

Production Company:
Dead Zone Production Corp.

THE DEAD ZONE

"THE MOUNTAIN"

Production #2017

Written by
Michael Cassutt
story 4/08/03
teleplay 5/16/03
revised teleplay 5/22/03

Directed by
Mike Rohl

Production Draft	May 23/03
Blue Pgs: i,1-21	Jun 02/03
Pink Pgs: 6,8,10,12-12A,20-45	Jun 03/03
Yellow Pgs: 15-15A,43-54	Jun 04/03
Green Pgs: i,ii,5-6,8-9A,15-20	Jun 05/03
Gold Pgs: 22-24,26-27	Jun 05/03
2nd White Pgs: 25-41,45-54	Jun 06/03 *

Copyright © 2003 Lions Gate Television. All rights reserved. No portion of this script may be performed, published, sold or distributed by any means, or quoted or published in any medium, including on any web site, without prior written consent. Disposal of this script copy does not alter any of the restrictions set forth above.

THE DEAD ZONE

"THE MOUNTAIN"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPIRIT LAKE - DAY (STOCK) 1

A beautiful summer morning on this glittering mountain lake in the far north of Penobscot County. Small fishing boats dot the water. Smoke rises from campfires along the shore.

JOHNNY (O.S.)

The fish aren't hungry but I am.

2 ANGLE ON THE BANNERMAN BOAT 2

JOHNNY and WALT are at the stern while J.J. is in the bow. All three are dressed for camping. They have fishing gear, but no fish. J.J. pulls his line out of the water.

J.J.

I'm bored.

WALT

Fishing takes time J.J.

JOHNNY

Maybe we're using the wrong kind of worms.

WALT

(annoyed)

Oh? What kind of worms would you recommend?

JOHNNY

The kind that fish eat.

Walt is trying to be helpful, but there's an edge to his dealings with Johnny.

J.J. tries to impale a fresh worm on his hook.

JOHNNY

Here, J.J., let me help with that--

He quickly paws through the can of worm dirt, picking up several worms, until--

3 A JOHNNY FLASH - WORM VISION 3

A TROUT THE SIZE OF VERMONT RACES TOWARD US, MOUTH OPEN...
BEHIND IT, THE UNDERSIDE OF THE BANNERMAN BOAT, THE SUN
SHINING ON THE WATER... THEN THE TROUT MOUTH ENGULFS US...

4 RESUME BOAT 4

Johnny allows himself a little smile as he hands the pole
with the baited hook back to J.J.

JOHNNY
Try this one.

J.J. drops the line in the water--

WALT
And be patient--

There's an IMMEDIATE TUG on J.J.'s line--

J.J.
(as surprised as anyone)
Dad! I've got one!

WALT
(gives Johnny a look)
Okay, okay, hold on--

J.J. pulls a flopping trout into the boat. Momentary
excitement as this beast of the depths is subdued.

J.J.
I caught a fish!

JOHNNY
He's a whopper too.

WALT
(sarcastic, to Johnny)
Guess we just needed the right
worms.

CUT TO:

5 EXT. SPIRIT LAKE - SHORE - DAY 5

Two tents and a fire. SARAH waves as Walt's boat pulls
in.

SARAH
Ahoy, the mighty fishermen!

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

J.J.
Mom, I caught a fish!

SARAH
Good job, J.J.!
(then quietly to Johnny
re: J.J.)
How's it going?

Johnny watches Walt haul the boat ashore as J.J. SPLASHES into the shallow water.

JOHNNY
It's going.

SARAH
Hang in there.

J.J.
Ow! I stepped on something.

J.J. almost drops the trout.

SARAH
Oh, honey, did you cut your foot?

J.J.
There's something down there.

Walt reaches down and pulls something metallic out of the water.

WALT
Aluminum. Looks like a piece of
a boat.

He hands it to Johnny, whose hand starts to SHAKE--

6 *FLASH! - THE FRAGMENT*

6

GROWS INTO A METAL PLATE, SHAKING VIOLENTLY ON THE SIDE OF AN AIRCRAFT FUSELAGE, WHICH GROWS INTO A SMALL JET PLANE WOBBLING ACROSS A STORMY SKY ON ITS DEATH ARC.

7 *INT. COCKPIT - DAY*

7

TWO PILOTS STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL AS THE CAMERA WITHDRAWS THROUGH THE COCKPIT DOOR AND THROUGH A SMALL CARGO HOLD FILLED WITH FIRST DIRECT PACKAGES OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES--

8 EXT. SPIRIT LAKE - DAY 8

JOHNNY LOOKS UP AND SEES THE SMOKY TRAIL OF THE PLANE AS
IT DIVES TOWARD A DISTINCTIVE MOUNTAIN PEAK TO HIS RIGHT,
TO THE EAST--

9 RESUME JOHNNY 9

Dazed by this vision as he holds up the fragment.

SARAH
Johnny? What is it?

Off Johnny's look.

FADE OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

10 EXT. BOAT SHOP - DAY 10

A shack by the lake. Several handsome young people in bathing suits, a surprising number of them women in their early 20s, stroll in and out.

MARC (V.O.)

It *might* be.

11 INT. BOAT SHOP - DAY 11

The fragment lies on the counter as MARC, 32, the owner, examines it with Walt and J.J.

J.J.

(proud)

I found it.

WALT

Wasn't there a plane crash up here, what, two - three years ago?

MARC

First Direct flight 233, September '99. Courier jet went down in a storm. A Dassault 20-C, crew of two. Massive search turned up a couple of pieces, but not the plane. Spent quite a bit of time looking for it myself.

SARAH

How is that possible?

MARC

Terrain is rugged enough, could be a few hundred yards off the trail you'd never see it.

ANGLE - POSTCARD DISPLAY

Johnny starts flipping through this collection of bucolic lake scenes and landscapes. He's trying to stay out of this.

WALT

Who's the Ranger up here, we'd like to report this.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

Marc holds up the fragment.

MARC

What makes you so sure this wasn't from a boat--

J.J.

It's not from a boat. It's from a plane crash. Johnny saw it.

MARC

What do you mean he saw it?

J.J.

(matter-of-fact)

Johnny sees stuff. He can even tell you where the fish are biting. He's a psychic.

Marc turns toward Johnny, who can't escape him.

MARC

Oh yeah?

JOHNNY

Listen, I don't want to make a big deal out of this...

PAULINE, 25, appears. She is dressed in cut-offs and a tank top that are shorter and tighter than circumstances require, but her manner isn't slutty: think of her as full of life.

PAULINE

What's going on?

MARC

These folks think they found a piece of Flight 233. Mr. Smith here's a "psychic" ...seems to think it crashed on the east side of the mountain.

PAULINE

That would explain why you couldn't find it after three years searching the west side.

Pauline gives her full attention to this handsome stranger.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (2)

11

PAULINE

...Wait a minute... Johnny Smith?
Didn't you save a bunch of kids
from a fire in Cleaves Mills?
Caught some kind of serial killer
too didn't you?

Sarah clears her throat and nods toward J.J.

PAULINE

Oh, sorry... You really think you
know where that plane went down?

Johnny's eye returns to the postcard display--

ANGLE - POSTCARD

A mountain scene showing a distinctive peak. (Our
location) The title says "Mount Mannesquan".

JOHNNY

It was heading toward this peak.

PAULINE

Mount Mannesquan? That *is* east
of here--

WALT

If you could just get a hold of
the Ranger for us.

PAULINE

That would be Randy Turman. I'll
get him on the radio.

Pauline and Marc exchange a look as she reaches for the
radio.

