

OUTRUN, OUTWIT, OUTGUN

Written by

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FADE IN: *

EXT. RUINS - DAY *

CARL (15), a lanky teen with messy hair, and JOHNNY (16), athletic and sporting a ponytail, approach the ruins of what was once a large city. Craters and rubble abound. *

A small group of people run across the street nearby, followed by group of armed men. *

CARL
Looks like trouble. *

JOHNNY
I'll get the big one. *

Johnny dashes toward the leader of the bandits and tackles him. They tumble. Johnny gets the leader in an arm lock. Carl levels his machine gun and holds the rest at gunpoint. *

CARL
Move and I'll plug you. *

JOHNNY
What's going on here?

VANESSA (17), waif-like in well-worn clothing, steps forward from the fleeing group. *

VANESSA
These jerks were trying to take our food from us.

BANDIT #1
No we weren't, you lying little--

Johnny twists the bandit's arm. *

JOHNNY
Can it, bruiser. Carl, what do you think we should do with them? *

CARL
We could ventilate them, but it seems like a waste of ammo. *

Johnny lets the bandit up, then shoves him toward his goons. *

JOHNNY
Get out of here, you Neanderthals. *

VANESSA

Wait, what are you doing? *

JOHNNY

Saving your life. *

BANDIT #1 *

We'll be back. You'd better not be
here then. *

JOHNNY *

Get them out of here, Carl. *

Carl fires a few rounds near the bandits. They flee around a
corner. Vanessa gives Johnny an angry look. *

VANESSA

Do you know who those guys are?
They're Beale Street Brawlers, the
toughest gang in Memphis!

Johnny and Carl smile at each other. *

JOHNNY

Sounds like trouble. Let's go
somewhere we can talk. *

INT. LOCAL'S HIDEOUT - DAY

A large number of people sit in what was once a lecture hall. *
Carl, Johnny, and Vanessa stand in front of the group. *

JOHNNY

I understand you have a problem.

LOCAL #1

Problem? The Brawlers make an
unbearable life impossible!

LOCAL #2

Yeah, as if the alien invasion
wasn't bad enough! *

LOCAL #1

We have to give the Brawlers half
of our food, or they'll kill us! *

A chorus of complaints grows in the crowd. Carl signals for
everyone to calm down.

JOHNNY

We've all suffered over the last
months, but we have a solution. *

CARL

We will show you how to cut the
Brawlers down to size.

*

LOCAL #1

Oh? And just how are you planning
on doing that?

*

*

CARL

Why, by demonstrating, of course.

*

INT. LOCAL'S HIDEOUT - MOMENTS LATER

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Carl stands in front of a display screen with battle plans,
sand tables, and football plays on it.

*

*

CARL

To take care of an urban gang,
there are three things to remember:
outrun, outwit, outgun.

*

SUPER: "OUTRUN"

*

A series of pictures show on the screen: A man runs from a
bear, a girl runs from a guy in a ski mask, a kid runs from a
pack of kids on big wheels.

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CARL (V.O.)

The first thing to do is to outrun
them. This usually does the trick,
but some pursuers are more
persistent than others.

SUPER: "OUTWIT"

Pictures of mathematical equations, mousetraps, blueprints
and Rube Goldberg machines appear on the screen.

*

CARL (V.O.)

If you can't outrun them, outthink
them. Set traps, hide, and make
yourself very undesirable as prey.

*

SUPER: "OUTGUN"

Scenes of combat flash on the screen. Troops running into
combat. Explosions. Tanks. Fighter jets. A Mushroom cloud.

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CARL (V.O.)

For those bandits who just can't
take the hint, meet them with fire
power and extreme prejudice.

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Some of the locals smile and nod, but others frown. *

LOCAL #1 *

How much is this going to cost us? *

JOHNNY *

Thirty day supply of food for the *
two of us. *

LOCAL #2 *

That's outrageous! We can't-- *

JOHNNY *

--Or we leave, and you can take *
care of the Brawlers yourselves. *

Silence falls on the room. Vanessa looks to Johnny. *

VANESSA

Okay, show us what to do.

EXT. DIRTY ALLEY - DAY

Carl sets up a series of obstacles in the alley. Garbage *
cans, dumpsters, barbed wire, and a rope at the end. He walks *
to the end of the alley, and spots a group of Brawlers. *

CARL

Hey losers! Looking for me?

