

Bone Dry

Written By

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INT. WRESTLING RING - DAYTIME

We open with an extreme close up of Ricky Freeman, his eyes are lifeless and he appears defeated. He is lying on his side, with his head on the mat.

In the background we can hear Ricky's coach, Joseph Marshall shouting at him, his voice is muffled by an ever increasing high pitched noise. As the noise reaches its climax the scene cuts

EXT. OUTDOOR RUNNING TRACK - MORNING

Ricky is running on the track, the camera is positioned head on in front of him, we see two other wrestlers, his mates, run into the shot beside Ricky, they greet each other smiling.

COACH

Oi Freeman, get over here we need to get you on the scales!

The boys stop running, Ricky's face drops and we can see panic on his face. The boys running with Ricky begin to start taking the piss out of him.

SAM

Shit, shouldn't have had those pints last night, hahaha

RICKY

It'll be fine.

The boys continue laughing and joking as Ricky runs off screen.

INT. BOYS CHANGING ROOMS

We see Ricky step onto the scales, Coach Marshall is hovering directly beside Ricky, there is nowhere for Ricky to hide.

The camera remains on a close up of Ricky, we don't see the number that comes up, but by the way Ricky scrunches up his face and hits his forehead we know its not the needed result.

Coach Marshall violently hits the wall next to them whilst shouting...

COACH MARSHALL

God dammit Freeman! (We see some of his spit spray onto Ricky as he is screaming in his face) The Fight is 7 days away. What the fuck have I been doing all this work for.

Coach Marshall pauses shouting and stares angrily at Ricky, Ricky is just staring at the wall in front of him putting all his energy into not crying in front of his coach. Coach Marshall paces towards the door, before he exits he turns and says ...

COACH MARSHALL

My reputation is on the line Freeman, you better be fight ready or you're done!

As soon as Ricky hears the door close he breaks down, he sinks to the floor with his head between his knees, as he's exhausted and frustrated we see him slowly begin to lie down on the disgusting changing room floor not caring anymore, just before his head touches the floor we cut

EXT CUE TRAINING MONTAGE

We match cut the last scene to Ricky violently doing sit-ups, the first training montage follows

INT GYM - END OF A TRAINING SESSION

We see Ricky mid exercise, he's in a corner of the gym by

himself, His mates and fellow athletes grouped together getting ready to leave, stand by the door

One of the boys approaches Mickey

SAM

Hey man, are you good, you seem off?

RICKY

Yeah all good (His face remains lifeless, never making eye contact with Sam)

SAM

(hesitates) look I know there's a lot of pressure on you right now, but a few of us were just gonna come back to mine and hang for a bit, you should come

RICKY

sorry, cant (emotionless)

SAM

Mate come on, don't be silly

RICKY

I said I cant Sam (abruptly and almost angry)

Sam doesn't respond and we see his friends slowly filter out the Gym

INT. BOYS CHANGING ROOMS - EVENING

We see Ricky leave a shower with a towel round his waist, he stands in front of a mirror, we see him pinching the fatter areas of his body, he runs his fingers over his bruises (from excessive exercise and training). He gets changed and sits on the bench.

Beat.

Someone abruptly opens the changing room door, breaking through the heavy silence and capturing Ricky's attention.

This person clearly wants their presence known. Mia steps into the room, she's Ricky's older sister, and almost the opposite in every way, she wears baggy relaxed clothes, copious amounts of jewellery and overall simply does not share the strict extreme mindset of her brother.

Mia's faced is scrunched up, but relaxes when she sees Ricky

MIA
Thank God everyone is fully clothed in
here... anyway you ready to go?

Ricky looks confused, he cocks his head to the side but remains silent.

MIA
For Dinner?

Realisation spreads across His face, shortly followed by a pained expression.

RICKY
Shit, sorry Mia I forgot .

MIA
What! okay ummm how long do you need
to get ready then?

Ricky starts undoing his shoe laces, avoiding eye contact with Mia as he says

RICKY
Sorry, I cant anymore.

Mia's expression drops, her face becomes cold and shadowed, as she says icily...

MIA
Cant or you Wont.

Ricky stands and begins organising his things, turning his back on Mia in the process, she not once drops her intense gaze from her brother.

RICKY
I have a double training session in
like 30 mins.

MIA

Jesus Christ Ricky, I swapped shifts
to be here, you told me you were free.
God Forbid I try to spend some time
with you.

RICKY

That's not fair, I didn't forget on
purpose.

MIA

Maybe if you weren't so selfish, and
actually thought about someone other
then yourself, then I wouldn't be
standing here like an idiot right now.

Ricky Turns to face her, clearly affected by her words, he paces towards her, and stops when he's directly in front of her staring at her

RICKY

You know what, theirs no point arguing
with you I wouldn't expect you too
understand.

