

Suspense

On a Country Road

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CAST:

ANNOUNCER
HARLOW
SENATOR
DAVID
DOROTHY
NEWS
COP
WOMAN

SFX:

Rain
Wind
Thunder
Car start
Car stop
Car wheels squeal
Banging on car

(MUSIC: BELL CHIMES)

ANNOUNCER: AutoLite and it's 96,000 dealers presents...

(MUSIC CHORDS)

ANNOUNCER: ... SUSPENSE!

(BELL CHIMES)

ANNOUNCER: Tonight, AutoLite brings you "On as Country Road." A
Suspense play starring Mr. Cary Grant.

(MUSIC)

(SFX: Car driving fast, making sharp turns)

DOROTHY: Relax, David. There's no hurry to get home.

DAVID: Hm-Hm, who can relax in this mess of traffic? There must be a wreck or
something up ahead.

DOROTHY: Hm. This keeps up, we'll get caught in the rain.

DAVID: Yeah, it looks like a big storm building up, too. Hey, remember that
short cut?

DOROTHY: Which one?

DAVID: The little tarred road that goes across the Center Moriches and comes out
on the other highway.

DOROTHY: The one we took last summer?

DAVID: Yes. I'll turn off there and duck this pile-up. I'd like to get as far as
possible before that storm hits.

(SFX: Car tires screech)

DAVID: (yelling) Why don't you put out your hand?

DOROTHY: David, don't get mad.

DAVID: Well, he cut right in front of me, trying to turn into that gas station.

DOROTHY: Maybe he needed gas.

DAVID: Hm. Well... turn on the radio, huh?

(SFX: Click)

(SFX: Radio dial scanning)

DAVID: Oh, there.

(SFX: Radio stops on news announcer)

DAVID: (overlapping) Sounds like news.

NEWS: police this afternoon issued new warnings to all residents of Long Island to be on the lookout for Nellie Galler.

DAVID: (overlapping) Turn it up, dear.

DOROTHY: All right.

NEWS: A middle aged woman described as dangerous and insane. She escaped this morning from Restview Mental Hospital after fatally butchering a doctor , a nurse and a ward attendant with a meat cleaver. This is the same Nellie Galler who a year ago murdered three persons on a Brooklyn Street.

DAVID: (overlapping) Oh, ho, ho. My mother in law. (chuckles)

DOROTHY: David.

NEWS: This station will broadcast a full description on our regular newscast which follows ..

DAVID: Well at least we're not the only easy people on Long Island.

(SFX: Radio dial moving around and stops on some music.)

DAVID: Why did you change it?

DOROTHY: I don't want to listen any more. Let's get home quickly David. I don't like being out here with that woman running loose.

(SFX: Thunder)

DAVID: Uh, oh. Here's the storm. Roll up the windows.

(MUSIC)

ANNOUNCER: In just a moment, Mr. Cary Grant in the first act of "On A Country Road."

SENATOR: Amazing, Wilcox, Amazing.

HARLOW: What’s so amazing, Senator?

SENATOR: Your victory in the election.

HARLOW: My candidates victory, Senator. The famous AutoLite stay-ful battery. The battery that needs water only three times a year in normal car use. Why everybody voted for the AutoLite Stay-ful battery.

SENATOR: You had plenty in reserve, Wilcox.

HARLOW: Reserve? Why AutoLite’s Stay-Flo battery has over three times the liquid reserve of batteries without stay-ful features.

SENATOR: Didn’t you campaign with fiberglass retaining mats?

HARLOW: Sure did, Senator. Because positive plate of the every AutoLite stay-ful battery is protected with a fiberglass retaining mat to prevent shedding and flaking and keeps hte power producing materials in place.

SENATOR: Why, your candidate is in for life, Wilcox.

HARLOW: Uh, *longer* life, Senator. Because the autolite Stay-ful battery gives 70% longer life as proved by tests conducted according to SAE minimum life cycle standards. So friends, get acquainted with the AutoLite Stay-ful battery. The batter that needs water only three times a year in normal car use. See your neighborhood AutoLite dealer now. And remember, “You’re always Right, with AutoLight.”

