

I Travel

a short play

by

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Cast

WARREN

CLIFF

TIM

STAN

Setting

A highway in the deserted outback.

Offstage left is a cliff, offstage right are trees. The road runs dead centre - upstage to downstage.

Time

Dusk.

I Travel

In darkness we hear music: *I Travel - Simple Minds*

Lights up. The four characters stand in a square facing outwards.

CLIFF Extreme Left, **TIM** on the road Downstage centre, **STAN** Extreme Right and **WARREN** on the road Upstage centre.

STAN is smoking a cigarette. Silence.

STAN drops the cigarette butt to the ground and stamps it out. Pause.

WARREN turns. He goes to **TIM** and gives him a cigarette. **TIM** places the cigarette in his mouth and **WARREN** lights it with a red lighter.

TIM takes a puff. **WARREN** returns to his position. Pause.

TIM: Long time, no see.

WARREN EXITS, RIGHT.

LONG PAUSE.

STAN: I've been thinking.

TIM: Yeah

STAN: These trees ... I ...

TIM: Yeah?

STAN: They're tall.

TIM: Alright.

PAUSE.

CLIFF: Falling

STAN: Slowly ...

CLIFF: Caught.

TIM: Almost.

PAUSE.

STAN: Ochre. What are you?

CLIFF: Black.

TIM: Grey. (PAUSE) Lines.

STAN: Circles.

CLIFF: Squares.

TIM: Stretching.

CLIFF: Crumbling.

STAN: Swelling, pulsating, bleeding -

TIM: Enough.

LONG PAUSE.

CLIFF: This town ... An old man ...

TIM: Dying.

CLIFF: Smoked a pipe.

STAN: Still living.

TIM: Maybe.

CLIFF: Used to pack it with big brown wads of tobacco. Big, long, brown - stretch forever - bits of tobacco.

STAN: While he sat outside the pub.

TIM: Kids playing.

STAN: Hopscotch ...

CLIFF: Marbles.

TIM: Doesn't matter.

CLIFF: Perhaps. (LONG PAUSE) Or ...

STAN: Hotel. Dingy hotel. Rust stained walls. Black scuttling cockroach on a scarred lino floor.

CLIFF: Stomp!

STAN: Stamp.

TIM: Stump.

STAN: Lump.

CLIFF: Pump.

TIM: Jump.

WARREN: (ENTERING RIGHT) Dump!

SILENCE. **WARREN** THROWS A ROCK ON TO THE ROAD. HE HOPSCOTCHES OFF LEFT. PAUSE.

TIM: Runt.

CLIFF: Blunt.

STAN: Stunt.
TIM: Stunted.
CLIFF: Stunted old landlady.
TIM: Fat, stunted old landlady. Black buck teeth ... Spotted dress.
Polyester sheen.
CLIFF: Rent high.
STAN: Quality low.
TIM: Not enough to show. Greasy food.
STAN: Scabby mice ...
CLIFF: Crusty lice ...
TIM: Feeding on unwashed -

TIM & CLIFF: Filth!

LONG PAUSE.

TIM: But -
CLIFF: Red, green, orange. Walk!
TIM: Walk!
STAN: Walk!
CLIFF: Hip to the beat. Excitement, dancing -
STAN: Thump.

PAUSE.

TIM: Sound.
CLIFF: Talking.
STAN: Fast.
CLIFF: Talking. Wheels.
TIM: Deals.
CLIFF: Shoes.
STAN: Stilettos.
CLIFF: Winkle pickers.
TIM: Sheer fishnet stockings.
CLIFF: Hi-heels.