

ER

"Blizzard"

Written by
Lance A. Gentile

Story by
Neal Baer & Paul Manning

Directed by
Mimi Leder

Co-Producer
Paul Manning

Produced by
Christopher Chulack

Supervising Producers
Mimi Leder
Robert Nathan
Lydia Woodward

Executive Producers
Michael Crichton
John Wells

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ER

"Blizzard"

CAST

GREENE

ROSS

LEWIS

BENTON

CARTER

HATHAWAY

HALEH

GOLDMAN

WRIGHT

OLIGARIO

MALIK

MORGENSTERN

JERRY

ROXANNE

BOB

LINDA FARRELL

TAGLIERI

LINDA FARRELL

MOOKIE

CAMACHO

PICKMAN

TRENT

HECTOR

MATRON

DEON

JOHN KAPLAN

MRS. THUI

MR. THUI

MacNALLY

DEXTER JONES

PATRICK

MR. BOZINSKY

MRS. BOZINSKY

ALBINO

STEVE FLINT

ANGELA HICKS

MAGUERITE

CHARLES WESTON

MR. LAWRENCE

SELINE

ACE

MR. BLINKER

*

*

*

ER

"Blizzard"

SETS

INTERIORS:

HOSPITAL

Ambulance Bay
Doctors' Lounge
Exam Three
Admit Desk
Main Hallway
Doctors'/Nurses' Station
Curtain Area Three
Trauma One
Main ER
Conference Room
Trauma Two
Trauma Hallway
Elevator Lobby
Curtain Area Two
Curtain Area Three
Waiting Room
Curtain Area One
Suture Room
Cast Room

EXTERIORS:

HOSPITAL

Ambulance Bay

ER

"Blizzard"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. AMBULANCE BAY - 7:00 AM 1

Snow. That silent, swirling, drifting, impossibly white first snow you loved waking up to as a kid. A hulking figure takes shape in the whiteness. The Abominable Snowman? No... it's JERRY the ER clerk, and he's singing.

JERRY

... sleigh bells ring, are you listening? In the lane, snow is glistening. We'll frolic and play, the Eskimo way, walking in our winter underwear...

He clomps snow off his boots and pushes into --

2 INT. AMBULANCE BAY - 7:00 AM 2

Jerry shakes the snow off his cossack hat.

JERRY

... and at night, we'll perspire, as we sit by the fire --

He's nearly flattened by a white blur.

JERRY

Whoa!

It's WENDY GOLDMAN, padded like a hockey player, unsteadily skating on a new pair of rollerblades.

GOLDMAN

Sorry, Jerry --

She crashes/lands against the ambulance bay doors and looks mournfully out at the falling snow. She sighs.

GOLDMAN

I should've got cross-country skis.

JERRY

Still 17 shopping days 'til Christmas. Slow day?

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

GOLDMAN
Not a single patient!

She wobbles off.

CUT TO:

3 OMITTED

3

4 BLACK

4

LOUD SNORING. A few SPLASHES of WATER. A solo light beam roams the room. LEWIS sneaks in, a shaft of light reveals --

5 INT. EXAM THREE

5

The snorer is CARTER, dead to the world. The beam of light belongs to the headlight GREENE is wearing. The door closes.

LEWIS
(giggles)
I feel like I'm in camp.

GREENE
Shhhh!

A second light beam snaps on -- Lewis's headlight. The two beams criss-cross the room. TEARING of PACKAGES. WATER SPLASHING in a pail. GIGGLES.

LEWIS
I love the first big snowstorm.
Did Jen get out okay?

GREENE
She left a day early.

LEWIS
Why?

GREENE
She either had to get back to work,
or to 'Craig.'

LEWIS
Who's Craig?

GREENE
I don't want to talk about it.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

Carter stirs, mumbling. They freeze until he settles.

LEWIS

(teasing)

Then why'd you bring it up?

GREENE

I don't want to talk about it.

(back to fun)

Hey, grab this towel clip.

Giggling, they continue working.

CUT TO:

6 INT. ADMIT DESK - TV SET - STOCK FOOTAGE

6

Onscreen, the local weatherman is in his glory describing the blizzard. Thirty inches has already fallen, traffic at a stand-still, roads and schools closed... A janitor lazily mops the floor. A few nurses restock. HALEH sits, feet up, doing a crossword puzzle. OLIGARIO unpacks boxes of Christmas ornaments.

HALEH

What's a four letter word for 'possessions'?

Temp clerk ROXANNE, full-figured, forty and fabulous, paints and shapes her inch-long, spangled fingernails.

ROXANNE

'Stuff'?

HALEH

That's five letters.

Roxanne shrugs. The PHONE RINGS.

HALEH

Roxanne, temp clerks do answer the phone.

Roxanne picks it up, extra careful of her nails. WRIGHT enters, flustered.

OLIGARIO

I thought you were on nights.

WRIGHT

My car's snowed in. I'm stuck.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

ROXANNE
 (holding phone)
 Nurse call. Lady thinks she
 caught the 'Blue Flu' she heard
 about at a cop bar.

The nurses exchange a look. Oligario carries a box of
 ornaments to --

7 MAIN HALLWAY

7

BOB polishes a defibrillator. Oligario walks up with the
 box.

OLIGARIO
 Want to help put up the Christmas
 ornaments?

You could light Warsaw with Bob's smile. As Oligario
 leaves, Bob pulls out a confused tangle of lights.

BOB
 Ornaments...

As she takes out her pocket Polish-English dictionary --

CUT TO:

8 EXAM THREE

8

Lewis and Greene's hands gleam in the crossing light
 beams, nearly touching. Carter snores on. Lewis's light
 lingers on Carter's angelic face.

LEWIS
 He's kinda cute.

GREENE
 (jealous)
 Really?

LEWIS
 Yeah. He's got beautiful eyes,
 thick hair...

GREENE
 Ohh, that's a low blow.

LEWIS
 You're a different cute. You're
 a kind-of-guy-women-want-to-marry
 cute.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GREENE

Boring, right?

LEWIS

No... nice, smart, trustworthy.

GREENE

Uh huh... boring.

Carter stirs and groggily props himself on his elbows.

CARTER

What's going on?

GREENE

Nothing. We're taking inventory.
Go back to sleep.

LEWIS

Gurney number A7403.

Carter lies back down. After a beat, they resume.

GREENE

So. How's Div?

LEWIS

I don't know. He said he needed
a couple days by himself...

(beat)

It's complicated.

GREENE

What's that supposed to mean?

LEWIS

I wish I knew.

They steal out the door, leaving Carter snoring.

CUT TO:

ADMIT DESK - TV SCREEN - STOCK FOOTAGE

Framed by two giant feet, the morning news details the
big storm. PULL BACK to reveal --

ADMIT DESK

The feet are Jerry's. He looks up at an empty bracket
above the desk. Greene enters and notices the wires
hanging from the ceiling.

(CONTINUED)

10

CONTINUED:

10

GREENE

What happened to the security camera?

JERRY

Somebody stole it.

Lewis enters.

LEWIS

Ready?

GREENE

Yeah. Call everybody.

Lewis runs off. Greene picks up the intercom mike.

GREENE

How do you turn this up?

Jerry turns a switch, FEEDBACK HOWLS. Lewis gathers the staff in front of the exam room door.

LEWIS

Hit it.

GREENE

(into intercom)

Dr. Carter, stat, to Trauma One!

Dr. Carter, stat, to Trauma One!

Behind the exam room door a CRASH is heard. A beat, then the door flies open and Carter stumbles out, blinking in the light, a walking cast on his leg, over his pant leg and shoe!

CARTER

What the --

Howls and cheers greet him.

CARTER

Oh, very funny.

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

11 EXT. AMBULANCE BAY - 9:02 AM 11

It's still coming down, but the snow is trampled with footprints. Lewis, Greene, MALIK and assorted ER staffers pelt each other with snowballs as HATHAWAY arrives. *

MALIK

Carol...

HATHAWAY

(laughing)

Don't you dare.

(beat)

Slow morning?

MALIK

Dead.

TAGLIERI

Never say 'dead' to a charge nurse. *

The snowballers unleash a furious barrage as Hathaway ducks into -- *

CUT TO:

12 INT. AMBULANCE ENTRANCE 12

As she tumbles inside, a huge wadded ball of tape bounces past. Jerry rolls up on a stool and kicks it away. *

JERRY

Stool soccer!

He rounds the corner into --

13 MAIN ER 13

Making a beeline for a linen cart lying on its side. *

JERRY

He's on a breakaway. The speed!
The agility --

Wright flies out of nowhere, checks Jerry onto his butt and steals the ball.

(CONTINUED)

WRIGHT

What a steal! Long pass to Haleh --

Haleh takes the pass and kicks it home.

WRIGHT

Score!

JERRY

You got off the stool!

WRIGHT

So? The defender can stand up!

