A beautiful summer morning on this glittering mountain lake in the far north of Penobscot County. Small fishing boats dot the water. Smoke rises from campfires along the shore.

JOHNNY (O.S.)
The fish aren't hungry but I am.

JOHNNY and WALT are at the stern while J.J. is in the bow. All three are dressed for camping. They have fishing gear, but no fish. J.J. pulls his line out of the water.

J.J.
I'm bored.

WALT
Fishing takes time J.J.

JOHNNY
Maybe we're using the wrong kind of worms.

WALT
(annoyed)
Oh? What kind of worms would you recommend?

JOHNNY
The kind that fish eat.

Walt is trying to be helpful, but there's an edge to his dealings with Johnny.

J.J. tries to impale a fresh worm on his hook.

JOHNNY
Here, J.J., let me help with that--

He quickly paws through the can of worm dirt, picking up several worms, until--
A JOHNNY FLASH - WORM VISION


RESUME BOAT

Johnny allows himself a little smile as he hands the pole with the baited hook back to J.J.

JOHNNY
Try this one.

J.J. drops the line in the water--

WALT
And be patient--

There's an IMMEDIATE TUG on J.J.'s line--

J.J.
(as surprised as anyone)
Dad! I've got one!

WALT
(gives Johnny a look)
Okay, okay, hold on--

J.J. pulls a flopping trout into the boat. Momentary excitement as this beast of the depths is subdued.

J.J.
I caught a fish!

JOHNNY
He's a whopper too.

WALT
(sarcastic, to Johnny)
Guess we just needed the right worms.

CUT TO:

EXT. SPIRIT LAKE - SHORE - DAY

Two tents and a fire. SARAH waves as Walt's boat pulls in.

SARAH
Ahoy, the mighty fishermen!

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

J.J.
Mom, I caught a fish!

SARAH
Good job, J.J.!
(then quietly to Johnny
re: J.J.)
How's it going?

Johnny watches Walt haul the boat ashore as J.J. SPLASHES
into the shallow water.

JOHNNY
It's going.

SARAH
Hang in there.

J.J.
Ow! I stepped on something.

J.J. almost drops the trout.

SARAH
Oh, honey, did you cut your foot?

J.J.
There's something down there.

Walt reaches down and pulls something metallic out of the
water.

WALT
Aluminum. Looks like a piece of
a boat.

He hands it to Johnny, whose hand starts to SHAKE--

FLASH! - THE FRAGMENT

GROWS INTO A METAL PLATE, SHAKING VIOLENTLY ON THE SIDE
OF AN AIRCRAFT FUSELAGE, WHICH GROWS INTO A SMALL JET
PLANE WOBBLING ACROSS A STORMY SKY ON ITS DEATH ARC.

INT. COCKPIT - DAY

TWO PILOTS STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL AS THE CAMERA WITHDRAWS
THROUGH THE COCKPIT DOOR AND THROUGH A SMALL CARGO HOLD
FILLED WITH FIRST DIRECT PACKAGES OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES--
EXT. SPIRIT LAKE - DAY

JOHNNY LOOKS UP AND SEES THE SMOKY TRAIL OF THE PLANE AS IT DIVES TOWARD A DISTINCTIVE MOUNTAIN PEAK TO HIS RIGHT, TO THE EAST--

RESUME JOHNNY

Dazed by this vision as he holds up the fragment.

SARAH

Johnny? What is it?

Off Johnny's look.

FADE OUT:

END OF TEASER
ACT ONE

FADE IN:

10  EXT. BOAT SHOP - DAY

A shack by the lake. Several handsome young people in bathing suits, a surprising number of them women in their early 20s, stroll in and out.

MARC (V.O.)
It might be.

11  INT. BOAT SHOP - DAY

The fragment lies on the counter as MARC, 32, the owner, examines it with Walt and J.J.

J.J.
(proud)
I found it.

WALT
Wasn't there a plane crash up here, what, two - three years ago?

MARC
First Direct flight 233, September '99. Courier jet went down in a storm. A Dassault 20-C, crew of two. Massive search turned up a couple of pieces, but not the plane. Spent quite a bit of time looking for it myself.

SARAH
How is that possible?

MARC
Terrain is rugged enough, could be a few hundred yards off the trail you'd never see it.

ANGLE - POSTCARD DISPLAY

Johnny starts flipping through this collection of bucolic lake scenes and landscapes. He's trying to stay out of this.

WALT
Who's the Ranger up here, we'd like to report this.

(CONTINUED)
Marc holds up the fragment.

MARC
What makes you so sure this wasn't from a boat--

J.J.
It's not from a boat. It's from a plane crash. Johnny saw it.

MARC
What do you mean he saw it?

J.J.
(matter-of-fact)
Johnny sees stuff. He can even tell you where the fish are biting. He's a psychic.

Marc turns toward Johnny, who can't escape him.

MARC
Oh yeah?

JOHNNY
Listen, I don't want to make a big deal out of this...

PAULINE, 25, appears. She is dressed in cut-offs and a tank top that are shorter and tighter than circumstances require, but her manner isn't slutty: think of her as full of life.

PAULINE
What's going on?

MARC
These folks think they found a piece of Flight 233. Mr. Smith here's a "psychic"...seems to think it crashed on the east side of the mountain.

PAULINE
That would explain why you couldn't find it after three years searching the west side.

Pauline gives her full attention to this handsome stranger.
CONTINUED: (2)

PAULINE

...Wait a minute... Johnny Smith? Didn't you save a bunch of kids from a fire in Cleaves Mills? Caught some kind of serial killer too didn't you?

Sarah clears her throat and nods toward J.J.

PAULINE

Oh, sorry... You really think you know where that plane went down?

Johnny's eye returns to the postcard display--

ANGLE - POSTCARD

A mountain scene showing a distinctive peak. (Our location) The title says "Mount Mannesquan".

JOHNNY

It was heading toward this peak.

PAULINE

Mount Mannesquan? That is east of here--

WALT

If you could just get a hold of the Ranger for us.

PAULINE

That would be Randy Turman. I'll get him on the radio.

Pauline and Marc exchange a look as she reaches for the radio.

CUT TO:

EXT. RANGER STATION - DAY

CLOSE on a SNAKE slithering across the path. REVERSE to find J.J., Walt, Sarah, Johnny and Pauline stopping dead in their tracks.

WALT

Careful!

The ranger -- RANDY TURMAN -- is in his mid-thirties. He's good-looking, rugged, totally in control of his surroundings. He SCOOPS UP the snake.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

TURMAN
You found my escape artist.
(smiles at J.J.)
Wanna touch?

J.J. is torn between fear and fascination.

J.J.
(to Walt and Sarah)
Can I?

SARAH
Is it poisonous?

JOHNNY
There are no poisonous snakes in Maine.

Everyone, including Ranger Turman, looks his way.

TURMAN
Like Ireland. This is a milk snake. It only looks like the North American coral snake--

Hesitantly, J.J. touches the snake as it coils up and around Turman's arms.

J.J.
It's not slimy.

TURMAN
Nope. What's your name?

