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EMERGENCY!

THE BOTTOM LINE

by

Charlene Bralver

and

Robert Bralver

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EMERGENCY!

THE BOTTOM LINE

CAST

PERMANENT:

DR. KELLY BRACKETT  
NURSE DIXIE MC CALL  
DR. JOE EARLY  
JOHN GAGE  
ROY DE SOTO  
CAPTAIN STANLEY  
FIRE FIGHTER CHET KELLY  
FIRE FIGHTER MARCO LOPEZ  
ENGINEER MIKE STOKER  
DR. MIKE MORTON

EXTRAS:

POLICEMEN AS NEEDED  
BOB (PARAMEDIC)  
AMBULANCE ATTENDANTS  
ORDERLIES AS NEEDED  
NURSES AS NEEDED  
HENRY KELLOG  
TED DUTTON  
MIKE (ORDERLY)  
STUDENT NURSE  
X-RAY TECHNICIAN  
TODD CHAMPION  
JIM WHITE  
SPECTATORS AS NEEDED

(X)

VOICE-OVER:

DISPATCHER  
HOSPITAL RECEPTIONIST

ANIMALS:

HENRY

FREELANCE:

BARBARA KIDD  
MOTORCYCLIST  
BELLYMAN - AIR RESCUE  
TRUCK DRIVER  
AIR RESCUE PILOT  
GARY STEVENS  
(X) BILL DUKE  
(X) RANDY SHERWOOD (MINOR)  
JACK MC CAFFEN  
VINCE (POLICEMAN)  
MADELINE KELLOG  
KAY DUTTON  
FRED MONSON (PARAMEDIC/SQUAD 43)  
(X) NURSE (GINA)



EMERGENCY!

THE BOTTOM LINE

SETS

INTERIORS:

STANDING:

STATION FIFTY-ONE  
APPARATUS ROOM  
REC ROOM  
RAMPART HOSPITAL  
BASE STATION  
NURSES' STATION  
RECEPTION AREA  
EMERGENCY CORRIDOR  
TREATMENT ROOM FOUR  
BRACKETT'S OFFICE

PRACTICAL:

SEDAN  
COPTER TEN  
FOUR MAN BILLY PEUGH NET  
DUKE'S HOUSE  
LIVING ROOM  
TODD'S CAR  
SQUAD FIFTY-ONE

EXTERIORS:

LOOKOUT CANYON  
ROAD  
SIDE OF CLIFF  
BASE OF CLIFF  
FRONT OF THE SQUAD  
RUTH STREET  
VICTORIAN HOUSE  
FRONT DOOR  
DUKE'S HOUSE  
RAMPART HOSPITAL  
EMERGENCY ENTRANCE  
RESIDENTIAL STREET  
KELLOG HOUSE-FRONT  
BACKYARD  
SIDE  
DUTTON'S BACKYARD  
GIANT OLD WINE VAT  
CITY STREETS  
ACCIDENT SCENE  
RESIDENTIAL  
INTERSECTION

INSERT:

OSCILLOSCOPE:  
MIDLINE SHIFT

DATASCOPE:

SINUS BRADYCARDIA - RATE 45 (X)  
(STOCK #E1179)  
SINUS RHYTHM - PVC'S, (X)  
RATE 61 (STOCK #E1195)



EMERGENCY!THE BOTTOM LINE

FADE IN

- 1 EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON ROAD - DAY 1  
Featuring an older sedan speeding along the treacherous cut-backs; tires squeaking as it negotiates the hairpin turns and passes a sign clearly warning of the danger ahead. (Sign reads DANGER-WINDING ROAD -- MAX SPEED 30 M.P.H.)
- 2 INT. SEDAN - DAY 2  
BARBARA KIDD, late thirties, is listening to a rock tune. She's happy, exuberant and confident even though the speedometer reads 60 M.P.H.
- 3 EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON ROAD - DAY 3  
The car skids around a curve and disappears.
- 4 ANOTHER ANGLE 4  
To establish a motorcyclist in full protective armor heading up the canyon in the opposite direction of Barbara's car.
- 5 EXT. STATION FIFTY-ONE - DAY - ESTABLISHING - STOCK 5
- 6 INT. APPARATUS ROOM - DAY 6  
FIREMAN JOHN GAGE and his partner ROY DE SOTO have the Squad and Engine respirator units on the Apparatus room floor. They are comparing the new clip-in attachment of the esophageal airways to the face mask. Over this the SCU tones for Station 69's can be heard. (Note: Do not identify any of the new equipment.) (X)
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>GAGE<br/>(up)<br/>Fantastic! Look how easy the end of the airway connects to the mask.</p> | <p>DISPATCHER'S VOICE<br/>(filtered)<br/>Station Sixty-Nine, accident with multiple injuries. One-<br/>twenty Beach Lane. Cross is<br/>Hilldale. 1-2-0 Beach Lane. (X)<br/>Time out ten-ten.</p> |
|---|--|
- DeSoto is not paying attention to Gage.
- GAGE  
Roy, you interested or not?

CONTINUED



DeSoto ponders the situation; then lifts the new piece.

DE SOTO

Yeah, sure.

GAGE

Take a look at this new coupling system....

DE SOTO

(skeptical)

...valve will never fit.

GAGE

What valve?

DE SOTO

The head opening's too big.

GAGE

Come on Roy. This equipment is designed with forethought. They wouldn't make one part without taking the other into consideration.

DeSoto takes the shaw head and places it over the open coupling. It doesn't fit.

DE SOTO

Wouldn't they?

Gage is deflated.

DE SOTO

Happens all the time.

Gage examines the system closely, takes the shaw head from DeSoto and presses it tightly to the end of the esophogeal airway.

GAGE

But it'll work! All you have to do is put a little more pressure on the valve.

DE SOTO

Big deal, they spend thousands of dollars so we can put more pressure on the valve connector instead of the face mask. What a waste.

The SCU TONES for Station 51 sound. DeSoto and Gage react, returning the respirators to the Squad and Engine.

CONTINUED



6 CONTINUED - 2

6

DISPATCHER'S VOICE

(filtered)

Station 51, vehicle accident with multiple injuries on Lookout Canyon Road between Ferndale and Clear Lake. Ambulance responding. Lookout Canyon Road between Ferndale and Clear Lake. Time out ten thirty-one.

Gage and DeSoto board the Squad and DeSoto starts the motor. Captain Stanley is at the radio jotting down the address on a slip of paper. The rest of the men hurry to the Engine.

STANLEY

(into radio)

Station 51, KMG 365.

Captain Stanley hands Gage the address.

7 EXT. STATION FIFTY-ONE - DAY - STOCK

7

Featuring the Squad and Engine as they leave the station, LIGHTS and SIREN starting and turn onto the street.

8 EXT. STREET - DAY - STOCK

8

The Squad and Engine straighten and head down the street gaining speed.

9 ANGLE - THE STREET - DAY - STOCK

9

The Squad and Engine hurry toward the scene.

10 EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON - ACCIDENT SCENE - DAY

10

A pickup truck has stopped near the broken guard rail next to the downhill side of the road. The base of the canyon is about one hundred feet below. Several trees and shrubs line the sheer canyon walls and floor. The whine of the approaching sirens are heard. The Truck Driver stands behind the guard rail.

DRIVER

(shouting)

Hang on down there! Help's on the way.

11 EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON - DAY

11

The Squad and Engine wind their way up through the cutbacks seen earlier.



## 12 EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON - ACCIDENT SCENE - DAY

12

The Squad and Engine arrive and park at an angle so that they face the broken railing. Gage and DeSoto get out and unload their equipment. Captain Stanley emerges from the Engine holding the h/t. (Note: take ambulance bag instead of resuscitator.)

(X)

DRIVER

(pointing)

Down there! That motorcyclist tried to pass me. He's about to do a head-on with that old sedan, then bingo, they both take the high side.

Captain Stanley looks down, ascertaining the situation. Gage and DeSoto join him.

## 13 THEIR POINT OF VIEW

13

The immediate area is almost a 90 degree drop to the canyon floor. Several trees and shrubs jut out from the mountain side, a factor which kept the victims alive, cushioning their fall. The motorcyclist crawls toward Barbara's car which is about fifty feet to the north.

## 14 BACK TO SCENE

14

CAPTAIN STANLEY

Roy, John...get some lines. Chet, you and Marco get their gear and follow 'em down.

Gage and DeSoto get the lines.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

(into h/t)

L.A. Engine Fifty-One at scene. Cancel the ground ambulance. We need the Air Ambulance with the four-man Billy Peugh net.

(X)

DISPATCHER'S VOICE

Engine Fifty-One.

(SCU tones)

Copter Ten, assist Engine Fifty-One on Lookout Canyon Road between Ferndale and Clearlake. Lookout Canyon Road between Ferndale and Clearlake. Respond with four-man Billy Peugh net. Time out: 10:41.

A police car pulls to a stop. The policeman gets out, gets flares, and begins diverting traffic.



- 15      ANGLE - FRONT OF THE SQUAD      15
- DeSoto and Gage finish securing the lines, lower them over the cliff, and fasten their lift belts. Kelly and Lopez belay them as they start down. (X)
- 16      EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON - SIDE OF THE CLIFF - DAY      16
- Gage and DeSoto rapell to the canyon floor, disengage their life lines; Gage goes to the biker, DeSoto to Barbara.
- 17      ANGLE - DE SOTO AND BARBARA      17
- Barbara's unconscious and still strapped into the car. Her body is twisted in such a way that her torso extends outside the driver's window. Desoto pulls open the twisted door, notices she's not breathing, unhooks her seat belt and slides her to the ground. He immediately checks for carotid pulse. (X)  
(Note: She is cyanotic.)
- DE SOTO  
(calling to Gage)  
Respiratory arrest!
- Desoto begins breathing for her.
- 18      ANGLE - GAGE AND THE BIKER      18
- Gage completes a quick examination on the Biker.
- GAGE  
I'll be right back.
- BIKER  
Hey man -- don't leave!
- The Biker stirs. Gage moves quickly to help DeSoto. Kelly arrives with the equipment. He sets up the bio-com. Gage starts taking vitals.
- KELLY  
(into bio-com)  
Rampart, County Fifty-One.
- He pauses a beat; nothing.
- GAGE  
We're probably out of range! Take  
care of him.

