

#2115

HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

"WHISTLER'S PRIDE"

By

Stephen Katz

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#2115

Rev. 11/29/83

HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

"WHISTLER'S PRIDE"

CAST

JUDGE MILTON C. HARDCASTLE  
MARK McCORMICK

CASEY O'BANNON  
LENORE ALCOTT  
SAM BENDEEN  
BRADY  
MAILMAN  
GEORGE DELLWOOD  
DORCETTE  
EDDIE MALONE  
SONIA FAYETTE  
GROOM  
WILLIAM FARLEY  
LIEUTENANT GILES  
JOCKEY #1  
JOCKEY #2  
SIMMS

#2115

HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

"WHISTLER'S PRIDE"

SETS

EXTERIORS

RACE TRACK GROUNDS  
/TRACK PARKING LOT  
/TRAINING GROUNDS  
/ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
/JOCKEY QUARTERS  
LAUREL STABLES  
VARIOUS STREETS  
GULL'S WAY  
/GARAGE  
ALCOTT FARMS  
/MAIL BUILDING TERRACE  
POLICE HEADQUARTERS  
HORSE RANCH

INTERIORS

COYOTE  
CORRIDOR -- DELLWOOD'S OFFICE  
LIMOUSINE  
GULL'S WAY  
/HARDCASTLE'S DEN  
/GATE HOUSE  
/GARAGE  
POLICE HEADQUARTERS  
/SQUAD ROOM  
/POLICE CORRIDOR  
/INTERROGATION ROOM  
BRADY'S CAR

HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICKWHISTLER'S PRIDEACT ONE

FADE IN:

1 EXT. RACE TRACK - HORSE RACE - STOCK - DAY 1\*

Pure excitement. The crowd stands and roars as the horses hit the final turn and go into the stretch drive, pounding towards the wire.

1A EXT. RACE TRACK GROUNDS - DAY - ON EDDIE MALONE 1A\*

wearing his dirt-stained jockey silks as he heads for the jockey quarters after the race.

BRADY'S VOICE

Malone.

2 ANGLE - FRANK BRADY 2

A tough-looking weather-beaten guy in his 50's as he steps into view behind Malone.

BRADY

What's the matter, Eddie? You don't say hello to old friends anymore?

Malone starts walking away, increasing his pace. He turns the corner of a building and practically walks right into Dorcette, a guy with hands the size of window screens standing there. Brady walks up to Malone. Malone looks at them nervously.

MALONE

What do you guys want?

BRADY

What we want...what Mrs. Alcott wants, Eddie, is for you to pull back in the 'Oak Royal'. We don't care where you finish as long as it's no better than third. Alcott Farms finishes first and second in the race, got it?

Malone looks at them.

CONTINUED

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1A.  
(X)

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2

CONTINUED

2

MALONE

Guys...hey, listen, I never pulled  
back a horse in my life.

BRADY

Like they say, always a first  
time for everything.

CONTINUED

2 CONTINUED

2

He stuffs an envelope in Malone's shirt.

BRADY

That's a little bonus for your trouble. And Eddie...if I were you, I'd think real hard about disappointing Mrs. Alcott. I'd hate for you to wind up riding a wheelchair, know what I mean?

He and Dorcette walk off leaving Malone standing there looking scared.

CUT TO

3 CLOSE ON - PAINT-STAINED TARP

3

looking like one of those modern abstracts that hang in the Guggenheim and are worth a small fortune. We PULL BACK to reveal...

4 McCORMICK

4

as he angrily pries the lids off half a dozen cans of paint resting on the tarp. He picks up a stick and starts stirring a can. He makes a face at the molasses thick glob sticking to the stick.

5 HARDCASTLE

5

as he walks past.

HARDCASTLE

Let's see a little stroke and distance with that paint brush, McCormick.

McCORMICK

I could use a little help with this you know.

Hardcastle surveys the equipment...tarp, brushes, the ladder against the garage etc.

HARDCASTLE

Nah, job like this take you no more than three hours I'd say.

McCormick laughs.

CONTINUED

5

CONTINUED

5

HARDCASTLE

Now, I wantcha to use two coats...  
and use sealer around the drain  
gutters. Chip the putty, tape  
the windows and pour halfa cup  
of linseed oil to the gallon.  
Makes it go on real smooth.

MCCORMICK

Know a little something about  
painting, do you, Judge?

HARDCASTLE

Who do you think's been paintin'  
that thing for the last twenty  
years?

McCormick examines the paint job on the garage.

MCCORMICK

Sloppy job, Judge. Paint's uneven,  
you didn't plaster the cracks...  
you got bubblin' around the edges...

McCormick takes out a twenty and snaps it.

MCCORMICK

I got a twenty here that says  
I can paint half this thing  
faster and better than you can.  
Interested?

HARDCASTLE

Ha! You're on!

Hardcastle grabs a brush and a can of paint. He catches  
McCormick's smile and realizes he's been had.

HARDCASTLE

Okay, I'll give you this one, kiddo.

CONTINUED

5 CONTINUED - 2

5

McCORMICK

Tell you what, why don't we forget  
the twenty and you just gimme  
a hand?

HARDCASTLE

Afraid you'll lose, McCormick?

McCORMICK

Okay, you wanna paint?!  
Let's paint!

He picks up a can of paint. INTERCUT the two of them frantically attacking their side of the garage with paint and brush. Play the action for all it's worth.

6 ANGLE - FRONT GATE

6

as it swings open and a mail jeep drives through and heads up the driveway. It pulls up in front of the garage and stops. A chubby guy in postal blue shorts gets out holding a letter. He watches as McCormick goes through his paint routine on the side of the garage. McCormick glances over his shoulder at him.

MAILMAN

I'm looking for Judge Milton  
C. Hardcastle.

McCORMICK

(calls)  
Hey, Rembrandt!

7 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE

7

as he steps into view from around the other side of the garage, paint streaking his clothes and face.

HARDCASTLE

What?!

MAILMAN

(takes in Hardcastle's  
appearance)  
Milton Hardcastle?

HARDCASTLE

Yeah.

CONTINUED



7  
CONTINUED

7

MAILMAN

Registered letter.

Hardcastle hands the mailman his paint brush to hold and scribbles his name on the receipt and looks at the letter. The mailman puts down the brush and gets back in the jeep. He sticks his head out.

MAILMAN

Hey, you guys paint apartments?  
I just rented this little two  
bedroom offa Pico...

HARDCASTLE

Thank you. You have a nice day now.

He throws the guy a wave. The mailman throws the jeep in gear and pulls away. McCormick watches Hardcastle open the envelope.

McCORMICK

Hey, Judge...that's a pretty official  
looking letter.

Hardcastle shoots him a look then pulls out a letter.

HARDCASTLE

I'm a pretty official lookin'  
guy, McCormick. From an attorney  
named Dellwood.

(reads)

It's about Willie 'The Whistler'.

McCORMICK

Who?

HARDCASTLE

Willie 'The Whistler' Yarboro.  
I sent him up for bookmakin' coupla  
times back in the sixties.

McCORMICK

Who's the letter from, his  
accountant?

Hardcastle ignores McCormick and looks at the letter. He  
shakes his head.

CONTINUED

7 CONTINUED - 2

7

HARDCASTLE

Ah Jeez...Willie passed away.

(sighs)

-I'm sorry to hear that.

McCormick takes the letter out of his hand and glances at it.

MCCORMICK

It says here Willie named you in his will.

HARDCASTLE

(reacts)

No...where?

McCormick shows him the letter. Hardcastle looks at the letter.

MCCORMICK

(points)

It's even got a notarized seal on it.

As we CLOSE ON the notarized seal we...

SMASH CUT TO

8 CLOSE ON - OFFICIAL-LOOKING SEAL

8

imprinted on a will. We PULL BACK to reveal George Dellwood, a lawyer-looking type sitting at his desk reading the will. Dellwood clears his throat.

DELLWOOD

'I hereby bequeath to Judge Milton C. Hardcastle my most prized possession, Whistler's Pride. I know you and The Whistler have a lot in common, Milt. Willie 'The Whistler'.

Hardcastle and McCormick and two or three others sit there in Dellwood's office for the reading of the will. We particularly take notice of a sexy blonde in black, SONIA FAYETTE.

HARDCASTLE

What's a Whistler's Pride?

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED

8

DELLWOOD

A...race horse.

HARDCASTLE

(reacts)

A race horse?

