BLUE VELVET

screenplay by David Lynch

FADE IN:

FOLDS OF BLUE VELVET UNDULATE EVER SO SLOWLY.

WITH TITLES

DISSOLVE TO:

1. EXT. BEAUMONTS' FRONT LAWN - DAY

Blue skies. PAN SLOWLY DOWN to clean white picket fence, with beautiful red roses in front of it. Birds CHIRP in the distance. A faint sprinkler SOUND is heard. Very sweet MUSIC is playing.

DISSOLVE TO:

2. EXT. TREE - DAY

A songbird SINGS in the tree.

DISSOLVE TO:

3. EXT. CROSSWALK - SHADY STREET - DAY

A very clean uniformed, smiling POLICEMAN with arms outstretched allows clean happy SCHOOL CHILDREN to cross the street safely.

DISSOLVE TO:

4. EXT. SHADY STREET - DAY

A bright red gorgeous fire engine is moving very slowly down the street.

We MOVE IN to see the happy face of a FIREMAN.

DISSOLVE TO:

5. EXT. FLOWER GARDEN - DAY

Yellow tulips sway in a warm afternoon breeze.

DISSOLVE TO:

6. EXT. BEAUMONTS' FRONT LAWN - DAY

The same white picket fence with roses in front of it.

PANNING SLOWLY now away from the roses down to the rich green lawn and over to the sprinkler which goes around and around shooting water droplets sparkling in the light.

This is slightly SLOW MOTION and DREAMY.

DISSOLVE TO:

7. EXT. BEAUMONTS' FRONT LAWN - DAY

CLOSER ON WATER DROPLETS. The water droplets are somewhat abstracted as they dance in the light.

PAN DOWN now to the green grass, traveling along the grass.

The MUSIC becomes fainter as we MOVE SUDDENLY under the grass, now as if in a dark forest.

SLOWLY MOVING THROUGH.

The grass is like great timbers.

It is GETTING DARKER and ominous SOUNDS come up as we discover black insects crawling and scratching in the darkness.

FADE TO:

8. EXT. BEAUMONT'S FRONT LAWN - DAY

MR. BEAUMONT is watering flowers and grass with the hose.

He is dressed in khaki trousers, canvas shoes, old white shirt, straw hat and dark glasses.

CLOSE - MR. BEAUMONT

watches his watering, then looks up.

The sky and the neighborhood are reflected in his dark glasses. He moves his false teeth around a little in his mouth, jutting out his chin in the process. He's thinking about who knows what.

He looks back down at his lawn.

CLOSEUP - WATER ON GRASS

The water hits the grass and mats it down.

WIDER - MR. BEAUMONT

moves the hose over a bush and gets a kink in it.

Water stops coming out of the nozzle and there is a LOUD HISSING NOISE of water under pressure.

CLOSEUP - KINK IN HOSE

Loud HISSING NOISE.

Mr. Beaumont goes around the bush and is undoing the kink when he is suddenly hit with a tremendous seizure.

CLOSEUP - MR. BEAUMONT

He's doubling over and falls to the ground. He continues to grasp onto the hose.

Water shoots crazily onto the driveway and his car.

Mr. Beaumont seems to be in tremendous pain.

CUT TO:

9. INT. BEAUMONTS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

Mrs. Beaumont is curled up on the couch, smoking a cigarette and watching T.V. It's a daytime soap.

CLOSEUP - MRS. BEAUMONT

Takes a big drag of her cigarette and luxuriously french inhales a huge quantity of blue smoke. She's enjoying her show.

10. EXT. BEAUMONTS' FRONT LAWN - DAY

CLOSEUP - MR. BEAUMONT

His teeth are crooked in his mouth now as he tries to scream.

No sound is coming out.

WATER SOUND is loud.

WIDER - MR. BEAUMONT

Water is still spraying out over the driveway and onto the car and into the yard beyond.

A small boy, GREGG, appears wearing only white underpants and a white t-shirt. He holds a large red popsicle.

Gregg waddles around looking at the crazy water show. He holds his hand out to get it wet in the spray. This makes him screw up his face in a laugh.

He waddles over and looks at Mr. Beaumont on the ground.

Mr. Beaumont seems to be worse now, unconscious, but still gripping the hose tightly. His clothes are sopping wet.

11. EXT. GREGG'S HOUSE - DAY

Screen window of Gregg's house. Gregg's mother calls out but remains looking at a bowl she is holding in her hands.

GREGG'S MOTHER (calling out)
Gregg. Billy's waiting for his teddy.