CONTINUED



18 CONTINUED

18

Kelly crosses to the Biker. Gage moves the aerial extender.

GAGE  
(into bio-phone)  
Rampart, County Fifty-One. Do you  
read?

A beat. No response. Gage switches frequencies, attempts  
to reach another hospital.

GAGE  
(into bio-phone)  
U.C.L.A. County Fifty-One. Do you  
read?

Another beat. Nothing. Gage removes his h/t.

GAGE  
(into h/t)  
Cap, we can't raise the hospital.  
We need a relay.

CAPTAIN STANLEY'S VOICE  
(filtered)  
Ten-four John. See if you can  
patch in with the air ambulance.

19 EXT. SKY - DAY - ESTABLISHING - COPTER TEN  
approaching the location.

19

20 INT. COPTER TEN - DAY

20

The air rescue PILOT hears Captain Stanley's transmission.  
Two paramedics ride in back.

PILOT  
(into radio)  
Rescue Fifty-One, Copter ten.  
Flip your relay switch on the  
bio-phone and we'll patch you  
into Rampart.

21 EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON - DAY

21

Gage adjusts the dials. Lopez arrives with the trauma box. (X)

CONTINUED



21 CONTINUED

21

GAGE

Get the esophageal.

Lopez removes the esophageal.

GAGE

(into bio-phone)

Rampart, County Fifty-One.

22 INT. RAMPART - BASE STATION - DAY

22

DOCTOR JOE EARLY moves to the radio.

EARLY

(into radio)

Go ahead, Fifty-One.

GAGE'S VOICE

(filtered)

We have a vehicle accident with two victims. Victim one is a female approximately thirty. She's unconscious and in respiratory arrest. B.P. 80 over 30, pulse is 60 and thready. Pupils are equal and reactive. She has hematoma behind her ear.

(X)

EARLY

(into radio)

Ten-four, Fifty-One. Insert an esophageal airway and send me a strip. Start an I.V. with Ringer's Lactate and immobilize the neck.

(X)

23 EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON - DAY

23

Copter ten is making its approach. It swings overhead and begins circling above.

GAGE'S VOICE

(filtered)

Ten-four, Rampart.

24 ANGLE - CAPTAIN STANLEY

24

CAPTAIN STANLEY

(into h/t)

Copter ten, can you remain up there until we complete hospital transmission?

CONTINUED



24 CONTINUED

24

PILOT'S VOICE

(filtered)

Roger, Fifty-One.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

(into h/t)

We're experiencing gusty winds out  
of the northwest of about thirty  
M.P.H.

PILOT'S VOICE

(filtered)

I feel them. It's squirly up here.  
If they increase we'll have to  
abandon the mission.

25 EXT. BASE OF LOOKOUT CANYON - DAY

25

The esophageal airway has been established and Lopez is  
ventilating the victim. The I.V.'s established. DeSoto is  
listening to Barbara's chest with the stethoscope. Gage is  
connecting the scope.

(X)

DE SOTO

Good breath sound bilaterally.  
I.V. is running.

(X)

Gage turns on the scope. DeSoto rechecks the vitals.

GAGE

She's throwing some P.V.C.'s.

Gage picks up the bio-phone.

GAGE

(into bio-phone)

Rampart, County Fifty-One.  
Esophageal airway in place. Good  
breath sounds bilaterally. I.V.  
is running. Sending you lead two.

(X)

26 INT. BASE STATION - DAY

26

as he looks at strip. (Stock #E1195)

(X)

EARLY

(into radio)

Affirmative Fifty-One.

CONTINUED



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9  
(X)

26 CONTINUED

26

EARLY (Cont'd)

She's showing sinus rhythm with  
PVC's with a rate of sixty. Give  
her .5 mg. atropine I.V. push,  
then get another set of vitals.

27 EXT. EASE OF LOOKOUT CANYON - DAY

27

DeSoto adds the atropine, takes vitals. DeSoto hands Gage  
the vitals on a slip of paper. DeSoto then checks scope and  
sees less PVC's. (Stock #E1195)

DE SOTO

Fewer PVC's.

Then DeSoto cuts open the upper portion of Barbara's right  
pant leg.

GAGE

(into bio-phone)

Rampart, ready on second set of  
vitals. B.P. eighty over fifty,  
pulse is ninety. Fewer PVC's.

EARLY'S VOICE

(filtered)

Fifty-One, open up the Ringer's  
lactate.

GAGE

(into bio-phone)

Ten-four. I.V. is wide open.

DE SOTO

Check her leg. Right  
femur's broken. I'll take  
care of him.

EARLY'S VOICE

(filtered)

Ten-Four, Fifty-One.

DeSoto takes a P.B. cuff and goes to the Biker. Gage checks  
her leg.

28 ANGLE - DE SOTO, KELLY, AND THE BIKER

28

Kelly has covered the victim with a blanket.

KELLY

(to DeSoto)

Fractured right ankle.

DE SOTO

(gesturing to  
the trauma box)  
Get the vacuum splint.

BIKER

(moaning)

My ankle's killing me!

CONTINUED



28 CONTINUED

28

DeSoto palpates the Biker's body as he talks. The Biker reacts sharply when DeSoto touches the left upper quadrant of his stomach.

BIKER

Ow! Easy there.

DE SOTO

That hurt too?

The Biker nods his head. DeSoto touches the Biker's left shoulder.

DE SOTO

How about here?

BIKER

Yeah...Stop! You're making it worse.

DE SOTO

Take it easy.

(X)

Kelly arrives with the splint and starts working on the leg. DeSoto hurries over to Gage.

29 WIDEN ANGLE - GAGE, DE SOTO, LOPEZ, AND BARBARA

29

Lopez is holding the I.V. with his free hand.

GAGE

(into bio-phone)

Rampart, B.P. is eighty over fifty. Pulse is ninety and there still are no spontaneous respirations. The victim's right femur is markedly distended and ecchymotic.

(X)

30 INT. BASE STATION - DAY

30

Early is studying the strip. The P.V.C.'s are reduced. (Stock #E1195)

(X)

EARLY

(into radio)

Fifty-One start a second I.V. with plasmonate. Continue monitoring, and transfer as soon as you can. How about victim two?

(X)



31 INT. COPTER TEN - DAY - PILOT

31

PILOT

(into radio)

Squad Fifty-One. We're gonna have to give this thing a shot or forget it. The winds are getting tricky.

32 EXT. BASE OF CLIFF - DAY

32

Gage is establishing the second I.V. on Barbara. DeSoto has his h/t in one hand, the bio-phone in the other.

DE SOTO

(into h/t)

Copter ten, give us another minute.

GAGE

We'll have to monitor her all the way up.

DE SOTO

(into h/t)

We need the net.

(X)

PILOT'S VOICE

(filtered)

Ten-four, Fifty-One.

DE SOTO

(into bio-phone)

Rampart, County Fifty-One. Victim two is a male, thirtyish. He has a broken right ankle and is complaining of pain in the left upper quadrant of the abdomen radiating to the left shoulder. B.P. is one hundred over sixty, respirations are twenty, pulse is one hundred ten and thready. His skin is pale and clammy.

33 INT. BASE STATION - DAY

33

EARLY

(into radio)

Fifty-One, start an I.V. with ringer's lactate.

(X)

CONTINUED



33 CONTINUED

33

DE SOTO'S VOICE

(filtered)

Ten-four Rampart. We are  
transferring immediately.  
Broadcast will be momentarily  
disrupted until we're airborne.

(X)

34 EXT. BASE OF LOOKOUT CANYON - DAY

34

Gage removes the hair traction splint from the trauma  
box and secures it to Barbara's leg.

EARLY'S VOICE

(filtered)

Ten-four Fifty-One.

(X)

DeSoto jots down the information.

DE SOTO

(into h/t)

Copter Ten, come on in. Cap,  
we need a couple of Stokes  
down here.

CAPTAIN STANLEY'S VOICE

(filtered)

Ten-four Roy, I'll send one down  
on a line and put the second in  
the net.

DE SOTO

(into h/t)

Ten-four.

35 ANOTHER ANGLE

35

DeSoto removes the drugs and hurries to the biker. Kelly  
has affixed the vacuum splint.

DE SOTO

Captain's sending down a  
Stokes. Bring it over and  
we'll get him aboard first.

36 EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON ROAD - DAY

36

Copter Ten lands. The two paramedics hurry out and remove

CONTINUED



36

CONTINUED

36

the Billy Peugh equipment from the storage compartment. The BELLYMAN slips into the nylon safety vest while the other paramedic, BOB, secures the Belly band through the midsection of the ship. Then they attach eighty feet of line to the Belly band and remove the four man Billy Peugh net from the midsection of the air ambulance and attach it. The Bellyman lies down on the floor of the ship, attaches his safety line and puts on his helmet. Bob crosses to Captain Stanley who is waiting with the Stokes and signals the Bellyman.

37

ANOTHER ANGLE

37

Copter Ten rises slowly kicking up dust. The line fully extends and the helicopter hovers while Bob and Captain Stanley load the Stokes into the net. Then Bob secures himself into the net and signals the Bellyman.

38

ANGLE COPTER TEN

38

Slowly Copter Ten lifts the net skyward and begins to maneuver toward the base of the cliff.

39

EXT. BASE OF CLIFF - DAY - SHOOTING UP

39

Copter Ten moves slowly overhead. The net dangles beneath it as the craft moves toward Gage and DeSoto.

BELLYMAN (v.o.)

Right...right...hold it!  
Thirty feet...twenty feet...  
ten feet...steady. Five feet  
...touch down. We're good.

40

ANGLE - BASE OF LOOKOUT CANYON - DAY

40

Kelly helps Bob unload the Stokes and carries it to the biker. DeSoto has the I.V. started.

