

FADE IN:

EXT. OCEAN WATERS - DAY

The sky is dark and the ocean water is VERY rough and choppy. In the water, a PERSON struggles in the strong undertow. Bobbing above and beneath the water line, the human form tries to reach for something that's not there. Dark, long hair undulates in the powerful current. It appears this person is drowning.

CAT (V.O.)

God! If you save me, I'll work for you!

INT. STAIRWELL OF THE MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

SUBTITLE: LONDON, 1956.

STEVEN GEORGIU (8) playful, polite, handsome beyond his years -- runs up and down the backstairs of his family's restaurant.

INGRID GEORGIU (41) Swedish, loving -- enters the stairwell.

INGRID

Sweetheart, I need you to fold some more napkins, please.

STEVEN

Yes, Mummy.

INGRID

And tie your shoes. You don't want to trip. Sometimes you do.

STEVEN

I don't trip, Mum.

Steven, at the top of the stairs, ties his shoes and runs back down and into the kitchen. He trips over a mop.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

STAVROS GEORGIU (56) Greek, stocky, balding, bushy mustache,

thick accent, wears a dirty white apron and t-shirt -- cooks in the kitchen.

Ingrid comes up to the order window and motions at two plates of food waiting for pick-up.

INGRID

Stavros? Didn't they have a side of dolmades?

Stavros grabs a plate and carelessly throws four dolmades on the plate and sprinkles them with olive oil.

STAVROS

One side of dolmades.

He drops the plate next to the others. Ingrid rolls her eyes, shakes her head and picks up the plates.

INT. RESTAURANT DINING ROOM - DAY

ANITA GEORGIU (19) bookish with pixie looks -- seats a couple.

ANITA

Will this table be OK?

PATRON #1

(nodding)

Thank you.

Steven emerges from the kitchen with a stack of folded napkins and places them on the counter.

DAVID GEORGIU (12) playful, handsome, carries a bus tub as he walks by Steven. He cradles it with one arm, licks his finger and gives Steven a wet-willy in his ear.

Steven LAUGHS.

STEVEN

Stop it, David!

David walks into the kitchen with the dirty dishes. Like a shadow, Steven follows his older brother.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Stavros watches Steven follow David to the dishwasher.

STAVROS

Stop following your brother around and
get me some more lamb from the freezer!

STEVEN

Yes, Papa!

Steven tries to give David a wet willy back, but is caught in
the act.

DAVID

Nice try, Mate!

(beat)

Now go downstairs and get that lamb
before you make Papa angry.

Steven runs to the back stairwell. But instead of going
downstairs, he opens the back door and listens to the sounds
of George Gershwin's "I Got A Crush On You," that emanates
from the next-door theatre. He closes his eyes.

STAVROS (O.S.)

Steven! The lamb!

Steven closes his eyes again and listens to the music for one
more moment before closing the backdoor.

EXT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Opening Credits roll as The Cat Stevens' song "Oh Very Young"
plays.

We see the restaurant from across Shaftsbury Ave. The inside
is alive! PEOPLE eat. The family works. Patrons come and go.

EXT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - LATER

The last PATRONS leave as the neon sign in the window goes
dark.

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

David and Anita clear off the last table while Steven sits at a corner table and colors a picture. Ingrid emerges from the kitchen.

INGRID

Please sit down. This is important.

STEVEN

Should I go get Papa?

INGRID

Everyone sit down!

David and Anita join Steven at the corner table.

Ingrid pauses. She paces a few times and looks very uncomfortable.

DAVID

What is it, Mum?

Ingrid stands in front of the table. She leans on a chair.

INGRID

This isn't very easy. But I need you all to try and understand.

(beat)

As you know, your father and I haven't been getting along too well lately. We've talked a lot about our relationship and what is best for you, and for us as a family.

ANITA

(to her brothers)

What is she saying?

Ingrid sits down. She looks at all of the children one at a time. She starts to choke up and then composes herself.

INGRID

Your father and I are getting a divorce.

DAVID

What???

ANITA

You can't be serious.

INGRID

Look. For now, we'll all still be living together. We'll all still be working here at the restaurant.

Steven's eyes well up with tears and he runs out of the dining room.

INGRID (CONT'D)

Oh, Steven!

INT. STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Steven runs up the stairs to the very top flight and opens the door out to the roof.

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Steven sits with his head in his hands. Tears roll down his cheeks. The SOUNDS of a showtune can be heard from the theatre next door.

David emerges from the door that leads out and on to the rooftop. He walks over and sits down next to Steven.

DAVID

It'll be OK, Mate.

STEVEN

Mum and Papa can't get divorced! They made a promise to God to stay married.

DAVID

Not everyone follows God's word.

STEVEN

What if they go to hell?

DAVID

They're not going to hell just because they didn't keep a promise.

Steven looks at his feet.

STEVEN

But it's not fair!

DAVID

I know it's not fair. But you have to make a promise--to yourself.

Steven looks at David.

DAVID (CONT'D)

That you'll always follow your own heart.

They both stare off into the night and listen to the MUSIC coming from next-door.

DAVID (CONT'D)

What's in your heart, Mate?

Without hesitating, as if it's assumed, he looks at David.

STEVEN

Music.

SUBTITLE: 1963.

EXT. DENMARK STREET, LONDON - DAY

Steven stands in front of a guitar shop and stares at a guitar in the window.

He smiles big and runs down the sidewalk.

INT. MOULAN ROUGE KITCHEN - DAY

Stavros makes a gyro sandwich as an excited Steven runs in.

STEVEN

Papa! Papa!

Stavros doesn't look up.

STAVROS

Yes.

Steven catches his breath.

STEVEN

I saw this guitar. I have to have it,
Papa.

Stavros shakes his head.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

It's only 15 pounds.

(beat)

Please? Please? I promise I'll do all
my homework.

Stavros looks at Steven. He sees his genuine enthusiasm.

STAVROS

I'll have to talk to your mother.

Steven runs up and hugs him.

STEVEN

Thank you, Papa!

Stavros smiles.

STAVROS

Now go do your homework.

Steven runs out of the kitchen.

INT. MOULAN ROUGE KITCHEN - DAY

Steven sits in the corner and practices scales on his guitar.

Stavros pulls out a cooking sheet of baklava from the oven.

STAVROS

Put that down and help your mother with
those customers!

STEVEN

Fine!

Steven leans his guitar against the wall and walks out to the dining room.

INT. RESTAURANT DINING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Ingrid is in front of the order-window gathering an order. Steven walks up next to her and fills two glasses with soda.

INGRID

I received a phone call from Sister Mary today. She says you're failing Algebra.

Steven pretends to ignore her.

INGRID (CONT'D)

Why is that, Steven?

STEVEN

I'm bored.

INGRID

What's that supposed to mean?

STEVEN

Art and music are the only classes I really like.

INGRID

Art and music won't pay the bills.

Steven shrugs.

INGRID (CONT'D)

You have to concentrate more in school. Your father and I are paying a lot for your education.

Stavros walks up to the order-window and interrupts.

STAVROS

Why don't you open a textbook once in a while like you promised, instead of playing that damn guitar all the time?

INGRID

He says "he's bored."

STAVROS

Don't make me regret buying that for you, son.

Steven's slightly impatient.

STEVEN

OK, Papa. I won't.

INT. RESTAURANT DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The dining room is empty. Steven sits at the corner table and reads a textbook. His guitar sits on the chair next to him. Ingrid peeks in from the kitchen.

INGRID

Turn off the lights out here before you come up.

Once the kitchen lights go out and the back door shuts, Steven puts down his textbook and plays the guitar.

INT. ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL - DAY

Steven sits in a classroom. CLASSMATES are settling in. He makes eye contact and flirts with a girl, KATHARINE (15) attractive, blonde, very blunt -- who sits two rows over.

STEVEN (QUIETLY SINGS)

(to Katharine)

I'm still waitin' for your heart, cause
I'm sure that some day it's gonna start.
You'll be mine to hold each day, but
'till then, this is all that I can say.
Here comes my baby, here she comes now...

A few CLASS BULLIES (15), sarcastic -- overhear Steven and LAUGH.

CLASS BULLY #1

There goes your baby.

CLASS BULLY #2 (TO STEVEN)

No wait. You're the baby! So where's the line about the diaper?

The bullies again LAUGH. Steven looks at Katharine. He's upset.

CLASS BULLY #1 (SINGING)

Here comes the "artist boy" with his thumb is in his mouth...

SISTER RITA (50's) strict, wears full nun's attire -- enters the classroom.

Steven is now very upset. He doesn't see the nun.

STEVEN

Piss off, you bastards!

The CLASSMATES all give OOOHS as they see Sister Rita's reaction.

SISTER RITA

Steven Demetre Georgiou! You go directly to Sister Mary's office!

(beat)

Now!

The classmates LAUGH. Katharine looks like she feels sad for Steven.

Steven strolls out of class.

EXT. ALLEY - AFTERNOON

Steven and Katharine walk. Both carry book bags. Steven's head is down. He KICKS a smashed can down the alley.

STEVEN

My Mum and Papa are going to play merry hell on me.

KATHARINE

You didn't do anything wrong, Steven. It was a natural reaction. I'd have popped him in the nose.

Steven LAUGHS. He's surprised.

STEVEN

You'd have popped him one? Just like Henry Cooper knocking down Cassius Clay?

KATHARINE

Yeah.

Steven imitates a boxer, moves his feet fast and bobs from side to side. Katharine laughs and puts up her dukes. The two playfully box.

Steven and Katharine walk around a corner. The four bullies from class greet them.

CLASS BULLY #1

Hey Artist Boy!

CLASS BULLY #2

Are you going to sing us a song?

Katharine immediately steps forward.

KATHARINE

Sod off! Why don't you gits just grow up?

CLASS BULLY #1

(to Steven)

Is your squeeze here to protect you, Artist Boy?

CLASS BULLY #2

Yeah! There's no Sister Rita around to
make sure we behave.

The four bullies surround Steven and Katharine. Two of them
TACKLE Steven.

Katharine PUNCHES one of them. Her throw is deflected and
she is pushed aside.

CLASS BULLY #1

(to Steven)

I'm going to sing you a song.

(beat)

With my FIST!

Class Bully #1 PUNCHES Steven as he is being held down on the
pavement. Another bully KICKS Steven in the ribs.

KATHARINE

Stop it! Leave him alone!

EXT. OCEAN WATERS - DAY

The drowning scene from the opening is relived.

CLASS BULLY #2 (V.O.)

"Oh please don't hurt me."

The bullies LAUGH.

EXT. ALLEY - AFTERNOON

Steven is on the ground as the bullies continue to rough him
up.

EXT. OCEAN WATERS - DAY

The drowning continues.

CAT (V.O.)

God! Please save me!

EXT. ALLEY - AFTERNOON

David runs up from behind and pulls the bullies off of Steven. He throws one to the ground.

DAVID

You want to feel what it's like to get duffed up good?

(beat)

Go on! Make tracks!

The class bullies quickly scurry in different directions.

Katharine runs to Steven's side.

KATHARINE

I'm sorry, Steven. It's my fault.

Steven has a bloody nose and a ripped shirt. He looks disheveled.

STEVEN

It's not your fault, Katharine.

David helps Steven up.

DAVID

You OK, Mate?

STEVEN

Been better.

Steven manages a smile. They begin to walk.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Why did you have to show up and ruin my 12th round comeback? I was about to give 'em my best Henry Cooper.

David shakes his head.

DAVID

So what did you do to get their knickers in a twist?

KATHARINE

He was singing me one of his songs in class.

(to Steven)

It was very lovely.

STEVEN

They didn't think so.

DAVID

Hey, at least they noticed you.

They all LAUGH.

INT. STEVEN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

SUBTITLE: 1965

Steven practices a SONG. He sings and plays his guitar.

STEVEN (SINGING)

Well we're back to the good old times and
we're loving like we've never loved
before. Baby we're back to the good old
times and that's for sure.

David walks into the room. Steven's back is to David and he doesn't see him.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Well we're loving like we've never loved
before. You keep on loving and we'll
never go wrong.

David slowly CLAPS.

Steven blushes.

DAVID

That's brilliant, Mate! You really ought
to record something.

STEVEN

You think so?

DAVID

Absolutely. As a matter of fact, I just met this chap who works over at Regent Studios.

STEVEN

I haven't got money for that.

DAVID

What are you doing with all the wonger you're earning at the restaurant?

STEVEN

I was going to buy me a new guitar.

David looks at Steven and raises his eyebrows.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Well, maybe I *could* put that new guitar off for a while.

INT. REGENT SOUND STUDIOS - NIGHT

David is in the control room with the ENGINEERS. He watches through the glass as Steven records his demo.

STEVEN (SINGING)

There's a five-minute break and that's all you take, For a cup of cold coffee and a piece of cake. Matthew & son, the works never done...

Steven abruptly stops playing. He looks frustrated.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Cut! Cut!

David rushes into the sound booth.

Steven roughly pushes aside one of the folding chairs. David walks over to Steven.

DAVID

You need to relax.

STEVEN

This is so much harder than playing alone
in my room.

David touches Steven's shoulder.

DAVID

I know, Mate.

(beat)

Listen.

David turns Steven around to face him.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Remember that time when you were eight
years old? We were up on the roof after
Mum told us about the divorce?

STEVEN

Yeah.

DAVID

You told me that music was in your heart?

STEVEN

I remember.

DAVID

Play from your heart, Mate. If you play
from your heart, you'll be brilliant.

Steven is back in front of the microphone recording. He looks
more confident. He even has a hint of a smile on his face.

STEVEN (SINGING)

Matthew & son, the works never done,
there's always something new.
The files in your head, you take them to
bed, you're never, ever through.

INT. GEORGIOU LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The fully recorded demo version of Matthew & Son continues to PLAY. Steven, David, Stavros, Ingrid, Anita and Katharine all listen to the record.

Stavros gets up and dances. He extends his hand out to Ingrid. She smiles and looks down.

INGRID

I'm not dancing.

ANITA

Come on, Mum.

DAVID

Yeah. Dance with Papa on Steven's special night.

Ingrid sheepishly gets up to dance with Stavros. He takes her hand and spins her around.

STAVROS

Opa!

The children LAUGH. Katharine leans her head against Steven.

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Katharine continues to lean against Steven. MUSIC can be heard from the theatre next door. They listen.

KATHARINE

Your demo sounds terrific.

STEVEN

I'm pretty happy with how it turned out.

Katharine sits up straight and looks at him.

KATHARINE

Pretty happy? You're my little rock star.

Steven looks at her and begins to lean in--as if to kiss her.
She stares at his eyes.

KATHARINE (CONT'D)

Has anyone ever told you that you have
eyes like a cat?

He retreats and smiles.

STEVEN

No.

She looks at him very seductively.

KATHARINE

Maybe you should call yourself "Cat."
It's sexy!

STEVEN

Oh yeah?

KATHARINE

Yeah.

Katharine stands up.

KATHARINE (CONT'D)

But *this* Kat has to head home...school
tomorrow.

She kisses him on the cheek and walks away leaving Steven
sitting alone.

