

'SUBSTANCE'

Screenplay by Chris Deakin

SCENE 1

FADE IN:

LONG SHOT OF A MAN SITTING IN CENTRE OF ROOM: The room itself appears empty with nothing but a table and sofa. The walls are covered in writings, graffiti drawings and news articles. The actor sits alone in the centre of the sofa wearing only a giant white biohazard suit and a respirator attached to the top of his head.

The room is dimly lit, the drawings on the wall are repressive and stand out. The actor leans forward and reveals the table in front of him, filled with drug paraphernalia. A giant blade is barely visible, half buried amongst the piles of drugs and needles.

Male actor leans forward and sniffs some of the drugs off the table, recoiling from the intense buzz given off. Grabbing the blade from the table, he slowly rises from the sofa. exchanging the blade in his hands, he starts to drag the blade across the wall.

CLOSE UP: Following the blade as it makes its way across the wall, focus is drawn onto the newspaper articles and fanatic writings written on the wall. They depict apocalyptic storyline of world epidemics caused by an array of different viruses. (Include article on Arietids meteor shower)

MID SHOT: a noise is emanating from the darkness in front of him (Clicking and Chattering, getting louder as he approaches. Without warning a creature charges from the darkness, stopping short of reaching him, a chain clearly visible around its neck. Snapping and screaming at him, it struggles in vain to grab him, flesh peeling from its face.

CLOSE UP: A vague look of amusement spread across his face.

DANIEL

Hi, mum

The zombie continues to struggle, screeching at him, clamping its teeth

VOICEOVER DANIEL

I can remember what she looks like

COLOUR FLASHBACK: His mum standing there crying. He reaches out to touch her face, suddenly pulling back into reality, narrowly avoiding getting bitten.

DANIEL

You really need to start working on your temper

Starts fitting respirator over his face.

Now i need to go find us some food,
I'll be back soon

Leaves the room, taking a look back to see his mum hissing at him.

SCENE 2

EXTREME LONG SHOT: Showing area around where he lives. Passing deserted cars left in the road, everything is quiet and abandoned. The only sound is coming from the breathing inside the respirator.

He discovers a door slightly ajar and forces his way in, blade at the ready. Everything inside the house looks trashed, tables toppled, broken objects litter the hallway. Another flash back occurs revealing how it used to look before quickly vanishing again. He shakes his head and continues on entering the kitchen

Looking around the kitchen he notices a picture of a family, he lifts it for a closer look, pulling up his respirator.

SHOT: He touches the picture of their faces.

CLOSE UP: The main actors expression showing signs of sadness and loneliness. He very carefully places it back down, returning to rummaging around the kitchen.

He opens one of the cupboards seeing only empty packets and tins, knocking one onto the floor. again, he is hit by a quick flashback (colour) revealing the cupboard to be full with food. Gasping in pain, he shakily pulls out some drugs and snorts them before another flash back can manifest

SHOT: AS HE PULLS DOWN THE VIAL,, IT REVEALS A ZOMBIE SUDDENLY IN THE BACK DROP COME INTO FOCUS AND CHARGE HIM.

Startled it grabs him and begins to wrestle with him. Dripping blood from its mouth, blood-curdling screeching trying to bite him.

He manages to reach for his blade and with one swipe managing to remove its head. Wriggling out from under the corpse. Frustrated at himself for being caught off guard he starts cursing and flailing around the kitchen(Strop). When it goes quiet again he can hear crying coming from upstairs.

Rushing upstairs he breaks through the door blocked by a set of draws, and listens out. He can hear whimpering underneath the bed. He looks under to see a little girl curled up in a ball.

DANIEL

Hay, its alright, its safe now

The crying stops, he tries reaching out to her

Its OK, come here

Just before his had could reach her, it suddenly turns, charging at him screeching (Zombie)! Bolting for the door, he just manages to get through before the zombie was upon him. Quickly blockading the door before running from the house.

SCENE 3

He starts making his way back home. Flailing his fits and body, cursing even more than last time from from yet another close encounter from letting his guard down.

Suddenly he stops in his tracks as he see's zombies in the street in front of him. Another flashback (colour) reveals them how they used to look. A postman, dog walker and a couple joggers. The Flashback ends to see them all charging for him.

He braces himself for the impact. managing to take out all three but injures himself in the process, getting bitten in the leg. He limps home leaving a trail of blood. Entering the house, he passing his hissing mum.

SHOT: POV OF ZOMBIES MOVING TO SEE THE BODIES OF THE VICTIMS ON THE GROUND. THEY PICK UP ON THE BLOOD TRAIL AND START FOLLOWING IT.

In the house he takes another hit of the drug on the table, pulling back again from the intense buzz he gets. The zombies get closer, hearing them from inside the house, he reaches down the side of the sofa and pulls out a gun. This causes the zombie inside the house to start going wild.

The zombies start to try and break into the house. He slowly raises the gun towards the door.

SHOT IN POV:He gets a sudden intense flashback showing all the events in colour, showing each person he killed in their original form.Starting with the writings on the wall, grabbing his mum when she discovered him, chained her to the wall. Next, we see him in the kitchen, a women/man attempting to subdue him and then killing them, the little girl crying underneath the bed. The blood bath near his house.

DANIEL

I'm Sorry mum

The zombie in the room lets out a screech, a gunshot is heard

SHOT POV: The door bursts open, everything is in colour, they make there way into the room to see a women crying in the corner chained to the wall and crying hysterically, the lad has shot himself!

MID SHOT: The camera reveals its coppers entering the room. Blood is spread up the wall revealing a previously hidden message.

'Help Me'