(X)

(X)

DE SOTO

(to Kelly)

He's ready. Let's get him  
topside.

CONTINUED



40 CONTINUED

40

DeSoto puts the I.V. under victim's head, then he helps Kelly and Bob load the biker into the stokes. They lift him into the net. Bob secures the biker in place, then joins him in the net. DeSoto signals the Bellyman and Copter Ten starts upward.

(X)

41 ANOTHER ANGLE

41

DeSoto and Kelly help shield Barbara from the downdraft. DeSoto resumes control of the Shaw head.

42 EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON ROAD - DAY

42

Copter Ten lowers the injured biker to the road. Captain Stanley and Stoker help Bob unload. Then Captain Stanley signals the Bellyman and Copter Ten rises. The empty net swings outward as it's hit by a gust of wind.

43 ANGLE - BELLYMAN

43

BELLYMAN

We're clear of obstructions.  
I'll try and steady it. How  
you doing?

PILOT

If that net gets hung up in  
anything...

(a beat)

I'm gonna hover until it  
stabilizes. Then we'll take  
a shot at them.

BELLYMAN

I'll think no wind!

44 EXT. BASE OF LOOKOUT CANYON - DAY

44

Gage and Kelly secure Barbara into the Stokes. The hair traction splint is in place and the I.V. bags are behind her.

CONTINUED



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15

44

CONTINUED

44

Her head is tilted slightly forward from the support of the cervical collar and DeSoto continues to ventilate her.

45

ANGLE COPTER TEN - DAY

45

The net is about twenty feet off the ground. As it lowers:

BELLYMAN (v.o.)

(filtered)

Twenty feet...fifteen feet...left  
...left...good. Ten feet...five  
feet...you're good...hold it there.

46

EXT. BASE OF CANYON - DAY

46

Lopez and Kelly help DeSoto and Gage wedge the Stokes in the net. DeSoto slides in continuing to ventilate. Gage sets the MB 2 into the net and climbs in. The scope is operating.

GAGE

P.V.C.'s again.

Kelly signals the Bellyman and the Copter pulls the net slowly skyward.

47

INT. BILLY PEUGH NET - DAY

47

The net moves upward. Gage and DeSoto continue monitoring Barbara. Suddenly the alert sounds on the defibrillator.

GAGE

V-fib.

DeSoto stops ventilating and begins C.P.R. while Gage readies the paddles waiting for the defibrillator to charge. The pressure exerted by DeSoto applying C.P.R. causes the net to sway.

BELLYMAN'S VOICE

(filtered)

What's going on, Fifty-One?  
Sit tight! We're having enough  
trouble with this wind.

48

EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON - COPTER TEN - DAY

48

The helicopter hits a downdraft dropping ten feet before the pilot can stabilize it.



49 INT. BILLY PEUGH NET - DAY

49

Gage, DeSoto, and Barbara are jostled by the drop. The net steadies itself.

GAGE

Clear.

DeSoto stops C.P.R. and clears. Gage applies the paddles. Barbara's body arches from the shock. Gage checks the scope. (Stock # E1195)

GAGE

...sinus rhythm rate of 90.

DeSoto resumes ventilation. Gage begins re-checking vitals.

50 EXT. LOOKOUT CANYON - ROAD - DAY

50

Copter ten hovers above the road. Captain Stanley and Stoker help DeSoto and Gage remove Barbara from the net. Then copter ten sets down in the road. The firemen load both victims into the ship. The Bellman disconnects the net and Gage and DeSoto board the helicopter. Gage resumes contact with Rampart as copter ten moves skyward circling once before leaving.

GAGE (v.o.)

(filtered)

Rampart, County fifty-one. We had to de-fib victim one. Vitals are now B.P. 100 over 60....

DISSOLVE TO

51 EXT. STATION FIFTY-ONE - DAY - ESTABLISHING - STOCK

51

The squad is backing in. (If possible - Gage, De Soto, and Kelly.)

52 INT. STATION FIFTY-ONE - APPARATUS FLOOR - DAY

52

The squad rolls to a halt. Gage, DeSoto, and Kelly disembark.

DE SOTO

Amazing they're alive. Dr. Early says they'll both make it.

GAGE

One thing's certain. That wasn't a garbage run.

DE SOTO

We've had our share lately.



53

INT. STATION FIFTY-ONE - RECREATION ROOM - DAY

53

Captain Stanley is seated at the table reading a fire-fighting manual. Lopez is seasoning some chopped meat for chili. Stoker is hovering over him.

LOPEZ

This is the last time I'm going to show you.

Stoker looks at Lopez, takes a dish towel, wipes his hand and walks away.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

Don't be so touchy, Mike.

Kelly, DeSoto, and Gage enter; smell the aroma.

KELLY

Hey Marco, chili again? When you gonna show me how to make the old family recipe?

Stoker, Stanley, and Lopez exchange glances. The outside door buzzer sounds. Captain Stanley gets up. Gary Stevens, early thirties, medium build, well dressed, jerks open the door.

STEVENS

Afternoon Captain, I'm Gary Stevens from Bishop-McAdams Inc. Sorry I'm late.

Captain Stanley glances at his watch. Stevens grabs the Captain's hand giving a firm handshake.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

No problem, Mr. Stevens.

STEVENS

First name, Captain. I'd feel more at home.

The men watch as Stevens moves into the Rec Room.

STEVENS

Hi guys. I guess you heard about the study the county popped for.

Taking out his business card, putting it on the table!

STEVENS

We're one of the largest accounting firms in the country.

CONTINUED



STEVENS (Cont'd)

I'm in management consulting.  
We're doing an efficiency evaluation on the Emergency Health Services provided by the fire department.

DE SOTO

I'm Roy DeSoto. This is my partner John Gage. We heard you'd be riding with us.

He gestures to the rest of the men.

DE SOTO

Chet, Marco, Mike Stoker.

They nod greetings.

STEVENS

I've been running with some of your competition out of 111's and 88's. Quite a bunch.

Stevens smells the chili cooking.

STEVENS

Mmm...chili...111's makes great chili. You ought to try their recipe. Fantastic!

LOPEZ

Lunch won't be ready for ten minutes.

DE SOTO

Thanks Marco. Meantime, we'll show you around.

Gage, DeSoto, and Stevens exit.

Gage and DeSoto cross to the squad.

STEVENS

I want to know what you think's wrong with the program.

Gage and DeSoto are caught off guard.

DE SOTO

Who'd you say sent you here?

CONTINUED



54 CONTINUED

54

STEVENS

Oh! Don't worry, I'm really on your side.

GAGE

Huh?

STEVENS

Lay your problems on me. I need something for my report.

GAGE

I thought you deal in facts and numbers.

DE SOTO

How could our problems help your research?

The SCU tones for Station 51 sound. DeSoto climbs into the driver's side of the squad. Gage crosses to the closet, gets an extra helmet, hands it to Stevens. He puts it on, removes a stop watch from his pocket, starts it, then precedes Gage into the squad.

DISPATCHER'S VOICE

(filtered)

Station Fifty-One, back injury at twenty four eleven Ruth Street. 2-4-1-1 Ruth. Cross is Hazeltine. Ambulance responding. Time out: 12:20.

Captain Stanley crosses to the radio. The men hurry from the Rec room and board the engine. Stanley finishes writing the address and hands it to DeSoto. The squad pulls away.

55 EXT. STATION FIFTY-ONE - DAY - STOCK

55

The squad and engine turn onto the street code "R."

56 VARIOUS ANGLES - STOCK

56

carrying the engine and squad to the scene.

57 INT. SQUAD FIFTY-ONE - DAY

57

Gage, DeSoto, and Stevens.

CONTINUED



GAGE

(up, over  
the sirens)

What's the stop watch for?

STEVENS

I'm timing the run. Response time,  
treatment time, follow-up. Hope it  
won't make you feel pressured.

Gage smiles; shakes his head.

GAGE

Me!

STEVENS

Why's the engine responding on a  
back injury? Seems like a waste  
of manpower.

GAGE

Suppose it's more than a back injury?  
We may need additional hands.

STEVENS

It seems like a lot of men. Agree?  
Isn't there a more efficient way to  
dispatch.

DE SOTO

That's what you're being paid to  
tell us, isn't it?

STEVENS

Yeah, but I thought you guys would  
have some ideas.

GAGE

How do you expect us to know what  
we've got until we get there?

STEVENS

That's exactly the point. They  
respond a squad to find out if a  
squad is needed.

GAGE

We've been using this system since  
the start of the program. It works.

The Squad reduces speed and parks in front of an old  
Victorian house.

CONTINUED



58 CONTINUED

58

GAGE (v.o.)

Squad Fifty-One at scene.

STEVENS

Four minutes and five seconds.

Not bad.

Gage and DeSoto dismount quickly, grab the equipment, and hurry to the house. Stevens follows. Gage rings the doorbell. In the b.g. the engine pulls to a halt.

59 EXT. HOUSE - FRONT DOOR - DAY - GAGE, DE SOTO, AND STEVENS 59

There's no response. Gage rings the bell again, tries the door; it's locked. He checks the address.

GAGE

Twenty-four eleven?

Captain Stanley and Kelly approach.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

This is the place.

MAN'S VOICE

Just a sec. I'm coming!

The men react. The door opens slowly revealing BILL DUKE, (X)  
a sophisticated interior decorator in his early forties.  
He's wearing a silk monogrammed robe and he's twisted, bent  
over, holding his back.

60 INT. DUKE'S HOUSE - DAY

60

The house is full of paint, wallpaper, brushes. The entire living room is a neat disarray. Pictures are down, fabric and carpet swatches are taped to the wall. Re-decoration is in progress. Captain Stanley and Kelly assist Duke to an English Tudor love seat.

DUKE

No...no...no...not on the love  
seat. Put me on the floor.

The Captain and Kelly help Duke to a sitting position on the floor so he's leaning against a nearby wing chair. Gage and DeSoto set their equipment down and kneel around Duke who's rubbing his neck and upper back. Stevens stays within ear-shot gleaning every detail.

