

T H E O U T S I D E R S

From the novel

by

S. E. Hinton

Screenplay

by

Francis Ford Coppola

Shooting Script
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"T H E O U T S I D E R S"

Cast of Characters

THE GREASERS

The POOR KIDS from the Northside of Town:

PONYBOY CURTIS - 14. Digs books and movies. Wears his hair longer than most boys, squared off in back and long at the front and sides. Small for fourteen, but with a good build. He is the central character and the storyteller.

SODAPOP CURTIS - 16. PONYBOY'S second oldest brother. Never cracks a book. Always happy-go-lucky and grinning-movie-star kind of handsome, the kind that people stop on the street to watch go by. He gets drunk on just plain living. And he understands everybody.

DARREL CURTIS - 20. Nicknamed DARRY. PONYBOY'S oldest brother. Since the death of their parents a year ago, DARREL has the responsibility for keeping his brothers together as a family. Works long and hard roofing houses, always pulling muscles. Hollers at PONYBOY about school work. Hard and firm and hardly grins at all. Has grown up too fast. DARREL is six-feet-two, and broad-shouldered and muscular. He looks older than twenty -- tough, cool and smart.

DALLAS WINSTON - DALLY, the real character of the gang. Tougher than the rest, tougher, colder, meaner. He doesn't like haircuts, or hair oil either so it falls over his forehead in wisps. Bitter. Has been arrested, gets drunk, rides in rodeos, lies, cheats, steals, rolls drunks, jumps small kids. PONYBOY doesn't like him but respects him because he's smart.

JOHNNY CADE - 16. Youngest next to PONYBOY. Hard home life. Smaller than the rest with a slight build. A nervous suspicious look in his eyes. The gang's pet.

Cast of Characters (contd)

STEVE RANDLE - 17. Tall and lean, with thick greasy hair he keeps combed in complicated swirls. Cocky, smart, and SODAPOP'S best buddy since grade school. STEVE'S specialty is cars. Works part time at the same gas station with SODAPOP. Doesn't like PONYBOY, thinks him a tag-along and a kid.

TWO-BIT MATTHEWS - 18. Oldest of the gang and the wisecracker of the bunch. Six feet tall. Stocky. Very proud of his rusty-colored sideburns. Life is one big joke to him. Famous for shoplifting. Likes fights, blondes and for some unfathomable reason, school. Still a junior at eighteen and a half and he never learned anything. He just goes for kicks.

THE SOCS

(abbreviated from the "Socials")

The RICH KIDS from the Southside of town:

CHERRY VALANCE - 16. Has long red hair, green eyes. A cheerleader at school, admires DALLAS. A really beautiful, sensitive girl. Drives a Sting-Ray. BOB'S girlfriend.

MARCIA - 16. Short dark hair. Is CHERRY'S best friend. She and CHERRY barrel race at rodeos. A little crazy like TWO-BIT.

BOB SHELDON - 17. Blond hair, handsome, lots of rings, wild, gets drunk sometimes. CHERRY'S boyfriend. Smart.

RANDY ANDERSON - 17. MARCIA'S boyfriend. Tall, with a semi-Beatle haircut. BOB'S best friend.

-- The story takes place in a mid-western city sometime in the Sixties. --

5 EXT - THE MOVIE HOUSE/STREET - DAY: SOCS jump PONYBOY.
PONYBOY leaves the theater and starts on his way home.
PONYBOY'S POV: MOVING THROUGH THE CURTIS NEIGHBORHOOD

PONYBOY (O.S.)
"... Anyway, I went on walking home,
thinking about the movie, and suddenly
wishing I had some company."

The VIEW stops momentarily by a wall with a section of MIRROR. We can SEE PONYBOY waiting, listening.

PONYBOY (O.S., contd)
"... Greasers can't walk alone too
or they'll get jumped, or someone
will come by ... and scream ..."

A BURGUNDY CORVAIR comes out of nowhere and some guys holler:

GUYS IN CAR
Greaser!

CLOSE ON PONYBOY -- MOVING
walking fast.

PONYBOY (O.S.)
"It doesn't make you feel too hot,
if you know what I mean. We get
jumped by the SOCS..."

MEDIUM CLOSE VIEW -- CORVAIR
Harrassing him; playing cat and mouse.

PONYBOY (O.S.)
"... it's the abbreviation for THE
SOCIALS, the jet set, the Southside
rich kids..."

VIEW ON PONYBOY -- MOVING
Stops. Looks around for them.

PONYBOY (O.S.)
"It's like the term GREASER, which
is used to class all us boys on the
Northside..."

Things happen fast -- he's almost running with the Corvair trailing him. It doesn't do much use, as the Corvair pulls up ahead, and FIVE GUYS get out of it. PONYBOY has his

3 CONTD

hands hitched in his pockets; considers making a run for it.

THE GUYS, dressed nicely, the wealthy SOCS from the Southside of town.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY
glancing for a rock or a bottle or something. Perspiring.

PONYBOY'S POV - THE SOCS
surrounding him, menacingly.

SOC
(friendly voice)
Hey, Grease. We're gonna cut
all that long greasy hair off.

ANOTHER laughs. OTHERS curse him out. PONYBOY keeps his mouth shut.

ANOTHER SOC
Need a haircut, greaser?

MEDIUM VIEW - CLOSE

A switchblade. The razor sharp blade is flipped open.

PONYBOY
No.

He backs away from the knife, bumping blindly into ANOTHER SOC, who slaps him across the face with his knuckles.

PONYBOY struggles up, and makes a startling dash between them, and turns into an alley.

The SOCS are hard on it, tackle him -- one pins him. We can barely make him out but from the way he is dressed you can almost smell the English Leather shaving lotion. Suddenly, the blade is resting on PONYBOY'S throat.

VERY CLOSE ON PONYBOY
the razor on his throat. WE CAN SEE the face of the SOC.

BOB
How'd you like that haircut
to begin just below the chin?

5 CONTD

(SP. FX. #1 -- blade break and blood)

PONYBOY turns suddenly, the blade slips drawing blood by the side of his throat. The SOC'S hand hits the ground, breaking the blade clear off the handle, and cutting the holder's hand badly.

PONYBOY
Darrell!!

The SOC panics, tries to put his bleeding hand over PONYBOY'S mouth. PONYBOY bites it.

PONYBOY
Soda!!

He gets slugged again by the infuriated SOC.

RANDY (O.S.)
Shut him up, for Pete's sake --
Shut him up!

They try stuffing a handkerchief in his mouth.

PONYBOY'S POV

Some of the SOCS are running back to the car. RANDY screams to BOB.

RANDY
Shut him up!

Then CHAOS -- feet jumping over; faces; pounding of feet.
Shouts.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY
being shaken.

DARREL (O.S.)
Are you all right, Ponyboy?

PONYBOY
I'm okay ...

MEDIUM CLOSE ON DARREL CURTIS

He looks older than his twenty years -- tough, cool and smart. He would be handsome if his eyes weren't so cold.

3 CONTD

Shaking his BROTHER.

PONYBOY
Darry, quit shaking me, I'm
okay.

DARREL
(stopping)
I'm sorry.

He moves away from PONYBOY, jamming his fists in his pockets.

DARREL (contd)
... they didn't hurt you too
bad, did they?

VIEW ON THE BURGUNDY CORVAIR

The SOCS lock their doors from the inside while they try to get it started. Finally it starts.

VIEW ON THE GREASERS

TWO-BIT MATTHEWS, and STEVE RANDLE running -- they stop and fling rocks. We HEAR the Corvair PEAL out.

VIEW ON JOHNNY CADE

He has the look of a kid who's been kicked too many times, and lost in a crowd of strangers. He sees the SOCS, and then retreats into the shadows with a look of fear on his face.

VIEW ON DALLAS WINSTON

A loner. Tough and mean; wearing an old brown leather jacket. He's about to heave a hunk of brick and mortar at the escaping Corvair. He realizes it's too late, hesitates -- and then heaves it anyway. He turns.

DALLAS
The kid's okay?

VIEW ON PONYBOY, SODAPOP and DARREL

SODAPOP pulls out a handkerchief, wets the end of it with his tongue, and presses it gently against the side of PONYBOY'S HEAD.

5 CONTD

SODAPOP
You're bleeding like a stuck pig.
(showing handkerchief)
Look. Did they pull a blade on you?

PONYBOY
Yeah.

SODAPOP looks closely at his little BROTHER.

OVER SHOULDER -- PONYBOY
about to cry; turning away. SODAPOP puts a hand on his shoulder.

SODAPOP
Easy, Ponyboy. They ain't gonna hurt you no more.

PONYBOY
I know.

Tears rush down his cheeks. He brushes them away.

PONYBOY (contd)
... I'm just a little spooked,
that's all.

He looks at DARREL, embarrassed.

SODAPOP
You're an okay kid, Pony.

PONYBOY
You're crazy, Soda, out of your mind.

MEDIUM VIEW
heading back to the rear porch of the Curtis House.

DARREL
You're both nuts.

SODAPOP cocks an eyebrow.

SODAPOP
It runs in the family.

DARREL cracks a grin; he likes to be teased by SODAPOP.
PONYBOY is up and they all start toward the house.

The other guys quit throwing rocks and head back to join the brothers.

5 CONTD
VIEW ON PONYBOY

PONYBOY

Did you catch 'em?

THE VIEW LOOSENS.

TWO-BIT

Nup -- they got away.

(mumbled)

... damn Socs. Nice cut, too.
Makes you look tough.

PONYBOY

You mean tough like rough, or
tuff like cool?

TWO-BIT

Both.

MOVING VIEW -- THE GROUP

STEVE is combing his hair -- siding up to SODAPOP, as they head back.

STEVE

(flicking ashes at PONYBOY)
What were you doin' walking by
your lonesome?

PONYBOY

I was comin' home from the movies.
I didn't think.

DARREL

You don't ever think.

SODAPOP

He thinks at school, don't you,
kid?

DARREL

He doesn't think anywhere when it
counts.

SODAPOP

Come on, Darry, it coulda happened
to any of us.

5 CONTD

DARREL

If you did have to go by yourself
you should have carried a blade.

SODAPOP

Sure -- it would have been a good
excuse for the Socs to cut him to
ribbons.

DARREL

(impatiently)

When I want my kid brother to
tell me what to do with my other
kid brother, I'll ask you --
kid brother!

He heads toward the back porch, enters the house. STEVE
and SODAPOP talk for a moment before STEVE goes on.

TWO-BIT

Next time get one of us to go
with you, Ponyboy -- any of us
will.

DALLAS (O.S.)

Speaking of movies ...

They turn.

VIEW ON DALLAS

leaning by the gate, lighting up a Camel. JOHNNY sits on a
pile of firewood, still rattled by the Soc.

DALLAS

How about tomorrow?

He passes the cigarette to JOHNNY, calming him.

PONYBOY

I didn't know you were out of
the cooler yet, Dally.

DALLAS

Good behavior -- got out early.

He moves across the Curtis yard -- JOHNNY following like a
tag-along.

PONYBOY

Hey, Johnny.

5 CONT'D

DALLAS

Yeah, hey, Johnny, are those
the same guys that got you?

JOHNNY

No. It was a blue Mustang.

DALLAS yawns and flips away his butt.

DALLAS

I'm walking over to the Nightly
Double tomorrow night. Anybody
want to see a movie and hunt some
action?

STEVE

(shouting to them)
Me and Soda are pickin' up Evie
and Sandy for the game. No kids
allowed.

PONYBOY

(doesn't like STEVE)
Big deal.

DALLAS

How about y'all? Jhonnycake, you
and Pony want to come?

STEVE climbs over the hedge to his car. SODAPOP enters the house.

PONYBOY

Me and Johnny'll come. Okay,
Sodapop?

SODAPOP

(enters house)
I'll ask Darry -- it ain't a
school night, so it's probably
okay.

TWO-BIT gets into his wreck of a car, parked in the yard.

TWO-BIT

I was planning' on getting boozed
up tomorrow night. If I don't, I'll
come over and find y'all.

TWO-BIT waves and drives the clunker off. By now, DALLAS,
JOHNNY and PONYBOY are the only ones left, and move by the
front of the Curtis house. PONYBOY sits on the stoop next

3 CONT'D

to JOHNNY. DALLAS shuts the cyclone fence behind him.

JOHNNY
You got your bracelet back -- you
break up with Sylvia again?

DALLAS
(playing with the
chain ID bracelet)
Yeah, and this time it's for good.
(a little smile
and a wave)
That little broad was two-timin' me
while I was in jail.

He walks up the street, lighting another cigarette.

PONYBOY
You goin' home, Johnny?

JOHNNY
(shrugs)
Maybe.

He walks off aimlessly. PONYBOY enters the front door.

4 EXT - CURTIS HOUSE - NIGHT

A ramshackled structure in the poor neighborhood. Not too far from the railroad yard. MUSIC up.

5 INT - PONYBOY'S ROOM - NIGHT: PONYBOY and SODAPOP talk at night.

VIEW ON PONYBOY
by his desk, staring out the window.

THE VIEW MOVES CLOSER

PONYBOY
What have the Socs got against us?

SODAPOP
Turn off the light and get to bed.

PONYBOY
(shutting off the light)
We leave them alone.

5 CONTD

SODAPOP
Who can figure it? You cold,
Ponyboy?

PONYBOY
A little.

SODAPOP throws one arm over his kid BROTHER'S neck. Then he moves very close, almost whispering:

SODAPOP
Listen, kiddo, when Darry hollers at you ... he don't mean nothin'. He's just got more worries than somebody his age ought to. I mean, he loves you a lot. Savvy?

PONYBOY
(trying to keep sarcasm out of his voice)
Sure. Soda?

SODAPOP
Yeah.

PONYBOY
How come you dropped out?

SODAPOP
'Cause I'm dumb. The only things I was passing anyway were auto mechanics and gym.

PONYBOY
You're not dumb.

SODAPOP
Yeah, I am. Shut up and I'll tell you something. Don't tell Darry, though.

PONYBOY
Okay.

SODAPOP
I think I'm gonna marry Sandy. I might wait till you get out of school, though. So I can still help Darry with the bills and stuff.

5 CONTD

PONYBOY
Tuff enough. Wait till I get
out, though, so you can keep
Darry off my back.

SODAPOP
Don't be like that, kid. I told
you he don't mean half of what
he says.

PONYBOY
You in love with Sandy? What's
it like?

SODAPOP
Hhhmmmm
(falling asleep)
It's real nice.

FADE OUT:

We HEAR Elvis' "I want you -- I need you."

FADE IN:

6 EXT - CORNER OF PICKETT & SUTTON - DAY: Hangin' out with
DALLAS.

MEDIUM VIEW ON DALLAS
waiting under a street lamp. PONYBOY and JOHNNY greet him
nonchalantly.

MUSIC continues over.

DALLAS
We're early.

He lights his last cigarette and crushes the pack.

DALLAS (contd)
What do you want to do?

PONYBOY
What do you want to do, Dally?

DALLAS
Nothin' legal.

7 INT - THE DRUGSTORE - NIGHT: Trouble in the drugstore.

MEDIUM VIEW

7 CONTD

DALLAS, JOHNNY and PONYBOY sitting around cokes and blowing straws at the WAITRESS. DALLAS starts wandering around, eyeing everything left out in the open. The MANAGER gets wise to them and shows them the door.

8 EXT - THE DRUGSTORE - DAY: DALLAS shows Kools.

VIEW ON THE FRIENDS

DALLAS shows them the two packages of KOOLS he managed to slip under his jacket.

9 EXT - DINGO DRIVE-IN - DUSK: Dingo Fight.

Passing by some GREASER'S car; leaning in the window. There is a disturbance off to the side: a twenty-three-year-old GREASER and a MEXICAN HITCHHIKER.

This is a pretty tough place, and pretty soon most everyone is trying to get a look. Then the switchblades come out, and everyone disappears. A COP CAR arrives -- DALLAS ducks into a doorway and then signals PONYBOY and JOHNNY to disappear.