Steven looks out into the sky and listens to the MUSIC.

Stavros comes out on the roof and sits down next to his son.

STAVROS

I'm proud of you, you know. Chasing your
dream.

(sighs)

I think you may have gotten that from
your mother.

STEVEN

I don't know about that.

STAVROS

Promise me you won't get too disappointed
if things don't work out the way you
hope.

Steven nods.

STAVROS (CONT'D)

That business is very competitive.

STEVEN

I know.

STAVROS

But if you do make it, you have to
promise me one more thing.

(beat)

You'll buy me a new car.

They LAUGH.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Steven washes dishes as Stavros chops cucumbers.

David enters. He looks excited. He holds a flyer in his hand.

STEVEN

What's that you got there?

DAVID

A flyer from the Black Horse Bar.

STEVEN

Oh yeah?

DAVID

They're having a talent showcase next
Thursday.

David reads the flyer.

DAVID (CONT'D)

"Ardmore and Beechwood Publishing Company are proud to present a talent showcase on Thursday, September 16th. This is your opportunity to show off your writing and performing skills in front of top music industry representatives."

Steven grins big.

STEVEN

How do I get signed up?

DAVID

You already are. I dropped off your demo and they'll be calling by the end of the week to confirm.

Steven takes off his apron and runs over to the corner of the kitchen and picks up his guitar.

He plays in an ELVIS-like style, knees touching, hips moving.

STAVROS

Shut up and finish the dishes!

He continues to play, makes up lyrics and sings.

STEVEN

(singing)

Papa says wash these dishes. But if I had three wishes, I'd be the one shinin' while Papa was dining on the last two wishes from me.

Stavros rolls his eyes. He picks up a piece of cucumber and throws it at Steven.

David joins in and they sing together.

STEVEN AND DAVID

(singing)

Papa says wash these dishes. But if I had three wishes...

STEVEN
Sing along, Papa.

Stavros throws his arms up in the air and walks out of the kitchen while Steven and David continue to SING.

INT. BACKSTAGE BLACK HORSE BAR - NIGHT

Steven is EXTREMELY nervous. He sweats while he HEARS the proceeding act finish up.

EXT. OCEAN WATERS - DAY

We again see the drowning scene.

INT. BLACK HORSE BAR - NIGHT

Steven stands backstage with his guitar strapped on. The MC (40's) a David Frost-type wearing a turtleneck and jacket -- stands on stage.

MC
Now, let's give a BIG Black Horse welcome
to Steven Adams!

Steven closes his eyes, swallows and walks on stage.

STEVEN
Hello.

The crowd half pays attention with the exception of two patrons who CLAP and WHISTLE excitedly--David and Katharine.

Steven looks at them. David gives Steven a big thumbs up.

DAVID
All right, Steven!

Steven sweats profusely.

STEVEN
This is a song I wrote called "The First
Cut is the Deepest."
(MORE)

STEVEN (CONT'D)

(beat)

I hope you enjoy.

David and Katharine once again APPLAUD and WHISTLE. Steven begins to play his guitar.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

(singing)

I would have given you all of my heart.
But there's someone who's torn it apart.
And she's taken almost all that I've got.
But if you want, I'll try to love again.
Baby, I'll try to love again but I know.

Steven sounds a bit off-key. His hands shake. He messes up a guitar chord, stops the song and begins the chorus again.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

(singing)

But I know, The first cut is the deepest,
baby I know. The first cut is the
deepest...

Steven finishes the song and walks off stage to a courteous applause.

INT. BACKSTAGE BLACK HORSE BAR - NIGHT

Steven's nerves have turned to frustration. He walks right out the backstage door.

SIMON KIRKWOOD (48) Representative for Ardmore and Beechwood, nerdy -- looks for Steven backstage. He speaks to another ACT, who tune their instruments.

SIMON

Did you see where that lad went? The one
who just finished up?

The band members SHAKE their heads and carry on with their prep.

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

MUSIC from the next-door theatre plays. Steven sits alone. He leans over and looks at his feet.

David comes out on the rooftop and sits next to him. No words are spoken for a few moments.

DAVID

You sounded a lot better than you think.

Steven shakes his head.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You were nervous. It was your first time on stage. Anyone would be nervous.

STEVEN

But this was my BIG chance and I knobbed it up.

DAVID

It wasn't your *last* chance, Mate.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Steven works in the kitchen. He LAUGHS with his dad.

INT. RESTAURANT DINING ROOM - DAY

Simon from Ardmore and Beechwood sits at a table and eats his lunch. He reads the London Times.

Steven can be seen through the window into the kitchen but Simon doesn't notice him.

Steven walks to his table with a coffee pot.

STEVEN

Would you like some more coffee?

Simon doesn't look up from his paper.

SIMON

That would be fine, thank you.

Steven fills his cup and walks to another table.

Simon looks up as Steven walks into the kitchen out of site. He doesn't see him.

Simon gets up, folds the paper, places it under his arm and walks to the front to pay his bill.

Steven walks out of the kitchen with a bus tub and begins to clear off the table.

Simon returns to the table to leave a tip just as Steven walks back into the kitchen. Once again Simon doesn't see his face.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Steven sets down the bus tub and picks up his guitar. Stavros cleans off the grill.

STEVEN

I'm taking 10.

EXT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - DAY

Simon is on the sidewalk in front of the restaurant. An AQUAINTANCE (50's) wears a derby and carries an umbrella -- chats his ear off.

AQUAINTANCE

...we ended up spending our holiday
tending to her mother's affairs...

MUSIC comes from the rooftop above Moulin Rouge. Simon looks up. He no longer hears the acquaintance. He listens to the music for a moment. He then pads his coat pockets.

SIMON

Hate to cut you off, Chap. But I think I
left my billfold inside. It was great
seeing you. Give my best to Elaine.

Simon walks back inside the restaurant.

INT. RESTAURANT DININGROOM - DAY

Simon approaches Ingrid at the front counter.

SIMON

Pardon me. Are you aware there is
someone playing music on your rooftop?

INGRID

It's probably my son, Steven.

SIMON

Would you mind if I were to go up and
give a listen?

He hands Ingrid his business card. She reads it and looks up
at him smiling.

INGRID

I'm sure Steven wouldn't mind at all.

The two walk through the dining room and into the kitchen.

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY

Steven PLAYS guitar and SINGS his song, "I Love My Dog."

Simon walks up behind him. He stands and listens. He likes
what he hears.

STEVEN (SINGING)

I love my dog as much as I love you.
But you may fade, my dog will always come
through...

Steven finishes the song. He smiles because he senses David
is behind him.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Aren't you going to clap?

Simon slowly begins to CLAP.

SIMON

What's your name, son?

As Steven turns around the clap fades into HUNDREDS of claps.

INT. BBC STUDIOS - NIGHT

JIMMY SAVILE (39) Disc-jockey and host of the British TV show "Top of the Pops" -- introduces Steven.

JIMMY

Cat Stevens!

Steven performs "I Love My Dog" on the show.

MONTAGE TAKES PLACE OVER THE NEXT 15 MONTHS.

INT. THE MARQUEE CLUB, LONDON - NIGHT

Steven, now known as CAT STEVENS, continues to play the same song, "I Love My Dog," on stage.

INT. BACKSTAGE OF THE MARQUEE CLUB - NIGHT

The same song continues to play. Cat is surrounded by GIRLS. He laughs and smokes a cigarette.

SUPER: UK Top 40 Singles Chart

October 1966, "I Love My Dog" is on the charts.

INT. THE CRAWDADDY CLUB, LONDON - NIGHT

Cat continues to play the same song on stage.

INT. THE ZODIAC CLUB, OXFORD - NIGHT

Cat continues to play "I Love My Dog."

INT. THE ZODIAC CLUB, BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Cat has a beer in his hand. He looks a bit intoxicated. He talks with an attractive GIRL. The song continues to play.

SUPER: UK Top 40 Singles Chart

October 1966, "Matthew and Son" is on the charts. It's #2 behind The Monkees' "I'm a Believer."

INT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - DAY

The song continues as Cat places a pair of car keys on the order spindle for his father.

INT. THE HAMMERSMITH PALAIS, LONDON - NIGHT

Cat still sings "I Love My Dog" on stage. He yawns.

INT. BACKSTAGE, THE HAMMERSMITH PALAIS - NIGHT

As the song continues, Cat sits on a couch with two attractive GIRLS. Again he smokes and has a beer in hand.

INT. THE 100 CLUB, LONDON - NIGHT

Cat sings the same song. He looks VERY tired.

SUPER: UK Top 40 Singles Chart.

Cat Stevens' "I'm Gonna Get Me a Gun" is in the top 10.

INT. BACKSTAGE OF THE 100 CLUB

Cat spits up blood in the sink.

INT. MIDDLE EARTH NIGHT CLUB, LONDON - NIGHT

Cat's on stage. He still sings "I Love My Dog." He looks on the verge of burnout.

INT. BACKSTAGE OF THE MIDDLE EARTH CLUB

Cat sleeps on the couch. His arm hangs over the edge. He holds an unlit cigarette.

INT. DOCTORS OFFICE

SUBTITLE: London, 1968.

Cat, very sick, sits on the examining table. Ingrid sits on a chair and the DOCTOR (50's) very proper -- stands between them.

DOCTOR

Steven has a collapsed lung.

Ingrid looks shocked.

INGRID

Oh good Lord!

DOCTOR

He also appears to have active tuberculosis.

Ingrid's eyes get wider. Her jaw drops.

INGRID

Tuberculosis? How?

DOCTOR

He probably was exposed to it at a younger age. It likely developed into active T.B. due to his lifestyle.

Cat's head is down. He coughs.

INGRID

I don't think he's been getting much sleep.

DOCTOR

I suspect that burning the candle at both ends, being run-down, lack of sleep, not taking care of himself have certainly played a factor.

INGRID

Oh, Steven.

DOCTOR

I'm recommending that he be hospitalized at once.

Ingrid gets up and walks over to Cat.

CAT

I'm not going to hospital.

INGRID

Steven!

DOCTOR

Mrs. Georgiou? Would you mind stepping out in the hall with me.

The two exit the room.

INT. DOCTORS OFFICE HALLWAY - DAY

The doctor looks VERY serious.

DOCTOR

This is a VERY serious health condition.

Ingrid shakes her head as she chokes up.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Mrs. Georgiou, the hospital is not a choice, but a must. If he doesn't take his medication and get the rest he needs, he may not make til month's end.

Tears gather in Ingrid's eyes.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - DAY

Cat lies in bed near the window. He looks awful. He reaches over for a glass of water, takes a sip and sits up in the bed. He looks out on the treed hospital courtyard below.

EXT. HOSPITAL COURTYARD - DAY

CHILDREN play underneath a tree as their MOTHER talks to their wheel-chaired GRANDFATHER.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - DAY

A smile emerges from Cat's face as he watches the children.

EXT. HOSPITAL COURTYARD - DAY

A draped body rolls past the family on a sidewalk going across the courtyard.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - DAY

Cat's smile fades as sees the dead body.

The curtains suddenly begin to close. A NURSE (30's) pudgy -- closes the drapes.

CAT

What's with that covered body down there?

NURSE

He was from the 4th floor--a floor you don't want to end up on. So you need to get your rest.

Cat lies back down on the bed. The nurse turns the lights out, exits while closing the door behind her.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Cat sleeps. He has a nightmare.

MONTAGE TAKES PLACE DURING CAT'S NIGHTMARE

INT. THE MARQUEE CLUB, LONDON - NIGHT

Cat is introduced by the MC. He is pushed out on stage in a hospital bed.

EXT. HOSPITAL COURTYARD - DAY

A draped body rolls on a sidewalk across the courtyard.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Cat tosses and turns in his bed.

INT. THE MARQUEE CLUB, LONDON - NIGHT

Cat is on stage in the hospital bed. He wears a gown. He coughs up A LOT of blood. The CROWD watches and BOOS him.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Cat continues to toss and turn in his bed. He sweats.

EXT. HOSPITAL COURTYARD - DAY

The draped body again rolls across the courtyard.

NURSE (V.O.)

He was from the 4th floor. A floor you don't want to end up on.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Cat's hospital bed sits in the 4th floor hallway.

CAT

No! I don't want to die!

He looks back for help as NURSES and DOCTORS pass him.

CAT (CONT'D)

Please! Somebody help me!

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Cat continues to toss and turn as he sleeps. He is COVERED with sweat.

INT. THE MARQUEE CLUB, LONDON - NIGHT

Cat is on stage in the hospital bed. His gown is covered with blood.

NURSE (V.O.)

The 4th floor. A floor you don't want to end up on.

EXT. HOSPITAL COURTYARD - DAY

The draped body again rolls across the courtyard. A young BOY walks over and pulls back the sheet. Cat's body lies motionless on the gurney.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - NIGHT

A sweat-drenched Cat wakes up, shaken.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - DAY

Cat is propped up in his bed. Ingrid sits next to him.

CAT

I'm really scared, Mum.

INGRID

I know, baby.

CAT

I can't get the image out of my mind.

Ingrid rubs his hand.

CAT (CONT'D)

I don't think I'd fear death so much if I knew where I was going--what was going to happen to my soul.

INGRID

You shouldn't be thinking such negative thoughts.

(beat)

Besides, Jesus will take care of your soul no matter when you leave this world.

CAT

I don't think I believe that.

Ingrid looks up to the ceiling and closes her eyes.

CAT (CONT'D)

So I'm supposed to believe that my life and soul are safe in God's hands? Just trust that it's true?

INGRID

Jesus is looking out for you, Steven. You just need to pray for his help.

CAT

I don't feel that about Jesus. I just don't know what to believe in.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - LATER

David sits next to Cat.

DAVID

You have to believe in yourself, Mate.

CAT

I like that.

David pulls out a book from his coat pocket.

CAT (CONT'D)

What's that?

DAVID

It's a book I'm reading. I think you should give it a look.

He hands the book to Cat. He reads the cover aloud.

CAT

"The Secret Path."

DAVID

It's by Paul Brunton. He's written books on India, yoga, mysticism...

Cat reads a passage on the cover.

CAT

"An amazing system of mysticism whereby most people can learn to use their hidden spiritual resources."

DAVID

It's quite a read. I think it might help you.

David takes the book from Cat and opens it.

DAVID (CONT'D)

"Man contains rare and unexpected resources within himself, wherewith to meet and overcome the hard trials for which few can escape."

Cat is silent.

MONTAGE TAKES PLACE OVER THE NEXT 10 WEEKS.

Cat Steven's song "Miles From Nowhere" PLAYS throughout.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - DAY

Cat reads the book, "The Secret Path."

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - DAY

Cat looks out the window. He smiles.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Cat continues to read the book.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - DAY

Cat sits on the edge of his bed. Katharine is with him. They talk and laugh. Cat looks much perkier. He has the beginnings of a beard.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Cat is not in his bed, but sits in a chair in the room. He reads the book.

