Prison Break

An innocent prisoner must break out of jail to reunite with his family.

FADE IN:

EXT. DWAYNE'S HOUSE - DAY

A POLICE CAR grinds to a halt at the concrete driveway's end. A BLOODY CORPSE lurks behind a bush in the front yard.

The POLICE OFFICER wrenches DWAYNE (43) away from his WIFE (39) and CHILDREN.

Their desperate hands cling, then slip away.

The officer escorts him to the police car, SLAMS him against the hood, and snaps on handcuffs.

The air thickens with tension, a family shattered in moments.

EXT. PRISON ENTRANCE - DAY

Barbed wire fills most of the area including the twelve foot fence and sides of the dirt path. A guard tower is seen in the distance.

Dwayne drops his head as the officer escorts him inside.

INT. HOLDING AREA - DAY

Phones align along the wall. Security cameras take in every piece of the action that unfolds.

Dwayne dials a number, tapping his foot.

No one answers on the other end.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

The police officer sits across from Dwayne, sorting through some papers in a manila folder.

DWAYNE
You have the wrong guy!

OFFICER
The evidence says otherwise.

He leans close to Dwayne.

OFFICER (CONT'D)
Do what you're told and we'll get along just fine. Got it?

Dwayne nods.

The officer places the folder away.

INT. PRISON CAFETERIA - DAY

Heavily armed officers patrol the area in a synchronized pattern in the upper area. INMATES scatter around at different tables, some mingle with each other, some waiting in line with their tray in hand.

Dwayne carries his tray and searches for a table. He approaches someone sitting alone.

The inmate rises, sliding a finger across their neck.

In another corner of the room, he sees an inmate walking in place against a wall.

Dwayne turns around and approaches another group of inmates, giving him an intense stare.

Another inmate strolls by him, knocking the tray out of his hands. The room erupts with LAUGHTER.

Dwayne wipes the food off of his pants. He heads to another corner of the room, taking in his surroundings.

Something is off, but he can't recall what.

INT. VISITATION ROOM - DAY

Dwayne sits on the other end from his wife with a phone pressed against his ear.

They exchange a loving gaze, both of their hands overlapping on the glass window in front of them.

The officer WHISTLES to Dwayne.

EXT. PRISON YARD - DAY

Inmates do various activities such as working out, smoking cigarettes, and so on.

Dwayne keeps his distance from the others, glaring at the wide open space from the fence.

BUTCH (52) an athletic inmate covered with tattoos, grabs his shoulder. He reveals his scars on his biceps and legs.

BUTCH
Forget it. They've got us sealed in like a pack of sardines.

He pats his pockets for a cigarette. He's fresh out.

BUTCH (CONT'D)
You only have one life, so make sure you use it wisely.

He pats Dwayne's back and leaves.

INT. DWAYNE'S CELL - DAY

Concrete walls surround the small claustrophobic cell, only consisting of a toilet and a dirty bed.

Dwayne, now dressed in an ORANGE JUMPSUIT, sits on the edge of the bed, covering his face with his hands.

An idea pops into his head.

MONTAGE - VARIOUS

A) EXT. PRISON YARD - DAY - Alarms SOUND as Dwayne climbs the barbed fence. A police officer dashes up to him and pulls him down and PUNCHES him.

B) INT. PRISON CAFETERIA - DAY - Dwayne strolls to a door leading to the hallway he entered. A security camera catches him. The officer drags him away from the door.

C) EXT. PRISON YARD - DAY - Dwayne digs a hole in the dirt near a barbed fence. The officer charges to him and kicks him to the ground. The officer drags him away from the hole.

END OF MONTAGE

INT. DWAYNE'S CELL - DAY

Two hundred seventy tallies cover the concrete walls. A FRAMED PICTURE of his family is placed beside his bed.

Dwayne, severely bruised, does some push ups on the ground. He stops for a moment and holds the framed picture close to his chest.

Dwayne removes a tool box from under his bed. He opens it and notices a half eaten power bar.

He takes a bite of it. Soon, his bruises vanish.

INT. PRISON CAFETERIA - DAY

Dwayne carries his tray of food and examines the area. He makes his way to an empty table and slips on the wet floor.

His food flies everywhere and lands on a nearby inmate.

The inmate wipes himself off and within seconds, a brawl breaks out at their table.

Dwayne holds his tray close to him like a shield as he makes his way to the hallway door.

The officers sprint down the stairs to break up the fight.

As he continues to make his way to the door, Dwayne notices the security camera scanning the room.

He sprints to the trash can placed in the cameras blind spot.

An officer sprints through the doors and helps the others break up the massive brawl. Dwayne drops his tray and sprints towards the door and enters the-

HALLWAY

A glimmer of light shines at the end of the hallway. Dwayne runs down the hall.

OFFICER (O.S)
Hold it right there!

The light grows brighter and brighter until an armed officer towers over him.

OFFICER
I said hold it!

Dwayne freezes. He attempts to find a way to squeeze past the officer. It's hopeless. He's trapped.

The officer points his GUN at Dwayne.

OFFICER (CONT'D)
On the ground. Hands behind your head.

He pleads on his knees.

DWAYNE
Please. Don't--

The officer pulls the trigger.

BANG! BANG!

Dwayne falls back and lays in his pool of blood.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Various video games are placed in a shelf below a WIDE SCREEN TELEVISION. The words, "Game Over: Try again?" is displayed on the black screen.

A BOY (13) places the controller to the side.

His MOTHER enters with a bag of groceries.

She ruffles the boy's hair.

MOTHER
Having fun?

The boy nods. His mother observes the television screen.

MOTHER (CONT'D)
Isn't this kind of violent?

BOY
The only thing violent is how society treats people like him.

The boy searches through the video game instructions.

BOY (CONT'D)
What is he supposed to do? Stay silent and do nothing?

She chuckles and pecks his head.

MOTHER
It's just a game. Fifteen minutes until dinner, okay?

She leaves. The boy returns his attention to the screen, holds the controller, and selects "Yes".

CUT TO BLACK