10 EXT - SPENCER'S SPECIAL - NIGHT: Chase little KIDS.

JOHNNY and PONYBOY hurry around behind the discount house, laughing and excited. DALLAS too.

DALLAS
All I need is to get picked up
again by the fuzz.

Two unsuspecting KIDS are across the lot behind Spencer's.

DALLAS (contd)
Hey, did you ask permission to
cross? Who are you?

JOHNNY
They're junior high kids.

The KIDS run like hell.

MOVING VIEW

DALLAS, PONYBOY and JOHNNY chasing them. PONYBOY is a tremendous runner.

VIEW ON THE KIDS

10 CONTD

They have a good start; they are really terrified.

MEDIUM VIEW

PONYBOY stops, embarrassed by picking on little kids. DALLAS pursues them a little further and then notices the sky.

DALLAS
The sky is dark enough ...
(breathless)

JOHNNY
C'mon -- it's dark.

DISSOLVE:

11 EXT - REAR AREA OF DRIVE-IN MOVIE - NIGHT: Sneak in drive-in.

MEDIUM VIEW

THREE SHADOWS sneak in over the drive-in fence. They notice some GIRLS arguing with their SOC BOYFRIENDS around a Blue Mustang. They move on.

12 EXT - SEATS NEAR THE CONCESSION STAND - NIGHT: DALLAS bothers CHERRY.

DALLAS, PONYBOY and JOHNNY sit in the second row of seats. The GIRLS come in and sit down in front of them.

12 CONTD:

MARCIA
You want to do this?

CHERRY
I came to see a movie, and I'm
going to see a movie.

DALLAS
Some cute redhead.

He puts his feet up behind one of them, CHERRY VALANCE.
The other one, MARCIA, pretends not to hear.

JOHNNY
(leaves hastily)
I'm going to get a coke.

DALLAS
(loud and vulgar)
Are you real?
(leaning forward)
Are you a real redhead?
(obscene sound)

The redhead, CHERRY, is getting mad. Or scared. She
sits up straight and chews on her gum hard. She is
very pretty, and clearly not one of them. DALLAS
winks at PONYBOY.

DALLAS (contd)
How can I find out if you're a
real redhead.

JOHNNY comes back with his coke -- clearly upset that
DALLAS is still rudely teasing the girls. Finally:

CHERRY
Take your feet off my chair and
shut your trap.

DALLAS
Who's gonna make me?

MARCIA
That's the greaser that jockeys
for the Slash J sometimes.

CHERRY
You'd better leave us alone, or
I'll call the cops.

12 CONTD:

DALLAS

Oh, my my --
(looking bored)
You've got me scared to death.
You ought to see my record sometime,
baby.
(grinning slyly)
Guess what I've been in for?

CHERRY

Please leave us alone. Why don't
you be nice and leave us alone?

DALLAS

(grinning roguishly)
I'm never nice. Want a coke?

CHERRY

(mad)
Get lost, hood!

DALLAS shrugs and strolls off. She looks at PONYBOY.

CHERRY (contd)
Are you going to start in on us?

CAMERA MOVES CLOSER

PONYBOY

(shaking head,
wide-eyed)

No.

CHERRY

(suddenly smiling)
You don't look the type. What's
your name?

PONYBOY

(shy, expecting her
to make fun of his
name)

Ponyboy Curtis.

CHERRY

That's an original and lovely
name.

PONYBOY

My dad was an original person.
I've got a brother named Sodapop,
and it says so on his birth
certificate.

12 CONTD:

CHERRY

My name's Sherri, but I'm called
Cherry because of my hair. Cherry
Valance.

PONYBOY

I know. You're a cheerleader.
We go to the same school.

MARCI

You don't look old enough to be
going to high school.

CHERRY

What's a nice, smart kid like
you running around with trash
like that for?

PONYBOY

(stiffening)

I'm a grease, same as Dally.
He's my buddy.

CHERRY

(softly)

I'm sorry, Ponyboy.

(briskly)

Your brother SodaPop, does he
work at a gasoline station? A
DX, I think?

PONYBOY

Yeah.

MARCI

How come we don't see your brother
at school? He's not any older
than sixteen or seventeen, is he?

PONYBOY

He's a dropout.

JOHNNY comes back, looking around for DALLAS.

JOHNNY

(shyly)

Hi.

DALLAS comes striding back with an armful of Cokes.
He hands one to each of the GIRLS and sits down beside
CHERRY.

12 CONTD:

DALLAS
(handing her a
Coke)
This might cool you off.

She gives him an incredulous look; and then throws the Coke in his face.

CHERRY
That might cool you off, greaser.
After you wash your mouth and
learn to talk and act decent, I
might cool off, too.

DALLAS wipes the Coke off his face with his sleeve and smiles dangerously.

DALLAS
Fiery, huh? Well, that's the way
I like 'em.

He starts to put his arm around her, but JOHNNY reaches over and stops him.

JOHNNY
Leave her alone, Dally.

DALLAS
Huh?

JOHNNY
(gulping)
You heard me. Leave her alone.

DALLAS gets up and stalks off, his fists jammed in his pockets and a frown on his face.

CHERRY sighs in relief.

CHERRY
Thanks. He had me scared to death.

JOHNNY
You sure didn't show it. Nobody talks to Dally like that.

CHERRY
(smiling)
From what I saw you do.

12 CONTD:

MARCIA
(grinning at them)
Y'all sit up here with us. You
can protect us.

The BOYS move down by the GIRLS.

PONYBOY
Okay ...
(nonchalantly)
might as well.

MARCIA
How old are y'all?

PONYBOY

JOHNNY

MARCIA

CHERRY
(finishing for her)
Sixteen.

JOHNNY
(grinning)
How come ya'll ain't scared of
us like you were Dally?

CHERRY

(sighing)

You two are too sweet to scare anyone. Besides that, I've heard about Dallas Winston and he looked hard as nails and twice as tough. You two don't look mean.

PONYBOY
Sure,
(tiredly)
we're young and innocent.

CHERRY

No,
(slowly, looking at
him carefully)
not innocent. You've seen too
much to be innocent. Just not
... dirty.

12 CONTD:

JOHNNY
(defensively)
Dally's okay. He's tough, but
he's a cool old guy.

PONYBOY
He'd leave you alone if he knew
you.

MARCIA
Well, I'm glad he doesn't know
us.

CHERRY
(softly)
I kind of admire him.

Suddenly there's a hand on JOHNNY's shoulder.

DEEP VOICE
Okay, greasers, you've had it.

It is a grinning TWO-BIT.

PONYBOY
Glory, Two-Bit, scare us to death!

JOHNNY closes his eyes in fear.

JOHNNY
(weakly)
Hey, Two-Bit.

TWO-BIT
(messing up Johnny's
hair)
Sorry, kid, I forgot.

TWO-BIT climbs over the chair and plops down beside
MARCIA.

TWO-BIT (contd)
Who's this, your great-aunts?

CHERRY
Great-grandmothers, twice removed.

TWO-BIT
Shoot, you're ninety-six if you're
a day.

MARCI
I'm a night.

12 CONT'D:

TWO-BIT
(staring admiringly)
Brother, you're a sharp one.

JOHNNY
Dally was bothering them and
when he left they wanted us to
sit with them to protect them.

TWO-BIT
Hey, where is ol' Dally, anyway?

TIM SHEPARD strolls up.

TIM
Yeah, where is ol' Dally?

PONYBOY
Uh, he left.

TIM
I think he could give me some
information about my slashed
tires.

PONYBOY
He left, Tim. He left a long
time ago.

TIM
I'll keep lookin'.

TIM exits.

JOHNNY
Oh geez.

TWO-BIT
Tim'll fight fair if Dally don't
pull a blade on him.

CHERRY
You don't believe in playing
rough or anything, do you?

TWO-BIT
A fair fight ain't rough.

CHERRY
(sarcastically)
Yeah, boy, real simple.

MARCI
(unconcerned)
Sure, if he gets killed or something,
you just bury him. No sweat.

12 CONTD

TWO-BIT
(grinning and lighting
a cigarette)
You dig okay, baby. Anyone
want a weed?

CHERRY
Ponyboy, will you come with me
to get some popcorn?

PONYBOY
(jumping up)
Sure. Y'all want some?

MARCIAS
I do.

TWO-BIT
Me, too.
(flipping Ponyboy a
fifty-cent piece)
Get Johnny some, too. I'm
buying.

CHERRY and PONYBOY walk over to the concession stand
-- there's a long line so that they have to wait.

13 EXT - CONCESSION STAND - NIGHT: PONYBOY & CHERRY
concession.

CHERRY
Your friend -- the one with the
sideburns -- he's okay?

PONYBOY
He ain't dangerous like Dallas
if that's what you mean. He's okay.

PONYBOY notices plenty of SOCS milling around and
looking at him as though he shouldn't be with CHERRY.

CHERRY
(her mind wanders)
Johnny ... he's been hurt bad
sometime, hasn't he?

PONYBOY
(nervously)
Yeah. He's kind of a nervous
wreck anyway -- he gets belted around
at home a lot -- but about four months ago,
(MORE)

13 CONTD

PONYBOY (contd)
he got beat up by some Soc.

CHERRY

Oh.

PONYBOY
They messed him up pretty bad.
One of them was wearing a lot of
rings. Johnny's been carrying a
switchblade ever since.

CHERRY

You have to believe me, Ponyboy,
not all of us are like that.

PONYBOY

Sure.

CHERRY

That's like saying all you
greasers are like Dallas Winston.
I'll bet he's jumped a few people.

(looking sad)

I'll bet you think the Socs have
it made. The rich kids, the
Southside Socs. I'll tell you
something, Ponyboy, and it may
come as a surprise.

(looking him straight
in the eye)

Things are rough all over.

PONYBOY

I believe you. We'd better get
back out there or Two-Bit'll
think I ran off with his money.

14 EXT - THE DRIVE-IN- NIGHT: Walking GIRLS home.

MEDIUM VIEW ON THE GROUP OF TEENAGERS

MARCI

I like the Beatles and Elvis Presley is out.

TWO-BIT

The Beatles are rank and Elvis is tuff.

MOVING CLOSE ON PONYBOY

Strong feelings about walking quietly in the night with an
older girl, a pretty girl, a rich girl.

14 CONTD:

MOVING CLOSE ON CHERRY

So lovely and serious.

CHERRY

You read a lot, don't you, Ponyboy?

PONYBOY

Yeah, why?

MOVING SHOT ON CHERRY AND PONYBOY

CHERRY

I could just tell. I'll bet
you watch sunsets too.

PONYBOY nods yes.

CHERRY (contd)

(hiding a smile)

I used to watch them, too, before
I got so busy ...

MARCI

(suddenly gasping)

Cherry, look what's coming.

They all look.

WHAT THEY SEE:

A blue Mustang comes down the street.

VIEW ON JOHNNY

Turns away, frightened.

MARCI (contd)

(shifting nervously)

What are we going to do?

CHERRY

(biting a fingernail)

Stand here. There isn't much
else we can do.

The searchlight switches on them.

TWO-BIT

Who is it? The F.B.I.?

14 CONTD:

CHERRY

No,
(bleakly)
it's Randy and Bob.

JOHNNY
Your boyfriends?

CHERRY starts to walk casually down the street.

CHERRY
Maybe they won't see us. Act
normal.

TWO-BIT
(grinning)
Who's acting?

The blue Mustang passes them slowly and goes on by.

MARCIA
(sighing in relief)
That was close.

CHERRY
(to Ponyboy)
Tell me about your oldest brother.
You don't talk much about him.

PONYBOY
(shrugging)
What's to talk about? He's big
and handsome and likes to play ~~baseball~~ football.

CHERRY
I mean, what's he like? I feel
like I know Soda from the way
you talk about him; tell me about
Darry.

(urging Ponyboy on)
Is he wild and reckless like Soda?
Dreamy, like you?

PONYBOY
He's ...
(bursting out bitterly)
He's not like Soda at all and
he sure ain't like me. He can't
stand me. I bet he wishes he
could stick me in a home somewhere,
and he'd do it, too, if Soda'd
let him.

14 CONTD:

TWO-BIT
(dumbfounded)
No, no, Ponyboy, that ain't
right ... you've got it wrong ...

JOHNNY
(softly)
Gee, I thought you and Darry
and Soda got along real well.

PONYBOY
(snapping)
Well, we don't. An' you can shut
your trap, Johnny Cade. You're
not wanted at home either.

TWO-BIT slaps PONYBOY across the side of the head.

TWO-BIT
Shut your mouth, kid.

PONYBOY
(miserably)
I'm sorry. I was just mad.

JOHNNY
(shrugs)
It's okay.

TWO-BIT messes up JOHNNY's hair.

TWO-BIT
We couldn't get along without
you so you can just shut up.

ANGLE DOWN THE STREET

The blue Mustang comes down the street once again.

CHERRY
(resignedly)
Well, they've spotted us.

It comes to a halt. The TWO BOYS in the front seat
get out. One wears a white shirt and a madras ski
jacket -- the other a wine-colored sweater.

BOB
Cherry, Marcia, listen to us ...
just because we got a little
drunk last time ...

14 CONTD:

CHERRY

A little? You call reeling and passing out in the streets a little? Bob, I told you, I'm never going out with you while you're drinking, and I mean it.

RANDY

(to Marcia)

Baby, you know we don't get drunk very often.

(getting angry)

And even if you are mad at us, that's no reason to go walking the streets with these bums.

TWO-BIT

Who you callin' bums?

RANDY

Listen, greasers, we got four more of us in the back seat ...

TWO-BIT

Then pity the back seat.

RANDY

If you're looking for a fight ...

TWO-BIT snatches up an empty bottle, breaks it and hands it to PONYBOY; then he flips out his switchblade.

VIEW ON CHERRY

CHERRY

No! Stop it!

(looking at Bob)

We'll ride home with you. Just wait a minute.

TWO-BIT

Why? We ain't scared of them.

CHERRY

I can't stand fights ... I can't stand them ...

PONYBOY and CHERRY

PONYBOY pulls her over to one side and drops the bottle.

14 CONTD:

PONYBOY
(to Cherry)
I couldn't use this, I couldn't
ever cut anyone ...

CHERRY
(quietly)
We'd better go with them. Ponyboy
... I mean ... if I see you in
the hall at school or some place
and don't say hi, well, it's
not personal or anything, but ...

PONYBOY
I know.

CHERRY
You're a nice boy and everything ...

PONYBOY
It's okay. Just don't forget
that some of us watch the sunset
too.

CHERRY
(looking at him
quickly)
I could fall in love with Dallas
Winston. I hope I never see him
again, or I will.

She runs back to the Mustang and it roars off.

After a minute PONYBOY begins to pick up broken glass from
bottle.

TWO-BIT
What are you doing?

PONYBOY
I don't want anybody to get a
flat tire.

TWO-BIT shakes his head.

15 EXT - VACANT LOT - NIGHT: Fall asleep in lot.

MOVING VIEW -- walking home.

TWO BIT
Well, those were two good-lookin'
girls if I ever saw any.

15 CONTD:

PONYBOY
What was that?

TWO-BIT
Marcia's number. Probably a
phony one, too. I must have been
outa my mind to ask for it. I
think I'm a little soused. Y'all
goin' home?

PONYBOY
Not right now.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTD:

TWO-BIT

I don't know why I handed you
that busted bottle. You'd never
use it.

PONYBOY

Maybe I would have. Where you
headed?

TWO-BIT

Gonna go play a little snooker
and maybe get rip-roarin' drunk.
I dunno. See y'all tomorrow.

TWO-BIT leaves. JOHNNY and PONYBOY lie down, shivering
on the grass. They look up at the stars.

JOHNNY

It was because we're greasers.
We could have hurt her reputation.

PONYBOY

I reckon.

JOHNNY

Man, that was a tuff car. Mustangs
are tuff.

PONYBOY

Big-time Socs, all right.

JOHNNY

I can't take much more. I'll
kill myself or something.

PONYBOY

Don't.

(sitting up in alarm)
You can't kill yourself, Johnny.

JOHNNY

But I gotta do something. It
seems like there's gotta be a
some place without greasers or
Socs, with just people. Plain
ordinary people.

