

INT. ALAN'S BEDROOM SYDNEY - MORNING

BLEEP, BLEEP, BLEEP: 5am, ALAN, 20's, presses snooze. LIZ, 20's, climbs on top, all tits and lips.

She teases, he rises to the occasion - BED OLYMPICS - going for gold.

Screaming, scratching, sweating, panting.

It's all over. Liz attempts to cuddle Alan.

Alan, avoiding, disappears to bathroom.

WOOSH - Liz hears Alan showering.

DISAPPOINTED SIGH - Liz pulls a white duvet over her head.

EXT. SYDNEY HIGHWAY - DAY

Alan and Liz - in uniform - riding Yamaha R1300 motorbikes.

RADIO ALERT V.O.

All responders. Suspects armed and dangerous, travelling north on Hume Highway. Registration Y345PPY, white Toyota Hi Lux.

SIRENS WAILING - weaving - rush hour.

LIZ

Highway 28, with Highway 64, eyes on suspects. Stinger required before Craig Avenue turnoff.

Cop cars lay in wait - stinger across road.

An arm hangs out of Toyota window. SHOTS FIRED. Officer down.

Alan 180's the bike - speeds through on coming traffic to Liz - SHE'S HIT.

LAUGHING, suspects change course, escaping the stinger.

Alan is dragging Liz to the verge.

He removes her helmet - she's unconscious.

Ripping his shirt he ties a tourniquet around her bleeding arm.

He directs traffic as Paramedics arrive - she's stretchered away.

INT. SURGICAL WARD, ROYAL SYDNEY HOSPITAL - EVENING

Alan visits Liz's vacant hospital bed - reads her chart: In surgery. He leaves flowers on the bedside.

A nurse shakes her head angrily, pointing to a sign that says: NO FLOWERS. She bins them, cursing visitors.

INT. ALZHEIMERS WARD, ROYAL SYDNEY HOSPITAL - MOMENTS LATER

Alan approaches his father's bed. MASON, 70's, aggressive, shouting, throwing papers, clothes and toiletries at nurses.

Alan watches, expressionless - DOCTOR, sedates Mason.

NURSES pick up paperwork, stuffing in a bag - Alan replaces toiletries - labels facing front - in bedside cabinet.

A YOUNG NURSE hands him the bag of paperwork. She places a supportive hand on his back - he recoils.

INT. ALAN'S APARTMENT SYDNEY - NIGHT

Minimalistic, sterile lounge. A block mounted poster of: Darwin's theory of evolution, dominates the wall.

Three A4 picture frames: Alan and Liz in Police Academy, Father and son in uniform, Criminology degree, exact angles on white IKEA bookcase. Abnormal Psychology, Justice and Zen books arranged alphabetically.

Alan sits - white leather sofa. SQUIRT - hand sanitiser before unpacking the bag of paperwork.

He pulls out a wad of yellowing letters tied with ribbon.

Examining - oldest is 20 yrs old, all postmarked Coffs Harbour - UNOPENED.

Using a pistol shaped letter opener, he slits the oldest envelope, a PHOTOGRAPH falls out.

A woman holding a baby smiles up at him - he flips it, the word read: MARY.

Six photo albums sit on a book shelf - He pulls one.

He's flicking through it - nothing. FRANTIC - he is throwing them all across the floor.

FOUND IT - he stares at a faded family photo of him on his fifth birthday - His mother and father cutting his cake.

He compares the pic from the letter, MARY is his MOTHER.

Running to bathroom, vomits then washes hands.

Returning to lounge - tidies and replaces photo albums.

He spreads the letters in date order across a white IKEA coffee table.

Each letter contains a PHOTOGRAPH of Mary with a new family, growing up.

He removes each photo, laying them out. He stares vacantly at them - then at his framed photos.

HE grabs the glass photo frame of him and Mason, yanking open a window, SCREAMS - throwing it.

SMASH - he watches glass shatter. An ELDERLY PEDESTRIAN, shakes his fist at him.

He runs into the street with a dustpan and brush, sweeping glass, FRANTIC. Runs back inside.

Back in the lounge - replaces smashed photo frame - precisely.

He looks at the pile of letters and photos - LOSES IT.

SMACK, SMACK, SMACK - punches the wall.

FURY - Launches photo frames at the wall.

Shards of glass - SHATTER, everywhere.

A white rug splatters blood red.

