet then runs through the forest until he finds the path. He's limping, something bit his leg.

Christian gathers his bearings and limps back towards the camp.

Far behind him on the path, Stanley's flashlight heads in the other direction.

EXT. THE CAMPGROUND - LATER

Christian comes back to the camp, still limping.

CHRISTIAN Where's Stanley?

DONITA He went looking for you.

KEVIN What's with the limp?

Christian's wound isn't visible, but he still tries to hide it, turning his body.

CHRISTIAN Nothing... Twisted my ankle.

KEVIN (laughing) Wuss. Got hurt searching for a fictional animal.

The others laugh, but not as much as Kevin.

CHRISTIAN

Fictional?

KEVIN Yep. Look it up when you get home.

CHRISTIAN But... I saw it. Almost caught it,

BENTE You saw a snipe?

CHRISTIAN

Y-yeah?

Huge laughter. Christian looks down in shame.

EXT. THE FOREST - LATER

Stanley comes to an intersection on the forest path. He shines his flashlight down each of the four pathways, including the one he came from.

STANLEY

Dammit.

He pulls out a map and shines his light on it. He puzzles over it for a bit and sighs.

He turns and goes back the way he came.

A purple flower follows his progress from the forest, but Stanley doesn't notice it.

EXT. THE CAMPFIRE - LATER

Donita digs through the bags of groceries. She finds what she's looking for.

BIANCA What you got there?

Donita grins. She dumps the bag out in front of Bianca.

DONITA

Smores!

Cheers all around. Everyone looks around until they find appropriate sticks. They start roasting marshmallows.

KEVIN Anybody know any ghost stories?

DONITA I hate ghost stories.

Kevin grins.

KEVIN

Fraidy cat.

Some laughs.

DONITA Who found you the s'mores? No ghost stories.

BENTE I'm a fraidy cat as well. Kevin pouts.

BIANCA Me too. Somebody tell a funny story. BENTE Not it. DONITA I don't know any. KEVIN All my stories are scary. VERY scary. BIANCA No thank you. They sit and eat their s'mores in silence. Too much silence. No birds or insects or animals make even a peep. CHRISTIAN I... I have one. KEVIN No one wants to hear any church stories. CHRISTIAN

It's not. It's funny.

KEVIN It better be.

Christian laughs. Kevin doesn't. Christian gulps.

CHRISTIAN It's called "The Purple Flower."

EXT. THE FOREST - LATER

Stanley trudges along the path. He hears rustling in the bushes.

He shines the light in that direction, but doesn't see anything.

STANLEY

Christian?

More rustling.

He walks towards the forest.

STANLEY (CONT'D) Quit playing around.

A vine wraps around his ankle and stumbles. He loses his flashlight as he falls. His ankle snaps and he howls in pain.

The rustling grows louder and closer.

EXT. THE CAMPFIRE - LATER

DONITA What's a Purple Flower?

BENTE Do we need to go find Stanley?

BIANCA I'm not going in those woods.

DONITA

Me, neither.

KEVIN He'll be fine. He's here to chaperone us, not the other way around.

EXT. THE FOREST - LATER

Whatever is rustling in the bushes moves at Stanley. He turns and crawls towards the flashlight. He grabs it and whirls around.

The light reveals a HUGE purple flower towering over him.

The CAMERA cuts away as Stanley screams.

EXT. CAMPFIRE - LATER

Everyone looks towards Christian expectantly. He clears his throat.

CHRISTIAN. There was this boy, about 10 or so. His name was Kenny. So he woke up one morning and got ready for school. As he was leaving, his sister and her BFF were also leaving.

(MORE)

CHRISTIAN. (CONT'D) They're like high school age. The BFF stared at Kenny for a moment and she said, "You're a Purple Flower." The two girls giggled and ran off. Kenny stood there, puzzled, no idea what a Purple Flower was.

While he talks, Christian grabs another marshmallow and starts roasting it.

CHRISTIAN

So Kenny is walking to school and he came to a crossing guard. He's still thinking about what his sister's BFF said. So he asked the crossing guard. "This girl called me a Purple Flower. Do you know what that is." The Crossing Guard is so shocked, she dropped her stop sign. She yelled at him, "How dare you?1? You rush on to school, you should be ashamed of yourself."

