

DOG DAY AFTERNOON, by Frank Pierson – SAL AND SYLVIA

THE BACK CONFERENCE ROOM. Sal is seated at the Conference table, rifle on the table. Edna and Sylvia are also seated there.

SYLVIA Somebody give me a cigarette. I never smoked before in my life but I got a right to start now if I want to.

SAL You don't smoke ... why do you want to start now?

SYLVIA Because I'm scared, that's why. You never smoked?

SAL I used to, but I stopped.

SYLVIA You stopped? Why?

SAL Because I don't want cancer.

SYLVIA You don't want cancer? You're about to get your head blown off, you're worried about cancer.
(to Maria) Gimme the cigarette.

SAL No! I'm not kidding. Don't you understand? You're pure!

SYLVIA Pure?

SAL You shouldn't start now.

SYLVIA For God's sake! As soon as I'm outta this bank robbery, I'm gonna stop ... okay?

SAL Go ahead. Do what you want to do. I hate to see you break a perfect record. You oughta take care of your body.

SYLVIA My body? What for?

SAL Your body is the temple of the Lord.

SYLVIA You rob a bank, but you keep your body pure, is that it?

SAL You gonna smoke the cigarette?

SYLVIA Yes...

SAL gets up and starts to leave the room. SYLVIA grabs the cigarette.

SYLVIA Sal ... If I die of cancer it's going to be half your fault.

SAL *(exiting)* No - it's because you're weak.