CUT TO:

12 EXT. RANGER STATION - DAY

12

CLOSE on a SNAKE slithering across the path. REVERSE to
find J.J., Walt, Sarah, Johnny and Pauline stopping dead
in their tracks.

WALT

Careful!

The ranger -- RANDY TURMAN -- is in his mid-thirties.
He's good-looking, rugged, totally in control of his
surroundings. He SCOOPS UP the snake.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

TURMAN

You found my escape artist.
(smiles at J.J.)
Wanna touch?

J.J. is torn between fear and fascination.

J.J.

(to Walt and Sarah)
Can I?

SARAH

Is it poisonous?

JOHNNY

There are no poisonous snakes in
Maine.

Everyone, including Ranger Turman, looks his way.

TURMAN

Like Ireland. This is a milk
snake. It only looks like the
North American coral snake--

Hesitantly, J.J. touches the snake as it coils up and
around Turman's arms.

J.J.

It's not slimy.

TURMAN

Nope. What's your name?

J.J.

J.J.

TURMAN

Well, J.J., it's the color of the
bands that lets you know. "Red
and black, friend of Jack, red
and yellow--

JOHNNY

(beats him to it)
"--kill a fellow."

J.J. laughs -- but the ranger is still holding the snake.

TURMAN

You must be John Smith. Pauline
says you have information about
the Flight 233 crash.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (2)

12

PAULINE

He says he saw it crash on Mount Mannesquan.

WALT

If he says he saw it, that's what happened.

(intros himself)

Walt Bannerman. Penobscot County Sherriff. Mr. Smith has consulted on a number of cases for us. I've never known him to be wrong.

TURMAN

(open-minded)

Really. What exactly did you see?

Johnny orients himself, and raises his right hand toward the mountain.

JOHNNY

Just an impression I got off the piece of metal. Inside a cargo plane. Pilots fighting for control -- the engine stalled -- they went into a dive toward that peak.

Turman glances at Pauline. Interesting.

TURMAN

All that from a piece of metal? Seems impossible, but if you're right, I need to go up there. There are two families who had nothing to bury. Sure like to find some closure for them. Think if I took you up there we could find the crash site?

JOHNNY

I'm not the hiker I used to be, but I might be able to narrow down the search.

WALT

A lot of ground to cover, I'll come, too.

Walt turns to Sarah.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (3)

12

WALT

Sorry J.J. this sort of shoots
the fishing trip... You and mom
can stay here till we get back.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (4)

12

J.J.

No way, I'm going with you, Dad.

Walt, Johnny and Sarah exchange a three-way look.

TURMAN

It's okay with me. Most likely
be an overnighter. You up for an
adventure kid?

J.J.

You bet.

SARAH

I don't know J.J. Who knows what
we're going to find up there.

J.J.

(disappointed)

Aw, Mom! I'm not scared! I just
touched a snake!

Turman laughs as he pulls out a map.

TURMAN

Don't worry ma'am, we'll keep him
out of harm's way. There's a
cabin on that east trail. We can
camp there tonight--

13 EXT. BOAT SHOP - DAY

13

Ranger Turman says goodbye to Marc and Pauline in the
BACKGROUND as Johnny, Walt, Sarah, and J.J. pull on their
packs.

TURMAN

Ready to go?

J.J.

You bet. Can I go with the ranger?

WALT

Sure. We'll be right behind.

SARAH

You listen to Ranger Turman though.

J.J.

Yes Mom...

WALT

(to Johnny)

You gonna be okay?

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: 13

JOHNNY

Yeah. Don't worry about me.

Marc and Pauline watch as Johnny catches up to the rest of the group.

DISSOLVE TO:

14 OMITTED 14
AND AND
15 15

16 EXT. TRAIL - DAY 16

A couple of hours later. It is now mid-afternoon. Johnny catches up with Walt and Sarah.

SARAH

How's the leg holding up?

JOHNNY

(a white lie)

So far the hike is easier than one of Bruce's workouts.

WALT

Well at least somebody is bonding with J.J.

He nods ahead--

ANGLE - J.J. WITH TURMAN

Turman is pointing to some object in a tree, to J.J.'s rapt attention.

RESUME SARAH AND JOHNNY

SARAH

Don't listen to him. Now's your chance to catch up. J.J.'s studying ecology in school, I seem to remember that being one of your favorite subjects.

JOHNNY

Look, Sarah, it's one thing for J.J. and I to get to know each other better on a family camping trip... but now...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

now this has become about one of my visions. I was just hoping it could be... normal.

SARAH

Johnny, if you're waiting for the perfect moment it's never going to happen. Now go on.

Johnny looks at her, thinks about it for a beat, then heads off to catch up with J.J. and the Ranger, leaving Sarah behind with Walt.

WALT

What if he's right? What if it just isn't meant to be?

Sarah watches Johnny go, hoping that's not true.

16A J.J. AND TURMAN

16A

Looking up into a tree at a large bird's nest as Johnny catches up.

J.J.

Johnny look, Ranger Randy showed me an owl's nest.

JOHNNY

Oh yeah, look at that. Spotted Owl?

TURMAN

Logging back in the 70's almost wiped em out.

J.J.

Aren't they endangered?

JOHNNY

(impressed)

That's right J.J. ...Everything in this forest is interconnected. If the owls weren't here to feed on the small animals, this whole habitat could be damaged.

Johnny starts looking around on the ground directly beneath the nest.

J.J.

Whatcha looking for?

(CONTINUED)

16A CONTINUED:

16A

Johnny finds something, sweeping away some debris on the ground.

JOHNNY

Owls are predators -- they eat small mammals like mice -- and they swallow them whole because they don't have teeth. They can't digest the bones, so they spit them out in what's called a pellet. There's one right here.

(CONTINUED)

16A CONTINUED: (2)

16A

J.J. leans in close to see.

E.C.U. - AN OWL PELLETT

A crushed up mouse skeleton about the size of an egg.

J.J.

Cool. It's like a smushed up skeleton. Can I touch it?

JOHNNY

Sure. Here, go show it to your mom, she'll love it.

Johnny puts the pellet in J.J.'s hand, and he goes running off with it.

JOHNNY AND TURMAN

Continue up the trail.

JOHNNY

You know your park.

TURMAN

Well, I am the ranger.

(beat)

You do all right, too. Most visitors wouldn't know the difference between a milk snake and a milk shake.

JOHNNY

I used to teach high school biology down in Cleaves Mills.

TURMAN

Nice town. A little crowded.

Johnny can't help laughing.

JOHNNY

Cleaves Mills? Too crowded?

TURMAN

Guess I'm not what you'd call a people person. Hell even Spirit Lake is getting a little crowded for me. Park Service cabin is just a few bends ahead. We'll camp there tonight.

(CONTINUED)

16A CONTINUED: (3) 16A

Just then a SCREAM draws there attention. Johnny and Turman turn to see:

JOHNNY'S POV

Walt is laughing as J.J. shows Sarah the owl pellet, thrusting it right in her face.

SARAH

Yes. Yes. It's very nice. Now get it away from me.

RESUME JOHNNY AND TURMAN

Sharing a laugh.

DISSOLVE TO:

16B STOCK SHOT - THE MOON 16B

Rising over the mountain peaks.

17 OMITTED 17

18 EXT. THE CABIN - NIGHT 18

A meal and several hours later. A fire burns down as Johnny, Sarah, Walt, J.J. and Turman sit around the campfire.

TURMAN

--they heard the snap of a branch.
No one was supposed to be there.
At first they thought it was a
black bear. Or maybe a brush
wolf.

Yes, Turman is in full scary story mode. J.J. is listening, trying to keep cool. It's not working.