(MUSIC)

ANNOUNCER: An now, with, “On a Country road,” and the performance of Mr. Cary Grant, AutoLite hopes once again to keep you in,...

(MUSIC CHORDS)

ANNOUNCER: Suspense!

(MUSIC)

(SFX: thunder & rain)

(SFX: Car)

DOROTHY: Why don’t they put her to sleep, instead of just locking her up where she can escape and kill more people?

DAVID: Hm? Put who to sleep?

DOROTHY: The woman they were talking about on the radio.

DAVID: Oh, oh. She can’t help what she does. She’s sick.

DOROTHY: Yes. What good does that do to people who get chopped up with a meat cleaver?

DAVID: I don't know. The laws were made before the doctors knew very much about the human mind.

DOROTHY: (sighs) they still don't know much.

DAVID: Hm. Oh, I see what it is. There's a roadblock up ahead.

DOROTHY: What's happened?

DAVID: I don't know. Cops all over the road.

DOROTHY: David, I'll bet they're looking for that crazy woman.

DAVID: Well, I guess so.

COP: (in the distance) Now, hold it a minute.

DAVID: What's up, Officer?

COP: (approaching) Ah, just a check-up, folks. Eh, anything in the back seat?

DAVID: Only the blanket and the lunchbox.

DOROTHY: We went on a picnic.

COP: Yes, ma'am. Seen any hitchhikers?

DAVID: No. Just traffic.

COP: O.K. Move right along, please.

DOROTHY: Are you looking for the crazy woman?

COP: (in the distance) Move along. Let's go.

(SFX: car starting up again.)

DOROTHY: Hear that?

DAVID: Hm, he's busy.

(SFX: radio dial turning)

DOROTHY: What are you doing?

(SFX: radio stops on news again.)

DAVID: Listen.

NEWS: All residents and motorists of Long Island are warned to be on the alert for the escaped insane woman who is somewhere on the island. She is described as tall, broad shouldered, grey-haired and rather heavy. She may still be armed with the cleaver. One hundred men are searching the area, and they're prepared to shoot on sight. Here's another bulletin on the case which just came in. Just a few minutes ago, the decapitated bodies of an elderly man and woman were found by police near Center Moriches on Long Island.

DAVID: (overlapping) Here's the short cut.

DOROTHY: They haven't found her yet.

DAVID: Well, this will get us out of that traffic.

(SFX: car wheels squeal in turning)

NEWS: I repeat that. The bodies of an elderly couple have just been found in their car near Center Moriches s on a lonely tarred road. Police are certain they were killed by Nellie Galler, the insane woman now at large. Residents of the area are warned not to open their doors to strangers. Motorists are cautioned to stay off lonely roads and not to pick up any hitchhikers. All persons are asked to be on the lookout for this woman.

DOROTHY: (overlapping, sighs) They haven't caught her yet.

NEWS: Here is her description again. She's tall, grey-haired and broad shouldered with long arms. She is believed to be armed with a meat cleaver.

DAVID: (overlapping) Well, better turn that off, darling.

DOROTHY: (overlapping) But I thought you wanted to hear it.

DAVID: (overlapping) Oh, that's enough of it.

DOROTHY: (overlapping) All right.

(SFX: Click)

DAVID: This short cut will save us a lot of time.

DOROTHY: You turned off the highway.

DAVID: Sure. I told you when I did it. We've come over a mile already. Save us a lot of time.

DOROTHY: But David, didn't you hear what the radio said about staying off lonely roads?

DAVID: We only have to go across the other highway. Won't take long.

DOROTHY: You sure?

DAVID: Of course. We go past Center Moriches, take the left road and come out right by the highway bridge.

DOROTHY: Center Moriches is where she just killed those two people.

DAVID: Oh, now, now, now. What can happen to us while we're driving.

DOROTHY: (Sighs)

DAVID: Besides, the whole island is full of men looking for this lunatic. They'll catch her.

(SFX: Thunder)

DOROTHY: (jumps)

DAVID: It's just the storm. Now come on, quiet down, you're jumpy.

DOROTHY: All right. I guess I'm silly. (pause) David.

DAVID: What?

DOROTHY: The gas gauge says empty.

DAVID: (smiles) There's still a couple of gallons left when it points to empty.