HALEH

C'mon, you two. Play ball!

As Hathaway checks her message bin, Malik raps into the intercom. *

MALIK

... snow be fallin' from the
inkblot sky... brothers in C-
town stayin' home to die...

MOOKIE comes in through the employee entrance and hears Malik.

MALIK

911 ain't gonna get you a ride...
children be chillin' on the nasty
Southside...

MOOKIE

You pretty dope. Could make some
serious change, move your bootie
out of them sorry peach threads.

HATHAWAY *

What?

MALIK

He likes it.

Mookie moves to --

Goldman skates unsteadily past Bob, who is attempting to figure out the santa/reindeer thing. Carter clomps up, a wet chunk of cast in hand. *

(CONTINUED)

13A CONTINUED:

13A

CARTER
The reindeer pull the sleigh.

BOB
Sleigh.

Carter rearranges the decoration.

CARTER
See? Like this.

BENTON passes, carrying a laptop and a stack of journals.

BENTON
Stop fooling around, Carter.
(handing him a
journal)
'Surgical Approach to Parathyroid
Adenoma.' Read it.

As he walks away, we see the hint of a smile. He passes Mookie, and they exchange a silent look we FOLLOW Mookie, who drops his pack on the curtain area two gurney and pulls the curtain closed.

CUT TO:

14 ADMIT DESK

14

Roxanne, absorbed in a supermarket tabloid, ignores the RINGING PHONE. As Lewis and Greene enter, shaking off the snow, Carter hobbles up.

CARTER
I can't get it off.

LEWIS
You have to let it dry first...

CARTER
I'm going back to sleep.

He moves off. Greene turns to Roxanne.

GREENE
(to Roxanne)
The phone's ringing.

She grudgingly answers it. Lewis holds out a tin of brownies.

LEWIS
Want one? Chloe made 'em.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

GREENE

Oooh, Chloe's brownies! What's
in 'em?

LEWIS

Maybe that's why everybody seems
so goofy.

Roxanne hangs up the phone.

ROXANNE

(to Greene)

Doctor Lewis, Doctor Cvetic's
exchange is still trying to reach
him. *

LEWIS

Thanks.

Lewis and Greene move off.

GREENE

What's going on?

She shrugs.

GREENE

(re: brownie)

Hmm. Good. Maybe having Ronnie
around'll settle Chloe down. It
happens.

LEWIS

Yeah... I don't know. Call me old-
fashioned... I mean, the guy's got
nipple rings.

Greene sits at the --

15 DOCTORS' /NURSES' STATION

15

As he starts on his charts, Hathaway's laugh booms over
the intercom.

HATHAWAY (V.O.)

No, Lydia! Malik, turn that off!

WRIGHT (V.O.)

(laughing)

ER staff, stat to admit desk!

CUT TO:

16 ADMIT DESK

16

Hathaway playfully wrestles the mike from Wright's hand.
The staff gathers. Goldman skates up. *

GOLDMAN

Stop me!

Haleh does. Lewis and Greene come up.

WRIGHT

Go on. Show them.

HATHAWAY

Lydia...

The nurses start to chant.

ALL

Show us! Show us! Show us!

HATHAWAY

Okay, okay, okay.

A big diamond ring glitters on her finger. AD LIB
reactions all around. *

HALEH

Get my shades!

LEWIS

You're finally gonna do it!

HATHAWAY

Yeah.

They all applaud. *

MALIK

Party! In the lounge!

They tumble through the --

17 MAIN HALLWAY

17

Passing Bob, who's on a ladder, hanging the tangled mass
of Christmas lights in one large blob in the admit desk
window --

18 DOCTORS' LOUNGE

18

The revelers pile in. Benton looks up from his computer
and sighs. Lewis plucks off his headphone.

(CONTINUED)

LEWIS

All work and no play, Peter...

Greene and Haleh raid the fridge amid much laughter. The TV BLARES the snow report. Jerry pours red liquid from a urine collection bottle into styrofoam cups.

GREENE

Hematuria?

JERRY

Cranberry juice.

Wright and Haleh unwrap the plastic from sandwiches which Lewis carefully dissects.

HALEH

Tuna fish and roast beef. I think.

LEWIS

They're kinda green.

Greene sniffs a container of milk.

GREENE

They go with the chunky milk.

LEWIS

Ewww.

She passes the plate around. No takers. Greene hoists a cup.

GREENE

Cheers. I think you guys are great together.

As the staff toasts in general agreement, the door opens. It's ROSS, looking a bit haggard, and LINDA FARRELL, perky in a sexy snow suit. They shake off the snow.

GREENE

Hey, Doug. Hi, Linda.

ROSS

What's the occasion?

WRIGHT

(grins knowingly)
Carol and John are getting married.

A beat. It's a little uncomfortable, but Ross covers.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (2)

18

ROSS

Hey, that's great. *

He kisses Hathaway on the cheek. *

ROSS

Congratulations.

Everybody's looking at everybody else. Hmmm. A beat.
Lewis breaks it up.

LEWIS

How was Jamaica?

ROSS

The Bahamas.

LINDA

It was fabulous!

GREENE

(off, to Ross)

The Bahamas with Linda Farrell.
Lucky dog.

ROSS

Woof.

Ross gobbles down a sandwich and quickly reaches for the
milk to wash it down. Greene stops him. Linda pulls out
snapshots. Boy, this party has sure ground to a halt.

LINDA

We went windsurfing!

ROSS

I got a second degree sunburn.

LINDA

The snorkeling was incredible!

ROSS

Stepped on a jellyfish.

LINDA

(saucily)

You gonna tell them about that
groin pull, too?

GREENE

Groin pull?

Ross throws him a look.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (3)

18

ROSS

It's great to be back at work.
So I can get some rest.

*

Ross realizes this has all gotten very uncomfortable.

ROSS

Well, congratulations again.
I'm sure you'll be very happy.

*

Ross heads for the door. Linda gives him a big kiss.

LINDA

Call me.

Ross leaves. As Linda pulls her gloves back on, she smiles to Greene.

*
*

LINDA

Doug's idea of a perfect vacation is to lie on a deck chair for a week with one of those parasol drinks in his hand.

The party starts to break up. People offering good wishes as they leave.

*
*

HATHAWAY

Sounds good to me.

She goes out into --

*
*

19 OMITTED
&
20

19
&
20

20A MAIN HALLWAY

20A

It's deserted except for Bob, who, having finished decorating, is on his hands and knees cleaning up the mud. Goldman cruises unsteadily past on her skates.

*

GOLDMAN

Hi.

HATHAWAY

Bob, why don't you relax. It's just gonna get dirty again.

(CONTINUED)

20A CONTINUED:

20A

BOB

All the more reason to keep a foot
up on it.

HATHAWAY

Leg. A leg up on it.

Bob beams at Hathaway, scrubs even harder.

CUT TO:

21 OMITTED

21

&

&

22

22

23 ADMIT DESK

23

Hathaway arrives at the desk and gives a closure status
update on the radio.

HATHAWAY

Dispatch, County General is on
full open status.

DISPATCH (V.O.)

(filtered)

10-4, General.

Hathaway is emptying her mail bin as the ambulance bay
door opens. Linda Farrell enters and walks up to the
counter. *

LINDA

My Lexux just got snow-plowed in.
Could I use a phone? *

HATHAWAY

Sure. Dial nine.

As she hands over the receiver and starts off, Linda
spies her ring. *

LINDA

Wow.

Linda grabs Hathaway's hand to get a closer look at the
ring. *

LINDA

Marquis cut, two carat, probably
a D/flawless, platinum setting --
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

LINDA (CONT'D)

(beat)

That's a twelve thousand dollar
ring.

Hathaway didn't know that. She studies the ring as she
walks away.

*
*

CUT TO:

24 CURTAIN AREA TWO

24

*

Haleh whips back the curtain, waking Mookie.

HALEH

You're here to work. Get up.

MOOKIE

No patients, no work.

HALEH

Thing about work, there's always
some around. Empty the
wastebaskets into the hopper and
re-line them with plastic bags.

MOOKIE

I ain't no garbageman.

HALEH

Move.

CUT TO:

25 ADMIT DESK

25

Greene fills out charts. The PHONE RINGS in the back-
ground, ignored by Roxanne. As Wright enters --

ROXANNE

If you had an alien baby, would it
show up on the pregnancy test?

GREENE

(off, to Wright)

Good help is hard to get.

He picks up the phone himself.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

GREENE

ER... Calm down, Mr. Blinker...
 what's the baby's due date?...
 how far apart are the contractions?
 ... Call 911 now.

(to Wright)

Mrs. Blinker's in labor, but she
 won't go to the hospital. She
 wants to deliver watching the
 snow fall.

CUT TO:

26 TRAUMA ONE

26

Mookie half-heartedly empties a trash basket as Bob
 enters.

BOB

I will do that if you would like
 to not do that.