EXT. HOSPITAL COURTYARD - DAY

Cat, in his hospital gown, sits on a bench and reads. He looks healthier.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Cat plays cards with David. They laugh and have fun.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL LOBBY - DAY

Cat, bearded with a bit longer hair, is dressed and being rolled out in a wheel chair by Katharine. His suitcase sits on his lap.

KATHARINE

Your parents are having a nice homecoming for you.

CAT

The doctors told me that I might be looking at a year until I recover fully.

Katharine tries to entice him.

KATHARINE

There'll be lots of good food.

CAT

I could definitely use some of Papa's cooking.

(quietly)

The food here is bloody awful.

The nurse approaches them.

NURSE

We're going to miss you Cat Stevens.

Cat smiles.

CAT

I wish I could say the same.

INT. GEORGIOU LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Cat, Katharine, Ingrid, David, Stavros, Anita and a few FRIENDS of Cat and his family celebrate Cat's return home. They EAT, DRINK and CONVERSE.

STAVROS

Steven. I have something I want to show you.

Stavros motions for Cat to come out in the hall. Cat, tired, slowly gets up and follows his dad out in the hall.

EXT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Stavros opens the door to a flat across the hall from their apartment. Cat leans against the doorway.

STAVROS

Mrs. Barnaby moved out last month. It's yours, Son.

Cat smiles.

INT. CAT'S FLAT - CONTINUOUS

Cat enters the flat. He slowly walks over to the bed and lies down. Stavros stands in the doorway.

CAT

I will paint it red. It will be a perfect place to write music.

STAVROS

It will be perfect because you'll be close to the restaurant so you can start working again when you recover.

Cat sits up and looks at Stavros. He can't believe what he just heard.

CAT

I'm not going back to work at the restaurant, Papa. I'm a songwriter. A musician.

STAVROS

Son, it's *that* lifestyle that got you sick in the first place.

CAT

You don't understand, do you?

STAVROS

Your mother and I understand plenty.

Cat looks upset. He weakly gets up and walks towards the doorway.

CAT

I'm going to make a comeback, Papa!

STAVROS

I do not approve.

CAT

Well, I'm going to show you!

(beat)

And this time I will make a million pounds!

Cat slams the door closed in his father's face.

Cat opens the door again.

CAT (CONT'D)

Thanks again for the flat, Papa.

He closes the door.

INT. CAT'S FLAT - NIGHT

There's a statue of Buddha. It appears to almost glow red.

A gong SOUNDS. Asian/Indian meditation music begins to play.

Cat, now with shoulder-length hair and a full beard, sits against throw pillows on the floor of his now red room (decorated to his semi-hippie liking with tapestry and funky furniture). Several books on Buddhism lay on the floor. He meditates.

INT. ISLAND RECORDS OFFICE - DAY

Cat sits in front of the desk of CHRIS BLACKWELL (32) founder of Island Records, energetic and a go-getter.

CHRIS

So what are you looking to do?

CAT

I want to get back in the studio.

CHRIS

I see.

CAT

As you can imagine, I've had a lot of time to write.

(beat)

I've got about 30 new songs.

Chris thinks for a moment.

CHRIS

Have you heard of Paul Samwell-Smith?
From the Yardbirds?

Cat smiles.

CAT

Of course.

CHRIS

He wants to start producing.

CAT

Wow.

CHRIS

I'm actually looking for someone to team
him up with.

Cat nods his head. He knows what Chris is getting at.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

I'd like to hear something you've
written.

Chris motions with his head to a guitar that leans against a
couch in his office.

Cat walks over and picks up the guitar and sits on the couch.

CAT

This is one I wrote about an ex-
girlfriend.

Cat plays his song "Lady D'Arbanville."

Chris' ears perk up. He walks to the front of his desk. He
leans against it as Cat sings.

INT. BASING STREET STUDIOS - DAY

Cat's song "Lady D'Arbanville" continues to play. It cross-
fades into the studio version of the same song.

Cat records the song, complete with BAND.

PAUL SAMWELL-SMITH (26), attentive, friendly -- watches from
the engineering booth.

ALUN DAVIES (early 20's), slightly beefy, quiet -- plays
guitar along side Cat.

Alun and Cat smile at each other as they realize they're on
the same page musically.

INT. CAT'S FLAT - NIGHT

Cat and Katharine sit on throw pillows. They watch the
evening news on television. Cat has his guitar in hand.

TELEVISION ANCHOR (V.O.)
More deaths as the fighting escalates in
Vietnam...

Cat plays the opening riff from the song "Peace Train" a few
times.

The telephone RINGS. Cat answers.

CAT
Hello?

Katharine gets up and walks into the bathroom.

CAT (CONT'D)
Hey Chris. I'm well, thanks.

INT. ISLAND RECORDS OFFICE - NIGHT

Chris sits at his desk.

INTERCUT PHONE CALL

CHRIS
I can make you better than well.

Chris holds the phone in one hand and the latest UK Top 40
Singles Chart in the other.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
"Lady D'Arbanville" has cracked the Top
10.

Cat's face lights up.

CAT
Wow!

CHRIS
Wow, indeed! Are you ready for some more
good news?

CAT
Absolutely!

Chris sets down the Top 40 chart and picks up a check.

CHRIS

I've cut you the first check from your album sales. It's quite handsome.

Katharine comes out of the bathroom and stands in the doorway while Cat continues on the phone.

CAT

How handsome? Richard Burton or Ringo Starr?

Chris LAUGHS.

Thanks, Chris. I don't know what to say.

CHRIS

There's only one thing to say.

Chris takes off his reading glasses.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

You're back, Cat.

Cat smiles and hangs up the phone. Katharine puts her hands on either side of the doorway.

CAT

I'm back in the Top 10!

Cat quickly walks over to Katharine, hugs her and lifts her up. He turns her in a circle.

INT. CAT'S HOUSE, FULHAM, LONDON - DAY

Alun stands in the foyer with his guitar case in hand. The house is pretty empty except for a few boxes.

CAT

I haven't got much furniture yet.

(beat)

But the studio is all set up downstairs.

ALUN

You have your priorities.

Alun stares at the high ceilings and looks around the large house as he follows Cat out of the room.

INT. CAT'S STUDIO

Cat and Alun sit on chairs with their guitars.

CAT

I want to include this one on the next album. It's in G.

Cat begins to play "Father and Son."

CAT (CONT'D)

Just play a little lead along with me.

Alun plays along. Cat nods his head. He likes the way Alun sounds.

CAT (CONT'D)

(singing)

It's not time to make a change. Just relax, take it easy. You're still young, that's your fault...

INT. CAT'S KITCHEN

Cat and Alun's "Father and Son" jam continues to play under the entire scene.

Cat finishes making veggie sandwiches for lunch as Alun looks at a cartoon drawing on the table.

ALUN

I like this. Did you draw it?

CAT

Yeah. Not bad for an art school dropout.

Cat LAUGHS.

ALUN

No. It's great. What's it called?

CAT

"Tea For the Tillerman."

Cat walks over to the table with their two sandwiches on plates.

He describes the drawing that features a tree, two boys and a large, bearded man who drinks tea at a table. Cat points.

CAT (CONT'D)

See, here you have this little boy who's made his way up into the tree to watch the tillerman.

Cat points to the other boy in the drawing.

CAT (CONT'D)

And there is one who didn't quite make it up.

Alun LAUGHS.

CAT (CONT'D)

And the tillerman himself, who is a hard worker, salt of the earth kind of man, drinks his tea.

ALUN

"Tea For the Tillerman."

Alun smiles.

ALUN (CONT'D)

I like it.

EXT. FILLMORE EAST - NIGHT

SUBTITLE: NEW YORK, NY, 1970

The marquee reads, "Traffic with Special Guest Cat Stevens."

"Father and Son" continues to play under.

INT. FILLMORE EAST - NIGHT

Cat and Alun finish the last verses and chorus of "Father and Son" on stage.

The AUDIENCE goes WILD!

INT. FILLMORE EAST DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Cat and Alun sit on couches. Cat towels off the sweat from his performance. Alun drinks a beer.

There's a knock on the door. Alun walks over and slightly opens it. Chris walks in. GROUPIES try to walk in behind him. He tries to close the door with little luck.

CHRIS

Not bad for a U.S. debut!

CAT

No need for us to cut our hair into mop-tops?

Alun LAUGHS.

Chris continues to try and keep the groupies from pushing down the door.

CHRIS

Christ!

Alun and Cat LAUGH.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

You'd think you *were* the bloody Beatles.

Chris finally gets the door closed.

ALUN

Do you want a beer?

CHRIS

Sure.

Alun hands him a bottle of Bass Ale.

ALUN
Directly from The Motherland.

Chris raises the bottle.

CHRIS
God save The Queen!

ALUN
God save The Queen.

Alun and Chris toast.

Cat motions to the door.

CAT
So did you see any lasses out there worth
inviting in?

CHRIS
Go look for yourself. I don't feel like
getting trampled.

Cat and Alun LAUGH.

MONTAGE TAKES PLACE OVER THE NEXT 18 MONTHS.

A live version of Cat Stevens' song "Peace Train" plays
throughout.

INT. TRUBADOR NIGHT CLUB, LOS ANGELES - NIGHT

Cat performs "Peace Train" on stage.

INT. BEVERLY HILLS HILTON, BEVERLY HILLS, CA - DAY

Cat meditates in his room.

SUPER: Billboard Hot 100: 1971 (includes both) "Father and
Son" and "Where Do The Children Play?"

INT. LIMOUSINE - NIGHT

Cat and Alun ride in the back of a limo with several attractive WOMEN.

INT. CHICAGO AUDITORIUM THEATER, CHICAGO, IL - NIGHT

Cat continues to perform "Peace Train" on stage.

SUPER: Billboard Hot 100: 1971, Wild World #11.

INT. AMALFI HOTEL ROOM, CHICAGO - DAY

Cat meditates.

INT. COBO HALL, DETROIT, MI - NIGHT

Cat still performs "Peace Train."

SUPER: Billboard Hot 100: October 9, 1971, "Peace Train" #7.

INT. PONCHATRAIN HOTEL ROOM, DETROIT - NIGHT

Cat has sex with an attractive WOMAN.

INT. LIMOUSINE - NIGHT

Cat and the BAND ride in the back of the limo.

SUPER: Billboard Hot 100: 1971, "Moonshadow " #30.

INT. DINNER KEY AUDITORIUM, MIAMI, FL - NIGHT

Cat continues to perform "Peace Train."

INT. DEAUVILLE HOTEL ROOM, MIAMI BEACH - NIGHT

Cat has sex with another very attractive woman.

INT. DEAUVILLE HOTEL ROOM, MIAMI BEACH - MORNING

Cat meditates.

INT. THE WAREHOUSE, NEW ORLEANS, LA - NIGHT

Cat finishes his performance of "Peace Train."

SUPER: Billboard Hot 100: May 1972, "Morning Has Broken" #8.

MONATGE/SONG END.

INT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - DAY

Cat and Ingrid stand in front of the order-window. Ingrid looks dreamy.

INGRID

Miami sounds wonderful.

CAT

No wonder The Beatles loved it so much.
Sunshine. Palm trees.

Ingrid hints.

INGRID

I have a birthday coming up in April.

Cat smiles.

CAT

April 2nd. I know.

(beat)

So you want to go to The States for your
birthday?

Ingrid looks up and dreams.

INGRID

Miami, New York.

(beat)

Maybe San Francisco.

CAT

Why not Omaha or Des Moines?

Three GIRLS -- (late teens) attractive -- walk into the restaurant. They sit at a table by the window. Ingrid picks up a tray.

Cat takes the tray from her and grabs an apron. He raises his eyebrows and smiles.

CAT (CONT'D)

I'll get this table, Mum.

Ingrid shakes her head.

INGRID

Be my guest.

Cat approaches the girls. They WHISPER

GIRL #1

Oh My God! Is that Cat Stevens?

Girl #2 turns around to see him approaching.

GIRL #2

Don't be a donkey. Why would Cat Stevens be working at a cafe?

GIRL #1

I don't know.

Cat arrives at the table.

CAT

Can I start you girls off with a fizzy drink?

The girls GIGGLE.

GIRL #1

I'll have a Pepsi-Cola.

GIRL #2

That's fine.

GIRL #3

Me, too.

CAT

I'll be right back.

Cat again walks away from the table. He's aware they recognize him.

The girls continue to WHISPER. Girl #2 changes her tune.

GIRL #2

It really does look like him.

GIRL #3

If it isn't Cat Stevens, it must be his twin.

Girl #2 again turns around and watches him fill the sodas.

GIRL #1

I've got a poster of Cat Stevens and that bloke looks *just* like him.

GIRL #2

God! He is cute!

Cat walks back to the table. He is humming "Moonshadow." As he sets the drinks down, he begins to sing softly.

CAT

(singing)

I'm being followed by a moonshadow.
Moonshadow, moonshadow.

He smiles at them.

CAT (CONT'D)

I'll be right back to take your order.

Cat begins to walk away. He resumes his soft singing.

CAT (CONT'D)

(singing)

And if I ever lose my hands. Lose my
plow. Lose my land...

The girls look at each other wide-eyed with jaws dropped.

INT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Cat and Ingrid sit at a table in the closed restaurant dining room.

CAT

You remember the "Teaser" album cover?

INGRID

I loved that drawing of your little
nephew Bobby and his cat.

CAT

Well, I'm making an animated cartoon of
it. I want it to play on a big screen
above the stage during the next tour.

INGRID

Aren't you doing enough?

CAT

Never.

INGRID

How have you been feeling?

CAT

You know, it's amazing how much
meditating has helped.

INGRID

When you were in the hospital, you said
you wanted to find something that you
could believe in. Have you found it?

CAT

I don't know if I'll ever find it, Mum.

(beat)

But I do know that right now I feel much more grounded.

Cat smiles.

CAT (CONT'D)

I'm spiritually content.

INGRID

But are you happy?

Cat ignores the question.

CAT

My next album has a Buddhist flavor in the title. I'm calling it "Catch Bull At Four."

Ingrid looks confused.

INGRID

Sorry?

CAT

It's Buddhist. It's part of the 10 steps that the spiritual traveler must take. Number four is catching the bull.

(beat)

If you're interested, I'll get you a book on Buddhism for your birthday.

(beat)

That is unless you still want to go to The States.

INT. CHATEAU D' HEROUVILLE STUDIOS, PARIS - DAY

SUBTITLE: PARIS, 1972

Cat and the band are recording the song "Can't Keep It In."

CAT

(singing)

Oh I cant keep it in, I cant keep it in,
I've gotta let it out. I've got to show
the world, world's got to see, see all
the love, love that's in me...

Alun messes up his guitar part.

Cat looks very frustrated.

CAT (CONT'D)

Stop tape! Stop!

The band stops playing.

CAT (CONT'D)

It goes back to E after D, Alun!

(beat)

Let's take five.

Cat walks out of the studio and into the now empty
engineering booth.

The band sits around and TALKS. Paul Samwell-Smith walks up
and approaches Alun.

INT. ENGINEERING BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Cat lights a cigarette. The microphones are still on and he
overhears Paul and Alun talk.

PAUL (O.S.)

