

Pre-production

(HPMF4007)

Joe Barthorpe

Logline: A reserved middle aged man crashes his car in a storm leaving the passenger dead in the back seats, however when a detective arrives, the body is believed to have died before the crash.

Influence of Catch me if u can, detective is always really close to catch the antagonist

Or commercial on wetsuits

Step outline:

Scene 1: The Crash

Middle aged man driving with a dead body in the back seats, crashes due to the extreme storm lashing down on the roads. The car swerves landing into a ditch leaving the driver unconscious.

Scene 2: The Lie

He then finally awakens once the police arrive. He is then questioned as to how the car was crashed, fully believing that the passenger died from the impact.

Scene 3: Detectives arrival

A Detective arrives, stepping out of his car, heading straight towards the crash . He examines the crash site and then asks the driver to stay for further questioning believing that the storm may not be the killer of the passenger. He then tells the driver to wait whilst he does further examinations and by the time he turns back, the murderer has gone.

Description:

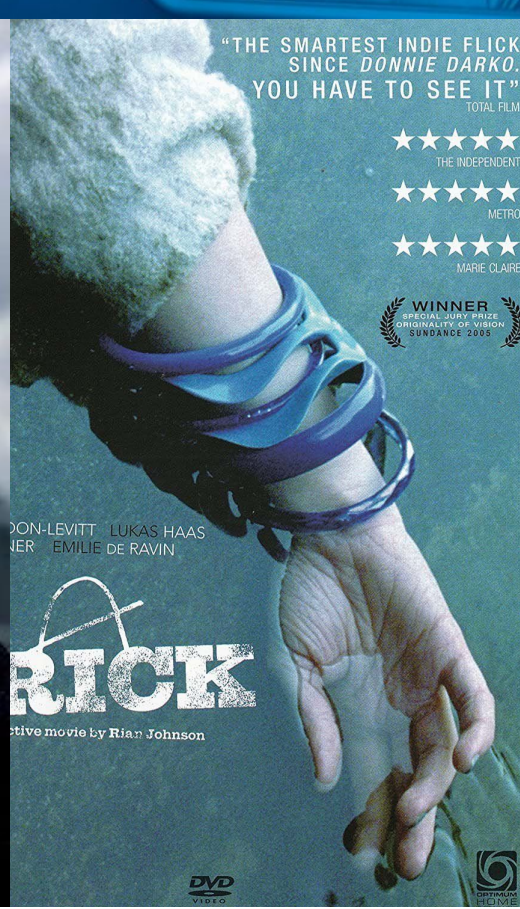
The opening of the film starts with an establishing shot showing the strong storm down a countryside road. A car comes into frame with a middle aged man behind the wheel and a dead female body in the back. The driver is heading to a location to dispose of the murdered body however, the driver loses control of the vehicle, spinning off and crashing into a ditch with the driver now unconscious, cuts and blood coming from his head/face. When the driver awakens he is at first startled by blue and red beaming lights, but when his focus comes together he realises it's the police. He's questioned about how he came to crash and that the passenger had died from the crash (knowing he murdered her himself). The murderer is then told to stay here and wait for more questioning.

