

FADE IN

INT. VIRGIL'S ROOM - MORNING

VIRGIL

VIRGIL - 17, scrawny - is in bed. The room is sparsely decorated with a desk with a unruly stack of letters.

Virgil awakes and groggily walks over to his desk and begins writing on one of the blank letters.

VIRGIL (V.O)

Hey Dad, Some guy named Samuel got the part. I practiced that role for months. I might just have to kill him, seriously I don't think he's even read the script before. Mr. Bataille said Samuel had some "fresh approach to acting" or some bullshit like that. Maybe he's going senile. I have no idea how I'll pay for collage now. Anyways, sorry for bothering you dad, I'll write again soon. Love, Virgil

As the voice-over plays out, Virgil gets ready.

BACK VIEW AS VIRGIL COMES OVER HIS HAIR IN THE BATHROOM MIRROR

SIDE VIEW AS HE WALKS DOWN STAIRS

Virgil looks down the hall, to where he sees VIRGIL'S MOTHER smoking in her room. He opens the door and leaves.

EXT. PLAYHOUSE - MORNING

Virgil closes his car door and looks towards the entrance.

INT. PLAYHOUSE - MORNING

The director - Informal - sits on the front of the stage.

DIRECTOR
(Explains lesson plan)

Virgil sits in the back of the room, tapping his pencil against the script as the director's dialogue fades out.

EXT. PLAYHOUSE - MORNING

SAMUEL - 17, stuck up demeanor - approaches Virgil as he walks back to his car.

SAMUEL

Uh...hey Virgil. I thought we should talk because...well you know your playing the understudy and-

VIRGIL

No-

SAMUEL

what?

VIRGIL

I said I'm not interested. (beat)
Look, I've been acting since the second grade. I don't need you help practicing for the *understudy* for Macbeth.

Virgil gets in his car and shuts the door.

SAMUEL

prick.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Virgil and his mother sit at the table in a dim room. Virgil is picking at his food and his mother hasn't touched hers.

VIRGIL

(breaking the silence)
So, I'm uh..I'm not Macbeth.

His mother stares at her plate.

VIRGIL

Mom...

Virgil's mother looks up slowly, still silent. Virgil gets up and rushes up stairs. His mother lets her head down a little.

INT. VIRGIL'S ROOM - NIGHT

At his desk, Virgil is hurriedly writing another letter, his pace quickens as he goes.

VIRGIL (V.O)

Dad, I ate with mom again for the first time in a while. Nothing's changed. I met Samuel today too, he's about as much of a moron as I expected. He doesn't deserve to be in my place. You know what I said about killing Samuel? I'm starting to think about it seriously. I mean honestly whats he got going for him? Okay, It's getting late, I'm going to bed.

Virgil buries his head in his hands

FADE TO BLACK

INT. ENTRY ROOM - MORNING

PLAY PRACTICE MONTAGE (BEGIN MONTAGE)

SIDE VIEW AS HE WALKS DOWN STAIRS

Virgil walks over to the door and as he closes it, music fades in.

SWITCH BETWEEN VIRGIL'S HOME AND THE EXT AND INT OF THE PLAYHOUSE AS WE SEE VIRGIL REPEAT A CYCLE GETTING IN AND OUT OF HIS CAR DAY BY DAY AND GOING TO PRACTICE

IMPORTANT SHOTS:

The class practices their monologue for the director. On Samuel's turn, the music turns off for a moment and we hear him butcher his part. Virgil grimaces.

(Pause in the music)

DIRECTOR

Our performance is tomorrow, but I want you all to meet me twenty minutes prior for preparation.

EXT. PLAYHOUSE - AFTERNOON

Virgil walks out to his car (music fades out)

SAMUEL

Hey Virgil, good luck tomorrow.

VIRGIL

How dumb are you? I'm not even in the cast.

SAMUEL

God your such a bitch. I was just trying to be nice.

VIRGIL

What do you expect me to say? You stole my part and you can't even handle a simple monologue.

Samuel pushes Virgil.

SAMUEL

Well at least *I'm* trying.

Virgil straightens, grimacing.

VIRGIL

I've been *trying* for my whole life.

Virgil gets in his car and slams the door.

SIDE SHOT AS VIRGIL PUTS HIS HEAD DOWN ON THE STEERING WHEEL.

FADE OUT

INT. VIRGIL'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

FADE IN

In rage, Virgil enters, then sweeps the letters off his desk.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

(the next day)

Virgil walks downstairs and towards the door. He looks back.

CLOSEUP OF THE KNIFE-BLOCK

Virgil walks back to the kitchen and grabs the knife.

EXT. PLAYHOUSE - NIGHT

Virgil walks in, passing Samuel with the rest of the cast. Virgil pulls aside Samuel and they go backstage.

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

SAMUEL

So...What do you want?

VIRGIL
I wanted to apologize for yesterday.

SAMUEL
You don't have to apologize, we both
said some things that we regret. Maybe
after this we can even be friends.

VIRGIL
(beat)
I would have liked that.

Virgil turns around stabs Samuel's shoulder repeatedly.
Struggling, Virgil panics and drags the body outside.

INT. PLAYHOUSE - NIGHT

VIRGIL
Samuel told me to tell you this, he
has a family emergency and can't come.

DIRECTOR
Well, what are you waiting for? His
costume is backstage.
(cut to performance)

BACK-VIEW OF VIRGIL GOING ON STAGE AS I DID IT MY WAY (FRANK
SINATRA) FADES IN

EXT. BEHIND PLAYHOUSE - NIGHT

The door opens and a couple walks outside flirtatiously.
(music pauses)

LOVER #1
Come on...

LOVER #2 chuckles. Lover #1 steps forward and stumbles on
Samuel's leg. They both look down, horrified. Lover #2 covers
their mouth with their hands.

LOVER #1
What the fu-

INT. PLAYHOUSE - NIGHT

(MUSIC FADES BACK IN FOR CREDITS)

BACK-VIEW AS VIRGIL BOWS

FADE OUT