

Josh

FADE IN:

START ①

1 EXT. BEACH/TWEED HEADS, NORTHERN AUSTRALIA - DAY 1

The sun begins to rise over a picturesque and serenely quiet beach. Quiet that is until a pickup truck ROARS to a stop in front of a sign that reads: BEACH CLOSED.

JOSH, a twenty-something lifeguard kicks his legs out of the truck, remains seated in the driver seat. He closes his eyes, holds his head with trembling hands - not hard to see he's suffering through one massive hangover, then...

BANG! BANG! BANG! Fist against the roof of the truck.

His best friend and fellow lifeguard, RORY, peeks in.

RORY

Rise and shine Sleeping Beauty.
20 minutes sleep, time to get to work.

Josh groans.

RORY (CONT'D)

There he is! Come on, got a text saying we have to check the nets. How's engaged life feel so far?

JOSH

Hell of a lot better than this hangover. Remind me to get another best man, cause I don't think I'd survive another of your parties.

Rory smiles, hands him a PLASTIC BOTTLE.

JOSH (CONT'D)

What's this?

RORY

My great grandfather's hangover remedy, I giveth and I taketh away.

Josh opens the bottle; it smells awful.

JOSH

Not a chance. You drink it.

RORY

No need to.

JOSH

You're not hungover?

↓ (continue) ↓
↓ ↓ ↓

1/12

BAIT

Josh

RORY
No... I'm still drunk, buddy.

Rory laughs. Josh smiles, starts unloading gear.

JOSH
Great. So why are we checking the
nets? Where's D.P.I.?

RORY
The Department of Perpetual
Incompetence?

JOSH
Or the Department of Primary
Industries whose job it is to
check the nets.

RORY
Same difference. The storm
knocked out a bottom net anchor
two beaches down, they'll be
there all morning.

JOSH
This day just keeps getting
better, doesn't it...

2 EXT. OCEAN/JETSKI - LATER **END ①** 2

~~A SEAGULL swoops from the sky, hurtling toward the ocean.~~

~~Josh navigates a JetSki towards a line of ORANGE BUOYS
bobbing in the sea - trying to blink away his hangover.~~

3 EXT. BEACH - SAME 3

~~Rory watches Josh from the beach, impatient EARLY MORNING
SWIMMERS hover around him.~~

~~SWIMMER
How much longer do we have to
stand here?~~

~~LOCKIE, an elderly local arrives. Places his towel and
goggles by the lifeguard stand.~~

~~RORY
We just have to clear the nets.~~

~~LOCKIE
Water looks fine to me.~~

BAIT

2/12

Josh

Jaimie leaps onto him and they kiss - their sleeves push up revealing they both share a "J&R" tattoo. They break, laughing. Ryan hands her the I-POD.

RYAN (CONT'D)
Happy Anniversary. I know it's not much, just some new playlists, you know, to get ready for our trip...

Jaimie opens her jacket, filled with loot. She pulls out a pair of SUNGLASSES and perches them on Ryan's nose.

JAIMIE
And happy anniversary right back at ya', Sexy. You look good like that.

Ryan snatches off the glasses. Looks at the tags.

RYAN
This is a joke right?

JAIMIE
No they look good, very hot.

RYAN
Come on J, you promised you were done stealing this shit. You get nailed again and our plans are done, no Sydney, nothing...

Then WHAM! The door flies open cutting him off. Collins.

BAIT

23

INT. FRONT REGISTERS/SUPERMARKET - DAY

START (2)

Naomi scrubs the grease stain on the hem of her sundress. Josh walks up...

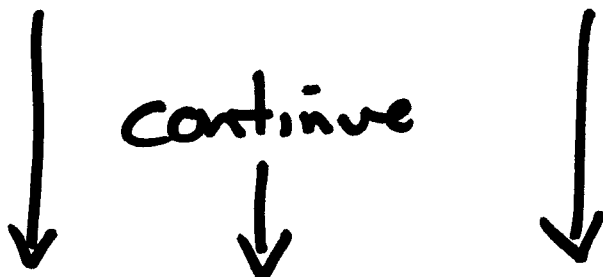
JOSH
Hey? Jessup show up?