MOOKIE

Dope.

Mookie disappears down the hall. Confused, Bob takes
 out her pocket Polish-English dictionary.

CUT TO:

27 ADMIT DESK

27

Stool soccer. The ball flies over the counter and
 Hathaway retrieves it. As the game resumes, she hears
 the paramedic RADIO CRACKLE to life.

DISPATCHER (V.O.)

County General, how do you read?

Hathaway grabs the phone.

HATHAWAY

Read you 10-2. Go ahead, dispatch.

DISPATCHER (V.O.)

General, implement disaster protocol.
 Mass casualty alert. Thirty-two
 vehicle pile-up on the Kennedy
 Expressway.

HATHAWAY

Is this a drill, over?

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

DISPATCHER (V.O.)
 Negative, General. This is not
 a drill --

Greene hears the dispatch and comes around the desk.
 Wright drifts over.

DISPATCHER (V.O.)
 Eighteen majors, twenty-nine
 minors. Fire at scene. Rescue
 vehicle access and communication
 limited by weather. We're
 calling out a Plan One. Over.

Jerry and Malik come over to listen. *

HATHAWAY
 Roger, Dispatch. Do you have an
 estimate on the number coming
 here? Over.

DISPATCHER (V.O.)
 (filtered)
 Mercy and Paige are on diversion,
 General. You may get them all.

A ring of concerned faces surround the radio.

GREENE
 (re: the TV)
 Turn it up.

Early live shots of the carnage flicker on the screen.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
 This is the scene on the Kennedy
 Expressway, where...

GREENE
 Hoo, boy. Here we go.

CUT TO:

28 OMITTED

28

29 MAIN ER

29

The staff works in concerted, efficient silence. The
 only sound is the droning of the TV COVERAGE of the un-
 folding disaster and the overhead page operator.

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED:

29

PAGE OPERATOR (V.O.)

Dr. Major, go to your station.

Malik lines up gurneys. Oligario hangs IV poles with saline bags.

*

CUT TO:

30 ADMIT DESK

30

Hathaway and Greene open the "disaster kit" and distribute its contents. Walkie-talkies. Red, green, yellow and black triage tags. Sealed assignment envelopes are given to the arriving DOCTORS.

CUT TO:

31 OMITTED

31

32 WAITING ROOM

32

A large "disaster cart" containing medical supplies is wheeled in. Housekeepers deliver extra linen. Hathaway supervises guards as they push the plastic chairs aside.

CUT TO:

33 CURTAIN THREE

33

Extra gurneys and IV stands are readied by Oligario. Wright stacks gauze and bandages on a cart.

CUT TO:

34 TRAUMA ONE

34

Extra trauma gowns are stacked. The pharmacist delivers extra saline bags to Goldman. Haleh comes in with blankets, splints and IV bags, rushes back to the --

*

CUT TO:

35 MAIN ER

35

Where Malik stacks O-negative blood into the refrigerator.

36 TRAUMA TWO

36

Haleh fills the crash cart.

*

CUT TO:

37 AMBULANCE BAY

37

One by one, the staff completes their preparations and move to the ambulance bay. Malik ties on a mask. Lewis helps Greene tie his gown. Benton puts on his goggles. Oligario and Hathaway their gloves. Haleh readies her stethoscope. It's dead quiet for a long beat.

*

*

SIRENS and flashing lights close in...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

38 AMBULANCE BAY - 9:02 AM

38 *

A sead of pain. Jammed with patients on gurneys, paramedics, walking wounded, and staff. SHOUTS, CRIES, and a BABY SCREAMING drown out the TVs tuned to news of the disaster.

*

*

Red-tagged criticals move through on their way to the OR or trauma staging areas. Ross, acting as triage chief, evaluates and directs EMT's.

ROSS

(into walkie)

Three O.R. crews in? Got it.

(forgets)

Roger. Out.

He pulls the blanket back to reveal a trucker with multiple injuries and burns. Two IVs are in, he's on an oxygen mask, EKG leads. PARAMEDIC CAMACHO pushes the gurney.

CAMACHO

Trapped in the cab, second and third degree burns, 25 percent body surface. He's hypotensive. He's had five morphine and two liters saline.

ROSS

(to Hathaway)

Red tag him to Trauma Two.

(into walkie)

Mark, send Benton to Two.

Over? Roger? Ten-four? Mark?

GREENE (V.O.)

(filtered)

I heard you, Doug.

Hathaway, moving with the gurney, attaches a red tag.

HATHAWAY

Green room, all the way down.

The paramedics thread their way through the teeming hallway. Hathaway stops at a young executive in a chair, head bandaged.

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED:

38

HATHAWAY
 (calls to Ross)
 Scalp lac.

ROSS
 Green tag him to the waiting
 room.

CUT TO:

39 AMBULANCE BAY

39

Malik and a paramedic team race past, doing CPR on a
 mailman. *

MALIK
 We're losing him. *

ROSS
 Curtain three.

They weave down the hall, past Greene.

GREENE
 What've you got? *

MALIK
 Twenty-five-year-old, truck
 rolled. No seat belt. He coded
 in the rig. *

He collars Grahek, a surgical resident.

GREENE
 Grahek, take him. Do what you
 can, then move on.

Grahek takes off with the gurney, past Carter, who
 hobbles through the gurneys with his cast still on,
 looking confused.

GREENE
 Carter! Jump in. Use your head.
 Stay supervised.

CARTER
 Right.

Greene moves off, and Carter hobbles after him. *

CUT TO:

40 OMITTED

40

41 TRAUMA ONE

41

A gurney with an unconscious crossing guard crashes through the door. Lewis heads the team, which includes Haleh and Wright. As they move to transfer her --

HALEH

ALOC and a step deformity at the T4 vertebra. Legs are flaccid.

LEWIS

We got a cord injury, here. Very gently. On three... One, two, now.

They transfer her, the nurses race to attach IVs, take BP, hook up oxygen and EKG. As Greene rushes in --

GREENE

C.T.s prepped for her. C.B.C., type and hold two units.

He muscles in, listens quickly to the heart and lungs then moves on to test pin prick sensation.

LEWIS

Who's on neurosurgical back-up?

WRIGHT

(consulting a list)

Armstrong.

GREENE

Flaccid paralysis and areflexia south of T4.

He detects a miniscule movement of a toe.

GREENE

She withdraws to pain!

LEWIS

Bag the C-spine films -- we'll run her spine in C.T. Vitals?

HALEH

90 over 62, pulse 60.

GREENE

(at the door)

Consider spinal shock.

LEWIS

Got it, Mark. Go.

CUT TO:

*

*
*
*
*

42 MAIN ER

42

Malik herds a video news crew toward the lobby area. *

MALIK *

No shooting in here. Out! *

Carter sees TRENT, a 25-year-old college student, releasing himself from cervical restraints.

CARTER

Hey, hey... what are you doing?

TRENT

I've gotta take a leak.

Carter gently, but firmly, puts a hand on his shoulder.

CARTER

Don't move. You could have a broken neck.

TRENT

Nah, it's just whiplash. It's nothing.

CARTER

Or it's something, and you're quadraplegic for life.

The direct approach works on Trent.

TRENT

Hm. I think I'll just lie here. *

CARTER *

Good idea. *

TRENT *

Get me a bottle or something, will you?

As Carter hobbles off -- *

TRENT

What happened to your foot?

CUT TO:

43 AMBULANCE BAY

43

HECTOR, an hysterical Hispanic male, bursts in. He's supported by a fireman and clutches a bloody towel around his hand.

(CONTINUED)

43 CONTINUED:

43

HECTOR

(in Spanish)

Mi mano esta sangrando. Me voy murir!

Snow swirls in through the open door until Ross pulls it closed.

ROSS

Let's see the hand.

HATHAWAY

(pulls the towel)

Where's the cut?

Wiping off the blood, she can barely find it. Ross takes a look.

HATHAWAY

Senor, it's a little puncture wound. Poquito.

Malik bumps a wheelchair into the back of Hector's legs and sits him down. Hathaway tags him with a green tag.

*
*

HATHAWAY

Oh, boy. Head down, senor. Waiting room, please.

*

CUT TO:

44 TRAUMA TWO

44

The trucker with burns from triage, ready for the OR, slams out of the room, pushed by an OR crew. Benton moves with the gurney, pulling off his trauma gown, into --

45 MAIN HALLWAY

45

Where he hands over the patient's chart and x-rays.

BENTON

Got 500 c.c.s out of the right chest. Eighteen percent second degree, nine percent third degree burns, chest, abdomen and left shoulder.

BENTON

(to patient)

You're in good hands, sir.

(CONTINUED)

45 CONTINUED:

45

He picks up a gurney coming toward him, an elderly woman with multiple injuries. She's crying out in pain.