CONTINUED



DUKE

Am I glad you're here.

He stiffens at a darting pain up his back.

GAGE

What happened...what hurts?

DUKE

It's my back, oh!...aggravation.  
I'm being punished.

GAGE

What's your name?

DUKE

Bill Duke...I'll never live to see  
this place redone. It's the fifth  
house I've restored. I was warned.  
The realtor said it was a jinx.

(X)

GAGE

Did you lift something heavy or try  
to move furniture yourself?

Duke shakes his head.

DUKE

I woke up with this excruciating  
pain darting down my back.

GAGE

Roy, give me a hand.

DeSoto grabs Duke's legs and Gage carefully supports his  
back lying Duke down on the floor. Duke groans during the  
procedure. Gage begins taking the vitals.

DE SOTO

Have you ever experienced this before?

DUKE

No, never.

Gage carefully palpates Duke's back, feels nothing.

GAGE

(to DeSoto)  
Vitals are normal.

(to Duke)  
Bill, why don't you give your  
doctor a call?

(X)

CONTINUED



60

CONTINUED - 2

60

DUKE

I did. He said take two aspirins  
and call him in the morning. I'm  
suffering. Can't you help?

Gage gets up, crosses to Stanley and Stevens. DeSoto joins  
them.

DUKE

(calling  
after them)

You don't believe me either.

GAGE

Cap, this guy's taking advantage of us.

DE SOTO

Could be, but he is having some pain.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

Call it in.

Gage and DeSoto return to Duke.

GAGE

Have you ever had heart  
problems, high blood pressure,  
or hypertension?

DE SOTO

(into bio-phone)  
Rampart, County  
Fifty-One.

Duke shakes his head.

61

INT. RAMPART - BASE STATION - DAY

61

Nurse Dixie McCall walks to the radio.

DIXIE

(into radio)

Go ahead Fifty-One.

DE SOTO'S VOICE

(filtered)

Rampart, we have a male, early  
forties complaining of severe  
shoulder pain radiating down  
his back. There is some tender-  
ness in the upper thoracic region.  
Victim has no history of heart  
problems or hypertension.



62 INT. DUKE'S HOUSE - DAY

62

Captain Stanley hands Gage a bottle of pills.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

These were on the table.

GAGE

You take vitamins today,  
Bill?

DE SOTO

(into bio-phone)  
B.P. 120 over 80, (X)  
pulse is 90 and  
respirations are 20.

DUKE

No.  
(sighing)  
I forgot.

GAGE

Do you take any medication or drugs?

DUKE

No, I haven't needed any since I've  
gone organic.

GAGE

Certain drugs are organic. I'll  
bet you didn't know that.

Duke shakes his head.

63 INT. RAMPART - BASE STATION - DAY

63

DIXIE

(into radio)

Fifty-One, get me a B.P. and pulse  
on each arm.

DE SOTO'S VOICE

(filtered)

Ten-four, Rampart. Stand by.

64 INT. DUKE'S HOUSE - DAY

64

Gage repeats the B.P. on the right arm, removes the cuff and  
places it on the left. The ambulance attendants wheel in a  
gurney.

GAGE

B.P. 120 over 80 both sides. Pulses  
are the same, 90.

DE SOTO

(into bio-phone)

Rampart, right and left B.P.'s  
are 120 over 80.



65 INT. RAMPART - BASE STATION - DAY

65

DOCTOR MIKE MORTON enters the base station and crosses to Dixie.

DE SOTO'S VOICE (Cont'd)  
(filtered)  
Pulse is ninety.

MORTON  
Hi Dix. Fifty-One on the radio?

Dixie nods affirmative.

DIXIE  
Routine.

MORTON  
I'm here to offer my services...  
granting you much needed relief.

Dixie smiles.

DIXIE  
Thanks but this one's cut and dry.  
The next will be your baby.

Morton picks up the MICU form.

MORTON  
What do you have?

DIXIE  
A backache no worse than the one  
I woke up with, I'm sure.

Morton nods as he reads to himself.

DIXIE  
(into radio)  
Fifty-One, transport....

Morton looks up and interrupts.

MORTON  
...hold it! You neglected to  
get a vein.

Dixie's puzzled.

DIXIE  
(into radio)  
Fifty-One, stand by.

CONTINUED



65 CONTINUED

65

She stares directly into his eyes.

MORTON

Start an I.V. D5W T.K.O.

DIXIE

And commit the squad on a follow up?

MORTON

Yes. Do you want to take chances... risk sending the patient with no life line when these services are available at your fingertips?

Dixie swallows her pride.

DIXIE

(to Morton)

No doctor.

(into radio)

Fifty-One start an I.V. D5W T.K.O. Transport immediately.

DE SOTO'S VOICE

(filtered)

Rampart, repeat please.

DIXIE

(into radio)

I.V. D5W T.K.O.

DE SOTO'S VOICE

(filtered)

I.V. D5W T.K.O. and transport. E.T.A. fifteen minutes.

Dixie sets the radio phone down in its place and dryly walks out.

66 INT. DUKE'S HOUSE

66

DeSoto and Gage turn aside from Duke.

GAGE

Who ordered that?

DE SOTO

Dixie.

GAGE

No way! Five will get you ten Dr. Morton popped in and overruled her.

CONTINUED



66 CONTINUED

66

DE SOTO

We'll find out soon enough.

DeSoto reaches for the I.V. while Gage slaps Duke's arm.  
DeSoto then hands it to Gage and he inserts the needle.

DUKE

Thanks, guys. I sure am glad  
you're able to help.

The attendants load Duke on the gurney and wheel him away.

STEVENS

What's wrong with him?

DE SOTO

(shrugs)  
I don't know.

67 EXT. DUKE'S HOUSE - DAY

67

Duke is loaded aboard the ambulance. Gage rides with him.  
Stevens and DeSoto follow in the Squad.

68 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY - STOCK

68

Featuring the ambulance and Squad hurrying toward the  
hospital.

69 VARIOUS ANGLES - STOCK

69

To carry the ambulance and Squad across the hospital parking  
area to the Emergency entrance where they stop.

70 EXT. RAMPART - EMERGENCY ENTRANCE - DAY

70

The driver opens the door and the victim is removed and  
wheeled to the hospital entrance.

71 INT. RAMPART - EMERGENCY ENTRANCE

71

Dixie approaches the ambulance entrance with a couple of  
orderlies and a nurse. They converge on Duke.

(X)

DIXIE

The treatment rooms are full. Leave  
him outside five until something opens.

(to nurse)

Gina, get his vitals.

(X)

The orderlies push Duke down the corridor, with the nurse  
following.

(X)



72 ANOTHER ANGLE

72

Dixie turns to Gage, DeSoto, and Stevens.

DIXIE

Hi, guys.

They nod.

GAGE

You met Gary?

DIXIE

Last week...he was running with  
88's.

(to Gary)

Has Johnny got to you with his  
I.V. overkill theory?

STEVENS

Not yet. Sounds interesting.

GAGE

Who ordered this one?

DIXIE

(cautious)

Dr. Morton; as a precaution.

GAGE

When is he going to let up?

DIXIE

That's his prerogative, John, and  
you know it.

STEVENS

Ah hah! What would you have done?

DIXIE

It really doesn't matter. The  
base station doctor has the last  
word.

STEVENS

Why should he? Just because he  
has M.D. after his name. M.I.C.U.  
nurses are certified and re-certi-  
fied. I think you're more qualified  
to handle emergencies.

DIXIE

(smiles)

Which is what I should be doing.  
See you guys later.

CONTINUED



72 CONTINUED

72

Dixie walks toward the admitting room.

GAGE

How long was that run...just the follow up?

STEVENS

(looks at his stop watch)

Exactly sixteen minutes and eight seconds.

(beat)

What if someone in your district had a heart attack while we were bringing Duke into the hospital?

DE SOTO

You know, another Squad would cover....

GAGE

(aroused)

...with a response time doubled?

STEVENS

I hit a nerve?

GAGE

You bet you did.

DE SOTO

Take it easy, John.

GAGE

(building)

If this guy wants to know what's bugging me about the system, I'll tell him. Maybe he'll have more luck at changing it than we do!

STEVENS

Go ahead!

GAGE

The demands of the Squad have grown tremendously in the last year.

STEVENS

So?

CONTINUED



72 CONTINUED - 2

72

GAGE

We can't be in two places at once!  
Once we establish a patient's not  
a medical emergency, we should  
be made available.

DOCTOR KELLY BRACKETT approaches.

BRACKETT

Roy, John, Gary. Back again so  
soon. Anything serious?

GAGE

We brought some guy in with a  
backache. He was in pain and  
upset so we called the base  
station to appease him.

BRACKETT

That was good judgement.

GAGE

Dixie had us ready to transport  
and along came Dr. Morton ordering  
a precautionary I.V.

DE SOTO

The rest is history.

BRACKETT

Mike's an excellent doctor, by  
the book.

DE SOTO

He keeps dragging us in here for  
no good reason. Other guys are  
starting to complain, too.

P.A. VOICE

(filtered)

Dr. Brackett to X-Ray.

Dr. Kelly Brackett to  
X-Ray.

BRACKETT

We don't know what  
complications are  
going to arise on  
the way to the hospi-  
tal. Better to be  
safe than sorry.

GAGE

I wonder, doctor! How safe is  
safe?

Brackett shrugs as he leaves.

GAGE

(to Stevens)

See what I mean.

CUT TO:



73 INT. RAMPART - RECEPTION AREA - DAY

73

RANDY SHERWOOD, a ten-year-old Little Leaguer still dressed in uniform, follows glumly beside his puffy-stern coach, JACK McCAFFEN. Randy was beaned by the opposing pitcher. They are standing by the desk when Dixie approaches. The receptionist isn't there.

RANDY

Come on, coach. I'm okay. He just rang my bell. Really -- if my mom was here, she'd take me home.

MC CAFFEN

I'll handle it my way.

Dixie goes behind the counter.

MC CAFFEN

This young man was hit in the head by a hard ball. I'm his coach, the Valley Stars...Little Leaguers.

