

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

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Typical School Day

INT: SCHOOL CLASSROOM MOST OF SEATS ARE FILLED. ON WHITE BOARD DATE SHOWS IT IS A MONDAY.

Sound of school bell. Josh walking into room just in time but he is not in a hurry. Two students enter briskly after him, scrambling to their sets.

Josh has tired looking eyes. Clothes are presentable, not as new or clean looking as classmates.

TEACHER:

Good Morning Josh. Glad to see you.

Josh gives best "fake" smile.

JOSH:

You too mam. Thank you.

Josh nods to kids as he walks by. A few nod and wave but most have attention elsewhere or are unresponsive to Josh. Most of class is in the room, seated, some talking to each other, whispering and SOME pointing towards front of the room.

Josh takes seat, sees other kids quickly pulling out a pencil, putting up everything else. He looks around and sees some of the "designer kids" sitting straight up gleaming at the front of the room with three or more pencils on their desk.

PAN FROM JOSH'S EYES AS HE LOOKS TO FRONT OF THE ROOM TO SEE POP QUIZ - #2 PENCIL ONLY WRITTEN ON THE WHITE BOARD. JUMP CUT ZOOM SHOTS TO "POP QUIZ" "#2 PENCIL ONLY"

TEACHER:

(Back to class, begins to underline words on the white board)

AS YOU ALL KNOW, WE ARE PREPARING FOR THE STANDARDIZED TESTING COMING UP THAT WILL BE TAKEN IN PENCIL.

SO PUT UP YOUR TABLETS, CALCULATORS, AND EVERYTHING ELSE WE USE THAT HAS MORE TECHNOLOGY THAN A PENCIL.

CLASSMATES:

Smattering of groans, gasps, a few laughs at TEACHER'S bad joke.

TEACHER:

(new voice, throwing as if she has a multiple personality disorder (think Robin Williams as Genie) - obviously acting like a robot / repeating in a way kids have heard before -- maybe a celebrate -- TRUMP?)

FOR THIS POP QUIZ, YOU MUST...USE...A...#2... PENCIL.

Tapping the white board for each syllable

JOSH and few others pull out pens. Some pens and pencils, showing they have several options.

JOSH's pen is pulled from worn pocket, pen is gnawed on.

TEACHER: (CONT'D)

Even though i was sooo nice to announce the Pop Quiz FRIII-Day and EEEVEN post the Pop Quiz to our Homework page...with an email reminder set for Saturday, Sunday and this morning...

Teacher begins to sharpen a new pencil

TEACHER: (CONT'D)

HOPE-ful-ly you took the time to seize this opportunity to receive an E-Z-A.

Gasps by students

TEACHER: (CONT'D)

Yes. This Pop Quiz will count on your grade report as a Quiz grade.

CLASSMATES:

Groaning. Shuffling nervous energy from everyone.

Josh is calm. He studied. Turns to his old book bag and begins to dig for his pencil.

TEACHER:
 (LOOKING AROUND WITH
 "TEACHER'S EYE" AT
 STUDENTS WITH UTENSIL
 OTHER THAN A PENCIL ON
 THEIR DESK -- speaks in
 an "older man/woman
 voice.)

AND YYYESSSS PENS ARE NOT PENCILS.
 PENCIL MEANS PENCIL.

(dramatic pause, in
 another voice...surfer
 guy/valley girl)
 And did I mention dudes and
 dudettes, the Pop Quiz will
 requires you to use a #2 pencil?

JOSH, MORE FRANTIC NOW, PATS DOWN THE POCKETS IN BOOK BAG,
 REACHES INTO BAG, TWO FINGERS COMES OUT A HOLE IN THE BOTTOM.

FLASHBACK: TIME-REVERSE TO CAFETERIA, SCHOOL BREAKFAST TABLE

Josh and his sister Alisha are eating with her friends, she
 is using a small #2 pencil as her kindergarten friends are
 using overside "chubby" pencils.

STOP TIME-REVERSE.

JOSH HANDS HIS PENCIL TO HIS LITTLE SISTER WHILE THEY ARE
 EATING SCHOOL BREAKFAST SO SHE CAN WORK ON PRINTING HER ABC'
 IN HER WRITING TABLET.