Oh, I meant to tell you I have studio
time for us booked at Morgan Studios back
in London.

Cat turns up the volume of the microphones to hear better.

ALUN (O.S.)

Brilliant.

PAUL (O.S.)

We should have about a month to put it
together before you leave for Cat's tour.

Cat starts to get angry as he listens.

INT. CHATEAU D' HEROUVILLE STUDIOS - CONTINUOUS

ALUN

I'm really excited. Think it's going to sound great. I've written a few more songs.

PAUL

I just ask that you be organized. If we can get the sessions done in a week, it will leave us three more for production.

Cat's clearly upset. He walks back into the studio.

INT. CHATEAU D' HEROUVILLE STUDIOS - MOMENTS LATER

Cat and the band are settled back in and commence recording "Can't Keep It In."

Cat's irritated as he plays.

CAT

(singing)

Oh I cant keep it in, I cant keep it in,
I've gotta let it out. I've got to show
the world, world's got to see, see all
the love, love that's in me...

Again, Cat abruptly stops the recording.

CAT (CONT'D)

This is bloody crap!

The band stops. They don't know why Cat's upset.

ALUN

What is it?

Cat looks at Alun.

CAT

You're not even paying attention, are you?

ALUN

I went back to E after D. Just like you said.

Cat snaps.

CAT

Is your head *here* or in your own damn project?

Alun looks down. He knows why Cat is upset. He WHISPERS.

ALUN

Christ.

Cat drops his guitar and walks out of the studio.

INT. HOTEL PLAZA ATHENEE, PARIS - NIGHT

Cat wears only his jeans. He chants/meditates in his hotel room. Candles light the room. Classical music plays.

CAT

Nam myoho renge kyo. Nam myoho renge kyo.
Nam myoho renge kyo.

Cat is interrupted by a knock at the door. He gets up and opens the door to find Paul.

PAUL

Am I interrupting something?

Cat leaves the door open and walks back in. Paul follows.

PAUL (CONT'D)

Cat, I'm so sorry for not being upfront with you about Alun's album.

Cat sits down and closes his eyes. He listens to the music still playing.

PAUL (CONT'D)

He was afraid to talk to you about it.

(beat)

He thought you might not understand.

Cat continues to say nothing. He sits with his eyes closed.

PAUL (CONT'D)

I can assure you that his head and heart
are with *you* and this album.

Cat seems to be almost ignoring Paul. He put his hands behind his head and finally speaks.

CAT

I love the sound of strings.

PAUL

Yeah. They're nice.

(beat)

Look, you and Alun have to bury the
hatchet.

CAT

I want to have an orchestra on the next
tour.

PAUL

Cat. Bury it--please!

EXT. HOLLYWOOD BOWL - NIGHT

SUBTITLE: LOS ANGELES, 1972

Cat's animated short FILM "Teaser and The Firecat" plays
before a sold-out AUDIENCE.

Upon the film's ending, Cat and his band, complete with an
ORCHESTRA, come out on stage.

CAT

I hope you enjoyed my first attempt at a
film.

The crowd ERUPTS. Cat smiles.

CAT (CONT'D)

If there are any members of the Oscar's nominating committee here tonight, I'll be sure to get you a personal copy.

The crowd LAUGHS.

CAT (CONT'D)

Here's something from the new album.

The crowd again APPLAUDS.

Cat and the band perform the first few verses of the song "Sitting."

CAT (CONT'D)

(singing)

Oh I'm on my way, I know I am,
somewhere not so far from here.
All I know is all I feel right now, I
feel the power growing in my hair...

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Cat is on the phone. He's depressed.

The song "Sitting" continues to play under.

INT. KATHARINE'S FLAT, LONDON - NIGHT

Talks on the phone with Cat.

INTERCUT PHONE CALL

KATHARINE

How's the tour going?

CAT

I'm not happy.

KATHARINE

Oh sweetie. What's wrong?

CAT

I've had a falling out with some of the band.

KATHARINE

I'm sorry.

CAT

I'm just getting tired of these blokes.

KATHARINE

It can't be easy.

CAT

It's not.

KATHARINE

I saw "Catch Bull At Four" went #1 in The States. That's got to cheer you up a bit.

CAT

Not really. My first number one album in the U.S. and I don't even feel like celebrating.

INT. ROYAL ALBERT HALL, LONDON - NIGHT

The song "Sitting" continues to play as we see Cat perform on stage to a sold-out crowd.

CAT

(singing)

Oh I'm on my way, I know I am, somewhere not so far from here.

All I know is all I feel right now, I feel the power growing in my hair.

SONG ENDS.

INT. BACKSTAGE, ROYAL ALBERT HALL - NIGHT

Cat and David sit alone in the dressing room.

DAVID

How much time will you have off before you guys start recording the next album?

CAT

Next album? With them? I'm not recording with them.

David looks shocked.

DAVID

You're serious?

CAT

I am. The next album will not include any of those sods.

DAVID

Not even on a tour?

Cat gets up and walks over to pour a glass of water.

CAT

I've got my number one album. Let them fucking tour with Alun.

INT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - DAY

Alun walks in and spots David, who sits at a table.

ALUN

Hey David.

DAVID

Hey, Mate.

ALUN

I've been trying to ring your brother for over a week. Do you know where I might find him?

David looks away for a moment.

DAVID
Look. Have a seat.

ALUN
What is it?

Alun sits down.

DAVID
Steven's in Jamaica.

ALUN
Oh.

Alun looks relieved.

ALUN (CONT'D)
Good for him. He needed a holiday.

DAVID
He's not on holiday.
(beat)
He's recording his next album.

Alun looks shocked.

ALUN
What?

Alun smiles.

ALUN (CONT'D)
You're joking, right?

DAVID
I'm not joking, Alun.

Alun gets up. He looks crushed. He paces.

ALUN
This is unbelievable.

DAVID

He's going through a lot right now. I think he just needs time.

ALUN

What about Paul?

DAVID

Steven's producing the album himself.

Alun sits back down and leans heavily on the table.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Let me get you some tea, Mate.

David gets up and walks toward the kitchen.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

The Cat Stevens' song "Trouble" plays throught the scene.

Cat sits in his seat and stares out the window over the ocean. He looks lost.

Cat empties out his pockets on the tray table. Keys, billfold, a Buddha figurine and a small box of chocolate.

He picks up the Buddha in one hand and looks at it.

He then picks up the box of chocolate in his other hand and looks at it.

He sits up and looks very pensive. He studies the two items in his hands once more.

He looks up. He no longer has the "lost look" on his face.

INT. DAVID'S CAR - NIGHT

David drives as Cat sits next to him.

CAT

Something hit me. In one hand, I was holding the Buddha--the spiritual world.

(MORE)

CAT (CONT'D)

And in the other hand, a box of
chocolate...

DAVID

The material world.

CAT

Precisely. I'm trapped between the two.

Cat stares out the side window.

CAT (CONT'D)

That's my problem.

INT. CAT'S LIVING ROOM, FULHAM - NIGHT

Cat and Alun sit on the floor drinking tea.

CAT

It's hard to describe. Sometimes I feel
like I'm trapped in the eye of a
hurricane.

ALUN

I don't think I've ever really thought of
things from your perspective.

CAT

For the first time since I was in the
hospital, I'm feeling lost.

ALUN

Your epiphany?

CAT

Yeah. I feel like I'm caught between two
worlds.

(beat)

And I feel so lonely. Really lonely.

Cat sips his tea.

CAT (CONT'D)

The trip to Jamaica really made me realize I have to strengthen my spirituality.

Alun smiles. He does his best Jamaican accent.

ALUN

Good ganja will do that to you, Mon.

They both LAUGH.

INT. MALIBU OCEAN HOUSE, MALIBU, CA - DAY

SUBTITLE: MALIBU, CA 1975

Paul makes lunch. Cat, Alun, BANDMATES hang out at the home of JERRY MOSS (40) record executive, wealthy.

CAT

It's the beliefs in a mystical relationship between numbers and physical objects or living things.

ALUN

I don't understand.

CAT

Everything in the universe has a number pattern. Whether it's atomic structure or a math equation. So numerology basically places faith in numerical patterns.

Cat looks out the window.

CAT (CONT'D)

I'm going to take a swim. Is that alright, Jerry?

JERRY

Be my guest. There are towels in the mudroom.

CAT

Great.

(beat)

How much time til lunch's ready, Paul?

PAUL

About 15 minutes.

Alun smiles.

ALUN

What would numerology say about a 15-minute swim?

PAUL

It would say it has to be a quick one.

Alun LAUGHS. Cat smiles as he heads for the door.

CAT

I'm glad you're enjoying yourselves on my behalf.

Everyone LAUGHS.

EXT. MALIBU BEACH - DAY

Very overcast and windy conditions. The ocean is choppy.

Cat takes off his shirt. He wades out in the water.

The waves are strong. Cat begins to swim out.

He sees some seaweed and swims towards it. The undercurrent won't let him get there. It pulls him out farther in the ocean.

The strong undertow continues to pull him out. He gets farther and farther from the shore.

Cat begins to try and swim back, but the undertow keeps carrying him out farther. He's a quarter mile from the shore.

The undercurrent won't let up. Cat knows something is wrong. He is scared.

CAT

Help! Somebody help!

No one is on the shore. He struggles. He waves his arms as he continues to yell.

CAT (CONT'D)

Help! Somebody, Please! Help!

He gulps some water and COUGHS. He begins to panic. His head goes underwater. He's even farther from the shore.

Cat looks up, almost hopeless.

CAT (CONT'D)

God! If you save me, I'll work for you.

With the tide moving out, suddenly a small wave comes up from behind him. He begins swimming toward the shore, riding the wave.

He gets closer and begins swimming even faster.

Cat crawls up on the beach, breathing extremely heavily. He rolls over on his back. Tears flow from his eyes.

CAT (CONT'D)

Thank you, God.

INT. GRANDE BRETAGNE HOTEL SUITE, ATHENS, GREECE - DAY

SUBTITLE: ATHENS, GREECE

Cat sits slumped on a couch and looks down. Katharine sits across from him on a chair.

KATHARINE

What's going on, Steven?

CAT

I'm miserable.

She reaches for his hand and squeezes it.

CAT (CONT'D)

I'm tired of this lifestyle.

She looks around the room and smiles.

KATHARINE

It doesn't look too bad to me.

CAT

You know what I mean.

KATHARINE

I guess?

CAT

I'm tired of touring, living out of suitcases, meeting record company expectations, being unmarried, no children...

KATHARINE

So what do you want to do?

Cat lets out a big sigh. He looks at Katharine.

CAT

I want to get off.

KATHARINE

Sorry?

CAT

I want to get off this ride. I want to be free. And until I know better--until I know how music can fit in to this whole thing, or how I can express myself in a new way, perhaps I should take a break.

KATHARINE

Are you saying what I think you are saying?

CAT

Katharine. My happiness and my spiritual fulfillment are much bigger than music. Much bigger.

She's not convinced.

KATHARINE

Okay.

CAT

And since my experience in Malibu, it's really put my life in a whole new perspective.

KATHARINE

I can understand that.

CAT

Maybe it's time to make good on that promise I made to God.

KATHARINE

I think making people happy with your music is, in a sense, working for God.

CAT

So? I'm supposed to keep on doing this just to make my fans happy?

KATHARINE

Of course not.

CAT

I want to make myself happy, Katharine. For once.

INT. BACKSTAGE KARAIKAKI STADIUM, PIRAEUS, GREECE - NIGHT

Cat's limps from the back door. He carries his guitar case. Alun approaches him.

ALUN

What in the hell happened to you?

CAT

I decided to take a swim in the
Mediterranean and stepped on a bloody
jellyfish.

ALUN

Ouch!

CAT

It doesn't feel too pleasant.

Alun smiles.

ALUN

You haven't had real good luck swimming
in large bodies of water. Perhaps you
should stick to swimming pools.

CAT

Funny.

ALUN

Did you hear about tonight's show?

CAT

What?

ALUN

I guess students have exams tomorrow and
they're only expecting a half-full house.

CAT

You're fucking kidding?

ALUN

I wish I were.

Cat gets angry.

CAT

Where in the hell is the Athens'
promoter?

ALUN
I don't know.

CAT
God Dammit!

INT. FRONT OFFICE OF KARAISKAKI STADIUM - DAY

Cat, very upset, confronts the ATHENS PROMOTER (40's) Greek.

CAT
This is bullshit!

Cat slams his fist on his desk.

ATHENS PROMOTER
I'm sorry, Mr. Stevens.

CAT
Isn't your job to know these kinds of things? What in the hell are we paying you for?

ATHENS PROMOTER
It must have been an oversight.

CAT
An oversight? You're fucking kidding me, right?

ATHENS PROMOTER
I'm very sorry.

CAT
"Very sorry" isn't going to fill this God-damned stadium!

ATHENS PROMOTER
Maybe we can reschedule.

CAT
Reschedule? When? We fly out tomorrow morning.

ATHENS PROMOTER

Look, I'm sorry.

Cat walks over to him and pushes him up against the wall. He cocks his fist and then retreats.

CAT

You ARE sorry! A sorry sod!

Cat lets go of him and storms out of the office.

INT. KARAISKAKI STADIUM - NIGHT

Cat and his band are playing Cat's song "Where Do The Children Play?"

CAT

(singing)

Well I think it's fine, building jumbo
planes.

The monitors on stage cut in and out. He yells off-stage.

CAT (CONT'D)

These monitors are cutting out on me.

(singing)

Or taking a ride on a cosmic train.

Cat's upset. He looks at Alun.

CAT (CONT'D)

What the hell?

(singing)

Switch on summer from a slot machine.
Yes, get what you want to if you want,
'cause you can get anything.

Cat YELLS into the microphone at the SOUND MAN.

CAT (CONT'D)

These monitors are cutting out!

(singing)

I know we've come a long way.

(MORE)

CAT (CONT'D)
We're changing day to day,
But tell me, where do the children play?

INT. KARAISKAKI STADIUM - NIGHT

Cat is not happy. He sings "Father and Son"

CAT
(singing)
Find a girl, settle down, if you want you
can marry. Look at me, I am old, but I'm
happy.

EXT. OCEAN WATERS - DAY

The song continues to play live. We see a moment of the
drowning scene.

CAT (O.S.)
(singing)
All the times that I cried, keeping all
the things I knew inside. It's hard, but
it's harder to ignore it.

INT. KARAISKAKI STADIUM - NIGHT

Cat has no energy. He just stares straight ahead.

CAT
(singing)
If they were right, I'd agree, but it's
them they know not me. Now there's a way
and I know that I have to go away.

Cat has a completely dazed look on his face.

CAT (CONT'D)
(singing)
I know I have to go.

Cat drops his guitar and walks off stage as the audience
APPLAUDS.

His bandmates look shocked and confused.

ALUN

I don't know. He's probably just cooling off.

(beat)

Let's do "Was Dog a Doughnut." He'll be back.

INT. BACKSTAGE KARAIKAKI STADIUM - NIGHT

Cat walks very determined through the bowels of stadium.