DIXIE

Fill out these forms while I ask him some questions.

She hands him the forms and he begins writing. A nurse, Gina, walks up to the desk.

DIXIE

(to Randy)

Where did the ball hit?

Randy indicates the left side with his hand. He winces in pain.

RANDY

Here.

DIXIE

What's your name?

RANDY

Randy Sherwood.

DIXIE

Gina, take his vitals.

She nods and starts to do so.

DIXIE

Randy, do you remember what day it is?

CONTINUED



RANDY

Sure, it's Saturday.

DIXIE

Did you black out at all?

RANDY

Uh-uh.

DIXIE

Were you wearing a helmet?

MC CAFFEN

(firmly)

You bet he was...that's a strict regulation....

The nurse finishes taking vitals, then checks Randy's head for a lump. McCaffren finishes writing; looks at his watch.

GINA

B.P. is 110 over 70, Dixie. Pulse is eighty.

DIXIE

Thanks, Gina.

MC CAFFEN

When do we see a doctor?

DIXIE

As soon as one's available. Randy's vital signs are normal.

MC CAFFEN

(indignant)

I don't want to sit here all day because I didn't call an ambulance.

DIXIE

That has nothing to do with it. We triage all patients once they get here. Can you reach his parents?

MC CAFFEN

They're on vacation.

McCaffren reaches into his pocket and hands Dixie a note authorizing any medical personnel to treat in emergency.

MC CAFFEN

He's staying at my house while they're away. His mother gave me this in case of emergency. I think that's all you need.

CONTINUED



73 CONTINUED - 2

73

Dixie glances at it.

DIXIE

Sure is -- thanks. Someone will  
be with you shortly.

(X)

74 INT. STATION 51 - APPARATUS ROOM - DAY

74

Gage and DeSoto are polishing the Squad. Gage stands back,  
admiring his reflection in the chrome.

DE SOTO

Where's Gary?

Gage wipes a smudge.

GAGE

Inside, dictating notes into a  
tape recorder.

DE SOTO

Do you think it's a good idea to  
let him hear about this business  
with the doctors? Maybe we ought  
to kick it under the rug until he's  
gone.

GAGE

Why do you say that?

DE SOTO

Maybe he's looking for ways to  
benefit his own career.

GAGE

Aw, c'mon. He's supposed to find  
ways to improve the system. We're  
making good points. I hope he  
uses them.

DE SOTO

He'll use them all. But what if  
some politician reads it wrong?  
Could jeopardize the whole program!

GAGE

Gary'll get this issue out in the  
open. Stir up controversy. Then  
people will listen.

DE SOTO

Maybe.

(X)

CONTINUED



74 CONTINUED

74

Gage reacts. The SCU tones sound for Station 51. DeSoto and Gage put the chrome polish aside. Captain Stanley exits the Rec room and hurries to the radio. The other firemen and Stevens follow him out and board the rigs.

DISPATCHER'S VOICE

(filtered)

Station Fifty-One, man down, thirty-eight sixty Rexford. 3-8-6-0 Rexford. Cross is Woodcliff. Ambulance responding. Time out: 15:10.

Captain Stanley jots down the address.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

Station Fifty-One, KMG 365.

Captain Stanley hands DeSoto the address, then boards the Engine as the Squad rolls away.

75 EXT. CITY STREETS - DAY - STOCK

75

Carrying the Squad and Engine code "R" to the scene.

76 EXT. REXFORD STREET - DAY

76

The Squad and Engine pull to a halt in front of a neatly kept suburban home. VINCE, a policeman is standing next to MADELINE KELLOG, 40ish, a self-confident, aggressive woman. He approaches Gage and Desoto as they hurry out of the Squad.

VINCE

Around back. Family argument. He's having some sort of emotional attack.

Gage and DeSoto take the drug box and bio-phone off the Squad and hurry to the rear of the house. Stevens and the entire entourage follow.

77 EXT. BACKYARD - KELLOG HOUSE - DAY

77

The backyard is surrounded by a fence and the lawn is perfectly manicured. A hedge trimmer is lying on the porch next to HENRY KELLOG, who sits on the step gasping for breath.

GAGE

(to Madeline)

Has this ever happened before?

CONTINUED



77 CONTINUED

77

MADELINE

A couple of times, but he's never been this bad.

GAGE

Has he seen a doctor?

MADELINE

What for? Whenever we have a disagreement, he gets uptight, goes outside and starts working on the lawn. He pays more attention to the petunias than to me.

GAGE

How long has he been this way?

MADELINE

About twenty minutes.

78 ANGLE - STEVENS

78

He's watching, listening -- absorbing the situation.

79 ANGLE - DE SOTO AND HENRY

79

DeSoto kneels down next to Henry. Gage takes the vitals and writes them on a piece of paper.

DE SOTO

We're county paramedics. We want to help. Try and take a deep breath and relax.

Henry takes a deep breath.

MADELINE

Come on, Henry. Stop acting like a baby. Look at the trouble you're causing these men.

GAGE

Roy, he's going to hyper-ventilate and he shows signs of hypertension.

Henry starts gasping again. The sound of the ambulance can be heard in the b.g.

DE SOTO

Captain, why don't you take her out front? She's only upsetting him more.

Captain Stanley takes Madeline gently by the arm. She squirms out of his grasp.

CONTINUED



79 CONTINUED

79

MADELINE

(screaming)

You can't throw me out of my own  
backyard.

VINCE

(taking out  
his pad)

Ma'am, I'm gonna need some informa-  
tion. Please cooperate.

She looks at Vince's badge and follows him.

Gage removes a paper bag from the drug box and opens it for  
Henry to breathe into. Desoto sets up the bio-phone.

MADELINE

(to everybody)

Sympathy, that's all he  
wants. He'd call out the  
whole country to win an  
argument.

DE SOTO

(into bio-phone)

Rampart, County Fifty-  
One.

(X)

80

INT. RAMPART - BASE STATION - DAY

80

Dixie starts for the radio. Morton dashes past her and grabs  
it.

DIXIE

Take a break, Mike. You've been  
so busy you're going to wear the  
floor out.

MORTON

I've already got it.

Dixie turns and walks out.

DIXIE

Have it your way.

MORTON

(into radio)

Go ahead, Fifty-One.

DE SOTO'S VOICE

(filtered)

We have a victim about forty. He  
was involved in a family dispute and  
began hyperventilating. We covered  
his mouth with a paper bag. Seems  
to be improved, but he's also very  
distraught.

MORTON

(into radio)

Fifty-One, what are his vitals?



81 EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

81

The ambulance attendants arrive with a gurney.

DE SOTO  
(turns aside;  
whispers to Gage)  
It's Doctor Morton.

Gage hands DeSoto the paper with the list of vitals.

GAGE  
(low)  
He's going to T.K.O. him.

DE SOTO  
Nah!  
(into bio-phone)  
B.P. 145 over 100, pulse 80,  
respirations are labored and 30.  
We have an ambulance at scene.

(X)

MORTON'S VOICE  
(filtered)  
Fifty-One, administer 5 milligrams  
diazepam I.M.

(X)

(X)

DeSoto reacts; ready to bat his head against the wall.

(X)

DeSoto motions to Gage.

DE SOTO  
You saw it coming.

GAGE  
Give him another shot. If we have  
to transport I'm gonna make waves.

DE SOTO  
(into radio)  
Rampart, I repeat, victim  
is markedly improved.  
We feel there is no need  
for a follow-up.

STEVENS  
(to Gage)  
You won't have to. I will.

(X)

Gage and DeSoto look disgusted.

GAGE  
Gary, back off. We'll talk about  
it later.



82

INT. RAMPART - BASE STATION - DAY

82

Brackett enters; observes.

MORTON

(into radio; with  
authority)Fifty-One, five milligrams  
diazepan I.M. and start an I.V.  
D5W T.K.O. Transport immediate-  
ly.

(X)

83

ANGLE

83

Gage and Stevens steaming; boiling mad.

84

EXT. KELLOG BACKYARD - DAY

84

GAGE

(to De Soto; low)

If we're supposed to be the eyes  
and ears of the doctor why don't  
they listen to us?

DE SOTO

They don't think we're the brains.

DE SOTO

(into bio-phone)

Five milligrams diazepam I.M.  
I.V. D5W T.K.O.

(X)

GAGE

(quietly to DeSoto)

I don't believe it!

Gage removes an ampule of diazepam, prepares a needle and  
injects it.

STEVENS

(to Kelly)

What he needs is a marriage  
counselor.

GAGE

This will make you feel  
better.DeSoto gets the I.V., hands it to Gage who inserts it. The  
attendants load Henry on the gurney and start to roll him  
away.

MADELINE

Shall I come too?

CAPTAIN STANLEY

Do you drive?

CONTINUED



MADELINE

Of course.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

Then why don't you meet your  
husband at the hospital?

MADELINE

Gladly.

The attendants wheel the gurney to the front of the house.  
Gage and DeSoto start to pack their gear.

WOMAN'S VOICE

(screaming)

HELP! HELP! SOMEBODY....

Gage and DeSoto react. Kelly climbs up the fence, looking  
over.

There is a Santa Barbara Hot Tub or a giant old wine vat  
(5-foot diameter). It stands about six feet above ground  
and an ordinary household ladder is beside the tub. A  
young woman, KAY, in her early twenties, is standing on the  
ladder leaning into the pool. She's apparently trying to  
pull someone out but the weight is too much for her.

KAY

Ted, Teddy...get up! Help!  
Somebody help me.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

Chet, give her a hand. John,  
hang tight until I see what's up.

KAY

Hurry. He can't wait. He's  
drowning.

Kelly vaults the fence.

He looks back.

KELLY

Mario, get the respirator.

CONTINUED



86

CONTINUED

86

DeSoto calls Rampart. Marco goes for the respirator.

DE SOTO  
(into radio)  
Rampart, County Fifty-One.

MORTON'S VOICE  
(filtered)  
Go ahead Fifty-One.