PONYBOY

Out of the big towns ...

He lies down on the grass next to JOHNNY.

15 CONTD:

PONYBOY (contd)
... in the country.

DISSOLVE:

16 SHEET OF PAPER

PONYBOY'S HANDWRITING

"I loved the country ... I wanted to be out
of towns and away from excitement ... "

17 EXT - THE COUNTRYSIDE - LATE DAY: Countryside MONTAGE.

PONYBOY (OS)
... I only wanted to lie on my
back under a tree and read a book
or draw a picture, and not worry
about being jumped or carrying a
blade or ending up married to
some scatterbrained broad with
no sense.

ANGLE ON SODAPOP

riding his horse.

PONYBOY (OS contd)
... I would have a yellow cur
dog, like I used to, and SodaPop
could get his horse "Mickey Mouse"
back and ride in all the rodeos
he wanted to ...

ANGLE ON DARREL AND PONYBOY

PONYBOY (OS contd)
... and Darry would be like he
used to be, eight months ago,
before Mom and Dad were killed.
... Since I was dreaming, I brought
Mom and Dad back to life ...

VIEW ON PONYBOY'S PARENTS

Enter into view, getting out of the automobile they
died in.

DAD slaps DARREL good-naturedly on the back.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

17 CONTD:

PONYBOY
... Maybe Johnny would come and
live with us ... and Mom ...

MEDIUM VIEW ON PONYBOY'S MOM

talking to DALLAS. DALLAS grins in spite of himself.

PONYBOY (OS)
... She could talk to Dally and
keep him from getting into a lot
of trouble.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY'S MOM

PONYBOY (OS contd)
... My mother was golden and
beautiful ...

18 EXT - VACANT LOT - NIGHT: Wake up in lot.

JOHNNY (OS)
Ponyboy ...

ANGLE ON JOHNNY

shaking a sleeping PONYBOY.

JOHNNY
... Hey, Pony, wake up.

PONYBOY sits up, shivering, looks around disoriented.

PONYBOY
God, what time is it?

JOHNNY
I don't know. I went to sleep,
too. You better get home. I
think I'll stay all night out
here. Who'll care?

PONYBOY
Okay.
(he shivers and
yawns)
If you get cold or something,
come on over to our house.

JOHNNY
Okay.

PONYBOY springs up, worried.

18 CONTD:

PONYBOY
What's Darry gonna say?

He runs off in the cold night.

CUT TO:

19 EXT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - NIGHT: PONYBOY sees his BROTHERS through the window.

He moves cautiously up the steps of their house; he peeks in, the lights are all on.

WHAT HE SEES:

SODAPOP is stretched out on the sofa, asleep. DARREL is in the armchair under the lamp, reading the newspaper.

20 INT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - NIGHT: DARREL slaps PONYBOY.

PONYBOY steps into the house. DARREL is on his feet in a second.

DARREL
(real mad)
Where the heck have you been?
Do you know what time it is?
Well, it's two in the morning,
kiddo.

PONYBOY starts chewing his fingernail.

PONYBOY
I ...
(stammering)
I went to sleep in the lot.

DARREL
You what?

SODAPOP sits up and rubs his eyes.

SODAPOP
(sleepily)
Hey, Ponyboy, where ya been?

PONYBOY
I didn't mean to. I was talking to Johnny and we both dropped off ...

20 CONT'D:

DARREL

Yeah, and I can't even call the cops because something like that could get you two thrown in a boys' home so quick it'd make your head spin. Can't you use your head? You haven't even got a coat on.

PONYBOY

I said I didn't mean to ...

DARREL

(shouting)

I didn't mean to! I forgot!
That's all I hear out of you!
Can't you think of anything?

SODAPOP

Darry ...

DARREL

You keep your trap shut! I'm sick and tired of hearin' you stick up for him.

PONYBOY

You don't yell at him!

DARREL wheels around and slaps PONYBOY, knocking him against the door. Silence.

DARREL

Ponyboy ...

(screaming)

Pony, I didn't mean to!

DARREL looks at the palm of his hand where it had turned red and then looks back at PONYBOY. SODAPOP is wide-eyed.

DARREL (contd)

Ponyboy ...

PONYBOY turns and runs out the door as fast as he can.

DARREL

(screaming after him)

Ponyboy!

21 EXT - NEIGHBORHOOD - NIGHT: PONYBOY runs away.

ANGLE ON PONYBOY RUNNING

22 EXT - THE LOT - NIGHT: PONYBOY and JOHNNY run.

MEDIUM VIEW ON PONYBOY

running in the darkness.

PONYBOY

Johnny ...

He practically trips over JOHNNY, sleeping in the dark lot.

PONYBOY (contd)

Come on, Johnny, we're running away.

JOHNNY asks no questions. They run together unquestioning until they are out of breath. Then, as they walk, PONYBOY breaks into tears.

JOHNNY

Easy, Ponyboy,
(softly)
we'll be okay.

PONYBOY

Gotta cigarette?
(pause)
Johnny, I'm scared.

JOHNNY

Well, don't be. You're scarin'
me. What happened?

PONYBOY

Darry hit me. We used to get along okay ... before Mom and Dad died. Now he just can't stand me.

JOHNNY

I think I like it better when
then old man's hittin' me.
(sighs)
At least you got Soda.

PONYBOY

Shoot, you got the whole gang.

22 CONTD:

JOHNNY
It ain't the same as having your
own folks care about you.

PONYBOY
Let's walk to the park and back.
Then maybe I'll be cooled off
enough to go home.

JOHNNY
Okay.
(easily)
Okay.

23 EXT - THE PARK - NIGHT: SOCS try to drown PONYBOY.

LONG SHOT

About two blocks square, with a fountain in the middle
going merrily. It is two thirty in the morning and
the park is empty. PONYBOY and JOHNNY entering ...

JOHNNY
Ain't you about to freeze to death,
Pony?

PONYBOY
You ain't a'woofin'.

MUSIC up.

We realize that the blue Mustang is circling the park
slowly.

MEDIUM VIEW ON PONYBOY AND JOHNNY

PONYBOY
What do they want? This is our
territory.

JOHNNY
(shaking his head)
I don't know. But I bet they're
looking for us. We picked up
their girls.

WHAT THEY SEE

FIVE SOCS get out of the Mustang and come reeling,
straight at them.

23 CONTD:

VIEW ON PONYBOY

PONYBOY
They're drunk.

VIEW ON JOHNNY

His hand reaches down to his back pocket for his switchblade. He's really scared.

CLOSE VIEW ON THE SOC'S HAND
with three distinctive rings.

VIEW ON THE SOC

shaded and obscured by the shadows of the elm trees.

BOY
Hey, whatta ya know. Here's the little greasers that picked up our girls.

Another Soc, RANDY, is really drunk and mad. He steps forward and swears at them.

VIEW ON PONYBOY AND JOHNNY

JOHNNY
(frightened)
You're outta your territory.
You'd better watch it.

VIEW ON THE SOC

RANDY steps forward.

RANDY
Nup, pal, yer the ones who'd better watch it.

PONYBOY is getting angry.

BOB
You know what a greaser is?
White trash with long hair.

PONYBOY
You know what a Soc is?
(voice trembling)
White trash with Mustangs and madras.

23 CONTD:

He spits at them.

BOB shakes his head, smiling slowly.

BOB

You could use a bath, greaser.
Give the kid a bath, Randy.

PONYBOY ducks and tries to run for it, but RANDY grabs his arm and twists it behind PONYBOY's back, and shoves his face in the fountain.

CLOSE UP

as PONYBOY's head is forced below the water level of the fountain. He struggles and coughs, as he is repeatedly pushed under water. The water darkens, and becomes confused with IMAGES of DARREL and his MOTHER, and SODAPOP and "Mickey Mouse" and his DAD. Until it becomes DARKNESS. We HEAR JOHNNY crying.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

24 EXT - THE PARK - NIGHT: BOB is dead.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

He opens his eyes. His clothes are drenched. Beside him is JOHNNY, one elbow on his knee and staring straight ahead.

JOHNNY

I killed him.
(slowly)
I killed that boy.

ANGLE ON BOB

lying in the moonlight, doubled up and still. A dark red pool growing from him, spreading over the white cement.

ANGLE ON JOHNNY'S HAND

Clutching his switchblade, dark to the hilt.

ANGLE ON PONYBOY

Staring. Suddenly, his stomach heaves.

24 CONT'D:

PONYBOY

Johnny.

JOHNNY

I killed him. I killed that boy.

PONYBOY

Johnny, I think I'm gonna be sick.

JOHNNY

Go ahead. I won't look at you.

PONYBOY

You really killed him, huh,
Johnny?

JOHNNY

Yeah.

(his voice quavering
slightly)

I had to. They were drowning
you, Pony. They might have
killed you. They were gonna
beat me up ...

PONYBOY

Like ...

(swallowing)

Like they did before?

JOHNNY

(quiet for a minute)
Yeah, like they did before.
They ran when I stabbed him.
They all ran ...

PONYBOY

(nearly screaming)

Johnny! What are we gonna do?
They put you in the electric
chair for killing people! I'm
scared, Johnny. What are we
gonna do?

JOHNNY jumps up and drags PONYBOY by his sweatshirt.
He shakes him.

JOHNNY

Calm down, Ponyboy. Get a hold
of yourself.

PONYBOY

Okay, I'm okay now.

24 CONTD:

JOHNNY slaps his pockets nervously.

JOHNNY
We gotta get outta here. Get somewhere. Run away. The police'll be here soon. Dally.
(with finality)
Dally'll get us outta here.

PONYBOY
Where can we find him?

JOHNNY
I think at Buck Merrill's place. There's a party over there tonight.

They run off in the cold night.

25 EXT - BUCK MERRILL'S - NIGHT: SEE BUCK and DALLAS.

MEDIUM VIEW

By a desolate part of town, a small, two-story. Road cut with a little bit of neon.

JOHNNY and PONYBOY are crossing the shadows up to the door.

BUCK
(glaring down at them)
Whata ya want?

We HEAR the clinking of glasses and female giggles and Hank Williams.

JOHNNY
Dally! We gotta see Dally.

BUCK
(snapping)
Dallas is busy.

VOICE FROM LIVING ROOM
A-ha! Yee-ha.

PONYBOY
Tell him it's Ponyboy and Johnny.
He'll come.

BUCK glares at them, and then stumbles off. The two BOYS move around the porch to look into the window

25 CONTD:

and watch the rowdy doings. After a moment DALLAS surprises them.

DALLAS

Okay, kids, whata ya need me for?

PONYBOY

Johnny killed a Soc ...

DALLAS

(after a pause)

Good for you.

JOHNNY

We figured you could get us out if anyone could. I'm sorry we got you away from the party.

DALLAS

Oh, shoot, kid ...

(glancing contemptuously over his shoulder)

I was in the bedroom.

(staring at Ponyboy)

It wasn't anything like that, kid. I was asleep, or tryin' to be, -- Ol' Tim sure can pack a punch. He won't be able to see outa one eye for a week.

(looking them over)

Well, wait a sec and I'll see what I can do about this mess.

(taking a good look at Ponyboy)

Ponyboy, are you wet?

PONYBOY

(stammering)

Y-y-es-s.

DALLAS opens the screen door and pulls PONYBOY in, motioning for JOHNNY to follow.

26 INT - BUCK MERRILL'S - NIGHT: Walk to BUCK's bedroom.

DALLAS

You'll die of pneumonia 'fore the cops ever get you.

He drags PONYBOY into an empty bedroom.

27 INT - BUCK MERRILL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT: DALLAS gives clothes and a gun.

DALLAS
Get that sweatshirt off.
(throwing towel)
Dry off and wait here.

JOHNNY
(laying back on bed)
Wish I had a weed.

DALLAS
(brings shirt and jacket)
Here --
(handing them a gun and a roll of bills)
the gun's loaded. For Pete's sake, Johnny, don't point the thing at me. Here's fifty bucks.

(sighs)
Boy, howdy, I ain't itchin' to be the one to tell Darry about this and get my head busted.

PONYBOY
Then don't tell him.

DALLAS
Here!
(handing Ponyboy an oversized shirt)
It's Buck's -- you an' him ain't exactly the same size, but it's dry.
(hands him jacket)
Hop the three-fifteen freight to Windrixville. There's an old abandoned church on top of Jay Mountain. There's a pump in back so don't worry about water. Buy a week's supply of food as soon as you get there -- this morning, before the story gets out, and then don't so much as stick your noses out the door. I'll be up there as soon as I think it's clear.

(thinks about it)
Man, I thought New York was the only place I could get mixed up in a murder rap.

(MORE)

27 CONTD:

DALLAS (contd)
(walking them to the
door)
Git goin'!
(messing up Johnny's
hair)
Take care, kid.

JOHNNY
Sure, Dally. Thanks.

They run into the darkness.

28 EXT - RAILROAD TRACKS - NIGHT: Jump on train.

PONYBOY and JOHNNY crouch in the weeds beside the railroad tracks, listening to the whistle grow louder. The train slows to a screaming halt.

JOHNNY
Now.

They run and pull themselves into an open boxcar.

29 INT - RAILROAD CAR - NIGHT: TRAIN MEN pass by.

They press against the side, trying to hold their breath while they listen to the RAILROAD WORKERS walk up and down outside. ONE pokes his head inside, and they freeze. He doesn't see them, and the boxcar rattles as the train starts up.

JOHNNY looks at the gun.

JOHNNY
I don't see why he gave me this.
I couldn't shoot anybody.
(pause)
I wish we asked Dally for some
cigarettes!

DISSOLVE:

30 EXT - RAILROAD TRACKS - NIGHT: Moving train MUSIC.

MUSIC up.

Moving along the railroad.

31 OMIT

32 INT - RAILROAD CAR - DAY: Jump off train.

They jump off and land in the meadow.

33. EXT - MEADOW - DAY: Need directions.

MEDIUM VIEW

Climbing up out of the meadow.

PONYBOY

Now how do we find Jay Mountain?

JOHNNY

Go ask someone. The story won't be in the paper yet. Make like a farm boy taking a walk or something.

PONYBOY

I don't look like a farm boy.

He looks at his and JOHNNY's clothes.

PONYBOY (contd)

... they'll know we're hoods the minute they see us.

JOHNNY

I'll have to stay here. My leg went to sleep.

(rubbing his leg)

You go down the road and ask the first person you see where Jay Mountain is.

PONYBOY sticks a piece of grass in his mouth and tries to look like a farm boy. JOHNNY cracks up, still wining at pain in his legs.

MOVING VIEW

PONYBOY climbs over the barbed-wire fence. JOHNNY's still laughing at him. He strolls down the red dirt road.

34 EXT - COUNTRY ROAD - DAY: Ask FARMER directions.

PONYBOY walks to a sunburned FARMER, driving a tractor down the road.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTD:

PONYBOY
Could you tell me where Jay
Mountain is?

FARMER
Follow this road to that big
hill over there. That's it.
Taking a walk?

CONNBOY
Yes, sir.
(managing to look
sheepish)
We're playing army and I'm
supposed to report to Headquarters
there.

FARMER
(grinning)
Boys will be boys.

The FARMER drives on, and PONYBOY heads back to where JOHNNY is waiting.

DISSOLVE:

35 EXT - THE ROAD - DAY: SEE church.

PONYBOY and JOHNNY make it up the steep road, city
kids breathing hard in the country. WE SEE the abandoned
church.

36 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: Into the church.

PONYBOY and JOHNNY enter the church, climbing in through
the small rear window.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

looking in awe.

POV OF THE CHURCH

A small church -- spooky and spider-webby, enough to
give you the creeps.

PONYBOY
You remember the day I talked
Soda into coming to church with
us?

36 CONTD:

CLOSE ON JOHNNY

watching -- a little frightened.

JOHNNY

(quietly)

Yes.

(he laughs)

Soda can't sit still long enough
to see a movie.

PONYBOY

(exploring the dark
church)

Steve and Two-Bit started throwing
paper wads at each other and
clowning around. Then Steve
dropped the hymn book. Pow!