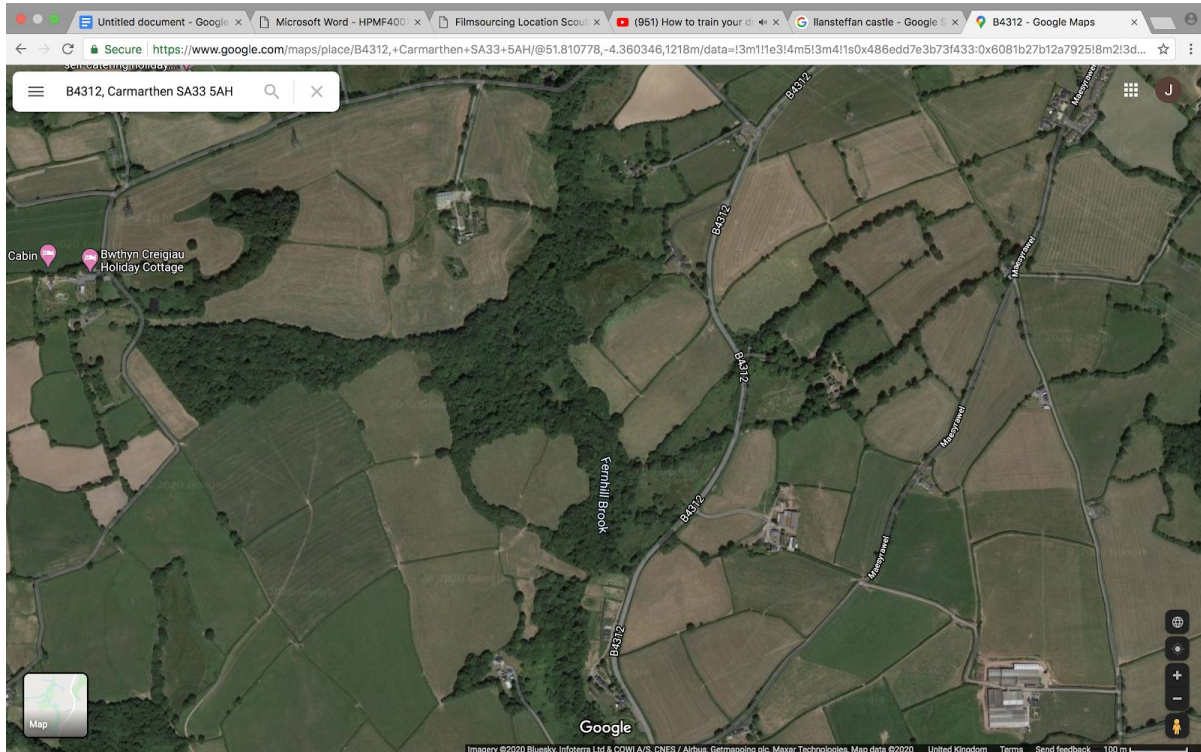
A loud exotic car pulls up to the scene with an upper class suited man stepping out of it. He goes right under the police tape and straight to the crash scene. The last detective available happened to be detective Shaw, one of the best and well known detectives in the states. The driver realises who it is however Shaw begins walking straight up to him so he can't go anywhere. A police officer explains what happened and that it was unnecessary for him to come. The detective then shrugs off the information, asking his own questions to the driver trying to catch him out but gets nothing from him. Finally he then tells the driver to stay put as he goes to investigate the crime scene and on his return back to him. The driver is gone...

Treatment:

It's approaching midnight and a powerful storm is plummeting onto a forest surrounded road. There's only one car in sight, driving at an unusually fast speed even though it's hammering it down with rain. A middle aged, exhausted looking man is at the wheel and a female body, dead, lying across the back seats. In the distance an overwhelming bolt of lightning hits the ground causing the drivers hands to slip down the wheel only inches, but is enough to lose control of the car. Traction is lost on the ocean like tarmac, the storm taking full possession over the murderers fate. The car swerves into a 6ft ditch leaving the driver unconscious.

Siren noises arise with blue and red flashing lights being seen from the now conscious driver. A policeman stands in front of him trying to calm him down, asking what had happened and the driver giving no response. The policemen then gives condolences explaining that the passenger in the back seats had died due to the crash. After hearing this, the murderer follows through with this false statement acting downed from the new (false) news. He then goes on to explain what had happened and that the storm through them off, leaving the policeman fully believing in the drivers story. However a loud, expensive sounding car approaches towards the crash site, and as it arrives a detective steps out of a luxurious car. He walks under the police tape and goes straight to the crash site to examine the scene. The detective then goes straight to the driver asking more questions about what happened however the driver still gives the same answers. The detective calmly asks the murderer to stay put whilst he goes and examines the dead body in the back seats. By the time he is done, he heads back up and the driver is gone.