TURMAN

So Ned, the first logger, goes to investigate. Wham! He disappears
(J.J. jumps)
The other logger, whose name was Gerald, takes the rifle and goes to investigate. Because he knows better than to go into the forest alone... at night.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

Turman's voice dies. Stays dead. After a moment--

J.J.

Then what?

TURMAN

They tracked him into the woods,
where the footprints suddenly
ended, as if he'd been yanked
into mid-air. Gerald and Ned
were never seen again.

J.J. can't help gasping. Sarah, too.

SARAH

(prompting)

Of course, this all happened a
looong time ago, right?

TURMAN

(picking up the hint)

True.

JOHNNY

The Old Man of Mount Mannesquan
retired to Florida in, what, 1992?

This gets a laugh, especially from J.J.

TURMAN

Okay, park rule: scary stories
must be followed by marshmallows.

He pulls a bag out of his pack, then starts searching for
sticks.

J.J.

Cool!

While everyone else gets ready for Marshmallows, something
catches Johnny's attention, drawing his look off into the
darkness

18A JOHNNY'S POV: THE STALKER - JOHNNY - INTERCUTTING

18A

Standing in the darkness, just beyond the light thrown
from the fire. It's eerie, like he's lit from another
dimension. He's staring at Johnny, saying something, but
there's no sound coming from his mouth. Johnny strains
to see him, not even sure he's there. The Stalker's hand
is in his pocket, and just as he's about to take it out
to show something to Johnny...

(CONTINUED)

18A CONTINUED:

18A

SARAH (O.S.)
What is it Johnny?

18B RESUME - WIDER

18B

Johnny turns to Sarah...

JOHNNY
...I thought I saw something.

Johnny turns back, the Stalker is gone. Everyone else looks -- nothing there.

WALT
(having fun)
Maybe it's the Old Man of Mount
Mannesquan...

J.J.'s eyes widen. He tucks up against Sarah.

SARAH
Walt...

Johnny knows he saw something, but isn't sure if it's a vision or real.

JOHNNY
Guess it's nothing...

Johnny's attention returns to the group as he shakes off the weird vision. J.J. barely has the first marshmallow in the fire when CRUNCH! A sound from THE WOODS STARTLES THE HELL out of them all.

ANGLE - MARC AND PAULINE

Emerge from the shadows. Both are burdened with heavy packs, which they waste no time in dropping.

MARC
Evening folks.

(CONTINUED)

18B CONTINUED:

18B

PAULINE
(politely)
Hope we didn't spook you.

She sees the surprise on the faces of Johnny, Walt and Sarah.

TURMAN
Well... this is a surprise.

MARC
It's a big mountain. Thought you could use a hand.

TURMAN
(to Johnny and company)
Marc spent three summers searching the mountain for that plane, so I guess we can't blame him for wanting to help.

MARC
I, ah, hope it's all right.

WALT
It's okay with me.

SARAH
An extra pair of eyes might be helpful.

MARC
And I've got something to show Mr. Smith here.

Marc takes a handkerchief out of his pack and peels it open to reveal another piece of metal -- this one is a bolt that is twisted and bent. Everyone watches as Marc unwraps the bolt and hands it to Johnny --

19 FLASH! - A VISION

19

The twisted bolt grows into the storm battered tail of the plane. As the rudder is buffeted by turbulence, the bolt rips loose and the rudder is peeled away by the wind, sending the plane into a dive.

20 OMITTED 20

21 *FLASH! - INSIDE THE PLANE* 21

As the doomed pilots fight for control, the now familiar peak filling their view.

PILOT

...Damn, we lost rudder control.

CO-PILOT

Watch out for the trees.

VISION ENDS:

22 RESUME JOHNNY AND THE OTHERS 22

TURMAN

(to Johnny, fascinated)

Are you seeing something?

JOHNNY

(still shaken)

The rudder was damaged and they went down in the trees.

MARC

The forest is really dense up on the east slope. If it hit there, no wonder we never found it!

ANGLE J.J.

His eyes as big as saucers, having heard everything.

RESUME WIDER

SARAH

(re: J.J.)

I think it's somebody's bedtime.

WALT

Should probably all get some sleep.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: 22

TURMAN

You three take the cabin. The rest of us can bunk under the stars.

J.J., Walt and Sarah head into the cabin as Johnny grabs his sleeping bag. Johnny exchanges a look with Pauline, who gives him a friendly smile. Maybe too friendly.

23 INT. CABIN - NIGHT 23

One room with a pot bellied stove and several logging or climbing tools hanging on the bare walls. J.J. is already in his sleeping bag on the floor, out like a light. Sarah and Walt are settling...

WALT

I wish I could drop off to sleep like that.

Sarah snuggles him.

SARAH

Well, if the mountain air doesn't work, I might have something...

She kisses him.

SARAH

You've been great about this whole weekend.

WALT

I have?

SARAH

Letting Johnny be part of this? I know it's not easy. I know-- (the verge of a confession?)

WALT

It's fine. Let's get some sleep.

Walt is not prepared to share his feelings on the subject. They hunker down for sleep, nothing more--

24 EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT 24

Johnny returns from a trip to the bushes to find Marc toasting the last of the marshmallows.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

MARC
(mouth full)
Sorry. No time for dinner.

JOHNNY
No problem.

PAULINE (O.S.)
Marc! I need help with this!

MARC
Here I come.

He tosses the marshmallow stick to the ground as he goes.

JOHNNY

left alone by the fire, looks back into the woods where he saw the Stalker earlier.

HIS POV

Nothing there.

RESUME - JOHNNY

shrugs it off. Notices one marshmallow left.

JOHNNY
...Can't waste this...

He picks up Marc's marshmallow stick, triggering --

25 FLASH - A VISION - INT. BOATHOUSE

25

Marc is hurriedly going through the contents of a small lock box full of newspaper clippings, setting them aside as he looks for something. A headline of one of the clippings reads: COURIER FLIGHT CRASHES IN MAINE, PILOTS FEARED DEAD -- ramp into the subhead -- TWO MILLION DOLLAR CARGO STILL MISSING.

The view WIDENS as Marc finds what he's looking for: the bolt he showed Johnny. He shuts the lock box, stuffs the bolt in his pocket, then grabs something else from under the counter -- A GUN.

26 RESUME JOHNNY 26

Staggered. For a moment he's torn... which way to turn...?

27 INT. CABIN - NIGHT 27

All three Bannermans are asleep as Johnny edges into the cabin.

JOHNNY
(whispers)
Walt--

Walt stirs sleepily, then SNAPS fully awake.

WALT
Johnny? What...?

JOHNNY
Something's up with that guy from
the boatshop.
(MORE)

27 CONTINUED:

27

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

He's got a gun.

WALT

Gun? You sure?

Walt recognizes the signs of a Johnny vision. Walt extracts himself from the sleeping bag.

WALT

Okay, okay...

(thinks)

Let's get Turman.

28 EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT

28

The fire has almost completely died down by now as Johnny and Walt finish filling in Turman in hushed tones.

JOHNNY

First they show up uninvited.

And now he's got a gun.

ANGLE - A TENT

Set up not far away. The light from a lantern inside shows two figures.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

There's something on that plane he wants.

TURMAN

How the hell...?

He looks from Walt to Johnny.

TURMAN (CONT'D)

...I see.

(sighs)

It looks like you're right Mr. Smith...

He reaches into his pack and PULLS OUT HIS OWN GUN, which he trains on Johnny and Walt.

TURMAN (CONT'D)

...Unfortunately.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

29 EXT. CAMPFIRE - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER

29

A tense Johnny and Walt sit before the campfire as Turman waits for Marc to take up position. Both carry pistols. They are nervous.

