

**THE PITT**

"HOOR 1"

FADE IN:

EXT. PITTSBURGH SKYLINE - DAY

Something groovy like *Baby* by Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise plays as we fly over the Steel City of bridges--catching glimpses of Point State Park, Duquesne Incline, PNC Park baseball stadium, etc.

EXT. PITTSBURGH STREETS - DAY

We also see those who call the city home--a diverse cross-section of various ages, genders, and ethnicities. One of those we see is DR. MICHAEL ROBINAVITCH aka "Dr. Robby"--50's, fit, walking at a good pace as he listens to the music on his AirPods, carrying a satchel.

EXT. PITTSBURGH HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER (PHMC) - DAY

Robby makes his way toward a monolithic structure built into a hill--Pittsburgh Hospital Medical Center.

INT. PHMC - DAY

Robby moves along a modern curved corridor. This is the new part of the hospital--bright and inviting with a zen-like calmness. At the end of the hallway is a pair of doors leading to the Emergency Department. He uses his key card ID to gain access.

INT. EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT/HOSPITAL ENTRANCE - DAY

Robby enters through the doors--which is an instant assault to the senses. It's only a quarter to seven and the place is already overflowing.

NURSE DONNIE DONAHUE (African American, 20's, upbeat...most of the time) approaches a white board with various Emergency Department information--including the number of patients waiting, boarded, in triage etc.

DONAHUE

Thank Christ it's Friday.

Donahue changes those numbers...and not for the better.

ROBBY

It's not even seven and we have fifty two in the waiting room but only twenty four triaged?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DONAHUE

Night shift was down three nurses  
and a tech.

Robby continues on into the belly of the beast, walking by photos on the memorial wall of "Covid Heroes" who died due to their service during the pandemic. He purposely touches one photo with a ritualistic sense of deference.

THE PHOTO - is that of a distinguished African American man identified as DR. MONTGOMERY ADAMSON 1948-2020.

Robby heads toward the...

CENTRAL WORK AREA

Overhead monitors display "The Board"--a list of all patients currently being treated with a myriad of multi-colored codes concerning their care.

PERLAH (O.S.)

Is it true?

Robby suddenly finds himself bookended by a pair of Filipina nurses walking in step with him--PERLAH (32, eternally happy and motherly) and PRINCESS (29, animated and spunky).

ROBBY

Is what true?

PERLAH

Simi told Hector that Doctor  
Deranjian said the hospital is up  
for sale.

PRINCESS

And they might turn it into an  
orthopedics medical center. With no  
ER.

ROBBY

If I had a nickel for every rumor  
of the ER closing, I could have  
retired already.

(off their scrutiny)

It's not true. Trust me. They're  
always threatening to shut us down,  
but they never do.

Perlah and Princess share a look.

PRINCESS

(in Tagalog)

*Do you believe him?*

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

PERLAH  
(in Tagalog)  
*I never trust the doctors.*

Perlah and Princess smile at Robby.

DANA (O.S.)  
Gloria is looking for you.

Robby turns to see CHARGE NURSE, DANA EVANS (57--a no nonsense lifer) approaching the desk.

ROBBY  
No guts, no Gloria.

DANA  
That's the one.

ROBBY  
Must be time for my weekly  
spanking. Where is Abbot?

DANA  
Think he may be getting some air.

Robby moves off from the board.

INT. PHYSICIAN'S LOUNGE - DAY

Robby enters to find several residents on their phones and drinking coffee.

ROBBY  
Has anyone seen Doctor Abbot?

Looks all around, but no one offers up an answer as he drops off his satchel.

ROBBY (CONT'D)  
Really?

Unfortunately, Robby knows what this means.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Robby gets on and uses his key card so he can activate the 'R' button for the roof.

EXT. ROOF/HELICOPTER PAD - DAY

Robby exits and heads for the helicopter pad where another doctor is standing close to the edge like he's about to jump. JACK ABBOT (40's, handsome, but with an edge).

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY

Whatchya doing, Jack?  
(no response)  
Pretty busy down there.

ABBOT

Had a guy come in hit by a drunk driver in a cross-walk. Thirty nine year-old veteran. Survived three tours without a scratch. I spent the last two hours coding him.

ROBBY

That's always a tough way to end the night. Why don't you come and walk me through what you've left for me.

ABBOT

I must have had a reason at some point. But I can't think of it.

ROBBY

Reason for what?

ABBOT

To keep coming back.

ROBBY

Because this is the job that keeps on giving.

(off his look)

Nightmares, ulcers, suicidal tendencies...Besides, if you jump on my shift--well, that's just rude.

Abbot shares a look with Robby.

ABBOT

I hope I'm never one of your patients.

ROBBY

That makes two of us, my friend.

Abbot climbs down heads back inside with Robby.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Robby and Abbot ride down the elevator together.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ABBOT

I've got a pregnant teen coming back today for mifapristone and a small bowel obstruction waiting on surgery for the last three hours. And unfortunately, the Kraken is still boarding in BH.

ROBBY

Still? That guy's been here six days waiting for a psych bed.

ABBOT

Yeah, and he's only getting worse. He's sleeping off some xxx at the moment, but when he wakes up--God help you. I did write a note for the family of my dead vet...If anyone shows up.

He hands Robby an envelope.

ABBOT (CONT'D)

You've also got the med students and a new intern starting today.

ROBBY

Lucky me.

ABBOT

Look at the bright side...

The doors open to the chaos of the emergency department as a naked patient runs by--his IV bag dragging on the floor behind him, with Perlah and Princess in pursuit.

A man in a wheelchair accidentally wheels over the trailing IV tubes--causing it to rip out of the runner's arm, leaving a TRAIL OF BLOOD. And off his SCREAM...

ABBOT (CONT'D)

...At least it's a quiet day.

COLLINS (V.O.)

Who left this mess?

INT. CENTRAL WORK AREA - DAY

Senior Resident, DR. HEATHER COLLINS (40, African American, confident and smart), looks on at the board with disdain.

COLLINS

Could we at least get rid of the dead bodies in six and ten?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

No one reacts.

COLLINS (CONT'D)  
Don't everyone jump up at once.

DR. FRANK LANGDON (32, energetic and eternally upbeat) walks up.

LANGDON  
Good morning, Sunshine.

COLLINS  
You obviously haven't seen this board. It looks like a natural disaster.

LANGDON  
Ah, we've seen worse. Nothing like a good challenge now and then to keep everyone on their toes.

COLLINS  
Your enthusiasm sometimes makes me think you're on drugs, Langdon.

LANGDON  
I am--endorphins, baby. I ran a quick six this morning followed by a 12 minute ice bath. Eliminates all inflammation in the body and boots the immune system through--

COLLINS  
I stopped listening at 'ice bath'.

MEL (V.O.)  
Doctor Robinavitch?

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Robby and Abbot turn to see resident, Dr. MELISSA 'MEL' KING (28, bubbly and enthusiastic), bounding toward them.

MEL  
Melissa King. I'll be joining you today. Just finished two months at the V.A.

Robby shakes her hand.

ROBBY  
Welcome to The Pitt. This is Doctor Jack Abbot.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MEL

Nice to meet you. I can't tell you how excited I am to be here.

ABBOT

Talk to me at the end of the day.

ROBBY

Ignore him. He had a rough night and is having an ongoing existential crises.

MEL

Oh.

ABBOT

Don't worry, you'll get there soon enough.

The three of them reach...

INT. CENTRAL WORK AREA - DAY

Robby, Abbot, and Mel join Collins and Langdon in the Central Work Area.

ROBBY

Morning, people. This is Melissa King, she's joining our service today. Where are Samira and McKay?

LANGDON

McKay is giving our new med students and intern a tour of Chairs and Triage and Slow-Mo is with a patient.

COLLINS

Which means she should be done in a couple hours.

Collins shares a look with Robby.

ABBOT

She's smarter than all of us.

COLLINS

Yeah, but she's only got one speed.

ABBOT

Slow and steady wins the race.

COLLINS.

Not in the ER.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY  
What room?

COLLINS  
Near syncope in central fourteen.

As Robby moves off to find Samira...

COLLINS (CONT'D)  
(re: board)  
What the hell were you guys doing  
last night, Jack?

A MOTHER and her newborn baby are being wheeled by on a gurney accompanied by her tired but happy husband. She's excited to see Abbot again.

MOTHER  
Dr. Abbot! Thank you again for  
everything. You're a miracle  
worker.

ABBOT  
My pleasure.

Abbot smiles to Collins.

ABBOT (CONT'D)  
I was performing miracles.

COLLINS  
Oh please, women have been having  
children on their own for a million  
years.

ABBOT  
Not with complete breech  
presentations.

COLLINS  
I hope she got one of your fan club  
t-shirts.

ABBOT  
Meow.

ESTELLE (V.O.)  
I married my second husband,  
Everett, in nineteen sixty four.

INT. CENTRAL 14 - DAY

Third Year Resident, DR. SAMIRA MOHAN (36, Asian, personable), is bedside with an elderly woman, ESTELLE, (80's, alert and cheerful) taking a history.

ESTELLE

He wasn't quite as handsome as Roger, but he was a very kind soul.

Robby pops his head in.

ESTELLE (CONT'D)

He unfortunately passed in nineteen seventy six from a heart attack while we were vacationing in Kissimmee, Florida during the bicentennial..

ROBBY

Good morning. We're going to round, Dr. Mohan.

SAMIRA

I'll be right there.

ROBBY

Sooner we round, sooner we can get back to our patients.

SAMIRA

Excuse me, Estelle. I'll be right back.

INT. CENTRAL HALLWAY - DAY

Samira steps out to speak with Robby as they head back to the Central Work Area.

ROBBY

You know, we track every residents' patients seen per hour.

SAMIRA

I was just taking her history.

ROBBY

It's a brief backstory of what brought them in, not an autobiography.

SAMIRA

I was almost done.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY

You hadn't even made it to this century.

SAMIRA

You're right. I'm sorry. She'd just led such an interesting life. Her grandfather lost a leg to a grizzly bear and a cousin of hers went over Niagara Falls in a--  
(off his look)  
Yup. I'll keep it brief.

MCKAY (V.O.)

Patients check in with Registration...