NAOMI
Not yet, you're safe.

JOSH
Good. How's it going?

NAOMI
Scrubbing stains and wasting away for minimum wage. Do you ever think 'wow', can this really be my life?

Josh stands at the end of the register, a bagger.



3/12

Josh

JOSH

Every morning I wake up. Why all dolled out? Date tonight?

NAOMI

If you consider elimination round on Australian Idol a date, then yeah, a hot one.

Josh, cracks a smile.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

Hey. Did you see all those birds?

Josh is about to answer, stops. Breath caught in his chest...

Naomi looks up from scrubbing, about to ask what's wrong, doesn't have to when she sees Tina across the store...

JOSH

You gotta cover for me alright...
Tell Jessup I'm in the
bathroom...

But before Josh can duck away, Tina timidly approaches. They meet eyes. A painful silence that speaks volumes.

STEVEN (50s) rugged with an academic air, appears besides Tina, putting his arm around her, then notices...

STEVEN

Josh!?

Josh looks from Tina to Steven. Steven lowers his arm.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Hey, it's good to see you.

Josh nods, noncommittal, his eyes fall back to Tina.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

You know I still teach pieces of your paper on starfish regeneration in some of my classes. You ever decide to come back, I could..

JOSH

Yeah, thanks. I appreciate that.

Steven looks from Josh to Tina. Naomi, scanning their items.

STEVEN

You know what? I think we forgot batteries... Josh, it's really...

BAIT

↓ (continue) ↓

4/12

Josh

Josh nods, Steven gets it. Walks off into the market.
Tina's heart cracks a little looking at Josh.

TINA

Josh, he's taking me diving.
(beat) I wanted to-

JOSH

No, yeah... No, you don't have to
explain anything.

JESSUP (O.C.)

Josh!? Part the skies, you
finally arrived!

Supermarket owner JESSUP, knock-off Italian loafers,
slicked backed comb tracked hair approaches...

JESSUP (CONT'D)

You want to tell me why so late?
No. Wait. Let me guess... you
fell asleep again.

The 'dig' hits hard, nasty. Jessup notices the blood on
Josh's shirt.

JESSUP (CONT'D)

Jesus. Go clean yourself up.

~~Josh looks away from Tina, starts off.~~

END(2)

~~JESSUP (CONT'D)~~

~~No not the customer bathroom.~~

~~Jessup points in the other direction. Josh bites his
tongue, heads off. He looks back at Tina watching him
sadly.~~

~~JESSUP (CONT'D)~~

~~I'm sorry about this, Miss.
There's one in every bunch,
right? You have a nice day now,
okay.~~

~~Jessup walks off, heading towards...~~

24

INT. JESSUP'S OFFICE/SUPERMARKET - DAY

24

Jaimie and Ryan sit in front of a bank of three SECURITY
MONITORS. *Two for the market. One for the carpark.*

Collins in front of them, replaying grainy B&W security
footage of Jaimie shoplifting...

Jessup walks in, looks from the monitors to Jaimie and
Ryan.

S/12

BAIT

Josh

TODD (CONT'D)

You did real good, baby. Real good.

Jaimie looks up at him, shaking, scared...

JAIMIE

I didn't mean it, you know.

Todd looks at her, eyes asking 'didn't mean what?'...

JAIMIE (CONT'D)

What I said, about mom. About her being the lucky one.

TODD

I know baby, I know... Hey. When we get out of here, I want you to do something for me... I want you to still go to Sydney...

JAIMIE

How did you know about Sydney?

TODD

You told me. Same way you've been telling me what you want since you were 4 years old. You get this look in your eyes, your mom called it, 'the devil behind the angel'... I never want you to lose that look. So go... But just, every once and while, come back, okay?

Jaimie looks at her dad, smiles...