MIA

What the Hells that's supposed to
mean!

RICKY

Were completely different, I know what
I want and I'm focused, but your lazy
and careless and your life is going
fucking nowhere! Your just childish!

Mia stares at Ricky silently, the silence now so heavy, its consumes the entire room. Mia then says we a deadly calmness...

MIA

Fuck you Ricky.

Mia now really upset and staring daggers at her brother storms out and slams the door behind her, Leaving Ricky in

Darkness.

When he's alone, we see Ricky calm himself down, and collect his thoughts before he makes his next move (he's nervous) In the background we hear a heart beating fast, to signify his trepidation about what is about to happen. He cautiously stands up and approaches the scale. he steps on to it.

Beat.

Before we See his reaction, we see his mouth open and him about to begin shouting, this where the background noise and the scene abruptly cuts.

INT. EMPTY WRESTLING RING

Coach Marshall and Ricky are standing in the big empty wrestling arena, The coach points over to one side of the room

COACH MARSHALL
Medias over there, with the refs and medics and what not.

Coach Marshall points his finger to the other side of the hall

COACH MARSHALL
Crowds there, so if you've got anyone coming let them know they have to queue up at the right side door, or they wont be let in ... not that you'll even have anyone coming.

Ricky shyly nods his head silently. Coach Marshall without saying anything, as if he has all the time in the world walks to the centre of the wrestling mat, he then slowly turns and stares at Ricky intimidatingly before saying

COACH MARSHALL
And in 36 hours this is where you will be, ready for the fight of your goddamn life

Ricky remains completely silent and still holding eye contact

with his coach.

EXT. CARPARK - DAYTIME

We see Coach Marshall pacing towards his car with Ricky trailing after him, Coach Marshall begins to speak loudly to Ricky, without even bothering to slowdown or face him

COACH MARSHALL

These precious hours we have left are crucial Freeman, you need to stay completely dehydrated. Don't touch a drop of water, throw your guts up, sleep in a sauna, I don't care how you do it, just make sure your as light as fucking possible by weigh in!

Coach looks at Ricky before getting into his car and says in a calm but deadly way

COACH MARSHALL
understood?

RICKY
Understood.

DANGEROUS WEIGHT CUTTING

Cut to the final weight cutting montage.

EXT. WEIGH IN ROOM - JUST BEFORE FIGHT

We see a room full of boys shirtless queuing up for the weigh in, we see Ricky completely lifeless and zombie like standing in a queue, he has big eye bags, bruises and his face is gaunt, he also has dry and flaky patches of skin because its so dry.

one of the invigilators signals for Ricky to step up on to the scale, he trudges over with very little energy and stands

on the scale.

The invigilator notes down his weight.

INVIGILATOR

Right all good, make your way over to the mats and wait there please.

Ricky once again is emotionless, the fact that he's worked so hard to make weight for this fight and he has succeeded doesn't even register with him anymore. He walks away from the scale and out the room.

EXT. EMPTY WRESTLING MAT

We open on the final scene with a close up of Ricky and his now deathly appearance. All we hear is the muffled sound of Coach Marshal speaking to Ricky

COACH MARSHALL

Alright all you've got to do now is bring all the handwork and training we have been doing to this very moment

Ricky stares silently in front of him, ignoring his coaches words

COACH MARSHALL

Freeman! pay attention

Ricky snaps out of his trance and looks at his coach, with terror in his eyes

RICKY

I uhh...

COACH MARSHALL

You better not be having second thoughts!

RICKY

I'm not, its just I don't feel right,
I feel-

COACH MARSHALL

I AM NOT GONNA LET YOU PUT ALL MY HARDWORK TO WASTE, ok? Now go flatten

him!

we track Ricky as he make his way over to the mat, his coach is next to him barking orders, but we hear it from Ricky's pov, his whole world is moving in slow-motion as he steps toward the mat, his coach's voice is muffled along with the audience's cheers and chatting, in addition we hear a quiet high pitched ringing that gradually increases as he gets closer to his opponent.

as the fight is about to start the two boys stare at each other and we are able to see the extreme contrast between the two, Ricky being weak and exhausted and his opponent full of energy and intimidating.

Ricky dodges his opponents first attack, but on the second Ricky is taken down awkwardly resulting in his leg snapping.

We are able to see some of the audience's reactions, his coaches reaction, and the shock/sadness in his friends faces , the silence in the wrestling arena is deafening, before it then erupts into chaos. However Ricky's whole world remains silent and unmoving (this is what we hear).

we cut back to the starting shot, and then the camera raises higher and higher above Ricky allowing us to take in the surroundings and his lifeless body before the film ends.

End.