I have taken these two images from google maps to show where my script is set. Along this road there are plenty of trees on either side which will be perfect for driving on the road through a storm. Also in the second photo you can see a small layby which is where the car will “crash”. The car will actually be stationary and the shot angle of the car shall make it look like the car has crashed.



Location RELEASE Form

PRODUCTION TITLE: Mistaken murder

PRODUCTION DATE: 03/02/20

Permission is hereby granted to [Joe Barthorpe] to use the property located at B4312, Carmarthen SA33 5AH

consisting of a single road

for the purpose of photographing and recording scenes for the above program produced by [Joe Barthorpe].

Permission includes the right to bring personnel and equipment onto the property and to remove them after completion of the work. The permission herein granted shall include the right, but not the obligation, to photograph the actual name connected with the premises and to use such name in the program(s).

The undersigned hereby gives to [Joe Barthorpe], its assigns, agents, licensees, affiliates, clients, principals, and representatives the absolute right and permission to copyright, use, exhibit, display, print, reproduce, televise, broadcast and distribute, for any lawful purpose, in whole or in part, through any means without limitation, any scenes containing the above described premises, all without inspection or further consent or approval by the undersigned of the finished product or of the use to which it may be applied.

[Joe Barthorpe] hereby agrees to hold the undersigned harmless of and free from any and all liability and loss which [Joe Barthorpe], and/or its agents, may suffer for any reason, except that directly caused by the negligent acts or deliberate misconduct of the owner of the premises or its agents.

The undersigned hereby warrants and represents that the undersigned has full right and authority to solely enter into this agreement concerning the above described premises, and that the undersigned hereby indemnifies and holds [Joe Barthorpe], and/or its agents, harmless from and against any and all loss, liability, costs, damages or claims of any nature arising from, growing out of, or concerning the use of the above described premises except those directly caused by the negligent acts or deliberate misconduct of [Joe Barthorpe], or its/his/her agents.

By (Council members): _Dean Jenkins

Signature of Authorised Property Representative Dean Jenkins

Date: __27/01/20__ Filmmaker Joe Barthorpe. Manager: _Joe Barthorpe_

Equipment list:

- Panasonic DC-G9 - £1499.99
- Zoom H4N Pro sound recorder - £166.00
- Rode boom pole - £45.00
- Manfrotto Befree Advanced - £109.99
- DJI Mavic 2 Pro - £1426.99
- LECO 500S II LED panel lights £303.99
- DJI Ronin s - £459.00

Crew:

- Director - Joe Barthorpe
- Producer - Will Sharp
- Cinematographer - Joe Barthorpe
- Sound operator - Liam Newitt
- Lighting - Jack laytham
- Runner - Katrina Seaton

Cast:

- Detective - Felix Mackle
- Murderer - Ellis Barthorpe
- Dead Body - Jasmine Thomas
- Extras - Harvey Wright, Jude Everitt, Debbie Watwerfield, Michael Cufflin

SWOT Analysis

Strengths:

- Time management - Having set dates and times to work from helps with overall time management, organising cast, crew and equipment
- Equipment - the university supplies industry standard equipment, which I will be using for the film
- Organization - Good organization will help the overall flow of production throughout. Pre planning to photocopy my finalized script to give to each of the actors before filming for them to learn their lines.
- Location - My location is public road so will be open to use after contacting the local council which I have already done. Also if any issues occur with the location it should be easily manageable to change to another road.

Weaknesses:

- Weather: This is my main weakness for the shoot, as I have no control over the weather however I need my film to include a rain storm in it. I will be able to create a rain effect onto the car however the weather has the potential to ruin the shoot as it can affect both equipment and transport for the whole cast and crew.
- Cast and crew - because I have a very small cast, so if any of them fall ill, it will be difficult to find replacement actors especially if it's one of the main cast members.

