

MOO SHU 2 - THE HUNT

by

Deb Meyer

A Comedic Short

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Cast of Characters

RED TRED:

A calm, soft-talking hunting guide, who is narrating his hunting expedition show as he speaks.

ROD STEELE:

A frustrated elk hunter.

BILLIE:

The Camera Guy. He has no lines. He just follows along pretending to film the hunters.

Scene

SETTING: Present day. Late afternoon. Somewhere in a West Texas canyon.

AT RISE: RED TRED and ROD STEELE enter wearing hunting clothes. They talk in slightly hushed tones. BILLIE the CAMERAMAN follows behind them. TRED occasionally turns and talks to the camera or to BILLIE.

TRED

It's day three, and we're up about 9,000 ft. here in the Texas Hill Country. The sun is just beginning to set behind the west peak of the ridge. The temperature's starting to drop and the elk should be moving down this way soon. We've been glassing this ridge for about four hours now and-

STEELE

(Excited, but hushed tone) Tred! Bull! Bull elk! Six O'clock. Should I take the shot?

TRED

This is Rod Steele's first hunt in the canyon, and...

STEELE

I'm taking the shot. I'm taking the shot.

TRED

Steel's shooting a .300 Winmag with a Leupold scope. That scope should make it easy to take down one of these bad boys should he actually *(pause)* ah-ah-ah - chooo! *(sneezes loudly)*

STEELE fires his gun and misses

STEELE

Damn.

TRED

Yep, looks like that shot was too high. It went right over that bad-boy's shoulder. Sorry about the sneeze, Steele. Ragweed. Gets me every time.

TRED turns to BILLIE the camera guy.

TRED

Billie, we'll need to edit out his "damn".

STEELE

Did you see that monster? Had to be at least a 6x6. Son-of-a-bi-

TRED

Birch, yes, the birch are magnificent this time of year. Family show, Steele, keep it clean.

STEELE

Unbelievable. First, you say, wait for a bull.

TRED

Yep. It's all about patience.

STEELE

Then I spot a 6x6 and you sneeze loud enough to clear out the canyon.

TRED

Like I said, patience, plus wind-indicators and scent control.

STEELE

I'm steeped in the stench of that pricey elk urine you sold me.

TRED

Trust me, Steele, if they scent you, they're headin' for higher ground. That urine you're wearing will bring 'em in hot and horny.

Turns to BILLIE, the camera guy.

We'll edit that out too.

STEELE

It better, or I want my money back.

TRED

Relax Steele, next thing you know that big ol' 6x6 will be doubling back, heading right for ya, with love in his eyes.

STEELE

Yeah, yeah, whatever.

TRED

Look, I've been guiding elk hunts here for over 15 years. I've hunted this ridge with more rookies than I can count, and never sent a hunter home without a trophy.

STEELE

First time for everything.

TRED starts walking away.

STEELE

Taking your toys and going home?

TRED

You're not leaving me much choice here.

TRED turns and talks to the camera guy.

Billie, turn off the camera.

TRED walks a bit further, opens his backpack, takes out a small white Chinese take-out box, opens it and sets in on the ground, then walks back to where Steele is.

Okay Billie, get ready for the money shot. Steele, lock and load.

STEELE

(Sarcastic laugh) Chinese? You think you're gonna coax a bull elk in with Chinese food?

TRED

Trust me, Steele, once they get a whiff of that Moo Shu, they're all yours.

STEELE picks up his backpack and starts to leave.

STEELE

You're nuts. That's it. I'm done.

TRED

One, two....right on cue.

Cue sound effects of a snorting elk crashing through some brush. STEELE *fumbles with his gun.*

STEELE

Holy crap! What the hell? He's coming too fast! He's coming too fast!

TRED *grabs STEELE'S gun and shoots the elk.*

TRED

There ya go Steele. That's an impressive 6x6 you got there.

STEELE

I, uh...Chinese food?

TRED

I'm telling ya. Never underestimate the power of Moo Shu.