WALT

Why are you doing this?

JOHNNY

This was never about finding the dead pilots was it? There's something on that plane you want.

It's a guess, not a vision. But it hits home. Pauline ELBOWS Marc.

TURMAN

I told you not to let him touch you!

MARC

He didn't touch me...

TURMAN

Doesn't matter now. You two should have stayed back at the lake like we agreed.

MARC

If it wasn't for me, you wouldn't even be here.

TURMAN

This changes everything.

JOHNNY

So what's this two million dollar cargo?

Turman and Marc react, this guy is good.

TURMAN

That's where it gets interesting. We're not sure. All we know is there's a single package insured for over two million dollars.

30 INT. CABIN - NIGHT 30

J.J. still sleeps, but Sarah is wide awake, watching through the door.

31 ANGLE - CAMPFIRE - NIGHT - HANDHELD (SARAH'S POV) 31

Johnny, Walt, Marc, and Turman.

WALT

How do you know it even survived the crash. There's probably nothing left of that plane but a charred hole in the ground.

MARC

Emergency beacon survived the crash, but went dead before they could locate the wreckage.

TURMAN

The insurance company must have been pretty sure it survived. They spent months looking for that cargo before they paid off the claim. We'd all given up finding it, until you came along Mr. Smith.

WALT

So you find your loot; then what? Eliminate the witnesses? You aren't a killer, Turman.

MARC

For two million bucks, I am.

Sarah reacts to this with horror. Just then, J.J. STIRS.

J.J.

(sleepily)

Mom?

SARAH

(comforting)

Ssshhh. It's all right, sweetie. Back to sleep...

She strokes his head, even though her heart is pounding and her hand is trembling, getting J.J. back to sleep.

Just outside the cabin door, Sarah SEES Turman's pack and

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: 31
sleeping bag. Next to the pack, TURMAN'S WALKIE TALKIE.

31A SARAH 31A
Eases out the door, inching her way towards the walkie.
Just as she gets her hand on it she hears a CLICK.

PAULINE

Don't.

Sarah turns slowly: there's Pauline, pointing the gun at her.

32 EXT. CAMPFIRE - NIGHT 32
Pauline SHOVES Sarah into view. Walt and Johnny RISE as one, but Marc is there, covering them. Pauline hands the walkie to Turman.

PAULINE

You might want to put this
someplace safe.

TURMAN

All right, Mom knows, too. That
makes everything simpler.

WALT

Sarah.... where's J.J.?

SARAH

Asleep in the cabin--

TURMAN

Okay, all of you. This kind of
hero stuff is only going to get
someone hurt. You don't want
that, and we don't want that. So
here's what's going to happen.
J.J.'s a great kid; he doesn't
need to know anything. As far as
he's concerned, we're just on a
little treasure hunt. The rest
of you behave yourselves, and
nobody gets hurt. Understood?

Walt knows he has to buy time. He and Sarah nod in silent agreement.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

TURMAN
(to Johnny)
That goes double for you, Mr.
Smith. Just help me find that
plane and you'll all be home for
dinner.

Johnny looks at Sarah and Walt. He comes to the same
conclusion Walt did.

JOHNNY
I'll cooperate.

TURMAN
Alright then. You folks might
want to try to get some sleep,
we've got a big day tomorrow...
Marc, since you crashed the party,
you take first watch.

DISSOLVE TO:

32A ESTABLISHING SHOT - MOUNT MANNESQUAN - DAY

32A

Sunrise lights up the mountain.

TURMAN (O.S.)
Beautiful day for a hike huh?

33 OMITTED
THRU
35

33
THRU
35

36 EXT. TRAIL - DAY

36

Turman leads the way up a mountainous path, followed by
Johnny. Next come Walt, Sarah, and J.J., with Marc and
Pauline bringing up the rear.

JOHNNY
I can think of better ways to
spend my time.

TURMAN
Look, this isn't what I had in
mind either Mr. Smith...
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

36

CONTINUED:

36

TURMAN (CONT'D)

I'm not some bad guy who was
looking to kidnap a family.

*
*

JOHNNY

It's not you I'm worried about.

TURMAN

I'll handle Marc. You just get
us to that plane.

*
*

ANGLE - J.J., WALT, AND SARAH

*

J.J., happy and unaware of the danger, runs ahead to catch
up with Johnny and the Ranger.

*
*

SARAH

J.J. - come back here.

*
*

J.J.

Aww Mom, I want to to hike with
the Ranger.

*
*
*

Turman, smiling, tousles J.J.'s hair playfully.

*

TURMAN

It's okay. I love the little
guy.

*
*
*

SARAH

(covering her fear)
We'll be right here J.J.

*
*
*

TURMAN

Ever been on a treasure hunt,
J.J.?

*
*
*

J.J.

No sir!

*
*

TURMAN

Well, this is kind of like that,
except your friend Johnny here is
our treasure map.

*
*
*
*

J.J.

Cool...

*
*

Johnny and Turman exchange a look.

*

DISSOLVE TO:

*

37 EXT. MOUNTAIN TRAIL - DAY 37*

An hour or so later. The terrain is up and down, rocky, heavily-wooded. No one is going too fast, except for J.J., who is happily scampering up and down every rock in sight.

MARC AND PAULINE *

hike along, keeping an eye on Walt and Sarah. *

MARC *

First thing I'm gonna do with our share, baby, is buy you a proper wedding ring with a diamond about the size of my fist. *

PAULINE *

(playfully) *

About time... what's the second thing you're going to do? *

Marc slides up next to her and whispers in her ear. *

PAULINE *

Mmm... aren't you the bad boy... *

WALT AND SARAH *

listen to Marc and Pauline, seething. Walt plays it cool, but his eyes are scanning his captors, his cop's mind constantly updating escape scenarios. *

JOHNNY, TURMAN AND J.J. *

J.J. finds a big chunk of black basalt. *

J.J. *

Look what I found.

He hands it to Turman first.

TURMAN *

That's a beauty. *

Turman logically hands the rock back to J.J. Johnny sees an opportunity. *

JOHNNY *

Let's see that, J.J. *

The touch of the rock leads to -- *

38 *FLASH! - A VISION - INT. BOATSHOP*

38

Turman and Pauline, back behind the counter in the boatshop, halfway out of their clothes, banging their way through a P.G. rated quicky.

VISION ENDS:

39 RESUME - JOHNNY ON THE TRAIL 39

He gives the piece of basalt back to J.J. *

JOHNNY *

That's a nice chunk of basalt you *

got there. These mountains are *

volcanic. *

J.J. *

Can I keep it? *

JOHNNY *

Sure. *

Johnny lets Turman and J.J. pull ahead as he pauses to *

drink from his canteen. He looks from Turman, to Pauline, *

to Marc, trying to calculate what this new dynamic means. *

As Marc catches up... *

JOHNNY *

So Marc, how long you two been *

together? *

MARC *

What do you care? *

JOHNNY *

Just making conversation. *

MARC *

(to Pauline) *

How long we been together, baby? *

Five years? *

PAULINE *

Six. *

JOHNNY *

Must get lonely up here in the *

winter, just the two of you. *

MARC *

Ain't so bad. We got each other -- *

right, baby? *

PAULINE *

That's right. *

JOHNNY *

Guess the Ranger Station's open *

year round, too, huh...? *

Just then Turman shouts from up ahead. *

(CONTINUED)

39 CONTINUED: 39

TURMAN

Mr. Smith, why don't you catch up
with J.J. and me? *

Turman waits as Johnny catches up. Marc watches him go,
wondering what that was about. But a seed has been
planted... *