DOROTHY: How long has it been empty?

DAVID: (pondering) I don't know. (then optimistic) I'll get gas when we get across to the other highway.

(SFX: thunder)

DOROTHY: David, I'm scared.

DAVID: Relax, honey. Rain and wind always makes you nervous as a cat.

DOROTHY: I wish we'd stayed on the highway.

DAVID: If I'd a known you'd act like this, I would have.

DOROTHY: Well, it's not my fault.

DAVID: It's not mine, either. I'm having trouble enough just trying to see through this storm.

DOROTHY: Oh, David. Let's not fight.

DAVID: Driving through these burned out woods in this kind of weather is enough to give anyone the willies.

DOROTHY: Oh, goodness. It got dark so fast. Can hardly see ahead, even in the headlights.

DAVID: Hm. There's something ahead.

DOROTHY: Don't stop, David.

DAVID: Oh, it's only a sign.

DOROTHY: David, that crazy woman could be around here.

DAVID: I'm not picking up anyone. Now, I just want to know where I am.

DOROTHY: Don't get out of the car.

DAVID: I'm not. Now calm down. Let's see. Center Moriches, that way. We'll take this road.

(SFX: Car starts up)

DOROTHY: (after a pause) Center Moriches. This must be the road where she killed those people.

(SFX: Thunder)

DOROTHY: (jumps)

DAVID: Dorothy, please.

DOROTHY: Sorry. (catching breath) Jumpy. Turn on the radio.

(SFX: Click)

(SFX: Music)

DOROTHY: Oh, this is a desolate place. We haven't even passed a house yet.
Miles of woods on both sides of us.

DAVID: Well, it's so dark, we couldn't have seen one if it were there. This rain
seems to be getting worse.

(**DOROTHY:** (after a pause) David. I'm just sure this is the road where that
woman killed those two people.

DAVID: Oh, now, stop that.

DOROTHY: That's why the police had a roadblock by this road. That crazy
woman might be anyplace in these woods.

DAVID: But not necessarily where *we* are.

(SFX: Car starts to stall)

DAVID: Oh, for...

DOROTHY: David, what's the matter?

(SFX: Car stops)

DAVID: Oh, that's fine. What a place to run out of gas.

(SFX: thunder)

DOROTHY: Oh, no. David, you mean we're stuck here?

DAVID: I'm afraid so. For the time being anyway. I'm sorry dear.

DOROTHY: That crazy woman is in the woods. She'll kill us.

DAVID: She's nowhere near us.

DOROTHY: David, quick. Turn off the headlights.

DAVID: Why? Did you hear something?

DOROTHY: (starting to cry) David, I don't know. I don't know, but I'm scared.

DAVID: Hm. I guess I should've got gas.

DOROTHY: Oh, turn off the headlights, please.

DAVID: Why?

DOROTHY: She'll see us if you don't.

DAVID: We won't see her if I do.

DOROTHY: Please, David. Turn them off.

DAVID: Oh, now listen, Dorothy. Don't let this silly thing get the better of you.

DOROTHY: (trying to compose herself). (calmer) Look at the headlights.
Poking in the darkness. Nothing but wet bushes and trees. Rain falling.
(starting to cry again) Please, David?

(SFX: thunder)

DAVID: Oh, all right. There. Now they're off. Feel better sitting in the dark?

DOROTHY: (signs) If only the thunder and lightning would stop. And this rain.

DAVID: Look, Dorothy. There's no sense sitting her all night, it's only a few minutes past ten O'clock. I'm gonna walk up the road a bit.. There might be a house or something there.

DOROTHY: You're not going to leave me here? I won't let you go.

DAVID: Dorothy, we can't sit here in the middle of nowhere for the rest of the night.

DOROTHY: We're safer her than out there. David, she's probably hiding in the woods. She's just waiting for a chance to kill us.

DAVID: Oh, come on, Dorothy. Why should she be right where we run out of gas?

DOROTHY: Why can't she be here? Please stay in the car.

DAVID: All right.

DOROTHY: (pause) Lock the doors from the inside.

DAVID: Why? What is it?

DOROTHY: Now she can't get in here.