INT. CHAIRS - DAY

The dreaded waiting area is already full of the usual pukers, bleeders, and coughers--along with a colorful assortment of other would-be patients...as Third Year Resident DR. CASSIE MCKAY (42, wise and a little world weary) escorts two med students: VICTORIA JAVADI (20, Persian, petite but brilliant), WHITAKER (26, Caucasian, good natured, but nervous) and intern TRINITY SHAH (26, Asian, competitive and acerbic)--who trail her like lost goslings.

MCKAY

...and a nurse eyeballs them to be sure they're not dying. If not they move into one of the two triage rooms for vitals and a quick chair exam where you can order labs and x-rays.

SHAH

And then they go back to...

MCKAY

The waiting room until a bed opens up.

JAVADI

For how long?

MCKAY

Eight hours if they're lucky, sometimes twelve.

WHITAKER

Is it always this busy?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MCKAY

No. It gets busier. They don't  
call it the Pitt for nothing.

Whitaker shares a look with the other med students--neither  
of which seem to be as concerned as he is.

McKay steps into--

INT. TRIAGE ONE - DAY

McKay enters the Triage One exam room with Whitaker, Shah,  
and Javadi to find a TRIAGE NURSE, MATEO DIAZ, (late 20's,  
with a killer smile--who looks like he should be starring on  
a telenovela) with a young mother, SHERRY, sitting with her  
two kids (10 & 8), that are barely awake. Sherry's right hand  
is covered up in a WASH CLOTH.

MCKAY

Hey Mateo.

MATEO

Morning, Doc.

MCKAY

(to Sherry)

I'm Doctor McKay, these are some  
student doctors. Would you mind if  
they observe?

SHERRY

No.

MCKAY

What name do you prefer to go by?

SHERRY

Sherry.

MCKAY

So, what's going on, Sherry?

SHERRY

I burned my hand pretty good.

McKay gingerly uncovers the palm to find LARGE BURN BLISTERS.

MCKAY

How'd you manage to do this?

SHERRY

I accidentally tipped over a Sterno  
I was using.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MCKAY

Ouch. What were you using the Sterno for?

SHERRY

Cooking.

MCKAY

You're cooking with a Sterno?

SHERRY

We were making s'mores.

MCKAY

That's fun. My son loves s'mores.

McKay clocks the kids.

MCKAY (CONT'D)

How are you guys doing?

They don't answer.

SHERRY

They're tired. We've been here for hours. And I have to get them to school. Any idea how much longer this will take?

MCKAY

Well, we need to numb up your palm, remove the dead skin, clean it and put on a sterile dressing with antibiotic ointment. Did you take anything for the pain?

SHERRY

Not yet.

MCKAY

(typing into computer)  
Thousand of Tylenol, 400 of Ibuprofen and a saline dressing.

Mateo takes the orders.

MATEO

You got it.

Langdon appears.

LANGDON

McKay, we're going to round.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MCKAY

And the fun begins.

(to Sherry)

We'll patch you up and get you out  
of here as soon as possible. I'll  
be back.

Mckay and the med students exit and follow Langdon.

ROBBY (PRELAP, V.O.)

Alright folks, listen up.

INT. CENTRAL WORK AREA - DAY

Robby's addressing Abbot, Collins, Langdon and Mel when McKay  
lands with Javadi, Whitaker, and Shah.

ROBBY

As you can see we have some new  
faces this morning. Starting with  
second-year resident Doctor Melissa  
King fresh from the V.A.

MEL

Everybody calls me Mel. I'm super  
happy to be here.

ROBBY

And one new intern, two med  
students.

None of them speak.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

This is where you introduce  
yourselves.

Again no one speaks...until Trinity finally takes the  
initiative.

TRINITY

Trinity Shah. Intern.

JAVADI

Victoria Javadi, M.S. Three.

LANGDON

(sotto to McKay)

She doesn't look old enough to  
drive.

WHITAKER

Dennis Whitaker, M.S. Four.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY  
Welcome to the Pitt.

The Charge Nurse, Dana Evans joins the herd.

ROBBY (CONT'D)  
For you new people, this is the most important person you're going to meet today. Dana is our Charge Nurse. She is the Ring Leader of this circus. Do what she says, when she says it. Now, as you can see the house is always packed.

Collins throws Abbot another accusatory look.

ABBOT  
The ER is the gift that keeps on giving.

ROBBY  
Most of our department is clogged up with boarders. Those are the admitted patients waiting for a room upstairs, sometimes for days. Beds are a precious commodity, so be quick and efficient with your workups. Half of your cases will be discharged from chairs. And while we treat the sicker patients back here, keep an eye on the waiting room to be sure no one's about to die out there.  
(to Dana)  
You ready to rock and roll?

DANA  
To quote Wu-Tang, "Bring the mother fuckin' ruckus".

ROBBY  
Senior residents got sign outs?

As Collins and Langdon nod --

ROBBY (CONT'D)  
Alright, let's do this.

Dana pushes a WORKSTATION ON WHEELS and Robby leads the gang stopping outside -

INT. NORTH CORRIDOR - DAY

Where a 20 year-old with a BANDAGED SHOULDER sits on a gurney joking and laughing as he FACE TIMES with his friends.

LANGDON

Virgil Straker, nine millimeter GSW  
to the left shoulder. CT angiogram  
negative, surgery wants to admit  
for overnight observation.

ROBBY

(off the monitor)

Good vitals, they repeat a crit?

Langdon works at the computer on wheels. His thumb is a little shaky on the mouse pad.

LANGDON

Shouldn't have had that second cup  
of coffee.

DANA

Or maybe self-induced hypothermia  
from ice baths isn't such a good  
idea after all.

LANGDON

Don't you worry about me, I run  
hot, mama.

Dana just rolls her eyes.

LANGDON (CONT'D)

(off computer)

Stable crits every two hours times  
three.

ROBBY

Discharge on Cefitin and a recheck  
tomorrow morning. He'll get way  
more rest at home.

(approaching bedside)

Good morning, Mister Straker, you  
want to go home?

STRAKER

Hell, yeah.

TIME CUT TO:

INT. CENTRAL EIGHT - DAY

The group stands outside a room where MRS. ZABEL (32) tries to console her CRYING SIX-MONTH OLD BABY.

COLLINS

Six month old girl irritable and unconsolable. Afebrile, exam reported as normal. They ordered CBC, CRP, calcitonin, blood and urine cultures.

The group enters the room save for Mel, who hesitates. Remaining in the corridor with her hands over her ears for a beat before joining the others.

ROBBY

Hello, Missus Zabel, I'm Doctor Robby and this is my team.

MRS. ZABEL

Hello.

(concerned, exhausted)

Any way to sedate her for the blood test? She's so upset.

ROBBY

Let's take a look.

Robby inspects the baby's hands, sees she has socks on.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

May I take off the socks?

MRS. ZABEL

Of course.

ROBBY

What am I looking for, Doctor King?

MEL

Cellulitis, maybe swelling from nephrotic syndrome...

ROBBY

(one sock off)

Definitely on the differential.

(other sock off)

Diagnosis made. Cancel the blood tests.

MRS. ZABEL

Seriously?... What is it?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The pinkie toe has a CREASE at the base. ROBBY has spread the crease to reveal a HAIR wrapped around and around the base with some swelling.

ROBBY

Anyone?

SHAH

Hair tourniquet.

ROBBY

Mother's hair can wrap around a finger or toe multiple times. It's very easy to miss, Mom.

(then)

Treatment Doctor Javadi?

JAVADI

Cut it with scissors?

ROBBY

Too tight for that. Dana?

DANA

I've got Nair in the med room.

(to Mom)

Ten minutes should dissolve it right off.

TIME CUT TO:

INT. SOUTH CORRIDOR - DAY

LOUIE, a frequent flyer alcoholic waves to the crew as Robby steps up with Langdon, Collins, McKay, Dana, Shah, Whitaker, and Javadi.

LOUIE

Hey Doc Robby, how ya' doin?

LANGDON

Louie Cloverfield, blood alcohol of four hundred twenty at eleven P.M.

MCKAY

How's he still breathing?

ROBBY

For you and me that's lethal. For Louie it's Happy Hour.

LANGDON

Sobered up, had two round of Ativan.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY

Hold your hands out Louie.

Louie holds out his hands, and there's a fine tremor.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Another two of Ativan.

LANGDON

I'm on it. And a script for Librium.

ROBBY

Good to see you, Louie.

LOUIE

Always a pleasure, Doc.

MEL

Does he get referrals for alcohol treatment?

DANA

Already had them... like a hundred times before.

TIME CUT TO:

INT. SOUTH 22 - DAY

Robby and his entourage visit the room of a 15 year old boy, DILLON CHAMBERS, MOANING in pain with Dad at bedside. He's got an IV.

COLLINS

Dillon Chambers, 15, with one hour of severe right testicle pain. Just got back from ultrasound.

DANA

(rushing up)

Positive for torsion. I've got another 25 of fent.

COLLINS

The right testicle has twisted on itself, cutting off its blood supply.

DAD

That's causing all this pain.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY

I'm Doctor Robinavich. We only have a few hours to fix this or he'll lose the testicle.

DAD

Oh my God. Does he need surgery?

ROBBY

We can try to untwist the testicle. Doctor Collins?

COLLINS

(to Dillon)

Dillon, do you mind if I examine you.

DILLON

Just make it stop.

Dillon groans in pain as Collins carefully opens the sheet and gown for minimum exposure.

ROBBY

(teaching)

Most of the time the torsion is medial so we rotate laterally by "opening the book."

DILLON

(as Collins rotates)

Ahhhhh... AHHHHH...

DAD

You made it worse!

ROBBY

Could have twisted the other way.

(to Collins)

Go back and then try another one eighty medially.

She does and Dillon suddenly stops groaning.

DILLON

I'm okay... It's okay now.

DAD

It's fixed?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ROBBY

For the time being. He'll still  
need surgery to tack it down,  
prevent another episode.

TIME CUT TO:

INT. NORTH CORRIDOR - DAY

Langdon presents CHARLIE (20's, a little scuffed up) to Robby  
as Collins, McKay, Shah, Javadi, and Whitaker huddle around.

LANGDON

Bar fight with complete avulsion of  
tooth number eight.

ROBBY

Who can tell me what tooth numb...

SHAH

Right upper central incisor.