Kevin chuckles. The girls are puzzled.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D) Now Kenny was baffled. He went on towards school and when he got to class, he was so worried that he went straight to his teacher, Ms. Finkelstein and told her, "Ms. Finkelstein, when I was on my way to school today, this girl called me a name. I don't know what it means and nobody will tell me." She said, "What did she call you?" Kenny replied, "I don't want to say, you'll get mad at me."

BENTE What is this story?

Laughter.

DONITA What did the teacher say?

Chuckles.

CHRISTIAN

She said "I promise I won't get mad, just tell me." Kenny was skeptical, but he said, "A Purple Flower." The teacher's face turned red and she told him, "Go to the principal's office right now, you disgusting young man." Kenny replied "But you said...." "Now!!!" Ms. Finkelstein yelled. Kenny ran from the classroom, the other kids laughing and pointing at him.

Christian's marshmallow is overcooked and it slides off his stick and falls into the fire.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Darn it!

Kevin laughs. Christian tosses his stick into the fire.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D) Kenny walked to the principal's office, Mr. Henderson. He waited for a while until Mr. Henderson called him in. Kenny sat down and Mr. Henderson asked, "Why did you get sent to my office today?" Kenny didn't want to say, but Mr. Henderson asked again. "I was on my way to school this morning and this girl called me a name. I didn't know what it meant and every time I ask somebody, they got mad at me." Mr. Henderson replied, "What did they call you?" Kenny said, "I don't want to say, you'll get mad." Mr. Henderson said "Tell me or you're suspended." Kenny gulped and said "A Purple Flower." Mr. Henderson stood up in a rage and yelled, "Get out of here, you're suspended for two weeks!" Kenny got up and ran from the office AND the school.

BIANCA This is the longest story I've ever heard.

Laughter.

CHRISTIAN

So Kenny walked down the sidewalk, not really sure where he's going. He's almost crying, still completely baffled. Down the street, he saw a police car, the officers inside were staring at him. They turned on their siren and started moving towards him. Kenny turned and ran. He ran across the street toward an alley and then he got hit by an Amazon delivery truck and killed.

Kevin laughs.

BIANCA

What?

CHRISTIAN And the moral of the story? Look both ways before you cross the street.

Christian grins. Bente boos. Others throw things at Christian.

Donita puts a new marshmallow on her stick and puts it into the fire.

DONITA So, what the hell is a purple flower?

Christian shrugs.

CHRISTIAN I don't know. I just told it as I heard it.

BIANCA At Bible camp?

Everyone laughs.

DONITA Y'all are just telling made up stories.

KEVIN No, no, I heard this story was true. It happened to a friend of a friend of mine over near Stark. KEVIN

Yeah.

DONITA Is this gonna be scary? I don't wanna hear anything scary?

KEVIN Oooh is the little baby scared?

Kevin grins.

EXT. THE FOREST - LATER

A shot of Stanley's body. The flashlight illuminates his now headless corpse. The purple flower is gone.

EXT. CAMPFIRE - MOMENTS LATER

Kevin grins as he starts telling the story.

KEVIN This IS a true story.

DONITA

What?

BENTE That's silly.

KEVIN Yeah. The kid, let's call him Christian...

Laughter. Cristian frowns.

KEVIN (CONT'D) He went from camper to camper, the place was super busy or something. And they eventually chased him into the woods or whatever, I'm not repeating the whole thing like you nerds.

Laughter. Donita punches him in the shoulder.

KEVIN (CONT'D) Well, Christian is making his way through the woods or whatever and that's when it happened!

CHRISTIAN

What?

KEVIN He saw a purple flower.

Boos. They hate this ending even more than the other.

CHRISTIAN So what happened?

KEVIN Haha, the Purple Flower ate his head.

DONITA

That's stupid.

At that moment, a LARGE purple flower, just like those in the forest, looms over Kevin. He looks up.

KEVIN

Shit.

The purple flower eats his head. Everyone screams and runs away.

CUT TO BLACK.