SONIA

He was such a dear, sweet wonderful man.

HARDCASTLE

Willie left me a race horse?

DELLWOOD

Quite a valuable animal. A thoroughbred.

SONIA

He was like an uncle to me.

(to Dellwood)

Did Willie mention me in the will? A Sonia Fayette. That's two T's.

(to McCormick)

We were very close.

Dellwood throws her a wan smile and stands and walks around his desk over to Hardcastle. He hands Hardcastle a sheaf of papers.

DELLWOOD

Those are the ownership and blood-line papers along with the racing and medical history of the animal, Judge Hardcastle. You can pick the horse up at Laurel Stables. They're expecting you.

Hardcastle smiles and they shake hands.

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED - 2

8

HARDCASTLE  
Appreciate it.

CUT TO

9 INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

9

Hardcastle and McCormick step out of Dellwood's office.

HARDCASTLE  
I own a race horse! You know what that means, McCormick? We're goin' to the Kentucky Derby! It's goin' to be great! We're gonna race him in all the big ones.

MCCORMICK  
Me, my uncle leaves me a bottle cap collection and they're all bent. And that was from a relative. You? You get a valuable race horse from some guy you sent to the slammer.

HARDCASTLE  
What can I tell you, McCormick? People like me.  
(re: the papers)  
Look, it says here the horse won his last race.

McCormick looks at the papers.

MCCORMICK  
(impressed)  
By six and a half lengths.

HARDCASTLE  
Must be Willie's way of thankin' me for what I showed him.

MCCORMICK  
Steel bunks...bad food...bars on the windows.

Suddenly we hear the crash of an overturned chair.

CONTINUED

9

CONTINUED

9

SONIA (v.o.)

Nothing?!! He won't get away with this! You'll be hearing from my lawyer!

The door is yanked open and Sonia Fayette storms out, slamming the door behind her. She throws a look at Hardcastle and McCormick standing there.

SONIA

The worm!

She flees down the corridor as Hardcastle and McCormick exchange a look.

MCCORMICK

Maybe I should console the lady.

HARDCASTLE

I don't think another ex-con is just what she needs right now.

CUT TO

10

OMITTED

10

11

ANGLE - COYOTE - RUNBY - DAY - STOCK

11 \*

12

INT. COYOTE - ON HARDCASTLE AND MCCORMICK

12

As they drive along, Hardcastle studying the papers Dellwood gave him.

MCCORMICK

Judge, since when did you like race horses?

HARDCASTLE

Not since. Always! It's in my bones, McCormick. I love horse racing. The pageantry...the excitement....

MCCORMICK

The fixes.

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

Bettin' the double in your own private box.

MCCORMICK

Guys named Louie hanging out in a plaid sports coats and string ties.

Hardcastle throws him a look.

HARDCASTLE

It's tradition, McCormick. History.

MCCORMICK

Mudders and nags, my man.

HARDCASTLE

The rose wreaths in the winner's circle.

MCCORMICK

C'mon, Judge. What we're talking here is bookies, the mob...pay-offs.

HARDCASTLE

(reluctantly)

Sure, maybe once in awhile a jockey throws a race. But we're not talkin' the Kentucky Derby or the Preakness...The Belmont Stakes here, you know.

MCCORMICK

That's what I like about you, Judge. I stand next to some guy that graduated reform school fifty years ago, you think I'm associating with criminals. You, you want to get into horse racing and suddenly it's all legal.

HARDCASTLE

Why do you always have to think the worst? It's a Sport of Kings.

(MORE)

CONTINUED

12 CONTINUED

12

HARDCASTLE (CONT'D)

And as a horse owner, if I see anyone  
dirty in the game, I'm gonna sweep  
him up. You know that.

MCCORMICK

Yeah, I know that. But that's  
another thing, Judge. What do you  
know about race horses?

HARDCASTLE

(smiles)

Everything.

CUT TO

13  
thru  
15

OMITTED

13  
thru  
15

15A

EXT. LAUREL STABLES - DAY - ON HARDCASTLE AND MCCORMICK

15A

As they watch a GROOM brushing down a horse.

HARDCASTLE

Fine looking race horse there.

GROOM

He pulls the hay wagon.

HARDCASTLE

Oh. Must be a Tennessee Walker,  
then, huh?

GROOM

Weak horse.

HARDCASTLE

(checks teeth)

Uh...right. Looks like about  
five years old, I'd say.

Groom throws him a look.

GROOM

Mister, he's twenty-three years  
old.

CONTINUED

MCCORMICK

(to Groom)

We're looking for a horse named  
Whistler's Pride.

GROOM

(thinks)

Whistler's Pride...Whistler's Pride...

Hardcastle shoots him a look, then turns to Groom.

HARDCASTLE

(req. papers)

Big chestnut bay. Belonged  
to Willie Yarboro. Won  
his last race.

GROOM

Why sure. Won by six and a half  
lengths.

HARDCASTLE

There you go.

GROOM

(smiles)

Hundred dollar claiming race  
for nags.

Hardcastle looks at him and starts walking away.

HARDCASTLE

(to McCormick)

Man's probably thinkin' of another  
horse.

CONTINUED



16 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK 16  
as they walk past some stalls.

HARDCASTLE

Horse wins his last race by six  
and a half lengths. We're talkin'  
champion!

Suddenly Hardcastle stops as he sees...

17 ANGLE - A MAGNIFICENT-LOOKING CHESTNUT BAY 17  
stallion standing beside a stall. A saddle cloth with the  
name Whistler's Pride embossed on it is in view hanging  
over the side of the stall.

18 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE 18  
He's died and gone to heaven.

HARDCASTLE

Would you look at him? We got a  
winner, McCormick. A winner!  
Another Secretariat.

Even McCormick is impressed by the beauty of the horse.  
Hardcastle runs over to the horse and rubs his hand along  
its back examining it.

HARDCASTLE

Alert. Good solid muscle. Look  
at those legs, the size of the  
chest. Big lungs. Lotsa power in  
those haunches. Flared nostrils.  
Shows spirit...desire to win. This  
baby is ready to run!

Just then a groom walks over and leads the horse away. And  
as the horse does a wipe, we reveal another chestnut bay  
in the stall. A hand reaches over the stall wall and pulls  
the saddle cloth off and throws it over the horse.

19 ANGLE - STALL 19  
as the door opens and CASEY O'BANNON, a feisty, pretty girl  
in her early twenties, leads the horse out. And now we get  
our first look at the real 'Whistler's Pride'. If the first

CONTINUED

horse we saw was a Cadillac, this horse is a used Ford. Hardcastle stares at the horse. McCormick walks over to the horse.

MCCORMICK

Alert. Lotsa power there. Look at those 'flared nostrils'. Yes, sir, you got yourself a winner here, Judge.

The horse swings its head around and eyes McCormick. Casey looks at them.

CASEY

You fellas want something?

Hardcastle starts backing away.

HARDCASTLE

Uh...no...nothing.

McCormick stops him. He smiles at Casey.

MCCORMICK

Actually, we're here to see The Whistler. My friend here is the proud new owner. Judge Milton C. Hardcastle. And I'm Mark McCormick. Hi.

CASEY

Casey O'Bannon. I never figured Mister Yarboro was going to leave The Whistler to a judge. But then again, I guess a guy like Mister Yarboro knew a lot of judges.

HARDCASTLE

You could say that.

Hardcastle walks over to the horse and eyes him.

HARDCASTLE

Well...he's big, I'll say that for him.

He reaches out a hand and pats the horse, who nuzzles his hand.

CONTINUED

MCCORMICK

(to Casey)

Me, I'm terrific with animals.

McCormick walks over to pat him and The Whistler whinnies and bares his teeth at McCormick.

MCCORMICK

I don't think he likes me.

HARDCASTLE

It's not a question of whether he likes you, McCormick. A race horse is a well-conditioned athlete. Built and born to run.

(to Casey)

You take care of him?

CASEY

(nods)

I've been with The Whistler ever since he was a foal. Stable boy, groom, trainer, you name it. I'm working my way up to getting my chance as a jockey. You do like horses, do you, Judge?

MCCORMICK

He loves 'em. Judge relates to horses very well.

He looks at the horse.

HARDCASTLE

At least part of 'em.

Hardcastle claps the horse on the hindquarters.

HARDCASTLE

(thinks)

I wonder if I can get 'The Shoe' to ride this one. You think 'The Shoe' will do it for me?