DAVID: She's no where near us.

DOROTHY: Well don't be mad at me, David. I'm so scared.

DAVID: But if she's out there, she could easily smash the windows.

DOROTHY: Oh, don't scare me anymore. I know I'm acting silly. I can't help it.
(starts to sob)

DAVID: Now. Come, let me put my arm around you. There.

DOROTHY: Oh, David.

DAVID: Now, put your head on my shoulder.

DOROTHY: (sobbing) Forgive me, David.

DAVID: Go ahead and cry. Go on. Make you feel better.

(she collects herself.)

DOROTHY: Isn't there some popular music?

(SFX: radio dial)

NEWS: ... in the search for the escaped insane woman who has killed five persons and is fleeing from a Long Island mental hospital. Rain and darkness are hampering the search. Over one hundred police are combing the area near Center Moriches. It was near there, that an elderly couple were butchered on a lonely tarred road. In making her escape this morning, the mad woman killed a doctor, nurse and...

(SFX: click)

DAVID: Let's leave it off for a while.

(SFX: Thunder)

DOROTHY: (sighs) It's so quiet and lonely here. I wish it were morning.

DAVID: Look, Dorothy. I'll run up the road. There might be a farm...

DOROTHY: No. No., David, please. (pause) Listen. Did you hear that?

DAVID: (hushed) What? I don't hear anything.

DOROTHY: Listen. (pause) There it is.

(SFX: dog barking)

DAVID: No, I can't ... (he hears it.) It's a dog. A little dog, barking.

DOROTHY: (getting scared) Oh, David.

DAVID: I guess it's a lost dog. Or maybe there's a house nearby.

DOROTHY: Or the crazy woman.

(pause)

(SFX: thump on the car)

DOROTHY: (screams) Oh, David! She's out there!

DAVID: Something hit the back of the car.

DOROTHY: It's her!

DAVID: Is the door locked on your side?

DOROTHY: Yes. Yes. But what if she breaks a window. She's got a cleaver.

(SFX: thunder)

DAVID: In that flash of lightning! I saw something!

DOROTHY: Is it the crazy woman?

DAVID: I can't tell. She's lying on the road.

DOROTHY: Can you see her? Is she still there?

DAVID: It's too dark to see. Have to wait for the lightning.

(pause)

(SFX: thunder)

DAVID: I saw her! She's getting up now.

DOROTHY: She'll kill us, she'll kill us.

DAVID: Oh calm down. Please.

DOROTHY: What is she doing?

DAVID: I don't know. She must have been running. She didn't see the car and ran right into it.

(pause)

(SFX: thunder)

DOROTHY: (startled) She's at the window. Right next to you.

DAVID: OH MY LORD! Look at her. Get away from that window!

DOROTHY: David, she's trying to get in the car.

DAVID: Look at her face! And her hair! GO AWAY!

(SFX: pounding on car)

WOMAN: LET ME IN! I'M NOT CRAZY! THE CRAZY WOMAN IS AFTER ME!

(SFX: pounding on the car)

DOROTHY: David, don't let her in.

WOMAN: LET ME IN!

(SFX: pounding continues)

DAVID: Maybe we can scare her.

WOMAN: LET ME IN!

DAVID: GO AWAY! GO AWAY! WE'VE GOT A GUN! AND WE'LL SHOOT!

(silence)

DOROTHY: It worked. She's staring at us.

DAVID: I'm warning you! I'll shoot!

DOROTHY: David, she's coming back!

(SFX: pounding continues)

WOMAN: PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME OUT HERE! PLEASE.

WOMAN: THAT WOMAN'LL KILL ME! PLEASE!

(SFX: pounding continues)

DOROTHY: David. Take your pipe. Hold it like a gun. It'll look like a gun.

DAVID: Where is it? In the glove compartment.

DOROTHY: Here. Here it is.

DAVID: Look! I've got a gun! I'm gonna shoot!

DOROTHY: She's backing away.

DAVID: KEEP GOING! Before I start shooting!

DOROTHY: David... she's gone. She disappeared.

DAVID: We can't get out now. All we can do is sit here all night. And wait for help.

DOROTHY: Can you see her? Where'd she go?

