

Three Trailers Down Book Excerpt:

So, why was Sylvia here? It was obvious she was getting away from something or someone. She didn't look like a working type, so Newberry discounted the idea she had stolen money, or cooked the books, or anything that had to do with business. That left getting away from someone. That seemed plausible because she was still beautiful, but must have been a real knockout a few years back.

The car was another giveaway to this probability. She was very comfortable driving the Cadillac. It's a big car—women who aren't used to them drive them like they are in an army six-by: gripping the wheel and looking straight out the windshield with a determined look that they are going to conquer the beast, or at least make it go where they want. But Sylvia wheeled the thing around corners while laid back and relaxed, and anyone could see she was enjoying driving and having fun. And her clothes, they were expensive and hot and how she wore them didn't take a lot of time and preparation to make her look like a million bucks.

No, she had money all her life and only people who have that can pull off that look. So who was she running from? Not a mark on her when he first saw her, and he saw most of her that first day. So it wasn't physical abuse. Rule that out. It was apparent from the things he saw her driving in with after shopping that it wasn't a lack of money. From his office, Newberry could see the front of the trailer and he had seen no one visiting her. It must not have been a love triangle. The possibilities were getting shorter for Newberry and all this speculation and thinking was becoming a mystery; he loved having something to ponder. It would be his project to find out the secrets of Sylvia. No one was in the laundromat, and he leaned back with his feet in the desk drawer, putting his hat over his face. For the next two hours, Newberry dreamed of red Cadillacs, blonde hair, car chases, and impossible physical feats he performed while spying on Sylvia.

by Douglas Chandler Graham