

GHOST ROAD BLUES

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CHAPTER OUTLINE / First Draft

PROLOGUE -1976

1. The Bone Man killed the devil with a guitar.
2. Bone Man buries Griswold; is blamed and lynched
3. John Guthrie buries Morse; season ends

MODERN DAY

PART I: DOWN AT THE CROSSROADS

1. September 30 -Morning
 - a. Guthrie Farm - Val working; Crow & Val smooching
 - b. Terry waking up after bad dream; puts on his Mayor face.
 - c. Crow driving; Pine Deep wakes up.
 - d. Breakfast with Vic, Lois and Mike
 - e. Tow-Truck Eddie listening to God
 - f. Crow stops at Hayride to do some repairs; as he works he keeps humming *Black Ghost Blues*.
2. September 30 -Sunset
 - a. That was the year the monsters came to town
 - b. Morse rises; Ruger's car passes
 - c. Ruger & co in car
3. September 30
 - a. Ferro & LaMastra at shoot-out scene
 - b. Vic naps -has dream
 - c. Ruger's accident; Griswold's ghost
4. Just past sunset
 - a. Griswold & the Bone Man
 - b. Crow at his store with Terry
 - c. Ruger & Co after the crash
 - d. Tony after the shooting
5. Just past sunset; around 8
 - a. Crow & Val on the phone
 - b. Terry walking through town toward sheriff's office; Mandy's ghost appears
 - c. Iron Mike Sweeney
 - d. Terry at sheriff's office; meets Ferro & LaMastra

- e. Val; pregnancy worries; dreams of making love and then of a pale stranger
- 6. Half an hour after sunset –around 8 pm
 - a. Tony, the coke and the shotgun; the arrival of the shape
 - b. Terry & the cops; Ruger back-story
 - c. The Wrecker driving through the night
 - d. Boyd breaks his leg
 - e. Iron Mike contemplates a belting; gets run down by tow truck
 - f. The Bone Man in Black Hollow
- 7. -8:30-9 pm
 - a. Mike after the accident; walking & thinking; white stag
 - b. The stag becomes the Bone Man
 - c. Crow driving; biker anecdote
 - d. Mike on the road near Shandy's Curve
 - e. Boyd in the cornfield; the homunculus
- 8. -9:30
 - a. Crow almost runs down Mike
 - b. The Bone Man listens to the night
 - c. Val & Guthrie; “trick or treat”

PART II: MR. DEVIL BLUES

- 9. 9:45 pm
 - a. Tow-truck Eddie flashback to killing Tony; speaks his own name
 - b. Crow calls Terry
 - c. Terry in the office; Mandy through the window
 - d. Ruger and the Guthrie's; Q&A
- 10. 9:45-10 p,
 - a. Tow-truck Eddie at home
 - b. Vic at home making flyers; gets call from Terry
 - c. Mike & Crow; Cape May Killer
- 11. Same time
 - a. Terry in office; about Pine Deep; deployment & resources
 - b. Ruger & the hockey team; Connie gets rope; door opens, shots fired
- 12. 10:15
 - a. Crow & Mike arrive at Hayride
 - b. Blood on the wind
 - c. Ruger & Mark
 - d. Rhoda & Head find crash site; Castle & Toombes arrive

13. Late 10:15-10:30

- a. Ruger organizes a stretcher party
- b. Head & Co find body
- c. Terry gets call from Mandy; call comes in from Head
- d. Boyd is missing; Guthrie & Val make a break for it

14. Same timeframe

- a. Terry & cops arrive at crime scene; At the crime scene; photos of horrors
- b. Crow leaves on ATV; Vic arrives and brutalizes Mike
- c. Crow finds kids at Hayride; shuts it down

15. -10:30

- a. Vic brings Mike home, beats him; during the beating Mike has a revelation: Vic is only human.
- b. Hayride empties; Crow tries to call Val; Mark tries to answer; Crow leaves for the farm
- c. The fight in the corn; vision of Bone Man tells her to go back to the farm
- d. Crow in car; Bone Man tells him to hurry

16. -10:30-10:45

- a. Ferro at crime scene; Terry realizes whose farm is closest to crash site
- b. Henry Guthrie is shot
- c. Ruger beats up Mark, attacks Connie
- d. Val heads back to the house
- e. Ruger attacking Connie; Val attacks him; he chases her; Crow arrives

17. 10:45

- a. Crow and Ruger fight it out and then shoot it out; Rhoda also shot; Ruger flees into the woods

18. 11pm

- a. Storm ends; cops arrive
- b. Ambulances arrive; Ruger can't be found

19. 11-midnight

- a. Ruger lay dying the dark; the homunculus comes for him
- b. Guthrie lay dying in the dark; the Bone Man comes and sits with him, playing blues to help him pass over
- c. The homunculus whispers secrets to Ruger

PART III: DRY BONE SHUFFLE

20. -September 31 / late morning
 - a. Crew dreams of searching for Val and meeting the Bone Man
 - b. Terry has guilt trip, pops Xanax
 - c. Crow wakes up in hospital; Terry fills him in
 - d. Police roll call
 - e. Val Dreams of Ruger
 - f. Vic drives out to Griswold's house; gets money from homunculus
 - g. Mike in bed, recovering; hears story about Crow
 - h. Crow and the cops

21. Late Morning
 - a. Weinstock begins his autopsy.
 - b. Vic's musings at the garage; gets a psychic message from the Man and heads out to Dark Hollow
 - c. Terry, cops, Weinstock comes in with med report
 - d. Crow falls asleep and "dreams" of Ruger; Ruger threatens to destroy his life; he wakes and Val is there
 - e. Two-truck Eddie's sacrament
 - f. Mike with Golub; Mike meets Newton, spills the beans by accident

22. Late morning
 - a. Shunned places; Vic at the swamp; Ruger arrives, dies, is reborn; black blood of the earth

23. – Same time
 - a. Terry on elevator with Mandy
 - b. Polk & Vic; 30 pieces of silver
 - c. Weinstock & Crow: re Val & proposal.
 - d. Weinstock; Val's pregnancy

24. Sunset
 - a. Vic at the Passion Pit, gets Boyd
 - b. Terry wakes up out of a dream; nurse thinks she hears a "roar"
 - c. Polk & hooker; black blood of the earth
 - d. Mike throwing up in gutter; & black blood of the earth
 - e. Vic & Boyd – Trying to be seen; drops Boyd off in Black Marsh
 - f. Tow-truck Eddie & black blood of the earth
 - g. Bone Man weeping

25. -After sunset
 - a. Mike talks to Crow on the phone
 - b. LaMastra and Ferro at the Harvestman
 - c. Crow talks to Terry; gets a visit from Jerry Head; Mike brings engagement ring; Crow hires Mike
 - d. Terry gets drunk; contemplates suicide; calls Sarah; decides not to die just yet; Mandy appears says: "It will all be worse now."

- e. Mike leaves the hospital; walks past “Officer “Tow-Truck” Eddie Oswald; voice in Tow-Truck’s head tells him to “Wait”
- f. Crow goes to Val’s room; proposes; lights go out.

26. Night

- a. Crow investigates; Shanks calls in back-up; Ruger is in Val’s room
- b. Ferro and LaMastra get the call
- c. Crow and Ruger fight; Shanks is knocked out; Val & Crow shoot Ruger; Val passes out; Ruger wakes up and whispers: “Ubel Griswold sends his regards!”

Epilogue:

- 1. Aftermath; Cops and Weinstock
- 2. Vic contemplating how well things were going
- 3. Crow brooding about Griswold and Wingate; hears blues as he falls asleep
- 4. Ruger in morgue; “Wait”