He opens the back door and walks out.

EXT. KARAIKAKI STADIUM - NIGHT

Cat hails a taxi.

Cat gets in the taxi and it drives off.

INT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

SUBTITLE: July 21, 1976

Cat, Katharine, David, Anita and Stavros sit in the dining room of the restaurant. They just finished dinner. Cat LAUGHS. He looks happy.

Ingrid yells at Stavros from the kitchen.

INGRID

Now, Stavros!

Stavros gets up quickly and turns out the lights in the dining room.

Ingrid comes out with a dolmade lit with a candle.

EVERYONE (SINGING)

Happy Birthday, dear Steven. Happy
Birthday to you.

Everyone CLAPS. David WHISTLES.

Ingrid sets the dolamde down in front of Cat. He LAUGHS.

INGRID

Make a wish!

Cat closes his eyes and blows out the candle. Everyone CLAPS.

INT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER

Cat opens gifts. David hands him another. Cat feels its shape.

CAT

Feels like a book.

There's laughter.

DAVID

Not just any book.

Cat opens the gift. It's The Qur'an. He stares at it for a moment.

CAT

The holy book of Islam.

DAVID

I visited this mosque when I was in Jerusalem earlier this year.

CAT

Interesting.

DAVID

I know how much you like reading books on spirituality. I bet you haven't read this.

Cat nods and opens the book.

CAT

Can't say I have.

INT. CAT'S FLAT - NIGHT

Cat is in his old red room. It's now pretty barren. Just the single bed in which he sits and a lamp under which he reads the Qur'an.

EXT. ROOFTOP - MORNING

Cat eats his breakfast. He reads the Qur'an. David approaches.

CAT

It's compelling. I can't put it down.

DAVID

I'm glad you like it.

CAT

The first name in this book is God's name. I didn't even know Muslims believed in God.

Cat looks back at the book.

CAT (CONT'D)

All the prophets are mentioned in here. Jesus, Abraham, Moses, Noah--it's really quite...amazing.

Cat closes the book.

CAT (CONT'D)

It may sound strange, but I feel like this book is much more familiar to me than foreign.

David smiles.

DAVID

Should I go get a towel for you to put on your head?

CAT

I'm serious, man. Of all of the spirituality I have studied: Buddhism, Zen, I Ching, Numerology, Astrology, Christianity...this seems to make the most sense.

DAVID

Really?

CAT

Who knows? Maybe it's the structure and path I have been looking for.

(beat)

So tell me more about this mosque you visited.

David sits down next to him.

DAVID

Well, it's in The Old City in Jerusalem. It's situated on this hill...

EXT. THE NEW GATE, JERUSALEM - DAY

CAT STEVENS'S SONG "ON THE ROAD TO FIND OUT" PLAYS THROUGH THE ENTIRE SCENE.

A Mercedes taxi pulls up at The New Gate.

Cat looks out of the taxi and up at the Dome Of The Rock Mosque atop of a large hill.

Cat gets out of the taxi and walks through the gate and enters The Old City.

EXT. THE OLD CITY - DAY

Cat walks up the hill towards the Dome Of The Rock.

EXT. THE DOME OF THE ROCK MOSQUE - DAY

Cat stops and stares at the amazing structure. He seems in awe.

Cat walks up to the entrance.

As he's about to open the door, two ISLAMIC MEN (50's) bearded, wearing full Muslim attire and VERY serious -- step in front of Cat.

ISLAMIC MAN #1

Who are you?

ISLAMIC MAN #2

What business do you have at this place of worship?

Cat senses these men are here to protect the Mosque. He looks up at the building and back at the men.

CAT

I'm a Muslim.

The men nod their heads at Cat and step aside for him to enter.

INT. THE DOME OF THE ROCK MOSQUE - DAY

Cat slowly walks around the inside of the mosque, viewing the artwork and absorbing the history.

Cat sits against one of the walls. He opens The Qur'an.

YUNUS (60's) wise, Muslim -- approaches.

YUNUS

As-Salamu `Alaykum. Welcome, my friend.
My name is Yunus.

Cat nods and smiles. They CONVERSE while the song continues to play.

Cat follows him into a room.

INT. THE DOME OF THE ROCK MOSQUE - MOMENTS LATER

Cat and Yunus emerge from the room. Cat now wears a kutra shirt and kufi headdress.

YUNUS

Come pray with me, Steven.

SONG ENDS

INT. ISLAND RECORDS OFFICE - DAY

Cat sits on a chair in front of Chris' desk. His beard has gotten a bit longer and his hair a bit shorter. He has the Qur'an in his hand.

CHRIS

I'm not going to lie to you. Walking away in the middle of the Majikat Tour has not been easy on me.

Cat listens.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

It's brought a lot of pressure on the label from the promoter, both financially and business-wise.

Cat rolls his eyes.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

We either need to reschedule those dates or you're going to have to come up with a big-chunk of change, Cat.

Cat looks down at the Qur'an.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

Between the performers contracts, the Majikat theatrical production, sound and lighting, roadies, the venues, the promotions company, it's close to a million pounds.

Cat doesn't hesitate.

CAT

I'll pay for it. I'm not touring again, Chris.

Cat gets up and walks toward the door.

CHRIS

You know your contract still obligates
you to do one more album.

Cat doesn't look back.

EXT. REGENTS PARK MOSQUE - DAY

SUBTITLE: December 23, 1977

Sleet comes down as Cat approaches the London mosque.

As he opens the front door, a FAMILY exits.

Cat makes eye contact with a woman, FAUZIA ALI (early 20's)
very attractive, brunette, innocent yet wise. Her father,
MR. ALI (50's) Muslim, bearded, serious -- greets Cat.

MR. ALI

As-Salamu `Alaykum.

CAT

Alaykum As-Salaam.

Cat holds the door open for the family and then enters the
mosque.

INT. REGENTS PARK MOSQUE - DAY

Cat walks around the inside of the prayer hall. He looks up
at the dome.

MOHAMMAD ZAKI BADAWI (late 50's) Egyptian, friendly, the IMAM
of the mosque -- approaches Cat from behind.

IMAM BADAWI

As-Salamu `Alaykum.

Cat turns around.

CAT

Alaykum As-Salaam.

IMAM BADAWI
May I help you?

CAT
I think so.
(beat)
My name is Steven.

Imam Badawi shakes his hand.

IMAM BADAWI
Hello, Steven. I'm Mohammad Zaki Badawi.

CAT
It's a pleasure, Sir.
(beat)
I'm actually here to...

Cat looks up again at the dome over his head.

CAT (CONT'D)
I'm here to formally embrace Islam.

IMAM BADAWI
That's very good. I happen to be the Imam
of the mosque. Why don't you come with
me.

Cat smiles and follows him out of the prayer hall.

INT. IMAM'S OFFICE - DAY

The Imam is seated at his desk. Cat sits across from him.

CAT
I have been studying the Qur'an for over
a year now.

Cat smiles.

CAT (CONT'D)
I think I'm ready.

The Imam nods his head.

IMAM BADAWI

Islam is more than just a religion.

(beat)

It's a way of life.

Cat listens.

IMAM BADAWI (CONT'D)

What also makes Islam so beautiful is the fulfillment one gets out of helping others.

Cat nods as he listens.

IMAM BADAWI (CONT'D)

The tight-knit community we have here in London can also be quite fulfilling.

Cat smiles.

CAT

I like that.

IMAM BADAWI

There are just a few questions I have for you.

CAT

By all means.

IMAM BADAWI

Do you believe there is just one God?

CAT

Yes. Absolutely.

The Imam nods his head.

IMAM BADAWI

Do you believe Muhammad is a messenger of God?

CAT

This book was not made up by human beings. It's too perfect. And Muhammad was the last prophet to receive this book. So, yes, I believe that Muhammad is a messenger of God.

IMAM BADAWI

You are ready for Shahadah. Now repeat what I say.

Cat nods.

IMAM BADAWI (CONT'D)

Ash-hadu an la illaha illa Allah wa Ash-hadu anna Muhammadan Rasulullah.

CAT

Ash-hadu an la illaha illa Allah wa Ash-hadu anna Muhammadan Rasulullah.

IMAM BADAWI

Now repeat what you just said in English, which is: I testify that no one is worthy of worship but God and I testify that Muhammad is the Messenger of God.

CAT

I testify that no one is worthy of worship but God and I testify that Muhammad is the Messenger of God.

IMAM BADAWI

Allahu Akbar.

CAT

Allahu Akbar.

IMAM BADAWI

God is great!

Cat smiles.

CAT
God *is* great!

IMAM BADAWI
Congratulations, Steven.

The Imam gives Steven a hug.

IMAM BADAWI (CONT'D)
Welcome to the Muslim community and to
the Islamic faith.

Cat smiles.

INT. REGENTS PARK MOSQUE - DAY

Cat has very short hair, a long beard and wears Muslim attire. He is now known as YUSUF ISLAM. He converses with the Ali family. Fauzia stands next to her father.

YUSUF
What did you think of the Khutba last
Friday?

Though speaking with Mr. Ali, Yusuf's eyes go back and forth between Fauzia and her father.

MR. ALI
It was nice.

Fauzia smiles at Yusuf.

YUSUF
I quite enjoyed it. I seem to be learning
something new every day.

MR. ALI
That's good, Yusuf.

Yusuf continues to eye Fauzia as he speaks with Mr. Ali.

YUSUF
Are you planning to attend the Islamic
Circle tomorrow?

Mr. Ali knows Yusuf is an Islamic neophyte but he indulges Yusuf's enthusiasm.

MR. ALI

If I have time.

YUSUF

I haven't missed one yet.

Mr. Ali smiles.

MR. ALI

That doesn't surprise me.

(beat)

Why don't you come over to our home and join us for tea?

Yusuf and Fauzia continue to gaze at each other.

YUSUF

I'd like that very much.

Imam Badawi rushes up to the them. He looks very serious.

IMAM BADAWI

Yusuf, you have a telephone call. It appears to be quite urgent.

YUSUF

Thank you.

Yusuf turns back to the Ali family.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

I'll speak with you soon.

(beat)

As-Salamu `Alaykum.

ALI FAMILY

Alaykum As-Salaam.

Yusuf quickly follows Imam Badawi.

EXT. LONDON CEMETERY

CAT STEVENS' SONG "INTO WHITE" PLAYS THROUGH THE ENTIRE SCENE.

It's cold and overcast as a Greek Orthodox MINISTER (60's)
Greek -- reads the eulogy of Stavros.

MINISTER

Stavros Georgiou was a very loved man.
He came to England in the 1930's with the
dream of a better life...

Ingrid sits between Yusuf and Anita. David sits next to
Yusuf. Katharine sits behind Yusuf with her hand on his
shoulder.

MINISTER (CONT'D)

...He soon found that better life when he
met Ingrid. Their three beautiful
children brought him much happiness...

Yusuf remembers his father through a MONTAGE of Stavros from
previous scenes.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Stavros LAUGHS with Steven.

INT. GEORGIOU LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Stavros dances with Ingrid.

STAVROS

Opa!

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Stavros puts his arm around Steven and gives him a half-hug.

EXT. LONDON CEMETERY - DAY

Yusuf cries as he remembers.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Stavros throws a piece of cucumber at Steven.

INT. HALLWAY

Stavros argues with Steven.

STAVROS

Son, it's *that* lifestyle that got you sick in the first place.

INT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Stavros gives Katharine a bear-hug as Cat watches.

STAVROS

My little angel.

INT. MOULIN ROUGE RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Stavros sings "Happy Birthday" to Cat with the family.

STAVROS

Happy Birthday, dear Steven...

EXT. LONDON CEMETERY - DAY

Yusuf walks away from the memorial service with his arm around Ingrid.

SONG ENDS.

EXT. CAFE, LONDON - DAY

Yusuf and Katharine sit. Each have tea in front of them.

KATHARINE

So what's the exciting news you have?

Yusuf smiles.

YUSUF

Are you ready?

Katharine smiles back.

KATHARINE

Ready as ever.

YUSUF

I'm engaged to be married!

Katharine's smile turns to surprise, then confusion. She shakes her head.

KATHARINE

What? To whom?

YUSUF

Her name is Fauzia Ali.

Yusuf looks up and fantasizes.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

She's beautiful.

(beat)

I know her parents quite well. I asked her father's permission to marry her. And he granted my wish.

Katharine is upset.

KATHARINE

I can't believe this!

YUSUF

It's the Muslim tradition of marriage. I think it's quite romantic.

Katharine looks completely bemused. She's almost in tears.

KATHARINE

I don't know you anymore, Steven.

(beat)

Or YUSUF!

Katharine gets up and quickly up rushes out of the cafe.

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - NIGHT

An English TALKSHOW HOST (late 30's) cocky -- speaks on camera.

TALKSHOW HOST
Cat Stevens has gone mad!

There are clips from Yusuf's performance at a UNICEF benefit.

Yusuf speaks on camera.

YUSUF
I enjoyed the show *but* my heart was with Allah.

We again see the talkshow Host.

HOST
Well, Mr. Islam, your heart should have been with UNICEF!

They show more of the clip of Yusuf speaking on camera.

YUSUF (CONT'D)
I don't think I'll be performing on stage again...that's not the way I want to go from now on.

The talkshow host comments on the clip.

TALKSHOW HOST
Like we really care! It's obvious Cat Stevens has turned into some Muslim radical...

Yusuf's voice interrupts the television program.

YUSUF (O.S.)
Turn it off Fauzia! Please!

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S LIVING ROOM, HAMPSTEAD GARDEN -
CONTINUOUS

Fauzia walks up to the television and turns it off. Yusuf sits on the couch very upset.

YUSUF
I can't believe this!

FAUZIA
I know.

YUSUF
I feel so misinterpreted. So
misunderstood.

Fauzia sits back down next to him.

FAUZIA
They may never understand, Yusuf.
(beat)
Allah tells us "he who brings the Truth
and he who confirms it--such are the men
who do right."

YUSUF
I remember.

FAUZIA
That man on the television, the media,
the naysayers--they are not speaking the
truth.

Yusuf nods his head in agreement.

YUSUF
So they aren't the men who do right.

FAUZIA
Precisely.

Fauzia reaches over and takes his hands.

FAUZIA (CONT'D)

Just continue to do what is right in the eyes of God. That's all that matters.

Yusuf lifts her hands to his mouth and kisses them.

YUSUF

I love you Fauzia.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - DAY

Yusuf, David, Ingrid, Anita and Mr. and Mrs. Ali are all seated. Yusuf has his head in his hands. He looks worried.

David gets up and walks over to Yusuf.

DAVID

C'mon. Let's go grab a tea, Mate.

Yusuf gets up and follows David out of the waiting room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

Yusuf and David walk together.

YUSUF

I'm so worried about Fauzia.

David puts his hand on Yusuf's shoulder.

DAVID

Of course you are.

Yusuf looks around.

YUSUF

And I remember the last time I was in this place.

DAVID

But, hey, you left here healthy and so will Fauzia.

INT. KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - DAY

Ingrid talks with Fauzia's father. The families intermingle.

