Blind

written by

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SCENE ONE. EXT. ESPLANADE IN A TOWN. DAY

The song 'Wham Bam Shang-A-Lang' by Silver plays as a non-diegetic sound. It starts at the 2:50 mark just before the lyric, 'Bye, bye baby, I'd really like to stay' .

The introduction to the film and title sequence play before the final chorus.

Final chorus starts .

ON THE WORD 'WE' CAMERA SHOOTS LOW-ANGLE AND QUICKLY MOVES BACK AS IT FOLLOWS THE FRONT OF 2 ROLLER SKATERS.

The rest of the song plays out and shows the roller skaters enjoying the open pathway, spinning round together almost as if they are dancing. They match with their 90's style fashion.

LOW-ANGLE SHOT SIMILAR TO THAT AT THE START, BUT IT STARTS FROM FURTHER AWAY AND MOVES TOWARDS THE ROLLER SKATERS AS THEY EVENTUALLY FILL THE FRAME.

The song ends as the roller skaters ride back over the frame.

THE CAMERA ZOOMS OUT AND TILTS UP FROM A PHONE SCREEN, SHOWING WHAT WAS SAW IS A MUSIC VIDEO MADE BY REUBEN.

REUBEN quickly stops the video and turns to HARRY as they sit on a bench on the same esplanade. Reuben looks desperate for feedback or some kind of praise or attention.

REUBEN:
(tentatively)
'What do you think then? Do you like it?'

REUBEN picks at his nails waiting for a response.

HARRY:
(said laughing and brightly)
'Yeah its really good, don't think I could listen to the song on repeat though'

REUBEN switches off his phone and they both stand up laughing.

WIDE ANGLE SIDE ON FROM THE ROAD NEXT TO THE ESPLANADE. CARS PASS INFRONT OF THE CAMERA AS IT TRACKS THE 2 WALKING AND TALKING ALONG THE ESPLANADE.

As they walk a distant chatter from REUBEN and HARRY, it is drowned out by the occasional car and crowds they pass through.

A LORRY COMPLETELY COVERS THE FRAME AS IT DRIVES BY, AFTER IT LEAVES THE FRAME SCENE 2 STARTS AS THE REUBEN
AND HARRY ARE ABOUT TO LEAVE THE TOWN.

SCENE TWO. EXT. BACK ALLEYS OF TOWN.

REUBEN and HARRY walk side by side down a tight road through town. The pavement is littered with pot holes and black rubbish bags slouch against the walls of apartments.

HARRY: (CONT'D)
'Oh just wondering! Am I still staying round yours later?'

THE CAMERA IS PLACED A COUPLE STEPS AHEAD, USING A LOW ANGLE LOOKING UP AT THE BOYS AS THEY TALK. THE CAMERA IS PLACED

REUBEN checks his phone to see a thumbs up message from his mum. REUBEN looks up and at HARRY.

REUBEN:
(REUBEN says happily but turns to fear after 'no')
'Yeah, seems like its no is-'

REUBEBN trips on one of the pot holes and hits his head on a banister leading up to an apartment entrance. The rust flies off as REUBEN makes impact.

RUEBEN looks at his hands as he slowly gets up. He can see blur of his bloody and torn palms while his heavy breathing and ringing ears supress sounds around him.

HARRY:
(muffled behind the breathing and ringing)
'Yo Rueben are you ok!'

HARRY reaches down to REUBEN. HARRY grabs REUBEN'S shoulder and attempts to help him up.

REUBEN'S bloody hand grasps with HARRY's hand as REUBEN'S blood leaks between them. HARRY'S muffled voice slowly gets clearer as REUBEN holds onto his head in pain.

HARRY: (CONT'D)
'Bro are you ok? That was rough'

REUBEN looks up at HARRY as his vision clears and ears rest back to normal.

REUBEN:
(laughing and smiling towards Harry)
'Yeah I think I'll be okay'

REUBEN feels his head as the two laugh and carry on walking.

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
(under his breath, in pain)
'ah shit'

REUBEN AND HARRY WALK OFF LAUGHING AND CHATTING. THEY GO OUT OF VIEW AND ENTER FRAME IN A NEW LOCATION TO START NEW SCENE.

SCENE THREE. EXT. CAR

REUBEN and HARRY arrive at REUBEN's sister's car which is waiting for them in a car park.

REUBEN bangs on the driver's window, scaring his sister. As him and Harry laugh he walks round the front of the car and opens the passenger door.

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
'See you later mate'

HARRY laughs thinking Reuben was joking. As HARRY opens a car door to get in REUBEN's ears start buzzing and ringing loudly. He rubs his eyes as his vision blurs.

He looks out the window as the car starts moving, putting his ear buds in not noticing HARRY sat behind him. He selects 'Age of Consent' by New Order and it starts playing above all other sounds as we hear from REUBEN's perspective.

HARRY:
'What we doin later then?'

REUBEN doesn't notice HARRY speaking and stares out the window. Holding his head in pain.

THE CAMERA LOOKS BACK AT REUBEN FROM OUTSIDE THE WINDOW

HARRY: (CONT'D)
(quieter and aware hes being ignored)
' I kinda fancy watching a film i can't lie'

THE CAMERA LOOKS BACK AT HARRY WHILE HE LOOKS OUT THE WINDOW TOO. IT PULLS AWAY AND WATCHES THE CAR DRIVE OFF.

FILLER TO DRAG SONG ON SO IT CAN FADE OUT

SCENE FOUR. INT. BEDROOM

The door to Reuben's room shuts. REUBEN sits at his pc and turns it on as he closes his window blinds and turns his lights off.

REUBEN opens his video editor and a time-lapse of him working on his music video ensues. He stops and looks at his phone, checks his messages before his head falls onto his desk with a thud. Everything quickly snaps to black as he makes impact. The computer plays an error sound before cutting.