INT. STARBUCKS CAFE - MORNING

Liz in civvies, arm bandaged - sitting by the window. Alan, in uniform, arrives, knuckles bandaged, sits opposite.

Liz's face lights up. Pulling out a present and card she plonks it in front of him - EXCITED smile.

Red faced - reluctantly, opening card, a hundred red glitter hearts spilled onto the table.

Alan quickly clears up the mess, before reading the card.

The card reads: I love you - be my valentine, DAD. An ultrasound photo of a FOETUS falls out.

He examines it, emotionless, deadpan expression, avoiding her eager gaze. He ignored the present.

LIZ

I know timing is off but -

Liz is holding her hands out - eyes promising MATERNAL LOVE.

Alan, vacant, is staring at his coffee.

ALAN

It's not mine.

Liz stands, opens her mouth to say something. He's not looking at her - she stays silent - then leaves, HURT.

INT. ALZHEIMERS WARD, ROYAL SYDNEY HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Alan visits Mason, clutching the letters.

Mason is LUCID, his expression - BUSTED.

MASON

She never stopped writing, broke my heart you know, seeing you crying for her. I wanted to tell you she wasn't dead, but, you gotta understand, she was to me. I couldn't risk losing you too. Bitch came to me, pregnant - another man's baby for god sake. What else could I do?

Alans' expression, blood drained, vacant.

MASON (CONT'D)

I had to protect you - she did a bad thing.

ALAN

(Shouting)

No, YOU, did a bad thing dad.

Alan hands Mason a copy of his transfer approval to Coffs Harbour Police Division.

Alan runs to the bathroom to wash his hands.

He returns, but Mason has regressed to a trance like state.

Alan leaves, expressionless.

EXT. PACIFIC HIGHWAY - DAY

Alan pulls off the highway, dismounts, photographing a sign, Welcome to Coffs Harbour, population 15,006.

Grinning he's crossing through the 6 and chalking on a 7.

He sends Liz the photo with a text: Tuesday, day off, meet?

INT. COFFS HARBOUR POLICE HQ - MORNING

Alan is walking through an open office. Phones ringing, arrested youths being cautioned, overworked front desk officer dealing with angry queues.

FEMALE STAFF of varying ages eye him up - new meat.

MALE COPS posture like jungle gorillas.

Alan avoids eye contact and welcoming outstretched hands - Male cops murmur disapproval - arrogant city cops.

A FEMALE UNIFORMED COP shows him to his desk. Then places a pile of paperwork in front of him - she winks seductively.

EXT. COFFS HARBOUR TOWN - DAY

Climate change protestors are spraying slogans on BP's HQ walls. Defacing statues, chanting, gluing hands to windows.

Alan and beat cops battle to contain and remove protestors. He is kicked, punched, spat on. His bike, pushed over.

EXT. COFFS HARBOUR TOWN - CONTINUOUS

Riding back to the station, he sees an OLD LADY crying. He stops. She points - top of a tree - MEOW, MEOW!

He climbs it - crowd assembles. Storm brewing, windy - a dangerous rescue - applause from locals - handing cat down.

The old lady kisses his cheek - URGH - he pulls away.

TWO EMERGENCY BEEPS: on Alan's radio.

Alan gives a superhero salute, leaves, BURNING RUBBER.

EXT. DOCKSIDE CANNERY - MOMENTS LATER

Alan arrives at docks.

Crowd of harbour workers - looking up at a window ledge of disused cannery.

A MALE JUMPER, 50's, balancing precariously on top floor, window ledge - gonna jump.

Alan approaches looking up. The jumper- HYSTERICAL - stepping nearer edge.

Alan emotionless, gestures crowd away.

He sits cross legged - zen style.

The jumper visibly CALMER.

WHOA - the crowd gasp - jumper almost slips. Alan places his finger to his lips signalling for quiet.

Alan calmly motions to the jumper, to come down.

IT'S WORKING - The jumper climbs to a lower level.

SCREECHING BRAKES - BLUE LIGHTS FLASHING, SIRENS BLARING, A back up car arrives. CALLUM, 20's, gum chewing, sunglasses wearing, top gun, swaggers over.

Alan motions for him to sit - Callum ignores him, he's standing - hands on hips, shaking head with disapproval at the jumper - pulling a bored expression.

Alan motions again for Callum to sit.

Callum spits gum - whistles with two fingers at jumper - tapping watch, as if to say - HURRY UP.