DAVID: I don't know. She's out there, though. Probably planning on how to get into this car.

DOROTHY: David, what are we going to do? She's the one, I know.

DAVID: She didn't have a cleaver.

DOROTHY: She must have dropped it when she ran into the car. Her face was all twisted and her hair hanging down.

DAVID: And she's back there, looking for the cleaver now.

DOROTHY: (starting to lose it) She'll kill us. She'll kill us!

DAVID: Dorothy, stop it.

DOROTHY: She'll kill us!

(silence while Dorothy sobs)

(SFX: bang on the car.)

DOROTHY: (screams)

(SFX: bang on the car.)

DOROTHY: DAVID!

(SFX: bang on the car.)

(SFX: Glass smash)

DOROTHY: DAVID!

(SFX: thunder)

(MUSIC)

ANNOUNCER: AutoLite is bringing you Mr. Cary Grant, with Cathy Lewis and Ginette Noland in, “On a Country Road.” Tonight’s production in radio’s outstanding theater of thrills, Suspense!

(MUSIC: Chord)

SENATOR: Hey, Wilcox. What was your platform?

HARLOW: Why, the AutoLite Stay-Ful battery, the battery that only needs water only three times a year in normal car use.

SENATOR: Go on, Wilcox

HARLOW: Well, we pointed out that the AiutoLite Stay-Ful has three times the liquid reserve of batteries without Stay-ful features.

SENATOR: Amazing.

HARLOW: Ah, but that’s not all, Senator. Because we pointed out, too, that the AutoLite Stay-ful gives longer life. 70% longer life, in fact—as proved by tests conducted according to SAE Minimum Life Cycle Standards.

SENATOR: Well.

HARLOW: Then there’s fiberglass retaining mass, protecting every positive plate, to prevent shedding and flaking, and to give the AutoLite Stay-Ful scintillating superiority.

SENATOR: How is your plurality, Wilcox?

HARLOW: Sensational, Senator. We got all but one vote.

SENATOR: Why that’s positively preposterous.

HARLOW: Sure is, Senator, because everybody’s heard of the AutoLite Stay-ful battery. The battery that needs water only three times a year in normal car use. So see your neighborhood AutoLite battery dealer. And remember: You’re always right, with AutoLite.

(MUSIC: begins)

ANNOUNCER: And now, AutoLite brings back to our Hollywood sound stage Mr. Cary Grant, in Elliot Lewis’ production of, “On a Country Road.” A tale well calculated to keep you in...

(MUSIC: Chord)

ANNOUNCER: ... Suspense.

(MUSIC)

(SFX: Thunder & rain.)

DOROTHY: The window. David, she broke the window.

DAVID: Get away from there! Stay out of the car!

WOMAN: I'm comin' in, I can't stand it out here!

DAVID: (overlapping) Now stay out of the car, I warn you! (pause) I've got a gun!

WOMAN: you wouldn't shoot me!

DOROTHY: Go away! You're crazy! We know all about you!

WOMAN: I'm not the crazy woman, believe ma! Let me in!

DOROTHY: Don't do it, David. She's trying to trick us.

WOMAN: Listen to me, please! I've been running in this awful storm! My car is stuck in the ditch back there!

DAVID: How far back!

WOMAN: I don't know, it seems like miles! I head about he crazy woman on the radio. I was afraid to stay in the car alone. Let me in!

DOROTHY: No, David.

DAVID: Go back to your own car!

WOMAN: (almost hysterical) NO! It's so dark and so lonely and this storm! I locked the doors but I was afraid. I could see things and hear things in the darkness. I couldn't stand it anymore! I got out and I ran! It's the rain! That's why I look like this. I'm not the crazy woman!

DAVID: (thinks a moment) Dorothy, maybe she isn't the crazy woman. Maybe she's just scared and exhausted.

WOMAN: Let me in! PLEASE! LET ME IN!

DOROTHY: NO, David, no. She's the one. I know.

(SFX: Thunder)

WOMAN: The crazy woman had a cleaver! I'm not armed! The three of us will be safer together.

DAVID: (calmly) You know, she makes sense to me, Dorothy. We would be safer with one more person.

DOROTHY: David, I don't know.