BENTON

Step lively, people, right this way. Move 'em in, move 'em out --

They fly into --

46 TRAUMA TWO

46

Where housekeepers, nurses and Oligario clean up. *

BENTON

Just push it aside, we're on a roll. She needs some rays and relief. Morphine five, I.V. push. Lift her and shift her... On three...

They haul the patient onto the gurney and the nurses and x-ray tech fly into action.

BENTON

Cross table c-spine, chest, right hip and pelvis. Round up a bone crusher, will you?

As Oligario runs for the hall -- *

BENTON (O.S.)

Your neck hurt, m'aam? Chest? Belly?

47 HALLWAY OUTSIDE TRAUMA

47

She picks up the phone and dials.

OLIGARIO

We need ortho, to ER Trauma Two. *

Another paramedic gurney flies past, CPR in progress, and she takes off with it into Curtain Area Two.

An overheard PAGE ECHOES her request.

CUT TO:

48

AMBULANCE BAY

48

Ross and Hathaway evaluate a well-dressed MATRON with an eye injury. Hathaway covers her right eye with her left hand and holds up two fingers.

MATRON

Two fingers.

She reverses hands, holds up three fingers of her left hand.

HATHAWAY

What do you see now?

MATRON

(re: the engagement)

Such a rock... lucky girl!

Ross and Hathaway lock eyes a beat, but there's no time for it now.

ROSS

Double patch her eye and green tag her to the waiting room.

Shaken, he moves off.

MATRON

What, did I say something?

HATHAWAY

Uh uh.

She tapes on an eye patch.

CUT TO:

49
thru
51

OMITTED

49
thru
51

52

TRAUMA TWO

52

Where Benton directs the trauma team.

BENTON

Carter, where the hell've you been? Grab a scissors.

Carter moves in. Greene sticks his head in the door.

GREENE

How long until she can go up?

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

BENTON

Get her pictures, have the orthopods see her... maybe fifteen minutes.

GREENE

We need the room. O.R.'s opened up. Let them see her upstairs.

BENTON

Okay, people, you heard the boss. Heal 'em and wheel 'em. Let's go.

Greene moves into --

52A TRAUMA ONE

52A

Lewis changes trauma gowns as the injured crossing guard is wheeled out by an OR team.

GREENE

Need anything?

LEWIS

Nope.

Another gurney wheels in.

OLIGARIO

Complaining of neck, back and abdominal pain. BP's falling, 70/40. Pulse 120. Skin's cool and dry.

JOHN KAPLAN, a 40-ish salesman, is taped down to a backboard and collar, IVs, splints on his right arm and left leg.

LEWIS

What's your name, sir?

KAPLAN

John Kaplan. Call me Johnny. You the doc?

LEWIS

Uh huh. How do you feel?

KAPLAN

Haven't been tied up this tight since last Saturday night!

(CONTINUED)

52A CONTINUED:

52A

Lewis and Greene share a look. He exits as the trauma team surrounds the bed.

*
*

LEWIS

Thanks for sharing, Mr. Kaplan.

*
*

On three... One, two, three.

*

CUT TO:

53 OMITTED

53

54 ADMIT DESK

54

Jerry bandages a head laceration on a kid with his nervous parents hovering. Roxanne is useless with her fingernails and IQ. Every PHONE is RINGING.

ROXANNE

Hello, ER... please hold. Hello,
ER... please hold. Shoot me if
I take this job again.

*
*

JERRY

(aside)

You got it.

Linda Farrell comes up and seizes the moment. She picks up a RINGING PHONE.

LINDA

E.R.

She grabs a note pad and pen. Hathaway flies past and hands her a list.

HATHAWAY

Call Fire Station 23. Number's
on the phone. See if they can
pick up these docs stuck at home.

LINDA

(into phone)

Hold on a sec.

She picks up a second phone to her other ear and dials.

CUT TO:

55 AMBULANCE BAY

55

A soot-covered fireman sits up on an arriving gurney, gasping for air. Oxygen mask, IV, EKG monitors are on.

HATHAWAY

Smoke inhalation.

Ross quickly listens to his chest.

ROSS

Yellow tag him. Curtain Two.

Behind the gurney, a black man, DEON, walks in, his hand in a bloody towel.

DEON

(no big deal)

I hurt my hand.

ROSS

Let's have a look.

He unwraps the towel.

ROSS

Whoa! Where's your thumb?

He produces a snow-filled baggy, with a smaller baggy inside containing something wrapped in gauze.

DEON

Here.

ROSS

Malik! Red tag this guy straight to O.R.

Malik starts off. Ross holds out the baggie.

ROSS

Here. Take his thumb.

Malik, non-plussed, takes the baggie and moves off.

CUT TO:

56 MAIN ER

56

Carter is trying to keep MRS. THUI, an hysterical Vietnamese woman, still on a gurney. She pulls off an oxygen mask and bats his hands away.

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED:

56

MRS. THUI

Khong, khong, khong! Bo tay ra
toi o day vichong cua toi!

CARTER

It's okay, Mrs. Thui, everything's
going to be okay. Just lie back.

Carter sticks in an IV.

THUI

Owww!

Greene passes and helps Carter hook it up.

GREENE

You okay here?

CARTER

Oh, yeah. Under control.

Greene moves towards the --

57 AMBULANCE BAY

57

Snow swirls in with an exhausted cop, MACNALLY, who carries a SQUALLING TWO-YEAR-OLD Ashley, wrapped in a trauma blanket.

MacNALLY

Found her lying in the snow.
No idea who she belongs to.
Kid's got a healthy set of
lungs.

ROSS

I'll check her over.
(to Greene)
Cover me.

He moves off as a gurney pushed by Camacho slams in. The bloody patient, DEXTER JONES, is on a mask, two large bore IVs, cervical collar and backboard, a tourniquet tied around his right leg. His lower leg is gone. He's in excruciating pain.

CAMACHO

Dexter Jones, 25. Van rolled on him. No seat belt. Right below-the-knee amputation. He's shocky -- left a few pints in the snow. Rescue Seven's looking for the rest of his leg.

(CONTINUED)

57 CONTINUED: 57

Greene calls to Oligario.

GREENE
Benton done in Two?

OLIGARIO
Uh-huh.

GREENE
Here's his next patient.

They move toward --

*

58 OMITTED 58

59 TRAUMA ONE 59

Lewis moves out with Johnny Kaplan, pushed by an OR team.

*

LEWIS
O.R. Two is prepped for him. When
the cross-matched blood's ready,
send it up.

As Kaplan passes Dexter --

KAPLAN
They come at you with that Foley
catheter, run, Jack... don't walk!

The OR crew runs Kaplan toward the --

60 ELEVATOR LOBBY 60

The elevator door opens as Mookie comes out. He walks
toward the main ER, taking it in. Oligario rushes past.

*

OLIGARIO
Code in seven! Code in seven!

*

Mookie stares at the dazed patients lining the walls.

CUT TO:

61 CURTAIN AREA TWO 61

Ross gently examines SCREAMING ASHLEY. Haleh takes an
ear temperature.

(CONTINUED)

61 CONTINUED:

61

HALEH

Ninety-seven point eight. Ninety
over fifty, pulse one twenty-five.
Pretty darned normal.

Ross finishes his exam. The CHILD continues to SCREAM.

ROSS

Checks out okay.

Hathaway races up.

HATHAWAY

Doug!

He follows her toward the --

*

62 OMITTED

62

63 MAIN ER

63

Past Mookie, who looks around, excited by the chaotic
scene. Malik rushes past with a wheelchair in which a
woman in labor writhes in pain. He hands Mookie a stack
of ABD pads.

*

MALIK

Take these to Benton in Trauma One!

Mookie stands a beat, his bad-ass attitude and his basic
humanity at odds. Then he takes off into --

64 TRAUMA ONE

64

Where Benton and the trauma team work feverishly around
Dexter. Dexter's delirious with pain.

OLIGARIO

B.P.'s real bad -- 60 by palp.

DEXTER

Put me out! Put me out!

Mookie stands wide-eyed in the door.

BENTON

Call for six units O-neg blood.
Get lab for a C.B.C., type and
cross.

A stream of blood shoots up.

*

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED:

64

WRIGHT

Whoa, I've got a pumper!

Benton sees Mookie.

BENTON

Bring in those pads!

Mookie is overwhelmed by the scene. *

BENTON

Come on, move it! Let's go.

Mookie hesitantly hands the pads to Wright. Benton tosses him a trauma gown and gloves.

BENTON

It's all hands on deck. Put those on.

Scared, Mookie fumbles with the gown and gloves. Oligario slaps him into shape.

BENTON

Now, hold this tourniquet!

Mookie reaches in and hesitantly takes over.

BENTON

All right. Make a surgeon of you yet.

CUT TO:

65 AMBULANCE BAY

65

Three gurneys arrive at once. The first is a form under a blanket. As Ross picks up the blanket --

PICKMAN

Gas tank exploded. Trapped in the car.