MEDIUM SHOT - THE TWO BOYS IN THE ABANDONED CHURCH
sitting down, giggling over their reminiscence.

PONYBOY flops down on the floor.

THE VIEW BEGINS TO MOVE CLOSER

The floor is stone, and hard. JOHNNY stretches out
beside him, resting his head on his arms.

PONYBOY

(sleepily)

Everyone in church turned to look
— and Two-Bit waved at them.

PONYBOY turns, as if to say more. But JOHNNY is asleep.
PONYBOY closes his eyes.

PONYBOY (contd)

(flops on the floor)

This floor is stone, and hard ...
(curling up)

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

37 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: PONYBOY dreams of BROTHERS.

EXTREME CLOSE UP ON PONYBOY

in the darkness of the church. MUSIC up.

WHAT HE SEES:

down the corridor, through the open doorway. DARREL's
in the kitchen, cooking breakfast.

37 CONTD:

DARREL
(echoed)
School days! Rise and shine.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

Blinks. Sits up.

WHAT HE SEES: (PROCESS)

PONYBOY imagines DARREL and SODAPOP come into his bedroom and drag him out of bed and wrestle him down and tickle him until he thinks he'll die. Then they go into the kitchen and figure out whose turn it is to do the dishes. Then they go outside and play football.

VIEW ON PONYBOY AND JOHNNY

PONYBOY jumps awake, doesn't know where he is for a second, wrapped in DALLAS' jacket on the cold rock floor. The wind is rushing through the trees' dry leaves outside.

PONYBOY pushes himself up. He's stiff and sore from sleeping on the hard floor. He pushes aside JOHNNY's jeans jacket, which somehow got thrown across him, and blinks.

PONYBOY
(loudly -- frightened)
Johnny?

His voice echoes around the church: "Johnny . . . Johnny . . ." He looks down.

WHAT HE SEES:

Crooked lettering in the dust of the floor:

"Went to get supplies. Be back soon.
J. C. "

38 EXT - THE CHURCH - DAY: JOHNNY comes back with baloney.

PONYBOY moves out into the cold morning to the pump, to get a drink. He splashes the cold water on his face, which wakes him up pretty quick. Suddenly, he hears something coming up through the dead leaves toward the back of the church, and quickly PONYBOY ducks inside the door of the church. Then we HEAR a whistle, long and low, ending in a sudden high note.

38 CONTD:

PONYBOY returns the whistle, and then darts out of the door so fast he falls off the steps and sprawls flat under JOHNNY's nose. He grins up from his elbows.

PONYBOY
(clowning around)
Hey, Johnny, fancy meeting you here.

JOHNNY's got a big package.

JOHNNY
You're gettin' to act more like Two-Bit every day.

PONYBOY
(cocks an eyebrow)
Who's acting?
(rolling over and springing up)
What'd you get?

JOHNNY
Come on inside. Dally told us to stay inside.

They go into the church.

39 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: PONYBOY gets his hair cut.

JOHNNY dusts off a table with his jacket and starts taking things out of the sack, and lining them up neatly.

JOHNNY
A week's supply of baloney, two loaves of bread, a box of matches ...

PONYBOY
Whee!
(sitting down on a dusty chair and staring)
A paperback copy of Gone With The Wind! How'd you know I always wanted one?

JOHNNY
(reddening)
I remembered you sayin' something about it once. And me and you
(MORE)

39 CONTD:

JOHNNY (contd)
went to see that movie, 'member?
I thought you could maybe read
it out loud and help kill time
or something.

PONYBOY
Gee, thanks.
(putting book down
reluctantly)
Peroxide? A deck of cards ...
(suddenly)
Johnny, you ain't thinking of ...

JOHNNY
(sitting down and
pulling out his
knife)
We're gonna cut our hair, and
you're gonna bleach yours. They'll
have our descriptions in the
paper. We can't fit 'em.

PONYBOY
Oh no!
(his hand flying
to his hair)
No, Johnny, not my hair!

JOHNNY
We'd have to anyway if we got
caught. You know the first thing
the judge does is make you get
a haircut.

PONYBOY
(sourly)
I don't see why.

JOHNNY
I don't know either -- it's just
a way of trying to break us. I'm
gonna cut mine too, and wash the
grease out. Oh, come on, Ponyboy,
it'll grow back.

PONYBOY
Okay. Get it over with.

CLOSE VIEW - PONYBOY

JOHNNY flips out that razor-edge of his switchblade,
takes hold of PONYBOY's hair and starts sawing on it.

39 CONTD:

PONYBOY (contd)
(examining tuft of
hair)

It's lighter than I thought it
was. Can I see what I look like
now?

JOHNNY

No.

(staring at him)
We gotta bleach it first.

DISSOLVE:

40 EXT - THE CHURCH - DAY: JOHNNY gets his hair cut.

VIEW ON JOHNNY

carries an old cracked mirror ...

JOHNNY

Here.

He holds the mirror for PONYBOY.

VIEW THROUGH THE MIRROR - PONYBOY

with his new hair. He does a double take, his hair is
even lighter than SodaPop's. It makes him look younger,
scareder -- it just doesn't look like him.

PONYBOY
This really makes me look tuff.

JOHNNY hands him the knife. He looks scared too.

JOHNNY

Go ahead.

PONYBOY does the best he can. He cuts the front --
stops. Looks.

DISSOLVE:

41 EXT - THE CHURCH - DAY: "Halloween costume."

JOHNNY sits shivering in the cold. PONYBOY gives him
DALLY's jacket to wrap up in.

JOHNNY

I guess,
(weakly)
I guess we're disguised.

41 CONTD:

PONYBOY
(leaning back sullenly)
I guess so.

JOHNNY
(with fake cheerfulness)
Oh, shoot, it's just hair.

PONYBOY
(snapping)
Shoot, nothing. This just ain't
us. It's like being in a
Halloween costume we can't get
out of.

JOHNNY
Well, we got to get used to it.
We're in big trouble and it's our
looks or us.

42 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: Talk about murder.

PONYBOY is eating a candy bar -- tears running down his
cheeks.

PONYBOY
I'm still tired.

He brushes the tears away.

JOHNNY
I'm sorry I cut your hair off,
Ponyboy.

PONYBOY
Oh, it ain't that.
(between bites of
chocolate)
I really don't know what's the
matter. I'm mixed up.

JOHNNY
(through chattering
teeth)
I know. Things have been
happening so fast. Two-Bit
coulda walked out with half
that store. Good ol' Two-Bit.

PONYBOY
Remember how he was wisecrackin'
last night? Last night ... just
(MORE)

42 CONTD:

PONYBOY (contd)
last night we were walkin' Cherry
and Marcia over to Two-Bit's.
Just last night ...

JOHNNY

Stop it!

(gasping from between
clenched teeth)

Shut up about last night! I
killed a kid last night. He
couldn't of been more than
seventeen or eighteen and
I killed him.

(crying)

PONYBOY holds him.

JOHNNY (contd)
How'd you like to live with that?
(quiet for a minute)
There sure is a lot of blood in
people.

JOHNNY gets up suddenly and begins pacing back and forth, slapping his pockets.

PONYBOY

(crying)

Whata we gonna do?

JOHNNY

(stops crying)

This is my fault, for bringin'
a little thirteen-year-old kid
along. You ought to go home.
You can't get into any trouble.
You didn't kill him.

PONYBOY

No!

(screaming)

I'm fourteen! I've been fourteen
for a month! And I'm in it as
much as you are. I'll stop crying
in a minute. I can't help it.

JOHNNY

(slumping down
beside him)

I didn't mean it like that,
Ponyboy. Don't cry, Pony, we'll
be okay. Don't cry ...

42 CONTD:

PONYBOY leans against him and bawls until he goes to sleep.

DISSOLVE:

43 INT - THE CHURCH - NIGHT: Wake up in dark.

PONYBOY and JOHNNY huddled together in the darkness of the freezing church. The MUSIC is tender.

CLOSE SHOT - THE TWO FRIENDS

PONYBOY

Johnny?
(yawning)
You awake?

JOHNNY

Yeah.

PONYBOY

We ain't gonna cry no more, are we?

JOHNNY

Nope. We're all cried out now.
We're gettin' used to the idea.
We're gonna be okay now.

PONYBOY

(drowsily)
That's what I thought.

FADE OUT.

OVER DARKNESS

PONYBOY (OS)

(reading, slowly)

"... Scarlett O'Hara was not beautiful, but men seldom realized it when caught by her charm as the Tarleton twins were. In her face . . . "

FADE IN:

44 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: Playing poker.

PONYBOY's narration comes over the Gone With the Wind text, as the two BOYS play poker, with bottle caps as chips.

DISSOLVE:

45 VIEW ON PONYBOY'S THEME

The handwriting. MUSIC in.

"... the next four or five days were the longest days I've ever spent in my life ... "

DISSOLVE:

46 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: GWTW — "Different."

CLOSE on JOHNNY, daydreaming.

PONYBOY

(reading dramatically)

"... As I've told you before, that is the one unforgivable sin in any society ... "

CLOSE on PONYBOY reading, intently.

PONYBOY (OS)

"Be different and be damned!"

DISSOLVE:

47 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: PONYBOY reads Gone With the Wind.

EXTREME CLOSE UP - PONYBOY

reading past the cover of the paperback Gone With the Wind. We HEAR him reading from the text.

PONYBOY

"Everywhere swarms of flies hovered over them, crawling and buzzing in their faces ... "

VIEW ON JOHNNY

making a face.

JOHNNY

Gross.

DISSOLVE:

48 INT - THE CHURCH - NIGHT: Gone With the Wind -- "Gallant."

MEDIUM VIEW

JOHNNY and PONYBOY eating baloney and smoking at the same time.

48 CONTD:

PONYBOY
... riding into sure death
because they were gallant.
Cool, huh?

JOHNNY
Gallant! Cool ol' guys. They
remind me of Dally.

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTD:

PONYBOY
(startled)
Dally? Shoot, he ain't got any
more manners than I do. Soda's
more like them Southern boys.

JOHNNY
Yeah ... in the manners bit and
the charm too, I guess.
(preparing more baloney
for Ponyboy)
But Dallas ...

CLOSE UP - PONYBOY

looking at JOHNNY.

PONYBOY
Dally's so real he scares me.

DISSOLVE:

49 EXT - THE CHURCH - DAY: Farm KIDS pass by.

JOHNNY and PONYBOY peek around the side of the church
with caution. Past them we can make out farm KIDS
riding by on their horses on their way to the store.
The BOYS stay back. MUSIC up.

DISSOLVE:

50 SHEET OF PAPER: "One morning ... "

PONYBOY'S THEME: HIS HANDWRITING

" ... One morning, I woke up earlier than
usual ... "

DISSOLVE:

51 INT - THE CHURCH - MORNING: PONYBOY wakes up in church.

MEDIUM CLOSE UP

PONYBOY wakes up, sleeping together with JOHNNY.

He slips out of the jackets without disturbing JOHNNY.

52 EXT - THE CHURCH - MORNING: Sunrise "Nothing gold ... "

The dawn is coming up. All the valley is covered with
mist, sometimes breaking off and floating away in small

52 CONTD:

clouds. The clouds change from gray to pink, and the mist is touched with gold. There is a silent moment when everything holds its breath, and then the sun rises. PONYBOY smokes a cigarette and watches in awe.

JOHNNY

Golly -- that was sure pretty.

PONYBOY

Yeah.

JOHNNY

The mist was what was pretty.
All gold and silver.

PONYBOY

Uhhmmmmmm.

(trying to blow a
smoke ring)

JOHNNY

Too bad it couldn't stay like
that all the time.

THE TWO AGAINST THE SPECTACULAR SKY

PONYBOY

Nothing gold can stay.

JOHNNY

What?

PONYBOY

"Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hues to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down today.
Nothing gold can stay."

JOHNNY

(staring at him)
Where'd you learn that? That
was what I meant.

PONYBOY

Robert Frost wrote it. I always
remembered it because I never
quite got what he meant by it.

52 CONTD:

JOHNNY

You know, I never noticed colors and clouds and stuff until you kept reminding me about them. It's like they were never there before. Your family sure is funny.

PONYBOY

And what happens to be so funny about it?

JOHNNY

I didn't mean nothing. I meant, well, Soda kinda looks like your mother did, but he acts just exactly like your father. And Darry is the spittin' image of your father, but he ain't wild and laughing all the time like he was. He acts like your mother. And you don't act like either one.

PONYBOY

I know. Well, you ain't like any of the gang. I mean, I couldn't tell Two-Bit or Steve or even Darry about the sunrise and clouds and stuff. I couldn't even remember that poem around them. I mean, they just don't dig. Just you and SodaPop. And maybe Cherry Valance.

Johnny shrugs.

JOHNNY

Yeah, I guess we're different.

PONYBOY

Shoot,
(blows a perfect smoke ring)
maybe they are.

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTD:

MUSIC up.

SUPERIMPOSITION:

PONYBOY'S THEME:

"By the fifth day I was so sick of baloney
I nearly got sick every time I looked at
it . . . "

53 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: Passing time MONTAGE.

JOHNNY
You'll get sick if you smoke
so much.

PONYBOY
(lighting another
Camel)
I need a Pepsi ...

JOHNNY
Be careful -- Man, you don't
want to catch this place on fire.

PONYBOY nods, and carefully puts out his match. He
returns to Gone With the Wind.

PONYBOY
(reading)
" . . . Do you know that when the
Yankees were marching on Millidge-
ville they called out all the cadets
from the military academy no matter
how young they were?" Just think,
we could have been in the war,
back then they had kids fighting,
toward the end.

MONTAGE AS HE READS

The BOYS play poker; JOHNNY winning; smoking cigarettes;
PONYBOY getting sick, and JOHNNY throwing out empty
packs of Camels. And finally, PONYBOY curling up in
the corner of the church, to sleep off his sickness.

JOHNNY sits on the back porch, trying to read to himself.

54 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: DALLAS comes to church.

CLOSE UP ON PONYBOY

sleeping, then -- a familiar whistle, from a distance.
PONYBOY stirs, then rests, when a toe nudges him.

54 CONTD:

DALLAS (OS)
Hey, he looks different with
his hair like that.

PONYBOY
(yawning and blinking)
Hey, Dally.

DALLAS
Hey, Ponyboy.
(grinning down at
him)
Or should I say Sleeping Beauty?

PONYBOY
How's SodaPop? Are the fuzz after
us? What ...

DALLAS
Hold on, kid. I can't answer
everything at once. You two want
to go get something to eat first?
I'm about starved.

JOHNNY
(indignant)
You're starved?

DALLAS searches his shirt pocket for a cigarette and
finds none.

DALLAS
Gotta cancer stick, Johnnycake?

JOHNNY tosses him a whole pack.

DALLAS
(lighting up)
The fuzz won't be looking for
you around here. They think you've
lit out for Texas. Hey, Ponyboy,
(fumbling with a
piece of paper in
his back pocket)
I got a letter for you.

PONYBOY
A letter? Who from?

DALLAS
The President, of course. It's
from Soda.

54 CONTD:

PONYBOY
(bewildered)
Sodapop? But how did he know ...

DALLAS
I told him I didn't know where you were, but he didn't believe me ...

PONYBOY isn't listening. He quickly opens the letter, and rushes to lean against the side of the church to read aloud: MUSIC.

MOVING CLOSER TO PONYBOY

PONYBOY
(reading)
" ... Ponyboy,
Well, I guess you got into some trouble, huh? Darry and me nearly went nuts when you ran out like that. Darry is awfully sorry he hit you. You know he didn't mean it ..." .

CLOSE VIEW ON JOHNNY

listening.

SODAPOP (vo)
" ... And then you and Johnny turned up missing and what with that dead kid in the park and Dally getting hauled into the station, well, it scared us something awful ... I wish you'd come back and turn yourselves in but I guess you can't since Johnny might get hurt ..." .

PONYBOY
" ... You sure are famous. You got a paragraph in the newspaper even. Take care and say hi to Johnny for us.

Sodapop Curtis ..." .

PONYBOY takes a sigh and then:

PONYBOY (contd)
How come you got hauled in?

