



HOMETIME

By

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2nd Draft

SYNOPSIS

On the way home from school a boy must decide whether to Stop, Look and Listen, or ignore safety for that night's exciting event.

1) INT. ASSEMBLY - DAY.

The hall is full of seated children. They're all sat in lines facing the front.

There is a Police Officer stood at the head of the Assembly, stood before black screens facing the children.

She is teaching them about travelling home safely during winter, when it's dark.

Teachers stand around the hall, watching the talk and keeping a watch on the children.

Jack looks left then right before talking quietly to his friend Kevin.

JACK:

Kev? Kev? Are you ready for tonight?

KEVIN:

Yea, it should be great. As long as we can live through this boring...

Kevin stops as he sees a lady teacher look at him. She has a strict look on her face. Kevin looks ahead at the talker. After a moment the teacher leans back against the wall.

Kevin turns back to Jack.

KEVIN:

Do you think Vicky's going tonight?

JACK:

I don't know. I hope so.

KEVIN:

Are you gunna ask her tonight?

JACK:

Yea. Yea I am.

Jack looks down the line of students to his left. There is a girl attracting his full attention. It is Victoria. She turns and spots him looking. He quickly turns away, looking forward again. Victoria smiles.

KEVIN:

Do you want me dad to drop by and pick you up later?

JACK:

Yea, that'd be great.

From the side they hear a hiss. It is the lady teacher. She has a finger over her lip, telling the boys to shut up.

Kevin holds up a palm to say sorry. They both look forward at the speaker.

FADE TO BLACK

2) EXT. ON THE BUS – EVENING. DARK.

FADE IN

The bus is half full of children.

Four children sit one to a seat talking into the aisle.

A child darts from one seat to another, approaching the front. Always checking for the driver's watchful eye.

Two other children look over a magazine together, chatting about its contents.

Jack is sat on his own listening to music on his phone. He is looking out of the window at the dark images passing by.

There is movement next to him.

He turns around to see Victoria sat next to him smiling, slightly nervous.

He removes his earphones quickly and places them in his pocket.

JACK:
Hi Vicky... Are you OK?

VICTORIA:
Yea.

Jack looks at her, but she looks down unsure what to say.

JACK:
What's the matter?

VICTORIA:
Nothing... I was just wondering... Are you going tonight?

Jack is a bit shocked by the question.

JACK:
Y.. Yea.

VICTORIA:
Good... If you like, we could dance?

JACK:
Yea, I'd like that.

She smiles.

VICTORIA:
OK... See you tonight.

JACK:
Yea... bye.

Jack smiles as Victoria stands and moves for the seat behind again.

He is shocked at what has just happened (he has been getting the courage together to ask her the same thing tonight). But, he has no time to dwell as his stop approaches.

The bus pulls over and the door open at the front.

Jack stands, grabs his bag and moves down the bus.

He is near the front of the bus when his phone rings. He reaches into his pocket for it.

The driver watches him approach.

DRIVER:
Watch for cars!

Jack replies with no interest.

JACK:
Yea.

He keeps walking, all the time removing his phone from his pocket. Once out, he removes the headphones from the phone socket, so that he can lift the phone to his face.

*He reads the caller ID, it reads **Kevin**.*

SPLIT SCREEN:

GOOD	BAD
<p><i>Jack's thumb presses the red phone.</i></p> <p><i>He places the phone in his coat pocket.</i></p> <p><i>He stops, waiting for the bus to move away before crossing the road.</i></p>	<p><i>Jack's thumb presses the green phone button.</i></p> <p><i>He puts the phone to his ear.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">JACK: Hi Kev. What's up?</p> <p><i>He walks to the back of the bus.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">JACK: Yea... Guess what just happened...</p>

CUT TO

3) INT. IN A CAR - EVENING. DARK. (BAD)

A lady is sat behind the wheel of her car.

She is humming at the music on the radio.

CUT TO

4) EXT. CROSSING THE ROAD - EVENING. DARK. (BAD)

Jack attempts to look for traffic from behind the bus with a quick look left and right. The phone is pressed to his right ear.

CUT TO

5) INT. IN THE CAR - EVENING. DARK. (BAD)

At the same moment, the driver's phone, which is sat on the passenger seat, begins to ring.

She glances towards it.

CUT TO

6) EXT. CROSSING THE ROAD - EVENING. DARK. (BAD)

Jack moves straight out into the road.