DE SOTO  
(into bio-phone)  
Victim one is aboard the ambulance.  
We have a man down, possible drown-  
ing next door. Request permission  
to transport first victim without  
follow-up.

87

INT. RAMPART - BASE STATION

87

Morton looks quizically at Brackett. Brackett pauses, he  
has no choice; takes control.

BRACKETT  
(into radio)  
Negative Fifty-One. hold the  
ambulance. Go ahead on the second  
victim.

Morton stares at Brackett.

BRACKETT  
(to Morton)  
A drowning won't wait. An emo-  
tionally unstable man on mild  
sedatives will.

88

EXT. DUTTON BACK YARD - DAY

88

The men enter the yard from a side gate. DeSoto and Gage  
carry their equipment. DeSoto opens the bio-phone.

DE SOTO  
(to Captain Stanley)  
Get one of the ambulance atten-  
dants to bring another gurney.  
Have the driver stand by.  
Kelly is standing in the hot tub. Ted is slumped unconscious (X)  
inside. Lopez runs in with the respirator, but can't use it.

CONTINUED



88 CONTINUED

88

He starts mouth to mouth. An empty bota bag is floating in the tub. Ted's foot is caught in a broken slat. DeSoto tugs slightly as Kelly lifts.

KELLY

Hold it, his foot is caught.

DeSoto waits. Gage helps support Ted. Kelly ducks below the water line and frees Ted's foot, then surfaces.

KELLY

Get him out!

They remove Ted and lie him on the ground. He's cyanotic. Gage takes his pulse.

GAGE

He's arrested.

Marco puts him on respirator, then Gage begins CPR. DeSoto removes the paddles, readies the MB 2, and waits for the unit to charge. Kelly climbs out holding the bota bag.

DE SOTO

Clear.

Gage and Lopez move back. DeSoto zaps Ted. His body arches. DeSoto lays the paddles down; feels for a carotid pulse.

DE SOTO

Converted.

Gage resumes CPR. Lopez resumes ventilating. DeSoto uses the paddles to take EKG.

KELLY

It's hot in there. Over a hundred. He must have been drinking and passed out.

DE SOTO

(into bio-phone)  
Rampart, County Fifty-One. We've got a male about twenty-five. Unconscious, ETOH. Was in full arrest. We've defibrilated. CPR is being continued. Stand by for lead two.

89 INT. RAMPART - BASE STATION - DAY

89

Brackett reads the strip. (Stock #E 1179)

BRACKETT

Junctional bradycardia rate of forty-five.

(into radio)

Fifty-One start I.V. D5W with one amp bicarb, then add

CONTINUED



89 CONTINUED

89

BRACKETT (Cont'd)  
.5 milligram atropine I.V. push.  
Get me the vitals.

DE SOTO'S VOICE  
(filtered)  
Ten-four Rampart. I.V. D5W, one amp  
bicarb, .5 milligram atropine I.V.  
push.

90 EXT. DUTTON'S BACK YARD - DAY

90

Gage checks carotid pulse.

GAGE  
Okay. Stop CPR.

They stop as Gage establishes the I.V. and administers the  
drugs, then takes the vitals.

GAGE  
Pulse is 70, B.P. 90 over 60.

Ted starts to cough and wake up.

DE SOTO  
(into bio-phone)  
Rampart, victim is beginning to  
regain consciousness. We have him  
on six liters of O-2. Pulse is  
70, B.P. 90 over 60.

BRACKETT'S VOICE  
(filtered)  
Transport immediately and continue  
to monitor him in the ambulance.

DE SOTO  
Ten-four, Rampart.

The attendants load Ted onto the gurney and wheel him away.  
Gage and DeSoto gather their gear and follow.

91 EXT. KELLOG HOUSE - DAY

91

Ted is lifted into the ambulance. Gage sends Kay up front,  
then gets inside. The driver slams the doors shut and hurries  
to the front. DeSoto and Stevens enter the Squad. Both  
vehicles move into the street code "R."



92 EXT. CITY STREETS - DAY - STOCK 92  
carrying the Squad and ambulance to the hospital.

93 VARIOUS ANGLES - STOCK 93  
to carry the ambulance across the parking lot to the Emergency entrance, where it stops.

94 EXT. RAMPART - EMERGENCY ENTRANCE - DAY 94  
The ambulance arrives. The attendants emerge from the front and scurry to unload Henry and Ted and get them to the entrance.

95 INT. RAMPART - EMERGENCY CORRIDOR - DAY 95  
Dixie hurries down the corridor toward the ambulance entrance along with a couple of orderlies. As they approach, the doors burst open and the orderlies and attendants rush the gurneys through. Gage, DeSoto, and Stevens continue into the corridor.

96 ANOTHER ANGLE 96  
Gage, DeSoto, and Stevens walk to the nurses' station.

STEVENS  
Lucky we were next door. That first run paid off.

GAGE  
Terrific, what if we had been on the other side of town!

Stevens is silenced. They walk past Bill Duke who is lying on a gurney waiting to be treated; the I.V. is still attached.

DE SOTO  
Bill! How you doing?

DUKE  
Fine. Doc hasn't looked at me yet but I'm certain he'll let me go home. I can't wait to get back to my new bed. This contraption is very uncomfortable.

CONTINUED



96 CONTINUED

96

GAGE

You slept on a new bed last night?

DUKE

Yep. First time on a waterbed.

Gage winces.

DE SOTO

Maybe that caused your back pain?

Duke is pensive.

DUKE

You think so? But they're  
guaranteed for perfect comfort.

Gage and DeSoto suffer in silent amusement.

DE SOTO

Good luck with your house, Bill.

Gage, DeSoto, and Stevens continue walking down the corridor.

97 ANOTHER ANGLE

97

Morton exits a treatment room farther down the hall. Gage,  
DeSoto, and Stevens corner him.

DE SOTO

Hi Doc. We just saw Bill Duke,  
the guy with the back pain you  
had us bring in this morning.  
Remember?

(X)

MORTON

Certainly.

GAGE

Don't you think that I.V. could  
have waited until he got here?

MORTON

Not really.

STEVENS

How come you had Roy and John fly  
him in here like it was a matter  
of life and death? He's still  
waiting to be treated.

CONTINUED



97 CONTINUED

97

MORTON

I prefer not to take chances.  
He could have had a dissecting  
aneurism.

GAGE

Didn't we rule that out when the  
right and left blood pressures  
were equal?

MORTON

The dissection could have been on  
both sides.

DeSoto and Gage exchange looks. Obviously they overlooked  
that possibility. Morton doesn't pick up on it.

MORTON

It's probably nothing though. If  
it was he would have developed  
other symptoms. We've been jammed.  
I'm on my way to examine him now.

GAGE

And you tied us up for that?

Morton glares at Gage.

MORTON

If you'll excuse me you're tying  
me up.

Morton turns and walks away.

STEVENS

John, you handled that like a pro,  
but you haven't seen anything yet.

GAGE

What do you mean?

STEVENS

Just wait and see.

DeSoto and Gage exchange glances.

DE SOTO

Gary, we gotta restock our drug  
kit.

DeSoto reaches into his pocket and pulls out a half dollar;  
tosses it to Gary.

CONTINUED



97 CONTINUED - 2

97

DE SOTO

Why don't you get some coffee and  
meet us at the Squad?

STEVENS

Cream and sugar?

They both nod. Gage and DeSoto head down the corridor to the  
nurses' station.

98 ANGLE - GAGE AND DE SOTO

98

DE SOTO

He'll blow this out of proportion.

GAGE

Can't hurt...can it?

(beat)

Maybe someone will finally listen!

DE SOTO

Suppose the aneurism had gone down  
both sides and we didn't have an  
I.V.?

GAGE

We might have blown it. But the odds  
are one in a million. As I see it  
when they're that slim we should be  
made available.

99 INT. RAMPART - RECEPTION AREA - DAY

99

Coach McCaffren is reading a sports magazine. Randy is slumped  
over, sluggish, almost asleep. McCaffren glances at him. He's  
concerned.

MC CAFFEN

Randy, you okay?

Randy doesn't react. McCaffren shakes him.

MC CAFFEN

Randy. Randy. Don't fall out on  
me.

RANDY

What...what...now coach, now!

CONTINUED



MC CAFFEN

Randy, please try to stay awake.

RANDY

Okay, coach.

McCaffen looks around, spots Dixie. An orderly is pushing a wheelchair down the hall.

MC CAFFEN

(urgent)

Nurse, he's acting strange. Now, if I don't get someone to look at him immediately....

DIXIE

What do you mean he's acting strange?

MC CAFFEN

Sluggish...tired...that's not him.

DIXIE

Mike, got him into Treatment Room Four.

(to a passing nurse)

Page Doctors Early and Brackett.

Mike places Randy in the wheelchair and pushes him to the treatment room. Dixie and McCaffen follow.

100 INT. RAMPART - TREATMENT ROOM FOUR - DAY

100

Mike sits Randy on the table then removes his shoes. He exits. Brackett enters as Dixie begins taking the vitals.

BRACKETT

Good afternoon young man.  
I'm Doctor Brackett. What's your name?

Randy's speech is slow and deliberate. Brackett extends a firm handshake. Randy musters up a meager resistance to the force of Brackett's hand. When Brackett releases, Randy's hand flops back into his lap.

RANDY

Randy Sherwood.

CONTINUED



100 CONTINUED

100

BRACKETT

What happened?

RANDY

Nothing. The coach makes a big deal over nothing.

(beat)

I got beaned. So what? You could count the stitches on the pitcher's fast ball.

BRACKETT

After you got hit, did you get up and go to first base?

RANDY

I don't remember....I mean coach put in a runner for me.

BRACKETT

(to Dixie)

How long ago did this occur?

DIXIE

They came in a little while ago. His vitals were normal then.

(X)

BRACKETT

(nods

to Randy)

Do you remember my name?

(X)

RANDY

(quizically)

Yeah, uh...Doctor Brown.

Brackett and Dixie exchange glances. Brackett extends both hands, palms up to Randy.

BRACKETT

Randy, I want you to put both your hands on mine and push down slow and steady as hard as you can. Okay?