J.J.

TURMAN
Well, J.J., it's the color of the bands that lets you know. "Red and black, friend of Jack, red and yellow--"

JOHNNY
(beats him to it)
"--kill a fellow."

J.J. laughs -- but the ranger is still holding the snake.

TURMAN
You must be John Smith. Pauline says you have information about the Flight 233 crash.
PAULINE
He says he saw it crash on Mount Mannesquan.

WALT
If he says he saw it, that's what happened.
(intros himself)
Walt Bannerman. Penobscot County Sherriff. Mr. Smith has consulted on a number of cases for us. I've never known him to be wrong.

TURMAN
(open-minded)
Really. What exactly did you see?

Johnny orients himself, and raises his right hand toward the mountain.

JOHNNY
Just an impression I got off the piece of metal. Inside a cargo plane. Pilots fighting for control -- the engine stalled -- they went into a dive toward that peak.

Turman glances at Pauline. Interesting.

TURMAN
All that from a piece of metal? Seems impossible, but if you're right, I need to go up there. There are two families who had nothing to bury. Sure like to find some closure for them. Think if I took you up there we could find the crash site?

JOHNNY
I'm not the hiker I used to be, but I might be able to narrow down the search.

WALT
A lot of ground to cover, I'll come, too.

Walt turns to Sarah.

(CONTINUED)
WALT

Sorry J.J. this sort of shoots
the fishing trip... You and mom
can stay here till we get back.
CONTINUED: (4)

J.J.
No way, I'm going with you, Dad.

Walt, Johnny and Sarah exchange a three-way look.

TURMAN
It's okay with me. Most likely be an overnighter. You up for an adventure kid?

J.J.
You bet.

SARAH
I don't know J.J. Who knows what we're going to find up there.

J.J.
(disappointed)
Aw, Mom! I'm not scared! I just touched a snake!

Turman laughs as he pulls out a map.

TURMAN
Don't worry ma'am, we'll keep him out of harm's way. There's a cabin on that east trail. We can camp there tonight--

EXT. BOAT SHOP - DAY

Ranger Turman says goodbye to Marc and Pauline in the BACKGROUND as Johnny, Walt, Sarah, and J.J. pull on their packs.

TURMAN
Ready to go?

J.J.
You bet. Can I go with the ranger?

WALT
Sure. We'll be right behind.

SARAH
You listen to Ranger Turman though.

J.J.
Yes Mom...

WALT
(to Johnny)
You gonna be okay?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JOHNNY
Yeah. Don't worry about me.

Marc and Pauline watch as Johnny catches up to the rest of the group.

DISSOLVE TO:

OMITTED AND

EXT. TRAIL - DAY

A couple of hours later. It is now mid-afternoon. Johnny catches up with Walt and Sarah.

SARAH
How's the leg holding up?

JOHNNY
(a white lie)
So far the hike is easier than one of Bruce's workouts.

WALT
Well at least somebody is bonding with J.J.

He nods ahead--

ANGLE - J.J. WITH TURMAN

Turman is pointing to some object in a tree, to J.J.'s rapt attention.

RESUME SARAH AND JOHNNY

SARAH
Don't listen to him. Now's your chance to catch up. J.J.'s studying ecology in school, I seem to remember that being one of your favorite subjects.

JOHNNY
Look, Sarah, it's one thing for J.J. and I to get to know each other better on a family camping trip... but now...

(MORE)
JOHNNY (CONT'D)
now this has become about one of
my visions. I was just hoping it
could be... normal.

SARAH
Johnny, if you're waiting for the
perfect moment it's never going
to happen. Now go on.

Johnny looks at her, thinks about it for a beat, then
heads off to catch up with J.J. and the Ranger, leaving
Sarah behind with Walt.

WALT
What if he's right? What if it
just isn't meant to be?

Sarah watches Johnny go, hoping that's not true.

J.J. AND TURMAN
Looking up into a tree at a large bird's nest as Johnny
catches up.

J.J.
Johnny look, Ranger Randy showed
me an owl's nest.

JOHNNY
Oh yeah, look at that. Spotted
Owl?

TURMAN
Logging back in the 70's almost
wiped em out.

J.J.
Aren't they endangered?

JOHNNY
(impressed)
That's right J.J. ...Everything
in this forest is interconnected.
If the owls weren't here to feed
on the small animals, this whole
habitat could be damaged.

Johnny starts looking around on the ground directly beneath
the nest.

J.J.
Whatcha looking for?
Johnny finds something, sweeping away some debris on the ground.

JOHNNY
Owls are predators -- they eat small mammals like mice -- and they swallow them whole because they don't have teeth. They can't digest the bones, so they spit them out in what's called a pellet. There's one right here.

(CONTINUED)
J.J. leans in close to see.

E.C.U. - AN OWL PELLET

A crushed up mouse skeleton about the size of an egg.

J.J.
Cool. It's like a smushed up skeleton. Can I touch it?

JOHNNY
Sure. Here, go show it to your mom, she'll love it.

Johnny puts the pellet in J.J.'s hand, and he goes running off with it.

JOHNNY AND TURMAN

Continue up the trail.

JOHNNY
You know your park.

TURMAN
Well, I am the ranger. (beat)
You do all right, too. Most visitors wouldn't know the difference between a milk snake and a milk shake.

JOHNNY
I used to teach high school biology down in Cleaves Mills.

TURMAN
Nice town. A little crowded.

Johnny can't help laughing.

JOHNNY
Cleaves Mills? Too crowded?

TURMAN
Guess I'm not what you'd call a people person. Hell even Spirit Lake is getting a little crowded for me. Park Service cabin is just a few bends ahead. We'll camp there tonight.

(CONTINUED)
Just then a SCREAM draws there attention. Johnny and Turman turn to see:

JOHNNY'S POV

Walt is laughing as J.J. shows Sarah the owl pellet, thrusting it right in her face.

SARAH
Yes. Yes. It's very nice. Now get it away from me.

RESUME JOHNNY AND TURMAN

Sharing a laugh.

DISSOLVE TO:

STOCK SHOT - THE MOON
Rising over the mountain peaks.

A meal and several hours later. A fire burns down as Johnny, Sarah, Walt, J.J. and Turman sit around the campfire.

TURMAN
--they heard the snap of a branch. No one was supposed to be there. At first they thought it was a black bear. Or maybe a brush wolf.

Yes, Turman is in full scary story mode. J.J. is listening, trying to keep cool. It's not working.

TURMAN
So Ned, the first logger, goes to investigate. Wham! He disappears (J.J. jumps) The other logger, whose name was Gerald, takes the rifle and goes to investigate. Because he knows better than to go into the forest alone... at night.

(CONTINUED)
Turman's voice dies. Stays dead. After a moment--

J.J.

Then what?

TURMAN

They tracked him into the woods, where the footprints suddenly ended, as if he'd been yanked into mid-air. Gerald and Ned were never seen again.

J.J. can't help gasping. Sarah, too.

SARAH
(prompting)

Of course, this all happened a looong time ago, right?