ROBBY

Correct.

LANGDON

Smile for us, Charlie.

Charlie smiles revealing the lost tooth.

LANGDON (CONT'D)

Ready to be discharged on Pen V.K.  
with a dentistry referral.

ROBBY

Where's your tooth, Charlie?

CHARLIE

Fuck if I know.

ROBBY

Did he bring the tooth in?

LANGDON

Not according to the chart.  
Maybe it's on the bar room floor?

ROBBY

Cancel the discharge and order a  
chest x-ray.

(off Langdon)

Gotta rule out aspiration.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DANA

Incoming...

BOOM! MEDICS, POZSONYI (30's, big and burley) and SPRATT (30's, lean and tatted) blast in with SAM WALLACE (42, blue collar husky and unconscious) on a gurney, c-spine collar and backboard. His head is wrapped in a big bloody bandage and he's getting BAGGED through an LMA.

POZSONYI

Forty-two year old male, SAM WALLACE, blunt head with agonal respirations. Dropped down onto the T-tracks. Couldn't tube him, LMA in place.

ROBBY

Suicide attempt?

SPRATT

Rescue. He's a good samaritan. Took a spill helping an elderly lady who fell off the platform. She's right behind us.

Sure enough, another gurney is being wheeled in with an elderly woman on board, MINU, (70'S, Asian, speaks a foreign language no one understands). She's SCREAMING IN PAIN and her right lower leg is bandaged with a bulky dressing.

MEDIC

Elderly woman, fall from T-platform. Good vitals. No head injury. De-gloving injury, right lower leg with open fracture dislocation of the ankle.

Robby lifts the ABD pad for a quick look revealing a de-gloved lower leg and foot--missing all it's skin with a deformed dislocation and fibula fracture. Nasty.

ROBBY

Trauma Two. Let's go.

SMASH TO:

**END OF TEASER**

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. TRAUMA ONE - DAY

Pozsonyi exits with the gurney while Spratt lingers. Robby keeps an eye on Samira, Mel, Shah and nurse Princess. A Respiratory Therapist bags Sam as the team gets to work.

SPRATT	SAMIRA
Apparently he jumped down to save the lady. When he climbed back up he slipped, fell back on his head.	Good breath sounds bilaterally but we need to protect his airway. Set up the C-MAC, 8-0 E.T. Tube.

SHAH  
Can I take the intubation?

MEL  
That's more of an R-2 procedure.

SAMIRA  
(a look to Robby, then)  
Mel, right? I need you on the E-FAST.

Mel sets up the ULTRASOUND probe and monitor.

SAMIRA (CONT'D)  
Pupils four millimeter and reactive.

ROBBY  
That's encouraging.

PRINCESS  
What do you want for meds?

SAMIRA	MEL
One twenty ketamine, eighty of rock.	No blood in Morrison's.

PRINCESS  
A fib on the monitor.

ROBBY  
And he's bleeding much more than expected.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAMIRA

(a beat, then gets it)  
He's probably anti-coagulated for  
"a" fib. Check his medical record,  
see if he's on a DOAC. Stand by  
with four factor PCC if there's a  
brain bleed.

ROBBY

(teaching)  
What's in the PCC, Mel?

MEL

Clotting factors two, seven, nine  
and ten in case he's bleeding in  
his brain.

Pleased, Robby nods, heads out the door.

ROBBY

Be right back.

Mel quietly celebrates her correct answer.

MEL

Yes!

INT. TRAUMA TWO

Robby walks in the door as Collins, Langdon and male nurse  
Donahue work on MINU (72, South Asian), still SCREAMING in  
PAIN. MEDIC MORALES, loudly finish his report as Javadi and  
Whitaker enter to watch from the sidelines.

MEDIC MORALES

Fifty of fent didn't touch her.

COLLINS

Did she faint or did she trip off  
the platform?

MEDIC MORALES

Nobody knows. The other guy jumped  
down, pulled her off the tracks  
just as the train was rolling in.  
Isolated injury to the foot.

LANGDON

The train ran over her foot?

MEDIC MORALES

Got caught between the platform and  
the incoming train.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Langdon gets to work on the ultrasound.

LANGDON	COLLINS
Type three open fracture. Two	(to patient)
grams Cefazolin, 400 of gent.	Ma'am, what's your name?

Minu SCREAMS, in a language that no one recognizes.

COLLINS (CONT'D)  
Do you speak any English?

Minu continues to scream but no one understands.

COLLINS (CONT'D)  
Airway and breathing are perfect.

DONAHUE  
As is circulation. BP 140 over 85,  
Pulse 120. Something for the pain?

COLLINS	ROBBY
Draw up twenty cc's of	Students, what could have
marcaine.	made her faint on the
	platform?

WHITAKER	JAVADI
Could be an arrhythmia,	TIA, CVA...
cardiac event.	

COLLINS  
So she needs...

WHITAKER	JAVADI
EKG and troponin.	Head CT.

ROBBY  
Exactly.

Surgical resident YOLANDA GARCIA (27, Latinx, flashy and confident bordering on arrogance) barges in.

GARCIA  
What do we got?

COLLINS  
Subway train de-gloved her foot  
with an open fracture dislocation.

GARCIA  
And I thought I was having a bad  
day.

COLLINS  
Hemodynamically stable.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LANGDON

E FAST negative.

GARCIA

Ma'am, I'm Doctor Yolanda Garcia.  
Any pain in your chest or belly?  
(irritated as she screams)  
Can you please push some morphine?

COLLINS

No, it could drop her pressure,  
cloud her mental status.

GARCIA

I can't do an exam like this. Push  
the damn morphine.

Collins moves to the waist to prep with CHLORHEXADINE, as  
Langdon gets a sterile cover on the ultrasound probe

COLLINS

We're doing a fascia iliaca block,  
numbs the whole leg, no side  
effects.

Collins shoots a look to Robby. He nods his approval.

GARCIA

Wonderful. Where's the other guy?

ROBBY

Critical One, he's a bit worse.

GARCIA

Pan scan her, let me know when she  
stops screaming.

Robby heads out with Garcia.

INT. TRAUMA ONE - DAY

Samira watches Shah intubate with a VIDEO LARYNGOSCOPE. On  
the SCREEN, we see vocal cords and a blue BOUGIE is trying to  
pass through. Patient Sam still has a backboard and c-  
collar.

SHAH

The cords are very anterior.

SAMIRA

That's because we can't flex the  
neck. Keep the hockey stick  
straight up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Robby and Garcia enter to see Shah's bougie make its way past the cords.

SHAH

I'm in.

ROBBY

Well done.

Samira slides the tube in over the bougie and respiratory therapist bags.

GARCIA

Bring me up to speed.

SAMIRA

Intubated for agonal respirations,  
GCS 5, probably anticoagulated.

GARCIA

With what?

MEL

(on computer)

First time here, there's no medical  
records on him.

GARCIA

Call for FFP?

PRINCESS

Now we've got four factor PCC.

GARCIA

Eighty of mannitol to reduce brain  
swelling then right to CT.

As the team preps to move, Garcia gets a phone call.

GARCIA (CONT'D)

(on phone)

Foot lady's stable, guy with ICH on  
his way to CT, I'll meet you there.

(click)

My attending.

As the team rolls out the door, Robby approaches Princess.

ROBBY

Trade with Donahue for a minute?

PRINCESS

Of course.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

In the hallway, Chief Medical Officer GLORIA UNDERWOOD, (50's and tough as nails) approaches on a mission.

GLORIA  
Doctor Robinanovich. Do you have a moment?

ROBBY  
Kind of busy.

GLORIA  
Me too.

ROBBY  
One sec.

As the head injury patient, Sam, moves to CT with Jackson, Shah, Samira, and Mel, Princess and Robby enter into --

INT. TRAUMA TWO - DAY

Langdon finishes the nerve block under ultrasound guidance.

PRINCESS  
Swapping out, Donahue.

He nods and leaves as Robby approaches the patient.

LANGDON  
Nerve block complete.

COLLINS  
Seems like it's starting to work.

Minu is screaming way less. More moaning at this point and still talking in her foreign language.

COLLINS (CONT'D)  
(to students)  
Takes ten minutes for full effect  
and the Marcaine lasts a good four  
hours.

LANGDON  
She's next for CT.

ROBBY  
Any idea what language that is?

PRINCESS  
Definitely not Tagalog. Maybe Hindi  
or Urdu?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY  
(exiting)  
I'll grab the Cerecom.

COLLINS  
Don't you speak like five  
languages?

PRINCESS  
Six--but that's not one of them.

LANGDON  
Six? And I though Collins was  
smart. At least that's what she  
keeps telling everyone.

COLLINS  
It's way too early for you to to  
start being an ass, Langdon.

LANGDON  
Open hostility in front of the  
patient?

COLLINS  
She doesn't speak English.

LANGDON  
Judgmental and dismissive.

COLLINS  
It's truly a mystery how you're  
still married?

LANGDON  
But you're still single, right?

COLLINS  
And proud of it.

Collins throws a look to Robby as he returns with an iPad on  
a rolling stand, turns it on, waits for it to boot up.

ROBBY  
How's she doing?

COLLINS  
Vitals stable.

PRINCESS  
Unlike these two.

LANGDON  
Look at you. Princess made a joke.

PRINCESS  
(in Tagalog)  
*Why are you always an asshole?*

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LANGDON

And I thank you for that beautiful blessing. Namasté.

ROBBY

(to Students)

This is the Cerecom, it can call up a translator for any language.

COLLINS

Problem is, we don't know what language to translate.

ROBBY

Do we have a phone? Something with a relative's name?

LANGDON

EMTs said her purse got obliterated when the subway arrived.

A COP enters the room.

COP

Any chance I can speak with her?

Minu's vitals spike with the appearance of the cop--which doesn't go unnoticed by Robby.

ROBBY

I doubt it. We're still trying to figure out her native language. Any chance she jumped?

COP

She may have been pushed.

ROBBY

Jesus.

COP

Yeah. Could be looking at a possible hate crime.

ROBBY

Start with Hindi then Urdu.

COLLINS

Got it.

Gloria pops her head into this room.

GLORIA

I take it you're free now?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Content that things are in good hands and under control, Robby steps out to speak with Gloria.

