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EMERGENCY!

THE HIGH-RISE

by

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EMERGENCY!THE HIGH RISECASTPERMANENT CAST:

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

VOICE-OVERS:

RECEPTIONIST
FIRE DEPARTMENT DISPATCHER

FREELANCE CAST

TWO BUILDING TENANTS
FIRST GUARD
CAPTAIN 36
SUPERINTENDENT
FIREMAN HOBBS
ELEVATOR PASSENGERS
FIRST MAN
FIRST WOMAN
CHIEF SEVEN
THIRD MAN (INJURED)
SIMS (INJURED)
DIVISION ASSISTANT CHIEF ONE
CHUCK
SERGEANT
CAROL
GEORGE LEAR
NURSE
GIRL
EVANS
TRADER
CHIEF ONE
EVELYN
VOICE-OVER:
MAC - DISPATCHER

EXTRAS:

BUILDING TENANTS AS
NEEDED (NUMEROUS)
FIREMEN 36'S
SECOND MAN
SECOND WOMAN
INJURED WOMAN
THREE INJURED MEN
MEN
20 AGITATED MEN AND WOMEN
FOURTH MAN
ADDITIONAL INJURED MAN
FIREMEN 14'S
SMOKE VICTIMS
NUMEROUS FIREMEN AS NEEDED
ORDERLY
FIREMEN AND PARAMEDICS 20'S
NUMEROUS AMBULANCE DRIVERS
AND ATTENDANTS
PARAMEDICS AS NEEDED
UNCONSCIOUS ELDERLY
WOMAN
THREE MAC TEAM MEMBERS
POLICE AS NEEDED
FIRE CAPTAINS AS NEEDED
SPECTATORS AS NEEDED

THE HIGH RISESETSINTERIORS:STANDING:

STATION 51
KITCHEN
APPARATUS FLOOR
RAMPART HOSPITAL
NURSES' STATION
BASE STATION

PRACTICAL:

SQUAD 51
BRACKETT'S CAR
RESCUE AMBULANCE

CASUAL:

HIGH RISE BUILDING LOBBY
ELEVATOR BANK
BUILDING SERVICE AREA
ELEVATOR AND ELEVATOR SHAFT
THIRD FLOOR LOBBY
FOURTH FLOOR LOBBY
FIFTEENTH FLOOR HALLWAY
NORTH FIRE EXIT STAIRWELL
SIXTEENTH FLOOR
STAIRWELL AND DOOR
CORRIDOR
ELEVATORS
SEVENTEENTH FLOOR
STAIRWELL
LANDING
CORRIDOR
EIGHTEENTH FLOOR
CORRIDOR
OFFICES
NINETEENTH FLOOR
CORRIDOR
OFFICE
JEWELER'S OFFICE
TWENTIETH FLOOR
STAIRWELL
LANDING
CORRIDOR
OFFICE
GARAGE ENTRANCE
GARAGE (WITH ELEVATOR BANKS)
FOURTEENTH FLOOR
ELEVATOR BANKS
CORRIDOR
STAIRWELL

TWENTY-FIRST FLOOR
CORRIDOR
STAIRWELL
LANDING
TWENTY-SECOND FLOOR
ELEVATORS
LANDING
CORRIDOR #1
CORRIDOR #2

EMERGENCY!

THE HIGH RISE

SETS

EXTERIORS:

STREET
HIGH RISE OFFICE BUILDING
CITY STREETS
GAS STATION WITH PHONE BOOTH
RESCUE AMBULANCE TRAVELLING CITY STREETS
PLAZA PHONE BOOTH
PLAZA STREET
DIVISIONAL ASSISTANT CHIEF'S CAR
BATTALION CHIEF'S CAR
ROOF OF HIGH RISE
HELICOPTER
HELICOPTER LANDING SITE

VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT:

DEFINITELY SHOWN:

DAC'S CAR
BC'S CAR
AMBULANCES (AT LEAST TWO)
HELICOPTER
RESCUE AMBULANCE
CARS IN GARAGE

POSSIBLY SHOWN:

SQUADS
TWO TRUCK COMPANIES
FIVE ENGINE COMPANIES
OTHER FIRE EQUIPMENT
ADDITIONAL AMBULANCES

EMERGENCY!

THE HIGH RISE

TEASER

FADE IN

1 INT. STATION FIFTY-ONE KITCHEN - DAY 1

ROY DESOTO, JOHN GAGE and CHET KELLY are seated at the table. LOPEZ is removing the ingredients for lunch from a brown paper bag at a counter in the b.g. Kelly is reading a section of the rest of the paper neatly piled section by section in front of him. Kelly finishes the section, folds it and drops it on the table. He stretches a little.

KELLY

Well....

DeSoto picks up the section and meticulously puts it on top of the others, squaring it up. After a longish beat:

GAGE

A four-letter word for 'tedium'...?

DESOTO

Dull.

GAGE

(shakes head)

Has to end in 'E'.

DESOTO

(beat)

How about some volleyball after lunch...?

Kelly shrugs: maybe.

DESOTO

(beat)

I don't mean right after lunch....

We hear the SCU TONES for the station. Then:

DISPATCHER'S VOICE

(filtered)

Squad Fifty-One.

DeSoto and Gage immediately head for the apparatus floor. During this:

CONTINUED

1 CONTINUED

1

DISPATCHER'S VOICE
(filtered)
Man down at Jasmine and Formosa.

2 INT. STATION FIFTY-ONE APPARATUS FLOOR

2

as DeSoto and Gage prepare to respond.

DISPATCHER'S VOICE
(filtered)
The corner of Jasmine and Formosa.
Time out -- eleven-thirty-eight.

3 EXT. STATION FIFTY-ONE - DAY - STOCK

3

as the Squad drives out of the station and turns into the street, lights and SIREN starting.

4 VARIOUS ANGLES - THE STREET - STOCK

4

as the Squad hurries toward the location.

5 INT. SQUAD FIFTY-ONE - DAY

5

GAGE
Think we'll make it this time?

DESOTO
Only eight blocks to go.

DISPATCHER'S VOICE
(beep;
filtered)
Squad Fifty-One -- cancel and
acknowledge.

Gage is already reaching for the microphone; DeSoto turns off the reds. They are disappointed.

GAGE
(into mike)
Squad Fifty-One.

DESOTO
Four in a row.

As DeSoto checks traffic....

6 EXT. THE STREET - DAY

6

FEATURING the squad slowing and pulling over into the curb lane. As it makes the next right turn....

7 INT. SQUAD FIFTY-ONE - DAY

7

as DeSoto straightens from the turn and begins heading back toward the station. There is a moment of silence. Then:

DESOTO
What do you say? A little volley-ball this afternoon -- ?

Gage shrugs: maybe.

DESOTO
The Captain wants a drill at two
-- so, say, like around three?

GAGE
(shrugs)
I guess. If the rest of the guys
want to.
(beat)
'Bore' -- that's it.

DeSoto glances at him, not immediately comprehending.

GAGE
Four letter word, ends in 'E'.

DeSoto nods. There is a longish pause.

DESOTO
Yeh -- what the heck? Let's get
up a game.

DISPATCHER'S VOICE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Engine Thirty-Six, Station Fifty-
One, Engine Eighteen, Truck Four-
teen, Battalion Seven. Structure
fire at Four Hundred Greymar Plaza.

DeSoto is already checking traffic to his left, reaching for the lights.

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4

8 EXT. THE STREET - DAY

8

FEATURING the squad as DeSoto pulls into the number one lane, lights and SIREN starting. Over this:

DISPATCHER'S VOICE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Four-zero-zero Greymar Plaza. The
cross is Forrest. Time out --
eleven-forty-six.

GAGE'S VOICE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Squad Fifty-One.

The squad is picking up speed.

9 VARIOUS ANGLES - STOCK

9

To CARRY the squad toward the location.

10 INT. SQUAD FIFTY-ONE - DAY

10

DESOTO
If I remember -- this is that
high-rise -- ?

GAGE
(nods)
Twenty-two floors.

11 EXT. CITY STREETS - VARIOUS ANGLES - DAY - STOCK

11

As the squad hurries through traffic.

12 INT. THE SQUAD - DAY

12

As both DeSoto and Gage peer ahead. After a moment:

DESOTO
There it is.

13 EXT. BURNING HIGH-RISE - DAY - POINT OF VIEW

13

It is a modern metal-and-glass office building, still some distance away. A plume of smoke -- not thick or heavy -- is rising from the roof area, probably from the air-conditioning vent.

14 INT. THE SQUAD - DAY

14

GAGE

(into microphone)

L. A. Squad Fifty-One. There's smoke visible. Respond a second alarm assignment to Four Hundred Greymar.

DESOTO (f.g.)

I was hoping it might in the basement.

DISPATCHER'S VOICE (o.s.)

(filtered)

Squad Fifty-One.

Gage shakes his head somberly as he replaces the microphone.

15 EXT. CITY STREETS - VARIOUS ANGLES - DAY - STOCK

15

TO CARRY the squad to the location.

16 EXT. BURNING HIGH-RISE - DAY

16

as the squad approaches and stops. A number of people are EXITING the building in a hurry and some confusion. DeSoto and Gage get out quickly, grab their gear, run across to the building and ENTER. We hear approaching SIRENS in the b.g.

17 INT. BUILDING LOBBY - DAY

17

People are crossing the lobby hurriedly to exit; there is considerable HUBBUB. The building alarm is RINGING. DeSoto and Gage cross quickly to the lobby desk and the FIRST GUARD. One or two people are around the desk, asking questions ADLIB, trying to find out what's going on. DeSoto and Gage push past them.

DESOTO

What floor's it on?

FIRST GUARD

Beats me. Maybe somebody just pulled the alarm ---

DESOTO

It's for real.

DeSoto and Gage are already turning away.

18 ANOTHER ANGLE

18

Gage heads toward the elevator bank and the people who are coming off the elevators into the lobby. DeSoto continues on past him and ENTERS an adjoining doorway. During this:

GAGE

Anybody see any fire -- ?

19

EXT. BURNING HIGH-RISE - DAY

19

As engine Thirty-Six approaches and stops. CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX and the FIREMEN dismount quickly, load themselves with packs and other appropriate equipment and hurry toward the building.

20

INT. SERVICE AREA - DAY

20

As DeSoto joins the SUPERINTENDENT in examining the annunciator and smoke indicator panels. The annunciator shows alarms on the seventeenth, eighteenth and twentieth floor; the smoke indicator shows the seventh, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first floors.

DE SOTO
Did you see anything?

SUPERINTENDENT
(shakes head)
I was downstairs.

As DeSoto and the Superintendent turn away ---

21

BUILDING LOBBY

21

As Captain Thirty-Six and his men cross the lobby. As they go, to HOBBS, a fireman:

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX
Get control of the elevators.
Start 'em down.