TURMAN
(picking up the hint)

True.

JOHNNY

The Old Man of Mount Mannesquan retired to Florida in, what, 1992?

This gets a laugh, especially from J.J.

TURMAN

Okay, park rule: scary stories must be followed by marshmallows.

He pulls a bag out of his pack, then starts searching for sticks.

J.J.

Cool!

While everyone else gets ready for Marshmallows, something catches Johnny's attention, drawing his look off into the darkness

JOHNNY'S POV: THE STALKER - JOHNNY - INTERCUTTING

Standing in the darkness, just beyond the light thrown from the fire. It's eerie, like he's lit from another dimension. He's staring at Johnny, saying something, but there's no sound coming from his mouth. Johnny strains to see him, not even sure he's there. The Stalker's hand is in his pocket, and just as he's about to take it out to show something to Johnny...

(_CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

SARAH (O.S.)
What is it Johnny?

RESUME - WIDER
Johnny turns to Sarah...

JOHNNY
...I thought I saw something.

Johnny turns back, the Stalker is gone. Everyone else looks -- nothing there.

WALT
(having fun)
Maybe it's the Old Man of Mount Mannesquan...

J.J.'s eyes widen. He tucks up against Sarah.

SARAH
Walt...

Johnny knows he saw something, but isn't sure if it's a vision or real.

JOHNNY
Guess it's nothing...

Johnny's attention returns to the group as he shakes off the weird vision. J.J. barely has the first marshmallow in the fire when CRUNCH! A sound from THE WOODS STARTLES THE HELL out of them all.

ANGLE - MARC AND PAULINE
Emerge from the shadows. Both are burdened with heavy packs, which they waste no time in dropping.

MARC
Evening folks.

(CONTINUED)
PAULINE
(politely)
Hope we didn't spook you.

She sees the surprise on the faces of Johnny, Walt and Sarah.

TURMAN
Well... this is a surprise.

MARC
It's a big mountain. Thought you could use a hand.

TURMAN
(to Johnny and company)
Marc spent three summers searching the mountain for that plane, so I guess we can't blame him for wanting to help.

MARC
I, ah, hope it's all right.

WALT
It's okay with me.

SARAH
An extra pair of eyes might be helpful.

MARC
And I've got something to show Mr. Smith here.

Marc takes a handkerchief out of his pack and peels it open to reveal another piece of metal -- this one is a bolt that is twisted and bent. Everyone watches as Marc unwraps the bolt and hands it to Johnny --

FLASH! - A VISION

The twisted bolt grows into the storm battered tail of the plane. As the rudder is buffeted by turbulence, the bolt rips loose and the rudder is peeled away by the wind, sending the plane into a dive.
As the doomed pilots fight for control, the now familiar peak filling their view.

PILOT
...Damn, we lost rudder control.

CO-PILOT
Watch out for the trees.

VISION ENDS:

TURMAN
(to Johnny, fascinated)
Are you seeing something?

JOHNNY
 stil shaken)
The rudder was damaged and they went down in the trees.

MARCE
The forest is really dense up on the east slope. If it hit there, no wonder we never found it!

ANGLE J.J.

His eyes as big as saucers, having heard everything.

RESUME WIDER

SARAH
(re: J.J.)
I think it's somebody's bedtime.

WALT
Should probably all get some sleep.
CONTINUED:

TURMAN
You three take the cabin. The rest of us can bunk under the stars.


INT. CABIN - NIGHT

One room with a pot bellied stove and several logging or climbing tools hanging on the bare walls. J.J. is already in his sleeping bag on the floor, out like a light. Sarah and Walt are settling...

WALT
I wish I could drop off to sleep like that.

Sarah snuggles him.

SARAH
Well, if the mountain air doesn't work, I might have something...

She kisses him.

SARAH
You've been great about this whole weekend.

WALT
I have?

SARAH
Letting Johnny be part of this? I know it's not easy. I know--

(WALT looking at SARAH, on the verge of a confession?)

WALT
It's fine. Let's get some sleep.

Walt is not prepared to share his feelings on the subject. They hunker down for sleep, nothing more--

EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT

Johnny returns from a trip to the bushes to find Marc toasting the last of the marshmallows.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

MARC
(mouth full)
Sorry. No time for dinner.

JOHNNY
No problem.

PAULINE (O.S.)
Marc! I need help with this!

MARC
Here I come.

He tosses the marshmallow stick to the ground as he goes.

JOHNNY
left alone by the fire, looks back into the woods where he saw the Stalker earlier.

HIS POV
Nothing there.

RESUME - JOHNNY
shrugs it off. Notices one marshmallow left.

JOHNNY
...Can't waste this...

He picks up Marc's marshmallow stick, triggering --

FLASH - A VISION - INT. BOATHOUSE

Marc is hurriedly going through the contents of a small lock box full of newspaper clippings, setting them aside as he looks for something. A headline of one of the clippings reads: COURIER FLIGHT CRASHES IN MAINE, PILOTS FEARED DEAD -- ramp into the subhead -- TWO MILLION DOLLAR CARGO STILL MISSING.

The view WIDENS as Marc finds what he's looking for: the bolt he showed Johnny. He shuts the lock box, stuffs the bolt in his pocket, then grabs something else from under the counter -- A GUN.
RESUME JOHNNY

Staggered. For a moment he's torn... which way to turn...?

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

All three Bannermans are asleep as Johnny edges into the cabin.

JOHNNY
(whispers)
Walt--

Walt stirs sleepily, then SNAPS fully awake.

WALT
Johnny? What...?

JOHNNY
Something's up with that guy from the boatshop.
(MORE)
JOHNNY (CONT'D)
He's got a gun.

WALT
Gun? You sure?

Walt recognizes the signs of a Johnny vision. Walt extracts himself from the sleeping bag.

WALT
Okay, okay...
(thinks)
Let's get Turman.

EXT. CAMPsite - NIGHT

The fire has almost completely died down by now as Johnny and Walt finish filling in Turman in hushed tones.

JOHNNY
First they show up uninvited. And now he's got a gun.

ANGLE - A TENT

Set up not far away. The light from a lantern inside shows two figures.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
There's something on that plane he wants.

TURMAN
How the hell...?

He looks from Walt to Johnny.

TURMAN (CONT'D)
...I see.
(sighs)
It looks like you're right Mr. Smith...

He reaches into his pack and PULLS OUT HIS OWN GUN, which he trains on Johnny and Walt.

TURMAN (CONT'D)
...Unfortunately.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE
A tense Johnny and Walt sit before the campfire as Turman waits for Marc to take up position. Both carry pistols. They are nervous.

WALT
Why are you doing this?

JOHNNY
This was never about finding the dead pilots was it? There's something on that plane you want.

It's a guess, not a vision. But it hits home. Pauline
ELBOWS Marc.

TURMAN
I told you not to let him touch you!

MARC
He didn't touch me...

TURMAN
Doesn't matter now. You two should have stayed back at the lake like we agreed.

MARC
If it wasn't for me, you wouldn't even be here.

TURMAN
This changes everything.

JOHNNY
So what's this two million dollar cargo?