DALLAS
(grinning wolfishly)
Shoot, kid -- them boys at the station know me by now. While
(MORE)

54 CONTD:

DALLAS (contd)

I was there I kinda let it slip
that y'all were heading for Texas.
So that's where they're lookin'.

(giving Ponyboy a
hard rub on the head)
Kid, I swear it don't look like
you with your hair all cut off.
It used to look tuff.

PONYBOY

(sourly)

I know. I look lousy, but don't
rub it in.

DALLAS

So y'all want somethin' to eat
or not?

PONYBOY

(leaping up with
Johnny)

You'd better believe it.

55 EXT - THE T-BIRD: Speeding from church.
MEDIUM VIEW - BEHIND THE CAR

doing eighty-five along the red dirt road.

VIEW ON THE BOYS

JOHNNY and PONYBOY are a little green, as DALLAS takes a corner on two wheels with the brakes screaming.

56 INT - THE DAIRY QUEEN - DAY: Barbeque sandwiches.

We HEAR Presley. PONYBOY and JOHNNY gorge themselves on barbeque sandwiches. PONYBOY savors a Pepsi.

DALLAS

And I thought I was hungry!
(finishing his third
hamburger)

We've really been havin' a war
since you killed that kid. All over
the town it's Soc against Grease.
I started carrying a heater...

PONYBOY

(frightened)

Dally! You kill people with
heaters!

56 CONTD:

DALLAS

(in a hard voice)

Ya kill 'em with switchblades,
too, don't ya, kid?

(smiling)

Don't worry, it ain't loaded.
I ain't aimin' to get picked up
for murder. Tim Shepard's gang
and our outfit are havin' a
rumble with the Soc's tomorrow
night at the vacant lot. If
we win, they stay outta our
territory but good. Hey, I
didn't tell you we got us a spy.

JOHNNY

A spy?

(looking up from
his banana split)

Who?

DALLAS

That good-lookin' broad I tried
to pick up that night you killed
the Soc. The redhead. Cherry
what's-her-name.

CLOSE ON JOHNNY AND PONYBOY

Their mouths momentarily stop eating.

JOHNNY AND PONYBOY

Cherry? The Soc?

DALLAS

' Yeah. We were hanging around the
lot when she drives up in her
little ol' Sting Ray. That took
a lot of nerve. Man, next time
I want a broad I'll pick up my
own kind.

JOHNNY

Yeah.

DALLAS

She said she'd testify that the
Soc's were drunk and looking for
a fight and that you fought back
in self-defense.

(MORE)

56 CONTD:

DALLAS (contd)

(grim laugh -- he
likes her)

That little gal sure does hate
me. I offered to take her over
to The Dingo for a Coke and she
said, "No, thank you" and told
me where I could go.

(pause)

Man, this place is out of it.
What do they do for kicks around
here, play checkers?

(surveying the scene
without entrance)

I ain't never been in the country
before.

PONYBOY

How'd you know about the church?

DALLAS

I got a cousin that lives around
here somewhere. Tipped me off
that it'd make a tuff hide-out in
case of something.

JOHNNY finishes his fifth barbecue sandwich.

JOHNNY

We're goin' back and turn ourselves
in.

DALLAS

(gagging and swearing)

What?

JOHNNY

I got a good chance of bein'
let off easy. It was self-
defense. Ponyboy and Cherry can
testify to that. We won't tell
that you helped us, Dally, and
we'll give you back the gun so
you won't get into trouble, okay?

DALLAS

(chewing on the
corner of his ID
card)

You sure?

56 CONTD:

JOHNNY
(nodding)
I'm sure. It ain't fair for
Darry and Soda worryin' about
Ponyboy all the time. I don't
guess ...
(swallowing, trying
not to look eager)
I don't guess my parents are
worried about me or anything?

DALLAS
(matter-of-fact voice)
The boys are worried. Two-Bit
was for going to Texas to hunt
for you.

JOHNNY
(repeating doggedly)
My parents, did they ask about
me?

DALLAS
(snapping)
No, they didn't. So what? Shoot,
my old man don't give a hang
whether I'm in jail or dead in
a car wreck or drunk in the gutter.
That don't bother me none.

57 INT - THE T-BIRD - DAY: Drive back to the church.

JOHNNY stares at the dashboard as they fly along the
red road.

DALLAS
Dammit, Johnny, why didn't you
think of this five days ago?
It would have saved a lot of
trouble.

JOHNNY
(with conviction)
I was scared. I still am. I
guess we ruined our hair for
nothing, Ponyboy.

PONYBOY
I guess so.

DALLAS
Johnny, you don't know what a
few months in jail can do to you.
(MORE)

57 CONTD:

DALLAS (contd)
Oh, dammit, Johnny, you get mean
in jail. I don't want that to
happen to you. Like it happened
to me.

DALLAS slams on the brakes and stares.

DALLAS
Oh, good God.

58 EXT - CHURCH - DAY: Church on fire.

WHAT THEY SEE:

The church is burning.

MEDIUM VIEW

PONYBOY hops out of the car and starts running.

PONYBOY
Let's go see what the deal is.

DALLAS
What for? Get back in here
before I beat your head in.

PONYBOY runs to the CROWD by the church, mostly little
KIDS. He taps the nearest GROWNUP.

PONYBOY
What's going on?

JERRY
(good-naturedly)
Well, we don't know for sure.
Thank goodness this is a wet
season and the old thing is
worthless anyway. Stand back,
children -- the firemen will
be coming soon.

JOHNNY has moved up to PONYBOY.

PONYBOY
I bet we started it. I must have
dropped a lighted cigarette or
something.

A LADY runs to the MEN with the MAN taking care of the
CHILDREN. Some kind of elementary school outing, with
TEACHERS. The WOMAN is upset.

58 CONTD:

WOMAN
Jerry, some of the children are missing.

JERRY
(looking about)
They're probably around here somewhere. You can't tell with all this excitement ...

WOMAN
No -- they've been gone for at least half an hour.

EVERYONE is suddenly quiet, including the BOYS. As though they heard something.

VIEW ON THE BURNING CHURCH

Faintly, we can HEAR the sound of children yelling.

She goes white ... about to scream.

WOMAN (contd)
I told them not to play in the church ... I told them.

JERRY shakes her, seeing her hysteria.

VIEW ON PONYBOY AND JOHNNY

PONYBOY
I'll get them, don't worry.

He breaks into a dead run, the VIEW TRACKING with him. JERRY runs after him, catches him by the arm.

JERRY
You kids stay out -- I'll get them.

PONYBOY
I'll get them, don't worry.

PONYBOY jerks loose and continues, THE MOVING VIEW is EXTREMELY CLOSE ON PONYBOY.

PONYBOY (contd)
(to himself)
We started it -- we started it.

58 CONTD:

MEDIUM CLOSE VIEW

PONYBOY stops at the flaming door, backs away from the heat. Then turns and takes a huge rock and hurls it through the window, and climbs in. It is only then that we realize that JOHNNY is right behind him.

59 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: Fire rescue.

Smoke fills their tearful eyes.

MOVING VIEW

PONYBOY
Is that guy coming?

JOHNNY
(shaking his head)
The window stopped him.

PONYBOY
Too scared?

JOHNNY
(grinning)
Naw ... too fat.

SMOKE AND FLAME SEQUENCE

We really SEE very little other than glimpses of PEOPLE and mostly smoke and occasionally, a sudden burst of flame.

JOHNNY
(shouting)
Where's the kids?

PONYBOY
(hollering)
In the back, I guess.

They stumble through the church. A load of cinders and embers fall on them in a hot shower -- they scream out.

NEW VIEW

The two BOYS push the rear door open and move in, finding five little KIDS, 6 - 8, huddled in the corner. ONE is screaming his head off, and JOHNNY has to shout:

59 CONTD:

JOHNNY
Shut up. We're goin' to get you out.

The KID looks surprised and quits hollering.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

surprised at JOHNNY's nerve as he moves into action.

WHAT HE SEES:

JOHNNY looks over his shoulder, and seeing the door blocked by flames, pushes open the window, causing an enormous "whoosh" of air, and throws one of the little KIDS out of it.

CLOSE ON JOHNNY

His face is red-marked and sweat stained, but he smiles at PONYBOY. He isn't scared. Without the self-defeated look he always carries, most likely he is having the time of his life.

VIEW ON PONYBOY

He picks up a KID, who promptly bites him hard. He leans out of the window and drops him as gently as he can.

VIEW THROUGH THE WINDOW

There's a CROWD out there. DALLAS too, and when he sees PONYBOY he screams:

DALLAS
For Pete's sake, get out of there!
That roof's gonna cave in any minute. Forget those blasted kids!

Sections of the roof framework fall in flames, missing them, but PONYBOY and JOHNNY drop the last KIDS out of the window, not looking to see how they fall.

PONYBOY is coughing so hard he can barely stand up. He struggles to take off DALLY's jacket it's so hot.

60 EXT - THE CHURCH - DAY: Crumbling church.

The CROWD panics, steps back, the front of the church is beginning to crumble.

61 INT - THE CHURCH - DAY: PONYBOY escapes fire.

SPECIAL FX SHOT

JOHNNY shoves PONYBOY towards the window.

JOHNNY

Get out!

PONYBOY leaps through the window with timber crashing and flames roaring right behind him. He staggers, almost falling, coughing and sobbing for breath. He turns as he hears JOHNNY SCREAM. He turns to climb back in, when DALLAS' face looms up BIG as he cusses him and clubs him across the back as hard as he can. PONYBOY loses consciousness.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

62 INT - THE AMBULANCE - NIGHT: Ambulance.

EXTREME CLOSE ON PONYBOY

bouncing and moving, as the MUSIC plays.

Gaining consciousness. He HEARS the siren.

PONYBOY
(groaning to himself)
The cops. Soda.

Someone gently sponges his face.

VOICE
I think he's coming around.

He opens his eyes.

PONYBOY
(weakly)
Are you taking me to jail?

He can slowly make out JERRY, the teacher.

JERRY
Take it easy, kid, you're in an ambulance.

62 CONTD:

PONYBOY
Where's Johnny? And Dallas?

JERRY
They're in the other ambulance,
right behind us. Just calm down,
you're going to be okay. You
just passed out.

PONYBOY
I didn't either ...
(tough)
Dallas hit me. How come?

JERRY
Because your back was in flames,
that's why.

PONYBOY
Yeah? I didn't feel it.

JERRY
We put it out before you got
burned. That jacket saved you
from a bad burning ... maybe saved
your life.

PONYBOY
Are Johnny and Dally all right?

JERRY
We think the older kid is going
to be all right. Johnny, well, I
don't know about him. A piece
of timber caught him across the
back.

(hurriedly changing
subject)
I swear you three are the bravest
kids I've seen in a long time.
Or are you just professional
heroes or something?

PONYBOY
No, we're greasers.

JERRY
You're what?

PONYBOY
Greasers. You know, like hoods,
JD's. Johnny is wanted for murder,
(MORE)

62 CONTD:

PONYBOY (contd)
and Dallas has a record with the
fuzz a mile long.

JERRY
Are you kidding me?

PONYBOY
I am not. Take me to town and
you'll find out pretty quick.

PONYBOY starts to laugh weakly.

63 INT - HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - NIGHT: PONYBOY reunited
with BROTHERS.

MEDIUM VIEW

PONYBOY is sitting on a bench with some burns and
bruises. He rises and watches as JOHNNY and DALLAS
are carried by him on stretchers. Then he sits back
down. He is smoking.

JERRY
You shouldn't be smoking.

PONYBOY
(startled)
How come?
(not seeing a "No
Smoking" sign)
How come?

JERRY
Why, uh,
(stammering)
uh, you're too young.

PONYBOY
I am?

JERRY
(sighing, then
grinning)
There are some people here to
see you.

PONYBOY leaps up and runs for the door, but it is
already opened, and SODAPOP has him in a big bear hug,
swinging him around.

63 CONTD:

SODAPOP
Geez, man, what'd you do to
your hair? Your tuff hair ...

PONYBOY almost cries, as SODAPOP sits him down and brushes back his hair.

Then he looks up:

WHAT HE SEES: DARREL

leaning in the doorway, wearing his olive jeans and black T-shirt. His fists are jammed in his pockets and his eyes are pleading. He swallows and says in a husky voice:

DARREL
Ponyboy.

PONYBOY merely stands there, letting go of SODAPOP. Then he realizes that DARREL is crying.

PONYBOY
Darry!

And suddenly PONYBOY has got his arms around his older BROTHER, squeezing the daylights out of him.

PONYBOY (contd)
Darry -- I'm sorry.

DARREL
(stroking his head
and crying)
Oh, Pony, I thought we'd lost
you. Like we did Mom and Dad ...

PONYBOY
(laughing and crying)
Oh, Darry.

The BROTHERS hold each other.

MUSIC up.

DISSOLVE:

64 INT - DARREL'S FORD - NIGHT: PONYBOY sleeps in Ford.
PONYBOY is overcome by sleepiness.

DISSOLVE:

3/1/82

65 EXT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - NIGHT: DARREL carries PONYBOY.
The Ford pulls up. SODAPOP tries to wake PONYBOY.

SODAPOP
Hey, Ponyboy, wake up.

PONYBOY
(sleepily)
Hnnnnnn.

He lays back in the back seat.

SODAPOP
Oh, come on, Ponyboy.
(shaking him)
We're tired too ...

DARREL steps over, picks up PONYBOY in his big arms,
and carries him into the house.

SODAPOP (contd)
He's getting mighty big to be
carried.

DARREL
He's sure lost a lot of weight.

MOVING VIEW ON PONYBOY

being carried into the house like a baby, in his
older BROTHER's arms.

WE HOLD ON THEIR HOUSE A MOMENT. Then:

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

66 INT - PONYBOY'S ROOM - MORNING: PONYBOY wakes up by
SODAPOP.

MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT

PONYBOY opens his eyes, and pulls himself from under
SODAPOP's arms. SODAPOP is fully clothed, but PONYBOY
had his shirt and shoes taken off for him. He pulls
the blanket over SODAPOP, and moves into the shower.

67 INT - LIVING ROOM - MORNING: TIM SHEPARD at house.

PONYBOY walks through living room on way to kitchen.
Startled to see TIM SHEPARD on couch, reading newspaper.

67 CONTD:

PONYOYY
Uh, hi, Tim.

TIM
(not glancing up)
Hi, kid.

PONYBOY
(clearly in awe of
him)
You want some breakfast?

TIM folds the newspaper and rises to leave.

TIM
Nope. Thanks for the use of
your couch.

TIM exits.

PONYBOY
Uh, sure. Anytime.

DISSOLVE:

68 INT - THE KITCHEN - DAY: Breakfast with the GANG.

PONYBOY enters the kitchen.

PONYBOY'S VOICE
The first one up has to fix
breakfast and the other two do
the dishes ...

CLOSE VIEW - PONYBOY

takes out the cake mix from the pantry.

PONYBOY (VO)
... That's the rule around our
house. All three of us like
chocolate cake for breakfast.
Mom had never allowed it with
ham and eggs, but Darry lets
us talk him into it.

As PONYBOY starts making the chocolate cake from a Betty Crocker mix.

THE VIEW DETAILS HIS PREPARATION AS:

68 CONTD:

PONYBOY (VO, contd)
We really didn't have to twist
his arm: Darry loves chocolate
cake as much as we do.

CLOSE ON DETAIL

PONYBOY mixing the ingredients.

PONYBOY (VO, contd)
I like Darry's cakes better;
Soda always puts too much sugar
in the icing.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

inaudibly talking to himself, as he works.

PONYBOY (VO, contd)
I don't see how he stands jelly
and eggs and chocolate cake all
at once, but he seems to like it.

INSERT

Mixing the chocolate milk.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

pulling the chocolate cake out of the oven.

PONYBOY (VO, contd)
All three of us are crazy about
chocolate stuff. Soda says if
they ever make a chocolate
cigarette I'll have it made.

TWO-BIT (OS)
Anybody home?

PONYBOY

In here.

(his brothers are
sleeping)
Don't slam the door.