MCCORMICK

Judge? C'mon. Willie Shoemaker?

CONTINUED

19 CONTINUED - 3

,19

HARDCASTLE

You're right. He's probably too busy. I'll get Pincay or McCarron. What do you think?

MCCORMICK

I think it's ridiculous.

HARDCASTLE

(inspired)

Maybe...we'll get Eddie Arcaro! He probably would want a shot at this.

MCCORMICK

Judge, Arcaro must be seventy years old.

20 ANGLE - WILLIAM FARLEY

20

A skinny guy in a three piece clutching a leather folder as he hurries over.

FARLEY

You Judge Hardcastle?

HARDCASTLE

Yep.

FARLEY

You were the one that inherited the horse from Willie Yarboro?

HARDCASTLE

(smile)

That's me.

Farley opens his leather folder and pulls out some papers.

FARLEY

Do me a favor, Judge. Would you just sign this statement of ownership?

HARDCASTLE

Be glad to.

CONTINUED

20

CONTINUED

20

Hardcastle signs the paper. Farley puts another one in front of him.

FARLEY

Would you sign this one also?

HARDCASTLE

Sure I will.

(signs paper)

What is it?

FARLEY

The bill for the back feed and stable charges.

Hardcastle looks at the paper.

HARDCASTLE

Now wait a minute.

(reacts)

Thirty-six thousand four-hundred eighteen dollars?

He quickly shoves the paper back at Farley.

HARDCASTLE

Must be a mistake. I just got the horse.

FARLEY

(hands Hardcastle the bill)

And the bill. See you around, Judge.

He walks away leaving Hardcastle staring at the bill, practically apoplectic.

MCCORMICK

Looks like Willie really is paying you back, Judge.

HARDCASTLE

Thirty-six thousand four-hundred eighteen dollars?!

Suddenly a poster catches Hardcastle's attention. He walks over to it. It announces the running of the:

CONTINUED

20 CONTINUED

20

'OAK ROYAL HANDICAP'  
For Three-Year-Olds  
GRAND PRIZE - \$150,000

Hardcastle looks at the bill then back at the poster.

HARDCASTLE  
Casey, how old is The Whistler?

CASEY  
Three years old, Judge.

McCormick catches the gleam in Hardcastle's eye.

MCCORMICK  
C'mon, Judge...you gotta be kidding.

HARDCASTLE  
I'm gonna tell you what I'm gonna  
do, wise guy. I happen to know  
this horse is a winner 'cause I'm  
your basic horse racing expert.  
So I'm gonna enter him in the 'Oak  
Royal'. We're gonna train him  
and he's gonna win my money back!

McCormick looks at the poster.

MCCORMICK  
But the race is four days from now.

HARDCASTLE  
Plenty of time.

CUT TO

20A EXT. STREET - LIMOUSINE - DAY

20A\*

As it does a runby.

21 INT. LIMOUSINE - DAY - ON BRADY AND LENORE ALCOTT

21

A beautiful woman in her 40's. Dorcette drives. Alcott  
holds a poster for the 'Royal Oak'.

ALCOTT  
I take it that everything has been  
arranged.

(MORE)

CONTINUED

ALCOTT (CONT'D)

When I'm betting half a million dollars on an exacta, I want to know that my two horses cross the finish line first.

BRADY

I talked to all the jockeys. They're in our pocket. Everything's set. It's gonna be Mister Bo-Jack and Charlie's Dollar in that order.

ALCOTT

And what about late entries?

BRADY

There won't be any. If there are...

(hard)

I'll take care of them. I promise you.

And on his expression we...

CUT TO

EXT. LAUREL STABLES - DAY - ON HARDCASTLE AND MCCORMICK

As they walk over to the Coyote.

HARDCASTLE

We're goin to show the racin' world a thing or two. Surprise 'em. The Whistler is gonna win the race!

He gets in the Coyote and we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

23 EXT. GULL'S WAY - DAY - ESTABLISHING - STOCK 23\*

McCORMICK'S VOICE

You don't just enter a horse in a race like 'The Oak Royal.'

24 INT. HARDCASTLE'S DEN - DAY - ON HARDCASTLE 24

as he sits at his desk studying some papers. McCormick sits there sprawled in a chair munching on a bunch of grapes.

HARDCASTLE

Why not? Whistler's a three year old. He qualifies.

McCORMICK

Judge, why don't we just sell the horse, cut our losses and watch a ball game? Horse racing is not something a buncha amateurs want to mess around with.

HARDCASTLE

Who you callin' an amateur, McCormick?

McCORMICK

Judge, c'mon. You're gonna make a donkey out of yourself in front of thousands of people.

HARDCASTLE

McCormick, let me tell you a little somethin' about horse racing. It's not experience or your hot shot million dollar primadonnas that's gonna win the race. It's your horse with the heart to win and the guts to do it that's gonna hit the wire first! Like The Whistler.

He picks up the papers and heads for the door.

CONTINUEE



4

CONTINUED

24

HARDCASTLE

We're gonna hand in the entry papers, find ourselves a top jockey and win the race!

He walks out. McCormick puts down the grapes and reluctantly follows Hardcastle out.

CUT TO

25

EXT. RACE TRACK-TRAINING GROUNDS-ESTABLISHING-STOCK-DAY

25\*

We show various shots of trainers and jockeys working their horses.

26

INT. TRACK ADMINISTRATION OFFICE - DAY - ON HARDCASTLE AND MCCORMICK

26

As they stand by a desk where a track official named BENDEEN stamps Hardcastle's entry papers on Whistler's Pride. He hands the papers to Hardcastle.

BENDEEN

Good luck in the race, Judge Hardcastle.

HARDCASTLE

Thanks.

Hardcastle and McCormick walk out of the office. Bendeen picks up the phone on his desk and dials.

BENDEEN

Let me talk to Mrs. Alcott.

27

INTERCUT - ALCOTT FARMS - MAIN HOUSE TERRACE - DAY - ON ALCOTT

27

As she picks up the phone. Brady leans against the railing.

BENDEEN

Mrs. Alcott, this is Sam Bendeen. There's just been a late entry in the 'Oak Royal.' A Whistler's Pride owned by a Judge Hardcastle.

ALCOTT

Does he have a rider?

CONTINUED

27

CONTINUED

27

BENDEEN

Not yet. But he's scheduled to work the horse out this afternoon.

ALCOTT

I want to know if he gets one.

BENDEEN

Right.

ALCOTT

Thank you for calling.

She hangs up and looks at Brady.

BRADY

Trouble?

ALCOTT

A Judge Hardcastle just entered a horse called Whistler's Pride in the 'Oak Royal'. He's looking for a jockey.

BRADY

I never heard of the horse.

ALCOTT

Even horses you never heard of can win. I was afraid something like this might happen.

(beat)

If I lose that exacta, the bank will foreclose on Alcott Farms in a month.

BRADY

I'll put the word out anyone rides Whistler's Pride is dead.

He reaches for the phone.

CUT TO

28

OMITTED

28

28A

INT. JOCKEY'S QUARTERS - DAY

28A\*

Hardcastle and McCormick are seen talking to a jockey. The guy shakes his head and walks away. McCormick takes out a pen and crosses off the guy's name in a small note pad he's holding.

CONTINUED

MCCORMICK

Number seven, Judge. You get the feeling that maybe no one wants to ride this horse. That maybe someone doesn't want the horse in the race.

Hardcastle looks at him.

HARDCASTLE

Now why would someone want that? You've been seein' too many movies, McCormick.

(looks off screen)

Look, there's two more of the little guys over there.

ANGLE - HARDCASTLE AND MCCORMICK

as they walk in to two jockeys in their riding silks standing by one of their lockers. Hardcastle smiles at them and extends his hand.

HARDCASTLE

Judge Milton C. Hardcastle. I been a big fan of you fellas for years. Takes a lotta skill...guts to ride those horses the way you do.

JOCKEY #1

(shaking Hardcastle's hand)

Not everyone realizes that. Thanks.

HARDCASTLE

I'm a horse owner so I know what I'm talkin' about. Matter of fact, I'm lookin' for a rider right now. My horse runs three days from now you know.

JOCKEY #1

Hey, that's great. Lotsa luck, Judge. I wish I could help you but I'm a contract rider.

(looks at companion)

Johnny, you're open that day aren't you?

CONTINUED

JOCKEY #1

Sure am.

Hardcastle rubs his hands.

HARDCASTLE

I told you, McCormick, we'd get ourselves a jockey.