Yusuf and David return carrying cups of tea. They sit down.

YUSUF

Any news?

Ingrid puts her hand on Yusuf's knee.

INGRID

Not yet, dear.

Suddenly a FEMALE DOCTOR (40's) enters.

FEMALE DOCTOR

Mr. Islam?

Yusuf quickly stands up.

YUSUF

Yes.

The doctor looks down. Everyone is worried. She then looks up and smiles.

FEMALE DOCTOR

Congratulations! Your wife has given birth to a lovely, healthy baby girl.

Everyone suddenly gets up with BIG smiles. Yusuf looks relieved.

David hugs Yusuf.

EXT. REGENTS PARK, LONDON - DAY

Yusuf, Fauzia and newborn baby HASANAH -- dark curly hair, adorable -- sit on a blanket in the park. It's a beautiful, sunny day.

The Cat Stevens song "Two Fine People" plays.

Yusuf looks at Hasanah.

YUSUF

She has my father's eyes.

Fauzia rubs Yusuf's hand. She has a sympathetic look on her face, as she understands Yusuf misses his father.

Yusuf gives Hasanah an Eskimo KISS. Fauzia LAUGHS.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

I thank Allah every moment I get. If it weren't for Islam, I would not have met you. I would not have this beautiful gift of life in Hasanah. I would not feel so grounded.

Fauzia smiles.

FAUZIA

As do I. He brought us all together.

Yusuf lies on his back and looks up to the sky.

YUSUF

I just want to make sure I'm doing everything right. Everything right in the eyes of God.

(beat)

But I have so much more to learn.

Fauzia picks up Hasanah and gently rocks her in her arms.

FAUZIA

I think you're doing wonderfully. Taking on a new religion is much more difficult when you're not born into it.

YUSUF

I just have so many questions.

(beat)

For instance, I would love to write a song for Hasanah, but I'm not sure what the rules are for music in Islamic culture. Is it forbidden?

Yusuf looks at Fauzia.

FAUZIA

There is no mention of music being forbidden in the Qur'an. There is actually only one mention of music in all of Muhammad's teachings.

Yusuf props himself up.

YUSUF

Please. Go on.

FAUZIA

Muhammad tells a story where he was walking with a boy. They heard the sound of music. Muhammad covered the boy's ears until they passed and the music could no longer be heard. When he took his hands away from the boys ears, he said, "that music was haraam" or forbidden.

YUSUF

So music *is* forbidden.

Fauzia smiles.

FAUZIA

Not necessarily. It could have just been that the particular music they heard was haraam.

Yusuf looks confused.

YUSUF

I don't follow.

FAUZIA

You see, there is no further mention of music in Muhammad's writings or to the followers at his mosque.

Yusuf smiles.

YUSUF

Well, maybe that music they heard was rock n roll. I probably shouldn't take any chances.

INT. AUCTION HOUSE, LONDON - DAY

Yusuf sits in the back of a large room filled with BIDDERS, the MEDIA and FANS. All of his musical instruments, gold records and recording equipment sit on a stage. The AUCTIONEER (late 50's) very proper -- stands in front of a microphone.

AUCTIONEER

Welcome to this afternoon's auction. The items up to bid today are all owned by Yusuf Islam, formerly Cat Stevens. The proceeds of today's event will benefit UNICEF.

The crowd APPLAUDS. A few FLASHBULBS go off. Yusuf nods. He looks quite content.

AUCTIONEER (CONT'D)

Shall we begin?

(beat)

OK. The first item up for bid is a gold record issued to Cat Stevens on May 12, 1971 for the album sales of "Tea For The Tillerman." We'll begin the bidding at 1000 pounds.

Bidders begin to raise hands and SHOUT OUT bids.

INT. AUCTION HOUSE - LATER

Alun and Paul arrive and sit on the far side of the auction house. About half of the items are no longer on stage. The auctioneer continues.

AUCTIONEER

The next item up for bid today is a 1971
Gibson J200 acoustic guitar with electric
pick-ups. We'll begin the bidding at
£3000.

Suddenly Alun perks up. He quickly raises his hand.

AUCTIONEER (CONT'D)

We have £3000.

A BIDDER (Late 40's) snappy dresser -- raises his hand.

BIDDER

4000.

Alun immediately counters.

ALUN

4500.

Yusuf recognizes Alun's voice. He's amused and shakes his
head.

AUCTIONEER

4500 is the bid.

The bidder confidently raises his hand.

BIDDER

£5000.

Alun looks at Paul. He knows he's spending too much.

ALUN

6500.

Yusuf shakes his head. What is he doing?

BIDDER

£7000.

INT. AUCTION HOUSE LOBBY - DAY

Alun walks through the lobby carrying a guitar case. Yusuf approaches.

YUSUF

Alun, what were you doing? Why did you buy that guitar?

Alun hugs him and smiles

ALUN

And greetings to you, as well, my good friend.

Yusuf realizes he didn't even say "hello."

YUSUF

I'm sorry. Hello Alun.

Yusuf finishes his original thought.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

It's just that if you wanted that guitar, I would have given it to you, you know.

(beat)

To spend all that money...

ALUN

I know this money is all going to charity and I wanted to help out.

YUSUF

That's very kind.

ALUN

Besides, I know this is your favorite guitar.

Alun smiles, almost a little embarrassed.

ALUN (CONT'D)

Should you ever decide to play again, I'll have it right here for you.

EXT. MAKKAH (MECCA), SAUDI ARABIA - DAY

SUBTITLE: MAKKAH, SAUDI ARABIA, 1980

YUSUF ISLAM'S SONG "MAYBE THERE'S A WORLD" PLAYS THROUGHOUT THIS ENTIRE SCENE/MONTAGE.

Thousands of PEOPLE surround the mosque.

Yusuf seems in awe of the holy site.

Yusuf, with OTHERS, walks counter-clockwise around the Kaaba seven times, in a ritual called the Tawaf.

We HEAR the call to prayer.

Yusuf prays with many other people.

He reads the Qur'an in the mosque.

EXT. BALCONY OF THE MAKKAH INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL - DUSK

Yusuf, alone, looks out over the city. It's very obvious in this moment he has found bliss.

MONTAGE/SONG END

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S ATTIC, HAMPSTEAD GARDEN - DAY

Fauzia searches for something among a bunch of boxes. She stumbles upon a crate of Cat Stevens records.

She plugs in an old turntable she finds in a pile of junk and drops the needle down on the song "Sad Lisa."

The song PLAYS and she smiles as she looks at the album covers and inserts. She's never heard his music before.

Yusuf enters. He pauses to take in the scene. Then he becomes upset. He walks over to the record player and drags the needle across the record and turns it off.

YUSUF

What are you doing?

Fauzia looks stunned. He takes the records that are sitting on her lap.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

This is haraam and will not be allowed in this house!

Fauzia looks bewildered. Then she smiles.

FAUZIA

It's beautiful, Yusuf. Your music--it touches my soul.

This only fuels Yusuf's fire.

YUSUF

Cat Stevens is no more! This kind of music is no more! It is haraam and belongs in the bloody dustbin!

Yusuf walks out with the crate of records as Fauzia is left stunned.

EXT. ALLEY BEHIND YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Yusuf throws the records into the trash.

We see Fauzia stand in the window and watch.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Fauzia sits on the edge of the bed. Yusuf comes back in the house and shouts.

YUSUF (O.S.)

I am off to the mosque for my Islamic Circle. I'll speak with you later.

He slams the door.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM, REGENTS PARK MOSQUE - DAY

The room is filled with about 25 PEOPLE. Yusuf wraps up his weekly circle.

YUSUF

This group, this circle of people,
learning, sharing, asking questions and
helping is just another example of the
beauty of Islam.

People in the room smile and nod.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

I want to thank everyone for attending
today. If you know anyone who wants to
learn more about Islam, this meeting is
open to all.

(beat)

As-Salamu `Alaykum.

All the Muslims in attendance respond.

MUSLIMS

Alaykum As-Salaam.

People get up and begin leaving. RASHID FARAH (70's) white
haired, British Muslim -- approaches Yusuf.

RASHID

I very much enjoyed your circle today.

YUSUF

I'm so glad you could attend.

The two walk toward the door.

RASHID

There is something I have been meaning to
talk to you about.

YUSUF

Of course, Rashid.

EXT. REGENTS PARK - DAY

Yusuf and Rashid continue their conversation beneath a large
tree.

RASHID

I believe it might be time to take your weekly Islamic circle a step further.

Yusuf smiles.

YUSUF

Twice a week?

Rashid smiles.

RASHID

Every day.

Yusuf's smile turns to more of an inquisitive look.

YUSUF

Okay?

RASHID

There is no school here in London for our Muslim community. Perhaps we should look into starting one.

Yusuf's eyes light up. He likes the idea.

YUSUF

Fauzia and I have actually spoken of this. We've talked about how nice it would be for our daughter be schooled in a Muslim environment.

RASHID

As do many in our community.

YUSUF

And we're expecting another child this year.

RASHID

All the better reason.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Fauzia lies in bed awake. Hasanah sleeps next to her.

Yusuf enters the room and sits down on the bed next to Fauzia.

YUSUF

I'm so sorry I yelled at you today,
Fauzia. My behavior was inexcusable.

Fauzia looks straight ahead.

FAUZIA

It was.

YUSUF

I know you were just trying to get to
know me better.

FAUZIA

Yes.

YUSUF

I'm just worried that our family will
have something in our house that is
forbidden by God.

Fauzia smiles.

FAUZIA

Your music, Yusuf, it's not haraam.

YUSUF

Maybe it's not. But I don't want to take
any chances.

Fauzia looks disappointed.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

Arabic music is probably OK. As a matter
of fact, I am writing a song for Hasanah--
to help her learn the Arabic alphabet.

Yusuf looks down at Hasanah as she sleeps.

FAUZIA
That's wonderful.

YUSUF
But I will not use any instruments.

Yusuf takes both of Fauzia's hands.

YUSUF (CONT'D)
Please understand that I need to take the
safest path in order to achieve my
spiritual goal.

FAUZIA
I'm trying my best.

YUSUF
Sometimes I have to close my mind to
everything else.

FAUZIA
Just don't close it to me.

Yusuf smiles.

YUSUF
Never.

EXT. ISLAMIA PRIMARY SCHOOL, HAMPSTEAD GARDEN - DAY

YUSUF ISLAM'S ACAPELLA SONG "A IS FOR ALLAH" PLAYS THROUGHOUT
THE SCENE.

The ribbon cutting ceremony takes place in front of the new
Islamia Primary School.

Rashid stands proud at a podium in front of the old Victorian
mansion. He speaks into a microphone to a large AUDIENCE.

RASHID
Yusuf Islam's continued involvement in
charities has shown Islam's true beauty.

The audience APPLAUDS. Yusuf stands off to the side. He smiles as he puts his hands together in a prayer-like pose and bows his head to Rashid in thanks.

RASHID (CONT'D)

This brother has been helping children around the world. Donating and raising money for charities--including being an ambassador for UNICEF.

The audience again APPLAUDS.

RASHID (CONT'D)

Today he sees his dream come true. His dream of a place for his three, beautiful children to study and learn in a positive environment. A place for our entire Muslim community to call home for our children.

The audience gives Yusuf and the school a standing OVATION.

Yusuf humbly waves and bows his head as he approaches the podium.

Rashid hands Yusuf a pair of scissors, which he promptly uses to cut the ribbon in front of the main entrance.

The audience ERUPTS.

EXT. STREETS OF TEHRAN, IRAN - DAY

Fundamentalist Iranian students march with posters of the Ayatollah Khomeini and burn effigies of US President Ronald Reagan.

The shot zooms out to reveal an IRAN CORRESPONDENT (30's) male, Middle Eastern -- covering the story.

IRAN CORRESPONDENT

... all in reaction of Iran being blamed for the bombing of US Marine barracks in Beirut. Back to you, Trevor.

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

The shot of the reporter further zooms out to reveal TREVOR BECKHAM (50's) British news anchor, Peter Jennings-type.

TREVOR

Thank you for that report. In related news, The Globe Newspaper reports that Yusuf Islam, formally, Cat Stevens, is devoted to Imam Khomeini...

INT. MIDDLE EASTERN RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

The shot zooms out again to show a COOK (50's) Middle Eastern, bearded -- in a restaurant kitchen. As he cooks, he watches a TV which has been playing the entire news story.

The cook can't believe what he hears.

TREVOR (ON TV)

...and that he is living in Iran with a begging bowl in a school for aspiring Ayatollahs.

The shot pulls back once more to reveal Yusuf and his family eating a celebratory dinner at the restaurant.

The cook still watches the TV as he shouts.

COOK

Mr. Yusuf! Mr. Yusuf!

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Yusuf is quite upset.

YUSUF

I have never even been to Iran!

Fauzia tries to comfort him. She rubs his neck.

FAUZIA

Of course you haven't.

Yusuf stands up and shouts.

YUSUF

Here I am, trying my best to help people.
Help children. Help my fellow man.

FAUZIA

You *are* helping.

YUSUF

I've given away most of my wealth to
charities and noble causes. Isn't that
what Allah teaches us to do?

Fauzia gets up and hugs Yusuf.

EXT. SIDEWALK DOWNTOWN LONDON - DAY

Yusuf walks alone. He sees Katharine on the sidewalk.

YUSUF

Katharine!

KATHARINE

Steven!

(beat)

Yusuf!

She giggles at her mistake.

They embrace.

KATHARINE (CONT'D)

It's so good to see you. You look great.

YUSUF

As do you.

Katharine seems quite happy.

KATHARINE

How are you and Fauzia?

YUSUF

Very good. We just had our fourth child.

KATHARINE

That's wonderful.

(beat)

So I was at Wembley Stadium--for the Live Aid Concert. You were supposed to perform.

Yusuf lets out a sigh.

YUSUF

I was. I even wrote an acapella song especially for the benefit.

Katharine shakes her head.

KATHARINE

What happened?

YUSUF

I think it all goes back to me walking away from music.

Katharine waits for Yusuf to go on.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

The promoters allowed Elton John to overrun, leaving no time for me.

Katharine can't believe it.

KATHARINE

I'm so sorry.

Yusuf shrugs.

YUSUF

Well, I guess having turned my back on the music business, the music business has also turned its back on me.

KATHARINE

That's sad

Yusuf looks down.

YUSUF

It is sad.

Katharine looks at her watch.

KATHARINE

I hate to cut this short, but I'm in a
bit of a hurry.

Yusuf looks up at her face again.

YUSUF

It was great seeing you, Katharine.

Katharine hugs him again.

KATHARINE

You, too.

Katharine begins to walk away. She turns back and smiles.

KATHARINE (CONT'D)

My best to your family!

Yusuf waves and watches her walk away. He's curious about what seems to be her genuine happiness. She seems much different than last time they spoke.

INT. LECTURE HALL, KINGSTON UNIVERSITY - DAY

SUBTITLE: KINGSTON UNIVERSITY, LONDON, 1989

Yusuf gives a lecture to STUDENTS.