STEVE and TWO-BIT slam the door as they enter.

TWO-BIT comes running into the kitchen, catching PONYBOY
in his arms and swinging him around, ignoring the fact
that PONYBOY has the pan with two eggs in his hands.

68 CONTD:

TWO-BIT
Hey, Ponyboy, long time no see.

TWO-BIT springs PONYBOY to STEVE, who gives him a playful slap on his bruised back and shoves him into the room. One of the eggs goes flying. It lands on the clock, and when PONYBOY tries to keep a hold of the other egg, it breaks all over his hand.

PONYBOY
Now look what you did. There went our breakfast.

TWO-BIT walks in a slow circle around him; PONYBOY sighs because he sees them looking at his hair.

TWO-BIT
Man, big baldy here!

PONYBOY
Aw, lay off.

STEVE
Why, he had to get a haircut to get his picture in the paper.
How do you like bein' a hero,
big shot?

PONYBOY
How do I like what?

STEVE
Being a hero. You know —
(shoving morning paper at him impatiently)
— like a big shot, even.

WE SEE the paper.

"JUVENILE DELINQUENTS TURN HEROES"

TWO-BIT
What I like is the "turn" bit.
(cleaning the egg up)

PONYBOY pulls the paper up close and reads.

PONYBOY
They're charging Johnny with manslaughter.

68 CONTD:

THE FACES OF THE OTHER BOYS

PONYBOY (contd)
What do they mean if Johnny
recovers?

STEVE
Says how you saved those little
kids too, Ponyboy. How they would
have been burned to death, if it
hadn't been for you.

TWO-BIT
Boy, Dallas'll be mad when he
hears they didn't mention his
police record.

PONYBOY
(gravely)
It's all about us -- Darry, Soda
and me.
(he looks up)
You mean ... that they're thinking
about putting me and Soda in a
boys' home or something?

STEVE combs his hair in complicated swirls.

STEVE
Somethin' like that.

PONYBOY sits down in a daze.

PONYBOY
No.

STEVE
No what?

PONYBOY
No, they ain't goin' to put us
in a boys' home.

STEVE
(cocksure)
Don't worry about it. They don't
do that to heroes. Where's Soda
and Superman?

DARREL, shaved and dressed, comes in behind STEVE
and lifts him off the floor; and then drops him.

63. CONTD:

STEVE (contd)
All brawn and no brains.

STEVE and DARREL don't love each other. SODAPOP comes running in.

SODAPOP
Where's the blue shirt I washed
yesterday?

He takes a swig of PONYBOY's chocolate milk.

STEVE
(still on the floor)
Hate to tell you, buddy, but you
have to wear clothes to work.
There's a law or something.

SODAPOP
Oh, yeah. Where're those wheat
jeans, too?

DARREL
I ironed them. They're in my
closet. Hurry up, you're gonna
be late.

SODAPOP runs back, muttering.

SODAPOP
I'm hurryin', I'm hurryin'.

STEVE follows him back and in a second there is a general racket of a pillow fight.

PONYBOY
(suddenly)
Darry, did you know about the
juvenile court?

DARREL
(looking in refrigerator)
Yeah, the cops told me last night.

They look at each other for a while without saying a word -- they both fear the same nightmare.

DARREL and PONYBOY are still looking at each other. There is MUSIC.

DARREL starts to say something, but then SODAPOP and STEVE come noisily in.

68 CONTD:

SODAPOP

(to no one in
particular)

You know what? When we stomp
the Socs good, me and Stevie
here are gonna throw a big party
and everybody can get smashed.

DARREL

Where you gonna get the dough,
little man?

(handing out pieces
of cake)

SODAPOP

(assuring him between
bites)

I'll think of somethin'.

PONYBOY

You going to take Sandy to the
party?

Silence.

PONYBOY looks around.

SODAPOP

(staring at his feet)

No. She went to live with her
grandmother in Florida ...

STEVE

(surprisingly angry)

Look, does he have to draw you
a picture? Her parents hit
the roof at the idea of her
marryin' a sixteen-year-old kid.

SODAPOP

Seventeen. I'll be seventeen
in a couple of weeks.

PONYBOY

(embarrassed)

Oh.

DARREL

(affectionately to
Sodapop)

We'd better get on to work,
Pepsi-Cola. I hate to leave you
(MORE)

68 CONTD:

DARREL (contd)
here by yourself, Ponyboy. Maybe
I ought to take the day off.

PONYBOY
I've stayed by my lonesome before.
You can't afford a day off.

DARREL
Yeah, but you just got back and
I really ought to stay ...

TWO-BIT
I'll babysit him.
(ducking as Ponyboy
takes a swing at
him)
I haven't got anything better
to do.

STEVE
Why don't you get a job? Ever
consider working for a living?

TWO-BIT
(aghast)
Work? And ruin my rep? I
wouldn't be babysittin' the kid
here if I knew of some good
day-nursery open on Saturdays.

PONYBOY pulls his chair over backward and jumps on him
-- but TWO-BIT has him down in a second.

TWO-BIT
Holler Uncle.

PONYBOY
I got to cut out smoking or I
won't make track next year.

TWO-BIT
Uncle.

PONYBOY
Nope.

DARREL pulls on his jacket.

DARREL
You two do up the dishes.
(MORE)

68 CONTD:

DARREL (contd)
(pausing for a second)
Two-Bit, lay off. He ain't lookin'
so good. Ponyboy, you smoke more
than a pack today and I'll skin
you. Understand?

PONYBOY
Yeah.
(getting to his feet)
You carry more than one bundle
of roofing at a time and me and
Soda'll skin you.

DARREL
(a rare grin)
Yeah. See y'all this afternoon.

PONYBOY
Bye.

DARREL, SODAPOP, and STEVE exit.

PONYBOY does the kitchen while TWO-BIT dries the same
glass.

PONYBOY
We're gonna clean up the house.
The reporters or police or somebody
might come by, and anyway, it's
time for those guys from the
state to come by and check up
on us.

TWO-BIT
This house ain't messy. You
oughta see my house.

PONYBOY
I have. And if you had the sense
of a billy goat you'd try to help
around your place instead of
bumming around.

TWO-BIT
Shoot, kid, if I ever did that
my Mom would die of shock.

PONYBOY picks up DALLAS' brown leather jacket, looks
at the burned back, and slips it on. ELVIS up.

CUT TO:

3/1/82

69 EXT - TENTH STREET - DAY: Thumb a ride.

MOVING TWO-SHOT

PONYBOY and TWO-BIT trying to thumb a ride, to the MUSIC.

TWO-BIT

I would drive us, but the brakes
are out on my car. Almost killed
me and Kathy the other night.

He flips up the collar of his black leather jacket to
serve as a windbreaker while he lights a cigarette.
PONYBOY turns, and notices something.

WHAT HE SEES:

A blue Mustang, trailing them.

MOVING TWO SHOT

TWO-BIT (contd)

You oughtta see Kathy's brother.
Now there's a hood. He's so
greasy he glides when he walks.
He goes to the barber for an
oil change, not a haircut.

PONYBOY looks back at the Mustang -- his head aches.

70 INT - TASTY-FREEZE - DAY: PONYBOY meets RANDY.

MEDIUM VIEW

They stop at the Tasty-Freeze as the blue Mustang
pulls in. PONYBOY almost runs, but TWO-BIT shakes
his head ever so slightly, and tosses him a cigarette.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

lights up and looks.

WHAT HE SEES:

The SOC who jumped JOHNNY and him at the park, hops
out of the Mustang.

CLOSER VIEW:

RANDY ANDERSON

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

recognizing the BOY who almost drowned him.

70 CONTD:

CLOSE VIEW

A hand on his shoulder. He looks up and TWO-BIT leans against him, dragging on his cigarette.

TWO-BIT

No jazz before the rumble. You know the rules.

RANDY

We know.

(he looks toward
Ponyboy)
I want to talk to you.

PONYBOY glances at TWO-BIT, who shrugs. RANDY turns, and PONYBOY follows him over to the blue Mustang, out of earshot of the rest.

RANDY

I read about you in the paper.
How come?

PONYBOY

I don't know. Maybe I felt like playing hero.

RANDY

I wouldn't have. I would have let those kids burn to death ...

PONYBOY

You might not have. You might have done the same thing.

RANDY

(pulling out a cigarette,
pressing car lighter)

I don't know, I don't know anything anymore. I would never have believed a greaser could pull something like that.

PONYBOY

"Greaser" didn't have anything to do with it.

RANDY enters the Mustang -- indicates that PONYBOY should too. PONYBOY gets in, impressed with the car's interior.

71 INT - THE MUSTANG - DAY: RANDY and PONYBOY in Mustang.

RANDY

(slowly)

I'm not going to show at the
rumble tonight.

(pain in his eyes)

I'm sick of all this. Sick and
tired. Bob was the best buddy
a guy ever had. You dig?

PONYBOY nods.

RANDY (contd)

He's dead -- his mother has had
a nervous breakdown. They spoiled
him rotten. They gave in to him
all the time. If his old man had
just belted him -- just once, he
might still be alive. I don't
know why I'm telling you this.
I couldn't tell anyone else. My
friends -- they'd think I was
off my rocker.

(pause)

That kid -- your buddy, the one
that got burned, he might die?

PONYBOY

Yeah.

RANDY

And tonight ... people get hurt
in rumble, maybe killed.

PONYBOY remains silent.

RANDY (contd)

You can't win. You know that,
don't you? Even if you whip us.
You'll still be where you were
before. We'll forget it if you
win, or if you don't. You'll
still be where you were -- at the
bottom. And we'll still be the
lucky ones with all the breaks.
Greasers will still be greasers
and Socs will still be Socs.

(he takes a deep breath)

I think I'm going to leave town.
Take my little old Mustang and
all the dough I can carry and
get out.

71 CONTD:

PONYBOY
Running away won't help.

RANDY
(half-sobbing)
Oh, hell, I know it, but what
can I do? I'm marked chicken
if I punk out at the rumble, and
I'd hate myself if I didn't. I
don't know what to do.

PONYBOY
(after a pause)
I'd help you if I could.

RANDY
No you wouldn't. I'm a Soc. You
get a little money and the whole
world hates you. Thanks, grease.
(trying to grin,
stops)
I didn't mean that. I meant,
thanks, kid.

PONYBOY
My name's Ponyboy. Nice talkin'
to you, Randy.

PONYBOY exits car.

72 EXT - TASTY-FREEZE - DAY: Back to TWO-BIT.

MEDIUM VIEW

PONYBOY walks back to TWO-BIT -- and RANDY honks for
his friends to get into the car.

TWO SHOT

TWO-BIT is curious.

TWO-BIT
What'd he ask? What'd Mr.
Super-Soc have to say?

PONYBOY
He ain't a Soc, he's just a
guy. He just wanted to talk.

MEDIUM VIEW

PONYBOY lights another weed. The two walk off.

73 INT - THE HOSPITAL - DAY: DOCTOR lets them in.

MEDIUM VIEW

The DOCTOR moving.

DOCTOR

Let them go in. He's been asking
for them. It can't hurt.

CLOSE UP ON PONYBOY

He understands what the DOCTOR means.

74 INT - JOHNNY'S ROOM - DAY: Visit JOHNNY.

They practically tip-toe in. JOHNNY is lying still,
with his eyes closed.

CLOSE ON JOHNNY

He opens his eyes, and tries to grin.

JOHNNY

Hey, y'all.

NURSE

(smiling)

So he can talk after all.

TWO-BIT

(looking around)

They treatin' you okay, kid?

JOHNNY nods.

TWO-BIT (contd)

(pulling up a chair)

We're havin' the big rumble
tonight.

CLOSE ON JOHNNY

He says nothing.

TWO-BIT (contd)

Too bad you and Dally can't be
in it. It's the first big rumble
we've had -- not countin' the
time we whipped Shepard's outfit.

JOHNNY

He came by.

74 CONTD:

MEDIUM VIEW

TWO-BIT
Tim Shepard?

JOHNNY
(nodding)
Came to see Dally.

TWO-BIT
Did you know you got your name
in the paper for being a hero?

JOHNNY
(almost grinning as
he nods)
Tuff enough.

JOHNNY is really weak.

TWO-BIT
You want anything?

JOHNNY
(barely nodding)
The book --
(looking at Ponyboy)
can you get another one?

PONYBOY
(to Two-Bit)
He wants a copy of Gone With the
Wind so I can read it to him.
You want to run down to the
drugstore and get one?

TWO-BIT
(cheerfully)
Okay. Don't y'all run off.

NEW VIEW

PONYBOY sits in TWO-BIT's chair and thinks of something
to say.

PONYBOY
Dally's gonna be okay. And Darry
and me, we're okay now.
(alarmed)
Johnny! Are you okay?

74 CONTD:

JOHNNY

(nodding with eyes closed)
Yeah, it just hurts sometimes. It
usually don't ... I can't feel
anything below the middle of my
back ...

(breathing heavily
for a moment)

I'm pretty bad off, ain't I, Ponyboy?

PONYBOY

(with fake cheerfulness)
You'll be okay. You gotta be. We
couldn't get along without you.

CLOSE VIEW - PONYBOY AND JOHNNY

JOHNNY

I won't be able to walk again.
(faltering)
Not even on crutches. Busted
my back.

PONYBOY

(firmly)
You'll be okay.

JOHNNY

You want to know something, Ponyboy?
I'm scared stiff. I used to talk
about killing myself ...

(drawing a quivering
breath)

I don't want to die now. It ain't
long enough. Sixteen years ain't
long enough. I wouldn't mind it
so much if there wasn't so much
stuff I ain't done yet and so many
things I ain't seen. That time we
were in Windrixville was the only
time I've been away from our neighborhood.

PONYBOY

You ain't gonna die. And don't get
juiced up, because the doc won't
let us see you no more if you do.

JOHNNY

You know what? That time we were
in Windrixville was the only time
I've been away from our neighborhood.

74 CONTD:

NEW VIEW

A NURSE appears in the doorway.

NURSE

Johnny, your mother's here to
see you.

JOHNNY

(eyes opening wide
with surprise,
then darkening)

I don't want to see her.

NURSE

She's your mother.

JOHNNY

(voice rising)

I said I don't want to see her.
She's probably come to tell me
about all the trouble I'm causing
her. Well, tell her to leave
me alone. For once --
(voice breaking)
-- for once just leave me alone.

He struggles to sit up -- then gasps and goes white.
He passes out. The NURSE hurries PONYBOY out of the
door.

NURSE

I was afraid of something like
this if he saw anyone.

(to Two-Bit)

You can't see him now.

TWO-BIT hands her Gone With the Wind.

TWO-BIT

Make sure he can see it when he
comes around.

(looking at the closed
door, turning abruptly)

I wish it was any one of us but
Johnny.

75 INT - THE HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - DAY: JOHNNY'S MOTHER.

The BOYS walk out, past a little WOMAN with straight
black hair.

75 CONTD:

JOHNNY'S MOTHER
But I have a right to see him.
He's my son. So this is our
reward! He'd rather see those
no-count hoodlums than his
own folks ...

(giving them a look
of hatred)
Always running around in the
middle of the night getting
jailed and heaven knows what
else ...

ANGLE ON TWO-BIT

His eyes narrow as though he's going to start something.

TWO-BIT
No wonder he hates your guts.

He's about to tell her off real good, when PONYBOY
shoves him along.

MOVING VIEW ON TWO-BIT AND PONYBOY

TWO-BIT
(a catch in his voice)
Oh, Lord! He has to live with
that.

They move on.

76 INT - DALLAS' HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY: Visit DALLAS.

They come in while DALLAS is arguing with ONE of the
NURSES.

DALLAS
(grinning at them)
Man, am I glad to see you! This
place gives me the creeps. I
want out! Shepard came by to
see me a while ago.

PONYBOY
That's what Johnny said. What'd
he want?

DALLAS
Said he saw my picture in the
paper and couldn't believe it
didn't have "Wanted Dead or
(MORE)

76 CONTD:

DALLAS (contd)
Alive" under it. He mostly
came to rub it in about the
rumble. Man, I hate missin' it.