JOCKEY #2

What race Judge?

HARDCASTLE

'Oak Royal Handicap'. Horse's Whistler's Pride-

It's as if Hardcastle said he had the plague. The two jockeys quickly move away.

JOCKEY #2

I just remembered. I gotta ride out-of-state that day. Sorry, Judge.

They hurry away.

HARDCASTLE

Hey, maybe you can recommend someone.

MCCORMICK

Yep, you're right, Judge. I must be seeing too many movies.

Hardcastle looks at him.

HARDCASTLE

The man remembered he had to go out-of-state, McCormick. That's all.

MCCORMICK

Judge, you're gonna have to find someone to ride this horse if you're going to try to win back that \$36,000, which may be one of the dumber things you ever tried to do.

HARDCASTLE

Don't worry, McCormick. I'll find someone.

19 CONTINUED - 2

29

He walks off. McCormick shakes his head and follows.

30 ANGLE - A HORSE AND A JOCKEY

30

taking a practice run around the track.

HARDCASTLE  
Man-O-War, Kelso, Citation.

31 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE AND MCCORMICK

31

as they skirt around an exercise pool where a trainer walks his horse through the waters. The grounds are a beehive of activity, horses being led past, jockeys, grooms walking by... horses being taken out of trailers... a track official or two etc.

HARDCASTLE  
You think they went traipsin'  
through some hot tub when they  
were in trainin'? 'Course not.

MCCORMICK  
Those baths build stamina and  
strengthen up their legs.

HARDCASTLE  
Poppycock. All these fancy  
contraptions they got today.  
Horse doesn't know if he's on  
vacation or expected to do the  
backstroke. No wonder they're  
more tempermental than a buncha  
opera singers.

They reach the railing.

HARDCASTLE  
Run 'em, rub 'em, and race 'em.  
That's the way to win.

32 CLOSE ON - GALLOPING LEGS OF A HORSE

32

We pull away to reveal Casey crouched down low over the neck of a race horse as she tears down the back stretch.

33 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK 33

As they lean against the railing surrounding the track watching.

HARDCASTLE

Now that's the kinda jockey I want,  
tough, stringy...legs like steel.

34 ANGLE - CASEY 34

as she walks Whistler's Pride off the track towards where Hard-  
castle and McCormick are standing. They realize they were watching  
Casey out there. McCormick looks at Hardcastle.

HARDCASTLE

McCormick, don't even think it.

McCORMICK

Judge...C'mon, Fred Astaire's wife  
is a jockey.

HARDCASTLE

Yeah, and what does he know, he's  
a dancer.

Casey walks the Whistler over.

CASEY

Did you see the Whistler out there?  
He's running great.

HARDCASTLE

We saw him. He looks real good.

CASEY

Any luck finding a jockey?

HARDCASTLE

We're still lookin'.

McCORMICK

You know, the Judge and I were  
thinking, maybe you could ride...

CASEY

The Whistler? You really mean it?

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

Now wait a minute, here. I kinda like to get someone with a little more experience.

CASEY

What is it, Judge...you don't think women can do the job?

HARDCASTLE

I didn't say that. Did I say that, McCormick?

MCCORMICK

Well, no...you didn't exactly say that.

Casey shoots Hardcastle a smile.

CASEY

You a bettin' man, Judge?  
(off Hardcastle's look)  
The Whistler was just warming up out there. I'll bet you fifty dollars I can do a half mile in under forty-eight. What do you say?

HARDCASTLE

I don't like to bet.

CASEY

Women?

MCCORMICK

What's the matter, afraid you'll lose, Judge?

HARDCASTLE

No.

(to Casey)

Okay, you're on!

He pulls a stop watch out of his pocket.

HARDCASTLE

Under forty-eight.

Casey smiles and walks The Whistler away.

MCCORMICK

You wanna go for another fifty?

CONTINUED

- 34 CONTINUED - 2 34\*
- Hardcastle shoots him a look.
- 35 OMITTED 35
- 36 ANGLE - CASEY 36
- as she puts The Whistler through his paces. They streak down the track, The Whistler in overdrive.
- 37 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE AND MCCORMICK 37
- as they watch and time her.
- MCCORMICK  
Look at her fly! She's good.
- HARDCASTLE  
(reluctantly)  
For a girl.
- MCCORMICK  
What d'ya mean for a girl?
- HARDCASTLE  
She's a female, McCormick. I want  
a real jockey.
- He looks at his stop watch. McCormick glances over Hardcastle's shoulder at the time and smiles.
- MCCORMICK  
She's making great time.
- HARDCASTLE  
'Course she is. It's the horse.  
Put anyone on a champ, they're  
gonna go like stink.
- He avoids looking at McCormick's smile.
- 38 INTERCUT - CASEY 38
- as she and The Whistler fly around a turn. Hardcastle looks at the stop watch.
- 39 INSERT - STOP WATCH 39
- as its hand sweep off the seconds.

MATCH CUT TO



40

CLOSE ON - ANOTHER STOP WATCH

40

as its hand stops on 46 seconds. We PULL BACK to reveal the watch in Alcott's hand. Brady and Dorcette stand beside her. They watch from an upper level as Casey walks the Whistler off from his workout. Alcott shows Brady the time.

ALCOTT

The horse had speed. Who's the rider?

BRADY

Some kid named Casey O'Bannon. She takes care of the horse.

ALCOTT

You told me Hardcastle wasn't going to get himself a jockey. You told me everything was arranged. Now, I come out here and see a girl do a 46 second half mile on a horse that's entered in the 'Oak Royal'. They can upset everything. I thought I could count on you, Brady.

41

ANGLE - CASEY

41

as she walks the Whistler over to where Hardcastle and McCormick stand. She dismounts.

CASEY

How'd I do?

McCORMICK

Forty-six even. Two seconds under.

HARDCASTLE

She was on a good horse.

McCORMICK

(to Casey)

Kinda like trying to talk to a donkey about a horse, isn't it?

CONTINUED

41

CONTINUED

41

Casey grins and holds out her hand. Hardcastle reluctantly slaps a fifty in it.

HARDCASTLE  
You did good...for a girl.

MCCORMICK  
Whatta guy.

42

ANGLE - BENDEEN

42

as he walks over and slaps The Whistler.

BENDEEN  
Find yourself a jockey yet, Judge  
Hardcastle?

HARDCASTLE  
Well...not exactly...  
(off McCormick's  
look)  
Well...yeah...Casey O'Bannon.

The smile is wiped off Bendeen's face. Casey lets out a whoop and throws her arms around Hardcastle's neck.

CASEY  
You mean it?

HARDCASTLE  
(embarrassed)  
Yeah...I mean it.

MCCORMICK  
Don't I get a hug?

Casey flies into his arms and hugs him.

CASEY  
Thank you for the chance. It's  
a dream come true.

HARDCASTLE  
(to Bendeen)  
Put her down to ride Whistler's  
Pride in the 'Oak Royal'.

BENDEEN  
Okay.

CONTINUED

He leaves. Hardcastle and McCormick start walking beside Casey as she leads Whistler off.

ALCOTT'S VOICE  
Judge Hardcastle.

Hardcastle stops and turns around to see Lenore Alcott and Brady walking over.

ALCOTT  
Lenore Alcott. I own Alcott Farms.  
And this is my head trainer, Tom Brady.

Ad-libbed hellos.

HARDCASTLE  
Alcott Farms. Biggest horse ranch  
in the state, right? You bred some  
fine winners out there.

ALCOTT  
Thank you.

HARDCASTLE  
This is...

MCCORMICK  
(smile)  
Mark McCormick. It's a pleasure  
to meet you.

HARDCASTLE  
And this is Casey O'Bannon.  
She's gonna ride my horse in the  
'Oak Royal.'

CASEY  
Hi.

ALCOTT  
Casey.  
(pats horse)  
I saw this fella work out. He was  
quite impressive.

HARDCASTLE  
He went like a streak of lightnin'  
out there. Speed to burn.

ALCOTT  
Is he for sale? I'm always looking  
(MORE)

ALCOTT (CONT'D)  
to add good blood  
to my stables. \*

HARDCASTLE  
I'm afraid he's not. Did half a  
mile in forty-six flat:

Alcott opens her purse and takes out a check book. She quickly  
writes out a check and hands it to Hardcastle.

ALCOTT  
I hope you'll reconsider. I think  
you'll find that to be quite a  
generous offer, Judge Hardcastle.