Hobbs, who already has the key, hurries toward the elevator bank. Gage hurries to Captain Thirty-Six.

GAGE
I've talked to people from twelve
and fourteen. Not even smoke.

DeSoto, followed by the Superintendent, quickly ENTERS THE SHOT. The Superintendent goes to the desk, DeSoto, to Captain Thirty-Six.

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX
Do you know what floor it's on?

DE SOTO
(shakes head)
The annunciator's got alarms on
the seventeenth, eighteenth and
twentieth. The smoke indicator's
showing seventeen through twenty-
one.

CONTINUED

21 CONTINUED

21

Hobbs calls over from the elevator bank:

HOBBS
We've got the elevators!

22 ANOTHER ANGLE

22

FEATURING Stanley as he and Lopez hurry across from the entrance. They cross to Captain Thirty-Six.

STANLEY
We're charging the north stand-pipes. What floor's it on?

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX
There are alarms on three floors. Seventeen's the lowest. Take the rest of your guys and survey from the north side.

DeSoto turns away toward the desk.

23 LOBBY DESK

23

As DeSoto hurries over, pushing past people to the desk. The First Guard is on the phone. The Superintendent has the building directory and is dialing a four digit number.

FIRST GUARD
(into phone)
No, sir. This is not a drill ---

SUPERINTENDENT
(cutting in)
Hang up on him.

As the First Guard complies:

DE SOTO
I need the keys to the north stairwell doors.

Holding the phone with one hand, the Superintendent pulls open a drawer in the desk and takes out a tagged key. During this:

SUPERINTENDENT
(to First Guard)
Call a tenant -- somebody seventeen or eighteen.

CONTINUED

23 CONTINUED

23

DeSoto takes the key and turns away as the First Guard begins running a finger down the building directory. During this FADING:

SUPERINTENDENT

(into phone)

This is the Superintendent. Do you have a fire up there -- ?

24 ANOTHER ANGLE - ELEVATOR BANK

24

Hobbs and the other Firemen from Thirty-Six's are gone. An elevator is emptying the last of its passengers, several of whom are red-eyed and tearing from smoke.

STANLEY

Did you see any flames?

There are AD LIB negatives from the departing passengers. DeSoto runs INTO THE SHOT.

GAGE

Is anybody hurt up there?

Again, AD LIB negatives from the last of the passengers. Stanley and the others ENTER the elevator.

25 INT. - THE ELEVATOR

25

As Stanley pushes the button for the fourth floor and the doors close. The elevator starts up.

STANLEY

The building's got about eighty percent occupancy.

DE SOTO

Another few minutes -- everybody's been out to lunch.

The elevator stops at the fourth floor and the doors open. Stanley immediately pushes the "doors close" button and they close again. He then pushes the button for the third floor. During this:

STANLEY

Let's just make sure we've got control ---

CONTINUED

25 CONTINUED

25

The elevator starts down and stops at the third floor. Again the doors open; again, Stanley immediately pushes "doors close" and then the button for the fifteenth floor. The elevator starts up again.

STANLEY

Real good.

(beat)

According to the pre-plan, we try to keep the south stairwell for evacuation.

LOPEZ

Right.

DeSoto hands the stairwell key to Stanley. There is a longish pause.

GAGE

Taking long enough ---

DE SOTO

Beats walking up.

The elevator stops at the fifteenth floor and the doors open. Stanley and the others EXIT quickly.

26 ELEVATOR BANK - FIFTEENTH FLOOR

26

People are stirring about in the hallway. Some are hurrying into the elevator bank. The FIRST MAN points at the men from Fifty-One's.

FIRST MAN
Here're some more of them!

FIRST WOMAN
I told you! I told you! I smell smoke!

This starts a general, hurried movement toward the elevators.

STANLEY
Hold it! You're going to have to walk down -- !

The First Woman lets out a SQUEAL of panic.

FIRST WOMAN
Fire! Fire!

FIRST MAN
Let's get outa here -- !

Led by the First Woman, a number of the people begin to run back into the corridor. DeSoto and Gage push their way to the First Woman and grab her. During this:

CONTINUED

26 CONTINUED

26

STANLEY
Right there! Hold it!

27 CLOSER ANGLE - PARAMEDICS AND FIRST WOMAN

27

DE SOTO (f.g.)
Come on -- come on. Settle
down.

STANLEY (b.g.)
Take it easy! There's
plenty of time!

The First Woman begins to calm down.

28 WIDER ANGLE

28

DeSoto motions with his head to Stanley who turns to hurry
down the corridor. Gage points to the SECOND WOMAN and the
SECOND MAN who are nearby.

GAGE (f.g.)
You two. Take her out the
fire exit at that end of the
hall. Keep her quiet.

DE SOTO (b.g.)
That's it. You're going
to be okay.

The Second Man and the Second Woman begin to escort the
First Woman down the hall. Gage and DeSoto turn to follow
Stanley. As they go:

DE SOTO
Follow them. Take your time --
but keep moving.

GAGE
(over above)
Watch your step ---

29 NORTH FIRE EXIT

29

FEATURING Stanley as he slams open the door and, followed by
followed by Lopez, runs onto the stairs and starts up.
After a moment, DeSoto and Gage run INTO THE SHOT and start
up also. Two or three people pass them, heading down the
stairs.

30 SATIRWELL DOOR - SIXTEENTH FLOOR

30

Stanley and the others approach. To the people EXITING the
door onto the stairwell:

STANLEY
Right on down. Take your time.

Stanley and the others ENTER past the exiting occupants.

31 SIXTEENTH FLOOR CORRIDOR

31

FEATURING Stanley as the Firemen separate, quickly searching for the fire. During this:

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX (o.s.)
(filtered)
Battalion Seven, Engine Thirty-
six -- we have an injury in the
lobby ---

32 ANOTHER ANGLE - DE SOTO AND GAGE

32

As they hurry along the corridors. There is no indication of fire. During this:

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX (o.s.)
(filtered; continuing)
--- smoke inhalation. Probably
from the nineteenth floor.

CHIEF SEVEN (o.s.)
(filtered)
Engine Thirty-Six.

33 ANOTHER ANGLE - ELEVATOR BANK

33

FEATURING Stanley as he approaches the elevator bank along a corridor. On the opposite side of the elevator bank, Hobbs appears and calls through the bank:

HOBBS
Fifty-One -- nothing on this side.

Stanley turns away.

34 ANOTHER ANGLE - CORRIDOR

34

FEATURING DeSoto and Gage as they appear down at the far end of the corridor. Stanley gestures to them and calls:

STANLEY
Next floor...!

35 VARIOUS ANGLES

35

As Stanley, the paramedics and Lopez hurry back to the north fire exit.

36

NORTH STAIRWELL

36

As Stanley and the others hurry up the stairs to the seventeenth floor and approach the door.

37

CLOSER ANGLE - THE DOOR

37

This door is closed. Stanley puts the key into the lock and then has trouble turning it because there is a great deal of pressure on the opposite side, pushing against the bolt. From o.s., MUFFLED, we hear a number of VOICES raised in panic. After a moment, Stanley manages to turn the key and the door, released, practically flies open. Two men, bleeding, their clothes torn, fall out of the doorway, practically knocking Stanley and DeSoto down. A woman swings out with the door. She is unconscious and bleeding. Her arms are jammed behind the latch bar, which probably kept the door from opening. A man, unconscious and trampled, lies on the floor at the threshold. Smoke billows out: the corridor inside is full of it. And dimly seen through the smoke is a cluster of yelling, coughing panicky people, still struggling to get out.

GAGE

Oh, my God....

FADE OUT

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN

38

INT. SEVENTEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL LANDING - DAY

38

The action is almost continuous. Several MEN plunge out of the doorway and dash down the stairs, quite heedless of anybody in their way or underfoot. DeSoto and Gage do their best to protect the Unconscious Woman still dangling limply from the door. During the rush, two injured MEN are shoved out of the door and fall on the landing. During this, the Firemen and Paramedics all yell adlib to stop it, settle down, take it easy, slow down, etc. Stanley, followed by Lopez, pushes into the doorway.

STANLEY

Hold it! Hold it! All of
you!

DeSoto and Gage set about extricating the Unconscious Woman from the door.

DE SOTO (f.g.)

Easy -- easy. This arm's
broken.

STANLEY (f.g.)

Stay put until we clear
the door!

39

ANOTHER ANGLE - STANLEY

39

He is face to face with at least twenty agitated, COUGHING men and women. The limits of the group are lost in the smoke clogging the corridor. He motions them backwards.

STANLEY

Back up! Loosen up! Get on
the floor if you have to. You
breathe easier....

HOBBS (o.s.)

(up; over above)
Come on! Down this way!
There's no smoke! Use the
other exit!

STANLEY

(up; over above)
Thirty-Six's -- ?

HOBBS (o.s.)

(up)
Yeh.
(beat)
Coming through. Lemme through....

CONTINUED

39

CONTINUED

39

STANLEY

Anything burning up here?

Hobbs, wearing an air mask, pushes through the crowd toward Stanley.

HOBBS

No.

In the b.g., other firemen from Thirty-Six's are continuing AD LIB to urge the rearmost members of the crowd to use the south exit; the crowd is beginning to thin.

40

ANOTHER ANGLE - SEVENTEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL

40

as DeSoto and Gage carefully place the unconscious woman on the landing out of the way. Lopez and Stanley then help them with the unconscious man and the other two injured men. Then, Stanley beckons to the people still clustered near the doorway.

STANLEY

All right, the rest of you -- one
at a time.

DeSoto and Gage begin to examine the injured as people stream out of the doorway and down the stairs. The THIRD MAN stumbles down from the floor above, clutching his arm. He is unnaturally calm.

THIRD MAN

In case anybody's told you -- the
next floor's on fire.

STANLEY

(into radio)

Battalion Seven -- Engine Fifty-
One. I have a report of fire on
the eighteenth floor.

Stanley gestures to Lopez, turning to mount the stairs.

STANLEY

(f.g.)

Lopez ---

CHIEF SEVEN (o.s.)

(filtered)

Engine Fifty-One.

Lopez hurries after Stanley. The Third Man steps over to Gage, who is examining the unconscious woman.

CONTINUED

40 CONTINUED

40

THIRD MAN
(f.g.)Hey -- can you do something
for my wrist?GAGE
(f.g.)Are you hurt any place
else?THIRD MAN
(f.g.)

No. I think it's broken.

CHIEF SEVEN (o.s.)
(filtered)Battalion Seven. I want
five engine and two truck
companies to Four Hundred
Greymar. Request traffic
control.DISPATCHER (o.s.)
(filtered)

Battalion Seven.

GAGE
Are you dizzy? Wobbly -- ?THIRD MAN
No.

