

30 SECONDS

by

DANIEL BRENT

Student No.: 100425430

INT. STUDIO - DAY

Close-up of bomb ticking on screen. MASON quickly enters.

He crouches down and pulls out wire cutters, moving towards the blue wire. He wipes sweat off of his brow.

Hesitatingly, he changes his mind and switches over to the red wire.

He braces for an explosion. Suddenly an alarm sounds.

GUARD #1

Halt!

He gets up and turns around with his hands behind his head. Red beams from guns are pointing at his chest. Hold for a few seconds.

DIRECTOR (O.S.)

Cut!

Pan out to show this was all a set.

DIRECTOR (O.S.)

That's it for today, everybody.

Sound and camera men start packing away their things. Mason walks away to his notebook on a side table and crosses off this shoot on his schedule. He stares for a bit.

MASON (V.O.)

This isn't what I wanted.

Cut back to his stuff on the table.

MASON (V.O.)

I want to create something new. I want to create art.

Wide pan of the studio as sound and camera men pack away.

MASON (V.O.)

Instead I'm stuck acting in the same damned film over and over again with a different title.

He looks at the clapperboard which says "Action Film #47".

MASON (V.O.)

You try doing something you love only to find out it's not what you think it is.

Close-up of reaction to clapperboard.

MASON (V.O.)

I've had so many opportunities to leave but I just can't afford it.

I gave it all up for this.

He pulls a necklace out of his pocket. He stares for a few seconds. He then looks up at the studio entrance.

MASON (V.O.)

I could run away.

He drops everything and runs out of the studio. Sound and camera man watch as he leaves.

Cut back to reality. He puts his notepad away in his bag.

MASON (V.O.)

I could destroy something.

He throws all paperwork on the table onto the floor. He picks up the bomb and throws it onto the floor as well.

Cut back to reality. He puts coat on.

MASON (V.O.)

I could do what I've wanted to do
for a long time.

Tracking shot as Mason walks up to Director and punches him. Sound and camera man hold him back as he tries to attack further.

Cut back to reality. He picks up his back and begins to walk out of the studio. Director approaches.

DIRECTOR

See you tomorrow at 6?

Director hands Mason his paycheck. Mason opens this, his eyes open slightly and he closes it again.

MASON

Yeah.

Mason continues towards the door. He opens it, but doesn't step out. He turns back around. He looks down to his other hand holding the necklace.

MASON (CONT'D)

Actually-

He rips up the paycheck and lets it drop to the floor.

MASON (CONT'D)

I quit.

He walks out. Cut to credits.