Hardcastle looks at the figure on the check. McCormick glances  
at it and reacts to the amount. Hardcastle hands Alcott the  
check back.

HARDCASTLE  
I don't think I wanna sell him.  
You see he was kinda a gift. \*

Alcott rubs her hand along Whistler's neck.

ALCOTT  
I'm sorry to hear that. But if  
you should change your mind.

She hands Hardcastle a business card.

ALCOTT  
Nice meeting you gentlemen.  
Casey.

She and Brady walk away.

MCCORMICK  
That was a lot of money, Judge.

HARDCASTLE  
And you wanna know why, McCormick?  
'Cause the lady knows a winner when  
she sees one.  
(pats horse)  
We're gonna make a fortune racin'  
this baby.

Suddenly Hardcastle looks worried.

HARDCASTLE

But, I'm kinda worried about Casey.

MCCORMICK

Don't worry about Casey, Judge.  
She'll do all right.

HARDCASTLE

McCormick, she's a girl. She's  
ridin' against a buncha guys that  
play for keeps. They're gonna give  
her an elbow, hit her nose with a  
crop, try to foul her ride.

MCCORMICK

I thought you said this was the  
sport of kings?

HARDCASTLE

It is, but it's no place for a woman.  
You got a lotta tough characters  
around here, do anythin' to win,  
McCormick.

And on their looks we...

43. OMITTED

43

43A EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY - ON BRADY

43A

as he walks over to a sedan where Dorcette sits waiting behind  
the wheel. Brady leans in the window.

BRADY

Hardcastle won't sell and he just  
got himself a jockey. Take care  
of it.

DORCETTE

Right.

He throws the car in gear and pulls away.

CUT TO

44 EXT. LAUREL STABLES - DAY

44

Hardcastle and McCormick watch Casey mount up on The Whistler  
to walk him off.

#2115

34.

15 ANGLE - DORCETTE 45

as he sits in his car watching. He steps on the gas.

46 ANGLE - SEDAN 46

as it bears down on Casey and the horse. McCormick spots the car bearing down on them.

MCCORMICK

Casey...look out!

He runs over to them and grabs The Whistler's reins, pulling him out of the way. The car flashes past, barely missing them. The Whistler rears up on its hind legs. Hardcastle comes running over and grabs the reins from McCormick.

HARDCASTLE

Go get him!

McCormick jumps over and runs across the hoods of several cars parked alongside the Coyote. He reaches the Coyote and jumps behind the wheel. He floors the gas and tears after Dorcette.

47 SERIES OF SHOTS - DIRECTOR'S SEQUENCE 47

As the sedan tears through the stable parking lot followed by the Coyote. The two cars swerve around a flat-bed truck carrying bales of hay. The sedan screams out of the lot and hits the street, the Coyote following.

48 ANGLE - THE COYOTE 48

as it screeches around a turn after the sedan. Play the chase down city streets as long as possible.

49 ANGLE - SEDAN 49

as it pulls a sudden turn, crashes through a barrier and heads for one of those cement causeway drainage ditches lining the city. The Coyote follows.

50 SERIES OF SHOTS - DIRECTOR'S SEQUENCE 50

Of the two cars speeding down the causeway. Dorcette pulls out a gun and FIRES at the Coyote closing in. Suddenly, the sedan hits a puddle of water, fishtails and does a ramp as it

CONTINUED

#2115

35.

50

CONTINUED

50

hits the wall. The sedan lands on its roof and goes screeching down the causeway until it finally comes to a stop. The Coyote pulls up and McCormick jumps out. He drags Dorcette out of the car and yanks him to his feet and we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

51 EXT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS - ESTABLISHING - STOCK - DAY 51

LIEUTENANT GILES'S VOICE  
Guys name is Freddy Dorcette.

52 INT. SQUAD ROOM - DAY - ON LT. GILES 52

A hip thrown over his desk. He reads from the rap sheet he's holding. Hardcastle and McCormick listen.

LT. GILES  
Hired muscle. Coupla beefs for  
aggravated assault. The Nevada  
State Police have an out-standing  
warrant on him.

MCCORMICK  
He say who hired him?

Giles shakes his head no.

GILES  
Like talking to a rock. Milt,  
you wanna tell me how you got  
involved in horse racing?

HARDCASTLE  
It's a long story.

MCCORMICK  
We were throwing a surprise party  
for Willie Shoemaker and it just  
kind of happened.

He gets a look from Hardcastle.

GILES  
Well, you ask me, I'd say someone  
doesn't want your horse running  
in that race.

Hardcastle grunts.

HARDCASTLE  
Would you run the name Tom Brady  
through your computer? Guy says  
(MORE)

CONTINUED



HARDCASTLE (CONT'D)  
he's a trainer. I can't place the  
face, but I know I've seen him before.

GILES  
Will do.

Hardcastle stands up.

HARDCASTLE  
Well, I gotta go, I have a horse to  
train.

Giles walks them to the door.

GILES  
Milt, this horse you've entered in  
the 'Oak Royal'...  
(lowers voice)  
He worth a fifty on the nose to win?

HARDCASTLE  
A hundred. But be safe and bet 'im to  
place.

MCCORMICK  
(to Giles)  
C'mon Judge. He's a champion. Bet  
him to win.

And on Hardcastle's look we...

CUT TO

53 OMITTED

53

53A INT. COYOTE - DAY - ON HARDCASTLE AND MCCORMICK

53A

MCCORMICK  
Judge, I thought you said there  
were some classy people in horse  
racing.

HARDCASTLE  
There are McCormick...at least  
most of 'em are.

They get into the Coyote and McCormick pulls away.

54 INT. COYOTE - DAY - ON HARDCASTLE AND MCCORMICK

54

MCCORMICK  
Do me a favor. Next time someone  
(MORE)

CONTINUED

MCCORMICK (CONT'D)  
decides to leave you something...  
tell them to make it a bowl of  
goldfish.

HARDCASTLE  
You don't win the Kentucky Derby  
with goldfish, McCormick.

MCCORMICK  
And they don't get you killed. Judge,  
I'm telling you someone doesn't  
want your horse in that race.  
You heard the Lieutenant.  
(off Hardcastle's  
expression)  
I mean some guy only tried to turn our  
horse into a buncha rib steaks.  
C'mon, admit, I was right.

Hardcastle looks at him.

HARDCASTLE  
(reluctantly)  
All right, McCormick... maybe you  
were right. But that doesn't make  
you a hero.

MCCORMICK  
Whatta guy.

HARDCASTLE  
(smile)  
And that's why we gotta make sure  
that the Whistler is safe. So,  
we're gonna keep him out at Gull's  
Way.

McCormick throws Hardcastle a look.

MCCORMICK  
Judge...that means we're gonna  
have to get a groom...someone  
to pitch hay...shovel up after him.

HARDCASTLE  
You're right. And seein' as I'm  
the owner and Casey's the jockey  
that makes you... the groom.

CONTINUED

54 . CONTINUED - 2

54

McCORMICK

Now wait a minute. That horse  
hates me.

HARDCASTLE

They're just big, friendly dogs.

McCORMICK

Judge, I'm from New Jersey. The  
closest I ever came to a horse  
was on the merry-go-round.

And on McCormick's look we...

CUT TO

55

EXT. ALCOTT FARMS - MAIN HOUSE - TERRACE - NIGHT

55\*

Lenore Alcott angrily paces back and forth. She turns on Brady  
standing there.

ALCOTT

It was sloppy. Hardcastle probably  
suspects something now and Dor-  
cette's in jail.

BRADY

A guy like that never lets go.

ALCOTT

The money is already bet. I want  
that horse taken out of the race.  
The 'Oak Royal' is in two days.

BRADY

I'll take care of it.

ALCOTT

I don't care how you do it, just  
do it. And if Hardcastle  
gets in your way...kill him.

Alcott heads into the house.

DISSOLVE TO

56 EXT. GULL'S WAY - DAY 56  
Hardcastle steps out of the main house in his sweats and takes a deep breath of the early morning air. He rubs his hands in anticipation and walks off.

57 OMITTED 57\*

58 INT. GARAGE - DAY - ON WHISTLER'S PRIDE 58  
As he contentedly munches from a bucket of oats as Casey rubs him down. Hardcastle walks in. The garage has been turned in to a stable. Stall, bed of hay, water trough, etc. He goes over to the Whistler and pats him.