DOWN THE SHELF:

START ③

Naomi and Tina strip the plastic insulation from electrical wire and wrap it along the rope, making 'FISHING LINE'.

Josh shadows everything Doyle does: BREAKS the bristles off the brooms. GAFFER TAPES the KITCHEN KNIVES and MEAT HOOKS to the end of the brooms - knives askew forming BARBS...

JOSH

How'd you learn to do all this?

DOYLE

Let's just say I spent some time at a trade school for this kind of shit, courtesy of the Queensland government.

Josh grins. Doyle checks the three 'BROOM HARPOONS' - follows Josh eyes to Tina...

↓ (continue) ↓

6/12

BAIT

Josh

DOYLE (CONT'D)
So what's the deal, kid. You know her, or just want to?

JOSH
I used to, yeah.

DOYLE
Used to, un-hunh, cause I can see by that look in your eye that whatever was there, still is.

JOSH
It was all a lifetime ago, man. Different people.

Doyle looks from Tina to Naomi.

DOYLE
Trust me, after this shit here, everything we knew is a lifetime ago. All we gotta do now is start thinking about what comes next.

124 INT. SHELF TOP 1/SUPERMARKET - LATER

124

Naomi and Doyle tie the 'fishing line' around the meat hooks, making it as tight as possible. Hand the meat hooks to...

Todd who secures them through out the two beef slabs.

Tina and Josh unravel the 'fishing line' walk it to the end of the shelf, begin tying it to the struts...

JOSH
How you holding up? You okay?

Tina looks over to the maintenance room.

TINA
He helped me, you know... When I needed someone, he...

Josh looks at her, hard to meet her eyes. He knows...

TINA (CONT'D)
I'm sorry, I didn't mean...

She stops, lifts Rory's Pendant around Josh's neck.

TINA (CONT'D)
You still wear this?

JOSH
Yeah... I just can't seem to be able to take it off, you know.

↓ (Continue) ↓

7/12

BAIT

JOSH

Tina nods, places the Pendant back against his chest.

TINA

Yeah, I do.

JOSH

Listen Tina, I...

TINA

Josh, no, you don't have to...

JOSH

Yeah I do, I do, cause... I wasn't fair to you. I don't know, it was just... everything started slipping away from me and I didn't even know I was losing any of it, until it was all gone, you know.

Josh tries to look her in her eyes, but's it's hard.

JOSH (CONT'D)

And, I just, always felt, always needed to... tell you I'm sorry...

Tina looks at him, shakes her head...

TINA

The thing is Josh... No. You never had to say sorry to me. All you had to do was say it to yourself, and I would have been there.

DOYLE (O.C.)

We secure down there? It tied off?

Tina looks from Josh to Doyle, nods...

Doyle throws the two 'hooked beef slabs' into the water. Everyone pensively watches, waits... And then...

Just below the surface, the first Tiger heads for the hook... 20 feet... 15 feet... 10 feet...

DOYLE (CONT'D)

Come on you son of a bitch...

But the Tiger just swims past it, not interested...

NAOMI

Why didn't it take it? It was right there?

↓ (continue) ↓
↓

8/12

BAIT

Josh

Josh and Tina look at each other, trying to find the answer.

JOSH

It doesn't make sense. Tiger sharks are known as the 'waste-buckets of the sea', they'll eat anything. They've even found trash cans and licenses plates in these things, it should've definitely...

KIRBY

Well if you ask me, I think it's pretty obvious why.

They turn to Kirby.

KIRBY (CONT'D)

After the past couple hours they've decided they prefer live bait.

END (3)

NAOMI

That's not funny.

KIRBY

I'm not joking...

Kirby grabs Naomi, pulls out a gun from the small of his back. The survivors paralyze with confusion, all but Doyle who stares at Kirby...

DOYLE

I know I should have never let you in the fucking van this morning.

Todd looks between Doyle and Kirby. Brain ticking...

TODD

Wait, no? I saw your corpse? The mask... You were...