SCENE FIVE. EXT. MUSIC VIDEO/ ESPLANADE

All sounds are muffled and REUBEN's vision is blurry as he slowly opens his eyes. He faintly hears 'Wham Bam Shang-A-Lang' by Silver playing. He rubs his eyes and pushes himself up confused, covering his eyes once he is up as he adjusts to the bright summer sun. REUBEN looks around him, quickly dogging a pair of roller skaters' as they pass him.

REUBEN:
(in disbelief)
'woah'

He watches the pair as they skate further away, chorographically dancing together as if they are on ice.

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
' Am I-?'

He stares a bit longer as the song comes to an end, only to start again almost instantly.

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
'Holly shit I'm in my video'

REUBEN runs around watching it all take place, completely amazed watching it all play out.

He sits down on a bench next to an older lady, tired and worn out.

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
'what a crazy dream, I can't believe this is happening'

RUEBEN looks to his right at the older lady. She is sat knitting as the sun reflects off her eyes.

REUBEN looks down at his lap, looking desperate for something to say.

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
' I cant believe I made this'

RUEBEN peeks to his right once again, waiting for a response. One doesn't come.

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
'I wonder if Harry actually liked it. I wish I knew if he was telling the truth, I just want his honest opinion'

The woman ignores him once again, not getting distracted from her knitting.

RUEBEN moves to another bench and tries talking to another person but is met with the same blank response. He sits silent for a second staring at the waves on the beach. The song still playing, RUEBEN grips his ears as he is sick of the song.

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
(shouting angrily)
'I CAN'T TAKE THIS NO MORE!'

He quickly stands up and runs through a road, narrowly missing every car.

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
'I have to wake up or I'm gonna go insane I swear'

The chorus starts as multiple different shots of RUEBEN trying to force himself to wake up sync with the music.

He tries pinching himself, hitting his head, running into the water and more.

SCENE SIX. EXT. MUSIC VIDEO/ TOWN

REUBEN lays flat on the broken concrete ground. He is cold, wet and looks exhausted. He closes his eyes as the sun blinds him through a gap in the building around him.

The sun's harsh beam disappears as a dark shadow casts over REUBEN's face. He stutters as he slowly opens his eyes and turns his head as he see's a pair of roughed up shoes beside him.

REUBEN:
'Hello?'

There is no response once again. RUEBEN closes his eyes once again.

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
(annoyed)
'leave me alone'

???:
'You don't get it do you?'

RUEBEN's eyes dart open in shock.

REUBEN:
'w-what?'

???:
'none of this is a dream RUEBEN.
This is you, your life.'

REUBEN:
(confused)
'I'm not following, how is this
real. It's my music video. I made
this, it is far from real'

REUEBN clenches his head as it hits him with a sharp pain.

???:
'so you do understand. YOU made
this, it's all fake. An act. Does
that not seem familiar.'

REUBEN, completely lost, lies back onto his back and stares at the sky.

???: (CONT'D)
'This, video, your in is fake. You meticulously designed every inch of it. You worry that if even one detail is out of place the whole thing is ruined. You watch through it, loop after loop, making the most minor of changes as it slowly occupies every minute of your life. You're stuck in this loop, trying and changing, pushing what makes it unique and good away.'

REUBEN:
'so what, I want it to be perfect. If it isn't whose gonna like, where will it get me if its got mistakes.'

REUBEN sighs, looking at the clouds some more, watching them sit still as the music plays over and over.

???:
'So what if it has flaws. Each mistake means you have something to work towards in the future. Everything from videos, the music in them, the street you lie on and everyone around you has flaws. It's what makes us human. People like flaws, it makes us and what we create unique.

REUBEN sits up slowly and looks at his hands.

???: (CONT'D)
'The more you change, the more you adjust each flaw until you think its perfect, the more fake it becomes. Nothing is perfect. No one is perfect. But it doesn't mean they have to change. People like imperfection, it's more real than anything 'perfect' ever could be.

REUBEN looks to his right, his sister's car sits still and alone.

REUBEN:
'But I would consider Harry perfect. His fashion, his hair, his jokes.'

REUBEN looks back towards the person's shoes.

???:
'Exactly, your starting to understand. You think Harry is perfect even though he has his flaws. He doesn't need to adjust them, no one wants him to change and he doesn't need to. No one does.'

RUEBEN rubs the salty water out of his eyes as he looks up.

REUBEN:
'But I spent all this time-'

The person is gone. RUEBEN clears his eyes and stops his sentence and pauses. He thinks to himself.

REUBEN darts up

REUBEN: (CONT'D)
'Oh my god, oh my god, oh my god I'm so stupid!'

RUEBEN runs towards the esplanade as the chorus to the song nears once again. He darts across the road, darting his eyes looking for the roller skating couple.

He darts across the road, dogging each car as he locks onto the couple. He barges into them, knocking them over.

As they hit the floor it cuts to black as the loops ends.

SCENE SEVEN. INT. ROOM

'Are We Still Friends?' by Tyler The Creator starts playing from 2:28

REUBEN gasps as he wakes up, his computer screen glitching shining on his face. He looks at it as it turns normal once again, resuming a film.

(2:38 of the song) REUBEN looks to his right and sees HARRY snoring as he sleeps on the bed next to him.

THE CAMERA PULLS AWAY FROM THE TWO SHOWING BOTH THE COMPUTER SCREEN AND THE BED SIDE ON

REUBEN puts a blanket on Harry. Different shots of the empty esplanade, sister's car and empty town at night show as the song carries on playing. Ending with REUBEN's phone buzzing and turning on showing his lock screen of him and HARRY together before fading to black.

End.