Opportunities:

- Equipment - The university allows us as students to hire out industry standard equipment, meaning for my film I can have industry standard equipment at hand so that my film will look as professional as possible.
- Location - the location I have chosen is easily movable if issues were to occur in production, also it is easily accessible for my cast and crew members to get too.

Threats:

- Weather - being the main threat as it may damage equipment causing technical difficulties when in production. Although some of the kit is weather proof e.g. G9. Most of the equipment is not therefore damaged if not protected from changes in the weather.
- Batteries - lighting batteries especially as my film will be shot in a darker atmosphere because it's set at midnight, so lighting is essential not only for filming but also for cast and crew members to be able to see throughout production.

Shot list

1. Aerial shot	Showing a car driving through forest surrounded roads.
2. Side, medium close up	Of the driver (antagonists face)
3. Medium close up	Of the dead body in the back seats
4. Exterior long shot	Showing heaving rain storm with lightning
5. Close up	Showing the driver tampering with the radio
6. Extreme close	Showing fustated eyes
7. Medium shot	Through front window showing hands on wheel slip when lightning strikes
8. Medium close up	Shows driver look back at dead body
9. Side, medium close up	Of driver looking back to the front
10. Medium shot	Of lightning, with hands losing control of the wheel, the car then swerves into a ditch. As the car stops, all camera motions stop with it, leaving the shot looking at the driver hanging upside down.
11. Medium shot	Of police already stationary at the crash
12. Close up of driver going in and out of focus	Of driver going in and out of focus
13. Medium close up panning	From the officer talking to the driver
14. POV	Driver watching the officer walk away then turning towards the arriving car

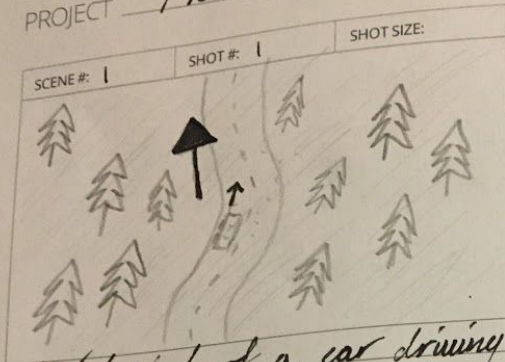
15. Backwards tracking medium close up	of detective stepping out of car and walking up to the crash site.
16. Medium shot	Detective examining car then asking the police officer some questions
17. Tracking medium close up	Of the detective walking up to the driver to ask questions
18. Shot reverse shot medium close	Of the two talking

19. ups	
20. POV	Detective walking back the the crash site
21. Long shot	from detective's position showing the driver in the same position
22. Close up	Of different parts of the car and dead women showing clues to the audience that the detective is seeing.
23. POV	Of the detective now, looking back for the driver, but the driver is no longer there.

