

BUBBLE

Short Film Written By

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INT. WASHROOM - DAY

The door bursts open. It's one of those lush corporate washrooms you carefully use.

A young man rushes in and heads straight to the tap. The man is ADAM. Young and handsome, dressed in full formals and having a strong charm about him.

But not at this moment. He throws the file he carries across the sink.

He pushes open the tap. The water flows down at full speed, but he doesn't care. A visible anxiety on his face.

He digs into his pockets. Pulls out a number of things and scatters them across the sink. An asthma pump. A handkerchief.

He picks it up and wipes his face which is definitely perspiring. Closes the tap.

Looks into the mirror at a nervous self.

EXT. PARK GROUNDS - DAY

A bright and sunny morning. The grass is green and the colors are vibrant.

A man leans on the wall on the furthest edge of the park.

Unshaven, wearing a beanie, rough overalls. A fierce intensity on his face. This man is also ADAM, albeit almost a different person altogether.

(Note - The two different Adams will be played by the same actor in very different get-ups. This Adam will henceforth be referred as JAKE.)

The park is empty and there seems to be no campers yet. A car pulls in on the road and a husband and wife leave the car talking to someone. They have their camping gear ready.

Jake looks to be waiting for a moment. He puts his head back, his eyes focused ahead.

A knife in his right hand.

INT. WASHROOM - DAY

Adam is rummaging through his files and the papers inside them. Frantically reading off them. Reciting lines from what seem to be presentation notes.

ADAM

Sales projections are what count
alongside market expectations.
Market expectations. What count
alongside market expectations.

He goes lower in tone. Closes his eyes so that it seeps in. Takes deep breaths.

EXT. PARK GROUNDS - DAY

Jake watches intently as the family takes out stuff from their trunk and talk to another MIDDLE AGED MAN on the drivers seat.

Jake digs into his pockets. Ruffling sounds. He pulls out a transparent packet. A cocaine pouch. There's a little bit of white powder on the sides, but that's it.

He throws it down and digs deeper. Finds a 5 bucks note in it, crumpled. That's all.

The family is now setting up the picnic. The wife is jolly and blows a bubble maker, enthusiastic and laughing. Bubbles land onto the ground slowly. The middle aged man bids them farewell and heads back towards the car.

Jake looks up at the sky, his eyes closed. It's time.

INT. WASHROOM - DAY

A knock on the washroom door. Adam quickly turns around, nervous.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)

They're waiting for you.

ADAM

Just a minute.

Footsteps walk away from outside. Adam wipes his face once again, taking a deep breath and looking at himself in the mirror

ADAM (CONT'D)

You can do this.

Adam picks up his files and confidently heads towards the door of the washroom.

EXT. PARK - DAY

(Note - The rest of the movie will have a soundtrack and no dialog/effects).

Adam walks towards the family. Hooded. Knife in hand.

The family sets their camp. Jolly and happy to be a part of this little retreat. Unaware.

Adam approaches them and the wife begins to notice a sinister person approaching.

The laughter from her face evaporates.

INT. BUILDING RECEPTION - DAY

Adam leaves the washroom and comes out as a new man, yet one can spot the nerves still under him.

The RECEPTIONIST smiles at him as he walks down into the meeting room. Adam smiles back as she gives him a 'thumbs up'.

(Note - She looks like the same girl as the wife in the family of the other storyline and is played by the same actress.)

EXT. PARK - DAY

Jake swiftly walks towards the family now, with a knife hanging out.

The husband gets up and holds his wife. Both hold a very serious face.

Jake stops right next to them and holds the knife up high towards them, signaling at the purse in the wife's hands.

The husband signals Jake to calm down and looks at his wife, signaling her that everything is going to be alright.

Jake's hand shakes. He clearly doesn't want to do this.

INT. BOARDROOM - DAY

Adam enters the boardroom, which already has two suited professionals waiting for him. It's a lush and spacious boardroom with everything ready for him to begin.

(Note - The first suited professional looks the same as the husband from the other story, and the second looks like the middle aged man from the other story, played by the same actors.)

Adam nods at both of them, and they nod back to him. He smiles and walks towards the podium and a presentation board set up for him.

He stands at the podium and begins his speech with charisma. No sign of the fear which he so smartly hides.

EXT. PARK - DAY

The wife rummages through her purse as the husband tries to calm her down.

Jake stands and watches this. His knife aims at them. But his hand shakes.

MEANWHILE

The MIDDLE AGED MAN walks back towards the car.

As if he forgets something, he turns around to walk back at the couple.

He sees the situation and stops. Confused as what to do while the others are unaware that he is watching.

He turns around and heads back towards his car. Opens the front pocket.

Takes out a HANDGUN.

INT. BOARDROOM - DAY

Adam continues on with the presentation, charismatic and confident as he sails through it.

INTERCUT BETWEEN BOARDROOM AND PARK (The film now quickly cuts between the storylines)

PARK

The middle aged man faces the hostage situation. He hides stands next to the car, confused.

Jake holds the knife up while the wife looks inside her purse and hands down money to him in his other hand.

The husband looks over at the middle aged man near the car, who signals him to keep Adam occupied. The husband sneakily nods.

A plan is in action.

BOARDROOM

The members look highly impressed as Adam continues the presentation.

It looks to be coming to an end.

PARK

The wife goes through the purse even more slowly. Jake looks suspicious, yet afraid.

He turns the knife over at the husband, as a signal to tell her to speed up.

The husband puts his hands in the air, uncomfortable.

BOARDROOM

Adam finishes his final words, takes a deep breath and smiles ahead.

The members watch him. Silence in the room.

PARK

The husband, hand in air, glances onto the car's side momentarily.

Jake sees it. He turns around swiftly towards the husband's gaze with his knife wielding.

The driver shoots him in the chest.

Adam is shot. He falls down, slowly.

BOARDROOM

The two members rise up and enter an applause for Adam. Smiling and clearly more than impressed.

Adam is ecstatic and surprised. He breathes out a sigh of relief.

PARK

Jake is falling. His eyes open. No expression on his face as he falls into his demise.

BOARDROOM

A smiling Adam reaches towards the board members, muttering a lot of 'Thank You's.

PARK

Jake hits the floor. Back facing the ground. Eyes open. Life in him. He stares up into the sky. A bright sky above him. Inside it lies a bright star.

BOARDROOM

Adam shakes hands exuberantly with the two board members. One of them goes in for the hug. It's a great day for Adam.

PARK

Jake looks up at the star and smiles. In his dying moments. Gazing at an alternate scenario, where things could have been different. The same people, a different ending.

BOARDROOM

We see from outside the window in the boardroom the same bright sky. The same bright star.

PARK

Jake is losing life. His eyes close momentarily. He's tired. But he wants to still look up. Life slowly seeping out of him.

BOARDROOM

Adam shakes the final hand and turns towards the window. He looks at the bright star, smiling at it.

It's bright as ever.

PARK

A bubble slowly descends towards the grass, next to Jake. It almost reaches the ground and we -

FADE TO BLACK.