Turman and Marc react, this guy is good.

TURMAN
That's where it gets interesting. We're not sure. All we know is there's a single package insured for over two million dollars.
INT. CABIN - NIGHT

J.J. still sleeps, but Sarah is wide awake, watching through the door.

ANGLE - CAMPFIRE - NIGHT - HANDHELD (SARAH'S POV)

Johnny, Walt, Marc, and Turman.

WALT
How do you know it even survived the crash. There's probably nothing left of that plane but a charred hole in the ground.

MARC
Emergency beacon survived the crash, but went dead before they could locate the wreckage.

TURMAN
The insurance company must have been pretty sure it survived. They spent months looking for that cargo before they paid off the claim. We'd all given up finding it, until you came along Mr. Smith.

WALT
So you find your loot; then what? Eliminate the witnesses? You aren't a killer, Turman.

MARC
For two million bucks, I am.

Sarah reacts to this with horror. Just then, J.J. STIRS.

J.J.
(sleepily)
Mom?

SARAH
(comforting)
Ssshhh. It's all right, sweetie. Back to sleep...

She strokes his head, even though her heart is pounding and her hand is trembling, getting J.J. back to sleep.

Just outside the cabin door, Sarah SEES Turman's pack and

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

sleeping bag. Next to the pack, TURMAN'S WALKIE TALKIE.

SARAH

Eases out the door, inching her way towards the walkie. Just as she gets her hand on it she hears a CLICK.

PAULINE

Don't.

Sarah turns slowly: there's Pauline, pointing the gun at her.

EXT. CAMPFIRE - NIGHT

Pauline SHOVES Sarah into view. Walt and Johnny RISE as one, but Marc is there, covering them. Pauline hands the walkie to Turman.

PAULINE

You might want to put this someplace safe.

TURMAN

All right, Mom knows, too. That makes everything simpler.

WALT

Sarah.... where's J.J.?

SARAH

Asleep in the cabin--

TURMAN

Okay, all of you. This kind of hero stuff is only going to get someone hurt. You don't want that, and we don't want that. So here's what's going to happen. J.J.'s a great kid; he doesn't need to know anything. As far as he's concerned, we're just on a little treasure hunt. The rest of you behave yourselves, and nobody gets hurt. Understood?

Walt knows he has to buy time. He and Sarah nod in silent agreement.
CONTINUED:

TURMAN
(to Johnny)
That goes double for you, Mr. Smith. Just help me find that plane and you'll all be home for dinner.

Johnny looks at Sarah and Walt. He comes to the same conclusion Walt did.

JOHNNY
I'll cooperate.

TURMAN
Alright then. You folks might want to try to get some sleep, we've got a big day tomorrow... Marc, since you crashed the party, you take first watch.

DISSOLVE TO:

ESTABLISHING SHOT - MOUNT MANNESQUAN - DAY

Sunrise lights up the mountain.

TURMAN (O.S.)
Beautiful day for a hike huh?

EXT. TRAIL - DAY

Turman leads the way up a mountainous path, followed by Johnny. Next come Walt, Sarah, and J.J., with Marc and Pauline bringing up the rear.

JOHNNY
I can think of better ways to spend my time.

TURMAN
Look, this isn't what I had in mind either Mr. Smith...

(MORE)
CONTINUED:

TURMAN (CONT'D)
I'm not some bad guy who was looking to kidnap a family.

JOHNNY
It's not you I'm worried about.

TURMAN
I'll handle Marc. You just get us to that plane.

ANGLE - J.J., WALT, AND SARAH

J.J., happy and unaware of the danger, runs ahead to catch up with Johnny and the Ranger.

SARAH
J.J. - come back here.

J.J.
Aww Mom, I want to hike with the Ranger.

Turman, smiling, tousles J.J.'s hair playfully.

TURMAN
It's okay. I love the little guy.

SARAH
(covers her fear)
We'll be right here J.J.

TURMAN
Ever been on a treasure hunt, J.J.?

J.J.
No sir!

TURMAN
Well, this is kind of like that, except your friend Johnny here is our treasure map.

J.J.
Cool...

Johnny and Turman exchange a look.
EXT. MOUNTAIN TRAIL - DAY

An hour or so later. The terrain is up and down, rocky, heavily-wooded. No one is going too fast, except for J.J., who is happily scampering up and down every rock in sight.

MARC AND PAULINE

hike along, keeping an eye on Walt and Sarah.

MARC

First thing I'm gonna do with our share, baby, is buy you a proper wedding ring with a diamond about the size of my fist.

PAULINE

(playfully)

About time... what's the second thing you're going to do?

Marc slides up next to her and whispers in her ear.

PAULINE

Mmm... aren't you the bad boy...

WALT AND SARAH

listen to Marc and Pauline, seething. Walt plays it cool, but his eyes are scanning his captors, his cop's mind constantly updating escape scenarios.

JOHNNY, TURMAN AND J.J.

J.J. finds a big chunk of black basalt.

J.J.

Look what I found.

He hands it to Turman first.

TURMAN

That's a beauty.

Turman logically hands the rock back to J.J. Johnny sees an opportunity.

JOHNNY

Let's see that, J.J.

The touch of the rock leads to --
Turman and Pauline, back behind the counter in the boatshop, halfway out of their clothes, banging their way through a P.G. rated quicky.

VISION ENDS:
RESUME - JOHNNY ON THE TRAIL

He gives the piece of basalt back to J.J.

**JOHNNY**
That's a nice chunk of basalt you got there. These mountains are volcanic.

**J.J.**
Can I keep it?

**JOHNNY**
Sure.

Johnny lets Turman and J.J. pull ahead as he pauses to drink from his canteen. He looks from Turman, to Pauline, to Marc, trying to calculate what this new dynamic means. As Marc catches up...

**JOHNNY**
So Marc, how long you two been together?

**MARC**
What do you care?

**JOHNNY**
Just making conversation.

**MARC**
(to Pauline)
How long we been together, baby? Five years?

**PAULINE**
Six.

**JOHNNY**
Must get lonely up here in the winter, just the two of you.

**MARC**
Ain't so bad. We got each other -- right, baby?

**PAULINE**
That's right.

**JOHNNY**
Guess the Ranger Station's open year round, too, huh...?

Just then Turman shouts from up ahead.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Turman waits as Johnny catches up. Marc watches him go, wondering what that was about. But a seed has been planted...

DISSOLVE TO:

A TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP of the area surrounding Spirit Lake. Widen out to REVEAL: as a concerned Turman consults the map.

Turman: Trail's washed out up ahead. Looks like we're going to have to cross at the old railroad bridge about a quarter mile upstream.

Marc: Didn't some kids get killed foolin' around on that bridge last summer?

Turman: It's the only way across. Otherwise it's a two day walk up to the narrows...

He looks at the map again.

Turman: Let me just scout ahead a bit, maybe there's another crossing. The rest of you stay here -- get some food and rest 'til I get back.

(then to Marc, quietly) Keep an eye on the Sheriff.

Marc: Don't worry.