NO - The crowd scream - CRUNCH, SPLAT - the jumper hits the concrete, twisted, bleeding, dead.

INT. COFFS HARBOUR POLICE HQ - LATER

Cramped office, shelves of dusty law books. Alan stands in front of, DUTY SARGENT, 40's, worn out.

Alan staring straight ahead respectfully - expressionless, as Sargent underlines text on a whiteboard.

Whiteboard: SUICIDE BASIC TRAINING: Strategy, Attitude, Patience.

DUTY SARGENT

A death on your first fucking day?
Anything to say - huh?

Alan continues to stare ahead. Duty Sargent angrily waves Alan to - GET OUT.

EXT. COFFS HARBOUR POLICE HQ - MOMENTS LATER

Alan is starting his motorbike, Callum approaches.

Alan turns his back - revving engine.

Callum GRINNING, stands in front of his bike, arms folded.

CALLUM

Sarg spewed at me too - old bastard
- but harmless.

Alan - blankly - revs harder.

Callum is holding up a PHOTO.

CALLUM (CONT'D)

This is you, right?

Callum extends his hand.

Alan ignores it. SCREETCH, Callum jumps out of the way - Alan burns rubber.

Callum stares after him - raising hands to the sky. Picking up the photo - he rubs off an imprinted tyre tread.

INT. ALAN'S LOUNGE COFFS HARBOUR - NIGHT

Minimalistic, white sterile lounge. A block mounted poster of: Darwin's theory of evolution, dominates the wall.

Three broken glass picture frames: Alan and Liz in Police Academy, Father and son in uniform, Criminology PhD cert, sit at exact angles on a modern white IKEA bookcase. Abnormal Psychology, Justice and Zen books, arranged alphabetically.

Alan grabs a photo album - staring at the most recent photo from the letters. Callum's face stares back at him - with his mother.

Horrifying LIGHT BULB MOMENT.

He rushes to the bathroom, washing his hands furiously.

INT. ALZHEIMERS WARD - MORNING

Alan approaches Masons' bed - IT'S EMPTY.

Looking at his chart - staggering back - TIME OF DEATH 00.30.

He texts Liz: Dad died last night. Meet? SB at 2pm. He washes his hands and leaves.

INT. STARBUCKS CAFE - DAY

Alan sitting, staring at his coffee, SHOCKED. Liz arrives, sitting opposite.

She extends her hand, Alan stares at it. He fumbles in his bag - presenting a letter.

Smiling expectantly, she's HORRIFIED - reading it.

Alan's sperm analysis : exceptionally low sperm count, Fertility: highly improbable.

Screwing letter up - throws it at him - storms out, slamming door. Alan stares - CONFUSED.

EXT. COFFS HARBOUR TOWN - AFTERNOON

Alan, sees Callum in uniform operating a speed check on the edge of town.

A female motorist is handing him something from her bag.

Alan pulls over in a side street - WATCHING.

Callum is taking BRIBES from multiple motorists.

HIDING, Alan films Callum's corruption with phone.

Callum counting money - GRINNING - before driving off.

Alan FOLLOWS - deserted area - forces him off road.

DISGUSTED - He dismounts, STRIDING to Callum's car.

Alan shines torch in his eyes. Callum gets out, facing up to him.

CALLUM

What the fuck are you doing mate?

Alan ignores it.

With a deadpan cop expression, he replays the video evidence.

CALLUM (CONT'D)
 (Shouting)
 YOU wanna report ME to IA? - What
 the fuck's wrong with you?

ALAN
 Asperger's Syndrome.

Callum LAUGHS - hard - holding ribs. Alan LOSES IT - he
 pushes him over.

POW - Callum punches him square on the nose.

HEAVY RAIN drenches the pair as they - FIGHT - knocking seven
 barrels out of each other.

The photo of Alan and Mary falls from Callum's pocket -
 spoiling with rain and blood.

TWO LOUD EMERGENCY BEEPS - On police radios. They stop
 fighting.

RADIO ALERT V.O.
 All available responders. Pacific
 Highway, Coffs Harbour, 250 yards
 north from exit 14. Truck, jack
 knifed across both lanes, in
 collision with school bus.
 Passenger reports possible
 fatalities.

Bleeding, Alan and Callum radio in and independently drive
 off towards the accident site.

EXT. PACIFIC HIGHWAY - AFTERNOON

Truck, JACK KNIFED across carriageway - beyond a bend. A
 SCHOOL BUS is part crushed under.