He gets it. Kirby starts laughing...

KIRBY

Wasn't me, mate.

Kirby is No Name. He grinds the gun against Naomi's cheek, She cries out, scared...

KIRBY (CONT'D)

Now give me that fucking hook...

The survivors realize what Kirby's planning to do..

BAIT

9/12

JOSH

KYLE

What we have to do is kill that shark.

Ryan's eyes widen. He traces the pipe along the ceiling to the wall, then up. Into the Market.

RYAN

You have anything metal on you?

Heather reaches into her Handbag and removes her house keys.

Ryan grabs them, starts walking under the pipe...

KYLE

What the fuck are you doing?

HEATHER

Language Kyle! Please... Bully's heard enough profanity for one day, thank you.

Kyle ignores her, watches as Ryan reaches the keys towards the pipe...

KYLE

Dude? You want to give me the 411 here or what? What are you doing?

RYAN

I don't know, call it praying...

He taps out the secret tattoo code onto the pipe...

DUM DUDDA DUM DUM. DUM DUM... DUM DUDDA DUM DUM. DUM DUM...

130

INT. SHELF TOP 1/SUPERMARKET - CONTINUOUS

130

Doyle, Josh, Todd, Naomi and Tina are already in the water, Josh staring at the sharks, making sure they're still attached to the shelf...

Doyle reaches for Jaimie...

TODD

Come on, baby, there's nothing to worry about...

Jaimie's head steps towards the edge of the shelf, about to get in, when she hears...

START (4)

The faint tapping... Dum dudda dum dum. Dum dum... Dum dudda dum dum. Dum dum. Jaimie's ears prick up.

JAIMIE

Did you hear that?

BAM

↓ (Continue) ↓
↓

10/12

JOSH

Dum dudda dum dum. Dum dum.

JOSH

Yeah... What is that? Is that search and rescue?

Jaimie shakes her head... She leaps to her feet.

JAIMIE

It's Ryan. He's alive. It's Ryan!

Dum dudda dum dum. Dum Dum.

Jaimie jumps into the water, swims towards the FIRE ESCAPE...

TODD

JAIMIE NO!

Todd looks at Josh...

TODD (CONT'D)

Please... She's all I have, she's all I have left, you can't let her go alone...

Josh nods, he'll go with her...

TINA

Wait... Josh? What if... What if they're down there too?

Todd takes the gun out of his waistband, hands it to Josh.

TINA (CONT'D)

Their hide's are too thick for that Josh, you know that...

JOSH

Maybe not if I can get right up underneath it...

DOYLE

How do you plan on doing that, kid?

JOSH

I don't know, haven't really thought about it... I guess try and get behind it, in its blind spot. That's what prey does isn't it? (he laughs) Seals do it all the time when sharks are in the water...

DOYLE

Yeah, but seals don't always win, kid.

BAIT

11/12

JOSH

Josh looks at Todd, takes the gun.

TINA

Josh?

She pulls him to her and kisses him.

TINA (CONT'D)

I don't think I could handle losing you twice, okay?

Josh looks at her.

JOSH

When all this started, I thought... This is my penance, you know? For Rory. That in some way, this was all payback for the sins of my life... It's not though, is it?

END ④

Tina wraps her arms around him, holds him close, warm. Josh kisses her forehead, and starts swimming after Jaimie.

Todd, Tina, Doyle and Naomi watch him swim off. Josh, quickly catching up to her.

The four turns towards the truck, start swimming...

BAIT

131 INT. WATER BY FIRE ESCAPE/SUPERMARKET - CONTINUOUS 131

Josh swims alongside Jaimie as they reach the Fire Escape...

JOSH

Hey.

Jaimie spins around sees Josh.

JAIMIE

Thank you. Thank you.

JOSH

Well, let's see what we're dealing with here first okay?

Josh and Jaimie swim into...

132 INT. FIRE ESCAPE - CONTINUOUS 132

A small stairwell, filled with water, equal level as the supermarket.

12/12