Turman heads off.
40A  EXT. WIDE SPOT - MINUTES LATER

Johnny, J.J., Sarah and Walt eating trail mix. Only J.J. has an appetite. Marc watches them like a hawk.

J.J.
I want to be a Ranger when I grow up.

WALT
I thought you wanted to be a cop.

J.J.
I want to be a copy and a Ranger... and a scientist.

SARAH
(finding a ray of sunshine)
I'm sure you'll be all of those things and more.

ANGLE ON PAULINE
rifling through her and Marc's packs, getting frustrated.

PAULINE
I thought I told you to pack some of those power bars.

MARC
I did.

PAULINE
(bitchy)
Well, they aren't here.

A window into a day in the life of Marc and Pauline -- it ain't pretty.

MARC
Lemme look.

Marc walks over to Pauline, turning his back on Johnny and the others. As he bends over to search through the packs, his shirt rides up, revealing the gun tucked in the back of his pants.

JOHNNY AND WALT
see this. Eyes locked on the gun, Walt hands his water bottle to Johnny, triggering --
A VISION

Walt sees his chance and takes it, running the ten steps across the trail, tackling Marc from behind, their momentum knocking Pauline and the packs aside. Walt and Marc fight for the gun, Marc getting off a wild shot before Walt subdues him, winding up on top with his knee in Marc's back. But then --

SARAH
(quiet, almost surprised)
...Walt...

Johnny and Walt turn to see:

SARAH
hands clutched to her stomach, bleeding, a look of surprise on her face as she collapses.

VISION ENDS:

JOHNNY & WALT

Just as Johnny takes the water bottle from Walt, who we see is coiling like a spring, ready to --

WIDER

as Walt makes his move, running toward Marc, and disaster.

JOHNNY
Walt, NO!

It's all the warning Marc needs, turning just in time to sidestep Walt and pull his gun, bashing Walt in the head as they go down.

SARAH
Oh my god!

J.J.
Daddy!

Marc pulls himself free, leaving Walt on the ground, bleeding. Sarah and J.J. run to Walt who staggers to his feet, wiping the blood from his head. All three look to Johnny, a mixture of fear and confusion on their faces.

WALT
What the hell's wrong with you, Johnny?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JOHNNY
I saw it -- Sarah you were -- it wasn't going to work...

Just then Turman returns, gun drawn, standing next to Johnny.

TURMAN
Listen to your friend, Sheriff. He's never wrong. Said so yourself.

Walt glares at Johnny and Turman. Off Johnny's look...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO
Act Three

Fade In:

43 EXT. WIDE SPOT IN THE TRAIL - DAY (NOT AT BRIDGE)  43*

Walt is on his feet, hands in the air. Marc holds a gun on him. (He is shaking with anger.) Pauline has her pistol aimed at Johnny and Sarah, who holds onto J.J.* 

TURMAN
(disappointed)*
All you people had to do was play along.*
(to Walt)
But you had to be the big hero--

JOHNNY
What did you expect? You can't kidnap a man's family and not expect him to do something--

But Turman isn't listening to Johnny.

MARC
Well, you can't expect me not to do something either.

TURMAN
Calm down. Take him back the way we came a few hundred yards and tie him up where some hiker won't see him.

MARC
Don't you think...

TURMAN
Just do what I tell you for once.*

SARAH
(to Turman)
Then what?

(Continued)
CONTINUED:

Pauline answers for him--

**PAULINE**
Then you shut up and do what you're told.

Sarah looks at her with loathing. Turman gives Pauline a look that says, "Stay out of it."

**TURMAN**
Like I've been saying all along.
Mr. Smith helps us find the plane, then everybody gets to go home. By the time you three pick up the Sheriff and trek back down to the lake, we'll be across the border--

Turman is getting impatient -- he tosses Marc a coil of rope.

**TURMAN**
Get going! You can catch up with us at the bridge.
(then to Walt)
Leave the pack.

As Walt passes, he peels off the pack and hands it to Johnny, triggering --

A VISION - AT THE EDGE OF A RIVER GORGE

Marc marches Walt to a spot at the edge of a gorge overlooking a rushing river below. Walt looks at the drop off, then turns around to face Marc, who stops about ten feet back from the edge.

**WALT**
Now what?

**MARCE**
Turn around so I can tie you up.

Walt turns around.

**WALT**
You hurt my wife and kid, I'll kill you.

**MARCE**
You don't need to worry about that...

The view WIDENS TO REVEAL Johnny, standing next to Marc,
watching as Marc drops the coil of rope and aims his gun at Walt's back.

**MARC (CONT'D)**

...anymore.

And Marc fires the gun...

**VISION SLOWS** to bullet time as the bullet inches its way toward Walt.

Johnny reacts in horror as the **VISION SNAPS TO NORMAL SPEED** and the bullet hits Walt in the back. Johnny watches helpless as Walt falls dead over the edge of the cliff and we **HEAR A SPLASH** from below.

**MARC**

Shoulda jumped when you had the chance.

**VISION ENDS:**

Walt handing off the pack to Johnny.

**JOHNNY** (quietly)

When he tells you not to worry.

Jump.

Walt's first reaction is annoyance -- what the hell is Johnny talking about? Then he remembers just who's talking to him.

**MARC**

Hey. Shut up you two.

Marc pushes Walt along. **J.J. runs to him.**

**J.J.**

I want to go with you!
CONTINUED:

WALT
Don't worry, J.J. I'll see you all in a couple of hours. Go to your mom now. It's okay.

MARC
Go on kid, do as your Dad says.

Sarah pulls J.J. away as Marc marches Walt off. Pauline and Turman exchange a look about Marc that makes us wonder what they're thinking. Sarah turns to Johnny, her eyes pleading for a way out of this as Turman starts them marching away.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BRIDGE - DAY

A railroad bridge that has seen better decades. Reaching the head of the bridge, Turman pauses. The view CRANES UP to reveal the depth of the river gorge below. Pauline looks at the shear drop.

PAULINE
You're not really thinking of going across that are you?

TURMAN
Don't worry, I have an idea.

He steps aside and politely motions with his gun for Johnny to pass him.

TURMAN
All right, Smith, you're the psychic.
(points to the bridge)
You go first.

A beat. Then Johnny steps forward onto the bridge, gingerly touching each plank with his foot before stepping on it.

VISION - (BUT WE DON'T KNOW THAT YET)

The board cracks into splinters, and Johnny plunges through the opening, hurtling down to the rocks below, dying.

VISION ENDS:
Johnny decides to skip that board.

He takes a few steps more, testing each board as he goes.

and Johnny falls through, but this time, the VISION FREEZES before he falls all the way through, THEN REVERSES, Johnny popping back up onto the bridge.

HE TRIES THE NEXT BOARD

It breaks, too. Again Johnny falls through, and again the VISION FREEZES, then REVERSES, Johnny popping back up on the bridge.

Johnny back where he started - none of the boards broken, it was all a vision. He begins crossing the bridge, careful not to step on the bad planks. Turman watches, J.J. at his side.

JOHNNY
This one's no good. Neither is that one. Step here.