WOMAN: Let me in! PLEASE! I'm wet to the skin.

DOROTHY: (calmly) I'm gong to unlock the door, Dorothy.

DOROTHY: David.

WOMAN: Oh!

(SFX: car door opens).

(SFX: Rain gets louder)

DAVID: All right. Now, get in.

WOMAN: (relieved) Oh!

DAVID: Make one wrong move and I'll shoot.

WOMAN: (climbing in) Oh!

(SFX: car door close)

(SFX: rain gets quieter)

(SFX: Thunder)

WOMAN: Oh. Goodness. Sit down.

DAVID: All right. There's a blanket down on the floor back there. Try and dry yourself off with it.

WOMAN: (barely keeping herself together) The darkness and the rain... it was enough to drive me out of my mind.:

DAVID: Now, just take it easy, lady.

WOMAN: I ran and ran. All I could hear was... feet chasing after me—hunting me.

(SFX: Thunder in the distance)

DAVID: You live here?

WOMAN: Farther out. Near Respue. I used to live in Brooklyn.

DOROTHY: Respue is the mental hospital

WOMAN: I know. I'm used to the crazy people. But not at night and in a lonely place like this. Not the kind who kills people.

DAVID: You, us... you live at Respue?

WOMAN: No! Just... near there.

DOROTHY: (after a pause) David. We can't sit here not knowing. If we could get to a phone.

WOMAN: (overlapping) A phone! Why?

DOROTHY: to call the police. Get some help.

WOMAN: NO! Don't do that!

DAVID: Why not? Why don't you want the police?

WOMAN: Oh, I do! But you'll be killed!

DOROTHY: What do you mean?

WOMAN: The woman! She'll kill him if he goes away from this car.

(SFX: Dog barking in distance)

WOMAN: Oh.

DOROTHY: There's that dog.

WOMAN: You hear it? Somebody's out there.

DAVID: Oh, there must be a house up ahead. Maybe it's barking to be let in.

DOROTHY: NO! It senses somebody. There's somebody out there.

WOMAN: The crazy woman's creeping around out here. Quick! Let's get away!

DOROTHY: Look out, David.

DAVID: Let go of me. What are you trying to do?

WOMAN: Start the car, QUICK! We'll get away!

DAVID: We're out of gas.

WOMAN: Out... out of gas.

DAVID: You don't think we parked out here for the fun of it, do you?

WOMAN: Oh. Such a desolate place to run out of gas.

(SFX: Dog stops barking)

(silence)

DOROTHY: It's stopped barking.

WOMAN: What does it mean?

(SFX: thunder)

WOMAN: You can't just sit here! We've GOT TO GET AWAY!

DAVID: Oh, I'm not a magician, lady! I can't make gasoline out of rain.

WOMAN: (getting hysterical again) OH! We can't stay here the whole night!
DO you HEAR ME?

DAVID: Let go of me! There's nothing I can do.

WOMAN: Try something! Anything! Don't just sit there!!

DOROTHY: She's scaring me, David. Stop her.

(SFX: distant thunder)

DAVID: Cut it out! Cut it out. You'll have us all in hysterics.

WOMAN: All right. (calming down.) All right. I'm sorry. Look. I got an idea.
Give me your gun.

DAVID: What for?

WOMAN: What for? I'll tell you. I WANT it. Give it to me!

DOROTHY: (hushed) David.

WOMAN: Listen to me! I'm all right. But I can't sit here all night, I'd go crazy. Give me the gun. I'll go, I won't be afraid of the dark—the noises, the feet following me. I'll go. I *promise* you. Now give me THE GUN!

DAVID: No. Now, sit down.

WOMAN: (getting hysterical) PLEASE! I'LL GO, I PROMISE! I CAN'T STAND SITTING IN THE DARK LIKE THIS!!

DOROTHY: Can't you stop her, David?

DAVID: I told you to shut up!

WOMAN: (wails)

DAVID: If you don't, you'll have to get out of the car.

WOMAN: Not... into the woods again. Oh, you're nice people, aren't you? Or do you want me to leave... so you can shoot me? Is that it?

DOROTHY: We're not going to shoot you. We don't have a gun. It's only a pipe.