HARDCASTLE  
He's lookin' good. Don't let him eat too much, though. I want him lean and mean. Go like a bullet.

The horse whinnies and nods its head.

HARDCASTLE  
Right.  
(looks at watch)  
Where's McCormick? He was supposed to be here.

CASEY  
I don't think he's up yet, Judge.

HARDCASTLE  
Not up yet? It's 5:30 We got a big day of trainin' ahead of us. We're gonna work The Whistler at a mile today.

CASEY  
We're scheduled to be at the track at ten.

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

Good.

He starts for the door.

HARDCASTLE

Oh, I wantcha to use blinders.  
Increase his concentration.

CASEY

Blinders?

HARDCASTLE

And rub him down with liniment.  
Mineral water and pine oil. Use  
it myself. Gets the circulation  
goin'.

And on Casey's look he exits and we...

CUT TO

INT. GATE HOUSE - DAY - ON McCORMICK

Fast asleep, hugging his pillow. A man at peace with the world.

HARDCASTLE'S VOICE

Up and at 'em, McCormick.

ANGLE - HARDCASTLE

as he climbs up the steps.

HARDCASTLE

Mornin' workout.

McCormick mumbles something and burrows deeper into the pillow.  
Hardcastle slaps McCormick on the rump.

HARDCASTLE

C'mon, kiddo...beauty sleep's  
over.

McCormick opens an eye and focuses on the alarm clock beside the  
bed. He grimaces at the sight.

MCCORMICK

Do you know what time it is,  
Hardcastle?

CONTINUED

HARDCASTLE

Yeah. 4:30. \*

He yanks the blanket off of McCormick.

HARDCASTLE

I drew up a list of things for  
you to do. You're the groom, remember? \*

McCormick props himself up on an elbow and looks at Hardcastle  
as if the man's insane.

MCCORMICK

I just quit. \*

He drops back on the pillow.

HARDCASTLE

Quit?. You didn't even start yet.

His eyes closed, a smile crosses McCormick's face.

MCCORMICK

That's right.

HARDCASTLE

(sighs)

Be a shame to throw away the  
groom's share of the purse.

Hardcastle starts for the stairs. McCormick shoots up in bed.

MCCORMICK

How much? \*

Hardcastle swirls around.

HARDCASTLE

Oh, five percent of the purse. \*

MCCORMICK

(gets out of bed)

Ten! And in writing.

Hardcastle nods reluctantly. McCormick picks up his pants and  
pulls them on over his pajamas.

HARDCASTLE

I thought you didn't think The  
Whistler could win.

CONTINUED

60 CONTINUED - 2

60

McCormick slips on his shoes and grabs a shirt.

MCCORMICK

Hey, Judge...with a groom like me, how can he lose?

He marches past Hardcastle and goes down the stairs.

MCCORMICK

Ah, what does a groom do, exactly? \*

CUT TO

61 CLOSE ON - THE END OF A SHOVEL

61\*

holding a clump of horseshit. We PULL AWAY to reveal McCormick \* cleaning out the Whistler's stall. Exhausted, he leans on the shaft of the shovel and watches the Whistler nibble at some hay.

MCCORMICK

At least one of us finds the time to eat.

The Whistler whinnies and kicks at McCormick. \*

MCCORMICK

I love you too.

62 ANGLE - CASEY

62

as she walks into the garage.

CASEY

Hi.

She walks over to the stall and rubs her hand along the Whistler's neck.

CASEY

How ya doin' fella? You like it here, huh?

She looks at McCormick.

CASEY

You look beat.

CONTINUED

MCCORMICK

(tired laugh)

Beat? Try exhausted. What's  
Hardcastle up to?

CASEY

Working his way through a stack of  
Horse books. How To Think Like A  
Horse. Memoirs of a Horse Racing  
Junkie...The Emotional Relationship  
Between You and Your Horse. He must  
have thirty of those things on his  
desk. I don't think I've ever met  
anyone quite like him before.

MCCORMICK

I'm gonna tell you something,  
that makes two of us. He's quite  
a character all right.

(beat)

Worried about the Whistler?

CASEY

(nods)

I can't help thinkin' whoever wants  
to keep the Whistler from running  
in the 'Oak Royal' might try again.

MCCORMICK

They might...but we're here to  
watch out for you.

They share a smile.

MCCORMICK

It must get kinda lonely spending  
all your time with The Whistler.

CASEY

In other words...what's a nice girl  
like me doing pitching hay in stables?

MCCORMICK

Something like that.

CASEY

I've been around horses ever since  
I can remember. My father wanted to  
be a jockey but he was too big so  
he became a trainer instead.

(MORE)

CONTINUED



CASEY (CONT'D)

He couldn't ride them and he didn't train too many winners but he loved horses. I guess you could say some of it rubbed off on me.

McCormick nods. He knows what she means.

MCCORMICK

I know. For me, it's racing cars. If I can't race 'em, just being near them sometimes is enough.

CASEY

Sometimes.

(pats the Whistler)

But not when you can ride.

MCCORMICK

Do you think of anything besides horses?

Casey has a twinkle in her eye.

CASEY

Not until after the race.

She shoots McCormick a dazzling smile. He watches her walk to the door.

MCCORMICK

(playfully)

When you did say you were going to be twenty-one?

Casey gives McCormick a sexy smile and walks out. McCormick picks up the pitchfork to pitch some more hay. The Whistler whinnies at him and kicks.

MCCORMICK

Look, can't we get along. I'm the guy that shovels your oats, remember?

The horse eyes McCormick.

MCCORMICK

(lowers voice)

Just between you and me. What does Hardcastle have that I don't?

The Whistler opens his mouth and gives McCormick an equine version of a Bronx cheer.

CUT TO

63 MASK SHOT - GULL'S WAY - SEEN THROUGH BINOCULARS 63

They pan the grounds of Gull's Way and pick up Casey, McCormick, and Hardcastle as they walk the Whistler on the lawn. The horse looks alert, full of energy.

64 INT. CAR - DAY - ON BRADY 64

As he puts down the binoculars. Two other guys are in the car, two hard-assed types, BAYLOR and SIMMS.

BRADY

We're running out of time. The race is tomorrow. So we take the horse out of here tonight.

He looks at the two of them and they nod. Brady throws the car in gear.

65 ANGLE - CAR 65

as it pulls off the shoulder of the road and drives off.

CUT TO

66 EXT. GULL'S WAY - ESTABLISHING - STOCK - NIGHT 66

HARDCASTLE'S VOICE

I told you, McCormick, I saw that guy, Brady before.

67 INT. GATE HOUSE - NIGHT - ON HARDCASTLE 67

McCormick sits there watching TV. Hardcastle walks over and snags the set off.

HARDCASTLE

He got more aliases than a bad check got bounces but the computer popped out a match. His real name is...

MCCORMICK

(jumps in)

Don't tell me...Louie.

HARDCASTLE

Frank Carry. Did a stretch for armed robbery.

CONTINUED

McCormick opens his mouth to comment.

HARDCASTLE

I don't wanna hear it, McCormick.  
(reluctantly)  
There's a bad one in every batch.

MCCORMICK

Okay, so what's a guy like Carny  
doing working for someone like  
Lenore Alcott?

HARDCASTLE

Who just happens to have two horses  
runnin' in the 'Oak Royal'. So I  
think we should kinda take a few  
extra precautions just to be safe.

He walks up the stairs and pulls the blanket and pillows off  
McCormick's bed. McCormick eyes what he's doing.

MCCORMICK

What extra precautions?

Hardcastle walks down carrying the bedding.

HARDCASTLE

We gotta post a guard on the horse.

MCCORMICK

Forget it. No way. I'm telling  
you, Hardcastle, you're not going  
to talk me into sleeping with a  
horse.

HARDCASTLE

You're not gonna sleep. You're  
gonna stand guard.

He starts walking towards the door. McCormick inserts himself  
between Hardcastle and the door.

MCCORMICK

No. Read my lips. I'm not  
babysitting a horse.

HARDCASTLE

Yeah, you are. But, we'll take  
turns. Four hours on and four off.

CUT TO

68 INT. GARAGE - NIGHT - ON HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK 68

As they walk in, McCormick wearing a robe over his pajamas. The Whistler whinnies at McCormick and bares its teeth.

MCCORMICK

I don't know what it is but the horse doesn't like me.

HARDCASTLE

I thought he hated you. You're making progress.

Hardcastle drops the bedding on a cot.

