

Screenwriting Practical 2 – Synopsis

Isaac and **Jason** hold **Benji** hostage in his home because Benji has something that Isaac wants. During questioning the doorbell rings, answering it a courier passes a broken package to Isaac, before he can explain why it is broken Isaac shoots the courier, shocking not only Benji but Jason as well. They drag the body inside. Isaac tries to get the location of what he wants off Benji, but Benji knows that Isaac won't kill him because if he does Isaac will never find what he needs.

We then follow Benji's girlfriend, **Sarah**, as she speaks on the phone to her father, Marcus. He informs her that people are on to Benji and that she should get home quickly, taking Benji and "it" away. Hanging up she drives to a service station. She then gets out of the car and puts the disposable phone in the bin. Sarah walks to the boot of the car and opens it up. Inside is a case designed to look like a briefcase. Sarah checks she isn't being watched and then opens it up. She inserts two keys and turns them, then enters the code, "29DD". In the back of the boot we see extra licence plates.

Inside the case is a golden statue of the Earth, it is set inside a foam mould to keep it protected. Sarah closes the case and walks over to a phone outside the main building of the service station. Calling a number, it just rings and rings, eventually going to answerphone. Slamming the handset down she says "Benji", clearly worried about him.

Back in Benji's flat, Benji tries to talk to Jason, it is revealed that Jason and Benji now each other, previously having worked with each other on jobs. Benji tries to reminisce with Jason about the times they used to have together, hoping to persuade Jason to let him go. Jason tells Benji that Isaac has told him that he shouldn't be talking to Benji. Benji asks where Isaac is, but Jason just remains silent.

Sarah goes inside the service station and walking through the corridors thinks she is being followed, she tries to be careful and then decides she isn't. She goes into a phone shop and buys a new disposable phone. As she is paying she notices someone watching her. After making her purchase she heads out of the shop and back towards the car park, she looks over her shoulder and notices the guy who was watching her following behind. She sets off at a jog back towards her car, and the guy runs after her. We don't see any features of the guy, but he is the same height and build as Isaac.

Isaac walks back into Benji's flat, it transpires that Isaac has just come back from Sarah's flat, and he holds a necklace with blood on it. He tells Benji that it is Sarah's and Benji reacts to this news looking shocked and saddened. Isaac tells him that Sarah is being held hostage and that if Benji doesn't comply Sarah will be harmed. Benji still refuses to co-operate, although he pleads for Sarah's life.

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As she gets back to her car the man who was following her catches up and spins her around pinning her to the car. It turns out that he is just a junkie looking for easy prey, unfortunately for him Sarah is far from it. She gets free of his grip, pushes him back and trips him to the ground. She gets in her car and drives away.

In a rare moment alone Benji tries to escape his bonds, whilst Jason and Isaac are in the other room thinking something up. Trying and trying, he eventually falls over, the chair crashing to the floor alerting Isaac. Isaac comes rushing in and sees Benji on the floor in pain. Laughing he picks up Benji up off the floor, setting him and the chair back up the right way. Stepping back he then swings a fist into Benji's face. Isaac pulls out a knife and after threatening Benji with it, he follows through with it and stabs Benji in the left shoulder.

Sarah stops off at her father's house, she asks him for a weapon, he seems really reluctant to give anything over but eventually gives her a case with two pistols inside. She questions him about his reluctance he plays it off as just that he is worried about her, Jason and Isaac are dangerous men, best to avoid a fire fight. Just get in and out. She points out that if they're dangerous, guns are probably best.

Isaac is out of the apartment again, telling Benji is off to pay Sarah a visit. Benji doesn't reply, he is bruised and his arm hangs limply at his side. Jason comes over to Benji with a glass of water, helps Benji drink it. Benji starts to talk to Jason, telling him he's going to get himself arrested or killed working Isaac, although Benji admits that he himself is in a dangerous line of work. Jason starts to come around to Benji's way of thinking, doubting his working relationship with Isaac. Isaac comes back in and Jason takes the glass of water away from Benji.

Sarah speeds down residential roads, and a police car spots her pulling her over in a layby. Wanting to avoid a car chase, she decides to pull over. She gets out of the car, and goes to the back. It is a quiet road, no other traffic around. The police officer gets out of the car and comes over to Sarah, he starts to ask her a question and she punches him knocking him out. She drags him back to his police car, puts him in the driver's seat, and takes his keys, throwing them away. She then goes to her car and changes her licence plates over, then drives away.

Jason tries to convince Isaac that Benji won't talk, they should just let him go and get out of here, there's no use to this. It is a heated argument with Isaac having the final word, to punctuate this Isaac punches Jason and walks out of the room.

Sarah sits in her car down the road from Benji's flat. She calls Marcus to ask if he has heard whether or not Isaac and Jason have arrived at Benji's flat or not. He says he thinks they have. She goes in anyway.

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Jason goes to Benji, and starts to loosen his bonds, but Isaac comes into the lounge. Jason hits Benji in his good arm, as not to alert Isaac. Isaac goes to the bathroom. Benji tells Jason that he wants to get himself and Isaac into the study, which is connected to the lounge. Jason finishes untying Benji and they tip over the chair and then go into the study. Jason calls Isaac, saying Benji got free.

Sarah walks up to the flat, sounds of fighting can be heard. Sarah opens the door the flat and goes into the living room, Benji is sat un-bruised and uninjured watching TV, the sounds of fighting coming from the surround sound. Benji stands up and Sarah goes over to Benji. She tells Benji that people are coming for him, trying to find out where the artefact is. He starts to get things together, a van door is heard slamming outside. Isaac and Jason get out of the van and head over to the building. Benji drags Sarah into the study and activates a panic room.

As Isaac runs to the study, Benji bangs on the panic room panel, and the door opens. Sarah comes out, seeing Jason she shoots him in the gut and he falls to the floor dead, another gun is holstered at her hip. Benji pulls it as Isaac walks in and shoots him in chest. Isaac falls down. Sarah grabs the case from the open panic room and they both leave.

After they're gone, Isaac moans and pulls out a phone, he presses a speed dial, and as it rings he dies. Marcus can be heard on the other end saying "Hello?"