DAVID: Dorothy!

WOMAN: A pipe? (pause) A... smoking pipe?

DOROTHY: Yes. I'm sorry.

WOMAN: Then... than you're unarmed.

(SFX: thunder)

DOROTHY: I'm sorry.

DAVID: (to Dorothy) Yes. It's all right.

WOMAN: Why'd you tell me you had a gun?

DAVID: What difference would it make to you whether I'm armed or not?

WOMAN: I don't know you. Maybe you two are more dangerous than the crazy woman.

DOROTHY: I tell you what I think. I think *you're* the crazy woman. The way you grabbed David when you wanted him to start the car...

DAVID: Dorothy, stop it. Don't excite her.

WOMAN: Don't excite me? Why? Do you think I'm dangerous? An old woman you took into your car? Two of you and you're afraid of me?

DAVID: We're not afraid of you. Now sit back in your seat and don't try anything.

(pause)

DOROTHY: David. The storm is stopping. Maybe now is the time.

WOMAN: The time for what? What are you gonna do? You two are up to something!

DAVID: OH, SHUT UP! My wife meant now is the time to go for help.

DOROTHY: I did not. I meant now is the time for us to escape. David, can't you see it, she's the one, she'll kill us!

WOMAN: YOU LITTLE...!

DAVID: Oh, stop it. Sit back in that seat!

WOMAN: You haven't got a gun!

DAVID: No! But I've got a *knife*!

DOROTHY: David!

DAVID: It's my jackknife. But it's sharp and strong, so don't try any tricks!

WOMAN: All right. Threaten me! Watch me, while that woman is out there! All you can do is sit and wait for her to make the next move.

DOROTHY: David. She can kill us like that old man and woman. Must have been on this same road. They were in their car, too. They must have let her in.

WOMAN: We'll leave, then! The three of us, we'll walk. We'll stay close together, we'll be quiet. Anyone hiding in the woods won't hear us.

DOROTHY: Don't get out of the car, David.

DAVID: Oh, how will we find our way? It's too dark.

WOMAN: WE'LL FIND OUR WAY!

DAVID: Look out there, the road's full of shadows.

DOROTHY: (starting to unravel) Get her out of the car, David. She wants to kill us.

WOMAN: KILL YOU?

DAVID: Now look, if you want to go, why don't you leave? We're gonna stay here until some help comes.

WOMAN: Oh, I'd be helpless alone! If I had a gun or somthin'... YOUR KNIFE!

DOROTHY: (losing it) Oh, why doesn't somebody come?! Where are the police? I can't stand this.

WOMAN: Nobody'll come! There's no one in these woods, they're burned out and deserted!

DOROTHY: (sobbing)

DAVID: (Calming her) Dorothy, come on, please.

DOROTHY: It was your idea to use this road.

DAVID: I know.

DOROTHY: You wouldn't listen to me and stop for gas.

DAVID: I couldn't help it. I got lost.

DOROTHY: OH, WHY DON'T YOU DO SOMETHING? Not just sit here waiting, waiting. Do something before we're murdered. ARE YOU SO HELPLESS?

DAVID: All right. I am gonna do something. I'll go for help.

WOMAN: That's it! Get help!

DOROTHY: (suddenly scared) David. In her hand. I saw in the moonlight. It glittered.

DAVID: What is it?

WOMAN: Your wife is hysterical!

DOROTHY: She... she's holding it. Long piece of broken glass. It's long and pointed. (pause) See? She doesn't answer. She's just watching us. What's she waiting for?

DAVID: It's from the broken window. That's where she got it..

WOMAN: So what if I have it. I'm not gonna sit here defenseless.

DOROTHY: She's going to attack us.

WOMAN: Don't be silly. It was all right for you to have a knife, why can't I be armed for whatever may come?

DAVID: Give me that broken glass.

WOMAN: Give it to you? You think I'm crazy? You couldn't protect us from anything.

DAVID: Oh?

DOROTHY: David. What are you doing?

WOMAN: Why are you climbing over the seat?! What are you...?!

DAVID: I WARNED YOU! I'm through with my wife being terrified. Give me that GLASS!

WOMAN: STAY AWAY FROM ME!