The Brawlers run towards Carl. *

Black screen with the word "OUTRUN" *

When the Brawlers close in, Carl takes off down the alley. He *
runs past garbage cans and tips them over, spreading slime, *
broken glass, rocks, and garbage across the alleyway.

Several Brawlers trip and fall over the garbage. *

Carl hurdles over a dumpster barrier. The Brawlers try to *
climb over, and the dumpsters tip forward onto them along *
with garbage and roaches.

Carl jumps fences, closes gates, and tumbles over abandoned *
cars. He rounds a corner and pulls the rope and clothes-lines *
the remaining Brawlers.

EXT. ABANDONED CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY *

Carl, Johnny, Vanessa and the locals stand out in the street.
Johnny hands Carl a small bag and grins.

CARL
What's this?

JOHNNY
A little something that will add
some fun to the chase. *

Carl looks into the bag.

CARL
Marbles! I like it.

VANESSA
That only works in cartoons. *

JOHNNY
This gag works in real life. *

Johnny and the locals hide across the street. Vanessa strolls
down the street while Carl waits around the corner. A group
of Brawlers see Vanessa. *

LEAD BRAWLER
What have we here? A lonely kitten
in need of a home? Here kitty,
kitty, kitty. *

She picks up the pace. The Brawlers give chase. She sprints
around the corner, the Brawlers on her heels. *

Carl steps out and slugs one of them, stopping the gang in
their tracks. Vanessa runs out of sight. The Brawlers turn
their attention to Carl, who grins at them. *

Black screen with the word "OUTWIT" *

INT. ABANDONED CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY *

Carl runs around a few corners, up a set of stairs, circles
back down the stairs, out the door and around to the back
door of the building. *

The Brawlers pursue him through the building, with Carl
leading them on a dizzying chase. As he reaches the top
story, he opens the bag of marbles, tripping up the Brawlers. *

While the Brawlers recover, Carl runs to the rooftop and
clips into a bungee cord tied to a post. *

CARL
Trouble keeping up, boys?

The enraged Brawlers charge at Carl, and he runs and jumps off the roof. He reaches the end of the cord, cuts it, salutes the Brawlers, and runs off. *

CARL (CONT'D)
Ha, ha, ha. See ya, suckers! *

INT. LOCAL'S HIDEOUT - DAY

Carl, Johnny, Vanessa and the locals stand around a table with plans spread out on the surface. A scout bursts in the door, panic on his face. *

SCOUT
There's a huge pack of Brawlers heading this way, and they're loaded for bear! *

JOHNNY
Looks like it's time to implement step number three. *

Black screen with the word "OUTGUN"

EXT. LOCAL'S HIDEOUT - DAY

Johnny and Carl distribute rifles and pistols to the locals, and direct them to positions on either side of the street. *

A large group of Beale Street Brawlers walk brazenly down the street, firing their weapons. *

LEAD BRAWLER
Come out, you cowards.

JOHNNY
Carl, you take up a sniper post up on the roof over there. I'll handle the crowd down here.

CARL
Got it. Give 'em hell, Johnny.
(to Vanessa)
Hey Vanessa, come up with me and be my spotter. *

VANESSA
Sure. What do I do? *

Johnny walks to the middle of the street. A newspaper blows across the street like a tumbleweed. The Brawlers come to a halt a few yards from Johnny. No one moves for a few moments. *

LEAD BRAWLER

I hear you been causin' trouble in my city. I won't stand for it.

Johnny looks around at the ruins.

JOHNNY

Your city? This place is a dump.

LEAD BRAWLER

Maybe, but it's mine. I'll give ya one chance to walk away, you and your little friend.

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JOHNNY

What about the locals?

LEAD BRAWLER

They're none of your business, but there will be consequences for their insolence and disobedience.

JOHNNY

If you kill them, there will be no more tribute. Guess that makes you the king of a pile of garbage.

LEAD BRAWLER

You're gonna to pay for that.

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Lead Brawler draws his gun and shoots but hits only air. Johnny shoots and drops two Brawlers, then rolls out of the way before the Brawlers get their first shots off.