Ross shakes his head, covers the man up.

ROSS

D.O.A.

Pickman's partner pushes him away. The second gurney contains MR. RAMOS, an Hispanic man in his late sixties, sitting upright on the gurney.

(CONTINUED)

65 CONTINUED:

65

PICKMAN

Seatbelted male, vitals normal,
contusions, abrasions and
abdominal pain.

Ross listens to Mr. Ramos's lungs, heart, pushes on his
abdomen.

ROSS

Does this hurt? Le duele?

Ramos shakes his head as a third gurney slams into
Ramos's. The EMTs are doing CPR on a cop. *

CAMACHO

Auto versus ped. We're losing
him. *

ROSS

Exam One.

(re: Ramos)

Green tag him to the waiting room.

Ross takes off with the gurney toward Exam One,
passing --

66 CURTAIN AREA TWO

66

Where Haleh picks up SCREAMING ASHLEY and rocks her.
Haleh begins to sing.

HALEH

I sing because I'm happy...

The little girl looks up at her and starts to quiet.

HALEH

I sing beause I'm free. For
His eyes are on the sparrow...

Ashley STOPS CRYING as Haleh sings, oblivious to the
chaos around her.

HALEH

And I know He's watching me.
Yes, I know, He's watching me...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

67 EXT. AMBULANCE BAY - DAY - 1:30 PM 67 *

Flashing red lights cut through the snow. Another figure takes shape, weaving through the parked emergency vehicles. A huge boy-man in a Bears' helmet. It's PATRICK, mentally challenged giant. *

CUT TO:

68 INT. AMBULANCE BAY 68 *

Morgenstern enters with two firemen, as he takes in the swirling frenetic activity. Residents, nurses, paramedics and patients on gurneys clog the triage area. *

MORGENSTERN

(to the firemen)

Thanks for the lift. *

(to Ross)

How're we doing here?

ROSS

One step ahead of the reaper.

MORGENSTERN

All you can ask.

Morgenstern sees Greene and crosses into the --

69 MAIN ER 69

As Greene barks into the walkie --

GREENE

I don't care if it's Edward R. Murrow back from the dead, he goes to the media room!

MORGENSTERN

Run it down for me, Mark.

GREENE

Thirty-two car pileup on the Kennedy. We're the major receiving. 18 red tags, 10 have gone up. 19 yellows, 33 greens logged in. Three DOAs and four black tags that didn't make it. Six ORs are operational and Fire's out bring fresh docs in.

(CONTINUED)

69 CONTINUED:

69

Greene hands Morgenstern the walkie.

MORGENSTERN

Go be a doc.

Morgenstern watches him go, impressed.

MORGENSTERN

OR, Morgenstern. Status update.
Staff availability for trauma,
vascular, ortho and
anesthesiology...

*
*
*
*
*

CUT TO:

70 AMBULANCE BAY

70

Patrick grins at Hathaway.

*

HATHAWAY

Patrick. How'd you get here?

*

PATRICK

I walked.

HATHAWAY

Why?

*

PATRICK

Don't have a driver license.

Ross smiles. Patrick eyes Bob's blob of Christmas lights.

PATRICK

They look better when they're straight.

Oligario runs up.

*

OLIGARIO

Carol...

*
*

Hathaway takes off.

*

HATHAWAY

Go to it, Patrick.

*

CUT TO:

71

CURTAIN AREA TWO

71

Lewis evaluates MR. BOZINSKY, an elderly man who doesn't appear to be too seriously injured.

He has a few facial cuts, an ice pack on his elevated ankle. MRS. BOZINSKY hovers. Goldman, Wright, and the trauma team remove his shirt, hook him up and take vital signs.

MRS. BOZINSKY

Where's the doctor?

LEWIS

I am the doctor, Mrs. Bozinsky.

MRS. BOZINSKY

No, I mean a doctor doctor.

MR. BOZINSKY

Myra, let Doctor Lewis do her job.

LEWIS

Where are you hurt, Mr. Bozinsky?

MRS. BOZINSKY

I want Doctor Harvey Stein called, this minute.

Wright breaks away from the swirling nurse activity.

WRIGHT

Perhaps you'd be more comfortable in the waiting room, Mrs. Bozinsky.

MRS. BOZINSKY

Oh, that's a good one!

MR. BOZINSKY

Myra, go call Harry.

She reluctantly lets Wright show her to the door as Bob comes in, carrying supplies for the crash cart.

WRIGHT

Public phone's past the admit desk.

Lewis listens to his heart and lungs.

MALIK

BP's okay, pulse is a little high;
120.

(CONTINUED)

71 CONTINUED:

71

MR. BOZINSKY

Your pulse'd be high, too, if you
were married to Myra fifty-one
years.

Bob, filling the crash cart, watches with interest.

*

LEWIS

This hurt, sir?

MR. BOZINSKY

Nah. I got this cut on my face,
my ankle's sore and the arthritis
in my back's acting up.

72 AMBULANCE BAY

72

A gurney enters with a woman in a cervical collar holding
her infant. Behind her walks a very strange ALBINO woman.
In the b.g., Patrick strings lights.

ALBINO

(shouts)

Aliens have implanted a detector
in my nose!

ROSS

Why today?

(to Hathaway)

Take Regina to a quiet room and
give her five of Vitamin H.

ALBINO

Haldol! That's Haldol! See, it
detects abbreviations!

As Hathaway leads her away, Roxanne approaches Ross.

*

ROXANNE

Sign my time card, please.

*

*

ROSS

Are you serious?

*

*

ROXANNE

It's eight hours.

*

*

Ross signs the card and she walks out, past two firemen
entering with DR. STEVE FLINT, the radiologist, and a
40ish African-American woman, ANGELA HICKS. She's
dressed in scrubs from another hospital and an old bulky
coat.

*

*

(CONTINUED)

HICKS
(to fireman)
Thanks for bringing us in.

STEVE
(off the chaos)
Wow, what a zoo.

Ross points to a cop sitting in a wheelchair holding an ice pack to his head.

ROSS
Steve, take this guy to the suture room and throw some stitches in his scalp.

STEVE
I haven't stitched since I was an intern.

ROSS
C'mon, Steve, it's like falling off a bike.

STEVE
Riding a bike.

Ross just smiles as Steve moves off.

HICKS
I'm Angela Hicks --

ROSS
Dr. Ross. Why don't you take bedpan detail. Less glamorous, but extremely necessary.

He hands her a stack of bedpans and urine containers.

HICKS
That's Doctor Hicks. I'm the new attending ER physician.

ROSS
Oops.
(takes the bedpans)
Well, you won't be needing these...

CUT TO:

Benton's leg amputation patient, Dexter, is thashing around in bed as the trauma team tries to restrain him.

DEXTER

Bastards! I don't want this life!
Why'd you give me this life?

HALEH

He's getting hypoxic -- pulse ox
is falling.

A respiratory tech runs in with a blood gas report.

OLIGARIO

Bad news. PCO2's 62. PO2 60.

DEXTER

Got any more tubes for me?!

Benton moves to the head of the bed.

BENTON

We're gonna have to crash intubate
him. Get the sux, Pavulon and
Versed.

The nurses prep the doses, and bring in the intubation tray.

DEXTER

B?

Dexter's frantic eyes focus on Benton.

DEXTER

Dexter. Dexter Jones from King
Drive.

Benton grabs a towel and wipes the blood off the patient's face.

BENTON

Hey, I know this guy from the
neighborhood!

Dexter is too delirious to stay focused.

DEXTER

Don't do no Indiana Jones on me!

Wright readies the intubation tray, Haleh has the drugs.

HALEH

Versed first?

(CONTINUED)

73

CONTINUED:

73

BENTON

Two milligrams, then the Pavulon.

DEXTER

Just land the plane, B!... put
up the net!...

*

Mookie, his eyes wide with fear, twists on the tourniquet, just trying to hold on.

DEXTER

Just put me out with the trash!...

The drugs knock him out.

BENTON

Sux 120 milligrams, now!

(to Wright)

Give me crichoid pressure like his
life depended on it.

As Benton moves to intubate Dexter's airway --

CUT TO:

74

EXAM THREE

74

A CARMELITE NUN, MARGUERITE, in full habit lies on her
stomach on the bed.

CARTER

This is Sister Marguerite.

GREENE

Hello.

CARTER

She's got a, uh, laceration.
Which, you know... uh, people
have. Uh, on her, um --

MARGUERITE

What the young doctor is trying to
say is that I have a cut on my
butt.

CARTER

Exactly.

GREENE

How extensive is the laceration?

(CONTINUED)

74 CONTINUED:

74

CARTER

Uhh, I um... I haven't looked at it.

MARGUERITE

God gave you a gift to heal people. Do your work.

GREENE

Let me know if you need me.

As Greene exits, Carter crosses himself. He gingerly lifts the nun's habit.

