

DEADLY HEAT

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When she left the bathroom and returned to the gas station main entrance, Sarah was blinded by the intense Phoenix sun. She was with her boyfriend Asher in the Interstate 10, crossing southeastern Arizona. They wanted to visit the Wet 'n' Wild water park, but they didn't know if they would make it in time.

"I hope those slides cool me down", Asher muttered, starting the car. "This heat is unbearable".

Sarah looked at him and let out a snort.

"You're such a whiner, Ash, not that you didn't know the county..."

Night was beginning to fall, and the desert road became a passageway shrouded in darkness. Suddenly, they saw how an old van started to follow them. With each mile, the van got closer until, before they knew it, the lights of the pursuers went out.

"Is he trying to scare us?", Asher replied.

As Sarah glanced back, the van lights came back on and the roar of an engine put her on alert. She told Asher to speed up, but the minivan lunged at them, causing them to crash.

Although they had not overturned, the impact brought them to a stop in the middle of nowhere. It was then that Sarah saw a masked man get out of the van, approaching slowly with a sharp axe. Her boyfriend was unconscious, and she was unable to unbuckle her seatbelt. They were trapped.

"SARAH!!!"

Just then, the girl opened her eyes.

"Hey, you got dizzy when you came out of the bathroom at the gas station", her boyfriend told her, handing her a wet cloth. "It must have been this infernal heat. Are you feeling better?"

Sarah hid the fever dream, though she inwardly prayed not to run into any black vehicles on the next journey.