DISSOLVE TO: *

40 A TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP 40*

of the area surrounding Spirit Lake. Widen out to REVEAL: *

TURMAN AND THE OTHERS - WIDE SPOT IN THE TRAIL (NOT YET
AT BRIDGE) *

as a concerned Turman consults the map. *

TURMAN *

Trail's washed out up ahead.
Looks like we're going to have to
cross at the old railroad bridge
about a quarter mile upstream. *

MARC *

Didn't some kids get killed foolin'
around on that bridge last summer? *

TURMAN *

It's the only way across.
Otherwise it's a two day walk up
to the narrows... *

He looks at the map again. *

TURMAN *

Let me just scout ahead a bit,
maybe there's another crossing.
The rest of you stay here -- get
some food and rest 'til I get
back. *

(then to Marc, quietly)
Keep an eye on the Sheriff. *

MARC *

Don't worry. *

Turman heads off. *

CUT TO: *

40A EXT. WIDE SPOT - MINUTES LATER 40A*

Johnny, J.J., Sarah and Walt eating trail mix. Only J.J. has an appetite. Marc watches them like a hawk. *

J.J. *

I want to be a Ranger when I grow up. *

WALT *

I thought you wanted to be a cop. *

J.J. *

I want to be a copy and a Ranger... and a scientist. *

SARAH *

(finding a ray of sunshine) *

I'm sure you'll be all of those things and more. *

ANGLE ON PAULINE *

rifling through her and Marc's packs, getting frustrated. *

PAULINE *

I thought I told you to pack some of those power bars. *

MARC *

I did. *

PAULINE *

(bitchy) *

Well, they aren't here. *

A window into a day in the life of Marc and Pauline -- it ain't pretty. *

MARC *

Lemme look. *

Marc walks over to Pauline, turning his back on Johnny and the others. As he bends over to search through the packs, his shirt rides up, revealing the gun tucked in the back of his pants. *

JOHNNY AND WALT *

see this. Eyes locked on the gun, Walt hands his water bottle to Johnny, triggering -- *

42

CONTINUED:

42

JOHNNY

I saw it -- Sarah you were -- it
wasn't going to work...

*
*
*

Just then Turman returns, gun drawn, standing next to
Johnny.

*
*

TURMAN

Listen to your friend, Sheriff.
He's never wrong. Said so
yourself.

*
*
*
*

Walt glares at Johnny and Turman. Off Johnny's look...

*

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

43 EXT. WIDE SPOT IN THE TRAIL - DAY (NOT AT BRIDGE) 43*

Walt is on his feet, hands in the air. Marc holds a gun on him. (He is shaking with anger.) Pauline has her pistol aimed at Johnny and Sarah, who holds onto J.J. *

TURMAN *

(disappointed) *

All you people had to do was play along.

(to Walt)

But you had to be the big hero--

JOHNNY *

What did you expect? You can't kidnap a man's family and not expect him to do something--

But Turman isn't listening to Johnny.

MARC *

Well, you can't expect me not to do something either.

TURMAN *

Calm down. Take him back the way we came a few hundred yards and tie him up where some hiker won't see him. *

MARC

Don't you think...

TURMAN *

Just do what I tell you for once.

SARAH

(to Turman)

Then what?

(CONTINUED)

43

CONTINUED:

43

Pauline answers for him--

PAULINE

Then you shut up and do what you're
told. *

Sarah looks at her with loathing. Turman gives Pauline a
look that says, "Stay out of it."

TURMAN

Like I've been saying all along. *
Mr. Smith helps us find the plane,
then everybody gets to go home. *
By the time you three pick up the
Sheriff and trek back down to the *
lake, we'll be across the border--

Turman is getting impatient -- he tosses Marc a coil of *
rope. *

TURMAN

Get going! You can catch up with *
us at the bridge. *
(then to Walt)
Leave the pack.

As Walt passes, he peels off the pack and hands it to
Johnny, triggering --

44

A VISION - AT THE EDGE OF A RIVER GORGE

44

*Marc marches Walt to a spot at the edge of a gorge
overlooking a rushing river below. Walt looks at the
drop off, then turns around to face Marc, who stops about
ten feet back from the edge.*

WALT

Now what?

MARC

Turn around so I can tie you up.

Walt turns around.

WALT

You hurt my wife and kid, I'll
kill you.

MARC

You don't need to worry about
that...

The view WIDENS TO REVEAL Johnny, standing next to Marc,

(CONTINUED)

44

CONTINUED:

44

watching as Marc drops the coil of rope and aims his gun at Walt's back.

*
*

MARC (CONT'D)

...anymore.

And Marc fires the gun...

VISION SLOWS to bullet time as the bullet inches its way toward Walt.

*

Johnny reacts in horror as the VISION SNAPS TO NORMAL SPEED and the bullet hits Walt in the back. Johnny watches helpless as Walt falls dead over the edge of the cliff and we HEAR A SPLASH from below.

*
*
*

MARC

Shoulda jumped when you had the chance.

VISION ENDS:

45

RESUME JOHNNY

45*

Walt handing off the pack to Johnny.

JOHNNY

(quietly)

*When he tells you not to worry.
Jump.*

*

Walt's first reaction is annoyance -- what the hell is Johnny talking about? Then he remembers just who's talking to him.

MARC

Hey. Shut up you two.

Marc pushes Walt along. J.J. runs to him.

J.J.

I want to go with you!

(CONTINUED)

45 CONTINUED: 45

WALT

Don't worry, J.J. I'll see you
all in a couple of hours. Go to
your mom now. It's okay.

MARC

Go on kid, do as your Dad says.

Sarah pulls J.J. away as Marc marches Walt off. Pauline
and Turman exchange a look about Marc that makes us wonder
what they're thinking. Sarah turns to Johnny, her eyes
pleading for a way out of this as Turman starts them
marching away.

DISSOLVE TO:

46 EXT. BRIDGE - DAY 46*

A railroad bridge that has seen better decades. Reaching
the head of the bridge, Turman pauses. The view CRANES
UP to reveal the depth of the river gorge below. Pauline
looks at the shear drop.

PAULINE

You're not really thinking of
going across that are you?

TURMAN

Don't worry, I have an idea.

He steps aside and politely motions with his gun for Johnny
to pass him.

TURMAN

All right, Smith, you're the
psychic.

(points to the bridge)

You go first.

A beat. Then Johnny steps forward onto the bridge,
gingerly touching each plank with his foot before stepping
on it.

47 A VISION - (BUT WE DON'T KNOW THAT YET) 47

*The board cracks into splinters, and Johnny plunges through
the opening, hurtling down to the rocks below, dying.*

VISION ENDS:

47A RESUME - REALITY 47A*
Johnny decides to skip that board. *

47B VISION RESUMES - (BUT WE STILL DON'T KNOW THAT) 47B*
*He takes a few steps more, testing each board as he goes. **

*ANOTHER BOARD BREAKS **

*and Johnny falls through, but this time, the VISION FREEZES **
*before he falls all the way through, THEN REVERSES, Johnny **
*popping back up onto the bridge. **

*HE TRIES THE NEXT BOARD **

*It breaks, too. Again Johnny falls through, and again **
*the VISION FREEZES, then REVERSES, Johnny popping back up **
*on the bridge. **

48 RESUME - REALITY 48

Johnny back where he started - none of the boards broken, *
it was all a vision. He begins crossing the bridge, *

careful not to step on the bad planks. Turman watches,
J.J. at his side.

JOHNNY
This one's no good. Neither is
that one. Step here.

Turman looks at the water below.

TURMAN
Not that I don't trust you Mr.
Smith, but...