INT. TRAUMA CORRIDOR - DAY

Robby tears off his gloves as Gloria hounds him into the corridor. Dana approaches.

DANA

We've got a puncture wound in pedes, you need to see.

ROBBY

Give it to McKay.

DANA

I did.

ROBBY

Is it bleeding? Infected?

DANA

Just trust me.

Robby starts walking as Gloria starts in with...

GLORIA

We need to talk about your numbers.

ROBBY

Of people we've saved?

GLORIA

Metrics.

ROBBY

Our door to balloon time beats the federal standards.

GLORIA

I'm talking about Press Ganey scores - patient satisfaction.

ROBBY

If they're still alive, they should be satisfied.

GLORIA

Our goal is thirty six percent very satisfied with their care. Your department is at eight per cent. Do you know how likely patients are to recommend this hospital?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY  
We're an emergency department      GLORIA (CONT'D)  
not a Taco Bell.      Eleven percent.

ROBBY (CONT'D)  
Eleven's better.  
(then)  
If you want people happier, don't  
make them wait twelve hours.

GLORIA  
There's a nursing shortage across  
the country.

ROBBY  
Over half our patients are boarders  
who should be upstairs.

GLORIA  
We don't have the beds.

ROBBY  
That's bullshit. The beds are up  
there. You just don't want to hire  
the staff you need to care for  
them.

GLORIA      ROBBY (CONT'D)  
Like I said, there's a      If you paid them well,  
nursing shortage.      they'll line up to work here.

GLORIA (CONT'D)  
Our budget can't support that.

ROBBY  
Here's the dirty little secret. The  
hospital saves money by keeping the  
patients down in the Pitt. Way  
cheaper than staffing upstairs.

GLORIA  
(that's true)  
Not true and I've asked you  
repeatedly to stop referring to the  
Emergency Department as the pit.  
It's derogatory and incompatible  
with the institution's image.

ROBBY  
You know what's incompatible with  
the institution's image.  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Me talking to the Post-Gazette,  
going on local TV, to tell the  
truth about people who code in the  
waiting room and patients who get  
shitty care waiting for an ICU bed  
for days.

GLORIA

(a long pause, then)

I've heard about doctors who have  
tried that and find themselves out  
of work.

They share a look and then --

GLORIA (CONT'D)

Boarding is a nationwide problem.  
Other hospitals are managing the  
crisis much more effectively. You  
can either step up your game or  
step aside.

And she walks away--

URDU TRANSLATOR (V.O.)

(in Urdu)

*What is your name, ma'am?*

INT. TRAUMA TWO - DAY

The patient is still on a backboard and c-collar. Collins  
and Langdon listen as a translator speaks over the iPad.  
Javadi and Whitaker watch.

URDU TRANSLATOR (V.O.)

(in Urdu)

*Are you having any pain?*

Minu replies in her unintelligible language.

URDU TRANSLATOR (V.O.)

Sorry, doctor, she does not  
understand Urdu.

LANGDON

What does it sound like?

URDU TRANSLATOR (V.O.)

She could be from Afghanistan. You  
could try Pashto or Dari.

Garcia from surgery and intern Shah blow in.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GARCIA

Good Samaritan dude has a small  
left temporal intraparenchymal  
bleed.

SHAH

No epidural, no subdural, no  
midline shift in the brain.

COLLINS

Good news, he could recover.

GARCIA

CT can take her in five, let's have  
a look. Bandage scissors?

As Garcia cuts, Langdon and Collins assist.

COLLINS

(to students)

If an artery is totally transected  
the smooth muscle in the tunica  
media contracts with hemostasis.

LANGDON

But if it's a partial cut, get out  
your umbrella.

They open up the dressing to reveal a the open de-gloved  
fracture dislocation.

GARCIA

Grab a culture from the open fibula  
before you reduce.

Collins hands a culture swab to Javadi.

COLLINS

You're up.

Javadi swabs the open fibula, trying not to dwell on it.

COLLINS (CONT'D)

I'll stabilize the knee for the  
reduction.

She does so as Langdon gets in place ready to pull.

COLLINS (CONT'D)

Doctor Langdon will be distracting  
posterially before moving  
anteriorally to clear the distal  
tibia.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Langdon pulls with all his strength and with an echoing THUNK", the de-gloved foot is back in its proper place.

Javadi suddenly collapses to the floor--nearly taking Whitaker with her. Shah is not amused.

SHAH

Med student down.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

As a distracted Robby moves down the hall toward Pedes, he's bombarded by questions from all angles.

SAMIRA

Intraparenchymal bleed is taking rivaroxaban, can I give andexanat alfa?

ROBBY

Yeah, sure.

DANA

Bar fight Billy has an aspirated tooth on chest x-ray. Want me to call pulmonary?

ROBBY

Fine.

DONAHUE

Cardiac arrest, ETA ten minutes, where should we put it?

ROBBY

Any where.

The walls outside Pedes are painted with colorful characters designed to be inviting to young patients. They have the opposite effect for Robby and almost seem to move as his world starts to buzz.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Robby's world suddenly becomes hollow and full of echoes and for a brief instant he is blasted back to...

FLASHBACK TO JUNE 2020

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY [FLASHBACK]

Robby finds himself in the same place--but a different time. The hospital and staff are assaulted by the COVID surge. It's like a frightening sci-film only it was real.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Robby is in full COVID containment gear, as is the rest of the staff. Dying patients line every inch of available space.

A NURSE, whose photo we may have recognized from the wall of heroes, shouts from a room.

NURSE

Robby, we need to intubate here.

An INTERN, who may have also been featured on the wall runs up from the other direction.

INTERN

Doctor Robinavitch, Adamson just went down with a pulse ox of sixty five.

DANA

Robby!

Dana Evans shouts from yet another direction as another two gurneys of patients rumble toward him.

WHITAKER (V.O.)

Doctor Robinovitch?

Robby turns to try and find the source of the next crisis.

WHITAKER (V.O.)

Doctor Robby?

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY [NOW]

Robby snaps out of his memory and does his best to refocus as medical student, Whitaker, helps fellow med student, Javadi.

WHITAKER

She ah...took a fall.

JAVADI

I tripped on the gurney. I'm fine.

Whitaker shakes his head in disagreement and gestures that she fainted behind her back--which Javadi almost catches before he walks away.

ROBBY

You okay?

JAVADI

A hundred percent. Please, don't concern yourself with my clumsiness.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY

Why don't you grab something to  
drink in the staff lounge?

JAVADI

I'm fine, really. I swear.

ROBBY

Oh, I know, but it's hospital  
policy. Every time there's a paper  
cut around here, somebody has to  
fill out a work comp report. I'll  
try to make it as quick as  
possible.

Javadi reluctantly heads toward the lounge.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Other way.

She does an about face and heads in the other direction. The  
colorful pictures on the wall look back to normal as Robby  
tries to shake off whatever the fuck that was and enters the  
Pedes area.

INT. PEDES ROOM/BED TWO - DAY

Robby clearly doesn't like this space as he makes his way to  
Bed Two where he finds a young mother sitting with her three-  
year-old on her lap. McKay is blocking the view of the kid as  
she SPRAYS HIS NOSE.

MCKAY

Fell in the kitchen while holding a  
fork, I numbed him up with LET.

McKay slides out of the way to reveal a FORK ENTERING BOTH  
NOSTRILS WITH TINES PENETRATING THE BRIDGE OF THE NOSE.

Xxx

INT. TRIAGE TWO/TRIAGE ONE - DAY

McKay charts on a computer as does Triage Nurse Mateo.

MCKAY

I ordered a rapid strep on Herrera.

MATEO

How about a mono spot test?  
(off her look)  
College kid with an exudate, mono's  
pretty common.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MCKAY

Good idea.

McKay moves to Triage One only to find it empty.

MCKAY (CONT'D)

Mateo, where's mom with the burn?

MATEO

I don't know. She was just in there.

INT. CHAIRS - DAY

McKay spots Sherry leaving with her kids and hurries after her.

MCKAY

Sherry. Hey, we still need to treat your burn.

SHERRY

I'll come back after I drop them off.

MCKAY

But you could lose your place.

SHERRY

I have to get them to school.

MCKAY

We'll make it as quick as possible.

SHERRY

If I don't get them there now, they'll miss breakfast.

McKay is starting to see what's going on.

MCKAY

I can get you all something to eat while you wait. It's really important we treat your burn so that it doesn't get infected.

SHERRY

I'm fine. I just need them to eat.

McKay knows that's not entirely true, but plays along.

MCKAY

Okay. Not a problem.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

And as McKay corrals Sherry and her kids back toward Triage...

INT. TRAUMA ONE - DAY

Good Samaritan is off the backboard and c-collar, sitting up, as Mel STAPLES his HEAD LAC. Nurse Donahue tends to the VENT and multiple IV drips when Samira enters to type orders.

MEL

Radiology cleared the neck CT.

SAMIRA

Chest-abdomen-pelvis all negative.

MEL

So it's just a brain bleed.  
(catches herself)  
Just.

DONAHUE

Adnexanate alfa's on board.

MEL

What's the plan?

SAMIRA

ICU admit for supportive care.  
Repeat head CT in three hours. Or  
sooner if he blows a pupil.

DONAHUE

Want a Keppra load?

SAMIRA

Order's already in.

Samira checks the stapling job as Mel removes her drape.

SAMIRA (CONT'D)

Nice job.

MEL

You think he'll wake up?

SAMIRA

Maybe... Maybe not.

DONAHUE

No good deed goes unpunished.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MEL

Has anyone notified his family.  
(nobody answers)  
I could try...

INT. TRAUMA TWO - DAY

Shawn, Collins, Langdon and Princess roll in with the elderly woman, Minu, now sitting up. Whitaker and Shah follow.

SHAWN

Pan scan is negative, that means  
you can admit to Orthopedics.

COLLINS

But there may have been a medical  
etiology if she fainted.

SHAWN

(exiting)  
Then get an internal medicine  
consult. Or admit to medicine with  
ortho consulting. Either way, we're  
off the case.

LANGDON

Lucky you.

Minu is still talking in her foreign language.

PRINCESS

(exiting)  
Ancef's in, I'll grab the gent.

WHITAKER

Did we figure out what she's  
speaking?

COLLINS

Tried four languages so far.

