

"ACCIDENT" SCREENPLAY

BLACK SCREEN:

COUSIN ANNE

Grandma's dead, and it's all y'all's fault.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR ROLLING FROM CRASH.

It's only for a second but the loud crash and (Adobe After Effects) blur and spin are meant to simulate being inside a rolling car crash.

CUT TO BLACK:

COUSIN ANNE

Y'all done killed Grandma, y'hear?

INT. CAR CRASH for another second

CUT TO BLACK

COUSIN ANNE (Loud)

Y'hear?

EXT. ROAD OUTSIDE THE CRASHED CAR, looking at the back of a motorbike(crashed) on its side.

CUT TO WHITE TITLE ON BLACK TITLE SCREEN

CUT TO BLACK

MOUSTACHE NURSE (quietly)

You in the wrong ward, little man.

Cut to being wheeled through a hospital emergency corridor. Things are rushed and frantic. Everyone's out of breath.

ORDERLY

You ok little man?

(OFFSCREEN VOICE)

Two-vehicle collision. One fatality. Miracle this one made it far enough to find help.

JOHN gradually blacks out.

ORDERLY (slightly menacing undertone)
Alright, don't worry.

(BLACK SCREEN. PAUSE)

We'll take good care of him.

CUT TO: Black screen with the words "6 months later" on it (any other way to say this?)

We may have to shoot first-person to avoid having to use actual 5-year olds. This would probably need a fish-eye lens.

INT. HOSPITAL WARD, FROM JOHN'S PERSPECTIVE

We're looking up at the ceiling from the perspective of JOHN, who sees the DOCTOR just to the side. John gradually gets up and we see the cage on his arm and leg.

DOCTOR
(undecided if male or female. Depends on casting.)
He checks the clipboard at the foot of the bed
You ok, little man? It's been quite a while but looks like you'll be going home soon. Just be careful with the new "equipment"(referring to the cages) and you'll be fine.

Outside the room we hear the sound of crying and shouting between MAMA and PAPA. Multiple shouts of "You're no damn good" are heard.

CUT TO a DINNER TABLE where MAMA and PAPA are arguing (again from JOHN's perspective). We never see their faces. GRANDMA is also there (?)

MAMA
You're a no damn good, coward, y'hear? You're a sonuvabitch and-

PAPA makes a sudden move, possibly a physical attack out of anger but a split second later-

CUT BACK TO HOSPITAL BED

DOCTOR
. . . I think your folk's are here to take you home, little man.
I'll ask them to wait in the lobby.

The DOCTOR is leaves a square of chocolate, but does it pityingly. JOHN signals the doctor that he needs the bathroom.

DOCTOR

Hm? You need to use the little man's room? No problem, I'll get nurse to help you out.

JOHN is visibly distressed by this news, but before he can make this clear the DOCTOR has gone to the door and shouted for the nurse.

DOCTOR

NURSE! GOT A WET ONE IN NUMBER 17!

He quickly moves on to see the OTHER BOY in the next bed (behind curtain).

JOHN looks at the cage on his right arm and it CUTS TO the exact same arm position, but the arm is healthy and holding a slingshot in a field.

CUT BACK TO HOSPITAL

JOHN looks at the cage on his left leg and it CUTS TO the exact same position but the leg is healthy and there's a dog beside him.

CUT BACK TO HOSPITAL

The DOCTOR talks to the OTHER BOY in the next bed, they make indistinct chatter, while JOHN gets more and more agitated at the impending NURSE (and needing to pee). before the DOCTOR leaves after the sound of puking outside the room (or at a 3rd bed if possible?) draws his attention.

DOCTOR (in the distance)

Oh, those tonsils/nonsense(audio overlaid) givin' you trouble, boy?

OTHER BOY (from behind privacy curtain to avoid needing another young boy casting)

Man! Big doctor's rich! Ya think they're a millionaire?

JOHN is too young, shy and traumatised to reply. He fumbles with his fire engine, and jumps at any loud noises. At one bang, the

fire engine drops off the edge of the bed, and we hear a breaking sound.

MOUSTACHE NURSE enters and JOHN is visibly frightened. She appears happy, but only talks to and looks at the DOCTOR (maybe hiding a cigarette behind her back). She makes busywork while she waits for the DOCTOR to leave.

(It's undecided whether nurse is male or female. Only moustache is mentioned. Depends on casting.)

NURSE

No problem, doc!

The DOCTOR leaves and NURSE's demeanour immediately, noticeably changes for the worse.

NURSE

Ugh!

NURSE looks at JOHN with disdain. Takes her time going to help him.

NURSE (with contempt)

What? You gonna have another "accident"? (PAUSE) Fine. Let's get this over with before you get me in front of the disciplinaries again.

JOHN's hands are shaking. MOUSTACHE NURSE roughly pulls him with his good arm in the direction of the door. They quickly travel a short distance down the corridor the the bathroom. JOHN's gasps indicate it's painful.

THE BATHROOM

NURSE checks to see if anyone else is in any of the cubicles, before dragging JOHN into the disabled cubicle.

NURSE

I ain't your fuckin' babysitter. If the doc didn't ask me to you'd be on yer own.

MOUSTACHE NURSE digs their nails into JOHN's leg when he makes a sound like he's about to cry.

MOUSTACHE NURSE (menacingly)

Shut. Up. No one's gonna come help, unnerstand?

JOHN sniffs and makes a slow, shaky nod.

NURSE

Now finish whatever ya gotta do already!

NURSE leaves and the cubicle door closes, FADING THE SHOT TO BLACK

IMMEDIATE CUT TO (SAME TRANSITION/DOOR):

EXT. HOSPITAL DOORS BEING OPENED from a JOHN's perspective

JOHN is being wheeled out the doors, holding the bus, digger, and fire engine in a box. MAMA continues to sniffle in the background. PAPA is also there. They go walk for a bit. NURSE appears behind them and they turn at the voice.

MOUSTACHE NURSE

Before y'go would y'all like to leave the toys for the other children?

She doesn't wait for JOHN or his parents to reply before taking the toys and giving a fake smile before quickly turning and leaving. Giving a quick "Goodbye" in the process.

There's a too-long pause as MAMA and PAPA figure out how to deal with this. They're too tired so they choose to ignore it and turn to go home.

John stops and stares, watching MOUSTACHE NURSE leave. Even as he's rolled away, he looks over his shoulder.

Before MOUSTACHE NURSE closes the door, she meets John's eyes. She sees one the fire engine is broken, and throws it in the bin.

JOHN's wheelchair stops suddenly when she does this.

NURSE LEAVES QUICKLY. HOSPITAL DOOR CLOSES. CUT TO BLACK.