She then turns to look out.

GREGG'S MOTHER (continuing)
GREGG! Billy's waiting for his teddy, honey.

12. EXT. BEAUMONTS' FRONT LAWN - DAY

GREGG'S MOTHER P.O.V. THROUGH SCREEN WINDOW

IN THE DISTANCE, she sees Gregg's back, a bush, some legs with wet khaki trousers and water squirting up in the air.

GREGG'S MOTHER (V.O.) TOM!!!

CUT TO:

13. EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS BUILDING - NIGHT

TRAVELING along sidewalk, bushes, to lighted windows of an auditorium.

MUSIC is heard.

14. INT. COLLEGE AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

A dance is going on. Sixties MUSIC plays, performed by a live band on stage. College kids dance.

A COLLEGE BOY enters the auditorium, urgently looking for someone. He quickly approaches a GIRL.

COLLEGE BOY

Louise? Where's Jeffrey? His mother's on the phone - it's an emergency.

LOUISE

He disappeared to the men's room a little while ago. I'm getting very tired of waiting - let's go find him.

15. INT. JANITOR'S QUARTERS - COLLEGE - NIGHT

We MOVE INTO the face of JEFFREY. He is hiding behind a furnace. He is fascinated by a sight beyond in the darkness of this basement room.

He sees a male student trying to rape his girlfriend. She is crying and telling him to stop but the boy keeps forcing her down toward the ground.

forcing her clothes off her. Jeffrey at this point hears his name being called. Each time he hears his name the caller is closer. The boy is now

hurting the girl. Before Jeffrey leaves the furnace room he yells out:

JEFFREY

Hey, shit head. Leave her alone. Don't force girls!

The couple looks up but cannot see Jeffrey. The boy is scared and releasesthe girl who promptly pulls farther away, crying.

Jeffrey leaves the furnace room.

16. INT. HALLWAY - COLLEGE - NIGHT

Louise and the college student see him and move quickly toward him.

COLLEGE BOY

Jeffrey, your mother's on the phone. It's an emergency.

LOUISE

Thanks for keeping me waiting so long.

As Jeffrey moves quickly toward the telephone.

JEFFREY

I'm sorry, Louise.

17. INT. PHONE/HALLWAY - COLLEGE - NIGHT

The phone dangles on its cord in the foreground as Jeffrey moves toward it in the background. Louise slowly follows Jeffrey, but stays in back of him. Jeffrey picks up the phone.

JEFFREY

Hello. Mom? What's wrong with Dad?. What's happening?. Come home? Sure I will.

18. INT. BEAUMONT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mrs. Beaumont sits talking on the phone in a dark quiet bedroom.

MRS. BEAUMONT I mean, for good, Jeffrey.

CUT TO:

19. INT. PHONE/HALLWAY - COLLEGE - NIGHT

CLOSEUP - JEFFREY

JEFFREY

For good?. I can't. Mom. Not right in the middle of the term.

CUT TO:

20. INT. BEAUMONT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

MRS. BEAUMONT

(now looks very tired and in poor health)

Jeffrey. honey. Your father's condition is serious. It's going to cost so much. We just won't have the money to keep you in school. I'm telling you this now, so that you can get your things together and you have to do. It'll save you another trip back. You're going to have to work at the store.

CUT TO:

21. INT. PHONE/HALLWAY - COLLEGE - NIGHT

CLOSEUP - JEFFREY

JEFFREY (crying)
Mom.

Louise looks at Jeffrey crying, then turns away. Jeffrey hangs up the phone.

22. INT. BEAUMONT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mrs. Beaumont hangs up her phone. just next to the phone traveling into a shadow is a winged termite.

FADE TO:

23. INT. GIRLS DORM LOBBY - COLLEGE - NIGHT

Jeffrey is waiting in a girls dorm lobby for Louise.

Girls are milling around. Louise gets off an elevator with some other girls. She forces a smile at Jeffrey as she comes toward him.

JEFFREY

Can't you come to the damn airport?

LOUISE

Jeffrey. I can't. I really can't. I have to go to that class tonight. I can't get out of it. I really can't. I love you, Jeffrey. I'll miss you.

JEFFREY

Alright. I'll call you in a couple of days, you know. I'll let you know how things are.

LOUISE

Okay. I'll be here. You better git-going. I gotta go too sweetie. I hope your father's okay. I love you. I'm sorry, Jeffrey.

JEFFREY

I love you too, Louise. Damn it. I'll see you.

They kiss.