LANGDON

Last translator thought she might  
be from Pakistan.

SHAH

(on her smartphone)  
There's seventy-seven languages in  
Pakistan.

COLLINS

You've got your work cut out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LANGDON

Good luck. If you need us, we'll be  
out there saving lives.

Whitaker and Shah are left alone and move to the Cerecom.

SHAH

Let's start with... Saraiki.

She hits the touch screen for "Saraiki" and gets a spinning  
wheel. "PLEASE STAND BY FOR TRANSLATOR."

WHITAKER

This could take a while.  
(re: the foot)  
The dressing's dry. She's not  
bleeding through.

SHAH

That was wicked.

WHITAKER

That was gross.

SHAH

Too much for Little Miss Crash and  
Burn. What did you do with her?

WHITAKER

Nothing. I think she'll be fine.

SHAH

Are you kidding? If that put her  
down, she'll be lucky to make it  
through this rotation. In fact, I  
got fifty bucks says she doesn't  
last through this shift.  
(off his look)  
Come on, Huckleberry, put your  
money where your mouth is?

WHITAKER

What? I didn't say anything and I  
don't have--I'm not betting she  
drops out. That's not cool.

SHAH

And you know what's cool, how?

As the Cerecom waiting wheel spins and spins...

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Robby heads for the central work area, as Mateo approaches, handing him a paper. Things seem back to normal.

MATEO  
EKG from triage.

Robby looks, initializes the page and keeps moving.

ROBBY  
No STEMI.

MATEO  
(exiting)  
Thank you.

PERLAH  
Can Dillon Chambers eat breakfast?  
(off Robby's look)  
Testicular torsion.

ROBBY  
Urology come down yet?

PERLAH  
Nope.

ROBBY  
Feed him.

PERLAH  
But if he's NPO...?

ROBBY  
He'll never make it to the OR in  
the next eight hours.

Perlah nods and peels off as Robby lands at the --

INT. CENTRAL WORK AREA - DAY

Robby finds Dana working on the computer.

ROBBY  
Fork boy needs conscious sedation  
and a monitored bed.

DANA  
Poor little guy. I told you you'd  
want see that one.

Dana's worked with Robby long enough to pick up on his vibe.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DANA (CONT'D)

You okay? You look like death warmed over.

ROBBY

And here I thought I was killing it today.

DANA

Never under estimate the power of positive thought, honey. But you better start thinking fast.

ROBBY

Gee thanks. Abbot told me to keep an eye out for a pregnant teen coming back for mifapristone. Let me know when she shows.

(re: board)

Bowel obstruction still waiting for a surgery consult? What about Garcia--she was down for the traumas.

DANA

I think she was waiting for his attending to sign off.

ROBBY

Oh, and one of our med students went down. I parked her in the lounge under the guise of a work comp report. Can you give her the once over, make sure she's okay?

DANA

She's going to miss the morning arrival of the living dead.

Robby checks his watch.

ROBBY

How many we expecting?

DANA

We were getting three but one died en route. I don't know who's luckier, us or them.

TRACY MORRIS (O.S.)

Doctor Robinavitch.

He turns to see an attractive woman in her forties dressed in business chic--DR. TRACY MORRIS.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TRACY MORRIS (CONT'D)  
Doctor Tracy Morris, I've been  
trying to reach you for several  
days.

ROBBY  
How can I help you?

TRACY MORRIS  
I'm actually here to help you. I  
was just upstairs with your  
executive team. I'm the regional  
manager with EMB America.

ROBBY  
The contract management group. Did  
Gloria send you?

TRACY MORRIS  
(nods)  
We have over five hundred E.D.'s  
nationwide.

ROBBY  
We're doing okay.

TRACY MORRIS  
We can take all the administrative  
headaches off your plate and  
deliver decreased throughput time,  
improved revenue and increased  
patient satisfaction.

ROBBY  
Along with decreased physician  
salaries.

TRACY MORRIS  
You'll have a lighter workload and  
much better benefits.

ROBBY  
Is your company publicly traded?  
(as she nods)  
So my blood, sweat and tears pays  
your salary and makes tons of money  
for your shareholders? No thanks.

Robby steps away, saved by the first arriving nursing home  
patient. But Morris walks in step. PARAMEDICS wheel in a  
TINY, FRAIL OLD LADY intubated and bagged while the LUCAS CPR  
DEVICE PUMPS on her chest.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TRACY MORRIS  
As a partner, you get stock options.

PARAMEDIC  
Eighty nine year old woman from a "SNIFF," history of emphysema, CHF, MS.

\*

Tracy follows him as Langdon and Samira join.

TRACY MORRIS (CONT'D)  
Take my card. Your CEO is very impressed with our metrics and has requested a proposal. If you join us, you could stay on as medical director.

PARAMEDIC (CONT'D)  
V fib, unresponsive to three shocks, two rounds of epi.

ROBBY  
Not sure I fit in with your corporate values.

COLLINS  
Witnessed arrest?

TRACY MORRIS  
We're the future of medicine. Let's talk soon.

PARAMEDIC  
No, unknown down time.

Robby does his best to hide any reaction as he leaves Tracy Morris in the hallway and enters...

INT. NORTH 4 - DAY

Whitaker steps in for the transfer, fascinated by the Lucas.

WHITAKER  
What is that thing?

SAMIRA  
Lucas chest compression system.

LANGDON  
Robotic CPR.

ROBBY  
Ready, steady, lift.

LANGDON  
You can count on getting a couple elderly patients every day around seven thirty after the nursing homes and assisted living facilities do their morning bed checks. It's like clockwork.

They transfer the patient and an alarm goes off.

SAMIRA  
Was there an advanced directive?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PARAMEDIC  
No, full code per the nursing home.

LANGDON  
Seriously?

Everyone's look says "this is crazy."

SAMIRA  
Right sided chest lead is off.

WHITAKER  
Got it.

Whitaker goes to reapply the sticker and his PINKIE TIP slides under the LUCAS. He pulls back, holding his hand.

WHITAKER (CONT'D)  
Ahhh!

LANGDON  
Students are dropping like flies.

ROBBY  
Take a break, ice the finger.

Whitaker nods sheepishly as he steps back holding his finger.

SAMIRA  
Lucas off.

LANGDON  
Still v fib.

SAMIRA  
Lucas on. One more round of epi,  
one more shock then we'll call it.

Robby nods in agreement and moves into --

INT. CENTRAL 7 - DAY

Paramedics enter with JOSEPH SPENCER (74, handsome, well-kept), sitting up slightly on nasal oxygen. Collins, Mel and Princess prepare to transfer.

PARAMEDIC  
Joseph Spencer, 74, fever and cough  
from Assisted Living. History of  
mild Alzheimer's.

COLLINS  
One, two, three...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PARAMEDIC

Pulse 130, BP 90 over 60. Gave him  
500 cc's of normal saline.

MEL

Hi Mister Spencer. I'm Doctor King  
and this is Doctor Collins. How are  
you feeling?

SPENCER

(looking around, confused)  
Is it time for dinner?... I'm not  
really hungry.

ROBBY

Any paperwork from the facility?

PARAMEDIC

(passing off a paper)  
He has a POLST. IV fluids and  
medications are okay but no  
intubation, no chest compressions.

ROBBY

That's very helpful.

MEL

(listening)  
Coarse rhonchi here.

COLLINS

(with Ultrasound)  
Right middle lobe infiltrate.

PRINCESS

Temp 102. Call a code sepsis.

MEL

A "code?"

ROBBY

To make sure we check all the  
boxes. Federal government audits  
our sepsis bundle performance and  
publishes the data online. Today,  
it better be perfect.

COLLINS

(on the computer)  
Two sets of blood cultures, lactic  
acid, 30 cc's per kilo NS, gram of  
cetrixone and 500 of azithromycin.  
Repeat lactic acid in 3 hours.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ROBBY

Nice.

And Robby steps back into - -

INT. NORTH 4 - DAY

Samira and Langdon work on the old lady as a nurse bags.  
Whitaker looks on, still holding his finger.

SAMIRA

Charge to 300.

Dana bursts in, interrupting.

LANGDON

Charging... and...

DANA

Stop! Call it! Nursing home  
just faxed us the DNR.

LANGDON (CONT'D)

Are you kidding me?

SAMIRA

Power off the defibrillator and  
the Lucas.

LANGDON

Complete waste of time and money.  
Who the hell works at that place?

ROBBY

A nurse taking care of sixty  
patients who couldn't find the  
form.

DANA

She called 911 so she could take  
care of the others.

ROBBY

Move her to the viewing room and  
call the family.

LANGDON

What do we tell them?

SAMIRA

The truth.

Whitaker stares at the dead body as Robby nods and exits with  
Dana to the --xxxmoment of quiet.

INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

DANA  
Your med student is back on her  
feet. How old is that kid?

ROBBY  
I didn't ask.

DANA  
What is she, some sort of savant?

ROBBY  
I don't know. Maybe.

JAVADI (O.S.)  
Doctor Robinavitch.

Robby turns to see Javadi approaching.

JAVADI (CONT'D)  
I just wanted to apologize for any  
trouble my clumsiness caused. I  
feel ridiculous.

ROBBY  
I can't tell you how many times  
I've hit my head on an overhead  
lamp. Twice I needed staples.

Javadi appreciates the gesture...

ROBBY (CONT'D)  
Why don't you work with Doctor  
McKay in Triage. That would help us  
and I know that would really help  
her.

Robby walks away. After a beat, Javadi goes after him.

JAVADI  
I don't need special treatment.

ROBBY  
Good, because I don't give it.

JAVADI  
I know I might look like I'm too  
young, but I studied my ass off to  
get here--probably harder than the  
others. I earned this.

Robby stops.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY

Look, I appreciate your dedication and determination but I really don't care. While you're here you're my responsibility. And when one of my responsibilities takes a header--

Robby stops mid sentence when he spots another doctor, DR. EILEEN JAVADI (40, stylish, strong, and no nonsense) heading towards him. He checks his watch.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Thanks for rushing down here.

EILEEN JAVADI

What?

ROBBY

Abbot called for a surgical consult on the SBO three hours ago. You're lucky they haven't perf'd.

EILEEN JAVADI

I'm here to see my daughter.

ROBBY

...I'm sorry. Is she a patient?