Turman looks at the water below.

TURMAN
Not that I don't trust you Mr. Smith, but...

Turman extends a hand to J.J.

TURMAN
...Take my hand.

J.J. looks to Sarah, who looks to Johnny.

JOHNNY
Go ahead, J.J. I won't let anything happen to you.

SARAH
It's okay, baby.

Turman takes J.J.'s hand, gripping it tightly.
CONTINUED:

Turman hits the next plank. Solid. The three of them advance, followed by Sarah and Pauline.

EXT. RIVERS EDGE - DAY

A few hundred yards down the trail. Marc pushes Walt along at gunpoint. We hear water RUSHING PAST below. Hard to tell which of them is more nervous.

MARC
Over there.

In a repeat of Johnny's vision, Marc marches Walt to a spot at the edge of a gorge overlooking a rushing river below. Walt looks at the drop off, then turns around to face Marc, who stops about ten feet back from the edge.

WALT
Now what?

MARC
Turn around so I can tie you up.

WALT
You hurt my wife and kid, I'll kill you.

He's moving as slowly as he can, trying to figure out what Johnny meant. Turning to face the edge, he looks down to the river, forty feet below.

MARC
You don't need to worry about that...

Walt realizes this must be the moment Johnny was talking about.

WALT
(to himself)
Damn... Johnny...

As Marc drops the rope and raises his gun in SLOW MOTION, Walt looks down and...

CUT TO:

EXT. BRIDGE - DAY

Johnny, J.J. and Turman -- are just reaching the other side. Sarah and Pauline follow, half a dozen planks behind as Marc's SHOT ECHOES.
SARAH

Walt!

Johnny looks back at her. He wants to be reassuring, but there's nothing he can say out loud.
JOHNNY
(voice strained)
Stay focused, Sarah.
(then, re: a plank)
This one.

J.J. and Turman step as Johnny does.

JOHNNY
And... this one.

The final plank. They have reached the other side. They turn to wait for Sarah and Pauline.

TURMAN
(getting impatient)
Pauline, do you see Marc anywhere?

Pauline looks down river.

PAULINE
Not yet.

Sarah reaches the safety of the far side. J.J. runs to her arms; Turman lets him. Pauline is still working her way across the last few steps, leaving Johnny alone with Turman.

JOHNNY
Marc knows you're nailing his wife.

Turman reacts, surprised Johnny knows this.

JOHNNY
He's going to wait until we find your cargo, and then he's going to kill you, too.

TURMAN
Nice try Mr. Smith, but the mind games aren't going to work. One thing I know about Marc is, he has no impulse-control. The fact that I'm still breathing means he doesn't know...
(then quietly threatening)
...And you sure as hell aren't going to tell him... understood?

MARC (O.S.)
Hey, a little help!

(CONTINUED)
ANGLE - MARC

He stands on the far side of the bridge, breathless.

TURMAN

What happened?

MARC

Just a warning shot. He tried to make a break.

TURMAN

(to Marc, with a glance at Johnny)

Hurry up, then. I'll guide you.

SARAH, J.J., AND JOHNNY

Sarah, terrified, silently mouths to Johnny.

SARAH

(silent)

What happened to Walt?

JOHNNY

(silently, shrugging)

I don't know yet...

He reaches out and squeezes her hand as Sarah hugs J.J.

ANGLE - THE BRIDGE

Pistol in belt, Marc has made it halfway across. Turman stands at the safe end, guiding. Pauline is behind the ranger, pistol trained on Johnny, Sarah and J.J.

TURMAN

Next... okay. Keep going.

Marc stops.

MARC

This one looks bad--

TURMAN

Then step over it. Trust me, we all made it...

Marc steps over it. Hears a CREAK, but doesn't fall. He's halfway across.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (4)

ANGLE - PAULINE AND JOHNNY

Just out of Turman's earshot.

    PAULINE
    Careful!
JOHNNY
As if you care...

Pauline shoots him a look.

PAULINE
You don't know anything.

JOHNNY
Must be tough. Girl from a small town -- winds up stuck someplace even smaller. No friends. Nothing to see but a lake and a bait shop and a dead end husband. * Who could blame you for falling in love with the handsome Ranger? Gotta wonder how long it’s going to last once he gets his hands on that money... unless of course Marc kills you both first.

PAULINE
Shut up.

RESUME BRIDGE
As Turman continues to lead Marc across.

MARC
Now what?

TURMAN
Two more...

Marc steps. Solid. Steps again... close to the safe side now.

TURMAN
(a beat)
Take the next step--

Marc does, and he SMASHES THROUGH the rotted wood. Sarah reacts, turning J.J. away.

Pauline RUSHES FORWARD, but hesitates, exchanging a look with Turman.

Seeing that Marc is hanging on solidly, Turman turns his gun on Johnny.

TURMAN
Help him up.

(CONTINUED)
Johnny pushes past Turman, kneeling on the bridge planks to help Marc.

**JOHNNY**

Take my hand.

Marc hesitates, not sure he can trust Johnny.

**JOHNNY**

Take my hand!

Marc lets go with one hand, reaching for Johnny. As Johnny locks onto his wrist...

---

**FLASH!**

**WALT STANDS AT THE PRECIPICE... THE RUSHING WATER LOOMS BELOW... BEHIND HIM, MARC RAISES THE PISTOL--**

**MARC**

...You don't need to worry about that...

**THEN WALT RUSHES FOR THE EDGE... JUMPS... THERE'S A SPLASH...**

**MARC FIRES A DESPERATE, LATE, WILD SHOT... BUT WALT HAS SURVIVED THE JUMP... AND IS BEING CARRIED DOWNSTREAM... ALIVE--**

---

**RESUME**

Johnny has Turman's help now, pulling Marc to safety.

**TURMAN**

(to Marc)

Sorry about that. I must have mis-counted...

Pauline rushes to Marc, embracing him.

**PAULINE**

Are you okay, baby?

**MARC**

Yeah, fine...

He exchanges a look of grudging thanks with Johnny. As Marc and Pauline put on their packs, Johnny sneaks a smile to Sarah, signaling her that Walt is alive. Just then Turman pulls Johnny aside.

(CONTINUED)
Turman nods soberly. Then...

TURMAN
(lightening the mood)
Okay Mr. Smith, upstream or downstream?

JOHNNY
I don't know. All my visions so far have been from up above the trees. It all looks so different from here. Without something to touch, I can't really say.

Turman thinks a beat.

TURMAN
Marc... you still got that bolt?

MARC
Yeah sure.

TURMAN
Give it here.

Marc digs it out of his pack and starts to give it to Turman, who avoids touching it.

TURMAN
Hand it to Mr. Smith.
(then to Johnny)
Maybe you can get another hit off of this.

JOHNNY
It doesn't work like that...

TURMAN
Try...
(then subtly threatening)
What do you have to lose?

(Continued)
JOHNNY
Takes the bolt from Marc...

FLASH! A VISION - INT. PLANE
The pilots brace for final impact, the altitude alarm blaring as they begin slashing through the tree tops.
VISION ENDS:

RESUME JOHNNY
As he comes out of the vision, shaking his head.

