

BOOGIE MEN IN THE BRONX

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EXT. THE SOUTH BRONX - MORNING

As the sun rises over the SOUTH BRONX, a buck toothed BUM, wearing a tattered trench coat and bread bag shoes, stumbles through a neighborhood full of burned-out buildings and stripped cars. Over his shoulder, he carries a pair of wooden crutches.

SUBTITLE - THE "BOOGIE DOWN" BRONX, 1978

As the Bum creeps past a BOARDED-UP WAREHOUSE, a MILK TRUCK pulls out of the building and makes its way down the garbage strewn street. Spitting on the sidewalk, the Bum glances over at the truck's passengers, two white MEN dressed in lab coats.

RADIO ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

...An unidentified man was discovered in the South Bronx this morning, killed by a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head...

INT. MILK TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Clutching a Styrofoam cup of scalding hot coffee, DR. STEVENS (60) shifts nervously in the passenger seat as his young ASSISTANT (20) switches off the radio.

ASSISTANT

Awesome! Dr. Stevens, your plan, it worked.

Gazing at the war zone that is the South Bronx, Dr. Stevens smiles nervously as he takes a sip of Java when the milk truck hits a pot hole, SPILLING the hot coffee all over him.

DR. STEVENS

Careful! If the compound gets on us, we'll be "transformed" within the hour.

He looks back at the trucks' CARGO HOLD that's full of RATTLING glass canisters containing neon green goo.

EXT. STREETS - CONTINUOUS

But there's still more danger ahead. As the milk truck drives through the Bronx, we catch glimpses of SHADOWY FIGURES creeping behind blackened buildings, spying on the truck's progress.

INT. MILK TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

ASSISTANT

Where are we dumping this stuff?

DR. STEVENS

Jersey, of course.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

The spies finally come into view. Two members of the SAVAGE STINGERS, a 1970's street gang ala' *The Warriors*, watch the milk truck through binoculars as it slowly drives down the street towards them.

They are SMILEY (18), the gang's handsome, Puerto Rican president, and BIG DON (20), his African American, heavy weight lover, enforcer.

The back of the two men's denim vests are decorated with a SCORPION that holds a fat joint in one pincher and a switch blade in the other.

Big Don's young sister, LIL' MOMMA (6), skips rope behind them as Smiley impatiently checks his watch.

SMILEY

Damn it. Where the fuck's Chomper?

He hands his binoculars to Big Don.

LIL' MOMMA

Oooh! Smiley! You said a bad word.

Smiley hurriedly ties his karate black belt around his waist.

LIL' MOMMA (CONT'D)

You shoulda' said, "*GOSH DARN IT it. Where the fuck's Chomper?*"

Good one! Smiley and Big Don laugh.

SMILEY

Lil' Momma, we gotta' get you to Hollywood. You the next Rudy Ray Moore.

BIG DON

You Dolly-Mite!

Lil' Momma and Smiley cringe at Big Don's lame joke.

LIL' MOMMA

Big Don, let me handle the jokes.

SMILEY

(laughing)

For real. Now, me and your big bro,
we got some business to attend to.
Go buy yourself a Mars Bar, girl.

Smiley hands Lil' Momma a crinkled dollar bill. As she happily skips away, Big Don *finally* spots CHOMPER (20)-- the buck toothed Bum from earlier.

BIG DON

There he is. Show time.

Pretending to drunkenly STAGGER into the street, Chomper steps right in front of the milk truck's path.

INT. MILK TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

DR. STEVENS

Watch out!

His Assistant SLAMS on the brakes just in the nick of time; the cylinders RATTLE, sending a chill up the doctor's spine.

DR. STEVENS (CONT'D)

Careful.

Flipping the scientists the middle finger, Chomper slowly hobbles up the street BLOCKING the truck's path.

CHOMPER

(through buck teeth)

Fuck you, suckas'.

INT. DELIVERY TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

ASSISTANT

(honking)

Come on! Move it!

In the truck's SIDE MIRROR, we spot five SAVAGE STINGERS pushing a rusty shopping cart. They are B-BOP, E.R. (wearing a stethoscope), CHUCKY CHAINS, GROOVIN', and ZORRO (20).

ASSISTANT (CONT'D)

(honking)

There's a sidewalk for a reason!
Use it!

CHOMPER

Forget that, jack. I ain't stepping
in no dog shit!

INT. MILK TRUCK'S CARGO BOX - CONTINUOUS

Smiley and Big Don stealthily break into the CARGO BOX and quickly toss the glass cylinders to the gang, who then drop them haphazardly into the rusty shopping cart. It's a small miracle they don't break.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Big Don WHISTLES-- mission accomplished! As Chomper hobbles back onto the sidewalk, we see the gang has spray painted "SAVAGE STINGERS" across the milk truck's cargo doors.

As the truck drives off, Smiley quizzically holds up a canister of neon green goo.

SMILEY

What *is* this shit?

TITLE CARD - BOOGIE MEN IN THE BRONX

The TITLE CARD is SPRAY PAINTED across the screen.