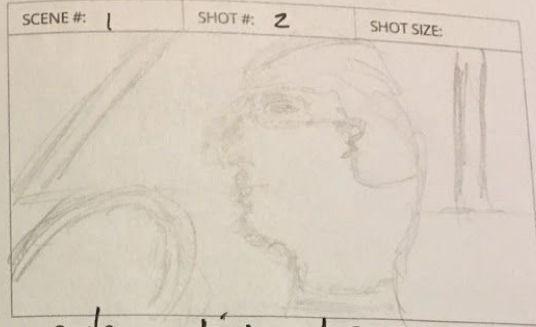
Storyboards

PROJECT *The Mistaken Murder*

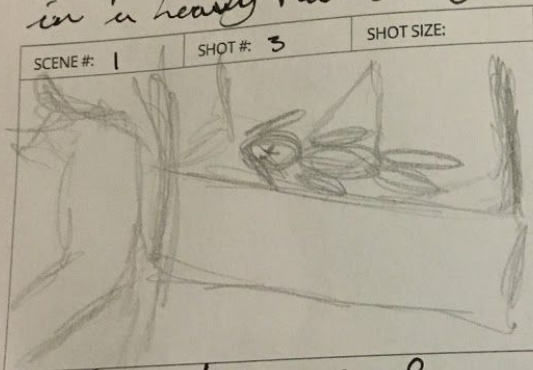
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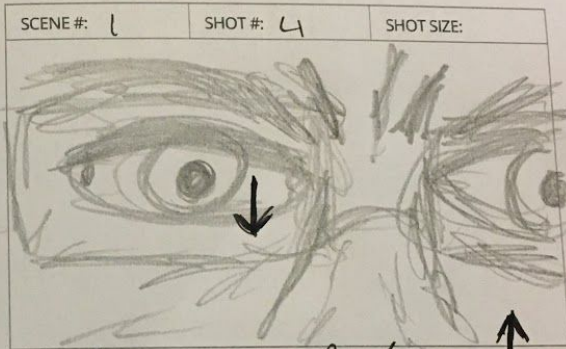
Aerial shot of a car driving at speed down a country road in a heavy rain storm.



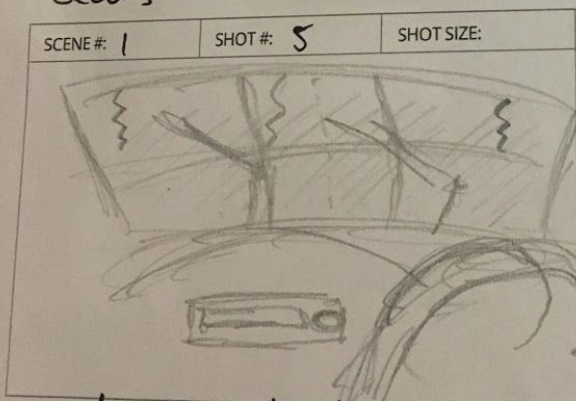
side medium close up of driver.



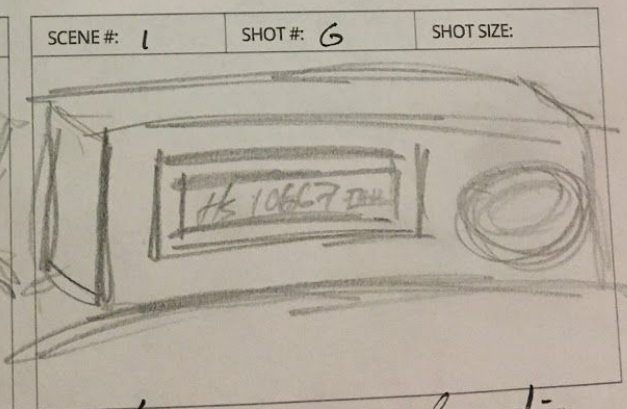
medium close up of dead body in the back seats



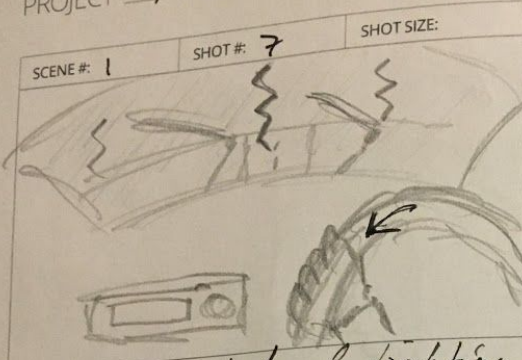
close up of driver's eyes looking towards radio