CARTER

Sunday.

MARGUERITE

All my underwear say 'Sunday' on them.

CARTER

Yes. Well. That makes sense.

Off Carter's embarrassed smile --

CUT TO:

75 OMITTED

75

76 ADMIT DESK

76

Jerry approaches Ross.

JERRY

Is that old Cuban guy in the waiting room supposed to be dead?

Ross looks at Jerry a beat, then drops his chart and takes off running. He passes Patrick, happily stringing Christmas lights.

*
*

77 WAITING ROOM

77

Ross runs through the packed room. Hathaway and Oligario have started CPR on Mr. Ramos, an elderly Cuban.

ROSS

Damn! Trauma Two!

(CONTINUED)

77 CONTINUED:

77

They race past the admit desk, where CHARLES WESTON, a 30-ish commodities broker in a cross-country ski outfit, whines to Jerry.

WESTON

I fell cross-country skiing.

JERRY

Here's an ice pack.

He points in the general direction of the plastic chairs.

WESTON

Just how long am I going to have to wait?

JERRY

It's gonna be awhile.

CUT TO:

78 CURTAIN AREA ONE

78

Greene and surgical resident Grahek assess fifty-year-old MR. LAWRENCE, who is in pain.

GREENE

Where are you hurt?

MR. LAWRENCE

My chest! My chest!

GREENE

Did you hit the steering wheel?

MR. LAWRENCE

No, I was lighting a cigarette --

Greene rips open Lawrence's shirt. There's a car cigarette lighter imbedded in the skin of his upper chest.

GREENE

Ouch.

Jerry walks past.

JERRY

What is that?

GREENE

A cigarette lighter.

(CONTINUED)

78 CONTINUED:

78

The gurney with Ramos flies past, Ross and Hathaway doing CPR.

ROSS

Guy seemed fine -- I green-tagged him to the waiting area.

The gurney disappears into Trauma Two. Greene takes off after it. A lab tech crosses and takes us into --

*

79 TRAUMA ONE

79

Benton has finished intubating the patient and is checking his lungs. An X-ray tech positions the portable X-ray machine.

BENTON

He may have a hemothorax. Move it.

Wright enters.

WRIGHT

Paramedics found his leg in the snow.

BENTON

This may be your lucky day, Dexter.

(to Mookie)

Run up to the blood bank, third floor, blood's ready.

*

*

Mookie takes off like a shot.

CUT TO:

80 SUTURE ROOM

80

Steve the radiologist is suturing with difficulty as Carter enters with a set of ankle X-rays.

*

CARTER

Is this a fracture?

*

*

STEVE

Yeah. Tri-malleolar. Call Ortho.

*

*

Carter looks at Steve's suturing job.

*

(CONTINUED)

80 CONTINUED:

80

CARTER

If you throw a deep dermal there,
and trim that edge, it'll line
up better.

STEVE

Yeah? Thanks.

Carter clomps out, a spring in his step.

CUT TO:

81 CURTAIN AREA TWO

81

The CARDIAC ALARM on Mr. Bozinsky BUZZES. Lewis looks
down from the X-ray she's reading, concerned. Mrs.
Bozinsky panics.

MRS. BOZINSKY

Oh, my God, what's that?

LEWIS

Mr. Bozinsky?

WRIGHT

He's really taching away. Pulse
is 140.

Bob listens intently.

GOLDMAN

(adjusting IV)

I'll give him a fluid-challenge.

LEWIS

(concerned)

Are you having any chest pain,
Mr. Bozinsky?

MR. BOZINSKY

My back's really getting sore.

As Lewis holds up the X-ray, Bob looks over her shoulder
at it.

LEWIS

(concerned)

Did Dr. Stein ever mention that
you have an aortic aneurism?

CUT TO:

82 ADMIT DESK

82

Linda has a phone in each ear and writes lab reports on a piece of paper. Behind her, Patrick, unstrung Christmas lights around his neck, plays with Ashley, the lost baby, making her a rooster face from an exam glove.

LINDA

Dietary? There's an ER full of hungry people... Damn.

She dials a number. Another PHONE RINGS.

LINDA

ER... Okay, I'll tell her.
(shouts)

Carol, Timmy's moved one mile since he last called.

(into phone)

Carlos? Linda from Novell... I need thirty large pizzas to County ER... I know it's snowing... get a move on and charge them to my account.

Patrick peeks his face out from behind the happy rooster balloon.

PATRICK

Peek-a-boo!

The BABY SQUEALS with delight.

83 TRAUMA TWO

83

Greene and Ross desperately work on Mr. Ramos. CPR. External pacer. Nurses hang blood. Ross finishes a peritoneal lavage, comes up with a syringe full of blood. ALARMS BUZZ. Hathaway shines a light in Ramos's eyes.

HATHAWAY

Pupils are non-reactive.

ROSS

Damn, it's positive. The guy didn't say a word about abdominal pain. He bled out.

Suddenly, incongruously, Mel Torme, singing "WHITE CHRISTMAS," BLARES into the room.

ROSS

Tell them to shut the damned music off!

(CONTINUED)

83 CONTINUED:

83

Oligario runs from the room, past Sister Marguerite, looking in.

GREENE

(to nurses)

Put that blood on a pump. Try high dose epi, three milligrams.

HATHAWAY

Another milligram of atropine?

ROSS

(sharply)

Of course another milligram!

Hathaway checks the monitor. It shows no heart activity.

HATHAWAY

He's flatline.

Ross pushes next to the bed and takes over CPR.

ROSS

Let me in there. Hook up the external pacemaker.

The MUSIC SHUTS OFF. Oligario comes in and picks up a wall phone.

OLIGARIO

Patrick got into the Christmas tapes.

Sister Marguerite watches through the suture room window.

OLIGARIO

Mr. Blinker? Hang on.

She hands the phone to Greene.

OLIGARIO

The guy whose wife's in labor.

GREENE

(into phone)

What are you doing still home?...

HATHAWAY

Pacer's not capturing.

ROSS

(snaps)

Turn up the damn gain!

(CONTINUED)

83 CONTINUED:

83

HATHAWAY

It's all the way up!

GREENE

When you broke down the door, what did you find?... You're bigger than her, right?... Then carry her in here yourself.

He hands the phone back to Oligario.

GREENE

His wife locked herself in their bedroom and stuffed a sock in her mouth so she wouldn't scream.

(checking Ramos's pupils)

They're fixed and dilated, Doug. He's been flatline for forty minutes.

Ross keeps pumping. Greene puts his hand on Ross's.

GREENE

Doug.

Ross gives a few more pumps, then stops. He stands staring at the man's face as the nurses begin to disconnect the resuscitation equipment. Sister Marguerite silently watches.

CUT TO:

84 EXT. AMBULANCE BAY

84

Carter comes outside for a breather from the emotional overload. The snowstorm is easing.

HATHAWAY

Carter!

Carter sighs and heads back inside.

CUT TO:

85 INT. AMBULANCE BAY

85

Hathaway points to a Vietnamese man.

HATHAWAY

Mr. Thui.

(CONTINUED)

85 CONTINUED:

85

CARTER

Mr. Thui! We've taken very good
care of your wife --

*
*
*

They move toward --

*

86 CURTAIN AREA ONE

86

CARTER

She's been sedated and is resting
comfortably.

*
*

They come upon Mrs. Thui in bed, passed out. There's an
IV, oxygen by mask, monitor leads.

THUI

I do not understand. She wasn't
in the accident. I called her
to come and pick me up.

Off Carter's shocked face --

CUT TO:

87 TRAUMA TWO

87

Ross looks down at the still face of Mr. Ramos. Sister
Marguerite stands in the hallway. Greene enters from the
suture room, pulling off a trauma gown.

ROSS

I missed it.

GREENE

You triaged seventy-odd patients.
You're human, Doug.

Sister Marguerite softly enters the room.

MARGUERITE

Doctors, may I?

Ross and Greene exchange a glance.

GREENE

Yes.

She moves to Ramos's side. Fingers the cross around his
neck. Ross and Greene slip from the room as Marguerite
kneels to pray.

(CONTINUED)

87 CONTINUED:

87

MARGUERITE

My brother in faith, I entrust you to God, who created you. May you return to the one who formed you from the dust of this earth...

Ross lingers at the door.

CUT TO:

88 TRAUMA ONE

88

Benton is finishing a left chest tube insertion on Dexter.

BENTON

Here. Hook this to suction.
(to Haleh)

Can the vascular boys come put Humpty Dumpty back together again?

HALEH

They're in with that thumb.

Hicks pushes through the door.

HICKS

Hi, kids. I'm Doctor Hicks.
Give me the bullet.

BENTON

(fast)

Right B-K amputation. Estimated blood loss 40 percent. Bilateral hemothorax. 750ccs from left thoracostomy, right in place as you see. Rapid sequence induction, Versed, succinyl choline and Pavulon. Four liters Ringer's, six units O-neg in. Cervical spine cleared. Vitals stabilized.