Randy nods, places his hands on Brackett's, presses down feebly.

DIXIE

Blood pressure is 120 systolic, 80 distolic. Pulse is 50. Respiration's 15.

(X)

CONTINUED



100 CONTINUED - 2

100

Brackett feels Randy's skull with his thumbs, When he touches (X) the left occipital region Randy jerks.

RANDY

OW! That hurts.

BRACKETT

Looks like you got hit below the helmet.

Randy is quiet. Brackett examines the tender area, then checks for battles behind the ears. There are none. Brackett re-moves his flashlight, points to the ceiling.

BRACKETT

I want you to stare at the ceiling.  
I'm going to look in your eyes.

RANDY

(stuttering)

Oh...okay....

Brackett examines Randy's pupils. Early enters.

BRACKETT

Joe, take a look.

(beat)

Randy, this is another doctor. He's going to examine you.

Randy doesn't respond. He has become very sluggish. Brackett lies Randy down. Early takes the ophthalmoscope and lifts Randy's eyelids to examine him.

EARLY

Right discs are blurred. Pupil's staring to dilate.

(X)

Randy stirs, opens his eyes, sees Early.

RANDY

What happened, I was just sitting up. I don't feel good.

EARLY

Randy, lie still. We'll take care of you.

Brackett takes Randy's feet and does a Babinski.

BRACKETT

Sluggish. Dix, I want an Echoencephlogram stat and the portable X-ray.

(X)

CONTINUED



srw #44915 50  
(X)

100 CONTINUED - 3

100

She goes to the phone.

DIXIE

We need an echoencephlogram and  
portable X-ray in Treatment Four,  
stat.

EARLY

Endocranial pressure is building.

(to Dixie)

Start an I.V. D5W and draw blood  
for type and cross match.

Give him ten mgs. I.V. push  
dexamethosone.

Dixie sets up the I.V. then draws a blood sample. Randy  
stirs faintly. Early repeats the Babinsky.

101 ANOTHER ANGLE

101

A tech wheels in the Echoencephlogram. Dixie assists  
while Brackett attaches the head piece to Randy's skull.

BRACKETT

Ready.

Early switches on the oscilloscope. Brackett crosses to him  
and they observe the sound wave pattern on the scope. Early  
picks up the polaroid and snaps a picture.

102 INSERT - SCOPE

102

showing a midline shift.

EARLY'S VOICE

There's a definite midline shift.

103 BACK TO SCENE

103

Early tears off the developed picture and sets the camera  
down.

The X-RAY TECHNICIAN enters with the portable unit.

EARLY

(to tech)

I want a complete skull series.

Brackett and Dixie exit.



104 INT. RAMPART CORRIDOR - DAY

104

BRACKETT

Put O.R. on standby. Better locate his parents.

DIXIE

They're on vacation. They left a letter of consent in case of emergency.

BRACKETT

Contact them anyway.

(X)

McCaffen is pacing the halls, spots Dixie and hurries over.

MC CAFFEN

How's Randy?

(X)

DIXIE

Do you know where his parents are staying?

(X)

MC CAFFEN

Yeah, but I'd hate to disturb them for something minor.

BRACKETT

It's a little more complicated. He's going to require surgery.

MC CAFFEN

(shaken)

I'll call my wife. She has the number.

DISSOLVE TO

105 OMITTED

105

106 INT. RAMPART - CORRIDOR - DAY

106

Brackett emerges from a treatment room, walks toward his office. He notices Morton, Gage and DeSoto. Morton is doing his best to control his temper.

MORTON

The moment I answer that phone I'm committed to give that patient the best possible care I know how.

GAGE

I know that. But why tie up the Squad on T.K.O.'s if the patient doesn't warrant it?

CONTINUED



106 CONTINUED

106

Dixie passes in the b.g. glancing at the trio.

MORTON

As long as a patient's in the field  
I'm going to have you get a vein...  
just in case...to play it safe.

Morton snaps his fingers.

MORTON

He could go sour like that, and you  
know it.

Brackett approaches, stops momentarily listening to the conversation. Passing nurses and orderlies turn their heads taking notice as the intensity of the conversation grows.

GAGE

But why make the Squad do a hospital  
follow up on a precautionary I.V.?

MORTON

Because it's the law...that's why.

GAGE

Maybe we should try to change....

Brackett interrupts.

BRACKETT

...Gentlemen...why don't we con-  
tinue in my office?

MORTON

Sorry Kel...I got a little carried  
away.

GAGE

Let's go.

The men walk towards Brackett's office. Dixie passes on her way to the base station.

DIXIE

Hi Kell...handling the war depart-  
ment?

BRACKETT

(grinning)

Part of the job.

(beat)

Just spoke to Joe. Randy's okay.  
You can call his parents and let  
them know.

(X)

CONTINUED



106 CONTINUED - 2

106

DIXIE

They'll be delighted.

(X)

Dixie hurries off. Brackett and the others enter his office.

107 INT. BRACKETT'S OFFICE - DAY

107

Brackett sits on the corner of his desk; Gage, DeSoto, and Morton stand. Brackett shows Gage and DeSoto a folder from the top of his desk.

BRACKETT

Have you seen these?

DeSoto and Gage nod.

BRACKETT

They're clippings from a new publication devoted to emergency medicine.

DE SOTO

Yeah, and they're very complimentary.

BRACKETT

We're pioneers. Our program serves as a model for other countries and the demand for our services has grown astronomically.

GAGE

Let's not pat ourselves on the back -- yet.

MORTON

He wants to spread us thin.

GAGE

(aggravated)

I want to be there to help. Once you order an I.V. we're committed on a follow-up.

DE SOTO

If that I.V.'s only a precaution it takes us out of the field for at least thirty minutes.

(X)

MORTON

You have control. You're on the scene. If it's not an emergency don't call it in.

CONTINUED



107 CONTINUED

107

DE SOTO

Sometimes there are extenuating circumstances. A patient feels better knowing the hospital was consulted.

BRACKETT

I agree.

GAGE

Then why establish an I.V. TKO on every patient?

BRACKETT

We don't.

DE SOTO

Eighty to ninety percent of the time.

BRACKETT

(firm)

If a patient needs it he gets it.

GAGE

The probability that a patient with a precautionary I.V. would die if you waited until he got to the hospital is less than me choking to death on a chicken bone.

MORTON

Whatever the risk is, I don't want to take it.

GAGE

What about the second patient who may need the Squad and has to wait an additional twenty minutes while we're transporting the first victim who's got a precautionary I.V.

MORTON

But that second patient is hypothetical.

BRACKETT

Hold on a second, Mike. John and Roy have a valid point. Call it what you want; morals...ethics... Emergency medicine is a specialized field. Our services are needed immediately.

CONTINUED



107 CONTINUED - 2

107

GAGE

Exactly.

BRACKETT

Right now nobody seems to be worried about the second patient who might need us.

MORTON

Then the public shouldn't call us for every cut and scrape. They tie us up.

BRACKETT

I want them to call. It's our responsibility to triage, not theirs. The average citizens not equipped to decipher an M.I. from indigestion. We are. Until we're given stricter guidelines I suggest you assess each situation more carefully.

GAGE

You got it, Doctor Brackett. That's the bottom line; and somebody has to draw it.

DISSOLVE TO

108 EXT. CITY STREETS - DAY - THE SQUAD

108

Gage and DeSoto are returning to the station.

109 INT. SQUAD FIFTY-ONE - DAY

109

DE SOTO

Doctor Brackett understands the problem. But how soon before all E.R. doctors will take his point of view.

GAGE

Give'm time. It won't happen overnight.

DE SOTO

(surprised)

You finally agree. You get one point across and you're a changed man.

CONTINUED



109 CONTINUED

109

GAGE  
(groans)  
Roy!...Gary!...If he handles  
this wrong it could undo every-  
thing we did....

FRED MONSON'S VOICE  
(a paramedic from  
Squad Forty-Three  
filtered over  
the radio)  
L.A. Squad Forty-Three.

DISPATCHER'S VOICE  
Squad Forty-Three.

FRED'S VOICE  
(filtered)  
We've been involved in a vehicle  
accident. Corner of Olive and  
Devonshire. Request assistance  
and an ambulance.

(X)

DE SOTO  
That's three blocks from here.

Gage picks up the radio.

GAGE  
(into radio)  
L.A. Squad Fifty-One. On Squad  
Forty-Three's request, we're  
around the corner.

DISPATCHER'S VOICE  
(filtered)  
Go ahead Fifty-One.

DeSoto turns on the LIGHTS AND SIRENS.

110 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

110

Carrying Squad Fifty-One to the scene.

DISPATCHER'S VOICE  
(SCU tones,  
filtered)  
Engine Fifty-One, with Squad Fifty-  
One. Vehicle accident with injuries,  
corner of Olive and Devonshire.  
Olive and Devonshire. Ambulance  
is responding. Time out: 16:20.

(X)

CAPTAIN STANLEY'S VOICE  
(filtered)  
Engine Fifty-One, KMG 365.



111 EXT. STATION FIFTY-ONE - DAY - STOCK 111

The Engine turns on the street, LIGHTS AND SIRENS blaring.

112 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY - ACCIDENT SCENE 112

A controlled residential intersection with a hydrant is proximity. The homes are set back from the sidewalk in no immediate danger from possible fire. The front end of Squad Forty-Three is against the telephone pole it hit. Fred's outside wearing his turnout coat but no helmet. He has a slight bruise on his forehead and is setting up the bio-phone. His partner, JIM WHITE, is slumped in the passenger seat. (X)  
A second vehicle, a racy looking late model hard top is lying upside down near the opposite curb. Its engine is still going; the back wheels are moving. The occupant, TODD CHAMPION, is unconscious, trapped inside, and his left arm is hanging outside the window. Gasoline from the ruptured tank is draining into the street. Spectators are gathering at the intersection.

113 ANGLE SQUAD 51 113

DeSoto and Gage hurry out, put on their turnout coats and remove their gear from the equipment bay. DeSoto goes to Fred, Gage to the upside down car.