Turman extends a hand to J.J.

TURMAN
...Take my hand.

J.J. looks to Sarah, who looks to Johnny.

JOHNNY
Go ahead, J.J. I won't let
anything happen to you.

SARAH
It's okay, baby.

Turman takes J.J.'s hand, gripping it tightly. *

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED: 48
Turman hits the next plank. Solid. The three of them advance, followed by Sarah and Pauline. *

49 EXT. RIVERS EDGE - DAY 49
A few hundred yards down the trail. Marc pushes Walt along at gunpoint. We hear water RUSHING PAST below. Hard to tell which of them is more nervous.

MARC
Over there.

In a repeat of Johnny's vision, Marc marches Walt to a spot at the edge of a gorge overlooking a rushing river below. Walt looks at the drop off, then turns around to face Marc, who stops about ten feet back from the edge.

WALT
Now what?

MARC
Turn around so I can tie you up.

WALT
You hurt my wife and kid, I'll kill you.

He's moving as slowly as he can, trying to figure out what Johnny meant. Turning to face the edge, he looks down to the river, forty feet below.

MARC
You don't need to worry about that...

Walt realizes this must be the moment Johnny was talking about.

WALT
(to himself)
Damn... Johnny...

As Marc drops the rope and raises his gun in SLOW MOTION, Walt looks down and... *

CUT TO: *

50 EXT. BRIDGE - DAY 50
Johnny, J.J. and Turman -- are just reaching the other side. Sarah and Pauline follow, half a dozen planks behind as Marc's SHOT ECHOES.

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED:

50

SARAH

Walt!

Johnny looks back at her. He wants to be reassuring, but there's nothing he can say out loud.

*

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED: (2)

50

JOHNNY
(voice strained)
Stay focused, Sarah.
(then, re: a plank)
This one.

*
*
*

J.J. and Turman step as Johnny does.

JOHNNY
And... this one.

The final plank. They have reached the other side. They turn to wait for Sarah and Pauline.

TURMAN
(getting impatient)
Pauline, do you see Marc anywhere?

Pauline looks down river.

PAULINE
Not yet.

Sarah reaches the safety of the far side. J.J. runs to her arms; Turman lets him. Pauline is still working her way across the last few steps, leaving Johnny alone with Turman.

JOHNNY
Marc knows you're nailing his wife.

Turman reacts, surprised Johnny knows this.

JOHNNY
He's going to wait until we find your cargo, and then he's going to kill you, too.

*

TURMAN
Nice try Mr. Smith, but the mind games aren't going to work. One thing I know about Marc is, he has no impulse-control. The fact that I'm still breathing means he *doesn't* know...
(then quietly threatening)
...And you sure as hell aren't going to tell him... understood?

MARC (O.S.)
Hey, a little help!

(CONTINUED)

50

CONTINUED: (3)

50

ANGLE - MARC

He stands on the far side of the bridge, breathless.

TURMAN

What happened?

*

*

MARC

Just a warning shot. He tried to
make a break.

*

*

*

TURMAN

(to Marc, with a glance
at Johnny)

Hurry up, then. I'll guide you.

*

SARAH, J.J., AND JOHNNY

Sarah, terrified, silently mouths to Johnny.

SARAH

(silent)

What happened to Walt?

JOHNNY

(silently, shrugging)

I don't know yet...

He reaches out and squeezes her hand as Sarah hugs J.J.

ANGLE - THE BRIDGE

Pistol in belt, Marc has made it halfway across. Turman
stands at the safe end, guiding. Pauline is behind the
ranger, pistol trained on Johnny, Sarah and J.J.

TURMAN

Next... okay. Keep going.

Marc stops.

MARC

This one looks bad--

TURMAN

Then step over it. Trust me, we
all made it...

*

*

Marc steps over it. Hears a CREAK, but doesn't fall.
He's halfway across.

*

*

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED: (4)

50

ANGLE - PAULINE AND JOHNNY

Just out of Turman's earshot.

PAULINE
Careful!

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED: (5)

50

JOHNNY

As if you care...

Pauline shoots him a look.

PAULINE

You don't know anything.

JOHNNY

Must be tough. Girl from a small town -- winds up stuck someplace even smaller. No friends. Nothing to see but a lake and a bait shop and a dead end husband. Who could blame you for falling in love with the handsome Ranger? Gotta wonder how long it's going to last once he gets his hands on that money... unless of course Marc kills you both first.

*

PAULINE

Shut up.

RESUME BRIDGE

As Turman continues to lead Marc across.

MARC

Now what?

TURMAN

Two more...

Marc steps. Solid. Steps again... close to the safe side now.

TURMAN

(a beat)

Take the next step--

Marc does, and he SMASHES THROUGH the rotted wood. Sarah reacts, turning J.J. away.

Pauline RUSHES FORWARD, but hesitates, exchanging a look with Turman.

Seeing that Marc is hanging on solidly, Turman turns his gun on Johnny.

TURMAN

Help him up.

(CONTINUED)

50 CONTINUED: (6) 50

Johnny pushes past Turman, kneeling on the bridge planks to help Marc.

JOHNNY
Take my hand.

Marc hesitates, not sure he can trust Johnny.

JOHNNY
Take my hand!

Marc lets go with one hand, reaching for Johnny. As Johnny locks onto his wrist...

51 FLASH! 51

WALT STANDS AT THE PRECIPICE... THE RUSHING WATER LOOMS BELOW... BEHIND HIM, MARC RAISES THE PISTOL--

MARC
...You don't need to worry about that...

THEN WALT RUSHES FOR THE EDGE... JUMPS... THERE'S A SPLASH...

MARC FIRES A DESPERATE, LATE, WILD SHOT... BUT WALT HAS SURVIVED THE JUMP... AND IS BEING CARRIED DOWNSTREAM... ALIVE--

52 RESUME 52

Johnny has Turman's help now, pulling Marc to safety.

TURMAN
(to Marc)
Sorry about that. I must have mis-counted...

Pauline rushes to Marc, embracing him.

PAULINE
Are you okay, baby?

MARC
Yeah, fine...

He exchanges a look of grudging thanks with Johnny. As Marc and Pauline put on their packs, Johnny sneaks a smile to Sarah, signaling her that Walt is alive. Just then Turman pulls Johnny aside.

(CONTINUED)

52

CONTINUED:

52

TURMAN

I know you touched Marc. What
really happened with the Sheriff?

*
*
*

JOHNNY

(lying well)

You know what happened you bastard.
Just don't tell his wife and kid.

*
*
*
*

Turman nods soberly. Then...

*

TURMAN

(lightening the mood)

Okay Mr. Smith, upstream or
downstream?

*
*

JOHNNY

I don't know. All my visions so
far have been from up above the
trees. It all looks so different
from here. Without something to
touch, I can't really say.

Turman thinks a beat.

TURMAN

Marc... you still got that bolt?

MARC

Yeah sure.

TURMAN

Give it here.

Marc digs it out of his pack and starts to give it to
Turman, who avoids touching it.

*

TURMAN

Hand it to Mr. Smith.

(then to Johnny)

Maybe you can get another hit off
of this.

JOHNNY

It doesn't work like that...

TURMAN

Try...

(then subtly
threatening)

What do you have to lose?

*
*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED: (2) 52

JOHNNY

Takes the bolt from Marc...

53 *FLASH! A VISION - INT. PLANE* 53

The pilots brace for final impact, the altitude alarm blaring as they begin slashing through the tree tops.

VISION ENDS:

54 RESUME JOHNNY 54

As he comes out of the vision, shaking his head.