CLASSROOM

LAST FEW STUDENTS ARE GETTING OUT PENCILS. NOW EVERY STUDENT
 BUT JOSHUA HAS A PENCIL ON DESK TOP. KIDS SEEMINGLY IGNORING
 JOSH. JOSH DOES NOT ASK AROUND CLASS FOR A PENCIL.

TEACHER begins to walk around room placing Pop Quiz on each
 desk. Student's "brown nosing" pleasers like a room full of
 eagerly, well-trained dogs.

ZOOM IN: JOSH'S FACE. STRESS IS MOUNTING/BUILDING. ZOOM IN ON HIS EYES "SEE THE MORNING THROUGH HIS EYES"

DREAMSCAPE: MEMORY-LIKE. REVERSE JOSH'S MORNING, THE PAST 3 HOURS

QUICKLY ZOOM OUT FROM JOSH'S EYE REVERSE THE SCENES FROM JOSH'S MORNING. (SPEED UP TO EVENT, THEN SLOW MO THE SCENE IN REVERSE...SPEED UP TO PREVIOUS EVENT...REPEAT FOR EACH SCENE. THE FOLLOWING ARE SHOT AS THE SCENE THEN REVERSED IN POST)

INT: SCHOOL HALLWAY: NICE LOOKING SCHOOL

JOSH hugging little sister outside her classroom then walking to his class, taking bug breath before walking into his classroom.

INT: SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Sitting with sister. He pours he milk for cereal. Puts in stray for her juice box. Peals a banana they share. He hands her his pencil and is helping her finish her homework and both eat. Kids around them are sleepy, reading, -- feeling is "world is going on, they are in this together."

EXT: EARLY MORNING, SUN COMING UP ON POLICE STATION AS SCHOOL BUS PASSES.

Passes local police station, Josh looks up to see an all too familiar site. Sister is sleeping on shoulder.

EXT: TRAILER PARK SCHOOL BUS STOP. COLD MORNING. OTHER KIDS HAVE ON WARMER LOOKING CLOTHING ARE ALREADY BOARDING.

JOSH helps little sister step up onto the bus. They had to jog to the bus stop. Did not want to wait in the cold.

INT: TRAILER

JOSH and SISTER are looking out the window. See red flashing lights and hear brakes of the school bus drive by. JOSH opens door, SISTER scurries down stairs to trailer, JOSH turns, produces key, locks top lock on door, turns to catch up to SISTER.

INT: TRAILER

JOSH and SISTER walk out of bathroom, towards Living/Bedroom. JOSH shields sister from looking back in to an empty room, messy floor, no signs of anyone in the bed. Josh notices MOM is not in her bedroom.

INT: TRAILER BATHROOM

JOSH is combing SISTER's hair as she brushes her teeth.

INT: TRAILER LIVING ROOM/BEDROOM.

JOSH and Sister sitting on bed, she's waking up, he hands sister clothes he has sniffed to verify they are wearable.... Gets clothes out of pile from floor for him to get dressed...

JOSH walks to window up, to open curtains to let light from the street lamp into the main room revealing "pig style".

JOSH reaches up from the floor to nudge sister to wake-up SISTER sleeping on couch above him. Out-dated girlie designed sheets made to look like her bed.

WATCH ON JOSH'S WRIST ILLUMINATES TO SHOW IT IS 6:30SOMETHING IN THE MORNING.

TRAIN GOING BY OUTSIDE, WHISTLE BLOWS. PAN BACK TO TRAILER. STILL DARK OUTSIDE.

WATCH ON JOSH'S WRIST ILLUMINATES TO SHOW IT IS 4:20SOMETHING IN THE MORNING.

JOSH laying still, eye wide-open, small wooden bat in one hand, large fork in other hand, both clutched tightly.

POLICE SIRENS HEARD IN DISTANCE OUTSIDE WINDOW...

WATCH ON JOSH'S WRIST ILLUMINATES TO SHOW IT IS 2:10SOMETHING IN THE MORNING.