JOHNNY
Sorry. I'm seeing the crash, but it's too disjointed, it's not giving me any sense of which direction to go.

Turman shows a flash of anger, twitching his gun hand.

TURMAN
Try harder.

Johnny has no choice but to comply. He fingers the piece of metal, thinking, playing for time. He looks up at the surrounding trees, the wind blowing the forest canopy, and an idea starts to form.

As Turman watches in fascination, Johnny takes the bolt in one hand, then closing his eyes to concentrate, reaches out with his trembling free hand to touch a large tree near him, TRIGGERING:

A VISION
With a DEAD ZONE WHOOSH, the VIEW RAMPS from the bolt in Johnny's hand -- across Johnny -- and up into the tree, pausing momentarily to look straight down on Johnny and the others -- the Whoosh -- RAMPS TO ANOTHER TREE, then another, then another, sometimes even following the roots, the view moving from tree to tree, accelerating with each connection, pausing at each junction before ramping to the next tree -- along the way shooting past A DEER -- then an owl -- gathering speed

(CONTINUED)
until the forest is just a blur -- then it appears -- at first just a silver dot in the distance, rushing towards us until we see --

THE CRASH SITE --

Johnny's vision POV hurtling toward the wreckage, surrounded by the trees that have embraced it, hiding it's secret until now. The view continues into the broken fuselage, taking us right inside -- crashing to a stop on --

THE DEAD PILOT'S SKELETON

Still at the controls, mouth open in his final scream, tendrils of a creeping vine gripping his skull, the forest having claimed him as it's own.

VISION ENDS:

RESUME REALITY - RAMPING OUT FROM JOHNNY

He drops the metal and disconnects from the tree, fighting to steady himself, rocked by the effort. He picks up his cane and points...

JOHNNY
That way.

TURMAN
Downstream? You sure?

Johnny nods yes.

TURMAN
All right then. Lets get moving.

As Johnny looks to Sarah...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE
ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

54C EXT. THE FOREST - DAY

The view TILTS DOWN from the canopy of pine trees to reveal A HAND, snapping a low hanging branch. The VIEW WIDENS TO REVEAL: Walt, wet but alive. Listening to the sound of VOICES approaching from behind him, he moves off deeper into the forest.

55 EXT. FOREST - NEARBY - DAY

Following Johnny as Turman, J.J., Sarah, Marc and Pauline leave the trail behind.

J.J.
I'm tired.

SARAH
Me too Sweetie.

JOHNNY
Hang in there J.J. You're being super brave.

J.J.
I want my Dad.

Sarah and Johnny exchange a look.

J.J.
What's going to happen to us?

JOHNNY
You just stay close to your mom, everything's gonna be okay.

DISSOLVE TO:

55A THROUGH THE TREES

We get glimpses of the now familiar peak of Mt. Mannesquan ahead.

56 EXT. FOREST CLEARING - DAY

Johnny and the others stop to rest and get a drink.

TURMAN
We'll stop here for a minute, give the kid a rest.

(CONTINUED)
MARC
I'm going to scout around up ahead.

TURMAN
Suit yourself. Give a shout if you see anything.

Turman offers his canteen to J.J., who just shakes his head no.

TURMAN
That's okay kid, I guess I'd be mad too. Don't worry, you'll be with your Dad soon enough.

Sarah doesn't like the ambiguity of Turman's tone. She takes J.J. away to sit down on a log.

JOHNNY
Notices a broken branch on a tree at the edge of the clearing. Curious he touches it and WE HEAR A DEAD ZONE WHOOSH. Johnny looks around, surprised; Walt? Here?

RESUME WIDER - THE CLEARING
Turman walks over to Johnny.

TURMAN
You know Mr. Smith, I'm really starting to respect this talent of yours. It's too bad we didn't get a chance to meet under different circumstances.

JOHNNY
So what was your plan anyway?

TURMAN
I was hoping I could come up here with just you folks, find the package and stash it someplace where I could come back later for it and nobody would be the wiser. I never intended for anybody to get hurt.

Just then Pauline catches up.

PAULINE
How much farther?
TURMAN
Can't be too far, we're going to be above the treeline pretty soon.
(then to Johnny)
You said it went down in the trees didn't you?

JOHNNY
That's what I saw.

PAULINE
(taunting)
What else do you see Mr. Smith?
If you're so psychic, tell me my future...

Johnny tries to ignore her. Turman doesn't like where this is going.

TURMAN
Pauline...

PAULINE
No. I really want to know. C'mon Mr. Psychic, am I wrapped in a mink in Switzerland or am I in Rio, lying on the beach in a bikini and pearls?

TURMAN
(stronger)
Pauline...

PAULINE
I'm just having a little fun...
(then to Johnny)
Go ahead touch me.

She gets right in front of Johnny, he just looks at her.

PAULINE
(flirty)
What? You don't want to touch me?
(then sarcastically)
That's a first... alright, then I'll touch you...

She reaches out like a girl playing tag, touching Johnny with her finger, triggering:

56A  FLASH - A VISION
Pauline lying dead on the rocks, eyes open, a gunshot
wound in her chest. The view RAMPS OUT wider to reveal --

TURMAN

Holding a gun. He looks up from Pauline, then takes the gun AND SHOOTS HIMSELF IN THE SHOULDER, giving himself a nice through-and-through wound. Gritting his teeth in pain, he takes a few steps revealing:

MARC

Also dead, bleeding from an unseen wound to the head. Turman puts the clean gun in Marc's hand, pressing his fingers around the trigger to FIRE the gun off into a nearby tree. Next he pulls out his walkie talkie and starts speaking, suddenly acting panicked and out of breath.

TURMAN

(into radio)

Mayday, Mayday - anyone monitoring this frequency. This is U.S. Forest Ranger Turman with a medical emergency, I need a Medivac chopper on the east slope of Mt. Mannesquan immediately...

As he walks away from Marc and Pauline the VIEW FOLLOWS HIM TO REVEAL:

JOHNNY AND SARAH

Dead. Face down. J.J. is unseen, but Turman's demeanor tells us he's dead, too.

TURMAN

...I've got six gunshot victims and I'm wounded...

VISION ENDS:

Johnny comes out of the vision, tempering his reaction.

PAULINE

So? What did you see?

(CONTINUED)
JOHNNY
You were lying in the sun.

PAULINE
The beach. I knew it.

Just then, Marc shouts from up ahead.

MARC
I found it... the crash... it's just up ahead.

Everyone reacts. Johnny and Sarah exchange a look. Whatever is going to happen, is going to happen soon.

TURMAN
(to Pauline)
You stay here with Mom and the kid.

PAULINE
No way. I'm coming with you.

TURMAN
(forcefully)
Stay here.
A meaningful look passes between Turman and Pauline. A decision has been made. Kill Marc?

**PAULINE**

Okay...

Nearby another look is passing between Johnny and Sarah. Turning so Pauline and Turman can't see him, Johnny shifts his eyes to indicate the surrounding forest and mouths "Walt".