HICKS

You're Peter Benton, right? I've heard of you.

BENTON

Is that good or bad?

She's not saying, in a playful way. The CARDIAC ALARM SCREAMS.

(CONTINUED)

88

CONTINUED:

88

HALEH

He's in fib!

HICKS

Change the defibrillator, 200!

As the nurses start CPR, the door opens and Weston, the cross-country skier, enters, an ice pack on his wrist.

WESTON

(put out)

Excuse me, just how much longer
am I going to have to wait?

HICKS

Get him out of here.

(grabs the paddles)

Clear!

CUT TO:

89

CURTAIN AREA TWO

89

Mr. Bozinsky's BP ALARM ERUPTS. Mrs. Bozinsky is beside herself. Goldman shuts the alarm off.

MRS. BOZINSKY

Morris!

WRIGHT

His BP's falling fast. I get 60
palp. I can't hear it.

Bob puts her trash bin aside and listens as Malik enters, in a hurry, carrying a lab test and two units of blood.

MALIK

His repeat crit's down. He's
losing blood.

LEWIS

(to Goldman)

Run those in, fast.

MRS. BOZINSKY

Doctor, do something!

Lewis examines his abdomen. Bozinsky winces. Bob moves near the bed.

LEWIS

Let's get him to the OR.

(CONTINUED)

89 CONTINUED:

89

MALIK

Nobody's available.

LEWIS

No surgeons?

MALIK

There's twenty-two surgeries going on up there.

LEWIS

Great. I'll get Benton. Prep a thoracotomy tray.

She runs out of the room, past Bob, into --

90 TRAUMA ONE

90

Benton defibrillates Dexter.

HICKS

Okay, I get a pulse!

BENTON

Put that blood on pressure pumps.

Lewis bursts in.

LEWIS

I need a surgeon in Three, stat. I've got a triple A that's about to blow.

HICKS

Order a laparotomy set-up from OR. Call anesthesia and get Dr. Ashley down here. You ever cross-clamped an aorta?

LEWIS

No. *

OFF Lewis's frightened face --

CUT TO:

91 CURTAIN AREA THREE

91

Goldman and Wright search for pulses on Mr. Bozinsky.

GOLDMAN

I don't feel a thing.

(CONTINUED)

91 CONTINUED:

91

The CARDIAC ALARM SHRIEKS.

WRIGHT

Call a code! Get some epi!

A nurse dives into the crash cart. Wright starts CPR. Mrs. Bozinsky screams. Bob, standing in the back of the room, takes a hesitant step forward. Stops.

WRIGHT

Open the IVs wide.

Bob can't stand it any longer. She steps up, pulls on a pair of surgical gloves and grabs a scalpel from the thoracotomy tray.

GOLDMAN

Bob!

She makes an expert vertical abdominal incision, grabs a self-retaining retractor and, with one slice, opens the abdomen. She climbs on the gurney, shoves both hands inside Bozinsky's abdominal cavity, clicks a vascular clamp on Bozinsky's aorta.

GOLDMAN

Bob?

CUT TO:

92 MAIN HALLWAY

92

Lewis races toward --

93 CURTAIN AREA THREE

93

She slams into the room and stops short. The patient lies draped and incised, a retractor and vascular clamp in place. The MONITOR BEEPS a regular heartbeat. Bob stands back, terrified.

LEWIS

What happened? *

She moves to the bedside and looks into the incision. *

WRIGHT *

It was Bob.

LEWIS

Bob?

(CONTINUED)

93 CONTINUED:

93

GOLDMAN

Bob.

*
*

Bob bolts from the room.

CUT TO:

94 ADMIT DESK

94

A frantic young couple, MARC and SELINE, races in.

SELINE

The police said our baby --
Ashley!

They see the lost baby playing with Patrick at the desk.

SELINE

Ashley!

They fly through the door and madly hug the little girl.

SELINE

Oh, my God, Ashley! Oh, God!
Are you all right?They dissolve into a tearful family embrace. It's all too
wonderful for Patrick, who wraps the happy family in a
giant bear hug. Bob races past and we FOLLOW her OUT
to --

95 EXT. AMBULANCE BAY

95

She stops, gasping for air. Tears stream down her face in
the lightly falling snow.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

96 OMITTED 96 *

97 INT. AMBULANCE BAY - 4:00 PM 97 *

Outside the bay doors, Malik grabs the package from the EMTs and runs it to -- *

98 ADMIT DESK 98

Linda Farrell works the phones.

MALIK

They found a leg.

LINDA

It belongs to the guy in Trauma One.

Morgenstern passes.

LINDA

Mr. Jones's leg is here.

MORGENSTERN

Great.

(to Malik)

Run it down there, will you?

He moves off.

MORGENSTERN

(to Linda)

You're a natural back there. Who are you?

LINDA

(whipping out her card)

Linda Farrell, Novell Pharmaceuticals. You're Doctor Morgenstern, aren't you?

Off her thousand-watt smile --

CUT TO:

99 TRAUMA ONE 99

Grabarsky, Haleh and a wide-eyed Mookie look into the wrapped package.

(CONTINUED)

HALEH

Limb looks good.

BENTON

Why shouldn't it. It's been on ice.

HICKS

Vitals?

JARVIK

BP 110/70, pulse 112 and strong.
Pulse ox is good -- 95 percent.

HICKS

Great. What's he had?

BENTON

Eight units packed cells and four liters Ringer's. We're in a holding pattern for vascular.

HICKS

Why don't we fly this puppy ourselves.

(to nurses)

Send to OR for a vascular tray, a bovie, drapes and gowns.

BENTON

You going to do a re-implantation in the ER?

HICKS

Not me. We. Let's get a start on him. The vascular team'll swoop down when they smell the glory.

BENTON

Now you're talking.

CUT TO:

An OR team moves down the hall with Mr. Bozinsky. Lewis follows, stripping off her trauma gown.

LEWIS

Here's the abdominal, chest and C-spine films. His BP's come up with the 4 units. Good luck.

(CONTINUED)

100 CONTINUED:

100

Morgenstern passes.

MORGENSTERN

Strong piece of work, Susan. I've
seen chief surgical residents do
worse. *

LEWIS

(uncomfortable)

Thanks. Have you seen Bob?

Morgenstern spots a news crew, trying to shoot into
Trauma One, and calls to a cop. *

MORGENSTERN

Officer, would you mind escorting
that camera crew out of here. *

Mookie comes past, breathless, and sees Lewis.

MOOKIE

Yo, you Doctor Lewis?

LEWIS

Yes. *

MOOKIE

They need you to scrub in... stat.

Lewis gives up on the Bob search and follows Mookie,
passing Hathaway who pushes ACE, an aging biker, in a
wheelchair. He's got a fresh scalp laceration covered
with a dressing and an old ragged cast on his leg. They
move into the --

101 MAIN HALLWAY

101

And past the waiting patients into the --

102 CAST ROOM

102

Surprising Carter, who is unsuccessfully trying to remove
his cast with a cast scissors.

HATHAWAY

Hurry it up. There's a million
things for you to do.

She's gone.

(CONTINUED)

102 CONTINUED:

102

CARTER

Hi.

ACE

What the hell're you doing?

CARTER

Oh... ahh... trying to get this
cast off.

ACE

(eyes the cast)

How the hell you change your
pants?

CARTER

They put it on me as a joke.

Ace barks out a terrifying laugh.

CARTER

It's starting to itch.

Ace hobbles over to the corner and pulls over the cast
cutter, which looks like a vacuum cleaner with a blade at
the end.

ACE

Tell me about it. Eight casts in
six months. Hog sat on me.(off Carter's blank
stare)

Fell off my Harley.

Carter's eyes widen as Ace switches on the cast cutter.

CARTER

Hey!

ACE

Relax, doc. This won't hurt a
bit.Doctor Ace barks out another laugh, then goes at it.
Carter can't bear to look.

CUT TO:

102A MAIN HALLWAY

102A *

Hathaway and Ross enter and stop.

*

(CONTINUED)

102A CONTINUED:

102A

HATHAWAY

That's Mrs. Ramos.

Ross looks down the hall, dread etched in his face. Mrs. Ramos waits with her two grown daughters.

HATHAWAY

Want me to come with you?

ROSS

No. Thanks.

Gathering himself, he walks towards the family.

ROSS

I'm Doctor Ross. Your husband sustained serious injuries in the accident. He was brought here, and despite our efforts, we were unable to save him... and he died.

(beat)

I'm sorry.

OFF Ross's face --

CUT TO:

103 TRAUMA ONE

103

Benton and Hicks in OR gear, work on Dexter. We don't want to see what they're working on, but it's a mess. Mookie buzzes in the b.g., bringing in supplies. Haleh and Hathaway assist. Lewis scrubs. Benton looks at the extensive damage.