MCCORMICK

And how come if we're taking turns, I have to be first? \*

HARDCASTLE \*

You're the groom. Unless you want to give up your percent of the purse?

MCCORMICK

Judge, we're wastin' our time and a good night's sleep doing this. The horse is safe. What could happen to him here?

DISSOLVE TO

69 EXT. GULL'S WAY - NIGHT - ON THREE MASKED FIGURES 69\*

as they climb over the gate surrounding the estate and drop to the ground. One of the guys picks the lock on the gate entrance and pushes the gate open. The three of them run across the grounds. \*

70 ANGLE - ONE OF THE FIGURES 70

as he runs over to Casey's pickup, the horse trailer hitched behind it. The guy opens the driver's door and starts to hotwire the ignition.

71 ANGLE - OTHER TWO FIGURES 71

as they run over to the garage.

72

INT. GARAGE - NIGHT - ON McCORMICK

72

As he tosses and turns on the cot trying to find a comfortable position. Something sticks him in the side and he pulls out a piece of straw.

73

ANGLE - GARAGE DOORS

73

as they're throws up and Brady and another guy walk in. McCormick sits up in the cot and stares at them. Brady covers him with a .38.

BRADY

Don't do anything stupid and maybe you won't get hurt.

He motions with his gun and McCormick gets out of bed and stands up, his hands raised. He watches the other guy open Whistler's Pride stall and lead the horse out.

McCORMICK

C'mon, horsenapping?

BRADY

Shut up.

As Whistler's Pride is led past, McCormick makes his move. He lunges at Brady and grabs his gun arm. The two of them start to struggle for the gun as they crash into the stall. Suddenly Brady's gun GOES OFF. He breaks free and knocks McCormick to the ground.

BRADY

(to companion)

Let's get the horse outta here!

74

EXT. GARAGE - NIGHT

74

As the two of them run out of the garage with Whistler's Pride. The third guy drives the pickup over. Brady whips open the horse trailer door.

75

ANGLE - McCORMICK

75

as he runs out of the garage. Brady FIRES at him and McCormick dives for cover. Whistler's Pride is led into the horse trailer.

76 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE

76

as he runs out of the main house holding his shot gun. One of the others spots Hardcastle and FIRES. Hardcastle finds cover and pulls out his pistol. He returns the FIRE. Casey comes running out of the house. Hardcastle grabs her by the arm and pulls her down. Brady slams the trailer door closed behind the horse. He and the others jump into the pickup.

BRADY

Move it! The cops'll be here  
any minute!

He leans out of the window and starts FIRING at the Coyote and Hardcastle's four-wheeler parked alongside the garage.

77 INSERT - FOUR-WHEELER'S TIRES

77

as they're blown out.

78 ANGLE - PICKUP

78

as it tears down the driveway towards the front gate.

79 OMITTED

79

79A ANGLE - HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

79A

as they run over to the Coyote and get in. McCormick floors the gas and tears after the pickup.

79B SERIES OF SHOTS - DIRECTOR'S SEQUENCE - NIGHT

79B

As the pickup barrels down the street, the Coyote in pursuit. Play this for as long as possible.

79C INT. COYOTE - ON HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

79C

Hardcastle slams a hand on the desk.

HARDCASTLE

If they hurt my horse...

79D ANGLE - PICKUP

79D

as it tears around a turn and shoots down a side street.

79E

ANGLE - CAR

79E

as it backs out of a driveway. He gets halfway into the street. The pickup swerves around it, clipping it hard as it flies past. The car swerves sideways effectively blocking the street. The Coyote screeches to a stop, barely missing it. We can hear the car's driver grinding his engine as he tries to start his battered car.

79F

INT. COYOTE - NIGHT - ON HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

79F

They watch the pickup with the horse trailer hitched up behind it disappear into the night. McCormick looks at Hardcastle.

McCORMICK

We tried, Judge.

Hardcastle looks grim as he stares out the windshield and we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

80 EXT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS - ESTABLISHING - DAY - STOCK 80\*

We see the Coyote parked out in front.

HARDCASTLE'S VOICE

I want my horse back. I got  
a lot invested in it!

81 INT. POLICE CORRIDOR - DAY - ON HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK 81

As they step out of the elevator.

McCORMICK

Like \$36,418?

HARDCASTLE

We don't get the horse to the  
'Oak Royal' by three o'clock,  
it's gonna be too late. That  
kid, Casey...her dreams are ridin'  
on it, you know.

McCORMICK

Oh, you're doing it for her, huh?

HARDCASTLE

Yeah...that and my money. But  
let's not lose sight that I  
want to catch the bad guys.

82 ANGLE - LIEUTENANT GILES 82

As he steps into the corridor holding a file on Dorcette.

HARDCASTLE

Anythin' yet?

GILES

Nothing. \*

HARDCASTLE

I wanna talk to Dorcette. \*

GILES

He's down the hall.

CONTINUED



82

CONTINUED

82

They head down the corridor.

HARDCASTLE

You dig up anythin' on Alcott?

GILES

You were right, Milt. The woman loses her farm if she doesn't come up with some big bucks and fast.

HARDCASTLE

Like from a fixed horse race.

They get to a door leading into one of the interrogation rooms.

HARDCASTLE

Give me five minutes with the guy.

GILES

Milt, you're not gonna get anything outta Dorcette. This guy's not gonna open up.

HARDCASTLE

Maybe.

\*  
\*

83

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - ON DORCETTE

83

sitting there. Hardcastle walks in and closes the door. He looks at Dorcette and throws a hip over the table.

HARDCASTLE

(opens file)

Dorcette. Frederick W. Jr. Born in Denver, Colorado. First run in with the law at age seventeen. Grand theft auto. Served a total of eight years on various felony beefs. Nice work.

\*

Dorcette looks at him.

DORCETTE

I had a tough childhood.

\*

CONTINUED

## HARDCASTLE

Outstanding warrants in Nevada.

(closes file)

Let me tell you a little about the law, Freddy. You been up twice. The minimum you can get now is thirty to forty years. Long time. The only thing that could maybe help that sentence is if you were a good guy. The only way you could be a good guy in these times of bleak circumstances, would be to help us out.

Dorcette fidgets nervously.

## HARDCASTLE

'Course it's been a few years since you've been inside. Did you know they got four guys to a cell now? What the hell, you're only gonna be there for about forty years. Eight by ten cell. 'Course if you do your pushups every day, you'll be in terrific shape. When you get out you'll be about...how old are you now?

(looks at file)

You'll only be seventy-seven.

## DORCETTE

If I help you what kinda guarantee you give me?

## HARDCASTLE

I'm not in the guarantee business, Freddy. But I'll tell you what I can guarantee you. I'll tell them that you told me...or I can guarantee you I'll tell them that you didn't.

## INT. POLICE CORRIDOR

The door opens and Hardcastle walks out. Giles and McCormick stand there.

## GILES

I told you, you were wasting your time, Milt.

SMASH CUT TO

85 EXT. ROAD - DAY - ON COYOTE 85  
As it does runby followed by a couple of police cars.

86 EXT. COYOTE - RUNBY - DAY 86  
McCORMICK V.O.  
Where is this place?  
HARDCASTLE V.O.  
Take the next turnoff.

87 ANGLE - COYOTE AND SQUAD CARS 87  
As they turn off the road.  
CUT TO

88 EXT. HORSE RANCH - DAY 88  
Several building, few corrals full of horses. Casey's pickup  
and The Whistler's horse trailer, unhitched are seen.

89 ANGLE - BAYLOR AND SIMMS 89  
as they dig a pit in an open area of ground. Simms throws his  
shovel down and climbs out of the pit.  
SIMMS  
I'll give gim the injection now.  
Take about 15 minutes. Then we'll  
cover him up and get the hell outta  
here.

90 ANGLE - COYOTE AND SQUAD CARS 90  
parked off the shoulder of a dirt road. Hardcastle and McCormick  
and Giles and two uniformed officers make their way towards the  
ranch. They hide behind some cover and look out where they  
can see the corral and the two guys digging.  
McCORMICK  
Looks like we got here just in time.  
HARDCASTLE  
Yeah.  
GILES  
I'll work around behind them.  
He and his men move off. McCormick looks out at the ranch.  
McCORMICK  
I wonder where they have the Whistler?

CONTINUED

90 CONTINUED

90

## HARDCASTLE

We'll find out. Let's go...and  
keep down.

They move towards the ranch.