JOHNNY

Sorry. I'm seeing the crash, but
it's too disjointed, it's not
giving me any sense of which
direction to go. *

Turman shows a flash of anger, twitching his gun hand. *

TURMAN

Try harder.

Johnny has no choice but to comply. He fingers the piece
of metal, thinking, playing for time. He looks up at the
surrounding trees, the wind blowing the forest canopy, *

and an idea starts to form. *

As Turman watches in fascination, Johnny takes the bolt
in one hand, then closing his eyes to concentrate, reaches
out with his trembling free hand to touch a large tree
near him, TRIGGERING: *

54A A VISION 54A

*With a DEAD ZONE WHOOSH, the VIEW RAMPS from the bolt in
Johnny's hand -- across Johnny -- and up into the tree,
pausing momentarily to look straight down on Johnny and
the others -- the Whoosh -- RAMPS TO ANOTHER TREE, then
another, then another, sometimes even following the roots, **

the view moving from tree to tree, accelerating with each
connection, pausing at each junction before ramping to
the next tree -- along the way shooting past A DEER -- *

then an owl -- gathering speed

(CONTINUED)

54A CONTINUED:

54A

until the forest is just a blur -- then it appears -- at first just a silver dot in the distance, rushing towards us until we see --

THE CRASH SITE --

Johnny's vision POV hurtling toward the wreckage, surrounded by the trees that have embraced it, hiding it's secret until now. The view continues into the broken fuselage, taking us right inside -- crashing to a stop on --

THE DEAD PILOT'S SKELETON

Still at the controls, mouth open in his final scream, tendrils of a creeping vine gripping his skull, the forest having claimed him as it's own.

VISION ENDS:

54B RESUME REALITY - RAMPING OUT FROM JOHNNY

54B

He drops the metal and disconnects from the tree, fighting to steady himself, rocked by the effort. He picks up his cane and points...

JOHNNY

That way.

TURMAN

Downstream? You sure?

Johnny nods yes.

TURMAN

All right then. Lets get moving.

As Johnny looks to Sarah...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

54C EXT. THE FOREST - DAY 54C

The view TILTS DOWN from the canopy of pine trees to reveal A HAND, snapping a low hanging branch. The VIEW WIDENS TO REVEAL: Walt, wet but alive. Listening to the sound of VOICES approaching from behind him, he moves off deeper into the forest.

55 EXT. FOREST - NEARBY - DAY 55

Following Johnny as Turman, J.J., Sarah, Marc and Pauline leave the trail behind.

J.J.
I'm tired.

SARAH
Me too Sweetie.

JOHNNY
Hang in there J.J. You're being super brave.

J.J.
I want my Dad.

Sarah and Johnny exchange a look.

J.J.
What's going to happen to us?

JOHNNY
You just stay close to your mom, everything's gonna be okay.

DISSOLVE TO:

55A THROUGH THE TREES 55A

We get glimpses of the now familiar peak of Mt. Mannesquan ahead.

56 EXT. FOREST CLEARING - DAY 56

Johnny and the others stop to rest and get a drink.

TURMAN
We'll stop here for a minute, give the kid a rest.

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED:

56

MARC

I'm going to scout around up ahead.

TURMAN

Suit yourself. Give a shout if you see anything.

Turman offers his canteen to J.J., who just shakes his head no.

TURMAN

That's okay kid, I guess I'd be mad too. Don't worry, you'll be with your Dad soon enough.

Sarah doesn't like the ambiguity of Turman's tone. She takes J.J. away to sit down on a log.

JOHNNY

Notices a broken branch on a tree at the edge of the clearing. Curious he touches it and WE HEAR A DEAD ZONE WHOOSH. Johnny looks around, surprised; Walt? Here?

RESUME WIDER - THE CLEARING

Turman walks over to Johnny.

TURMAN

You know Mr. Smith, I'm really starting to respect this talent of yours. It's too bad we didn't get a chance to meet under different circumstances.

JOHNNY

So what was your plan anyway?

TURMAN

I was hoping I could come up here with just you folks, find the package and stash it someplace where I could come back later for it and nobody would be the wiser. I never intended for anybody to get hurt.

Just then Pauline catches up.

PAULINE

How much farther?

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED: (2)

56

TURMAN

Can't be too far, we're going to
be above the treeline pretty soon.
(then to Johnny)
You said it went down in the trees
didn't you?

JOHNNY

That's what I saw.

PAULINE

(taunting)
What else do you see Mr. Smith?
If you're so psychic, tell me my
future...

Johnny tries to ignore her. Turman doesn't like where
this is going.

TURMAN

Pauline...

*

PAULINE

No. I really want to know. C'mon
Mr. Psychic, am I wrapped in a
mink in Switzerland or am I in
Rio, lying on the beach in a bikini
and pearls?

TURMAN

(stronger)
Pauline...

*

PAULINE

I'm just having a little fun...
(then to Johnny)
Go ahead touch me.

She gets right in front of Johnny, he just looks at her.

PAULINE

(flirty)
What? You don't want to touch
me?
(then sarcastically)
That's a first... alright, then
I'll touch you...

She reaches out like a girl playing tag, touching Johnny
with her finger, triggering:

56A FLASH - A VISION

56A

Pauline lying dead on the rocks, eyes open, a gunshot

(CONTINUED)

56A CONTINUED:

56A

wound in her chest. The view RAMPS OUT wider to reveal --

TURMAN

*Holding a gun. He looks up from Pauline, then takes the
 gun AND SHOOTS HIMSELF IN THE SHOULDER, giving himself a
 nice through-and-through wound. Gritting his teeth in
 pain, he takes a few steps revealing:*
*
*
*
*

MARC

*Also dead, bleeding from an unseen wound to the head.
 Turman puts the clean gun in Marc's hand, pressing his
 fingers around the trigger to FIRE the gun off into a
 nearby tree. Next he pulls out his walkie talkie and
 starts speaking, suddenly acting panicked and out of
 breath.*
*
*
*
*

TURMAN
(into radio)

*Mayday, Mayday - anyone monitoring
 this frequency. This is U.S.
 Forest Ranger Turman with a medical
 emergency, I need a Medivac chopper
 on the east slope of Mt. Mannesquan
 immediately...*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

*As he walks away from Marc and Pauline the VIEW FOLLOWS
 HIM TO REVEAL:*
*
*

JOHNNY AND SARAH *

*Dead. Face down. J.J. is unseen, but Turman's demeanor
 tells us he's dead, too.*
*
*

TURMAN

*...I've got six gunshot victims
 and I'm wounded...*
*
*
*

VISION ENDS:

57 OMITTED

57

58 RESUME JOHNNY, PAULINE AND TURMAN

58

Johnny comes out of the vision, tempering his reaction.

PAULINE

 So? What did you see?

(CONTINUED)

58 CONTINUED:

58

JOHNNY

You were lying in the sun.

PAULINE

The beach. I knew it.

Just then, Marc shouts from up ahead.

MARC

I found it... the crash... it's
just up ahead.

Everyone reacts. Johnny and Sarah exchange a look.
Whatever is going to happen, is going to happen soon.

TURMAN

(to Pauline)

You stay here with Mom and the
kid.

PAULINE

No way. I'm coming with you.

TURMAN

(forcefully)

Stay here.

(CONTINUED)

58 CONTINUED: (2) 58

A meaningful look passes between Turman and Pauline. A decision has been made. Kill Marc?

PAULINE

Okay...

*

Nearby another look is passing between Johnny and Sarah. Turning so Pauline and Turman can't see him, Johnny shifts his eyes to indicate the surrounding forest and mouths "Walt".

*

*

TURMAN

C'mon Mr. Smith, I want you with me.