DAVID: Once I left the car you were gonna butcher my wife! With that broken glass!

(SFX: struggling)

WOMAN: NO! NOOO!!!

DOROTHY: DAVID!, DAVID!

DAVID: GIVE ME THAT GLASS!

WOMAN: (gasps) YOU'RE CRAZY! LET ME ALONE!

DOROTHY: Hold her, David! Hold her! Don't let her free!

DAVID: She's strong! She's got my arm!

WOMAN: (struggling) YOU... KILL ME?!

DAVID: DROP... THAT... GLASS!

WOMAN: HAVE YOU ALL GONE CRAZY! YOU'RE TRYING TO KILL ME?

DAVID: Thought you were going to murder us?

WOMAN: (crying desperately) NO! I WASN'T!

DOROTHY: Don't let her get free!

DAVID: I can't hold her. She's strong!

WOMAN: If you have a knife, then I'LL HAVE GLASS!

DOROTHY: Hold her, David. David, hold her!

DAVID: I can't much longer.

WOMAN: I'M NOT CRAZY! PLEASE, BELIEVE ME!

DAVID: She's got my throat!

WOMAN: (cries out)

DAVID: She's choking me!

DOROTHY: The knife. David! Your knife!

DAVID: (grunts)

WOMAN: (cries out)

DOROTHY: (pause) David. (pause) David, you... you *killed* her. David! You killed her.

DAVID: I couldn't help it. I didn't mean...

DOROTHY: Oh, you're... covered with blood.

DAVID: She was gonna kill us.

DOROTHY: (sobbing)

(SFX: Car approaching)

DAVID: There's some lights. A car is coming Help's coming .

(SFX: Car arrives)

(SFX: door opens)

COP: (calling from off) Hey, there! You, in the car! Why are you parked here?

DOROTHY: It's the police.

DAVID: (calling back) We ran out of gas! The crazy woman...

COP: What a night to run out of gas.(approaching) you couldn't have picked a better spot. What with that woman running around loose.

DOROTHY: Officer? We want to tell you...

COP: A farmer up the road called. Says his dog has been barking at something.

DAVID: We caught her.

COP: Huh? Who'd'ya catch?

DAVID: The crazy woman. She... she's in the back seat, dead.

COP: What?

(SFX: car door opening)

COP: Huh. No. No, she's alive. Hurt bad, though.

DAVID: She, she was trying to kill us.

COP: Well, we'll get her to a hospital. You two better come with me. We captured that crazy woman a half hour ago. I don't know who this lady is.

(MUSIC)

ANNOUNCER: SUSPENSE! Presented by AutoLite. Tonight's star, Mr. Cary Grant.

SENATOR: Wilcox! Did your candidacy tire ticket get you into office?

HARLOW: Yes, sir, Senator. Along with the AutoLite Stay-ful battery. The voters elected all of the four hundred products made by AutoLite, for cars, trucks, planes and boats in twenty-eight plants coast to coast. These include complete electrical systems, used as original factory equipment on many leading makes of America's finest cars. Generators, coils, distributors, voltage regulators, electric windshield wipers, wire and cable, starting motors—all engineered to fit together perfectly, work together perfectly, because they're a perfect team. So friends, don't accept electrical parts proposed to be as good. Ask for, and insist on, AutoLite original factory parts, at your neighborhood service station, car dealer, garage or repair shop. Remember:" you're always right, with AutoLite.

(MUSIC)

ANNOUNCER: Next week on Suspense, for your Thanksgiving holiday listening, Mr. Ozzie Nelson and Miss Harriet Hilliard, as starts of "Going, Going, Gone." And in the weeks to come, you will hear such famous starts as Van

Heflin, Alan Ladd, and Cornell Wilde, all appearing in tales well calculated to keep you in...

(MUSIC chord)

ANNOUNCER: SUSPENSE!

(MUSIC)

ANNOUNCER: Suspense is produced and directed by Elliott Lewis. With music composed by Lucien Morowac and conducted by Lud Lubkin. “On a Country Road,” was written for Suspense by Walter Bizarre. And remember next week on Suspense, Ozzie Nelson and Harriett Hilliard in, “Going, going, gone.”