

2. INTERRUPTED ROAD TRIP TO HEADQUARTERS

Analysis: Here, we first learn that Joe is Sean's father and that their relationship is strained by Sean's frustration with his dad's inaction and by Joe's frustration with his son's impetuous attitude and daredevil approach to life. This conflict becomes central to the developing plot line, with each one influencing the other detrimentally at first, and supportively by the end. The segment introduces the US COLLEGE STUDENTS on spring break -- themselves victims of the country's social decay -- and launches the romance between Sean and US student SANDY, which becomes key to the story's emotional backbone. We also see Joe's deep knowledge of government/economics, establishing his potential as a political candidate. The banter between all 3 men in the car is incisive, witty, and fast -- like master swordsman in a battle of words -- each representing the collective but opposing views of the public at large. We see how the failing public infrastructure hampers the most routine of police administration, such taking a prisoner from the bust to the station. Finally, the step reveals a tiny bit more about the mysterious, young reporter from step 1, showing his uniquely determined and observant ways.

En route, their way is blocked by a broken down taxi whose passengers, AMERICAN SPRING BREAK STUDENTS, now stranded, are about to be ripped off by an unscrupulous TAXI DRIVER. One attractive student, SANDY, utterly captivates Sean, taken by her charm. A charmer himself, he successfully gets her contact info. This disturbs Joe.

As they resume their trip, a power outage causes traffic light failure, launching a "state of affairs" battle of wits and words between Joe and Sean. Mohandas adds his two cent's worth from his cuffed position in back.

Pulling out from the intersection, their squad car dies. Joe radios for mechanical support and a second squad car for prisoner Mohandas. Nearby, The Young Reporter is in his car, following and trying to catch them.

While waiting for backup, Joe tinkers under the bonnet, he critiques Sean's performance at the bust. Sean is embarrassed and defensive, and still smoldering about the drug bust's chastising crowds. He turns on Joe, criticizing Joe's seemingly unresponsive state as apathetic, weak. Still cuffed in the back seat, Mohandas overhears and adds his own opinions.

As the REPLACEMENT OFFICERS arrive, an in-progress crime erupts within ear shot. The call comes in over police radio confirming the in-progress crime. Joe and Sean leave the car on foot, sprinting in the direction of the gunshots. The Reporter, hearing the gunshots as well, squirms his car through tight traffic to follow them.