91 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

91

as they crouch low and make their way over to one of the corrals.  
They reach the corral full of horses and start to make their  
way past it.

92 ANGLE - WHISTLER'S PRIDE

92

in the corral. It sniffs the air and swings its head around  
to eye McCormick and Hardcastle crouched down beside the corral.  
The horse opens his mouth and gives McCormick its patented  
Bronx cheer. He walks over to the fence and kicks at McCormick.\*  
McCormick eyes the horse.

## McCORMICK

(sotto)

Not now...please, not now.

The horse kicks at McCormick and whinnies even louder. \*

## McCORMICK

(sotto)

Sshhh...that's a good boy...let's  
be quiet.

93 ANGLE - BAYLOR AND SIMMS

93

who looks up. Baylor starts walking towards the corral and  
pulls the gun out of his belt.

94 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

94

As they duck behind a water trough. Baylor spots them and starts  
firing.

## McCORMICK

This is no way to win a race,  
Judge.

CONTINUED

94 CONTINUED

94

## HARDCASTLE

Race isn't over yet, McCormick.

Bullets tear into the trough and a couple of streams of water sprout around our heroes. Hardcastle snaps a shot off at Baylor who takes cover behind a corral post.

95 ANGLE - GILES AND MEN

95

as they break from cover and grab Simms who tries to make a break for it.

96 ANGLE - BAYLOR

96

as he spots the cops taking Simms into custody. He turns and starts running towards the pickup.

97 ANGLE - MCCORMICK

97

as he takes off after Baylor. Baylor yanks the pickup door open and jumps behind the wheel. McCormick grabs a hold of the back of the truck just as Baylor floors the gas. McCormick is sent flying off his feet and lands in the dust.

98 ANGLE - PICKUP

98

as it tears towards a back road. It crashes through a wooden fence bordering the property. The pickup looks like its going to make the road when it hits a drainage ditch and stops. Baylor steps on the gas.

99 ANGLE - PICKUP'S REAR TIRES

99

as they spin helplessly in the muddy ground, sinking even deeper.

100 ANGLE - BAYLOR

100

as he throws the door open and jumps out of the pickup. He starts running.

101 ANGLE - MCCORMICK

101

as he gets to his feet. He looks off-screen.

CONTINUED

107

CONTINUED

107

## HARDCASTLE

Don't worry, she'll be at the race track.  
(glances at watch)  
Let's move it.

He pulls out. McCormick runs over to the Coyote and gets in.  
He pulls out after the pickup.

CUT TO

108

EXT. RACE TRACK - ESTABLISHING - DAY - STOCK

108

We show various shots of the track, the crowd, the tote board,  
the pomp and pageantry, etc.

109

ANGLE - ALCOTT AND BRADY

109

as they sit in Alcott's private box.

ALCOTT

(worried)

How come they haven't announced  
that Whistler's Pride has been  
scratched?

BRADY

Relax. Everything has been taken  
care of.

110

ANGLE - THE ENTRIES RUNNING IN THE 'OAK ROYAL' - STOCK

110

as they are walked towards the track.

111

ANGLE - CASEY

111

as she nervously paces outside the jockey quarters wearing  
her silks, the logo "HARDCASTLE FARMS" written across the  
back of her jersey. She glances at her watch.

112

ANGLE - PICKUP AND THE COYOTE

112

as they do a runby.

113 OMITTED

113

113A EXT. TRACK STABLES - DAY

113A

as the pickup and Coyote pull up to the jockey quarters. Casey runs over as Hardcastle and McCormick get out. They run over and open the horse trailer door. McCormick starts to unhitch the trailer.

CASEY

I didn't think you were going to make it.

McCORMICK

Neither did I.

(re: her jersey)

'Hardcastle Farms'?

Hardcastle leads the Whistler out of the trailer.

HARDCASTLE

Gonna be famous. Let's saddle him up.

114 ANGLE - CASEY

114

as Hardcastle helps her mount up on the Whistler.

McCORMICK

Good luck.

CASEY

Thanks.

HARDCASTLE

Remember, you wanna break fast and hard outta the gate and go for the railin'.

Casey nods and the Whistler is led off by a groom. Hardcastle and McCormick start walking towards the stands.

HARDCASTLE

As soon as Alcott sees the Whistler she's gonna make a run for it. Be ready.

They start past a betting window.

115 ANGLE - TRACK - STOCK

115

as the entries in the 'Oak Royal' are led onto the track. There's the trumpet call announcing post time.

CONTINUED

115 CONTINUED

115

## ANNOUNCER'S VOICE

Ladies and gentlemen, the fifth race at Devonshire Downs... The twentieth running of the 'Oak Royal Memorial'. Today's entries are Charlie's Dollar...Angel on My Shoulder...Mr. Bo-Jack...Whistler's Pride...

116 OMITTED

116\*

116A EXT. RACE TRACK STANDS

116A

as they react. They see Casay on the Whistler.

117 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE AND McCORMICK

117

as they close in on Alcott's box. Brady spots them. He vaults over the box and lands in an aisle. McCormick takes off after him.

118 ANGLE - HARDCASTLE

118

as he grabs hold of Alcott by the arm.

## HARDCASTLE

Ma'am, I don't think you're goin' anywhere.

Alcott tries to open her purse to get at a gun.

## HARDCASTLE

I'll take that.

He takes the purse out of her hands.

119 ANGLE - BRADY

119

as he reaches the parking lot. He swirls and snaps a shot off at McCormick who ducks for cover. Brady runs over to his car and jumps in. He hits the gas and tears away. McCormick runs over to the Coyote and jumps in.

120 ANGLE - BRADY'S CAR

120

as it screeches out of the lot pursued by the Coyote. They scream past a pair of squad cars entering the lot.



121 SERIES OF SHOTS - THE CHASE - DIRECTOR'S SEQUENCE 121

As the Coyote and Brady tear down the street. During this sequence:

122 INTERCUT START OF 'OAK ROYAL' AS THEY BREAK FROM THE GATE - STOCK 122\*

Horse race should correspond with moves of the car chase. As The Coyote pulls up on Brady's car, a horse makes its move and pulls up on a horse in front of it. When the car chase ends, we see the Whistler streak across the wire coming in second.

123 INT. CAR - DAY - ON BRADY 123

Brady glances in his rear view mirror at the Coyote. He holds his gun out the window and snaps off a shot at the Coyote. The Coyote falls back then swerves and pulls alongside the car on the other side. The two cars run together fender to fender as they tear down the street.

124 ANGLE - BRADY'S CAR 124

as it's forced out of its lane. It jumps the curb, crashes through some hedges and comes to a stop wedged between two trees. The Coyote pulls up and McCormick jumps out. He yanks Brady's door open.

MCCORMICK

Race is over, pal. You came  
in outta the money.

He pulls Brady out of the car. A couple of squad cars pull up. Giles and his men get out.

GILES

(to men)

Book 'em and read 'em their rights.

MCCORMICK

Now ya cookin'.

(off Giles' look)

I always wanted to say that.

And we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT FOUR

TAG

FADE IN:

125

EXT. TRACK - DAY

25

The Whistler, a warmup blanket thrown over him is led by Casey over to where Hardcastle and McCormick stand waiting.

McCORMICK

I hear you were terrific.

HARDCASTLE

You shoulda seen her. The kid got a real future as a jockey.

CASEY

I'm sorry I didn't win, Judge.

Hardcastle motions it's all right.

HARDCASTLE

You can't win 'em all. You did fine. Ran a great race.

(looks at McCormick)

Go get our winnings.

(to Casey)

We bet The Whistler to place, just in case.

McCormick hesitates and Hardcastle looks at him.

HARDCASTLE

What's the matter, McCormick? Horse finished second. Remember, I told you to bet it to place. Right?

McCORMICK

Well, uh, you see Judge, I uh bet the horse to win. I didn't want to queer the bet.

Hardcastle can't believe what he's hearing.

HARDCASTLE

You didn't bet him to place?

#2115

63.  
(X)

Rev. 11/29/83

125

15

CONTINUED

MCCORMICK  
He'a a champ, Judge. You don't  
bet him to come in second. You  
bet him to win!

HARDCASTLE  
And we lost!

MCCORMICK  
Okay, let's let the Whistler decide  
who was right.

Hardcastle and McCormick look at the horse. The Whistler opens  
his mouth and gives McCormick another equine version of a  
Bronx cheer and we...

FREEZE FRAME

THE END