**TURMAN**

C'mon Mr. Smith, I want you with me.

---

As he works his way up the mountain, Turman right behind as he catches up with Marc.

**MARC (O.S.)**

It's right up here!

Johnny and Turman round a bend, reacting to what they find: the final resting place of First Direct 233. Pieces of metallic debris and paper are scattered among the pine needles; some pieces HANG FROM TREES.

Several large sections of the fuselage survived the crash, hidden beneath the dense forest canopy.

**MARC**

No wonder they never found it from the air.

Unable to restrain himself, he PLUNGES into the rear hunk of fuselage, leaving Johnny and Turman alone for a moment.

**MARC (O.S.)**

It's a mess in here - help me look. It's a steel shipping container about yay big.

He shapes a briefcase with his hands.
Marc climbs out of the rear fuselage.

MARC
Nothing here.

TURMAN
Check the cockpit, everything might have been thrown forward in the crash. Get in there and help him Smith.

Johnny goes--

INSIDE THE FRONT SECTION

Dark but for beams of light streaming through holes and jagged cracks in the metal. There is a mound of debris -- * jumbled, smashed bags and boxes -- filling the nose of the wreck, burying the co-pilot. *

Johnny follows Marc inside, reacting to what he sees.

THE DEAD PILOT

As seen in Johnny's vision, still strapped to his seat. The rest of the cockpit is filled with debris.

MARC
Gross huh? Poor bastard. Guess we all gotta go sometime.

JOHNNY
(re: Marc)
Some sooner than others.

Marc is pawing through the mass of debris on the co-pilot's side.

MARC
(ripping open a mailer)
It's all paper! Where is the damn thing.

Johnny reluctantly helps clear some debris... loses balance... reaches out for the cabin wall... When he touches it we hear a DEAD ZONE WHOOSH. As Johnny reacts... *
62A EXT. FUSELAGE - ON WALT

Pressed up against the outside of the plane, hidden, waiting. He shifts his weight, and a piece of debris falls, making a noise.

CUT TO:

TURMAN

On the opposite side of the plane from Walt. He hears the noise and goes to investigate. THE VIEW FOLLOWS HIM as he walks around the plane, but when he gets there, Walt's gone. Shrugging it off, he exits back the way he came, the view holding a beat before REVEALING: Walt behind a nearby tree.

ANOTHER VIEW - TURMAN

Just outside the cockpit.

TURMAN

How's it going in there?

MARC (O.S.)

Still looking. It's a big damn mess...

63 RESUME INTERIOR FUSELAGE

Johnny watches as Marc continues pawing through the debris tugging at one large piece of metal in the way.

MARC

Give me a hand with this.

Johnny steps in to help. As they pull together, the metal suddenly gives way and Marc falls backward, buried in debris, INCLUDING:

(CONTINUED)
THE DEAD CO-PILOT

Face to face with Marc.

MARC
AAAaaahhh-Jeeezze-Godddd. Get it off me. Get it off.

Marc scrambles to get out from under the corpse, Johnny pulling him by the collar without touching the body. As he does, several pieces of cargo fall. Johnny looks down, and sees--

THE CONTAINER

Battered and scraped, but still intact. (It is the only steel object to be seen.) He picks it up--

JOHNNY
This what you were looking for?

--And hands the case to Marc.

OMITTED

RESUME - CONTINUOUS

MARC
Sure looks like it.

Marc struggles to open the case.

JOHNNY
(quietly but firmly)
Don't bother.
(Marc looks up)
You're never going to live to spend it. Turman's going to shoot you.

MARC
Why would he do that? We're partners!

JOHNNY
Your partner's been screwing your wife.

MARC
(harshly)
How the hell would you know?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JOHNNY
Same way I know you didn't tie up
the Sheriff.

Johnny lets this soak in as Marc begins to burn.

MARC
That bastard Turman--

He tucks the case under his arm, pulls out his gun and
heads outside...

EXT. CRASH SITE - DAY

Turman watches as Marc, then Johnny, come out. Marc DROPS
the case at Turman's feet, then points his gun at him.

TURMAN
(calmly)
So you found it. Aren't you going
to open it?

Marc is about to explode. Turman remains calm, his hands in his JACKET pockets.

MARC
Forget the case. What about you
and Pauline?

Turman slowly looks at Johnny.

MARC
He says you've been screwing my
wife and now you're going to...

Marc never finishes the sentence: Turman SHOOTS HIM. Johnny FLINCHES as Marc falls... DEAD.

Turman checks him. Takes Marc's unfired pistol from his hand and tucks it in his belt.

TURMAN
Are you ever wrong?

CUT TO:
EXT. CLEARING - DAY

The sound of Turman's SHOT still ECHOES. Pauline reacts with alarm, turning away from them toward the sound.

Sarah sees her chance, and dives at Pauline, knocking the gun loose.

SARAH
(to J.J.)
Run!

J.J. runs.

EXT. CRASH SITE - DAY

Turman sets the case down in front of him, gets ready to shoot off the lock.

TURMAN
I've always wanted to touch two million bucks worth of anything--

He smiles up at Johnny, then shoots off the lock.

TURMAN
I guess this isn't the end you had in mind--

As he opens the case, Johnny sees--

WALT
sneaking up behind Turman, a piece of debris held like a club.

JOHNNY
It's not over yet.

Just as Turman stands, Walt smashes Turman with his makeshift club, KNOCKING HIM INTO JOHNNY.

All three go SPRAWLING... Johnny's cane and Turman's gun and Marc's gun go SKITTERING... both Walt and Johnny try for the weapons... too late... Turman beats them to his.

TURMAN
Right again, Smith.

He gets to his feet, out of breath as he PICKS UP Marc's pistol. He gestures with the gun.

(CONTINUED)
68 CONTINUED:

TURMAN

Now it's over--

JOHNNY

Almost.

A SHOT RINGS OUT. Turman goes down, wounded. Sarah appears ten feet away, still aiming at Turman.

SARAH
(frightened, but sure)

Don't make me kill you.

Walt grabs Turman and disarms him.

JOHNNY
Where's J.J.?

By way of answer, J.J. RUSHES out of hiding and THROWS HIMSELF at Walt!

J.J.

Dad!

J.J. hugs his father. Sarah joins the hug, giving the gun to Walt.

DISSOLVE TO:

69 EXT. CRASH SITE - LATER

Pauline and a wounded Turman sit here, bound back-to-back, hating each other. Walt is finishing a call using Turman's radio.

Nearby, J.J. is wrapped in his mother's embrace, looking tired but safe. Sarah rocks him gently, as much for her comfort as his.

WALT
We're going to have a chopper up here in twenty minutes.

JOHNNY
Everybody alright?

Sober nods all around, the trauma of what happened just starting to soak in.
Johnny holds up a baggie full of the "treasure."

SARAH
So that's what this was all about?

J.J.
What is it?

JOHNNY
Computer chips. Two million dollars worth of four year old computer chips... they're worthless.

He kicks the box over, spilling them on the ground. Off Johnny's look...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

THE END