YUSUF

When I first became Muslim, I thought
that music might have been forbidden by
God. But I have since realized that I
was, perhaps, being too strict.

(MORE)

YUSUF (CONT'D)

I think my children appreciate the changes around our home.

The students LAUGH.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

I have time for one more question.

Several students raise their hands. Yusuf CALLS on a UNIVERSITY STUDENT (22) female, British. She stands up.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT

Since the book Satanic Verses was published, the Ayatollah Khomeini has issued a fatwa calling for the death of author Salmon Rushdie. As a Muslim, do you stand behind that fatwa?

Yusuf smiles.

YUSUF

I figured this question was coming sooner or later.

The students once again LAUGH.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

The Bible is very similar to the Qur'an on many levels. They both say only one God exists and He has created the heavens and the earth. They both retell stories of many of the same people and events.

(beat)

And they both call blasphemy a capital offense. So must he be killed? The Qur'an makes it clear - if someone defames the prophet, then he must die.

A buzz among the students, fills the room.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

But the bible says the same thing about defaming Jesus.

(MORE)

YUSUF (CONT'D)

So if a fatwa were called every time someone said: "Jesus Christ," after stubbing their toe, we'd need to build a lot more cemeteries.

The students once again LAUGH.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

Thank you so much for having me here today. It's been a privilege and an honor.

The students stand up and APPLAUD.

INT. RADIO STATION STUDIO, LOS ANGELES - MORNING

Radio Personality TOM LEYKIS (33) heavy-set, obnoxious -- addresses his morning show audience.

TOM

So I'm reading the cover of the USA Today--did you see this?--And I'm quoting: "Cat Says Kill Rushdie." Of course "Cat" being Yusuf Islam, the former Cat Stevens. I guess he was giving a lecture to some students in London--nothing like being lectured by a Muslim radical...

He plays the sound effect of a coo-coo clock.

TOM (CONT'D)

So "Cat" thinks that author Salmon Rushdie should die for "defaming the profit." Well, Cat's career is already dead...

He plays the dying sound-effect: Wa Wa Wa Wa Waaah.

TOM (CONT'D)

So we can't kill his career, but we *can* kill the rest of his music, right? Tapes? CD's? Albums? Posters?

He plays "The Funeral March" while he shares his idea.

TOM (CONT'D)

I need everyone to bring all the Cat Stevens records you can find--anything Cat Stevens--bring 'em down to the station parking lot tomorrow morning.

He plays the sound-effect of a diesel engine.

TOM (CONT'D)

If anyone happens to own a steam roller I could use, we'll show Yusuf Islam what we *really* think about him.

INT. KATHARINE'S FLAT, LONDON - MORNING

Katharine sits in her robe at the kitchen table. She reads the London Times while she sips coffee.

She hands the paper to CHARLES (52) British, perhaps her boyfriend or husband -- who sits across from her.

KATHARINE

I can't believe poor Yusuf has to continue to deal with this kind of bullshit.

Charles reads a quote.

CHARLES

"Yusuf Islam said in a response: I never called for the death of Salmon Rushdie; nor backed the Fatwa issued by the Ayatollah Khomeini - and still don't..."

EXT. WAR ZONE, BOSNIA - DAY

We see some footage of the bloody civil war going on in Bosnia.

A reporter, who's a BOSNIAN CORRESPONDANT (30's) female, British -- interviews Yusuf.

YUSUF

Two years ago I traveled to Iraq as part of a peace delegation. We were able to secure the release of four hostages. I am here in Bosnia today to see first-hand what we can do to help these people in their suffering.

BOSNIAN CORRESPONDANT

There have been recent reports that you have helped fund Afghan militants. Is there any truth to that?

Yusuf shakes his head--hear we go again.

YUSUF

Ever since I became a Muslim, I've had to deal with attempts to damage my reputation. Countless insinuations seeking to cast doubt on my character. Trying to connect me to causes I don't subscribe to.

He pauses and looks at the reporter in the eyes.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

Almost a billion and a half people practice Islam. What if we assumed that because Charles Manson was a hippie, that all hippies were cold-blooded killers? Or that Jim Jones' People's Temple represented all Christians? Do you see my point? Islam is a faith of love and peace. I'm just doing my part.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

SUBTITLE: LONDON, 1999

Fauzia watches Yusuf pack. They both stop to watch CNN correspondent CHRISTIANE AMANPOUR (41) interview a badly burned Albanian REFUGEE (30's) on television. A TRANSLATOR'S voice is heard while the refugee is interviewed.

TRANSLATOR (V.O.)

I was placed in a pile of hundreds of bodies that were covered with petrol and set on fire.

CHRISTIANE

And who ignited the fire?

TRANSLATOR (V.O.)

Yugoslav forces.

(beat)

The smell of burning flesh. The screams.

CHRISTIANE

How were you able to escape?

TRANSLATOR (V.O.)

I pretended I was dead. When they were gone, I was able to sneak across the border.

The interview continues as Yusuf resumes his packing.

YUSUF

I can't stand to see the suffering of those poor refugees.

Fauzia looks worried, but tries to disguise it.

FAUZIA

You have no idea how proud I am of your dedication and willingness to help others. It's really amazing.

YUSUF

But it's never enough.

Yusuf is focused on his packing.

YUSUF (TO HIMSELF) (CONT'D)

Where is my blue vest?

Fauzia grabs his arm and gets his attention.

FAUZIA

There is a war going on there and I am worried.

She turns the grab into a rub. She looks at him sadly.

FAUZIA (CONT'D)

Something tells me you shouldn't make this trip, Yusuf.

EXT. MACEDONIAN VILLAGE - DAY

SUBTITLE: MACEDONIA

Yusuf and ISMAIL (38) Macedonian translator, friendly -- and several OTHERS get out of a van. Ismail points to a house.

ISMAIL

There are supposed to be quite a few staying there.

Yusuf nods.

The group approaches the front door. Ismail knocks and says "Hello" in Macedonian.

ISMAIL (CONT'D)

Zdravo Malagasy?

Ismail continues to speak in Macedonian.

ISMAIL (CONT'D)

(in subtitles)

We come in peace.

The front door slightly opens. A MACEDONIAN HOST (60's) scruffy, wears a tattered sweater, a bit paranoid -- appears.

MACEDONIAN HOST

(in subtitles)

What do you want?

ISMAIL

(in subtitles)

I am here with Yusuf Islam. He has money
to help cover your expenses.

The host doesn't look convinced.

ISMAIL (CONT'D)

(to Yusuf)

Show him the money.

Yusuf opens his satchel. He smiles and flashes some green.

The door opens further. The Macedonian host cases the
outside with his eyes and then motions for Yusuf and his
group to come in.

INT. MACEDONIAN HOUSE - DAY

Once inside, the host quickly shuts and locks the door. The
house is completely packed with REFUGEES. Some sit on the
floor, some sleep against the walls. There are CHILDREN,
BABIES, ELDERLY--all with a hopeless look on their faces.

When Yusuf sees them, he's so saddened he wants to cry.

Yusuf opens his satchel, pulls out a handful of Deutsch marks
and begins to hand money to the host family.

Smiles emerge from the hungry faces in the room.

The refugees come and KISS Yusuf's hand, bowing and thanking
him in Albanian.

REFUGEES

Blagodaram. Blagodaram.

SUBTITLE: "Thank you. Thank you."

Yusuf blushes. He addresses the group.

YUSUF

You need to have faith and hope. By God's
will, you all will get through this.

Ismail TRANSLATES Yusuf's words to the refugees.

As Yusuf and his group begin to leave, the host stops them at the door.

MACEDONIAN HOST

(in Macedonian)

Thank you. You have no idea how much this means to us.

Ismail translates it to Yusuf.

ISMAIL

He thanks you and says you have no idea how much this means to them.

Yusuf smiles.

YUSUF

Tell him he has no idea how much they mean to me.

EXT. MACEDONIAN-ALBANIAN BORDER - NIGHT

Yusuf's party pulls up in their van to the heavily guarded border crossing.

Yusuf looks curious and a little concerned.

ISMAIL

This is procedure. They should let us cross into Albania once they know why we are here.

Three BORDER GUARDS (early 20's) Macedonian, mean-spirited -- arrive at each side of the vehicle. All carry machine guns.

BORDER GUARD #1

(in subtitles)

Get out of the vehicle.

BORDER GUARD #2

(in subtitles)

Now! Everybody out!

Yusuf and his party get out of the van. Border Guard #1 lines them up on one side of the van.

BORDER GUARD #1
(in subtitles)
Put your hands on the side of the van.

ISMAIL
(to Yusuf)
Just put your hands up and against the van. They just need to make sure we're not smuggling anything.

BORDER GUARD #1
(in subtitles)
Up! Where I can see them!

Yusuf whispers to Ismail.

YUSUF
This is absurd.

Border Guard #2 begins to search the inside of the van.

Border Guard #3 aims his gun towards Ismail.

BORDER GUARD #1
(in subtitles)
What are you doing here?

ISMAIL
(in subtitles)
I'm here with Yusuf Islam. He was a famous musician from England. Now he's helping to distribute relief funds to refugees. We come in peace.

BORDER GUARD #1
(in subtitles)
Where are your passports?

Ismail pads his jacket to indicate where his passport is.

ISMAIL

(to Yusuf)

He wants to see our passports. Just move slowly.

Border Guard #1 reaches inside Ismail's jacket and takes his passport while Guard #3 holds his gun to Ismail's back.

Border Guard #2 continues to look through the van. He opens luggage and tosses about their contents.

ISMAIL (CONT'D)

(in subtitles)

Mr. Islam's passport is in his front coat pocket.

Border Guard #1 pulls out Yusuf's passport and the other passports of the group.

BORDER GUARD #2

(in subtitles)

It's all clear in here. Just clothes and things.

BORDER GUARD #1

(in subtitles)

Come over here.

Border Guards #1 and #2 walk away from the van and begin quietly speaking to each other while Guard #3 stands back a few feet to guard Yusuf's group with his machine gun.

Yusuf again whispers to Ismail.

YUSUF

What are they talking about?

ISMAIL

They are just trying to scare us-- make sure we know who's in charge.

YUSUF

Something doesn't seem right.

ISMAIL
We'll be fine, Yusuf.

The two guards return to the side of the van.

BORDER GUARD #1
(in subtitles)
Where's this money he's distributing?

ISMAIL
(to Yusuf)
He wants to see the money.

Yusuf looks at Ismail. He's not sure if this is a wise move.

ISMAIL (CONT'D)
Show him the money.

Yusuf slowly reaches down and opens his satchel.

Border Guard #1 reaches for the money.

Yusuf closes the satchel and pulls it closer to his body.

Border Guard #2 approaches Yusuf with his machine gun.

YUSUF
No. Please. This is for hungry people
who have been forced out of their homes.

Ismail TRANSLATES everything Yusuf says to the guards.

Yusuf, scared and shaking, looks Border Guard #1 in the eyes.

YUSUF (CONT'D)
In God's name. I beg of you.

Just when we think the guard may have a heart, he rips the satchel from Yusuf's hands.

Border Guard #2 puts his machine gun right up to Yusuf's neck.

Yusuf is truly frightened.

INT. ISLAMIA PRIMARY SCHOOL, HAMPSTEAD GARDEN - DAY

News MEDIA watches PRINCE CHARLES (52) address an AUDIENCE of students, faculty and parents.

PRINCE CHARLES

As you know, recently Britain's Secretary of State for Education, David Blunkett, awarded grant-maintained status to Islamia Primary School.

Prince Charles looks at Yusuf, who sits to right of the stage, next to Rashid.

PRINCE CHARLES (CONT'D)

This is something for which Yusuf Islam has been campaigning for almost 15 years.

The Prince and Yusuf smile at each other.

PRINCE CHARLES (CONT'D)

This was an historic first for our country. Never before has a Muslim school been granted government-aided status.

The audience APPLAUDS.

PRINCE CHARLES (CONT'D)

We are very lucky to have Yusuf Islam.

The Prince once again smiles at Yusuf. Rashid pads him on the knee.

PRINCE CHARLES (CONT'D)

And all of his humanitarian efforts in Great Britain, as well as in Iraq, Bosnia, Kosovo, his help to earthquake victims in Turkey last year, and most recently his involvement in "Small Kindness," a UK/UN registered humanitarian relief charity, that helps thousands of orphans, widows and families across the world.

The audience once again APPLAUDS.

PRINCE CHARLES (CONT'D)

I believe that Islam has much to teach us. Islam has much to teach increasingly secular societies like ours in Britain.

Yusuf stands up to begin a standing OVATION for Prince Charles.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DAY

SUBTITLE: SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Planes crash into the side of the World Trade Center.

We then hear the voice-over of a British television ANCHOR.

ANCHOR (V.O.)

...the attacks have been determined to be the cause of Muslim extremists.

INT. IMAM'S OFFICE - DAY

Yusuf is very upset as he talks with the Imam.

YUSUF

Why would Muslims do such a thing?

IMAM BADAWI

The people who did those horrific acts, they were not Muslim.

Yusuf looks confused.

YUSUF

I don't understand.

The Imam half-smiles.

IMAM BADAWI

Islam is a religion of peace and mercy and love. Islam does not permit terrorism.

Yusuf's not buying it.

YUSUF

But these people are Muslims. They practice Islam. They do activity in the name of Islam.

IMAM BADAWI

As you know from your studies, Muhammad listed "murder" as the second of the major sins. So those who committed these abominable and monstrous acts will not be permitted into heaven--and, therefore, are not Muslim.

Yusuf gets it. But wait, not quite.

YUSUF

OK. I understand that the Nation of Islam and even God don't recognize these terrorists as Muslims. But why are they committing these hateful attacks in the name of Allah?

The Imam closes his eyes. He nods his head again.

IMAM BADAWI

Osama Bin Laden is taking Muslim law out of context to get his followers. He is upset that U.S. forces have permanent military bases in Saudi Arabia.

Yusuf interrupts him.

YUSUF

But there *is* something in the Qur'an about that.

The Imam again grins.

IMAM BADAWI

Yes, the Qur'an does state that enemies may not occupy Arab land by force.

(MORE)

IMAM BADAWI (CONT'D)

But the United States is there with the blessings of the Saudi government.

Yusuf finally understands.

YUSUF

So he really has no case.

IMAM BADAWI

Precisely.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S LIVING ROOM, HAMPSTEAD GARDEN - NIGHT

Yusuf sits and reads a book.

Fauzia and their son MUHAMMAD (16) quiet, polite -- enter.

Yusuf sees that Muhammad carries a guitar case.

YUSUF

What's that there?

MUHAMMAD

A guitar.

Yusuf looks at Fauzia.

FAUZIA

I bought it for him. He needed an instrument for a music class at school.

YUSUF

And he picked the guitar?

Muhammad smiles. He walks out of the room.

FAUZIA

Maybe you could teach him something.

Yusuf looks back at his book.

YUSUF

I haven't played in over 20 years.

Fauzia smiles.

FAUZIA

So.

Yusuf looks up from his book at Fauzia.

YUSUF

So, Muhammad would be better off learning
from someone who's a professional.