Gage points to the FOURTH MAN who is passing.

GAGE
Sir. Help this man. Get him
down to the lobby.

The Fourth Man complies.

41 CLOSER ANGLE

41

FEATURING DeSoto and Gage. DeSoto turns from examining one
of the Men, who is holding his head, bleeding from a scalp
laceration.DE SOTO
(to Man)
Just sit tight for a minute.
(to Gage)
How bad is she?GAGE
Looks like a skull fracture.DE SOTO
Okay -- let's take her first and
then him.DeSoto gestures toward the unconscious man, crossing toward
the unconscious woman as Gage turns to the bio-com.

42 WIDER ANGLE

42

Hobbs thrusts his head out of the doorway.

CONTINUED

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16

42 CONTINUED

42

HOBBS

There's two more on the floor in
here.

DE SOTO

How bad? Can you manage for a
couple minutes?

HOBBS

(nods)

We'll bring them out.

DeSoto picks up his handie-talkie. Hobbs withdraws.

DE SOTO

(into radio)

Battalion Seven, Squad Fifty-One.
We've got seven injured on the
north stairwell, seventeenth floor.
We need another squad and Stokes
litters.

CHIEF SEVEN (o.s.)

(filtered)

Squad Fifty-One.

43 EIGHTEENTH FLOOR CORRIDOR

43

FEATURING Stanley and Lopez as they hurry down the corridor.
It is choked with smoke; both wear air masks.

44 ANOTHER ANGLE

44

as, for the first time, they actually see the fire. A
portion of the corridor ahead and the adjacent offices are
involved.

STANLEY

(into radio)

Battalion Seven, Engine Fifty-One.
I've located a heavy fire on the
eighteenth floor. The northeast
corner.

CHIEF SEVEN (o.s.)

(filtered)

Fifty-One, Battalion Seven. Start
a holding action.

Before Stanley can acknowledge, SIMS runs out of the flames
ahead, YELLING, his clothing on fire from head to foot.

CONTINUED

44 CONTINUED

44

Lopez and Stanley run forward, grab him and throw him to the floor to begin smothering the flames. As Stanley turns his extinguisher on ---

45 SEVENTEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL

45

FEATURING Gage on the Bio-Comm. DeSoto is taking the Unconscious Woman's vitals. Hobbs is putting his air mask on an additional injured man, presumably brought from the floor inside. Stoker, followed by Firemen from Truck Fourteen, hurries INTO THE SHOT, up the stairs. During this:

GAGE (f.g.) DE SOTO
(into radio) (up)
Rampart Emergency -- this Next floor up --!
is Squad Fifty-One. How
do you read me?

Stoker and the others continue on up the stairwell.

46 INT. RAMPART BASE STATION - DAY

46

FEATURING DIXIE MC CALL as she crosses to the base station speaker.

DIXIE
(into speaker)
Fifty-One -- I read you loud and
clear.

GAGE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Rampart -- we have a high-rise
fire. We have seven victims.

Dixie turns to beckon o.s. After a moment, DOCTOR JOE EARLY hurries INTO THE SHOT. During this:

GAGE (o.s.)
(filtered)
There was a pile-up at an exit.
Two of them are unconscious.

Early turns to the speaker from a quick glance at Dixie's notes.

EARLY
(into speaker)
Are you handling all seven?

CONTINUED

46 CONTINUED

46

GAGE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Affirmative. We've asked for
another squad.

EARLY
(to Dixie)
Get Mike Morton.
(into speaker)
Give me the most urgent one first.

DIXIE
(into wall
speaker)
Doctor Morton -- to the

GAGE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Number one's a female, about
thirty ---
base station.

47 INT. EIGHTEENTH FLOOR CORRIDOR - DAY

47

where Lopez now has his turnout coat flung over Sims, who is trying to get up. Lopez restrains him. Stanley is on the radio. All three are on the floor, under most of the smoke. In the b.g., Stoker and Truck Fourteen's are hurrying down the corridor, advancing a line.

STANLEY
(into radio)
Battalion Seven, Engine
Fifty-One. We have a
badly burned civilian up
here. I'm short of men.
Truck Fourteen's advan-
cing a line.

SIMS
I can walk okay.

LOPEZ
Don't try to move.

48 THE LOBBY

48

where Firemen are carrying two men badly affected by smoke inhalation away from the elevators. Two other smoke victims are lying on the lobby floor, attended by Firemen. Captain Thirty-Six crosses to check the new victims as the Firemen lay them on the floor and begin to attend them. In the b.g., the First Guard is shepherding stray civilians out of the lobby, among them CHUCK, a man in his late twenties, wearing a business suit. Over this:

CHIEF SEVEN (o.s.)
(filtered)
All right, Fifty-One. Truck
Fourteen, start a holding action.

49 ANOTHER ANGLE

49

FEATURING Chuck, who is distinctly reluctant to leave.

FIRST GUARD
You'll have to go outside.

CHUCK
I'm supposed to meet my wife here.

FIRST GUARD
Not today.

Chuck allows himself to be shepherded out the door.

50 ANOTHER ANGLE

50

FEATURING Captain Thirty-Six as he waits, handie-talkie poised, for the frequency to clear. During this:

CHIEF SEVEN (o.s.)
(filtered)
Engine Fifty-One -- go up to the
nineteenth floor and check for
vertical expansion.

STANLEY (o.s.)
(filtered)
Engine Fifty-One.

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX
(into radio)
Battalion Seven, Engine Thirty-Six.
I've got four bad smoke inhalations
here in the lobby.

51 EXT. THE BUILDING - DAY

51

as Chuck stands for a moment uncertainly just outside the door. He glances at his watch. As he turns away ---

52 ANOTHER ANGLE - CHIEF'S SEDAN

52

CHIEF SEVEN
(into mike)
Battalion Seven. Call the Medical
Alert Center. We have ten-plus
injuries at Four Hundred Greymar.
We need a triage team. I also want

CONTINUED

52

CONTINUED

52

CHIEF SEVEN (Cont'd)
the following: six ambulances,
two additional squads, a helicopter
for possible roof evacuation and spare
air bottles.

During the above, a police car has approached and stopped by
the Chief. A SERGEANT leans out.

SERGEANT (f.g.) DISPATCHER (o.s.)
How much area do you want? (filtered)
Battalion Seven.

CHIEF SEVEN
Give us two blocks each way.

SERGEANT
(nods)
It's a bad one -- ?

CHIEF SEVEN
When it's two hundred feet straight
up -- that's the only kind.

53

INT. SEVENTEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL - DAY

53

A stream of FIREMEN head up the stairs, carrying hose packs
and other gear. In the midst of this, DeSoto and Gage are
working on the injured. DeSoto is quickly finishing splinting
the Unconscious Woman's broken arm; an I.V. is in her other
arm, the bag under her body. Gage is on the Bio-Com alongside
the Unconscious Man. Lopez calls down from the stairs above.

LOPEZ
Roy! We've got a man badly
burned up here! EARLY (o.s.)
(filtered)
Start an I.V. with D5W.

DE SOTO
In that box -- the sterile
sheets. GAGE
(into radio)
Ten-four -- I.V. with D5W.

Lopez descends to get the sheets. Gage sets to work on the
I.V.

DE SOTO
I'll be up as soon as I can.

As Lopez turns to hurry up the stairs with the sheets:

CONTINUED

53 CONTINUED

EARLY (o.s.)
(filtered)
Fifty-One -- is patient two
cyanotic?

53

GAGE
(into radio)
Negative, Rampart.

54 INT. RAMPART BASE STATION - DAY

54

FEATURING Early at the speaker with DOCTOR MIKE MORTON and Dixie standing by.

EARLY
(into speaker)
I think his left lung's collapsed
and I suspect internal bleeding.
How soon can you transport?

A phone RINGS. Dixie picks up a red wall phone.

DIXIE
(into phone)
Rampart General.

GAGE (o.s.)
(filtered)
I don't know, Rampart. We're
on the seventeenth floor.
We requested litters a couple
minutes ago.

Dixie pulls over a pink form pad and begins to quickly jot
down incoming information. During this:

MORTON
It could be a half hour before
we get him in here.

Early nods somberly.

EARLY
(into speaker)
Patient two's very urgent. Let
me know when you can transport.
If you're ready, let's go to
patient three.

DIXIE
This may be the same
place, doctor.

GAGE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Standby a moment, Rampart.

CONTINUED

54 CONTINUED

54

Early cranes to read the address on the form, then turns to the speaker. Dixie continues noting information.

EARLY
(into speaker)
Fifty-One -- are you at Four
Hundred Greymar Plaza?

GAGE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Affirmative.

EARLY
(into speaker)
The Medical Alert Center just told
us to send a triage team. Standby.

MORTON
Dix and I can take off right away.

EARLY
Do you have any patients here I
need to be filled in on?

MORTON
No.

DIXIE
(into Phone)
Ten-four. We'll invent-
tory our emergency
capability and call back.

EARLY
I'll have McKinley from
Orthopedics follow you right
up with a couple good P.A.'s.

Dixie hangs up and turns to Early.

DIXIE
They've already got over ten.
They've called ambulances.

EARLY
Okay -- get going.

Dixie and Morton turn away.

55 ANOTHER ANGLE - NURSES' STATION

55

Morton beckons to a passing orderly as Dixie heads to the telephone, at the nurses' station. She calls to Carol, a nurse at the counter.

CONTINUED

55 CONTINUED

55

MORTON

DIXIE

Get a gurney. Over here.
And three boxes of I.V.s.

Carol....

Carol crosses Dixie.

DIXIE

Call the ramp. Have them hold two
R.A.'s for the triage team.

Dixie dials ten digits as Carol crosses to another phone to make her call.

DIXIE

(into phone)

This is Rampart Emergency. Page
number one-six-two. Tell him to
call in. It's urgent.

Carol turns to Dixie as she hangs up.

DIXIE

Inventory how many we can handle
-- major and minor -- and advise
Medical Alert.

Morton and orderly begin loading the gurney.

56 INT. NURSES' STATION

56

where the Orderly is loading a gurney with the team's four boxes and a HEAR radio. It already contains three cartons of I.V.s. Morton is pulling on a pair of blue coveralls. The door to the base station is open.

EARLY

(into speaker)

Move them all down as soon as you
can -- Fifty-one. Stay in contact
-- particularly on patients one
and two -- until you turn them
over to the triage team.

Morton begins rummaging in the box of coveralls.

MORTON (f.g.)

What do you take?

GAGE'S VOICE

(filtered)

Ten-four, Rampart.

CONTINUED

56 CONTINUED

56

DIXIE

Medium and long. And we'll need
one for Brackett.

57 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

57

FEATURING BRACKETT'S car driving through traffic.