59 MOVING WITH JOHNNY 59

As he works his way up the mountain, Turman right behind as he catches up with Marc.

MARC (O.S.)

It's right up here!

60 EXT. CRASH SITE - DAY 60

Johnny and Turman round a bend, reacting to what they find: the final resting place of First Direct 233. Pieces of metallic debris and paper are scattered among the pine needles; some pieces HANG FROM TREES.

Several large sections of the fuselage survived the crash, hidden beneath the dense forest canopy.

MARC

No wonder they never found it from the air.

Unable to restrain himself, he PLUNGES into the rear hunk of fuselage, leaving Johnny and Turman alone for a moment.

MARC (O.S.)

It's a mess in here - help me look. It's a steel shipping container about yay big.

*

*

He shapes a briefcase with his hands.

(CONTINUED)

60

CONTINUED:

60

Marc climbs out of the rear fuselage.

MARC

Nothing here.

TURMAN

Check the cockpit, everything
might have been thrown forward in
the crash. Get in there and help
him Smith.

Johnny goes--

61

INSIDE THE FRONT SECTION

61

Dark but for beams of light streaming through holes and
jagged cracks in the metal. There is a mound of debris -- *
jumbled, smashed bags and boxes -- filling the nose of *
the wreck, burying the co-pilot.

Johnny follows Marc inside, reacting to what he sees.

THE DEAD PILOT

As seen in Johnny's vision, still strapped to his seat.
The rest of the cockpit is filled with debris.

MARC

Gross huh? Poor bastard. Guess
we all gotta go sometime.

JOHNNY

(re: Marc)
Some sooner than others.

Marc is pawing through the mass of debris on the co-pilot's
side.

MARC

(ripping open a mailer)
It's all paper! Where is the
damn thing.

Johnny reluctantly helps clear some debris... loses
balance... reaches out for the cabin wall... When he
touches it we hear a DEAD ZONE WHOOSH. As Johnny reacts... *

62 OMITTED 62*

62A EXT. FUSELAGE - ON WALT 62A

Pressed up against the outside of the plane, hidden, waiting. He shifts his weight, and a piece of debris falls, making a noise.

CUT TO:

TURMAN

On the opposite side of the plane from Walt. He hears the noise and goes to investigate. THE VIEW FOLLOWS HIM as he walks around the plane, but when he gets there, Walt's gone. Shrugging it off, he exits back the way he came, the view holding a beat before REVEALING: Walt behind a nearby tree.

ANOTHER VIEW - TURMAN

Just outside the cockpit.

TURMAN

How's it going in there?

MARC (O.S.)

Still looking. It's a big damn mess...

63 RESUME INTERIOR FUSELAGE 63

Johnny watches as Marc continues pawing through the debris tugging at one large piece of metal in the way.

MARC

Give me a hand with this.

Johnny steps in to help. As they pull together, the metal suddenly gives way and Marc falls backward, buried in debris, INCLUDING:

(CONTINUED)

63

CONTINUED:

63

THE DEAD CO-PILOT

Face to face with Marc.

MARC

AAAAaaahhh-Jeeezze-Godddd. Get
it off me. Get it off.

Marc scrambles to get out from under the corpse, Johnny pulling him by the collar without touching the body. As he does, several pieces of cargo fall. Johnny looks down, and sees--

THE CONTAINER

Battered and scraped, but still intact. (It is the only steel object to be seen.) He picks it up--

JOHNNY

This what you were looking for?

--And hands the case to Marc.

64

OMITTED

64

65

RESUME - CONTINUOUS

65

MARC

Sure looks like it.

Marc struggles to open the case.

JOHNNY

(quietly but firmly)

Don't bother.

(Marc looks up)

You're never going to live to
spend it. Turman's going to shoot
you.

MARC

Why would he do that? We're
partners!

JOHNNY

Your partner's been screwing your
wife.

*

MARC

(harshly)

How the hell would you know?

*

(CONTINUED)

65

CONTINUED:

65

JOHNNY

Same way I know you didn't tie up
the Sheriff.

*
*
*

Johnny lets this soak in as Marc begins to burn.

*

MARC

That bastard Turman--

*

He tucks the case under his arm, pulls out his gun and
heads outside...

*
*

66

EXT. CRASH SITE - DAY

66*

Turman watches as Marc, then Johnny, come out. Marc DROPS
the case at Turman's feet, then points his gun at him.

TURMAN

(calmly)

So you found it. Aren't you going
to open it?

Marc is about to explode. Turman remains calm, his hands
in his JACKET pockets.

*
*

MARC

Forget the case. What about you
and Pauline?

Turman slowly looks at Johnny.

MARC

He says you've been screwing my
wife and now you're going to...

*
*

Marc never finishes the sentence: Turman SHOOTS HIM.
Johnny FLINCHES as Marc falls... DEAD.

*
*

Turman checks him. Takes Marc's unfired pistol from his
hand and tucks it in his belt.

TURMAN

Are you ever wrong?

CUT TO:

67 EXT. CLEARING - DAY 67

The sound of Turman's SHOT still ECHOES. Pauline reacts with alarm, turning away from them toward the sound.

Sarah sees her chance, and dives at Pauline, knocking the gun loose. *

SARAH
(to J.J.)
Run!

J.J. runs. *

68 EXT. CRASH SITE - DAY 68

Turman sets the case down in front of him, gets ready to shoot off the lock.

TURMAN
I've always wanted to touch two million bucks worth of anything--

He smiles up at Johnny, then shoots off the lock.

TURMAN
I guess this isn't the end you had in mind--

As he opens the case, Johnny sees--

WALT

sneaking up behind Turman, a piece of debris held like a club. *

JOHNNY
It's not over yet.

Just as Turman stands, Walt smashes Turman with his makeshift club, KNOCKING HIM INTO JOHNNY. *

All three go SPRAWLING... Johnny's cane and Turman's gun and Marc's gun go SKITTERING... both Walt and Johnny try for the weapons... too late... Turman beats them to his.

TURMAN
Right again, Smith.

He gets to his feet, out of breath as he PICKS UP Marc's pistol. He gestures with the gun. *

(CONTINUED)

68

CONTINUED:

68

TURMAN

Now it's over--

JOHNNY

Almost.

A SHOT RINGS OUT. Turman goes down, wounded. Sarah appears ten feet away, still aiming at Turman.

*
*

SARAH

(frightened, but sure)

Don't make me kill you.

*
*

Walt grabs Turman and disarms him.

*

JOHNNY

Where's J.J.?

By way of answer, J.J. RUSHES out of hiding and THROWS HIMSELF at Walt!

J.J.

Dad!

J.J. hugs his father. Sarah joins the hug, giving the gun to Walt.

*
*

DISSOLVE TO:

69

EXT. CRASH SITE - LATER

69*

Pauline and a wounded Turman sit here, bound back-to-back, hating each other. Walt is finishing a call using Turman's radio.

*
*
*

Nearby, J.J. is wrapped in his mother's embrace, looking tired but safe. Sarah rocks him gently, as much for her comfort as his.

*
*

WALT

We're going to have a chopper up here in twenty minutes.

JOHNNY

Everybody alright?

Sober nods all around, the trauma of what happened just starting to soak in.

*
*

(CONTINUED)

69

CONTINUED:

69

Johnny holds up a baggie full of the "treasure."

*

SARAH

*

So that's what this was all about?

*

J.J.

*

What is it?

*

JOHNNY

Computer chips. Two million
dollars worth of four year old
computer chips... they're
worthless.

He kicks the box over, spilling them on the ground. Off
Johnny's look...

*

*

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

THE END