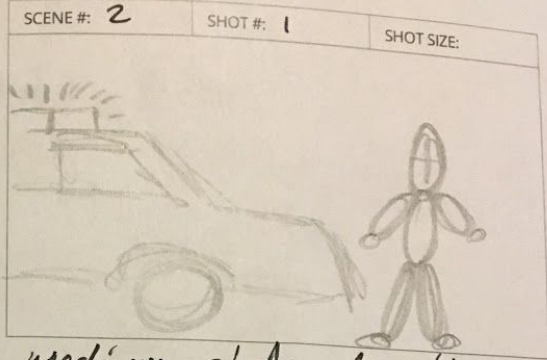
medium shot of storm with lightning



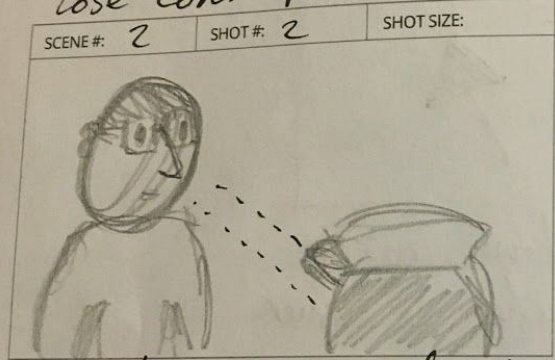
close up of radio being altered.



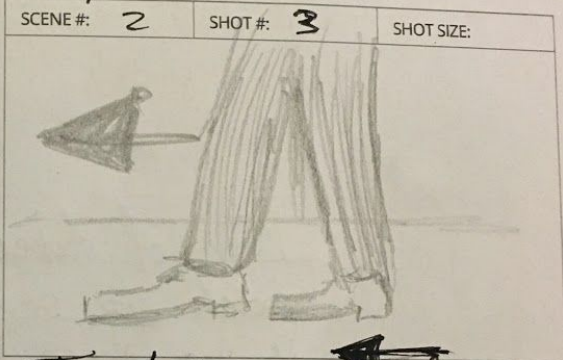
medium shot of fighting strike showing hands lose control.



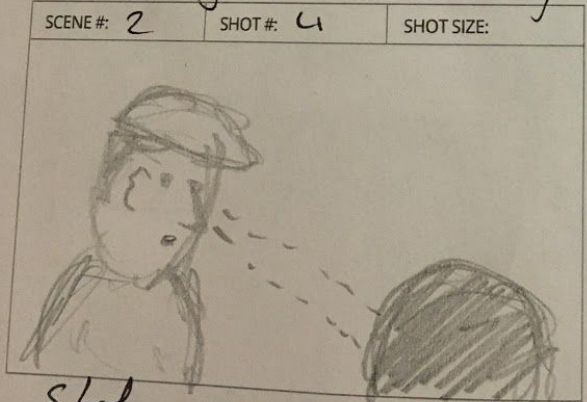
medium shot of police whilst going in and out of focus.



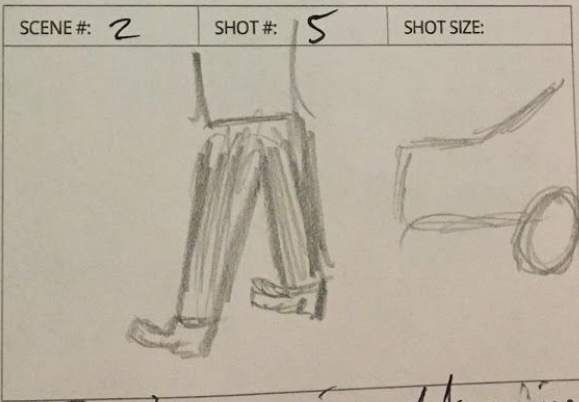
shot reverse shot of both driver and police officer Johnson talking



tracking shot of detectives walking to crash site.



shot reverse shot of detective Shaw and the driver talking



POV showing detective walk back to crashed car.