58 INT. BRACKETT'S CAR - DAY

58

After a moment, his air page BUZZES. Already looking ahead
for a pay phone, Brackett reaches to his belt and turns it
off.

59 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

59

FEATURING Brackett's car as it turns into a filling station
and parks near a phone booth. Brackett gets out and crosses
to the booth.

60 CLOSER ANGLE - PHONE BOOTH

60

Brackett inserts a coin and dials.

BRACKETT

(into phone)

This is Doctor Brackett. Who
paged me?

(beat)

Right. Thanks.

Brackett hangs up. He immediately inserts another coin and
dials again.

BRACKETT

(into phone;

beat)

Extension three-one-one-two.

(beat)

This is Brackett. What's up?

(beat)

I'm only a few minutes away.
I'll meet you there.

(beat)

My coveralls, Dix -- be sure
they're large and long.

Brackett hangs up and exits the booth.

61 EXT. FILLING STATION - DAY

61

as Brackett runs to his car, gets in and drives out of the station.

62 CITY STREET

62

FEATURING Brackett's car as he picks up speed, moving toward the fire as fast as the law allows.

63 INT. SEVENTEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL - DAY

63

FEATURING Squad Twenty and Firemen from Engine Twenty as they hurry up the stairs to the landing. The Firemen carry Stokes litters. As they approach:

DE SOTO
Squad Twenty -- there's a bad burn
case one floor up.

The paramedics from Squad Twenty cross the landing to go on up to the next floor. As they go:

DE SOTO
Rampart's sending a triage team ---

The Firemen pause on the landing with their litters. Gage indicates the Unconscious Man and Unconscious Woman.

GAGE
We'll move these two first.

64 EIGHTEENTH FLOOR CORRIDOR

64

FEATURING Lopez and Sims, who is now wrapped in sterile sheets. The paramedics from Squad Twenty run INTO THE SHOT and stop to begin examining Sims. Farther down the corridor, in the b.g., Firemen are fighting the fire.

65 ANOTHER ANGLE

65

FEATURING the Firemen spraying water on the flames in the corridor and adjoining offices.

66 NINETEENTH FLOOR CORRIDOR

66

FEATURING Stanley as he addresses himself to his handie-talkie. There is only a small amount of smoke in the corridor.

CONTINUED

STANLEY

(into radio)

Battalion seven, Engine Fifty-One.
There's no sign of vertical
expansion on nineteen. We're
starting to search and evacuate.

CHIEF SEVEN (o.s.)

(filtered)

Fifty-One, cover the north side.
Seventy-two's got the south.

(filtered)

We've got a helicopter coming.
You can evacuate to the roof.

STANLEY

(into radio)

Engine Fifty-One.

FEATURING Lopez as he shoves open the door to the Men's Room and thrusts his head in.

LOPEZ

(up)

Fire Department. Anybody in
here?

A beat. There is no answer. Lopez turns away and quickly crosses to the adjoining Ladies' Room. Again he shoves open the door.

LOPEZ

(up)

Fire Department. Anybody here -- ?

FEATURING Stanley as he hurries to a closed office door in the corridor. Stanley BANGS hard on the door.

STANLEY

(up)

Anybody in there -- ?

CONTINUED

68 CONTINUED

68

Stanley tries the door. It is locked. We hear a phone RINGING o.s. Stanley puts an ear to the door.

STANLEY

(up)

Anybody in there? Fire
Department ---

Again we hear the phone RING faintly o.s. Stanley moves off quickly to the next office door.

69 ANOTHER ANGLE

69

This door is partially ajar. As Stanley opens it:

STANLEY

(up)

Anybody there -- ?

Stanley steps inside.

70 THE OFFICE

70

It appears to be empty. Stanley glances around quickly.

STANLEY

(up)

Anybody here -- ?

Stanley is about to leave when he hears the sound of a chair ROLLING. He turns in the direction of the noise.

71 ANOTHER ANGLE - STANLEY'S POINT OF VIEW

71

Near the far wall of the office, a chair is moving slowly backwards from one of the desks. Stanley crosses quickly toward it.

STANLEY

Hey -- there! Come on out!

GEORGE LEAR straightens up from the knee-hole of the desk. He is in his mid-thirties, rather snappily dressed, dapper. Stanley, who is in a hurry, beckons to him.

GEORGE

I thought I'd be okay here....

CONTINUED

71

CONTINUED

71

STANLEY

(right over)
We're evacuating the floor.

Stanley briskly turns and leads the way back across the office.

72

ANOTHER ANGLE

72

as they cross toward the exit. During this:

GEORGE

I mean, there's no smoke or
anything....

STANLEY

(over above)
Anybody else still in here?

GEORGE

They all took off.

73

INT. THE CORRIDOR

73

George locks the door and closes it. Stanley crosses the hall, pointing down to the far end.

STANLEY

Take the fire exit at the end
of the hall. Go up to the roof.

George nods and heads down the hall as indicated.

74

ANOTHER ANGLE - JEWELER'S DOOR

74

The door is closed; the lettering reads "Hoffman and Son, Manufacturing Jewelers." Stanley knocks on the door and tries it.

STANLEY

(up)
Anybody there...?

The door is unlocked; Stanley enters.

75

INT. JEWELER'S RECEPTION

75

This is a fairly small room, containing two or three modest counter displays of jewelry.

CONTINUED

75 CONTINUED

75

STANLEY
Hello! Anybody....

76 ANOTHER ANGLE - CORRIDOR

76

FEATURING George as he glances over his shoulder. The corridor behind him is now empty. He turns into another corridor.

77 ANOTHER ANGLE

77

FEATURING Geroge as he crosses, quickly to the Men's Room and with a last, quick glance around, enters.

78 ANOTHER ANGLE - JEWELER'S DOOR

78

as Stanley exits, closing the door. As he crosses to the next door and knocks on it:

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

79 INT. EIGHTEENTH FLOOR CORRIDOR

79

where FIREMEN are continuing to fight the fire, playing streams of water on the flames. All things considered there are not a great many Firemen; there is not room for them and they require a tremendous amount of support.

80 EIGHTEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL LANDING

80

Stoker and Squad Twenty are on the steps a short distance below, taking Sims down on a Stokes.

81 SEVENTEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL

81

where Firemen are loading the last of the least seriously injured victims of the doorway pile-up into a Stokes. Water is spilling out of the doorway; firemen are placing a salvage cover across the threshold to try to contain it. The stairwell has two lines of traffic: firemen bringing up salvage covers, air bottles and other equipment; Stokes litters with injured being carried down.

82 SIXTEENTH FLOOR CORRIDOR

82

FEATURING DE SOTO and GAGE as they cross from the fire exit. Assisted by firemen from Twenty's, they are carrying the Unconscious Man and Woman on Stokes litters. The corridor is a scene of orderly confusion; spare air bottles laid out ready, ropes, ladders, etc. against the walls. As DeSoto and Gage turn into the corridor, they meet firemen from trying to move out onto the stairwell on the double.

DE SOTO
Coming through...!

They cross as quickly as possible to the elevator bank.

83 SIXTEENTH FLOOR ELEVATOR BANK

83

There is no elevator immediately available at the floor. CHIEF ONE is near the elevator bank, directing the flow of men and equipment. The firemen put down the Stokes litters. DeSoto and Gage quickly re-check the two victims. Then:

DE SOTO
John....

CONTINUED

83 CONTINUED

83

Gage quickly looks over toward the unconscious man who is becoming cyanotic.

GAGE
Yeah.

Gage turns to open the Bio-Comm.

DE SOTO
(up)
Chief...!
(beat)
Chief! Where do we take them?

CHIEF ONE
I don't know. They'll have to tell you in the lobby.

An elevator stops and firemen exit, carrying sacks of sawdust and salvage covers.

CHIEF ONE
That stuff goes right up to the next floor.

GAGE
(into radio)
Rampart -- this is Squad Fifty-One.

84 INT. RAMPART BASE STATION - DAY

84

FEATURING Early as he steps over to the speaker.

EARLY
(into speaker)
Go ahead, Fifty-One.

GAGE'S VOICE
(filtered)
Patient number two. He's now definitely cyanotic.

EARLY
(into speaker)
The internal bleeding's collapsing his other lung. Hemothorax. He needs help right now and you don't have the equipment for it.
(beat)
Is the triage team there yet?

85 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

85

FEATURING Brackett's car as he approaches a police car blocking the street. Brackett stops beside the Sergeant re-routing traffic briefly, long enough to show his ID. The Sergeant waves him through and Brackett continues, picking up speed.

86 VARIOUS ANGLES

86

TO CARRY Brackett's car the two blocks to the burning high-rise.

87 ANOTHER ANGLE

87

As Brackett approaches and stops near Chief Seven who is in conversation with Division Assistant Chief One near his sedan.

BRACKETT

(up)

Chief....

Chief Seven turns toward him. Brackett holds out his ID.

BRACKETT

I'm Doctor Brackett. I'm with
the triage team.

CHIEF SEVEN

(throwaway)

Good deal....

BRACKETT

Where can we set up?

CHIEF SEVEN

The garage's the best place.

Chief Seven points toward the garage under the building.

CHIEF SEVEN

There's direct access from the
elevators.

BRACKETT

Okay.

(beat)

How many are there?

CONTINUED

87 CONTINUED

87

CHIEF SEVEN

I don't know for sure. Around twenty. Mostly smoke inhalation.

BRACKETT

We'll probably need lights and three -- four of those big canvas covers.

CHIEF SEVEN

I'll get 'em to you.

(beat)

Leave your car there.

As Brackett gets out and hurries toward the garage.

88 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

88

FEATURING a rescue ambulance as it hurries through traffic, lights and SIREN going.

89 INT. THE AMBULANCE - DAY

89

FEATURING Dixie and Morton, now in their coveralls, riding in the ambulance with their equipment.

MAC'S VOICE

(filtered)

Medical Alert Center to the triage team....

Dixie picks up the HEAR radio.

DIXIE

(into radio)

Go ahead, Mac.

MAC'S VOICE

(filtered)

I have a preliminary capability from the nearest hospitals.

Dixie takes out a pencil and notes the incoming information on a pad.

MAC'S VOICE

(beat; filtered)

Rampart General -- five major and ten minor. Saint James burn ward -- two major and six minor.

90

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

90

FEATURING the ambulance as it continues toward the fire. Over this:

MAC'S VOICE (o.s.)

(filtered)

University Medical -- four
major and seven minor....

91

EXT. PLAZA PHONE BOOTH - DAY

91

FEATURING Chuck as he hurries into the booth, inserts a coin and dials a number. After a moment:

CHUCK

(into phone)

Evelyn Worsham, please...

(beat)

Hello. This is Chuck Worsham.
I'm Evelyn's husband and...

(beat)

... I know -- I know. That's
where I am now but the building's
on fire and...

(beat)

No. I'm not kidding. How long
ago did she leave?