DE SOTO

You okay?

FRED

A little shook up. That guy blew the stop sign. Jimmy hurt his shoulder. (X)

Fred picks up the bio-phone.

FRED

(into bio-phone)

Rampart, this is County Forty-Three.

114 INT. RAMPART BASE STATION - DAY 114

Early answers the radio.

EARLY

(into radio)

Go ahead, Forty-Three.

115 EXT. INTERSECTION - DAY 115

Engine Fifty-One arrives. The men hurry out.



116 ANOTHER ANGLE

116

Gage is reaching into the car attempting to turn off the ignition. Suddenly the gasoline surrounding the car bursts into flame trapping him and Todd. DeSoto runs to the Squad, removes an asbestos blanket, hurries to Gage.

FRED

(into bio-phone)

We've been involved in a vehicle accident. Two victims. Fifty-one's is assisting. Victim one has a shoulder injury. Vitals are B.P. 130 over 85, pulse 80, respirations 24.

(X)

EARLY'S VOICE

(filtered)

Forty-Three, immobilize the shoulder and transport as soon as possible. How about victim two?

CAPTAIN STANLEY

Chet, Marco, pull inch and a half and sweep that fire away from John. Stoker make the hydrant.

The men respond to Stanley's orders.

117 ANGLE TODD'S CAR

117

The fire has sealed off Gage and Todd's escape route. Gage is smothering flames on Todd's left sleeve.

DE SOTO

(calling)

The blanket.

DeSoto tosses the asbestos blanket through the flames. Gage catches it, crawls inside the car and covers the opening with the blanket. Kelly and Marco sweep the burning gasoline away from the car with the fog. As soon as the fire is clear from the driver's side Gage kicks open the door. The dashboard is pushed in and the steering column has trapped Todd inside.

GAGE

Give me a hand with the seat.

DeSoto and Gage try to push the seat back. It doesn't move.

GAGE

Get the crow bar!

DeSoto goes to the Squad.



118 ANGLE STOKER

118

He takes the two and a half inch and attaches it to the auxiliary intake on the Engine. A police car pulls to a halt. The policemen get out and disperse the crowd.

119 ANGLE CAPTAIN STANLEY AND FRED

119

Squad forty-three's passenger door is open. Fred is splinting White's shoulder with cardboard and kerlix.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

How you doing?

FRED

Okay. We'll need an ambulance.

Captain Stanley removes his h/t.

CAPTAIN STANLEY

It's on it's way.

(X)

DISPATCHER'S VOICE

(filtered)

Ten-four, Fifty-One.

120 ANGLE TODD'S CAR

120

The back of the car is lying on a slope in the pavement causing the burning gasoline to gather near the rear of the car. Kelly is fogging the gas attempting to sweep it away from the fuel tank. DeSoto returns with the crow bar.

KELLY

I'm having trouble keeping the fire from the gas tank.

DE SOTO

Do we have two minutes?

KELLY

(nods)

Make it quick. It's getting hot.

DeSoto hands Gage the crow bar.

121 INT. TODD'S CAR - DAY

121

Gage has crawled into the rear seat. Todd is still strapped upside down in the car. Gage positions the crowbar under the track of the seat and begins applying pressure. The seat springs loose. Gage hands DeSoto the crowbar, and they both push back the seat freeing Todd.



122 ANOTHER ANGLE

122

Gage slides into the front, supports Todd's body on his shoulders while DeSoto reaches in and unhooks the seat belt.

GAGE

Watch his arm!

DeSoto carefully supports Todd's upper body and they remove him from the vehicle.

123 WIDE ANGLE

123

Suddenly there is an explosion. Gage and DeSoto drop to the cement shielding themselves and Todd from the blast.

The heat has caused the rear tire to blow. DeSoto and Gage react, then hustle Todd to the sidewalk. Fred is still working on his partner. Gage begins examining Todd while DeSoto takes out the sterile dressings and covers the burned arm.

DE SOTO

Fred, we're ready on victim two.

FRED

Rampart's standing by. Call it in.

DeSoto picks up the bio-phone. The ambulance arrives at the scene.

DE SOTO

(into bio-phone)

Rampart, this is County Fifty-One responding with County Forty-Three. We're ready on the second victim.

EARLY'S VOICE

(filtered)

Go ahead, Fifty-One.

GAGE

130 over 90,  
90 and 24.

DE SOTO

(into bio-phone)

Victim two is a male approximately twenty years old. He was unconscious and has second degree burns on his left arm. B.P. is 130 over 90, pulse is....

Fred approaches DeSoto enraged.

FRED

What do you think you're doing?  
This is my run. I was first in.  
Give me that phone.

Fred dives on DeSoto wrestling the bio-phone from him.



124 ANGLE - GAGE

124

Gage spots DeSoto and Fred rolling on the ground. He separates them.

GAGE

What happened?

DE SOTO

I don't know.

125 CLOSEUP - FRED

125

Suddenly the rage drains from his face.

FRED

What's going on?

Gage returns to Todd.

126 ANOTHER ANGLE

126

Fred's knees buckle. Desoto catches him, lays him down, examines him. He notices the bruise on his forehead and feels for swelling in the occipital region. Fred winces.

FRED

Easy Roy.

DE SOTO

You must have banged your head.

FRED

It happened so quickly.

Fred squints his eyes trying to focus.

FRED

Oh, are you fuzzy. I must have a concussion.

DeSoto checks Fred's pupils.

127 ANGLE - THE FIRE

127

It's under control. Marco and Kelly have swept the burning fuel away from the gas tank.

128 BACK TO SCENE

128

DeSoto removes his turnout coat, rolls it up, and props it

CONTINUED



128 CONTINUED

128

under Fred's legs. Then he picks up the bio-phone.

DE SOTO  
(into bio-phone)  
Rampart, County Fifty-One. We  
experienced a minor problem but  
it's now under control.

129 INT. RAMPART - BASE STATION - DAY

129

EARLY  
(into radio)  
Go ahead Fifty-One.

DE SOTO'S VOICE  
(filtered)  
Both paramedics were injured.  
Victim one is splinted. Victim  
two's vitals are B.P. 130 over 90,  
pulse 90, respiration 24. Burns  
have been dressed. Victim two is  
now conscious and alert. Pupils  
equal and responsive.

EARLY  
(into radio)  
Start I.V. normal saline. Transport  
as soon as possible.

(X)

130 EXT. INTERSECTION - DAY

130

The attendant is loading Paramedic White into the rear of  
the ambulance. The driver has wheeled a gurney next to Todd.  
Gage is getting Fred's vitals.

DE SOTO  
(into bio-phone)  
I.V. normal saline. Victim three  
suffered a blow to the head. Minor  
lacerations on the forehead with  
swelling above the left occipital  
region. He's conscious, coherent,  
but suffered an involuntary hostile  
episode. Respirations are 28,  
B.P. 130 over 80, pulse 100.

(X)

EARLY  
(filtered)  
Fifty-One, start an I.V. D5W and  
transport.

(X)

CONTINUED



130 CONTINUED

131

DE SOTO  
(into bio-phone)  
Ten-Four. I.V. D5W.

(X)

131 INT. RAMPART - BASE STATION - DAY

131

Dixie has entered. She is standing by watching Early.

EARLY  
Fifty-One, what is your E.T.A?

DE SOTO'S VOICE  
(filtered)  
E.T.A. fifteen minutes.

EARLY  
(into radio)  
Ten-four, Fifty-One.  
(to Dixie)  
Fifty-One's bringing in three  
patients! Alert Kel and Mike.

(X)

132 EXT. INTERSECTION - ACCIDENT SCENE - DAY

132

Todd has been loaded into the ambulance. Gage finishes the I.V. and the ambulance attendants lift Fred and secure him to the gurney. The attendants wheel Fred to the ambulance. Captain Stanley is helping.

FRED  
(to Captain Stanley)  
Captain, sorry if I caused you  
any problem.

CAPTAIN  
Don't worry about it.

FRED  
Who covered our response?

CAPTAIN  
Engine 111 was first in. Broken  
finger. Your call was cancelled.

The men react. Fred is loaded into the ambulance. Gage and DeSoto get in.

CAPTAIN STANLEY  
I'll have Chet pick you up in the  
Squad.

Captain Stanley closes the door and the ambulance pulls away.

DISSOLVE TO



133 INT. STATION FIFTY-ONE - REC ROOM - EVENING

133

The crew is lounging in the rec room. DeSoto and Gage are seated at the table. Gage is dejected.

GAGE

It's six o'clock. Where is he?

None of the men respond.

GAGE

It's too late to stop him...the damage has been done.

The door buzzer interrupts and Stevens enters carrying a bucket of chicken and all the trimmings. (Note: Do not identify.) (X) He sets it on the table and looks sheepishly at Gage.

STEVENS

I let you down.  
(beat)

Gage is in pain.

GAGE

Oh, no...you didn't.

DE SOTO

I warned you.

STEVENS

I have to apologize. I gave it some thought. My job is to find economical answers to your field problems. I can't be objective if I take sides so I'm going to stick with the data. I hope you work your problems out with Doctor Morton.

Gage and DeSoto are overwhelmed, smiling; relieved.

GAGE

I think we did. You should have been there. The doctors agreed with us a line has to be drawn establishing what is and is not an emergency.

DE SOTO

We recognize it's going to take time. A lot of other people must agree before any solution is even attempted. Sort of a checks and balances.

STEVENS

I always say there's a right and a

CONTINUED



133 CONTINUED

133

STEVENS (Cont'd)  
wrong way of going about getting  
a job done.

DeSoto is devouring a leg of the chicken.

DE SOTO  
This is good chicken but you didn't  
have to treat us all to dinner.

Kelly walks over to the table; picks up a thigh.

KELLY  
Not too shabby, Gary. Must of cost  
a bundle.

GAGE  
Yeah, thanks.

STEVENS  
Don't thank me; thank the county.  
The men stop eating; look at him, puzzled.

STEVENS  
It's on my expense account!  
The men react.

FREEZE FRAME

THE END