BOYS AT THE LIGHT

GRANDMA | AUDITION SIDES

SIDE 1 · GRANDMA AND SPEEDY

Grandma challenges Speedy after he discovers Uncle Buck stole his money.

Original screenplay pages with action and dialogue preserved.

across his forehead. For a second, he doesn't know where he is. His hand shoots to his chest. Heart pounding. Speedy looks around the cramped basement bedroom. A bare mattress sits low to the floor with no box spring. A thin blanket is twisted around his legs. His shoes sit beside the mattress. One is tipped over, the tongue hanging out. Speedy sits there in worn boxer shorts, a small hole visible near the seam. Something catches his eye. His jeans are lying on the floor with his pockets turned inside out. Speedy's expression changes. He leans over, checks beneath the mattress. Nothing. He searches around the bed. Nothing. Then the shoes. He grabs one. Checks inside. The other. Empty. Speedy freezes. His fear from the nightmare disappears. Now it's anger. He sits straight up. Mumbles to himself.

SPEEDY

82 What the fuck...? 82

He looks at the empty shoes again. We can see his mind racing. So angry it's hard to hold it in. Speedy snatches up his jeans and starts getting dressed. Fast. He already knows who he's looking for. He starts talking to himself.

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SPEEDY (CONT'D)

83 Tired of this shit! 83

He throws on his clothes and shoes then storms out the room.

CUT TO:

11 **INT. SPEEDY'S HOUSE - MORNING** 11

Speedy runs up the stairs yelling.

SPEEDY

84 Uncle Buck!...Uncle Buck! 84

12 **INT. SPEEDY'S HOUSE - MORNING** 12

Speedy rushes into the kitchen- Then stops himself. **GRANDMA (70ish)** stands at the stove cooking breakfast. The second Speedy sees her, some of the anger leaves his face. He doesn't want her worried. He straightens himself, slows his breathing, tries to act like everything is fine. Grandma glances over at him. She knows her grandson too well. Speedy avoids her eyes and moves through the kitchen like he's looking for something. Grandma says nothing. Just watches. The kitchen is warm. Food sizzles on the stove. But underneath its Tension. Speedy looks toward the back door. He knows Uncle Buck is somewhere nearby. For a moment, he considers going after him. Then he looks back at Grandma.

That stops him. She catches the look. Still, she says nothing. Speedy forces himself to stay calm.

SPEEDY

85 Grandma... where Uncle Buck at? 85

She takes a deep breath but doesn't say a word. She just keeps cooking.

SPEEDY (CONT'D)

86 Grandma! Where is Uncle Buck? 86

GRANDMA
(nonchalant)

87 Child, I don't know where that nuisance ass man is at. 87

Speedy starts pacing back and forth...huffing and puffing.

CUT TO:

13 **EXT. SPEEDY'S HOUSE - MORNING** 13

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Uncle Buck sits slumped in a weathered chair behind the house. A rubber tube is wrapped around his arm. A needle hangs from his hand. His head nods forward, then jerks back up. For a few seconds, he fights to keep his eyes open. Loses. The morning is already moving around him- Birds chirping. Cars passing. Somebody's music playing down the block. Uncle Buck hears none of it. He drifts deeper into the high.

CUT TO:

14 **INT. SPEEDY'S HOUSE - MORNING** 14

Speedy is still pacing back and forth. She cuts her eye at him.

GRANDMA

88 Boy what's wrong with you? 88

Speedy looks at for a moment fighting not to say anything at first but the rage insides wins this time.

SPEEDY

89 Uncle Buck stole my money. 89

GRANDMA

90 What money? 90

SPEEDY
91 The money I made from squeegeeing. 91

Grandma stops what she's doing. A new concern enters the room.

GRANDMA
92 I told you I don't want you out there in them streets being no squeegee boy. It's not safe. 92

SPEEDY
93 You want me to sell drugs? (beat) What else am I going to do? 93

GRANDMA
94 Of course not, but... 94

Sighs and shakes her head. She halfway understands.

SPEEDY
95 I gotta do something to help you out. And that nigga stole all my fuckin money... That I just made! 95

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GRANDMA
96 Boy you better watch your mouth. 96

Rage finally takes over. Speedy can barely keep himself together.

SPEEDY
97 I'm uh kill his ass, WATCH! 97

Speedy quickly goes out the door cursing and slams it behind him.

CUT TO:

15 **EXT. SPEEDY FRONT PORCH - DAY** 15

Speedy grabs his squeegee and walks.

CUT TO:

16 **EXT. SPEEDY BACK PORCH - DAY** 16

UNCLE BUCK sits slumped in a chair, completely high, his head dipping as he fights to stay awake. A USED NEEDLE rests on the table beside him.

BOYS AT THE LIGHT

GRANDMA | AUDITION SIDES

SIDE 2 · THE LIGHTS GO OUT

Grandma struggles with unpaid bills and her health as Speedy tries to help.

Original screenplay pages with action and dialogue preserved.