EILEEN JAVADI

You're talking to her.

Robby quickly puts two and two together as Javadi just stares at him--her eyes pleading with him not to rat her out.

ROBBY

Oh. Your daughter...didn't tell me.

Javadi smiles.

JAVADI

Didn't want to spoil the surprise.

EILEEN JAVADI

Am I interrupting?

ROBBY

No. We were just...discussing a patient.

EILEEN JAVADI

Please continue.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ROBBY

Nope. We're done. Thank you. Find me when you're ready to present your next case.

Robby smiles and moves off leaving Eileen with her daughter-- who would like to be just about anywhere else right now.

EILEEN JAVADI

So, how's your first day going?

JAVADI

Great. Really great...

As Trinity Shah passes.

SHAH

Hey, "Crash", you need to check out Pedes Two--kid versus fork...pretty gnarly.

EILEEN JAVADI

"Crash?"

JAVADI

Excuse me?

EILEEN JAVADI

She called you Crash? Is that a nickname?

JAVADI

Yes. No.

(off her mother's look)

Not "Crash". She said "Crush". Because I'm always "crushing" it. She has a slight speech impediment. I think it's just a poorly fit retainer. Thanks so much for coming down, but I've got a patient. Can you believe I said that? I actually do have a patient. Thanks, Mom. Couldn't have done it without you.

And with that Javadi does another signature about face and heads in the opposite direction and into a patient room.

INT. NORTH 10 - DAY

Javadi steps into the room as the patient is in the middle of using their bed pan. It is neither pretty...nor quiet.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PATIENT

What do you want?

JAVADI

Just wanted to make sure you're comfortable.

PATIENT

I'm taking a dump into a fucking dust pan. I can feel the warm shit on my ass. What does that tell you?

JAVADI

I am clearly in the wrong room.

And as Javadi suffers the lesser of two evils...

Xxx

INT. NORTH CORRIDOR/CENTRAL WORK AREA

Robby finds Dana on the move.

ROBBY

Would have been nice if someone told me Eileen Lin's daughter was one of our med students.

DANA

Didn't know that myself. You put your foot in your mouth?

ROBBY

Almost.

DANA

Maybe she can help us get patients up to surgery without begging.

As they pass a closed off NORTH 1.

ROBBY

What's the story with the DB in one?

DANA

That's Abbot's MVC vet from last night. Still waiting on next of kin--supposedly on their way.

ROBBY

Can we at least move him to the Viewing Room?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DANA

Nursing home DNR is heading there,  
joining last night's Jane Doe. The  
The coroner's office is backed up.

ROBBY

Our morgue needs to take her then.

Robby pulls his hospital phone and makes a call.

DANA

They won't.

ROBBY

They have to.

DANA

They can't.

ROBBY

Of course nobody's answering.

DANA

They're in HR training all morning.

ROBBY

How convenient for them. They need  
to rack 'em, stack' em, and pack  
'em down there so we can have room  
for those still breathing.

They land at the Central Work Area where Samira is charting.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

What's with your syncope in seven?

SAMIRA

She's clear. Just waiting for her  
daughter to come pick her up.

ROBBY

She can pick her up in chairs.  
That's why it's called the 'waiting  
room'. Our head injury in Trauma  
One needs an ICU bed.

Samira moves off to relocate her patient as Robby dials  
another number on his hospital phone.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

(off Dana's look)

You already called them?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DANA

Twice. They're sending two to tell-  
ee but the rooms need to be  
cleaned.

Robby spots a janitor, ESME (40's, quiet and unassuming),  
pushing past with a cart. He ends the call.

ROBBY

Esme?

ESME

Yes?

Robby pulls out his wallet and hands her some money.

ROBBY

Can you go upstairs and check for  
clean, empty rooms in ICU and CCU?

ESME

Of course. But you don't need to  
pay me.

ROBBY

S'okay. Grab some snacks for the  
break room on your way back. Got a  
feeling it's going to be a long  
shift.

ESME

I'm on it.

Esme moves off as Langdon approaches and logs onto a computer  
station to make some chart notes.

ROBBY

Language mystery solved yet?

LANGDON

No. Maybe she's from Taured.

ROBBY

Where?

LANGDON

It's a country that doesn't exist.  
But a guy showed up at the Tokyo  
airport with a passport from there  
in the 50's. And then he just  
vanished.

(off his look)

You've never heard of the 'Mystery  
Man from Taured'?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ROBBY

No.

LANGDON

Well, don't be surprised if she disappears before the day's out.

ROBBY

I hope so. We need the bed.

Mel approaches on the phone a little agitated.

MEL

Again my name is Doctor Melissa King and I'm one of the doctors treating Sam. Thank you.

She ends the call then...

MEL (CONT'D)

Still can't reach our Good Samaritan's family.

LANGDON

It happens.

MEL

I have a lethargic four-year-old with no PMH, no antecedent illness, no fever or vomiting. Parents just couldn't wake him up this morning.

LANGDON

What room?

Langford moves off with Mel as she continues.

MEL

Central 13. No nuchal rigidity, no skin lesions, no focal neuro. Looks well fed and cared for.

LANGDON

DKA from new onset diabetes?

MEL

No, BG 85. CBC, BMP, UA ordered.

INT. TRAUMA TWO - DAY

Collins is checking in on the elderly woman who fell on the tracks. The woman continues to ask for someone to call her sister--in the language no one understands. Collins takes her by her good hand and tries to calm her down.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COLLINS

I'm sorry, Ma'am. We're doing everything we can to help you.

Collins gets an idea and uses the bedside computer to pull up a map of the world.

COLLINS (CONT'D)

Me? Doctor Collins. I'm from here. Portland, Oregon. You. Where are you from?

Minu points to part of Asia, but the map is only so big and her finger covers a large area.

COLLINS (CONT'D)

China? India? I can't tell where you're pointing. Tajikistan?

Collins expands the map zeroing in closer. Minu keeps pointing to...

COLLINS (CONT'D)

Nepal? You're from Nepal?

ELDERLY WOMAN

Nepali.

COLLINS

Alright.

(working the Cerecom)

Let's hope they can hook us up with a translator from Nepal.

Collins pats the woman on her good hand, then opens a translator app on her phone and types in, "Don't worry we will take good care of you."

COLLINS (CONT'D)

In the mean time...

She plays the Nepali translation for the patient.

ELDERLY WOMAN

(thank you)

*Dhan'yavāda.*

The patient smiles.

LANGDON (V.O.)

Can you wake up for me, Tyler?

INT. CENTRAL 13 - DAY

Langdon and Mel look over a lethargic four-year-old, TYLER, who is sleeping as his mother, AMANDA (20's, stylish, but concerned) and father, DREW (20's, wearing a Steelers' shirt, and equally concerned)--hover over the gurney.

LANGDON

He's not usually this sleepy?

DREW

No, he's a going concern. He wakes up at ninety miles an hour and doesn't stop until he passes out at night.

MEL

He passes out?

AMANDA

No. He just means he goes all day. Getting him to bed is a chore. He's usually up with the sun.

Langdon gives Tyler a gentle sternal rub. Tyler groans softly and stirs, but falls back asleep immediately.

LANGDON

What about this morning?

AMANDA

He was up by six. Came into our room and we told him to grab some cereal and turn on the TV. I got up about an hour later and he was sound asleep on the couch, so I left him until it was time to get him ready for preschool. And then I couldn't wake him.

LANGDON

Hey Tyler, you want to see me turn this glove into a rabbit?

Langdon has tied off the thumb and the ring and pinkie fingers of the glove--then blows it up into what looks a bit like an obese bunny.

LANGDON (CONT'D)

What do you think?

Tyler doesn't engage. Langdon starts his exam, as...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LANGDON (CONT'D)

Any chance he could have ingested something? Vitamins, pills, any prescriptions that may have been left around?

AMANDA

No, that's all kept locked in the medicine cabinet. The whole house is childproof.

MEL

What about alcohol? Anything left open?

Amanda looks to her husband.

DREW

No.

MEL

Cooking wine?

DREW

Nothing in the fridge either.

MEL

Any house plants he could have ingested?

AMANDA

We don't have any plants. Like I said, the whole house is childproof.

LANGDON

Do you have any pets?

DREW

No.

MEL

You said he's quite active?

AMANDA

Very.

MEL

Has he had any injuries lately?

Amanda and Drew share a look--but the answer is the same.

AMANDA

No.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MEL

Hasn't bumped his head recently?

AMANDA

Not that I'm aware of. But he loves rough housing with Drew.

DREW

But he never gets hurt.

LANGDON

Oxygen level is normal, good pulse and blood pressure, no signs of infection. We're going to start with blood and urine tests, check for any metabolic abnormalities.

AMANDA

Is he going to be okay?

LANGDON

Time will tell. But we're doing everything we can for him.

DREW

Thanks.

INT. CENTRAL WORK AREA - DAY

Whitaker, hand up on a CHUX, sits across from Shah who preps his BRUISED PINKIE FINGERNAIL with an alcohol wipe.

WHITAKER

It's really throbbing.

SHAH

Blood's under pressure, gotta drain it.

Shah approaches the fingernail with an 18 gauge needle.

WHITAKER

No anesthesia?

SHAH

I will stop before I hit the very sensitive nail bed... I hope.

Needle between thumb and index finger, Shah starts to drill a hole as Whitaker's eye go up to the board.

SHAH (CONT'D)

Watch and learn. Eyes down here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WHITAKER

Just wondering who to see next.

SHAH

Doesn't really matter. We're supposed to take them in the order they arrive.

WHITAKER

I know how it works.

SHAH

Okay, okay. No need to get your panties in a knot. You want me to pick for you?

WHITAKER

No.

Blood trickles out of the hole in the fingernail.

WHITAKER (CONT'D)

Wow, pain is gone. Thank you.

Shah nods, applies antibiotic ointment and a band aid, then rolls up the chux for the trash, as --

SHAH

How about a twenty-year-old cough in nine? That should be easy. Probably viral.

WHITAKER

I don't need an easy one.

SHAH

Suit yourself, Huckleberry. I'm taking the splitting headache. Maybe I'll catch a subarachnoid hemorrhage or something cool.

Shah starts off, Whitaker follows after her.

WHITAKER

Why are you calling me that?  
(off her look)  
Huckleberry.