AFTER/AS GUN SHOT HEARD. JOSH SITTING STRAIGHT UP, EYES WIDE OPEN, HEAVY BREATHING. REACHES OUT AND PULLS BASEBALL BAT CLOSER ON ONE SIDE. LOOKS OVER AS SISTER SOUND ASLEEP. WALKS TO KITCH SINK, PULLS OUT A LARGE FORK. WALKS BACK TO SIT ON FLOOR NEXT TO SLEEPING SISTER.

SOUND: Gunshots. Close range.

JOSH PEERS THROUGH CURTAIN / SHEET TO LOOK OUT AT ROAD IN FRONT OF TRAILER. PEOPLE ARGUING OUTSIDE, SEEM TO BE DRINKING FROM PARTY.

WATCH ON JOSH'S WRIST ILLUMINATES TO SHOW IT IS 1:30SOMETHING IN THE MORNING.

DREAM SCAPE FADES TO REALITY

INT: CLASSROOM

BACK IN THE CLASSROOM

START ZOOM OUT FROM JOSH'S EYES TO SEE ENTIRE CLASSROOM WHERE ALL IS QUITE AS STUDENTS ARE FEVERISHLY WORKING ON POP QUIZ.

JOSH is sitting still. Looking as defeated as his morning flashback suggests he should be with his stressors.

JOSH see the TEACHER walking up in slow-motion, "puffed up" as child assumes, mood of scene slowly darkens.

JOSH: VO
(mad, short of breath)
PENCIL? This is, ugh.

Looks at words "Pop Quiz" on the paper. Scans through instructions and stops on the word "pencil"

A pencil? I'm gunna flunk this stupid quiz over a pencil. The pencil I let my sister use? Dang.

Looks up to see teacher walking towards his row, quickly avoids eye-contact, looks at wall/poster, sees her walking up....she puts a Pop Quiz on his desk.

JOSH: VO (CONT'D)
 I bet SHE'S glad I don't have a
 dumb pencil. She's the dummy is she
 flunk me and I get help back in her
 class next year.

JOSH SITTING UP CLOSES EYES, REOPENS WITH WATERY EYES.
 STUNNED, MOTIONLESS.

Holding back anxiety of the all-nighter, JOSH'S breathing is
 racing.

ZOOM OUT TO SHOW 1 STUDENT NOT WORKING, CONCERNED TEACHER
 WALKING TOWARDS THAT STUDENT AS REST OF STUDENTS ARE
 OBLIVIOUS TO WHAT IS GOING ON WITH WORK. TEACHER HAS PAUSED
 A FEW DESKS AWAY FROM JOSH. CLOSE ENOUGH TO HEAR HIM WHISPER,
 AS ARE A FEW OTHER STUDENTS

JOSH:
 (whispering)
 1-2-3-4

Exhaling breath.

JOSH: (CONT'D)
 1-2-3-4

JOSH repeats this, breath is noticeably getting under
 control.

JOSH HEAD STILL DOWN. STUDENTS START TO LOOK OVER. TEACHER
 WALKS UP.

TEACHER:
 Good morning JOSH. I'm glad you are
 here.

Teacher slips a sharpened #2 pencil between JOSH'S folded
 arms.

TEACHER: (CONT'D)
 Is this your pencil? I found it
 near your desk last Friday after
 class.

JOSH raises up slightly. Notices brand new, freshly
 sharpened pencil under his face.

1/2 smile, more stunned, then realizes his teacher cares.

TEACHER: (CONT'D)
Nice watch Josh.

Teacher winks. The exchange smiles.

JOSH: VO
Come-on Josh. You know she's ok.

Looks back at watch.

JOSH: VO (CONT'D)
And she's got good taste in watches
for an old lady.

With breathing back to normal, and demeanor improved, eyes get focused and JOSH begins to tackle the Pop Quiz.

LATER IN THE DAY

CLASSROOM.

Students sitting antsy in seats as TEACHER is handing back the POP Quiz's from early that morning.

TEACHER:
(radio DJ like voice)
I know many of you are looking
forward to how your Pop Quiz went
soooo here ya go.

JOSH receives paper and camera zooms in on him, satisfied with his grade. Looks up at Teacher who is busy consoling a student or two that does not like their grade. Then JOSH looks at pencil, slides it into a zip-loc baggie with crayons and a pen.

Zoom in to baggie with the worn crayons and new-ish pencil.