21 **INT. SPEEDY HOUSE - DAY** 21

Speedy gets home from the basketball court. He walks in and sees his Grandma watching tv. We see a view of Speedy walking towards her. BAM! All of a sudden the lights go out. The house becomes still. Speedy looks at his Grandma. Before either of them can say what they are thinking. Speedy searches his pockets for what little money he has, As he pulls it out they both look at it. They both realizes it will not be enough.

SPEEDY

141 Grandma. 141

GRANDMA

142 I tried to... 142

She doesn't even have the energy to finish her sentence. She pauses for a moment.

SPEEDY

143 How bad is it? 143

Grandma just shakes her head and lets out a sigh.

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GRANDMA

144 I don't have the money or the strength to worry bout it. (beat) My pressure already high... (beat) I barely got money to get my prescription... 144

She starts to tear up a little. She slowly rocks back and forth a little.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)

145 Uaaa!, I'm just so sick and tired of this. 145

Speedy walks over to his grandma while digging in his pocket

SPEEDY

146 How much is it Grandma? 146

She just shakes her head. Speedy pulls some money out of his other pocket.

SPEEDY (CONT'D)

147 Will this help? 147

GRANDMA

148 I could never take your money. Your 148

(MORE)

GRANDMA (CONT'D)
grandpa would roll over in his grave.

SPEEDY
149 Who else gon help us? 149

GRANDMA
150 Baby God got us. 150

Speedy puts the money in his Grandmothers hand.

SPEEDY
151 Okay...well God just gave us this. 151

Speedy walks away.

FADE OUT.

22 **INT. JORDAN HOUSE - NIGHT** 22

Jordan and Tonya play keep away from Wayne with his phone. Family dynamic is more fun and happier. Wayne tries to get his phone from Jordan.

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JORDAN
(throwing phone to Tonya)
152 Tonya! 152

Tonya catches the phone...

WAYNE
153 Aight Jordan you wanna play...don't say nothing when I grab that Android. 153

TONYA
154 Oh he must got something to hide in here. 154

Wayne runs towards Tonya to try and get his phone back.

WAYNE
155 You can go in there if you want...your eyes gon pop out! 155

Playfully Wayne wrestles with Tonya to get his phone back. Jordan gets a call.

JORDAN
156 Hello. 156

Jordan listens for a moment. The expression on his face

BOYS AT THE LIGHT

GRANDMA | AUDITION SIDES

SIDE 3 · LEAVING THE HOSPITAL

Grandma talks to the social worker and shares a tender moment with Speedy.

Original screenplay pages with action and dialogue preserved.

bedroom, going through his clothes, checking pants pockets and turning over shoes. **ON THE OTHER SIDE, SPEEDY** enters the house carrying his squeegee. He hears movement coming from the basement. Speedy grips the squeegee and heads down the steps.

END SPLIT SCREEN. Speedy reaches the basement and catches Uncle Buck going through his things.

SPEEDY
594 What the hell you doing down here? 594

Uncle Buck stutters, caught off guard.

UNCLE BUCK
595 I... I was just... Boy, you better calm your ass down. I'm looking for some toilet paper. 595

SPEEDY
596 Toilet paper my ass. 596

Speedy jumps on Uncle Buck. They grapple and fall to the floor. Uncle Buck tries to overpower Speedy, but he gets out of breath. Speedy ends up on top of him.

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SPEEDY (CONT'D)
597 I'm tired of you taking my shit. This the last time you gonna take something from me. 597

Speedy raises his hand over Uncle Buck.

CUT TO BLACK.

70 **INT. HOSPITAL - GRANDMA'S ROOM - DAY** 70

SPEEDY'S GRANDMA sits on the edge of her hospital bed, dressed and ready to be discharged. SPEEDY stands beside her. A SOCIAL WORKER reviews paperwork with Grandma.

SOCIAL WORKER
598 Now, when you get home, you need to take it easy. And make sure you take your medicine. 598

GRANDMA
599 If I can afford it. 599

SOCIAL WORKER
600 You'll be okay. We're going to make 600
(MORE)

SOCIAL WORKER (CONT'D)
sure everything is okay. I'll see what help I can get for your medication.

GRANDMA
601 Thank you, baby. 601

The Social Worker smiles and leaves the room.

SPEEDY
602 Grandma, don't worry about nothing. I'm gonna help you. 602

GRANDMA
603 You remind me so much of your Grandfather. 603

SPEEDY
604 I know. You always say that, Grandma. 604

GRANDMA
605 Yeah, you sure do. 'Cause he always made sure his family was good. 605

Speedy takes Grandma's hand.

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SPEEDY
606 I'ma do the same thing, Grandma. I promise. 606

CUT TO:

71 **EXT. SQUEEGEE STREET - DAY** 71

JORDAN and WAYNE are on the corner squeegeeing. Two unmarked task-force cars pull up fast. Officers jump out. JORDAN and WAYNE are forced to the ground. A POLICE BOOT stops beside Wayne's face. Dirt and small rocks scatter near him.

WAYNE
607 Why y'all keep fuckin' with us, man? We ain't bothering nobody. 607

Key's stands over Wayne.

DETECTIVE KEYS
608 Shut the fuck up. I told you about coming back out here. I told you these corners are indicted. Playtime is over with. 608