

Baby Blue
by
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FADE IN:

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

A spotlight snaps on, a white sun that highlights the rock star SYD B(20s). His cobalt eyes glimmer as he strums a sour chord. His mouth opens to sing but instead a baby cries.

REDDISH BLACK

That same sour chord plays again. This time followed by the soft introduction to a wistful rock ballad.

A baby continues to cry.

A white sun explodes from the blackness.

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Held in plastic-gloved hands, newly-born baby BLUE cries.

SYD (V.O.)
(sings throughout)
Hey to you, baby blue.

A nurse hands Blue, wrapped in a cornflower blanket, to a blonde woman, MARY(20s), who lies in bed. Proud but weary, Mary places her cheek against Blue's. Blue quiets.

SYD (V.O.)
Cradled in your mother's arms
you're so strong. So long.

EXT. SUBURBAN ROAD - DAY

An older BLUE(5) pulls his cheek away from Mary's. He hurries into the school bus. From the back window, he waves to Mary.

Mary waves back. A tear glints as it streams down her face, then she fades away.

Blue frowns.

SYD (V.O.)
Time to go your own way...

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY

Blue halfheartedly swings in the dull light, his head held low. The light brightens. Blue looks up and squints at the fiery white sun in the sky.

SYD (V.O.)
Master five, so alive.

Blue smiles. He reaches for the sun as he swings higher. Then he floats up off of the swing and into the air to chase the elusive sun. He laughs with glee.

SYD (V.O.)
Not a spot of work inside your
idle play, today.

Then he panics as he descends.

SYD (V.O.)
Enjoy it while it lasts...

He lands as an older BLUE(17). He teeters, then he falls.

SYD (V.O.)
Seventeen is keen,

Three other seventeen year old boys, BARRY(Bass), KEN(Keyboards) and DAVE(Drums), laugh at his embarrassment.

SYD (V.O.)
With a couple mates you sing

Angry, Blue lip-synchs.

SYD (V.O.)
Your life's song.

The boys are impressed. Barry extends a hand. Blue looks up; a bright disc of sunlight obscures Barry's head. Blue smiles as he takes Barry's hand. He is pulled skyward.

INT. GARAGE - DAY

Barry pulls Blue inside. Ken and Dave stand by their instruments and smile. Blue's excitement shows.

SYD (V.O.)
So long you've waited for this
day...

He hurries to the standing microphone which glitters as he strokes it. He picks up a guitar. The boys are in position.

SYD (V.O.)
Finally then, as men,

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

The band is in position. A spotlight focuses on BLUE(20s). He lip-synchs with the gusto of the rock star that he is.

SYD (V.O.)
You capture the attention of the
crowd, so loud.

Blue bows. The audience goes wild. Behind the audience a spotlight shines like a fiery white sun. Blue squints up at the light.

SYD (V.O.)
Everything you wanted...

Instrumentals continue.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

Blue squints as bright light floods his face. He pulls himself up past his last hand-hold and he's at the top.

A fiery white disk fills the sky. In silhouette, he's almost engulfed by its brightness. He extends his arms, wing-like, as he tries to engulf it back.

But the moon approaches, its crescent grows smaller until it's only a black disk that touches the sun. Blue stares up at it in horror as the black disc begins its eclipse.

Blue spins in a panic. With nowhere to run, he runs off the mountain's edge.

He falls down the mountainside, then down a waterfall and finally he splashes into a pool at the bottom.

Underwater, in the dimness, he struggles to hold his breath as he reaches for the surface light.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Blue's head pops from a filled bathtub. He sits up half trying to catch his breath, half crying.

SYD (V.O.)
But you're sad,

His arm flops over the side of the tub; a mostly healed lengthwise laceration is visible on his wrist.

SYD (V.O.)
It's bad.

INT. HOTEL SUITE - NIGHT

A party is in progress. Blue, a bottle of vodka in his hand, is falling down drunk. His eyes are full of menace.

SYD (V.O.)
You indulge till you're bursting,

He breaks the bottle on the edge of a cabinet and points it at a random guest, frightening them as he angrily rants.

SYD (V.O.)
Then you scream.

Barry reaches out to calm him but Blue knocks his arm away. Blue glares at Barry who wears a partial eclipse mask.

Blue panics, he frantically searches the room for a familiar face but everyone wears a partial eclipse mask. Blue backs away with fear.

SYD (V.O.)
A dream?

Then he sees her, the SUN GODDESS, her head a fiery white disc. She holds her arms out, she beckons him.

SYD (V.O.)
Wipe that sleep from your eyes...

Blue blinks the glow away and the Sun Goddess becomes a blonde woman, SARA(20s). Blue drops the broken bottle and runs to her. She holds him, his cheek against hers.

SYD (V.O.)
It is time. Sublime,

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

They make fierce love.

SYD (V.O.)
The love you never thought that
you would find. Unwind,

Blue rolls onto his back, sweaty from exertion. An eclipse appears on the ceiling above him. He panics.

SYD (V.O.)
Know that she's there for you...

Sara turns over and puts her arm across his chest. The eclipse reverses. Blue's breath calms. He smiles.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

The band argues. Barry points at Sara then to the door. Sara seems displeased and she leaves. Blue is furious.

SYD (V.O.)
Not for them. Condemn

Blue throws a punch at Barry and hits him in the jaw. Barry staggers, then returns the punch. Dave and Ken try to pull the two apart. Blue spits his words with anger.

SYD (V.O.)
And purge the ones who feed you
dirty lies.

KITCHEN

Blue, his injuries mostly patched, scans the kitchen. Then his jaw drops and he stands there shocked.

SYD (V.O.)
Surprise, everything that happens

Barry presses Sara against the wall. He gives her sloppy kisses as his hand explores beneath her skirt. Sara shoots Blue an apologetic yet unconcerned look.

Then Sara's head becomes a fiery white disc, Barry's a black disc that eclipses Sara's.

SYD (V.O.)
Proves you wrong. So long.

Their eclipse grows to fill the kitchen. The sun is more than halfway gone now, Blue backs against the wall.

SYD (V.O.)
The darkness will engulf you once
again.

Reflected in his pupil, the crescent of light shrinks until the eclipse is total.

SYD (V.O.)
And then...

BLACK

The music stops.

A single sour chord breaks the peace.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Syd's cobalt eyes glimmer in the spotlight. He plays that same sour chord again. Then again.

BENNY(20s), the band's bass player, hurries to the side of the stage and catches the attention of a STAGEHAND.

BENNY
Get him the hell off! And move
that spotlight! Now!

The Stagehand nods.

Syd plays that same sour chord again. And as the spotlight moves away from him, he blinks. He falls to his knees and reaches toward the moving light. He screams in protest, it almost sounds musical.

A couple of Stagehands rush on-stage to restrain him. He struggles in their arms as they cover his mouth and carry him off-stage. But he still watches that moving spotlight, the one that lands on Benny.

Benny picks up a guitar, then cues the DRUMMER. A familiar wistful rock ballad begins.

BENNY
(sings)
Hey to you, baby blue.

Held tightly by a Stagehand, his cheek against theirs, Syd watches wide-eyed from backstage.

BENNY (O.S.)
Cradled in your mother's arms
you're so strong. So long...

A tear glints as it streams down Syd's face, then he fades away.

THE END