CUT TO

7) INT. IN THE CAR - EVENING. DARK. (BAD)

She turns back in time to see that a boy has walked out in front of her.

She gasps and slams on her brakes.

CUT TO

8) EXT. THE ROAD - EVENING. DARK. (BAD)

Jack turns suddenly, seeing lights hurtling towards him.

CUT TO BLACK

9) EXT. THE ROAD - EVENING. DARK. (BAD)

The car screeches, and then hits something with a number of crashes.

The sound cuts.

FADE TO

10) EXT. WAITING - EVENING. DARK. (GOOD)

Jack waits on the verge for the bus to leave.

Both the bus and the car pass.

Jack looks both ways then crosses the road safely.

A car passes as Jack enters his driveway.

FADE TO

11) EXT. ACCIDENT - EVENING. DARK. (BAD)

The car is still. The woman driver has her head on the wheel, she moves.

The windscreen has an indent the size of a head. There is blood and flesh in the shattered glass fragments.

There is debris on the road.

A phone lies amongst it, lit up. A voice can be heard coming from it.

KEVIN:
Jack?! Jack?!

Behind the phone a pair of legs lie crumpled, and still.

CUT TO

12) INT. AT HOME. EVENING. DARK. (GOOD)

A mirror hangs on the wall in the hall. Jack moves in front of it and begins to sort his hair. He is wearing his coat, ready to go out.

His mother leans against the door frame, watching Jack.

Jack notices her and smiles as he moves his hair.

JACK:
What's the matter?

MUM:
Nothing. Just don't be home too late.

JACK:
OK.

Jack finishes up. There is a beep outside. He moves to the door.

JACK:
See ya later.

He slams the door as his mother speaks

MUM:
Bye.

His mother leans her head against the doorframe. She senses that something isn't quite right.

FADE TO

13) INT. HOSPITAL. EVENING. DARK. (BAD)

His mother's face is red from crying. She is staring ahead, through a door's window.

Inside the room the doctor writes in the notes then places it back on the end of the bed. He leaves the room.

MUM:
How is he?

DOCTOR:
I cannot say until...

The door closes cutting off the conversation.

The heart monitor beeps with life.

There is a form in the bed under the sheets, it is Jack. He is heavily bandaged. His face shows signs of swelling and blood marks show through on some of his bandages.

FADE TO BLACK:

14) EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD. DAY. (GOOD)

FADE IN:

A football hangs in the air. The clouds move behind it.

It comes down to earth with speed.

Jack controls the ball with his foot and passes it to a team-mate. He moves past a player, ready for the return pass.

He gets the pass and runs with the ball. He fakes to go outside, but cuts inside.

He shoots. He watches the ball fly for the goal.

FADE TO

15) INT. HOME. DAY. (BAD)

A large football trophy stands proud on a cabinet. It is a statue of a man with a football at his feet.

Other trophies of varying sizes surround that trophy. There are also a number of medals.

Jack sits still, staring at the trophy.

A fork holding food stops in front of his lips. He opens his lips and accepts the food.

The fork is placed on an empty plate. His mother smiles at Jack. She is holding the plate.

MUM:
That's it, all finished.

There is no reply from Jack. He continues to stare at the trophies.

Jack's neck is supported by a brace.

She stands up to leave the room.

MUM:
Do you want a drink Jack?

Once again he says nothing in reply. He just stares.

MUM:
OK... If you need anything just shout.

Jack is sat in a wheel chair. He has no movement in his body. He is disabled.

His mum moves to the door, but stops and turns to face Jack.

MUM:
Oh, I forgot to tell you, Kev rang before. He wants to come and visit. He asked if he could bring his girlfriend Vicky, I said it was OK.

Jack closes his eyes.

JACK:
I don't want to see anyone!

MUM:
Pardon?

He opens his eyes and looks at his mum.

JACK:
I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYONE!

MUM:
OK... But he is your best friend.

Jack turns his eyes from his mum.

MUM:
I'll let him know.

She leaves the room.

Jack continues to stare into space.

FADE TO BLACK

16) MESSAGE.

FADE IN

DON'T BE STUPID – YOU ONLY GET ONE CHANCE AT LIFE.

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT BE TAKEN AWAY.

SO FOLLOW THE SAFETY RULES ON YOUR WAY HOME.

ROLL TITLES

THE END

2007 Marshall J. Dean (O.M.G.)