PONYBOY
Here's your jacket, Dally.
(hands him the burnt
brown jacket)

DALLAS
(sounding casual)
Thanks, uh ... how's the kid?

TWO-BIT
We just left him.
(debating whether to
tell Dallas the truth)
I don't know about stuff like
this ... but ... well, he seemed
pretty bad to me. He passed out
cold before we left.

DALLAS
(swearing)
Two-Bit, you still got that
fancy black-handled switch?

TWO-BIT
Yeah.

DALLAS
Give it here.

TWO-BIT reaches into his back pocket for his prized
possession. A jet-handled switchblade, ten inches
long. Then he hands it over to DALLAS without further
hesitation.

DALLAS (contd)
We gotta win that fight tonight.
We gotta get even with the Socs.
For Johnny.

He puts the switchblade under his pillow and lays back,
staring at the ceiling.

They know better than talk to DALLAS when he's like
this -- they leave.

77 EXT - BUS STOP - DAY: Waiting for the bus.

TWO-BIT
(looking at Ponyboy,
worriedly)
You feel okay? -- You look hot.

PONYBOY
I'm all right.
(a bit panicky)
Don't tell Darry, okay? Come
on, Two-Bit, be a buddy. I'll
take a bunch of aspirins.

TWO-BIT
(reluctantly)
All right. But Darry'll kill
me if you're really sick and
go ahead and fight anyway.

PONYBOY
(getting a little angry)
I'm okay. And if you keep your
mouth shut, Darry won't know a
thing.

TWO-BIT
You know, the only thing that
keeps Darry from bein' a Soc
is us.

PONYBOY
I know.

78 INT - THE BUS - DAY: PONYBOY on the bus.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

riding the bus.

PONYBOY
Tonight -- I don't like it one
bit.

TWO-BIT
(pretending not to
understand)
I never knew you to play chicken
in a rumble before. Not even
when you was a little kid.

PONYBOY
I ain't chicken, Two-Bit Matthews,
and you know it.
(MORE)

78 CONTD:

PONYBOY (contd)
(angrily)
Ain't I a Curtis, same as Soda
and Darry? Something awful is
gonna happen.

79 EXT - THE STREET - DAY: Off the bus.

Getting off the bus.

TWO-BIT.
Somethin' is gonna happen. We're
gonna stomp the Socs' guts, that's
what.

80 EXT - THE VACANT LOT - DAY: PONYBOY sees CHERRY in
Corvette.

The BOYS walk toward the vacant lot, and then hesitate.
CHERRY VALANCE is sitting in her Corvette by the lot
as they come by.

CLOSE ON CHERRY

Her long hair is pinned up and in daylight she is
even better looking.

CHERRY
Hi, Ponyboy. Hi, Two-Bit.

TWO-BIT stops.

TWO-BIT
What's up with the big times?

She tightens the strings of her ski jacket.

CHERRY
They play your way. No weapons,
fair deal. Your rules.

TWO-BIT
You sure?

CHERRY
(nodding)
Randy told me. He knows for sure.

TWO-BIT
(turning and starting
home)
Thanks, Cherry.

80 CONTD:

CHERRY

Ponyboy, stay a minute. Randy's not going to show up at the rumble.

THE VIEW TIGHTENS

PONYBOY

Yeah, I know.

CHERRY

He's not scared. He's just sick of fighting. Bob ...

(swallowing)

Bob was his best buddy. Since grade school. How's Johnny?

PONYBOY

Not so good. Will you go up to see him?

CHERRY

(shaking her head)

No. I couldn't.

PONYBOY

Why not?

CHERRY

(in a quiet, desperate voice)

I couldn't. He killed Bob. Oh, maybe Bob asked for it. I know he did. But I couldn't ever look at the person who killed him. You didn't know his other side, how sweet he could bed. Bob was something special. He wasn't just any boy. He had something that made people follow him, something that marked him different, maybe a little better, than the crowd. Do you know what I mean?

PONYBOY

(sharply)

That's okay. I wouldn't want you to see Johnny. You're a traitor to your own kind and not loyal to us. We don't need your damn charity.

80 CONTD:

He starts to turn and walk off, but something in CHERRY's face makes him stop.

CLOSE ON CHERRY

She has started to cry, almost.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

He is ashamed, lowers his head.

OVER SHOULDER - CHERRY

The clouds behind her are beautiful.

CHERRY

I wasn't trying to give you charity, Ponyboy. I only wanted to help. I liked you from the start ... the way you talked. Wouldn't you try to help me if you could?

OVER SHOULDER - PONYBOY

Clouds.

PONYBOY

(suddenly)

Hey, can you see the sunset real good from the Southside?

CHERRY

(blinking, startled,
then smiling)

Real good.

PONYBOY

You can see it good from the Northside, too.

OVER SHOULDER - PONYBOY

CHERRY

Thanks, Ponyboy.

(smiling through tears)

You dig okay.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

looking.

80 CONTD:

EXTREME CLOSE - CHERRY

She has green eyes.

MEDIUM VIEW

PONYBOY walks off.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

81 INT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - EVENING: Getting ready for the rumble.

MEDIUM VIEW - LIVING ROOM

PONYBOY (OS)
(calling from bathroom)
Soda, when did you start shaving?

SODAPOP
(yelling back)
When I was fifteen.

PONYBOY (OS)
When did Darry?

SODAPOP
When he was thirteen. Why? You figgerin' on growing a beard for the rumble?

PONYBOY
(entering)
You're funny. We ought to send you in to the Reader's Digest. I hear they pay a lot for funny things.

SODAPOP laughs and goes on playing poker with STEVE in the living room. DARREL has on a tight black T-shirt that shows every muscle on his chest.

PONYBOY (contd)
You like fights, don't you,
Soda?

SODAPOP is keeping up a steady stream of wisecracks and clowning, and STEVE has the radio up loud. He hears a folk song, and switches it off in disgust.

81 CONTD:

SODAPOP
(shrugging)
Yeah, sure, I like fights.

PONYBOY
How come?

SODAPOP
I don't know. It's action. It's a contest. Like a drag race or a dance or something.

STEVE
Shoot. I want to beat those Socs' heads in. When I get in a fight I want to stomp. I like it, too.

PONYBOY
How come you like fights, Darry?

DARREL gives him one of those looks that hides what he's thinking.

SODAPOP
He likes to show off his muscles.

DARREL
I'm gonna show 'em off on you, little buddy, if you get any mouthier. I don't know if you ought to be in this rumble, Pony.

PONYBOY is frightened at the prospect.

PONYBOY
How come? I've always come through before, ain't I?

DARREL
(with a proud grin)
Yeah. But you were in shape before. You don't look so great, kid. You're tensed up too much.

SODAPOP
Shoot, we all get tensed up before a rumble. Let him fight tonight. Skin never hurt anyone -- no weapons, no danger.

81 CONTD:

PONYBOY
(pleading)
I'll be okay. I'll get hold of
a little one, okay?

DARREL
Well, we will need every man we
can get.

PONYBOY
Let me fight, Darry. If it was
blades or chains or something
it'd be different.

DARREL
(giving in)
Well -- I guess you can. But be
careful.

PONYBOY
(wearily)
I'll be okay. How come you never
worry about SodaPop as much?

DARREL grins and puts his arm across SODAPOP's shoulder.

DARREL
Man -- this is one kid brother
I don't have to worry about.

SODAPOP punches him in the ribs affectionately.

DARREL (contd)
This kiddo can use his head. You
can see he uses it for one thing
-- to grow hair on.

82 EXT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - NIGHT: Acrobatics.

TWO-BIT sticks his head in the door just as DARREL goes flying out of it. Leaping as he goes off the steps, DARREL turns a somersault in mid-air, hits the ground, and bounces up before SODAPOP can catch him.

TWO-BIT
(cheerfully)
Well, I see we are in prime
condition for a rumble. Is
everybody happy?

SODAPOP screams as he does a flying somersault off the steps.

82 CONTD:

SODAPOP
Yeah!

NEW VIEW

SODAPOP flips up to walk on his hands and then does a no-hands cartwheel across the yard to beat DARREL's performance. The excitement is catching. STEVE screeches like an Indian and runs across the lawn in flying leaps, stops suddenly and flips backward.

PONYBOY (VO)
We could all do acrobatics because Darry had taken a course at the Y and then spent a whole summer teaching us everything he'd learned on the grounds that it might come in handy in a fight.

PONYBOY does a no-hands cartwheel off the porch steps, hits the ground and rolls to his feet. TWO-BIT follows him in a similar manner.

SODAPOP
I am a greaser, I am a JD and a hood. I blacken the name of our fair city. I beat up people. I rob gas stations. I am a menace to society.

STEVE
(sing-songing)
Greaser ... greaser ... greaser ... O victim of environment, underprivileged, rotten, no-count hood!

DARREL
(shouting)
Juvenile delinquent, you're no good!

TWO-BIT
(in a snobbish voice)
Get thee hence, white trash. I am a Soc. I am the privileged and the well-dressed. I throw beer blasts, drive fancy cars, break windows at fancy parties.

PONYBOY
(in a serious, awed voice)
And what do you do for fun?

82 CONTD:

TWO-BIT
(screaming, doing a
cartwheel)
I jump greasers!

83 EXT - THE STREETS - NIGHT: Walk to the rumble.

They settle down as they walk to the lot. TWO-BIT is the only one wearing a jacket; he has a couple of cans of beer stuffed in it.

PONYBOY
Hey, Two-Bit, how come you like
to fight?

TWO-BIT
(looking at him
like he is off
his nut)
Shoot, everybody fights.

MOVING VIEWS ON THE GANG

Each fights for their own reasons. DARREL stops, turns to SODAPOP.

DARREL
Listen, Soda, you and Ponyboy,
if the fuzz show, you two beat
it out of there. We'll get
jailed. You two stay out of a
boys' home.

STEVE
(grimly)
Nobody in this neighborhood's
going to call the fuzz. They
know what'd happen if they did.

DARREL
All the same, you two blow at
the first sign of trouble.
HEAR ME?

SODAPOP
You sure don't need an amplifier.

SODAPOP sticks his tongue out at the back of DARREL's head. PONYBOY stifles a giggle.

84 EXT - THE VACANT LOT - NIGHT: The rumble.

TIM SHEPARD and COMPANY are already waiting.

ANOTHER VIEW

Another GANG from the suburbs.

CLOSE VIEW - TIM SHEPARD

Lean and cat-like, 20 years old. The JD you see in movies.

TIM and his GROUP move forward and shake hands with DARREL and his GANG, proving they are all fighting on the same side.

VIEW ON THE SUBURB BOYS

stepping forward.

TIM
You and the quiet kid were the ones who killed the Soc?

PONYBOY pretends to be proud of it.

PONYBOY
Yeah.

TIM
Good goin', kid. Curly always said you were a good kid. Curly's in the reformatory for the next six months.

EVERYONE is silent; yet no one moves suddenly, or moves their heads in more than a glance.

MEDIUM VIEW

The blue Mustang, followed by two other cars turn off the street, and head toward the park. They begin circling the park.

MEDIUM GROUP - THE GREASERS

as the SOCS' cars circle the park, the blue Mustang's searchlight floating over the GREASERS' faces.

VIEW ON A SUBURE GUY

SUBURB GUY
That big guy with ya'll, you know him pretty well?

84 CONTD:

PONYBOY
I ought to, he's my brother.

SUBURB GUY
No kiddin'? I got a feelin'
he's gonna be asked to start the
fireworks around here. He a
pretty good bopper?

PONYBOY
Yep, but why him?

SUBURB GUY
Why anybody else?

TIM
Hey, Curtis!

SODAPOP
Which one?

TIM
The big one. Come on over here.

SUBURB GUY
(looking at Ponyboy)
What did I tell ya?

VIEW ON TOUGH FACES

The Mustang's searchlight scans them.

THE FACES

Future convicts.

VIEW ON PONYBOY

The searchlight moves from DARREL to SODAPOP to TWO-BIT.

THE CARS STOP.

The searchlight goes out. The SOCS start moving out
of the cars, silently. It's hard to make them out --
it seems like about fifteen of them.

VIEW ON THE GREASERS

PONYBOY edges closer to DARREL. EVERYONE is assessing
the odds. There are about the same number.

84 CONTD:

VIEW ON DARREL

leaning down to PONYBOY.

DARREL

(sotto voce)

The odds are as even as we can
get them.

(then)

Stay close to me, kid.

VIEW ON THE SOCS

in the darkness. ONE steps forward.

SOC (IN MADRAS SHIRT)

Hey. Nothing but our fists, and
the first to run loses. Right?

TIM steps closer, and flips away his beer can.

TIM

You savvy real good.

MEDIUM VIEW

There is an uneasy, awkward silence as everyone tries
to figure out how the first punch will be struck.

VIEW ON DARREL

Locks toward PONYBOY, and then steps out into the
center of the field, under the circle of light made by
the street lamp.

It is formal and unreal. Then ONE of the huskiest of
the SOCS, a good looking boy named PAUL, steps forward
to meet the challenge. They seem to know each other.

PAUL

Hello, Darrel.

DARREL

(remembers him, a
friend)

Hello, Paul.

VIEW ON TIM SHEPARD AND HIS BUNCH

TIM

(to Two-Bit)

What's up?

84 CONTD:

TWO-BIT
They used to play football
together. Buddy around.

VIEW ON PONYBOY

looking at his OLDER BROTHER. The moment is paralyzed.

VIEW ON DARREL AND THE GREASERS

He represents all greasers.

VIEW ON PAUL AND THE SOCS

He represents all the SoCs. WE SEE the sense of
friendship drain away from their faces.

PAUL
I'll take you.

DARREL smiles. It's clear he knew he could take PAUL
three years ago. But now?

DALLAS (OS)
Hold up. Hold it.

VIEW ON DALLAS

DALLAS
Don't you know a rumble ain't
a rumble unless I'm in it?
(approaching)

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

Turns to see who it is, when he is punched right in the
face -- blood sprays from his mouth. And the fight is
on.

VIEW ON DALLAS

He pulls the SOC off of PONYBOY and knocks him unconscious
with a sharp jab.

PONYBOY
How'd you get out of the
hospital?

DALLAS
Talked the nurse into it with
Two-Bit's switch.

84 CONTD:

VIEW ON SODA

wrestling, jabbing in a deadlock with some SOC. The fight is almost a release of all the passion built up in him. He and his buddy, STEVE, fight together almost like twins.

VIEW ON DARREL AND PAUL

A tough and respectful fight between two giants, not unlike the fight in the "QUIET MAN." Big blows are struck -- and then a pause, and another blow.

However, PAUL is so much of a match, that an exhausted PONYBOY is dragged away from DARREL's side.

Now TWO GUYS have him, and he is alternately kicked and punched. There's blood all over PONYBOY, and we are horrified that he is being so terribly beaten. Another blow to the face.

VIEW ON DARREL

giving a sledge hammer blow -- and runs to save his LITTLE BROTHER.

DARREL lifts ONE of the guys kicking PONYBOY by his collar almost three feet in the air, before punching him out, and manages only to hang on to the torn shirt of the OTHER, who runs out of there with all his strength. Soon the SOCS are running as well.

TWO-BIT is helping get some GUY off of DALLAS, since he only has one arm. We HEAR:

STEVE
They're running! Look at them
run!

We HEAR GROANS and WEEPING from the BOYS huddled in the darkness.

VIEW ON PONYBOY

beaten especially badly. DARREL is over him, trying to help him up.

HIS POV

The SOCS are piling into their cars and driving off.

84 CONTD:

SHEPARD is working over ONE of his guys for using a piece of pipe.

STEVE is doubled up and groaning.

SODA is beside him talking in a low steady voice.

TWO-BIT has blood streaming down one side of his face and one hand is busted open -- grinning happily.

TWO-BIT
We won. We beat the Socs.

VIEW ON DARREL

looking toward the cars.

DARREL
(in a tired voice)
We beat the Socs.

VIEW ON PONYBOY

really starting to look sick. Suddenly, DALLAS pulls him up.

DALLAS
Come on.

He starts to half drag PONYBOY down -- toward the street.