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The Brawlers come under fire from all sides. They scatter and run for cover.

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LEAD BRAWLER (CONT'D)

It's an ambush! Take cover!
Brawlers, take them out!

Carl picks off one of the Brawlers, his body drops instantly in the middle of the street.

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CARL

One down, fifty to go.

He scans the street for more targets. Johnny moves quickly between rubble piles and into one of the buildings, gunfire trails him the entire way.

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*

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - DAY *

He sees the locals in position in the building. *

LOCAL #1 *

What do we do, Johnny? *

JOHNNY *

Stay put and under cover, and shoot anything that comes in that door that isn't me. *

Johnny sneaks a quick look out the window, then fires three shots. Three screams followed by three THUDS. *

Johnny gives the locals a thumbs up, runs out the door into the street, dodging fire. He runs across the street, dives to the hideout entrance, and takes cover in the doorway. *

Carl drops a brawler who stands to shoot at Johnny. Johnny scans the street, and drops two more Brawlers with two precisely placed shots. *

Carl takes the head off another Brawler. *

CARL *

Looks like we might be taking an early lunch, Vanessa. *

Vanessa screams. *

VANESSA *

Carl, help! *

Two Brawlers come through the doorway onto the roof. Vanessa fires at them but misses and they rush her. Before Carl can move they have Vanessa down on the ground. *

Carl rolls to his left as one of the Brawlers fires at him. He dodges the fire, but loses his sidearm. *

Vanessa struggles with the Brawler, but he quickly overpowers her and takes the gun from her hand. He lands a few nasty blows and drags her toward the edge of the roof. *

Carl lunges at the other Brawler, tumbles with him and launches him down the stairs. THUD. BAM. CRASH. *

The other Brawler lifts Vanessa and muscles her over the edge of the roof. Vanessa screams. She goes over the edge but doesn't drop. *

The Brawler gives a grunt, then a slow groan. He tumbles off the roof and into the street. A knife protrudes from his back. Carl runs to the edge and grabs Vanessa's arm. *

CARL

I got ya. Easy now. You okay?
Anything broken? *

VANESSA

(shakily)
No. I think I'm good.

CARL

Good. Grab your gun and watch the door. Shoot anything that moves.

Carl takes up his sniper rifle. BANG BANG BANG! Carl looks at Vanessa. She holds her smoking gun, trembling over the body of a Brawler. She smiles at Carl though tear-filled eyes. *

CARL (CONT'D)

Just like that. Keep it up.

Carl goes back to sniping, taking out two more Brawlers. *

Johnny fires the last of his bullets, one Brawler per bullet. He charges toward the Brawlers, throws his empty guns at their heads and knocks them over. *

Johnny jumps on the Lead Brawler, swings around him and throws him into the street. Before he can recover, Johnny is on him again. *

Johnny and the Lead Brawler exchange holds and blows, both of them reeling, until the Lead Brawler lands an uppercut on Johnny and knocks him to the ground. *

Johnny shakes his head and looks up. Lead Brawler aims his gun at Johnny's head. *

LEAD BRAWLER

Looks like you lose, little man.

Lead Brawler pulls the trigger. BANG! Lead Brawler stands for a moment, then collapses. Blood spreads beneath his body. Vanessa stands over the brawler, gun in hand. *

JOHNNY

Nice shooting.

VANESSA

I think I'm getting the hang of this gun fighting thing.

INT. LOCAL'S HIDEOUT - DAY

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Johnny and Carl sit at a table with several of the locals, including Vanessa. They share a meal, and all are cheerful.

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JOHNNY

Well, now you know that you don't have to give in to the next set of knuckle-draggers you meet.

CARL

I've got to admit, you guys did really well today.

LOCAL #1

A few cuts and scrapes, couple of good scares, but yeah, we did it.

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JOHNNY

With the Brawlers gone, some other gang will try to muscle in.

VANESSA

But with what you taught us, we don't have to worry about that.

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LOCAL #1

We'll have your supplies ready in the morning.

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JOHNNY

About that. We'll only take a couple days worth. You need the food far more than we do.

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VANESSA

That's very decent of you, Johnny.

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CARL

Hear hear!

All raise their cups to toast. Cheers and laughter from all around the table.

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FADE OUT.

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