(beat)

Is there anybody around you
can ask? I have to find out
if she got there ahead of me
-- if she's in the building...

(short beat)

Okay.

(beat)

I see. Thanks.

Chuck hangs up and exits the booth.

92

EXT. PLAZA STREET

92

FEATURING Chuck as he trots away from the phone booth, not knowing where to go or what to do. He keeps turning and looking -- hoping by some stroke of luck to see his wife. Instead, all he sees are hurrying firemen and equipment. Then, some distance away from the building, he spies Chief Seven and hurries to him.

93

CLOSER ANGLE - CHIEF'S SEDAN

93

At the moment, Chief Seven is looking up, scanning the outside of the building o.s. Chuck hurries into the shot.

CHUCK

Can you help me? I think my wife may be in the building.

CHIEF SEVEN

Which floor?

CHUCK

Well, you see -- we just said we'd meet here at noon, so ---

CHIEF SEVEN

(cutting in)

Which floor -- ?

CHUCK

The lobby or nineteen, I guess.

CHIEF SEVEN

We've evacuated both of them.

CHIEF SEVEN (f.g.)

You'll have to leave the area.

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)

(filtered)

Assistant One, Battalion One.

Where are you having the triage team set up?

Chief Seven gestures Chuck down the street. Chuck moves off.

94

ANOTHER ANGLE

94

FEATURING Chuck as he hurries along the street, somewhat reassured, but still searching.

95

ANOTHER ANGLE - GARAGE ENTRANCE

95

Where the ambulance has just arrived, pulling in behind at least one other ambulance. Dixie and Morton are hurrying after the DRIVER and Attendant, carrying their gear. Chuck runs into the shot and accosts Dixie.

CHUCK

Miss -- Miss! Where are they evacuating people to?

CONTINUED

95 CONTINUED

95

DIXIE

I don't know.

Dixie hurries into the garage. Chuck, after a moment, on sudden thought, follows.

96 INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

96

FEATURING DeSoto and Gage with two firemen from Twenty's pressed into the elevator with the litters containing the unconscious man and woman. By contrast with the street outside, the elevator is relatively quiet and devoid of activity. Both DeSoto and Gage are somber and apprehensive. There is little they can do but stand and watch. The elevator stops, the doors open and we hear the NOISE of the lobby.

97 ANOTHER ANGLE - LOBBY ELEVATOR BANK

97

as Captain Thirty-Six steps over to the elevator as DeSoto is about to get out.

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX
Take them down to the garage.

DE SOTO
Is the triage team here?

DeSoto steps back inside, pressing the button. As the doors close:

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX
(nods)
Just arrived.

98 THE ELEVATOR

98

as the elevator descends to the garage.

GAGE
Get our gear out -- then bring her.

One of the firemen nods. After a moment, the elevator arrives and the door opens.

99 THE GARAGE ELEVATOR BANK

99

as DeSoto and Gage quickly remove the litter with the unconscious man and hurry from the elevator bank.

100 THE GARAGE

100

There are many cars in the stalls. Chuck is moving among them in the b.g. Salvage covers have been spread on the floor in the driving lanes. Two or three firemen are rigging additional lights, spreading another salvage cover, etc. There are already a number of injured lying on the salvage covers, some still attended by the PARAMEDICS and firemen who brought them down.

BRACKETT

(to Morton)

Mike -- to start -- you take
that section over there.

DIXIE

(to Attendant)

Bring down some more oxygen.

Brackett points with his free hand to one of the salvage covers. In his other hand, he is holding his blue coveralls. He has not had a chance to put them on yet. As a matter of fact, he never will. Morton nods and crosses to begin examining the victims on the salvage cover indicated. Brackett drops down beside an elderly WOMAN who is unconscious. He begins examining her as Dixie starts taking the vitals.

101 ANOTHER ANGLE

101

FEATURING DeSoto and Gage making their way from the elevators toward the treatment area.

102 CLOSER ANGLE

102

as they approach Brackett and put the litter down near Brackett, who is turning toward Dixie after checking the Elderly Woman's pupils.

GAGE

Doctor ---

BRACKETT

Dix -- ?

GAGE

Doctor -- this one's really
bad.

DIXIE

Pulse's ninety-six. Respira-
tions are twenty. I'll have
the pressure in a minute.

Brackett glances over at the Unconscious Man who is clearly cyanotic and obviously urgent.

BRACKETT

(to Gage)

What've you got?

103 ANOTHER ANGLE

103

as Brackett turns to give his full attention to the Unconscious Man.

GAGE

At least one rib broken on the left side and the lung's collapsed. Doctor Early says hemothorax.

That and his own observation are good enough for Brackett.

BRACKETT

Dix, hold up on that one. Get me a syringe with a three-way for a chest tap.

Dixie turns away from the Elderly Woman to rummage in one of the equipment boxes in the b.g.

BRACKETT

(to DeSoto)

Cut these bandages off. And see if you can find me some kind of pan or dish.

DeSoto has begun to cut the bandages around the Unconscious Man's chest. He and Gage glance at each other: this last request is a poser.

GAGE

(beat)

How about a hub cap -- ?

Brackett is continuing his examination and does not turn as he replies.

BRACKETT

Fine. Anything.

Gage turns away.

104 ANOTHER ANGLE

104

as Gage goes to the nearest car and, with some difficulty, pries off a hub cap, using either a wrench from his turnout coat or his scissors.

105 ANOTHER ANGLE

105

as Dixie hands Brackett the syringe and other appropriate material such as a swab with antiseptic. Brackett selects the spot on the Unconscious Man's chest. He makes the insertion OFF CAMERA as Gage ENTERS THE SHOT with a hub cap.

BRACKETT

Right on the floor -- so I can empty the syringe.

Gage places the hub cap as directed. The Firemen approach with the litter containing the Unconscious Woman.

DIXIE

What's this one?

DE SOTO

She's got a broken right arm and collarbone. And a probable skull fracture.

BRACKETT

(to Dixie)

Goes to Morton.

DIXIE

(to Firemen)

Take her over there ---

Dixie points in the direction of Doctor Morton. The Firemen take the litter to his area. Without looking up from his work:

BRACKETT

Do you know how many more're coming?

GAGE

We have five and Squad Twenty's bringing down a major burn.

DIXIE

How bad's the fire?

DE SOTO

We haven't even seen it.

106 WIDER ANGLE

106

TO INCLUDE the entrance to the garage as the rest of the triage team -- three men and a NURSE in blue coveralls -- hurry into the garage, carrying equipment.

CONTINUED

106 CONTINUED

106

BRACKETT

A roll of bandage, Dix -- wide
and some tape.

As Dixie moves to comply:

BRACKETT

Then tag this one major
-- hemopneumothorax -- and
transport.

107 ANOTHER ANGLE - THE GARAGE

107

FEATURING Chuck as he spies his wife's car a short distance away and hurries to it. He glances at the license and then looks inside though he already is pretty sure it's the right one -- a modest car several years old, in need of paint. He looks around and sees something o.s.

CHUCK

Hey...!

108 ANOTHER ANGLE - GARAGE ELEVATOR BANK

108

DeSoto and Gage, about to enter the bank, pause briefly, then continue as Chuck hurries over to them. They secure their gear, lying on the floor near the elevators, and push the "up" button. During this:

CHUCK

I just found my wife's car....

It is not a logical way to start the conversation but Chuck is distraught. It slightly puzzles the two paramedics.

GAGE

Yes, sir...?

CHUCK

See? She must've gone into
the building.

GAGE

What floor?

CHUCK

We were going to nineteen....

CONTINUED

108 CONTINUED

108

DE SOTO

That's probably been evacuated
by now.

CHUCK

Where would she be?

An elevator arrives. As DeSoto and Gage enter:

DE SOTO

Outside. Beyond the police lines.

As Chuck turns away and the doors start to close.

GAGE

Watch yourself out there.

109 EIGHTEENTH FLOOR CORRIDOR

109

FEATURING the firemen who are continuing to fight the fire.

110 EIGHTEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL LANDING

110

FEATURING a FIREMAN as he stumbles out of the doorway onto the landing, pulling off his air mask. His face is streaming sweat and he is near exhaustion. He slumps against the railing, sinking to the floor. Over this:

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)

(filtered)

Assistant One, Battalion One.

They're getting a lot of heat
build-up on eighteen. I'm going
to have to start relieving them.

D.A.C. ONE (o.s.)

(filtered)

Okay, Battalion One. I'm sending
you up an additional company -
Engine Twenty-Seven.

111 TWENTIETH FLOOR STAIRWELL LANDING

111

Featuring Lopez as he directs two or three people out of the door and toward the stairs. They automatically start down.

CONTINUED

111 CONTINUED

111

LOPEZ
Not that way! Go up!

The people turn and start up the stairs as directed. Over this:

LOPEZ
All the way to the roof. Watch
your step ---

112 TWENTIETH FLOOR CORRIDOR

112

FEATURING Stanley as he tries a door. The corridor is moderately filled with smoke. The door is unlocked; Stanley shoves it open and thrusts his head inside.

STANLEY
(up)
Anybody in here -- ?
Fire Department!
(beat)
Hello ---

There is no answer. Satisfied, Stanley turns away and crosses to the next door. He tries it and immediately pulls his hand away. The doorknob is hot. Stanley puts a palm against the door briefly. The whole door is hot. Stanley steps back, and kicks the door open.

113 TWENTIETH FLOOR OFFICE - STANLEY'S POINT OF VIEW

113

Drapes, furniture, ceiling -- it is on fire and burning rapidly. The room beyond is fully involved.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

114 INT. TWENTIETH FLOOR CORRIDOR - DAY

114

The action is continuous. Stanley turns away from the door, raising his handie-talkie.

STANLEY
(into radio)
Battalion One -- Engine Fifty-
One. I've got a fire on the
twentieth floor, north side.
Two rooms fully involved.

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Engine Fifty-One.

115 INT. ELEVATOR

115

FEATURING DeSoto and Gage as they listen to the radio traffic.
The elevator is going up.

GAGE (f.g.)
It's jumped a floor on
us. D.A.C. ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Battalion One, Assistant One.
Who've you got to put on this
new fire?

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Assistant One -- I'm sending
Engine Twenty-Seven to start
a holding action.

D.A.C. ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Battalion One -- I'm giving
you Truck Forty-Two and Engine
Eighty-six.

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Battalion One.

The elevator suddenly stops between the fourteenth and
fifteenth floors. Gage pushes the button to re-start it;
nothing happens. During this:

CONTINUED

115 CONTINUED

115

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Engine Fifty-One, Battalion One.
Go to the next floor to check for
vertical expansion and evacuate.

GAGE (f.g.)
It's dead.

STANLEY (o.s.)
(filtered)
Engine Fifty-One.