DALLAS (contd)
You're going to see Johnny. He was gettin' worse when I left.
He wants to see you.

MEDIUM VIEW - DALLAS AND PONYBOY

They start running in the night -- but it's clear that PONYBOY is dizzy and has only a dim realization of where he is going.

85 INT - THE T-BIRD - NIGHT: Pulled over by COPS.

DALLAS drives recklessly fast past a waiting cop car.

Flashing light behind them. PONYBOY really looks sick.

DALLAS
Look sick. I'll say I'm taking you to the hospital. Which'll be truth enough.

85 CONTD:

POLICEMAN
(looking disgusted)
All right, buddy, where's the
fire?

DALLAS
(jerking thumb toward
Ponyboy)
The kid -- fell over on his
motorcycle and I'm takin' him
to the hospital.

PONYBOY is groaning.

POLICEMAN
(changes his tone)
Is he real bad? Do you need an
escort?

DALLAS
How would I know if he's bad or
not? I ain't no doc.

The POLICEMAN hurries back to his motorcycle.

DALLAS (contd)
(hissing)
Sucker!

86 EXT - STREET - NIGHT: Motorcycle escort.

The T-Bird gets a motorcycle escort.

87 INT - T-BIRD - NIGHT: DALLAS tells PONYBOY to wise up.

TWO SHOT

DALLAS
I was crazy, you know that, kid?
Crazy for wantin' Johnny to
stay outta trouble. If he'd
been smart like me he'd never
have been in this mess. If he'd
got smart like me he'd never
have run into that church ...
You'd better wise up, Pony ...
you get tough like me and you
don't get hurt. You look out
for yourself and nothin' can
touch you.

88 INT - HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - NIGHT: DALLAS threatens DOCTOR.

DOCTOR
I'm sorry, boys, but he's dying.

DALLAS
(flicking out Two-Bit's
switchblade, voice
shaking)
We gotta see him.

DOCTOR
(not batting an eye)
You can see him, but it's because
you're his friends.

89 INT - JOHNNY'S ROOM - NIGHT: JOHNNY dies.

TWO SHOT

DALLAS
Johnnycake? Johnny?

JOHNNY
(softly)
Hey.

DALLAS
(panting)
We won. We beat the Soc's --
we stomped them -- chased them
outta our territory.

JOHNNY
Useless ... fighting's no good.

DALLAS
(licking his lips
nervously)
They're still writing editorials
about you in the paper. For
being a hero and all.
(talking fast and
calmly)
We're all proud of you, buddy.

JOHNNY
Ponyboy.

PONYBOY can barely hear him. He tip-toes to hear what
JOHNNY is going to say.

JOHNNY (contd)
Stay gold, Ponyboy, stay gold ...

89 CONTD:

The pillow seems to sink a little, and JOHNNY dies.

DALLAS

(pushing Johnny's hair
back)

... that's what you get for
tryin' to help people, you little
punk, that's what you get ...
Damnit, Johnny ...

Slamming one fist against the wall.

DALLAS (contd)

Oh, damnit, Johnny, don't die,
please don't die.

He suddenly bolts through the door and down the hall.

90 EXT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - NIGHT: PONYBOY enters house.

PONYBOY walks alone through the yard and up the steps.

91 INT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - NIGHT: PONYBOY tells the GANG
JOHNNY is dead.

What is left of the GANG is in the living room. STEVE
is stretched out on the sofa, his shirt unbuttoned and
his side bare.

SODAPOP has a wide cut on his lip and a bruise across
his cheek.

DARREL has a band-aid on his forehead and he has a
black eye.

One side of TWO-BIT's face is taped up.

DARREL

Where have you been?

No answer.

DARREL (contd)

Ponyboy, what's the matter?

PONYBOY

Johnny ... he's dead. We told
him about beatin' the Socs and
... I don't know, he just died.
He told me to stay gold.

(pause)

Dallas is gone. He's gonna blow
up. He couldn't take it.

91 CONT'D:

TWO-BIT
So even Dally has a breaking point.

SODAPOP
Ponyboy, you okay?

PONYBOY glances around himself, feverishly. He can feel them all staring at him.

DARREL takes a step toward him.

PONYBOY
Don't touch me.

91A EXT - QUICKTRIP - NIGHT: DALLAS outside Quicktrip.

DALLAS wild, punching the walls, talking to himself.

DALLAS
(crazy)
I'm gettin' outta here, man.
I am gettin' out. I want out,
man.

Notices where he is, bolts into store, pulling his gun.

91B INT - QUICKTRIP - NIGHT: DALLAS robs Quicktrip.

DALLAS
The money, man. Stay wise and you won't get hurt. Just give me the money -- NOW.

The CLERK hands him all the bills, and DALLAS bolts out.

91C INT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - NIGHT: PONYBOY senses something.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

feeling something.

SODAPOP (OS)
Ponyboy --
(softly)
You look sick. Sit down.

CUT TO:

91D EXT - STREETS - NIGHT: DALLAS runs to phone.

MOVING VIEW

DALLAS running hard as he can. He rounds a corner, and

91D CONT'D:

disappears into a telephone booth. We HEAR a police siren in the distance.

91E INT - THE TELEPHONE BOOTH - NIGHT: DALLAS in phone booth.
CLOSE VIEW ON DALLAS
out of breath, dialing the number.

91F INT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - NIGHT: DARREL answers phone.
VIEW ON DARREL
The phone rings. He answers it.
MOVE IN ON DARREL
He hangs up.

DARREL

It was Dally — He says the cops are after him -- we gotta hide him. He'll be waiting at the park.

They look at one another; and then, in a moment they are out of the house at a dead run.

92 EXT - THE PARK - NIGHT: DALLAS is killed.
MEDIUM MOVING VIEW

The GROUP, running as hard as they can despite their injuries and pain from the rumble.

As they approach the park, we can SEE DALLAS running hard into the park area. We can HEAR the WAIL of a police SIREN.

VIEW ON THE BOYS

They hesitate and watch this scene in the distance ahead of them.

THEIR POV

A police car corners DALLAS. Several POLICEMEN jump out. DALLAS reaches the circle of light under the street lamp, and skids to a halt. He turns, and pulls a black object from his waistband. It is the gun.

92 CONTD:

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

seeing this. He closes his eyes.

PONYBOY

Oh no.

(shouting)

Don't shoot! It's not loaded!

Gunfire.

PONYBOY'S POV

The POLICEMEN's guns shoot fire in the night, DALLAS's body is jerked around by the bullets.

MEDIUM CLOSE ON DALLAS
(MEDIUM SLOW MOTION)

His body dances gracefully as he falls into the circle of light.

VIEW ON PONYBOY

PONYBOY

Not Dally and Johnny both.

SODAPOP

Easy, buddy, easy. There's nothing we can do now.

VIEW ON STEVE

He looks at THE VIEW.

STEVE

Hey, look at the kid.

VIEW ON PONYBOY

woozy, moving, and finally crashing onto the sidewalk, looking up at

PONYBOY'S POV

The FACES OF THE BOYS, swirling into a mass of colors.

SUPERIMPOSITION:

MONTAGE

3/12/82

93. INT - PONYBOY'S ROOM - NIGHT: PONYBOY is sick.

CLOSE ON A FEVERISH PONYBOY

PONYBOY

Soda ...

(his voice weak and
hoarse)

... is somebody sick?

SODAPOP

(his voice oddly
gentle)

Yeah. Go back to sleep now.

CLOSE UP

Feverish PONYBOY.

94 OMIT

SUPERIMPOSITION:

95 INT - THE HEARING ROOM - DAY: Court hearing MONTAGE.

MONTAGE - THE HEARING ROOM - MOS WITH MUSIC

DARREL, SODAPOP and RANDY and his PARENTS and CHERRY VALANCE and her PARENTS and a couple of the other SOCS that had jumped JOHNNY and PONYBOY that night.

The scene is dreamlike, as PONYBOY is feverish throughout.

DISSOLVE:

VIEW ON THE DOCTOR

being questioned by the JUDGE.

DISSOLVE:

VIEW ON DARREL

listening to everything.

DISSOLVE:

95A INT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - NIGHT: PONYBOY sick, "Darry sorry."

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

PONYBOY closes his eyes.

PONYBOY

Am I sick?

95A CONTD:

SODAPOP
(stroking his hair)
Yeah, you're sick. Now be quiet.

PONYBOY
Is Darry sorry I'm sick?

SODAPOP
(giving him a funny
look, quiet for a
moment)
Yeah, he's sorry you're sick.
Now please shut up, will ya,
honey? Go back to sleep.

PONYBOY closes his eyes.

VIEW ON DARREL

asleep on an armchair pulled up close to PONYBOY.

THE VIEW ALTERS

PONYBOY covered in blankets, hungry and thirsty but
still too sick to eat or drink.

DISSOLVE:

95B INT - HEARING ROOM - DAY

VIEW ON RANDY

giving his testimony. Nervously.

DISSOLVE:

VIEW ON PONYBOY

sick and confused.

DISSOLVE:

VIEW ON CHERRY

telling her story, tearfully.

DISSOLVE:

VIEW ON SODAPOP

listening.

95B CONTD:

VIEW ON DARREL

DISSOLVE:

VIEW ON THE JUDGE

JUDGE

Ponyboy Michael Curtis, you are
acquitted, and this Court puts ...

VIEW ON PONYBOY

JUDGE (contd)

you in the custody of your older
brother Darrel.

The THREE BROTHERS embrace.

SUPERIMPOSITION:

95C EXT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - DAY: BROTHERS over house.

The THREE BROTHERS OVER their home.

FADE OUT.

96 OMIT

97 OMIT

98 OMIT

FADE IN:

99 EXT - PONYBOY'S HOUSE - NIGHT: Dinner argument.

WE MOVE CLOSER and through the window to find SODAPOP dejectedly putting the food on the table. PONYBOY sits resting his head in his hand.

VIEW ON DARREL

DARREL

(passing the food)
Well ... your teacher told me
your grade depended on that
theme.

VIEW ON PONYBOY

DARREL (OS)

Ponyboy? Answer me. You can't
take an F in English.

99 CONTD:

PONYBOY

What's the sweat about my schoolwork? I'll have to get a job as soon as I get out of school anyway. Look at Soda. He's doing okay, and he dropped out. You can just lay off.

DARREL

You're not going to drop out. Listen, with your brains and grades you could get a scholarship, and we could put you through college. Pony, you don't just stop living because you lose someone. And anytime you don't like the way I'm running things you can get out.

PONYBOY

You'd like that, wouldn't you? You'd like me just to get out. Well, it's not that easy, is it, Soda?

SODAPOP

Don't ... oh, you guys, why can't you ...

SODAPOP runs out.

DARREL picks up an envelope.

DARREL

It's the letter he wrote Sandy.
(without expression)
Returned unopened. I guess she didn't want to be stuck with an auto mechanic the rest of her life.

PONYBOY

He really did love her.

DARREL

(slowly, putting envelope down)

Come on, let's go after him.

They exit.

100 EXT - THE PARK - NIGHT: BROTHERS in the park.

MOVING VIEW - THE TWO BROTHERS

DARREL

Circle around and cut him off.
I'll stay right behind him.

PONYBOY heads through the trees and cuts him off halfway across the park. SODAPOP veers off to the right, but PONYBOY catches him in a flying tackle before he goes more than a couple of steps. They lie there gasping for a minute or two, and then SODAPOP sits up and brushes the grass off his shirt.

SODAPOP

You should have gone out for football instead of track.

PONYBOY

Where did you think you were going?

SODAPOP

(shrugging)

I don't know. It's just ... I can't stand to hear y'all fight.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

100 CONTD:

SODAPOP (contd)

Sometimes ... I just have to get out or ... it's like I'm the middleman in a tug o' war and I'm being split in half. You dig?

(fiddling with some dead grass)

I mean, I can't take sides. It'd be a lot easier if I could. Ponyboy, Darry could have put you in a boys' home and worked his way through college. I'm telling you the truth. I dropped out because I'm dumb. You saw my grades. Look, I'm happy working in a gas station with cars. You'd never be happy doing something like that. And Darry, you ought to try to understand him more, and quit bugging him about every little mistake he makes. He feels things differently than you do.

(giving them a pleading look)

Golly, you two, it's bad enough having to listen to it, but when you start trying to get me to take sides ...

(tears welling up in his eyes)

If we don't have each other, we don't have anything. If you don't have anything, you end up like Dallas ... and I don't mean dead, either. I mean like he was before. Please --

(wiping his eyes on his arm)

don't fight anymore.

DARREL looks worried.

DARREL

(softly)

Sure, little buddy. We're not going to fight anymore.

SODAPOP

Hey, Ponyboy,

(MORE)

100 CONTD:

SODAPOP (contd)
(giving him a tearful
grin)
don't you start crying too. One
bawl-baby in the family's enough.

PONYBOY
I'm not crying.

DARREL
No more fights. Okay, Ponyboy?

PONYBOY
Okay.

SODAPOP
Well, I'm cold. How about going
home?

PONYBOY
Race you.

PONYBOY leaps up. They race home in the clear night.
101 INT - PONYBOY'S ROOM - SUNSET: JOHNNY's letter/Call
MR. SYME.

PONYBOY alone, as in the beginning. He holds the copy of
Gone With the Wind, and then picks up a letter. We can
SEE the SUNSET out through the window.

JOHNNY (VO)
Ponyboy, I asked the nurse to
give you this book so you could
finish it. It's worth saving
those little kids. Their lives
are worth more than mine, they
have more to live for. Tell
Dally it's worth it ...

PONYBOY cries a little, and then goes on.

PONYBOY
(reading)
... I'm going to miss you guys.
I've been thinking about it, and
that poem, that guy that wrote
it, he meant you're gold when
you're a kid, like green. When
you're a kid everything's new,
dawn. Like the way you dig
sunsets, Pony. That's gold. Keep
it that way, it's a good way to be.

101 CONTD:

JOHNNY (VO)

... I want you to tell Dally to look at one. I don't think he's ever seen a sunset. There's still lots of good in the world. Tell Dally, I don't think he knows. Your buddy, Johnny.

PONYBOY puts the letter down; wipes the tears from his eyes, and dials a number on the telephone.

MEDIUM CLOSE ON PONYBOY

The SUNSET behind him.

PONYBOY

Mr. Syme, this is Ponyboy. 'Scuse me for calling you at home.

MR. SYME (OS)
Just a little late, Ponyboy.

PONYBOY

That theme -- how long can it be?

MR. SYME (OS)
Why, uh, not less than five pages.

PONYBOY
Can it be longer?

MR. SYME (OS)
Certainly, Ponyboy, as long as you want it.

PONYBOY
Thanks.
(hangs up)

PONYBOY sits at his desk, folds back the cover of his theme book, and looks at the sunset.

CLOSE ON PONYBOY. MUSIC up.

Remembering.

DISSOLVE:

CLOSE VIEW - DALLY LAUGHING

DISSOLVE:

3/12/82

101 CONTD:

VIEW ON THE SUNSET

SUPERIMPOSITION:

VIEW ON DALLAS IN THE T-BIRD

driving recklessly, the wind blowing his hair.

DISSOLVE:

CLOSE ON PONYBOY

DISSOLVE:

VIEW ON JOHNNY

lying on the grass, looking at the stars.

DISSOLVE:

ANGLE IN BURNING CHURCH

JOHNNY saving the little KIDS, having the time of his life.

DISSOLVE:

ANGLE ON PONYBOY

by his desk. He takes his pen, and starts to write.

CLOSE ON THE PAGE

" ... When I stepped out into the bright sunlight ... "

SLOW DISSOLVE:

102 INT - THE MOVIE HOUSE - DAY: PONYBOY exits movie.

PONYBOY getting out of his seat, his handwritten sentence still superimposed.

PONYBOY (VO)
" ... from the darkness of the movie house ... "

CLOSE VIEW ON PONYBOY

as he moves up the aisle. He walks through the double doors into the lobby, and then into the WHITENESS of the day.

102 CONTD:

PONYBOY (VO, contd)
" ... I had only two things on
my mind ... "

THE END