SHAH

Just a term of endearment.

WHITAKER

Sounds like sarcasm.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SHAH  
You think?

WHITAKER  
Bordering on harassment.

SHAH  
Where are you from?

WHITAKER  
Broken Bow, Nebraska.

SHAH  
Jesus. Where the hell is that?

WHITAKER  
'Bout three and half hours West of  
Omaha.

SHAH  
Oh, yeah. That's just a little  
South of nowhere. What the hell do  
you do there?

WHITAKER  
My parents have a farm.

SHAH  
You're a farm boy?

WHITAKER  
I guess so.

SHAH  
I rest my case, Huckleberry.

And as Whitaker tries to figure out just what this means...

INT. TRIAGE - DAY

Javadi finds McKay talking to the ER SOCIAL WORKER, KIARA  
ALFARO (30's, soft spoken, but strong and caring).

MCKAY  
Mom's got a bad burn that needs  
wound checks and hand therapy.  
I've got a sneaking suspicion she  
may be unhoused.

KIARA  
I'll talk to her, we can offer some  
help.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MCKAY  
I appreciate it.  
(to Javadi)  
You're back?

JAVADI  
Doctor Robby suggested I may be of  
assistance.

MCKAY  
I would love the company. Victoria  
Javadi, Kiara Alfaro. She's our  
department social worker which  
makes her pretty much an angel.

KIARA  
Welcome.

JAVADI  
Thank you.

Kiara moves off and McKay turns her attention to Javadi.

MCKAY  
What rotation is this for you?

JAVADI  
Third. I've done psych, ob/gyn,  
and pedes.

MCKAY  
Any favorites?

JAVADI  
Not really.

MCKAY  
What are you leaning towards?

JAVADI  
I'm not sure yet.

MCKAY  
You've got time. Can I ask you a  
personal question?

JAVADI  
I'm twenty. And I have earned the  
right to be here.

MCKAY  
Okay. Yeah. I don't doubt that for  
a minute.  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MCKAY (CONT'D)

I was actually going to ask if Dr. Eileen Javadi from surgery is a friend or relative? I saw you talking to her a few minutes ago and thought maybe--

JAVADI

...She's my mother.

MCKAY

Wow. That's cool.

(then)

Are you really only twenty?

JAVADI

Yes. And for the record, my father also works here. He's an endocrinologist.

MCKAY

So, it's a family business?

(off her look)

That was a joke. Sorry. I'm sure that comes with a lot of pressure. And the age thing?...Hey, I'm a forty-two-year-old R2--so I got my own haters, thank you very much...Next to come back is Fred Saeta, knee pain after a fall...

They open the doors and step out to the --

INT. WAITING ROOM - DAY

But before they can call for Fred, a very impatient patient, DOUG DRISCOLL (40's, large and imposing) accosts McKay and Javadi.

DRISCOLL

Hey, Doc. Any chance somebody could see me now? I've been here for two hours.

MCKAY

Unfortunately, Mister Driscoll, there are a lot of patients still ahead of you, Sir. Some of whom are severely ill.

DRISCOLL

And I've been having chest pains that woke me up in the middle of the night.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JAVADI

Chest pain.

DRISCOLL

Yes.

JAVADI

No. It's not plural. It's just chest pain. Not chest pains.

DRISCOLL

If I got more than one then it's chest pains. Are you really a doctor?

MCKAY

She's a med student.

DRISCOLL

Yeah, well keep her away from me. I need to see somebody--but not her. Isn't chest pain an emergency?

MCKAY

You had an EKG five minutes after arrival, it's not a heart attack.

IMPATIENT PATIENT

They were supposed to do a chest x-ray and a blood test.

MCKAY

(off a screen)

You're next in line for the lab tech. Listen for your name. Excuse us.

McKay spots a young man, DAVID (18, slim, and scared), helping his pale, and sweaty mother, THERESA (50's and looking deathly ill) at the registration window. They're second in line.

MCKAY (CONT'D)

Get me a wheelchair.

(as Javadi moves off)

I'm Doctor McKay, what's going on?

DAVID

I found her on the floor in the bathroom. She can't stop puking.

MCKAY

(checks a wrist pulse)

What's her name?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DAVID

Theresa. She's my mom.

Javadi returns and Theresa flops down in the wheelchair.

MCKAY

Theresa? Are you taking any medication?

THERESA

No.

MCKAY

Any previous stomach problems?

THERESA

No.

MCKAY

She needs a gurney.

As they move off to Triage...

INT. CENTRAL WORK AREA/CORRIDOR/CENTRAL 7 - DAY

Perlah approaches Robby with HELEN (50's, worried and upset) and JEREME (50's, stoic, but personable).

PERLAH

Doctor Robby, this is Helen and Jereme Cousins. Their father was brought in from Assisted Living.

ROBBY

Spencer.

HELEN

Yes. How is he?

ROBBY

Come and see for yourself.

They walk and talk, moving toward Central 7.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

He's got pneumonia.

JEREME

Oh, jeez.

ROBBY

And a condition called sepsis.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HELEN  
That sounds serious.

ROBBY  
It means the bacteria has spread  
from his lung to his bloodstream.  
So far he's responding well to  
treatment.

INT. CENTRAL 7 - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Robby, Helen and Jereme find Spencer sitting up in bed, on nasal oxygen with IVs going. He's looking a lot better.

JEREME  
Hey Pop, it's Helen and Jereme.

SPENCER  
Jereme Hillary Boob, FFhud.

Jereme smiles, takes his dad's hand and explains to Robby.

JEREME  
The Nowhere Man from "Yellow  
Submarine." That's what he'd call  
me when I didn't do my homework.

HELEN  
Hi, Dad.

SPENCER  
Helen, you're back from college.

ROBBY  
Is this his baseline?

HELEN  
He has good days and bad days.

ROBBY  
Let's step out for a minute.

They walk to the hall to huddle for a conversation.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY - CONTINUOUS

ROBBY  
He came in with low blood pressure  
but that's improved.

HELEN  
Can he go back to Board and Care?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBY

Eventually, we hope.

(then)

He has an advanced directive expressing his wishes. It says IV fluids and medication are okay, but no artificial life support, no CPR.

JEREME

That's right, he doesn't want a bunch of machines keeping him alive.

ROBBY

Okay, so we'll continue with oxygen, IV fluids and antibiotics. But if his lungs stop working...

HELEN

You think that's going to happen?

ROBBY

I'm hoping it doesn't. But if it does, according to his wishes, we wouldn't place a tube in his windpipe for a breathing machine.

JEREME

That sounds about right.

HELEN

No, Jereme, he's got pneumonia. It's a treatable condition.

ROBBY

Most of the time it is.

HELEN

If he could get better in a week then I'd put him on a machine.

JEREME

I wouldn't.

ROBBY

Do either of you have durable power of attorney for healthcare?

HELEN

We both do.

ROBBY

The decision doesn't have to be made right now. Think about it.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Talk about it. If things get worse,  
allowing for a comfortable natural  
death can be the most humane path.  
And it would be what he wanted.

From inside the room, Spenser calls out, smiling --

SPENCER

Jereme! Ad hoc, ad loc, and quid  
pro quo, so little time, so much to  
know.

HELEN

He's clearly not dying.

And off Robby, hoping she's right...

Xxx

INT. CENTRAL 12 - DAY

Theresa is still looking rough as Perlah injects into her IV  
then moves to the iSTAT machine as McKay and Javadi try to  
talk to Theresa and David.

PERLAH

Four of Zofran's on board.

MCKAY

That should stop the nausea...  
David, have you had any vomiting?

David's focused on his smartphone, seems withdrawn.

DAVID

No.

MCKAY

Anyone else sick at home?

THERESA

It's just us. My husband died a few  
years ago... COVID.

MCKAY

I am so sorry.

David doesn't even look up from his phone.

PERLAH

Potassium's low, three point one.

THERESA

Is that bad?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MCKAY

It can cause heart problems, but  
we'll correct it... Ten in the bag,  
twenty p.o. Any questions Javadi?

JAVADI

David, have you two travelled out  
of the country recently?

DAVID

We never go anywhere.  
(then)  
Is she going to have to stay here?

MCKAY

If the rest of the tests are good  
and she responds to treatment, she  
can go home.

DAVID

(couldn't care less)  
...Great.

Off McKay, trying to figure out this kid.

INT. SOUTH 20 - DAY

Whitaker enters, wheeling in a PORTABLE ULTRASOUND machine to  
find Princess with BENNET MILTON (58, a bit overweight).

WHITAKER

Mister Milton, I'm Dennis Whitaker,  
one of the student doctors. I'll be  
seeing you first.

MILTON

Nice to meet you.

PRINCESS

BP 140 over 90.

WHITAKER

Just a touch high.

MILTON

I forgot my damn enalapril this  
morning.

PRINCESS

We'll get that for you.

WHITAKER

Tell me about your belly pain.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MILTON

(pointing to right side)  
It was right here. Woke me up at  
two A.M., pretty intense. Lasted  
about an hour, now it's gone.

WHITAKER

(examining)  
Any fever, vomiting?

MILTON

Naw. I never get sick.

WHITAKER

What did you have for dinner last  
night?

MILTON

My wife's birthday. Took her out to  
Sullivan's for steak.

WHITAKER

Exam's pretty benign, I want to  
check for gallstones.  
(as he scans)  
If you have a stone and eat fatty  
food, you get pain when the gall  
bladder contracts... Bingo, right  
here, one stone.

BENNETT

Do I need surgery?

WHITAKER

You might be able to manage with a  
low fat diet. We'll send off labs  
to check the liver and pancreas.  
Let us know if you have more pain.

BENNETT

Okay, thanks.

Princess and Whitaker head out to the --

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

PRINCESS

You want an EKG?  
(off his look)  
Heart attacks can present as upper  
abdominal pain.

Realizing that the nurses know more than he does...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WHITAKER

Okay. Great idea.

INT. CENTRAL WORK AREA - DAY

Collins finds Robby.

COLLINS

Mister Spencer's pulse ox is down  
to 84 on five liters.

ROBBY

Try high flow nasal, titrate to 91.  
God, I hope we don't have to tube  
him.

COLLINS

We don't, he's a "do not intubate."

ROBBY

The kids have durable power, they  
may want a ventilator trial to see  
if he improves quickly.