LOCATION SCOUTING SHEET

Production title _____ Sheet no. _____

Location Scout _____ Date _____

LOCATION DETAILS

Script location _____ Scenes _____

Actual location _____ ☐ Interior ☐ Exterior

Address _____

Location contact name _____ Position _____

Email _____ Phone no. _____

AVAILABILITY

Days of week _____

Times of the day _____

Special arrangements _____

MISCELLANEOUS

Parking _____

Distance / time from home _____

Power capabilities _____

Sound scape _____

Other notes _____

For example:

- Security / alarm systems
- Neighboring properties / activities / annual events
- The nearest hospital / restaurant / petrol station
- Props / costumes available?
- Accommodation / catering?
- Upcoming developments



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THE MISTAKEN MURDER - BY JOE BARTHORPE

INT. GREY SALOON CAR - NIGHT

The roads are empty except the singular car driving at speed through a forest surrounded road. Rain lashing down on the front windscreen and lighting strikes occurring in the background. The radio at a low volume constantly making a fuzzy sound as the driver tries to change the radio channel. The driver straightens his squared off glasses and turns to look at the back to see a dead, middle aged woman in the back seats. Lightning strikes and his hands slightly wobble at the wheel. Looking back to the front, he continues to alter the radio channels. Another strike hits only half a mile in front and the driver loses control. The car locks up as he slams on the breaks, spinning and colliding into a tree lying within an engulfing ditch. The driver left unconscious.

The driver begins coming in and out of consciousness.

OFFICER JOHNSON

Hello... can you hear me? Hello? Stay with me.

The Driver falls back unconscious shortly to be awakened by a throbbing headache as more police sirens emerge.

OFFICER JOHNSON

Can you hear me!

DRIVER

Y...y...yes.

OFFICER JOHNSON

Good, that's good try not to move to much you've been in a severe car accident. I'm officer Johnson and... well... there's no nice way of telling you this but the passenger in your car has passed.

The driver looks down to the floor and pauses

DRIVER

h...how?

OFFICER JOHNSON

We believe she died when the car impacted into the ditch. The seat belt seemed to have been placed quite high up on her neck causing her head to

lash forward.

DRIVER

I...I don't believe it.

The driver looks over towards the crash with the slightest grin on his face, he then turns back to the police changing his facial expression back to melancholy.

OFFICER JOHNSON

Can you talk me through what happened exactly?

DRIVER

Uhmmm... yes. Me... me and my... uhm.

OFFICER JOHNSON

Take your time.

DRIVER

Me and my girlfriend were coming back from the cinema, and this storm came from nowhere. The car lost control and headed towards a tree. That's all I can remember.

OFFICER JOHNSON

Okay that's fine, hopefully you'll remember more after some rest. A detective will be here shortly to check everything through, okay?

The drivers eyes widen

DRIVER

Wait, detective?

OFFICER JOHNSON

Yes, a detective... Shaw I think. Anyway I'll have a medic check you for and further injuries whilst we wait for the detective to arrive.

Officer Johnson walks back over to the area of the crash to talk to a medic. As the medic approaches, a loud, expensive sounding car approaches the crash site. A vintage Mustang arrives and out steps detective Shaw, in a full Gainsboro grey suit matching with a flat cap. He moves a speed straight under the police tape and instantly walks up to crashed car. After examining it through, Shaw walks quite slowly over to the Driver ready for questioning.

SHAW

I'm detective shaw and I will be investigating the events that have happened. I'm sorry to here about your passenger.

DRIVER

uhmm thanks.

SHAW

What was her relation to you?

DRIVER

My Fiancé

SHAW

Officer Johnson said girlfriend?

DRIVER

Oh yes we became engaged just three days ago sometimes it slips my mind.

SHAW

Ah, easily mistaken. How come she was in the back seats instead of the passenger seat with you?

DRIVER

The front seat was wet from the storm.

Shaw looks over to the crashed car briefly then back to the driver.

SHAW

Okay that's fine for now, if you can just wait here whilst I go examine further into the crash.

The driver nods in agreement as the detective turns to walk back the the crash site. Once the detective gets to the car he examines the body further for clues, no ring on her finger and the front seat is completely dry. Shaw turns back to the driver to confirm the seat was wet. However o=when he looked back, the driver was gone...