

VALERIE (V.O.)
'Course I know Bobby Satchel.
Seems like half my job is keeping
track of him.

INT. DELTA JUNCTION DINER / KITCHEN - NIGHT

VALERIE COOPER (40's) owns and runs the diner. She's lasted 25 years in the backwoods, ten without a husband. She and Mathers are talking as she hangs up her apron and changes into her Village Public Safety Officer uniform (basically just a coat and hat).

In the background, a heavysset DISHWASHER is hosing off plates.

VALERIE
When I took this job, the old VPSO
gave me his "asshole list." He
said, every time a car gets
stolen, girl gets beat up, check
the names on this list. Odds are,
one of these guys did it. Bobby
Satchel was at the top of that
list.

MATHERS
Has he done time?

VALERIE
Six months for arson. Got out a
year ago.

MATHERS
What did he burn?

VALERIE
His girlfriend's trailer. Then a
couple months ago, the Fairbanks
police were out here, asking him
questions about some missing
dancers.

MATHERS
What was the connection?

VALERIE
The Satchel family owns a
backwoods charter company, so
they're in and out of Fairbanks a
lot. And Bobby knew at least two
of the girls. But nothing ever
came of it.

INT. DELTA JUNCTION DINER / MAIN ROOM - NIGHT

Mathers and Valerie emerge from the swinging door that separates the kitchen from the dining area. There are only eight tables and the counter. Half the seats are full.

MATHERS

What can you tell me about Glenn Satchel?

VALERIE

He and his brother were night-and-day. Glenn Satchel was the nicest kid you'd ever meet. When he'd come in, it was always, "Morning, Mrs. Cooper. How's business?" He married a girl from Ontario, sweetest thing you ever met. They've got a house in town.

Sixteen-year old JOSH COOPER is changing the ribbon on the register.

VALERIE (cont'd)

Josh, this is Lieutenant Mathers.
(to Mathers)
My son.

MATHERS / JOSH

Good to meet you.

VALERIE

(to Josh)
I need you to close up. If Frank can't pay, don't push it. I'll deal with him tomorrow.

Valerie works the combination on a safe beneath the counter. She takes out her revolver. Checks it, then holsters it.

MATHERS

Where does Bobby live?

VALERIE

With his father Elias, about 30 miles out.

MATHERS

Can we get a warrant?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VALERIE

Could be tough. The village
magistrate is a horse's-ass named
Bill Ivanhov. He's friends of the
Satchels.

MATHERS

Shouldn't matter.

VALERIE

Shouldn't. But it will.

[END OF SCENE]