Fauzia looks dissapointed as she begins to walk away.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

I probably don't even remember how to
play.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S KITCHEN - MORNING

It's 5:30am. Yusuf pours a cup of coffee and walks into the
dining room.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

He walks with his coffee and passes the sitting room.

He does a double-take as he sees something in the sitting
room.

He looks in to see Muhammad's guitar. It leans against a
chair.

He then looks out to the living room to make sure no one is
awake and walks into the sitting room.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S SITTING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Yusuf stares at the guitar.

He walks over, while holding his coffee, and strums the still-
leaning guitar with his finger.

He steps back. He then peaks out into the dining room to
make sure everyone is still asleep.

He returns and sets down his coffee. He picks up the guitar
and sits down on the chair.

He pauses for a moment and exhales. Well, here we go.

Yusuf looks down at the guitar and strums a C chord.

YUSUF

It's still there. Right where I remember
it.

He then strums a G. And a D.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S LIVING ROOM - LATER

Fauzia, half awake, walks down stairs. She hears the guitar
playing from the sitting room.

She peaks in and sees Yusuf play the guitar. He doesn't see
her.

She looks up, as if to Heaven, places her hand on her heart
and smiles.

She walks into the kitchen.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S SITTING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Yusuf plays. Fauzia walks in with her coffee and sits down.

Yusuf stops. He looks at Fauzia as if he were a little boy.

YUSUF

This is amazing. I can't believe I've
deprived myself of this joy for so long.

Fauzia smiles.

FAUZIA

I take it you still know how to play?

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S SITTING ROOM - DAY

Yusuf practices guitar and sings his Cat Steven's song
"Morning Has Broken." Fauzia leans in the doorway and watches-
-in awe of her husband's beautiful music.

She closes her eyes and smiles.

Yusuf screws up one of the lyrics and stops playing. He grins.

YUSUF

I'm going to have to relearn all of my songs.

FAUZIA

Wait right here. I have something that might help.

Yusuf shakes his head--what is she up to now?

FAUZIA (O.S.)(CONT'D)

Close your eyes.

Yusuf closes his eyes and smiles.

YUSUF

What are you doing?

Fauzia walks in carrying a box of the previously discarded Cat Stevens albums.

FAUZIA

Keep your eyes closed.

Fauzia sets the box on his lap.

Yusuf feels the weight of the box on his lap and opens his eyes. He almost embraces the box as he sees his albums sticking out of the top.

He smiles and looks at Fauzia

YUSUF

You're unbelievable.

INT. BACKSTAGE, ROYAL ALBERT HALL - NIGHT

Yusuf sits on a couch with his brother David.

YUSUF

I'm nervous.

DAVID

You've played thousands of concerts,
Mate. You'll be great.

Alun peaks in the door.

Yusuf sees Alun and stands up while Alun walks in. He carries
a guitar case.

ALUN

Yusuf!

They embrace.

YUSUF

It's great to see you.

Alun sets the guitar case down on the couch and opens it to
reveal Yusuf's favorite guitar.

ALUN

I thought you might like to have this
back.

Yusuf's eyes get wide. He hugs Alun once again and looks
back down at the guitar.

INT. ROYAL ALBERT HALL - NIGHT

Yusuf walks on stage with the guitar to a standing OVATION.

He sits down on a stool that's positioned center stage.

YUSUF

It's a great privilege to be here. It's
a long time since I've been doing this
kind of work. In the mean time...

The audience again APPLAUDS.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

Thank you. In the mean time, I have been
working. Doing other things: In
education and relief.

Yusuf takes a brief pause to take in the moment.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

The eradication of poverty, helping those less fortunate and educating our children is definitely the way to peace. I'd like to do a song that has something to do with that. You'll probably recognize it.

He begins to play an acoustic version of "Peace Train."

The crowd ERUPTS.

INT. HEATHROW AIRPORT, LONDON - DAY

Yusuf's live "Peace Train" continues to play as he boards a plane for Washington D.C. His daughter MAYMANAH (20) attractive, brunette -- accompanies him.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

"Peace Train" plays as he looks out the window. He's seems at peace. He reaches over and holds his daughter's hand.

INT. COCKPIT - LATER

PILOT (50's) British -- communicates on the RADIO.

RADIO (V.O.)

United 919, Dulles control.

PILOT

This is 919, Dulles.

RADIO (V.O.)

You have been instructed by The United States Government *not* to land at Dulles. Repeat. You are *not* to land at Dulles. Divert to Bangor International.

PILOT

919 diverting to Bangor. Is everything OK Dulles?

RADIO (V.O.)

Affirmative 919. No further details at this time. We'll send you flight plan changes momentarily.

PILOT

Waiting for flight plans, Dulles. 919.

INT. AIRPLANE - MOMENTS LATER

Yusuf reads while Maymanah sleeps. The pilot comes over the intercom.

PILOT

Attention passengers. This is your Captain speaking. I wanted to let you know that the plane must make a brief stop in Bangor, Maine before continuing on to Washington D.C.

PASSENGERS begin to TALK among themselves. Maymanah is awake.

PILOT (CONT'D)

We hope this won't be a very long stop and apologize for any inconvenience.

MAYMANAH

What do you think's going on?

YUSUF

They probably are just refueling.

MAYMANAH

That's strange.

YUSUF

Well, there is nothing we can do about it. If we don't land in Washington in time for the connection, I'll reschedule for the next flight to Nashville.

Yusuf smiles at Maymanah.

INT. AIRPLANE - LATER

The plane lands at Bangor International Airport.

Upon approaching the gate, several unmarked government vehicles wait with red lights flashing.

There's a buzz once again among the passengers.

Maymanah looks out the window.

MAYMANAH

It doesn't look like they're refueling.

Yusuf leans over Maymanah and looks out.

YUSUF

No. It certainly doesn't.

The front door of the plane opens and six plain-clothed government AGENTS -- wearing dark suits, sunglasses -- board.

They immediately approach Yusuf. AGENT MCBRIDE (48) no nonsense, stern, Kevin Bacon-type -- addresses him.

AGENT MCBRIDE

Are you Yusuf Islam?

Yusuf can't believe this is happening.

YUSUF

Why, yes. I am.

AGENT MCBRIDE

You are going to need him to come with us.

Yusuf looks confused.

YUSUF

But why? I don't understand.

The agent gets a bit more stern.

AGENT MCBRIDE

Sir. Just come with us.

It hits Yusuf that this is really happening. He gets a bit irritated.

YUSUF

I'm here with my daughter. I'm traveling for a music project. What is this about?

AGENT MCBRIDE

You are Yusuf Islam?

Yusuf nods.

YUSUF

Yes. Yes.

AGENT MCBRIDE

Look. Things will be a lot easier if you just come with us.

(beat)

Peacefully.

Yusuf gets up. He looks at his daughter. She begins to cry.

YUSUF

I'll be fine Maymanah. I'll meet you in Washington.

The agents begin to lead Yusuf toward the door.

MAYMANAH

Where are you taking my father?

Yusuf turns around. He's very calm.

YUSUF

Everything will be okay.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Muhammad plays guitar in front of the television. He suddenly sees a photo of his father on TV.

MUHAMMAD

Mummy! Get in here! Daddy's on TV!

Fauzia rushes in, as do the other two DAUGHTERS -- 10, 8, Middle Eastern-looking, cute -- They all stand in front of the TV.

NEWSCASTER (32) attractive, female -- continues the story.

NEWSCASTER

Yusuf Islam, formerly known as Cat Stevens, was apprehended today on a scheduled flight from Heathrow to Dulles International Airport in Washington DC.

Fauzia's jaw drops.

NEWSCASTER (CONT'D)

US officials reportedly entered the plane and escorted Mr. Islam to an unknown location for questioning. Sources tell us that they believe Mr. Islam may be linked to terrorist activity.

Her hand is over her mouth. She looks deathly scared.

MUHAMMAD

Is Dad going to be OK?

Fauzia hesitates at first.

FAUZIA

Oh God, I hope so.

She looks at them each individually.

FAUZIA (CONT'D)

We all must pray for your father.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Agent McBride and AGENT ERLICH (early 50's) more friendly and understanding than McBride -- stand in front of a table at which Yusuf is seated. Several other AGENTS watch from the next room through one-way glass.

MCBRIDE

What is your name?

Yusuf rolls his eyes.

YUSUF

I told you. Yusuf Islam.

ERLICH

But that's not your real name, is it?

YUSUF

That's my assumed Muslim name. I was born Steven Georgiou.

McBride is confused.

MCBRIDE

Wait, I thought your name used to be Cat Stevens.

Yusuf sighs.

YUSUF

That was my stage name.

Erlich WHISPERS something in McBride's ear.

McBride resumes the questioning.

MCBRIDE

Where do you live?

Yusuf feels like they're going around in circles.

YUSUF

I told you, London. Born and raised.

ERLICH

Have you ever lived in Saudi Arabia?

YUSUF

Never.

(beat)

I have visited a couple times on peacekeeping missions. And, of course, made a holy pilgrimage to Mecca. But, no, I've never lived there.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM--OTHER SIDE OF GLASS - CONTINUOUS

The COMMANDER (60's) Brian Dennehy-type -- watches through the one-way glass.

COMMANDER

Our man is listed as a Saudi citizen. Something isn't adding up.

He gets on the intercom.

COMMANDER (CONT'D)

McBride. Get in here.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

McBride exits. Erlich looks at Yusuf.

ERLICH

I can't believe you quit. I really enjoyed your music.

Yusuf, though somewhat perturbed, allows himself a CHUCKLE.

YUSUF

I have heard that from many people.

(beat)

I'm actually working on some new material. It's the reason why I am traveling to Nashville.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM--OTHER SIDE OF GLASS - CONTINUOUS

The Commander tells McBride what to do next.

COMMANDER

Well, so far the Saudi connection didn't pan out.

MCBRIDE

Ridge said this guy's on this list.

COMMANDER

Ask him how he spells his name. Our guy spells it Y-o-u-s-s-e-f.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

McBride enters.

MCBRIDE

How do you spell your name, Yusuf?

YUSUF

Y-u-s-u-f I-s-l-a-m.

McBride looks like a poker player who lost the hand but needs to save face.

MCBRIDE

Have you ever spelled it Y-o-u-s-s-e-f?

YUSUF

No.

MCBRIDE

Have you seen it spelled that way? With an O and an E?

Yusuf grins.

YUSUF

Of course. You can also spell it Y-u-s-E-f or Y-O-u-s-e-f. There are many ways to spell it. It's a very common Muslim name.

Agent Erlich seems convinced he's not the guy.

ERLICH
Makes sense to me.

INT. HALLWAY, FOUR POINTS HOTEL, BANGOR - NIGHT

Yusuf and Agent Erlich walk down a hotel hallway. Another agent walks behind.

ERLICH
We just need to check your story, Mr. Islam.
(beat)
I think we may have made a mistake here and for that I certainly apologize.

Yusuf answers a little sarcastically.

YUSUF
As your President often says "Everything changed on September 11th."

ERLICH
You're not kidding.

Erlich opens a room door for Yusuf. He smiles.

ERLICH (CONT'D)
There will be an Agent stationed outside your door tonight, so don't try to flee.

Yusuf smiles back as Erlich turns around and exits.

Yusuf shuts the door behind him. He lays back on the bed and lets out a sigh of relief.

INT. YUSUF'S ROOM, FOUR POINTS HOTEL - MORNING

Yusuf watches a TV news report on his apprehension. There's a knock on the door.

Yusuf answers. It's Agent Erlich. He enters.

ERLICH
Please, sit down.

Yusuf sits on the bed. He starts to become worried again.

YUSUF
Is there a problem?

Erlich pulls up a chair.

ERLICH
We obviously made a big mistake here.
But this is protocol--something we had to
look into.

Yusuf nods. There must be more.

ERLICH (CONT'D)
I hate to use the word "deportation,"
because that sounds like you did
something wrong.

Yusuf shakes his head. This is ridiculous.

But the Government has to do some final
investigation and paperwork before you
can continue on your trip in the United
States. We're going to put you on a plane
back to London. I'm sure you'll be able
to return soon and tend to your business.

YUSUF
Unbelievable.

ERLICH
Again, Mr. Islam, I'm very sorry for the
inconvenience and trouble this may have
caused you.

INT. ERLICH'S CAR - DAY

Erlich drives as Yusuf sits in the passenger seat. No words
are spoken.

Suddenly, Erlich speaks up.

ERLICH

I do have a favor to ask, Mr. Islam.

Yusuf looks at Erlich. He feels Erlich sympathizes with him.

YUSUF

A favor, from me?

Erlich reaches down and pulls a paper bag out from under his seat. From the bag he pulls out a copy of the album "Tea For The Tillerman."

Erlich looks like he knows that he may be crossing the line.

ERLICH

I know this is very inappropriate, Mr. Islam, and I would understand if you didn't want to. But would you mind signing this for me?

Yusuf laughs.

YUSUF

Not at all. And please call me Yusuf.

Yusuf pulls out a pen from his coat pocket.

YUSUF (CONT'D)

Yusuf? Or Cat?

Erlich looks happy that Yusuf has agreed to sign it.

ERLICH

It's entirely up to you.

Yusuf pauses for a moment.

YUSUF

You know, it took a long time for me to embrace Cat Stevens once again.

(MORE)

YUSUF (CONT'D)

But I realized that because I now go by "Yusuf" that doesn't mean that Cat Stevens isn't still a part of me. I mean, I wrote these songs and many still have a positive place in society.

ERLICH

Absolutely they do.

Yusuf signs the album cover "Yusuf Islam aka Cat Stevens."

INT. AIRPLANE - SOMEWHERE OVER THE ATLANTIC - DAY

CAT STEVENS' SONG "THE WIND" PLAYS THROUGHOUT THE FINAL MONTAGE.

Yusuf looks out the window.

EXT. OCEAN WATERS - DAY

He once again relives the drowning scene. But it quickly passes.

INT. AIRPLANE - CONTINUOUS

He sees the celestial marvel of the clouds out the window and smiles.

He begins to see the positive things in his life. He remembers past events.

EXT. REGENTS PARK - DAY

Yusuf gives Hasanah an Eskimo KISS. Fauzia LAUGHS.

INT. AIRPLANE - CONTINUOUS

Yusuf smiles as he remembers.

INT. YUSUF AND FAUZIA'S SITTING ROOM - NIGHT

Yusuf teaches Muhammad to play the guitar.

INT. AIRPLANE - CONTINUOUS

Yusuf again grins as he remembers.

EXT. BALCONY OF THE MAKKAH INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL - DUSK

Yusuf, alone, looks out over the city. He has found bliss and spiritual completeness.

INT. AIRPLANE - CONTINUOUS

Yusuf nods his head. He again looks out the window at the celestial marvel of the clouds.

Yusuf gets off the plane carrying his guitar case.

SONG ENDS.

INT. HEATHROW AIRPORT, LONDON - NIGHT

Yusuf carries his guitar case. He walks away, down the concourse. The Cat Steven's song "Wild World" plays as he walks out of sight.

FADE OUT:

THE END.