DE SOTO
Probably smoke got in the
computer.
(into radio)
Battalion One -- Squad Fifty-One.
Our elevator just stopped
between floors. We can't re-start.

Gage pushes the "Door Open" button. The elevator doors open; the shaft doors do not. The elevator is not in line with them. During this:

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX (o.s.)
Assistant One, Engine Thirty-Six.
The board in the lobby here shows
all the elevators've stopped.

DeSoto steps up on one of their boxes to begin removing the overhead access panel. During this:

D.A.C. ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Squad Fifty-One -- Engine Thirty-Six.
(beat)
Battalion One - Assistant One.
It looks like we've lost the
elevators.

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
I heard.

116 EXT. D.A.C. ONE'S SEDAN - DAY

116

FEATURING the Division Assistant Chief as he straightens from switching frequencies.

CONTINUED

116 CONTINUED

116

D.A.C. ONE

(into mike)

L.A. Assistant One.

We have fires on the eighteenth and twentieth floors and the elevators just went out. We need seventy-five additional men for stairwell support. And air bottles.

DISPATCHER(o.s.)

(filtered)

Assistant One.

117 INT. THE ELEVATOR - DAY

117

DeSoto has just hoisted himself through the hole in the roof of the elevator.

118 ELEVATOR SHAFT

118

As DeSoto stands up on top of the elevator which is three or four feet below top of the shaft door. He looks up.

119 DE SOTO'S POINT OF VIEW - UP ANGLE - ELEVATOR SHAFT

119

Several floors above, the shaft is thick with smoke.

120 ANOTHER ANGLE - DE SOTO

120

As he feels for the catch to release the shaft doors. After a moment, they slide open.

121 ANOTHER ANGLE - FOURTEENTH FLOOR ELEVATOR BANK

121

Gage begins heaving their gear up onto the floor from the elevator as DeSoto stoops and drops onto the floor from the roof of the elevator. Gage then climbs out. They grab up their gear and hurry out of the elevator bank.

122 FOURTEENTH FLOOR CORRIDORS - VARIOUS ANGLES

122

FEATURING DeSoto and Gage as they hurry toward the fire exit.

123 FOURTEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL

123

as DeSoto and Gage exit the fourteenth floor onto the landing and start up the stairs.

124 THE GARAGE

124

FEATURING Dixie with the ambulance Driver and Attendant who have just loaded the Unconscious Man onto a wheeled stretcher and are about to take him out of the garage.

DIXIE

He goes to Rampart General. Right away.

The Driver and Attendant hurry the stretcher toward the entrance. Dixie crosses to the HEAR radio and her notepad. As she makes a note on the pad:

DIXIE

(into radio)

MAC -- this is the triage team.

MAC'S VOICE (o.s.)

(filtered)

Go ahead.

DIXIE

(into radio)

We've sent one major and four minor to Rampart and two minor burns to Saint James. We need five more ambulances and oxygen.

MAC'S VOICE (o.s.)

(filtered)

Ten-four.

125 ANOTHER ANGLE - MORTON AND SIMS

125

Morton, with the assistance of the Nurse, is beginning to remove the sterile sheeting the examine Sims.

SIMS

Hey, listen -- I'm starting to hurt.

MORTON

We'll take care of that right away.

CONTINUED

125 CONTINUED

125

MORTON (Cont'd)
(to Nurse)
Bandage scissors.

Morton begins cutting away the remains of Sim's shirt. We cannot see Sim's body. We can, however, see burned fragments of khaki cloth as Morton tosses them aside. After a moment:

MORTON
What is this -- some kind of uniform?

SIMS
Yeah. I work here. Maintenance man.

MORTON
(to Nurse)
Two normal salines.

The Nurse gets two bottles of I.V. from a nearby carton.

MORTON
(beat)
No vein on this arm. What about that one?

The Nurse examines Sim's other arm then shakes her head.

NURSE
It's too badly burned.

MORTON
A cut-down kit.

As the Nurse turns away to one of the equipment boxes, Morton moves down Sim's body, cutting and removing burned clothing. Presently, from the area of Sim's hip pocket, he comes up with a partially-full pint bottle of whisky.

SIMS
Duck that for me, will you?

Morton nods and tosses it aside. He moves down and begins cutting away one of Sim's shoes and socks. The Nurse returns and hands him the cut-down equipment.

MORTON
Get his other shoe off.
(to Sims)
Had a few, huh?

Sims nods as Morton starts the cut-down.

CONTINUED

125 CONTINUED - 2

125

SIMS

But don't tell the boss. He'll
fire me this time for sure.

MORTON

Don't worry.

(to Nurse)

Push five milligrams M-S.
And be sure it's on his tag.

126 TWENTY-FIRST FLOOR CORRIDOR

126

FEATURING Stanley. In the b.g., Lopez is checking offices to
be sure they are empty. There is considerable smoke in the
corridor.

STANLEY

(into radio)

Battalion One, Engine Fifty-One.
No fire on the twenty-first floor.

We hear the SOUND of Stanley's air bottle alarm. He turns to
Lopez in the b.g.,

STANLEY (f.g.)

(up)

Lopez -- I'm about out of
air!

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)

(filtered)

Fifty-One -- search and eva-
cuate that floor and twenty-two,

As Lopez waves acknowledgement and Stanley turns to leave the
corridor ---

127 NORTH STAIRWELL

127

FEATURING DeSoto and Gage as they hasten up the stairs in the
general vicinity of the 19th and 20th floors. Over this:

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)

(filtered)

Let me know when you're done.

STANLEY (o.s.)

(filtered)

Engine Fifty-One.

ak #42811

49

128 TWENTY-FIRST FLOOR STAIRWELL LANDING

128

as DeSoto and Gage encounter Stanley stepping out of the doorway, pulling off his air mask.

STANLEY

I've got to get a fresh air bottle. We've pretty well covered this floor. Pick up Lopez and start evacuating twenty-two. To the roof.

GAGE

Right.

129 EXT. THE STREET - DAY

129

FEATURING Chuck as he hurries along, some distance from the building and outside the police lines, frantically looking at female faces.

130 VARIOUS ANGLES

130

TO CARRY Chuck as he continues his search.

131 ANOTHER ANGLE

131

as Chuck sees a group of several men and women, occupants of the building who have been evacuated, being shepherded away from the building through the police lines. Partially visible in the group, is GIRL. Chuck runs toward the group. As he approaches:

CHUCK

(up)
Evelyn! Evelyn...!

132 CLOSER ANGLE

132

as Chuck thrusts his way into the group, approaching the Girl.

CHUCK

Honey....

He grabs her shoulder and the Girl turns. It is not Evelyn.

GIRL

What're you doing?

CHUCK

Sorry. My mistake.

133 ANOTHER ANGLE

133

as Chuck turns and hurries away, still looking.

134 ANOTHER ANGLE

134

FEATURING D.A.C. One, in pantomimed, urgent conversation with two or three CAPTAINS. In the b.g., one or two companies of firemen are double-timing toward the burning building. Several large sheets of glass fall into the street and SHATTER. D.A.C. One and the others turn and look up toward the upper floors of the building o.s.

135 TWENTIETH FLOOR OFFICE

135

where firemen are fighting the flames in the office. The fire has now spread somewhat; a portion of the corridor is involved.

136 TWENTY-SECOND FLOOR ELEVATOR BANK

136

Here, too, there is considerable smoke, though by stooping it is still possible to avoid most of it. Several people are crouched on the floor in the elevator bank, presumably caught by the increased smoke while hoping for an elevator. Gage hurries into the shot.

GAGE

There are no elevators....

This triggers an AD LIB MURMUR of apprehension.

GAGE

I'll get you out. Come on.

Gage beckons to them, directing them out of the elevator bank and into the corridor.

137 ANOTHER ANGLE - TWENTY-SECOND FLOOR CORRIDOR

137

GAGE

Anybody injured...?

There is an AD LIB of denials from the group. Gage points down the corridor.

GAGE

Straight down the hall and turn right. Go out the fire exit and up the stairs to the roof.

(beat)

Keep low. Take your time. You'll be okay.

CONTINUED

137 CONTINUED

137

The people move off down the corridor as directed. As Gage hurries away....

138 ANOTHER TWENTH-SECOND FLOOR CORRIDOR

138

FEATURING DeSoto as he steps out of an office, closing the door, and crosses to the Men's Room. He shoves open the door.

DE SOTO

(up)

Anybody in here? This is the Fire Department ---

There is no answer. DeSoto turns away.

139 ANOTHER ANGLE - TWENTY-SECOND FLOOR CORRIDOR

139

as DeSoto hurries around a corner -- and sees EVANS lying on the floor some distance ahead. DeSoto crosses to him quickly.

140 CLOSER ANGLE

140

as DeSoto carefully turns Evans over to examine him. Evans is a man in his late middle years, dressed in a business suit, out cold, laboring for breath. DeSoto immediately puts his air mask on him.

DE SOTO

(up)

John!

(beat)

Hey! Gage....

GAGE'S VOICE

(up)

Where are you....?

DE SOTO

(up)

East corridor.

141 WIDER ANGLE

141

TO INCLUDE the other end of the corridor as Gage rounds the corner and runs to DeSoto.

DE SOTO

Let's get him outa here.

Together they lift Evans and carry him down the hall and around the corner.

142 ANOTHER ANGLE

142

as DeSoto and Gage carry Evans to the fire exit and out.

143 TWENTY-SECOND FLOOR LANDING

143

DeSoto and Gage put Evans down alongside their gear which they have left on the landing. Evans is regaining consciousness but has major difficulty breathing.

GAGE

Can you hear me?

Evans nods.

GAGE

Too much smoke...?

EVANS

(nods)

Emphysema.

GAGE

Are you hurt anywhere?

Evans shakes his head.

DE SOTO

Okay.

Together DeSoto and Gage pick Evans up again and carry him up the stairs to the roof exit.

144 EXT. ROOF OF HIGH RISE - DAY

144

There are a number of people on the roof, waiting to be evacuated, generally being kept in some sort of order by a couple of firemen whose chief concern is to see there is enough room for the helicopter to land. There is a great deal of smoke around the roof. DeSoto and Gage put Evans down on the roof.

DE SOTO

(into radio)

Battalion One, Squad Fifty-One.
We're evacuating a severe case of
smoke inhalation and emphysema
from the roof. When he lands, he
needs medical oxygen and immediate
transport to the triage team.

CONTINUED

144 CONTINUED

144

The helicopter approaches in the b.g.

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Squad Twenty-One.

145 ANOTHER ANGLE

145

as the helicopter approaches the roof and lands. DeSoto and Gage carry Evans over to it. As they approach one of the firemen:

GAGE
This guy's got to go out right
away.

