

SAMPLE SCREENPLAY FOR CONSIDERATION

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FADE IN:

EXT. LANGSTON EXPRESS TRAIN - DAY

Chugging fast through its tracks through landscapes. Closer and we can see small people lingering on top of the train's cars.

INT. LANGSTON EXPRESS TRAIN - TRAIN CAR - DAY

MASON POTTS, in his 30s, has sweat pouring all over his face. He tries to appear casual.

Getting out of his seat, MASON makes his way to the furthest part of the train. He bumps into a man, spilling drinks all over.

MAN
Aggghhh!

MASON
I'm sorry, I'm sorry -

MAN doesn't seem to care as to what MASON says.

MAN
Get outta may way, you clutz!

MASON is in a hurry. Heaving up his luggage, he keeps going...

CUT TO:

INT. FREDERICO'S RESTAURANT - DAY

A couple, WINSTON and OPAL, are at lunch. They eat silently.

WINSTON
Opal?

She glances up.

OPAL
Yyyeah?

WINSTON
Do you suppose where Mason is?

OPAL
Mason?

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. ON TOP OF LANGSTON EXPRESS TRAIN - DAY

The latch flaps open. MASON, luggage and everything, goes out. LOUD NOISES from the train.

Ahead, from the other side, men with guns march to where MASON is. Angry looks on their faces.

MASON scrambles out.

CUT TO:

INT. FREDERICO'S RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

WINSTON and OPAL.

OPAL
How should I know? Why ask me if
he's your best friend for the past
20 years?

WINSTON
Oh. Right. Well... I was just -

OPAL
Just what?

CUT TO:

EXT. ON TOP OF LANGSTON EXPRESS TRAIN - CONTINUOUS

Men with guns FIRE. Machine guns awry.

An array of them nearly hit MASON before he hangs onto the train with his fingertips.

INT. FREDERICO'S RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

WINSTON and OPAL again as if not a second has passed.

WINSTON
I was just... wondering.

OPAL

Look, I know what's been going on between you and him for the past few weeks, but you really need to think this through.

WINSTON

What do you suspect?

OPAL

(shocked)

I wasn't suspecting anything! What makes you think that?

WINSTON

Your voice. Sounds a lot like it to me.

OPAL

Please.

WINSTON

Well, it does! Most times, I'm sure.

OPAL

Oh really?

WINSTON

Mm-hmm.

OPAL

Huh. So that's what you think about me? What about Mason, then?

CUT TO:

EXT. ON TOP OF LANGSTON EXPRESS TRAIN - CONTINUOUS

Same men with machine guns pull out MASON. Beat him bloody.

Various men in the back cheer the lead man on...

CUT TO:

INT. FREDERICO'S RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

OPAL toys with her food.

OPAL

Where do you think he is now?

WINSTON

If God was here, he would tell me.

OPAL has a tiny glint of a smile in both her lips and her eyes. She is not looking at WINSTON when she says:

OPAL

Hopefully not robbing a train, I'm sure?