BENTON

Whoo boy.

HICKS

Divide it into tasks, then work in systematic order.

BENTON

General debridement, bone, neuro, vascular, muscles and tendons.

HICKS

Good. So... first priority?

BENTON

We've got to see what we've got.

(CONTINUED)

103 CONTINUED:

103

HICKS

Right. Debride. Suction!

HALEH

Mookie, get a pack of these.
Upper right shelf in the back
cabinet in there.

Mookie takes off through the double doors.

CUT TO:

104 OMITTED
&
105

104
&
105

106 EXT. AMBULANCE BAY - NIGHT

106

Light glints on the fallen snow as Carter comes out for a
breath of air. Bob stands in a wash of light, crying.

CARTER

Bob?

BOB

Now I will never be a doctor here.

CARTER

Were you planning to be one?

BOB

In my country, I am surgeon...
vasco... vasa...

CARTER

Vascular? You're a vascular
surgeon?

BOB

Yes. My family here... I follow
... To doctor here... my English
bad... I need to flex.

CARTER

The FLEX exam.

BOB

Yes. If I not operate, the man
die... But now... when they find
out... I never flex.

(CONTINUED)

106 CONTINUED:

106

CARTER

You operated on somebody?

BOB

(nods)

When they find out what I did...

CARTER

Did the patient die?

(as she shakes
her head)

Then they'll be grateful.

(a beat)

I'll help you with your English
for the flex.

BOB

You would do that for me?

Carter nods. Bob gathers him in an embrace of pure joy.

CUT TO:

107 OMITTED

107

108 MAIN HALLWAY

108

Greene sees Morgenstern.

GREENE

How're we doing?

MORGENSTERN

We're winding down. Scrub in
with Benton.Greene heads for Trauma One, where a few exhausted staff
members peer through the windows. He enters --

109 TRAUMA ONE

109

Greene enters, scrubbed hands high. Wearing magnifying
glasses, Benton works on a delicate suture on Dexter's
leg. *

MALIK

He's cyanotic as hell. *

The OR nurses help Greene into surgical scrubs as Ross
enters. *

(CONTINUED)

109 CONTINUED:

109

GREENE

How'd it go?

Ross shakes his head.

MALIK

Pulse ox is really bad here --
sixty.

HICKS

Check his cardiovascular status,
Susan. Doug, assess the
respirator parameters.Lewis moves to the head of the bed as MEL TORME starts
SINGING again.

GREENE

What is that?

ROSS

Mel Torme. Patrick keeps putting
it on.

JARVIK

His pulse is down to 30!

LEWIS

Give point five of atropine.

As Greene moves to the table, the MUSIC ABRUPTLY ENDS.
Jerry rushes in.

JERRY

Guy on the phone, Mr. Blinker.
He'll only talk to you.

GREENE

Put him on the speaker phone.

BLINKER (V.O.)

(filtered)

Dr. Greene?

GREENE

I'm here, Mr. Blinker.

BLINKER (V.O.)

She wants to push!

Greene grabs a retractor.

(CONTINUED)

109 CONTINUED: (2)

109

GREENE

Look between her legs and tell me
what you see.

We hear Mr. Blinker OVER MRS. BLINKER'S SCREAMS.

MR. BLINKER (V.O.)

Baby hair!

GREENE

You ever delivered a baby?

BLINKER (V.O.)

I'm a plumber! It's coming!

As Greene works the suction --

GREENE

Okay, you need to control the
head. Once the head's half out,
tell her not to push and gently
ease the skin over it -- like
putting on a sweater.

BLINKER (V.O.)

Head's out! It's turning!

GREENE

It's supposed to. Now, Mr.
Blinker, gently pull down towards
the floor...

A BABY'S LUSTY CRY is heard.

BLINKER (V.O.)

Oh, my God! It's a boy!

GREENE

Good work! Now put him on her
belly, tie the cord with a
shoelace, wrap a blanket around
them and bring them in.

Jarvik hangs up the phone. Benton finishes a delicate
suture.

HICKS

Well, Dr. Benton, your friend
has his popliteal artery back.

The team lightly applauds. Benton beams. Morgenstern
comes to the door with two vascular surgeons and two
OR nurses.

(CONTINUED)

109 CONTINUED: (3)

109

MORGENSTERN

The vascular team's here, they're ready for him upstairs.

The vascular team surrounds the bed.

HICKS

Vitals stable, he's had 10 of Pavulon, 4 of Versed at 15:00.

BENTON

We've debrided, re-anastomosed popliteal artery and vein, confirmed flow by doppler.

MORGENSTERN

Strong preliminary work. Move him.

Morgenstern claps Benton on the back and exits with the team. Greene and Lewis pull off their OR gowns and go into the --

109A TRAUMA HALLWAY

109A

Lewis checks her watch. Greene looks at her, concerned. *

GREENE *

Call him. *

LEWIS *

I'm too exhausted. I'll deal with it tomorrow. *

She moves off. OFF his concerned face -- *

CUT TO:

109B TRAUMA ONE

109B

Mookie approaches Benton.

MOOKIE

How's he gonna be?

BENTON

I think he'll do okay.

MOOKIE

That's dope, homes.

(CONTINUED)

109B CONTINUED:

109B

BENTON

Yeah. Right.

*

Mookie beams.

CUT TO:

110 OMITTED
thru
114110
thru
114

A115 MAIN ER

A115 *

Lewis and Hathaway approach. Lewis sees the empty gurney
at curtain area one. *

LEWIS *

Morpheus beckons. *

She lies down. Hathaway continues to the -- *

115 INT. ADMIT DESK

115

Hathaway plops down in a chair. Sighs. Linda Farrell
turns to her and smiles. *

LINDA

You know, Doug's a fabulous guy.

HATHAWAY

Doug.

LINDA

We have lots of fun, he's cute,
he's great in bed...

Hathaway's not sure she wants to hear this.

LINDA

Do you think there's one perfect
love, you know, like Sleepless In
Seattle? Somewhere under the
stars, one perfect person for
everybody?

HATHAWAY

I don't know, why?

LINDA

Because for Doug, it's you.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

115 CONTINUED:

115

LINDA (CONT'D)
 (hits the intercom)
 Pizza's here!

Hathaway sits, stunned as the pizza guys drop thirty large pies on the counter. The exhausted staff gathers to dig in. Even Benton grabs a slice. *

GREENE
 What's this? Doctor Organic eating pizza? *

Benton shrugs and takes a big, cheezy bite, while Carter carefully eats a slice with a knife and fork. *

HICKS
 Great job, folks.

Farrell smiles at Ross.

LINDA
 They dug my car out. I'll take you home. I'm exhausted.

ROSS
 Promise?

LINDA
 Yeah.

Disturbed, Hathaway watches Ross move off with Linda. Bob gingerly walks up.

JERRY
 Hey, it's Doctor Bob!

AD LIBBED CONGRATS all around. Lewis sees her and walks up. Suddenly the overhead lights go off. *

GREENE
 Now what?

Patrick, at the wall switch, has turned them off. Smiling, he plugs in the Christmas lights he's been working on all day. Warm, beautiful, twinkling light bathes the ER. Everyone applauds. Patrick leans a cassette player against the intercom mike and TURNS ON a Mel Torme CHRISTMAS SONG.

GREENE
 All right, Patrick.

(CONTINUED)

115 CONTINUED: (2)

115

Patrick hands a clumsily-wrapped Christmas gift to Benton, then to the others. In the b.g., Lewis and Bob walk slowly away. As they talk, Lewis puts her arm around Bob's shoulder.

*
*
*

BENTON

Hey, thanks.

He opens it -- a urinal. There's a wrapped roll of tape, scissor, chart reflex hammer... Patrick beams.

The PARAMEDIC RADIO CRACKLES TO LIFE.

PARAMEDIC (V.O.)

(filtered)

County General, this is squad nine en route to your facility with a fifty-two-year-old man with chest pain. How do you read?

Oligario picks up the radio.

OLIGARIO

Read you 10-2 squad nine, go ahead...

"WHITE CHRISTMAS" CONTINUES as we --

CUT TO:

116 EXT. AMBULANCE BAY - NIGHT

116

As Greene exits, a 4X4 pulls up in the ambulance entrance. A HUSBAND helps his wife out. She's bundled in a blanket, a little face peering out of it.

GREENE

Mr. Blinker?

The wife looks up at the lightly falling snow as two nurses rush her and the baby inside.

BLINKER

Doctor Greene?

GREENE

Yeah.

Blinker gathers Greene in a hug of pure joy.

BLINKER (HUSBAND)

God bless you, Doctor Greene.

(CONTINUED)

116 CONTINUED:

116

Greene watches him hurry inside after his wife. A smile lights his face. As he walks off into the night, an ambulance pulls into the bay with another patient.

The beat goes on.

FADE OUT.

THE END