The fireman nods and holds back the other evacuees until Gage and DeSoto place Evans in the helicopter. They give him DeSoto's air mask. DeSoto and Gage move back as the helicopter is loaded.

146 WIDER ANGLE

146

as the helicopter lifts off again and DeSoto and Gage turn toward the entrance to the stairwell.

147 THE STREET

147

FEATURING Chuck running along the sidewalk away from the building. He turns and looks up and o.s. over his shoulder.

148 CHUCK'S POINT OF VIEW - THE HELICOPTER FLYING

148

as it flops away from the burning building toward its landing site.

149 ANOTHER ANGLE - THE STREET

149

FEATURING Chuck as he hurries to the parking lot being used as the helicopter landing site. En route, he is passed by an ambulance, lights and SIREN going.

150 ANOTHER ANGLE

150

as Chuck pushes through the cluster of spectators to the police barricade. He looks at all the faces hopefully but

CONTINUED

150 CONTINUED

150

does not see his wife. The helicopter lands in the b.g. The second driver and attendant wheel a stretcher over to the helicopter and remove Evans. Chuck intently looks at all the others who disembark from the helicopter; none is Evelyn.

151 INT. THE GARAGE - DAY

151

where Brackett, assisted by Dixie, is examining the TRADER, a man in his fifties, his face scratched and dirty. He raises his hand to look at his wrist watch.

BRACKETT

Just lie still....

TRADER

I gotta make a phone call....

BRACKETT

Now now.

TRADER

The stock market's still open. I got ten minutes....

BRACKETT

Out of the question.

(beat)

And you said your stomach...?

TRADER

Yeah.

Brackett begins to palpate the Trader's stomach.

TRADER

Okay. You make it for me, huh, doc...?

The Trader winces painfully as Brackett presses the area of his liver.

TRADER

One lousy phone call. I'll pay you....

BRACKETT

Stiff as a board.

BRACKETT

(to Dixie)

D-5-W.

Dixie begins to set up the I.V. as Brackett begins making out tag. During this:

CONTINUED

151 CONTINUED

151

TRADER
Miss -- can you use fifty bucks?

DIXIE
Depends.

TRADER
I'll make it a hundred.

BRACKETT
Forget about it. I want you to
take it easy.

TRADER
Do you have any idea how much I
got riding on this?

BRACKETT
(nods)
And I hope you do. You've got
internal injuries. You'll probably
be in surgery this afternoon.

This is something of a shock to the Trader.

DIXIE
(gently)
Try me next week.

BRACKETT
Send him out as soon as possible.

152 ANOTHER ANGLE

152

FEATURING the SUPERINTENDENT as he hurries across the garage
and pauses by Morton who is overseeing Sims being loaded on
a stretcher before being removed from the garage.

SUPERINTENDENT
Doctor, I'm the building super-
intendent. Is there anything I
can....

The Superintendent breaks off on seeing Sims.

SUPERINTENDENT
Sims...?

CONTINUED

152 CONTINUED

SIMS

(nods)
I'm sorry, boss.

SUPERINTENDENT
Where you goofing off again?

MORTON
Leave him alone.

The Attendant and Driver wheel Sims away.

SUPERINTENDENT
Hitting the bottle, I'll bet you
anything. Sleeping on the job. I
fired him for it last week.

MORTON
Do you think he might've started
the fire?

SUPERINTENDENT
(shakes head)
He doesn't smoke. Just finds him
a closet and goes to sleep.

MORTON
That's probably how he got burned.

SUPERINTENDENT
How bad is he?

MORTON
Third degree burns over seventy
percent of his body.

SUPERINTENDENT
Will he make it?

MORTON
It's possible.

SUPERINTENDENT
I let him talk me out of it.
Kept him on. God...
(beat)
I thought I was doing him a favor.

153 BUILDING LOBBY

153

FEATURING the FIRST GUARD as he picks up one of the desk
phones in response to a RING.

CONTINUED

153 CONTINUED

153

FIRST GUARD

Lobby...

(beat)

What room are you in...?

(beat)

Hello. Hello....

The First Guard turns and calls to Captain Thirty-Six.

FIRST GUARD

(up)

Captain...!

154 TWENTY-FIRST FLOOR STAIRWELL

154

where DeSoto and Gage have rejoined Stanley and Lopez. DeSoto is shrugging into a fresh air tank, the replacement for his. A moment, then:

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX (o.s.)

(filtered)

Battalion One, Engine Thirty-Six.

We just had a call down here.

Some guy says he's trapped on the
nineteenth floor.

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)

(filtered)

Engine Thirty-Six.

(beat)

Engine Fifty-One -- what's your
location? Can you handle?

STANLEY

(to DeSoto and Gage)

Take off.

DeSoto and Gage start down the stairs, followed by Lopez.

STANLEY

(into radio)

Battalion One -- we're on our way
down from the twenty-first floor.
We'll handle with Squad Fifty-One.

As Stanley starts down the stairs ---

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)

(filtered)

Engine Fifty-One.

155 NINETEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL

155

Where Gage is beginning to tie on a life-line which Lopez will manage. Smoke is pouring from the doorway into the landing. Stanley hurries down the stairs INTO THE SHOT. As DeSoto and Gage complete their preparations:

STANLEY
(into radio)
Engine Thirty-Six, Engine Fifty-
One. Did the guy say which office
he's in?

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX (o.s.)
(filtered)
Negative, Fifty-One. The line went
dead.

STANLEY
(into radio)
Engine Thirty-Six.

Stanley turns to DeSoto and Gage.

STANLEY
Make it fast. You've got fires
above and below you.

DeSoto and Gage adjust their air masks.

GAGE
Set -- ?

Lopez nods. DeSoto and Gage turn away and enter the nineteenth floor.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

156 INT. NINETEENTH FLOOR COORIDOR - DAY

156

The action is continuous. ANGLE FEATURES DeSoto and Gage as they move together down the corridor. There is a great deal of smoke, thin near the door but thickening to completely fill the corridor farther into the building. DeSoto stops at the first door while Gage continues on down the hall to the next office, thus keeping DeSoto in contact with the line.

157 CLOSER ANGLE

157

as DeSoto tries the door. It is locked. He bangs on it and then presses an ear against it momentarily. He does not linger long before moving on.

158 ANOTHER ANGLE

158

as DeSoto rejoins Gage. This door, too, is locked.

GAGE

(up)

Hello in there...!

DE SOTO

If it's locked, it's probably empty.

They move off down the corridor.

159 VARIOUS ANGLES

159

as they go down the corridor, trying doors. There are not many in this section of hallway which evidently is occupied by a sizable suite; all of them are locked.

160 ANOTHER ANGLE - THE CORRIDOR

160

as they turn a corner and begin working their way down this section of corridor. Presently they approach the jeweler's office. DeSoto tries the door; Stanley had left it unlocked. DeSoto opens it and pokes his head in.

CONTINUED

160 CONTINUED

160

DE SOTO

Hey -- !

There is no answer. DeSoto ENTERS, followed by Gage.

161 JEWELER'S RECEPTION ROOM

161

DeSoto crosses the room to disappear through the inner door on the opposite side. Gage begins quickly searching the reception room, which contains considerable smoke. In front of one of the display cases, he steps on something and stoops to pick it up.

162 CLOSER ANGLE

162

The object is a diamond brooch. Gage steps over to the nearest display case. The top of it is glass and has been broken. The case is now empty. Gage drops the brooch into the case and continues his search, checking the floor behind the cases, behind the reception desk, etc. The other cases in the reception room have also been broken open. As he finishes, DeSoto emerges from the inner door.

DE SOTO

It's empty.

Together they quickly exit the office.

163 ANOTHER ANGLE - THE CORRIDOR

163

as they start down the hall. DeSoto stops at the next office door as Gage starts to move on. The door is unlocked.

DE SOTO

John ---

DeSoto ENTERS as Gage turns back and follows him into the office.

164 THE OFFICE

164

This is the office which Stanley had searched and in which he had found George. It now contains a much greater amount of smoke; visibility is poor.

DE SOTO

(up)

Anybody in here -- ?

CONTINUED

164

CONTINUED

164

GEORGE (o.s.)

(up)

Over here -- !

DeSoto and Gage quickly make their way across the office in the direction of the voice.

165

ANOTHER ANGLE

165

George is lying on the floor near the far wall, alongside a desk. There is a telephone on the desk, the handset off the cradle -- evidently the phone from which George had called. Nearby, also on the floor, is EVELYN, who has passed out. She is a woman in her mid-twenties, attractive, inexpensively dressed. George is still conscious, though in considerable distress from the smoke.

GEORGE

Thank God ---

DeSoto kneels beside Evelyn and quickly checks to see if she is still alive. She is. DeSoto rips off his air mask, dropping to the floor to improve his own chances for breathing and places the mask over Evelyn's face. During this:

GEORGE

Smoke -- hallway. Couldn't
make it.

(beat)

Get us out ---

Gage has dropped down beside George, pulling off his own air mask and giving to George.

GAGE

Take it easy.

DE SOTO

Can we make it to the stairwell --
if we each take one?

GAGE

(shakes head)

Too far -- too much smoke.

DeSoto pulls out his handie-talkie.

DE SOTO

(into radio)

Engine Fifty-One, Squad Fifty-ONE.
We have two victims in room one-
nine-four-eight. One's unconscious.
We need assistance and two air
masks.

CONTINUED

165 CONTINUED

165

There is a moment of silence. DeSoto tries the radio again.

DE SOTO
(into radio)
Engine Fifty-One -- did you read
me?
(beat)
This is Squad Fifty-One. Is
anybody receiving me -- ?

GEORGE
Come on -- get me out ---

Neither DeSoto nor Gage pays him too much attention. After a moment:

GAGE
Maybe we're in a dead spot.

DE SOTO
(nods)
I'll try over by the door.

DeSoto begins crawling toward the door. After a moment, we hear the SOUND of an air bottle alarm.

GEORGE
What's that?

GAGE
Tank's getting low on air.

George, panicked, tries to scramble to his feet; Gage restrains him.

GAGE
We'll have somebody here in a
minute.

166 ANOTHER ANGLE - DE SOTO

166

lying on the floor, near the doorway.

DE SOTO
(into radio)
Engine Fifty-One, Squad Fifty-One.
Do you read me?

STANLEY (o.s.)
(filtered)
Yes, I do, Roy. Go ahead ---

At that moment, there is an EXPLOSION. The room shakes; ceiling tiles fall.

167

NINETEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL

167

FEATURING Stanley and Lopez reacting to the o.s. explosion.
After a moment:

STANLEY
(into radio)
Squad Fifty-One -- come in ---

Stanley waits a beat then turns to Lopez.

STANLEY
Do you still have them?

Lopez pulls slowly on the line, taking in several feet. He shakes his head.

LOPEZ
Doesn't feel like it.