STORM - Driving rain, visibility minimal. Cars driving around
 the bend - braking hard - skidding into truck, and school
 bus. Continual multiple pile ups.

EXT. PACIFIC HIGHWAY - CONTINUOUS

Alan SPRINTS - to school bus. URGENT - gesturing to Callum to
 check other cars.

HISS - engine, acrid, smoking. Alan sees five kids, ALIVE -
 trapped, bloodied, crying. He crawls, OUCH - cuts his face on
 twisted metal, tight space, inside bus.

On his belly, bleeding, Alan gestures kids to follow him.

Callum checks truck, the driver DEAD, mobile phone in hand.
Callum - ANGRY - shakes his head. PUNCHES truck.

Callum crawls into school bus - checking drivers pulse -
closes his eyes.

FRANTIC - They work together - pulling kids out as FLAMES
crackle.

BOOM - Bus explodes. Alan is thrown into the air. CRACK - He
lands heavily, wrist broken. Laying on grass - dazed.

SAFE - Callum is running fields with kids.

Alan's phone, flashing. His bloodied fingers just reach it, a
text message from Liz: I'm sorry babe.

Alan tries to reply: FUCK IT - phone dies.

Callum approaches limping - leg bleeding.

CALLUM

Where the fuck is back up?

They see a helicopter crash landing in field.

Paramedic officers, leaping out - collecting kids.

Cars - SKIDDING everywhere. Deafening thunder, lightening
flashes.

Callum leads MALE ADULTS - walking wounded, helping injured.

Helicopter can't take off. Wounded treated in field.

A car with a loud and UNIQUE EXHAUST BLOW approaches, slowly.

Callum squints - can't see - shouting through rain.

CALLUM (CONT'D)

Dad? Mum?

A red Mazda 3 approaches. Callum directs to verge.

Whistling at Alan. He doesn't hear.

URGENT - Callum waves until Alan sees - he beckons him.

Alan arrives, peering into the partially open window. Mary's
face lights up.

Alan stares in disbelief, a single tear rolls down his cheek.

Callum sees a four wheel drive skidding out of control towards his parents car. BLOOD CURDLING SCREAM.

Callum rugby tackles Alan. CRASH - it hits the Mazda.

Both cars roll several times, the skidding car bursts into flames.

Sky ILLUMINATED orange and yellow, Alan and Callum run after the Mazda.

Alan and Callum's eyes connect with Mary - bleeding from the head. Shaky hands, makes a heart sign.

BOOM - the car explodes. The flames silhouette the scene.

Callum and Alan are thrown back - unhurt.

FURNESS - They attempt to approach the burning car.

FUTILE - Callum, hysterical - screaming, on his knees. A receipt falls from his pocket.

Alan sees its for a private cancer operation for Mary.

Alan stares at Callum - SHOCKING REALISATION.

The ink runs on the receipt until it's blank.

EXT. PACIFIC HIGHWAY - MOMENTS LATER

ROAD CLOSED - Ambulances, cop cars, media, helicopters whirring overhead. Paramedics work on wounded.

Silhouetted by flashing blue and red, Alan approaches Callum - he's KNEELING, shocked, crying.

Alan squints through the rain at him.

ALAN
C'mon, let's go home.

Callum gazes up at him - swollen eyes, bloodied, strangled pain.

Alan SLOWLY extends his hand - Callum GRABS it.

One year later

INT. ALAN'S BEDROOM SYDNEY - MORNING

WAAH, WAAH, WAAH: 5am, Alan groans. Liz climbs on top, all tits and lips.

She teases, he rises to the occasion - BED OLYMPICS - going for gold.

WAAH - WAAH - WAAH - shrill relentless noise. Distracted - unfinished, it's all over.

KNOCK - KNOCK - KNOCK - The bedroom door swings open.

Callum wearing PJ's is standing in the doorway grinning. He is holding a BABY, wearing a tee shirt that reads : Daddy's Girl.

He sniffs the air - STINKY POOH. He hands the baby to Alan.

CALLUM
(silly baby voice)
Uncle Callum's gotta get ready for
work - it's daddy's turn to do your
bum. Bye bye Mary.

Callum salutes Alan and Liz - leaves.

Alan and Liz kiss Mary. Above the bed on the wall - a photograph of Alan and Liz on their wedding day, smiling, with Callum.

They smell baby Mary's bottom - POOH - and jump out of bed laughing.

THE END