

RUN

Written by

Ioan Holland

Email: ioanholland@gmail.com

RUN - BY IOAN HOLLAND

1. EXT. STREET WITH LOW-LYING, CLOSELY SPACED STREET LAMPS - EVENING, DUSK

A young man is running down a street. He's looking straight forward into the lens. Determined. He's lit only by the intermittent glow of evening streetlamp light.

EXTREME CLOSE-UP, HEAD-ON SHOT OF PAUL. THE SHOT STARTS WITH PAUL'S FACE BATHED IN A STREETLAMP. AS HE RUNS FORWARD THE LIGHT DIPS IN AND OUT AS HE RUNS UNDER THE STREETLAMPS. THE SHOT MOVES BACKWARDS AS PAUL RUNS FORWARD TO KEEP CONSISTENT FRAMING OF PAUL.

PAUL (V.O.)
It's been said that the course of true
love never did run smooth. (PAUSE) So
here I am, running. (PAUSE) The past few
months have been cold and empty. Dead.
There's been something missing that I
used to have, and I can't seem to find
it. Something that I thought I was ok
without.

CUT TO MEDIUM CLOSE-UP DIAGONALLY ACROSS PAUL. FLANKING HIM ARE FOUR OTHER PEOPLE NOW RUNNING WITH HIM: HIS FAMILY. THEY ARE ARRANGED IN A DIAGONAL LINE STREAMING OUT BEHIND PAUL.

PAUL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I have my family...who I love. (PAUSE) And
my friends.

CUT TO WIDE SHOT OF WHAT IS NOW TWO FLANKS OF PEOPLE MAKING AN ARROW FORMATION WITH PAUL AT IT'S TIP. ALL RUNNING.

PAUL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
They all mean so much to me. (PAUSE) But
I lived my life thinking alone.

WIDE SHOT FROM BEHIND PAUL, FOLLOWING HIM AS HE RUNS. HE'S NOW RUNNING ALONE.

PAUL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It was just me and no one else. And the
longer I lived, the more I thought that
to be true. Every day persuaded me that I
was better alone.

BACK TO THE CLOSE-UP OF PAUL'S FACE, HEAD-ON.

PAUL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
One year ago today, I was lost.

2. INT. A CROWDED HALL - MIDDAY

POV SHOT OF A PHONE BEING HELD-UP, FROM PAUL'S PERSPECTIVE. ON SCREEN IS THE DATE & TIME, WHICH READS: 13:04 14TH FEBRUARY 2012. PAUL PULLS DOWN THE PHONE TO REVEAL A WOMAN LOOKING ACROSS THE HALL. SHE TURNS TO HIM, LOOKS FOR A MOMENT AND SMILES. HOLD THIS MOMENT.

PAUL (V.O.)
Then...there you were. And you changed
everything. A beautiful little face that
smiled out at me.

3. EXT. AN URBAN PARK, THE PATH LIT UP BY STREETLAMPS - NIGHT

MEDIUM CLOSE-UP OF PAUL, HEAD-ON, AS HE RUNS, NOW THROUGH A PARK. AS V.O. PROGRESSES, SHOT PANS ACROSS TO REVEAL THE SAME WOMAN RUNNING ALONGSIDE HIM. SHE LOOKS AT HIM AND SMILES.

PAUL (V.O.)
That face that quickly became my best
friend. That face that made me smile
every time I laid eyes on it. That face I
felt I could fall in love with.

MEDIUM CLOSE-UP OF PAUL'S HEAD FROM SIDE. THE WOMAN RUNS OUT IN FRONT OF PAUL LOOKING BACK LAMENTABLY, AND LEAVES SHOT.

PAUL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
But I couldn't fall in love with you. I
couldn't let myself. Or let myself know
it. Because we couldn't be together and
we know why.

EXTREME CLOSE-UP OF PAUL'S FACE AS HE CONTINUES TO RUN.

PAUL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Since I stopped seeing you, the months
got colder. And I tried to think myself
alone. But I couldn't anymore.

4. INT. PAUL'S BEDROOM - EVENING

CLOSE-UP OF ALARM CLOCK, IT READS: 20.02 14TH FEBRUARY 2013.

PAUL (V.O.)
I was lost again, not because I was alone
but because I was without YOU.

CLOSE-UP OF PAUL'S FEET AS HE PUTS ON SOME SHOES. CUT TO A SHOT OF PAUL'S PHONE, ON IT IS A TEXT THAT READS EVERYTHING HE HAS JUST SAID. AT THE TOP OF THE CONVERSATION IS THE NAME, HOLLY.

5. EXT. STREET WITH STREETLAMPS - NIGHT

V.O. CONTINUES AS MEDIUM CLOSE-UP OF PAUL STILL RUNNING. HE TURNS A CORNER AND RUNS ACROSS THE ROAD. CUT TO A SHOT FROM BEHIND PAUL RUNNING TO A HOUSE. HE STOPS AT THE DOOR.

PAUL (V.O.)
So here I am, running. Running
away...running away from a life without
you. And here I am running...running to
your door.

SHOT FROM THE DOORBELL'S PERSPECTIVE. AS PAUL READS THE LAST LINE, HE TAKES HIS FINGER AND RINGS THE BELL, IN DOING SO, COVERING THE SHOT AND CUTTING IT TO BLACK.

PAUL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I just hope you'll answer...

END OF RUN.