STANLEY
(into radio)
Battalion One, Engine Fifty-One.
There's been an explosion on
nineteen. I have no contact
with Squad Fifty-One.

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Engine Fifty-One.

Stanley is already beginning to adjust his air mask. That done, he plunges into the corridor.

168

THE OFFICE

168

FEATURING DeSoto as he recovers from the explosion and picks up the handie-talkie which had been knocked from his hand. Flames are now visible around the doorway to the corridor. DeSoto backs away from the doorway.

GAGE (o.s.)
(up)
Roy! Roy -- !

DE SOTO
(up)
Okay -- !

Gage ENTERS THE SHOT, crouching, and drops down beside DeSoto.

DE SOTO
What about the other two?

CONTINUED

168

CONTINUED

168

GAGE

(nods)

So far.

DE SOTO

(into radio)

Engine Fifty-One, Squad Fifty-One.

Gage pulls on the life-line. It is slack and comes in freely. It has been broken.

169

NINETEENTH FLOOR COORIDOR

169

Stanley has stopped near the bend in the corridor, his further progress blocked by debris and flames. He has been following the life-line.

DE SOTO (o.s.)

(filtered)

We have fire in this area. Can you get to us?

STANLEY

(into radio)

Not right away, Roy. What's your location?

DE SOTO (o.s.)

(filtered)

We've in room one-nine-four-eight. We have two victims. We need assistance and air masks.

STANLEY

(into radio)

Ten-four.

(beat)

Battalion One -- Engine Fifty-One.

170

THE OFFICE

170

FEATURING DeSoto as he crawls back to rejoin Gage. Over this:

STANLEY (o.s.)

(filtered)

There's heavy fire in the west corridor on nineteen. Squad Fifty-One and two victims are in the corridor.

CONTINUED

170 CONTINUED

170

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Engine Fifty-One, I copied.
Truck Twelve's moving up ---

171 CLOSER ANGLE

171

as DeSoto flops down beside Gage, panting and gasping for breath. George now is having trouble breathing on the air mask. After a moment:

DE SOTO
It's going to take them a few minutes.

George rips the air mask off his face and gasps for breath. Gage, too, is having difficulty breathing in the smoke.

GAGE
I don't think we can wait.

There is a longish silence as both paramedics try to think what to do next. They become aware of George mumbling to himself. Words are only intermittently distinguishable.

GEORGE
Dear God -- Heavenly Father --
sinned -- my great greed -- please
forgive me ---

They both glance toward George in some curiosity. He is slowly withdrawing items of jewelry from his pockets -- rings, bracelets, necklaces, etc. -- dropping them one by one onto the floor.

GEORGE
-- I renounce them -- please,
Lord, save me ---

They turn away, having more urgent matters at hand.

GAGE
Two months since we surveyed
this place -- I'm trying to remember
the layout ---

CONTINUED

171

CONTINUED

171

DE SOTO

(beat)

Some offices went two-three floors.
Had internal stairways ---

Gage nods and thinks a moment, then shakes his head.

GAGE

I don't remember which ones.

172

THE LOBBY

172

FEATURING Captain Thirty-Six in urgent conversation near the desk with the Superintendent.

SUPERINTENDENT

I've got the floor plan in my office ---

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX

(cutting in)

We haven't got time.

SUPERINTENDENT

As I recall that west corridor on nineteen -- there's the elevators, of course --

(beat)

And the north stairwell. That's all.

173

THE OFFICE

173

FEATURING DeSoto and Gage with George and Evelyn.

GAGE

Can we make it to elevator bank?

DE SOTO

Probably. Then what?

GAGE

Maybe we can get into the shaft.

DE SOTO

That'll be like a chimney.

CONTINUED

173 CONTINUED

173

GAGE
Can't be any worse'n this.

DE SOTO
Okay.

DeSoto begins crawling along the floor toward the door. Gage shakes George.

GAGE
On your feet. Come on.
(beat)
Gimme a hand with her.

George gets up, none too steadily. Gage bends to pick up Evelyn. George is very little help, if any.

174 ANOTHER ANGLE - DE SOTO

174

who has flopped on the floor near the door.

DE SOTO
(into radio)
Battalion One, Squad Fifty-One.
We're going to try to make it to
the elevators. Can you come up
to us?

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
Affirmative, Squad Fifty-One.

175 SIXTEENTH FLOOR ELEVATOR BANK

175

FEATURING Chief One on the radio.

CHIEF ONE
(into radio)
Engine Thirty-Six, Battalion One.
On the elevator board ---

176 LOBBY ELEVATOR BANK

176

FEATURING Captain Thirty-Six as he crosses quickly to the elevator indicator and scans it. During this:

CONTINUED

176 CONTINUED

176

CHIEF ONE (o.s.)
(filtered)
-- Do we have any elevators on this floor?

CAPTAIN THIRTY-SIX
(into radio)
You've got five and seven. That's first and third from the north.

177 SIXTEENTH FLOOR ELEVATOR BANK

177

CHIEF ONE
(into radio)
Engine Thirty-Six.

Chief One gestures to two Firemen, then points to the appropriate elevator door.

CHIEF ONE
Pry these two open.

Chief One then turns to the nearest Captain.

CHIEF ONE
A ladder and ropes up to the next floor. And about six men.

As the Captain turns to comply ---

178 THE OFFICE

178

FEATURING DeSoto and Gage as, accompanied by George and carrying Evelyn, they hurry out of the office through the flames around the door.

179 THE CORRIDOR

179

As the two paramedics and the two victims make their way as quickly as possible through the flames and debris of the corridor toward the elevators.

180 NINETEENTH FLOOR STAIRWELL

180

As a company of FIREMEN rush into the nineteenth floor corridor, advancing lines toward the fire. Stanley has assisted in making the connection to the standpipe. He and Lopez then turn away.

181 THE STAIRWELL

181

as Stanley and Lopez hurry down, moving against the line of FIREMEN moving up.

182 NINETEENTH FLOOR CORRIDOR

182

as the Firemen advance their lines down the corridor and begin playing water on the fire.

183 ANOTHER NINETEENTH FLOOR CORRIDOR

183

FEATURING DeSoto and Gage with George and Evelyn as they make their way through the corridor to the elevator bank.

184 NINETEENTH FLOOR ELEVATOR BANK

184

as the two paramedics lay Evelyn on the floor. George drops down beside her. DeSoto and Gage turn their attention to the elevator doors.

DE SOTO
This side. The first one ---

The two paramedics begin trying to pry open the first elevator door on the north side, using wrenches or whatever other small tools they may carry in their turnout coats.

185 SEVENTEENTH FLOOR ELEVATOR BANK

185

Where the first and third elevator doors on one side have been opened by FIREMEN standing on the roofs of the elevators stopped on the sixteenth floor. Other firemen move onto the roofs, carrying ropes and ladders. Stanley and Lopez hurry into the elevator bank, each carrying spare air masks.

186 THE ELEVATOR SHAFT

186

which is full of smoke. Firemen erect ladders from the roofs of the two elevators against the front of the shaft and start up with ropes and pry bars. Stanley pushes into the open door of one elevator, handing the nearest Fireman the air masks he has been carrying.

STANLEY
Here. Pass these up.

As the Fireman takes the masks and hands it off to the Fireman on the ladder ---

187 NINETEENTH FLOOR ELEVATOR BANK

187

Where DeSoto and Gage, now in desperate straits from the smoke, are working to pry open the elevator doors -- and doing little more than scratch the metal, not having the right tools. After a moment, the second door away from them opens, revealing a FIREMAN who has reached up and tripped the door release. Another Fireman scrambles off the ladder and onto the floor.

GAGE
Give us an air mask ---

The Fireman passes an air mask to Gage who gives it to George. The elevator door on which the two paramedics had been working opens, and another FIREMAN emerges from the shaft, carrying an air mask which he gives to Gage. Other Firemen follow, carrying ropes, air masks, etc.

DE SOTO
Take her first.

The Firemen quickly secure the end of a line around Evelyn and then prepare to take her down the ladder. One Fireman snubs the line around his body as a precaution.

188 ELEVATOR SHAFT

188

as a Fireman slowly descends the ladder, carrying Evelyn.

189 NINETEENTH FLOOR ELEVATOR BANK

189

Where George shows every indication of climbing out onto the ladder immediately, as best his physical condition will allow. DeSoto restrains him.

DE SOTO
Cut it out. You'll go next.

As one of the Fireman begins to fasten a line around George ---

190 ELEVATOR SHAFT - SEVENTEENTH FLOOR

190

As Evelyn is carried down the ladder on the roof of one of the elevators. She then is passed to other FIREMEN standing on the roof.

191 ELEVATOR SHAFT - NINETEENTH FLOOR

191

As George, secured by a line, is guided onto the ladder.

192 INT. SEVENTEENTH FLOOR ELEVATOR BANK

192

As Evelyn is lifted up from the roof of the elevator and passed out to Firemen in the elevator bank. As they carry her away from the elevator bank quickly....

DISSOLVE TO

193 EXT. THE ROOF - DAY

193

By now, all the other civilians have been evacuated from the roof. Evelyn is lying on the roof, now conscious but still suffering from smoke inhalation. DeSoto and Gage are sitting, beat, and also suffering from smoke. George sits near Gage. Stanley and several other Firemen are on the roof. They are waiting for the helicopter.

EVELYN

Heard the alarm. Smelled smoke.

Hid in a closet.

(beat)

Stupid.

DE SOTO

Take it easy.

EVELYN

Then -- tried to run and....

DE SOTO

(cutting in)

You're okay now. It's all over.

194 ANOTHER ANGLE

194

as the helicopter can be seen rising and approaching in the b.g.

195 CLOSER ANGLE - GEORGE AND GAGE

195

GEORGE

(low)

I saved her. Found her in the hall. That's something, isn't it?

Gage nods perfunctorily. He is not feeling too well and is not all that interested in any case.

CONTINUED

195 CONTINUED

195

GEORGE

That's gotta count.

(beat)

And the other stuff. I was trying
to save it. That's all. Any-
thing else -- it's your word against
mine.

GAGE

Sure.

196 WIDER ANGLE

196

as the helicopter lands. During this:

STANLEY

Okay -- let's go.

With some assistance, the four get to their feet and move
toward the helicopter.

EVELYN

What time is it?

DE SOTO

Almost twelve-thirty.

EVELYN

Oh, Lordy. Poor Chuck....

197 EXT. HELICOPTER LANDING SITE - DAY

197

FEATURING Chuck standing waiting, highly distraught. He
turns and looks up and o.s.

198 EXT. ROOF OF BURNING HIGH RISE - CHUCK'S POINT OF VIEW

198

As the helicopter lifts clear of the roof, out of the plumes
of smoke, and begins flying TOWARD CAMERA.

FADE OUT

THE END