

CARNE VALE

by Drew Bennett

Scriptnotes Three Page Challenge

drew.m.bennett@gmail.com

CUT IN.

EXT. RIO DE JANEIRO, CARNIVAL - DUSK

Crowds of people swarm the city street:

Dancing to loud music amidst Brazilian Carnival.

People wear costumes and hold drinks:

Laughing and holding each other closely.

When through a pack of bodies, a Brazilian Boy (8) appears:

A shoebox held in his hands, its base scattered by coins.

All of the bodies seem to tower over the disheveled child:

Some faces looking down only to then ignore.

The people continuing in their party, moving down the street:

While nearby, the Boy stands alone in his ragged clothes.

He shakes the shoebox in his hands and the coins jingle:

His face somewhat disappointed with the day's catch.

EXT. RIO DE JANEIRO, STREET, ELSEWHERE - DUSK

The street is covered with the excrement of fiesta:

Papers and streamers vomited upon the pavement.

As the Brazilian Boy pries through a garbage can:

Finding a small bite to eat - then swallowing it.

EXT. RIO DE JANEIRO, STREET, ELSEWHERE - NIGHT

A WOMAN pushes her GIRLFRIEND against a building's wall:

As they kiss passionately in the newborn dark.

Nearby, the Brazilian Boy eyes them and then walks past:

Nearing an entrance to an alley, down which he turns.

BARK! BARK! A rabid dog jolts out from the side.

The Brazilian Boy scared back, cautious as he heads away:

Til there he sees it – a large, overflowing dumpster.
 His hands placing the box of coins onto the ground nearby:
 As his fingers go to grace the metallic rim – digging in.
 From afar, the Boy is small and vulnerable on the empty lane:
 Becoming larger as if someone's view steadily approaches.
 The Brazilian Boy continues to dig and dig:
 Smelling some of the items – then tossing them away.
 When from afar, the stalker closes in – his victim so near.
 The Boy pulls out a shiny RED LOLLIPOP from the can:
 Til JANGLE – a LARGE GOLD COIN drops into the shoebox.
 And the Boy's face turns, surprised and thankful:
 His frame small against the foreground of a body in black.

BRAZILIAN BOY
 (in Portuguese)
 Obrigado– Obrigado demais.

BRAZILIAN BOY
 (English translation)
 Thank you– Thank you so much.

NOTE: The film should NOT feature subtitles.

The Boy's eyes look up with wetness, such appreciation:
 When suddenly, a silver blade crosses over his mouth.

VOICE

Shh–

The Boy stares up at he who wields the knife downward:
 The voice continuing to purr in steady repetition.

VOICE (CONT'D)

Shh–

The blade slowly descends from the mouth.
 And the Boy's upward view finally reveals what's above:
 A GOLD TRAGEDY MASK.
 A long pause – the Boy plagued by uncertainty:
 Until the GOLD MAN takes the Boy's hair in his hand.

The Boy beginning to struggle – SCREAMING in panic:
The red lollipop flown onto the ground where it breaks.
The Woman and Girlfriend make out in the distance, unaware:
And the dog barks loudly, threatening in defense.
The knife raises – then descends:
One slow jam into the Boy's gut.
The Boy cries out, but the killer only continues:
Taking out the knife and plunging it in again.
All so slow, over and over:
The knife pulled out, shoved back in – out, back in.
The murder lasts uncomfortably long:
Til the Gold Man finally releases the Boy, who moves away.
Nine holes inside of him, as he creeps down the path:
Turning a corner and passing by a bulldozer, sitting perched.
His feet taking him as far as he can go – not far.
And with harsh graffiti sullied on the wall behind:
The Boy's chest and then back succumb against it.
The blood wiping along the painted colors:
The Boy's eyes cold as his feet slump onto the ground.
And by the shoebox of coins, blood seeps onto the pavement:
The lucky dog finding the liquid – lapping it up.

CUT TO BLACK.