COLLINS

You know he won't.

(then)

When he was competent, he expressed  
his wishes. We have to honor that.

ROBBY

I wish we could.

Collins thinks this is insane.

COLLINS

It's a slippery slope. Next it'll  
be a central line, levophed for  
hypotension, dialysis when his  
kidneys fails?

ROBBY

It won't come to that. They just  
need a little time to process.

COLLINS

Are we treating the patient or the  
family?

ROBBY

We're treating both.

Collins moves off leaving Robby to ponder his next move until  
McKay approaches.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MCKAY

Need a fresh set of eyes.

ROBBY

On what?

MCKAY

47-year-old woman brought in for intractable vomiting by her 18-year old son. I'm getting a weird vibe.

ROBBY

How so?

MCKAY

I don't know. Like maybe mom was given something. Some sort of elder abuse. There's just a strange dynamic I can't figure out. You're really good at sussing out this sort of thing.

ROBBY

I don't know about that.

MCKAY

I do.

Off their shared smiles...

INT. CORRIDOR/CENTRAL 13 - DAY

Mel approaches Langdon with a tablet, anxious to figure this out.

MEL

Everything's back on our sleeping boy Tyler, one hundred percent normal.

Langdon looks it over.

MEL (CONT'D)

What are we missing?

LANGDON

That is a very good question...

They head back inside where Drew and Amanda wait with Tyler.

LANGDON (CONT'D)

Is he waking up?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DREW

No, still fast asleep.

MEL

The lab tests are all good. No abnormal blood counts, no electrolyte abnormalities, no diabetes, no kidney disease...

AMANDA

So what's wrong with him?

LANGDON

We're still trying to figure that out.

Langdon re-examines Tyler. Checks pupils, palpates the neck.

MEL

Did he have a play date yesterday by any chance?

AMANDA

No. He had preschool but he was fine when I picked him up.

MEL

Have any of the other kids in his class been ill?

AMANDA

No. My phone tree would have lit up if someone else was sick.

Langdon checks Tyler's mouth. Spots something and uses a wooden tongue blade to scrape out a little green piece of jelly that was stuck to a tooth.

LANGDON

You said he was eating cereal.

DREW

He loves his cereal.

LANGDON

This looks more like some sort of gelatin. A piece of a bath bead, laundry pod...?

AMANDA

No such thing in our house.

LANGDON

What about gummies?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AMANDA

We're very strict about candy,  
right?

Amanda looks to Drew for confirmation. Drew is suddenly  
looking a little pale himself.

DREW

Shit.

AMANDA

What?

DREW

Danny.

AMANDA

What about Danny?

DREW

He gave me some gummies he got in  
Cleveland. They were in my coat  
pocket.

AMANDA

Are you fucking serious?

MEL

Pot gummies?

DREW

Yes. I'm sorry.

LANGDON

Lab has his urine, they can run a  
toxicology screen.

AMANDA

They're drug testing our four-year-  
old.

DREW

But he can sleep it off, right?

AMANDA

You're an asshole. You need to  
leave.

DREW

I'm not leaving.

AMANDA

Get out of here! I mean it!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Drew looks to the docs for some help.

LANGDON

Why don't we step outside and maybe  
you can help me figure out how much  
he may have taken.

An ALARM. Langdon steps out with Drew as Mel adjusts Tyler's pulse ox, silencing the alarm and trying to navigate her place in all this.

INT. CORRIDOR/CENTRAL 12 - DAY

Robby and McKay spot Langdon with Drew outside the next room.

DREW

This is a fucking nightmare.

LANGDON

It definitely is. As a father of  
two kids, I can't imagine what  
you're going through, but we're  
going to get through it together.

And as Langdon does his best to comfort Drew...

INT. CENTRAL 12 - DAY

Robby enters with McKay. Javadi is with Theresa and David,  
typing on the computer.

MCKAY

Theresa and David, this is my  
attending, Doctor Robinavich.

ROBBY

We need to do a pelvic exam. David,  
I don't think you want to be in  
here for that.

DAVID

Definitely not.

ROBBY

Doctor McKay, have Perlah join me.

Robby shares a knowing look with McKay, who escorts David out  
of the room with Javadi.

MCKAY

Can I get you a coffee or a soda?

DAVID

No, I'm good.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Robby is left alone with Theresa and sits down to speak with her.

ROBBY

Your son seems like a good kid.  
He's clearly worried about you.  
Your exam and your labs don't fit  
any of the usual diagnoses. I'm not  
sure what's going on.

THERESA

...I'm not here for me. I'm here  
for David.

ROBBY

I don't understand. According to  
your son you've had non-stop  
vomiting, dehydration and haven't--

THERESA

I made myself sick. With Ipecac.

ROBBY

To induce vomiting? Why would you  
do that?

THERESA

So that David would bring me here.

ROBBY

I don't understand.

THERESA

My son...I think my son has some  
problems. He needs professional  
help.

ROBBY

Why kind of problems? Drugs?  
Alcohol?

THERESA

No. I don't know. I don't think so.  
Not around me. But I found some of  
his writing. I thought it was  
school work, but it wasn't. It was  
lists of girls he wanted to hurt.

ROBBY

Hurt them how?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

THERESA

He said "they should all be eliminated."

ROBBY

(a beat, then)

Has David ever seen a therapist?

THERESA

No. I've tried making suggestions but he gets angry and tells me I'm the one who needs help. He's a good student, but he has no friends that I know of. He's never had a girlfriend and he seldom leaves the house except to go to school.

ROBBY

Have you spoken to anyone else about this?

THERESA

No. He's not a bad kid, but I'm afraid he's troubled. I didn't want to call the police because I was afraid they'd over react. He's just a kid.

ROBBY

How old is David?

THERESA

He just turned eighteen last month.

ROBBY

Then he's considered an adult. He'd have to consent for treatment. Do you have guns in the house?

THERESA

No. My husband did, but I got rid of them after he passed. David was angry about that too, but he seemed to get over it. He's a good soul. I just don't want to see him getting into any trouble. I don't want him to hurt anyone or himself.

And as Robby considers his next move.

INT. SOUTH 17/CORRIDOR - DAY

Trinity Shah is with her headache patient, CAROL (36, wearing a restaurant uniform)--finishing a TRIGGER POINT INJECTION on the side of the neck.

SHAH

Your headache was coming from this trigger point in the neck muscle. I'll be back in after the numbing medicine kicks in.

CAROL

Starting to feel a little better already. Thanks.

Shah steps away to find Javadi charting on a W.O.W.

SHAH

How you feeling, Crash?

JAVADI

I'd really appreciate if you didn't call me that.

SHAH

Why not? It's a cool nickname. You earned it. You should own it.

JAVADI

I don't like it.

SHAH

Whatever. It was just a joke. If it makes you feel any better I started the first time I saw an emergency C-section.

JAVADI

Really?

SHAH

Of course not.

JAVADI

Then why would you say that?

SHAH

Just trying to make conversation.

And with that Shah moves off.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

Robby finds the Social Worker, Kiara, in with a patient and catches her eye.

ROBBY  
When you get a minute.

KIARA  
Excuse me. I'll be right back.

Kiara steps out to speak with Robby.

KIARA (CONT'D)  
What's up?

ROBBY  
Got a situation. Eighteen-year-old son brings in his dehydrated mom. Dad died during the pandemic. Mom's vomiting is self-induced--for the sole purpose of getting her son here. After she found his death list for classmates.

KIARA  
Aye. Okay. What does she want us to do?

ROBBY  
Help him. Protect him. Save him.

KIARA  
Where is he now?

ROBBY  
Talking to McKay.

As they move to find him.

KIARA  
How are you doing?

ROBBY  
Me? I'm good. I'm always. You know me.

KIARA  
Do I? Does anybody?

ROBBY  
I'm an open book.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

                  KIARA  
Yeah, right.

INT. PHLEBOTOMY - DAY

Robby and Kiara find David in a secluded nook with McKay.

                  MCKAY  
You can give every four hours if  
needed for nausea.

                  DAVID  
Okay.

                  ROBBY  
How're we doing over here?

                  MCKAY  
We're reviewing the aftercare  
instructions. Prescription  
medication, special diet for the  
next few days.

                  ROBBY  
Doctor McKay, can you check  
orthostatics on mom?

                  MCKAY  
          (exiting)  
Got it.

Robby and Kiara take a seat with David.

                  ROBBY  
David, I'd like you to meet Kiara,  
she's a social worker who helps in  
situations like this.

                  DAVID  
What do you mean?

                  ROBBY  
We heard about your father's  
passing and we're very sorry. We  
know how much extra pressure that  
puts on someone your age. Combined  
with school and now having to help  
your mom. It's a lot.

                  DAVID  
It's fine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KIARA

We just want to make sure that when your mom goes home, you can handle it. We want to make sure you have someone to talk to if you need to.

DAVID

I'm okay. I don't need to talk to anybody.

KIARA

After a parent dies, the sadness can last a long time. How's that going for you?

DAVID

Not a problem.

KIARA

What about school?

DAVID

What about it? I'm a senior. One and done.

KIARA

Anything you enjoy there?

(off his shrug)

A lot of people have thoughts that can disturb them. If you've had any, it's okay to talk about it.

DAVID

What's that got to do with my mom? Is she going to be all right?

ROBBY

Yes. She's going to be fine. Probably food poisoning or a stomach virus. But she is worried about you.

DAVID

She always worries about me.

KIARA

Does she have a reason to?

DAVID

No.

David gets up, starts walking away, through the door to --

INT. CHAIRS - DAY

ROBBY

You sure you wouldn't prefer to  
stay with your mom?

DAVID

I have to get to school. She can  
call me when she's ready.

ROBBY

It would really help if we could  
speak with you some more?

Instead, he breaks off into a run.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

David, wait!

Not a chance. Robby gives chase out of chairs...

EXT. EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PUBLIC ENTRANCE - DAY

Robby runs outside, but David has already disappeared into  
the early morning rush.

ROBBY

Shit...

DANA

Robby. Got a college kid,  
respiratory arrest, coming in hot.

The wail of SIREN announces the arriving ambulance. Robby  
gives the entrance one last look, then heads off to join  
Dana and the incoming trauma.

FADE OUT:

**END OF EPISODE**