

INT. SCHOOLHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The group rushes in through a side entrance as the herd closes in. Stan shuts the door and bars it with a chair. The monsters outside pound on the door for a few moments before moving on. Stan sighs but doesn't turn around when he speaks.

STAN

Maggie, that was reckless.

When he turns, he sees his group frozen. Before them, the town's kids sit still at their desks, backs straight, and hands clasped. Their mouths drip blood. They've piled the corpses of their parents at the front door, blocking it.

TOMMY

Are you OK?

CHILDREN

'R' is for ring. 'U' is for umbrella. 'O' is for orange. 'K' is for kite.

STAN

Hell.

He pulls his pistol and fires. The children charge.

EXT. SCHOOLHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Long and Everett skulk around a corner. They hear Stan's shots, look at each other, and run to the schoolhouse.

INT. SCHOOLHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The group fights for its life. During the melee, McBully, the fat kid, approaches Tommy.

MCBULLY

'T' is for toy.

Tommy innocently offers his toy gun, but McBully knocks it away. He reaches at Tommy, but at the last moment--

MAGGIE

Get away from my boy!

She smashes McBully in the face with her shovel, then she keeps smashing until the blade deforms.

EXT. SCHOOLHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Long and Everett try to break the door down, but the corpses on the other side brace it. Long looks through a knot hole.

INSERT POV

He sees Stan pistol whipping attackers out of view.

BACK TO SCENE

Everett and Long try to break the door down again. It begins to budge, cracking open just a little. Suddenly, an axe blade breaks through the door startling Everett and Long. Everett looks through the door crack.

INSERT POV

He sees Chief stumble back with a broken axe handle.

STAN

They're coming back! You gotta bust
their heads!

Chief begins punching at attackers out of view. Ray lets out a war cry, and the fight inside sounds more aggressive as tiny bodies sound like they're being hurled against the wood boards inside. Small voices groan death rattles.

BACK TO SCENE

Everett and Long make a heroic effort to force the door open as the sounds inside die down. Finally, the door gives way.

INT. SCHOOLHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The scene inside is grisly. The broken bodies of children are scattered everywhere. In the center of the room, Stan and company are covered in viscera, but otherwise unharmed. Only Chief, whose knuckles bleed from punching, is injured.

EVERETT

Jesus.

Ray falls to his knees and weeps. Maggie consoles him.

STAN

(to Everett)

Glad you're alive. Why is he here?

LONG

I heard you were good at killing
kids. I had to see it for myself.

STAN

Goddammit! You know they weren't--

EVERETT

Enough! We've got to get out of town. But we need to work together.

(to Long)

That means all of us.

Long and Stan stare at each other.

MAGGIE

Get out of town? I thought we were going to wait until morning.

EVERETT

That won't work anymore.

MAGGIE

Why?

Everett shoots Long a grim look. Long nods back.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Sam limps along, carrying his silver ore, trying to avoid drawing attention to himself. He turns a corner and sees a herd of undead shuffling his way. Sam backs up, looking frantically for a weapon. He picks up a discarded shotgun.

But stops when he hears growling in his ear. He freezes. He turns to see a Headbanger. It sniffs him, then licks him, then spits. It sneers and runs off. The herd of undead shuffle past, ignoring Sam completely. Sam moves on.

EXT. JAIL - CONTINUOUS

Everett and company sneak into the jail.

INT. JAIL - CONTINUOUS

It's a mess, but the gun rack and locker are untouched.

EVERETT

Grab what you can. We'll have a fight on our hands.

The group spreads out to tool up. Chief grabs a sturdy fire axe with a metal handle. Ray picks up a bar that's broken free from the cell. Stan reloads his pistol and replenishes his gun belt. Long picks up a rifle and looks at Maggie.

LONG

Miss. Can you shoot a rifle?

All of the other men stop and look at Maggie and then each other. Maggie looks at the reaction with surprise and indignation. She takes the rifle and loads it expertly.

MAGGIE

I can handle one just fine. My husband taught me how to shoot. To protect our home when he was away.

Long smiles in admiration. Everett spots something in the locker and hesitates before pulling it out. It's Long's pistols and gun belt. He holds them out to Long. When Long takes them Everett doesn't let go until they lock eyes.

Everett goes back to reloading. Long twirls his pistols and grins. He sights various random targets in the room before holstering with relish and flourish. He's complete again. Everett tosses ammo into a sack and hands it to Tommy.

EVERETT

You've got the most important job. Think you can handle it?

Tommy stands tall and nods. Long moves to the door.

LONG

Everyone ready?
(in Cantonese)
I wish you good luck.

He opens the door and heads out.

EXT. JAIL - CONTINUOUS

The streets here are relatively thin as Long and company step out. A wall of fire blazes in the distance in all directions as the steady report of gun fire fills the air. The army is busy. A Spitter hops onto a nearby rooftop. Long points.

He motions for everyone to move quietly. The group does so, but Tommy stumbles, jangling the ammo sack. The Spitter snaps its head toward Tommy and spits. Its acidic saliva singes Tommy's arm. Maggie raises her rifle and aims.

LONG

No! You'll draw them--

Too late. With deadly accuracy, Maggie fires at the Spitter, killing it. The group listens for reaction. Maggie checks on Tommy who is fine. They're about to move on when moans, roars, and "yoo-hoos" rise around them. The group runs.

EXT. STREET #2 - CONTINUOUS

The path ahead fills with all manner of undead and infected, but the group smashes, slashes, and blasts their way through. Only when the crowd gets too thick does Everett lead the group down an alley. He kicks a door open at the end of it.

INT. DOC MURPHY'S - CONTINUOUS

The group barricades the door with furniture. Breathless, they take in their surroundings. It's Doc's medical office, but the bodies of the little girls are missing. Instead, Doc, with his back to the group, stands over a body on the floor.

It's Claudette. Her head has been separated from her neck. Doc holds a bloody bone saw.

STAN

Doc?

Doc barely turns his head but doesn't face the group.

DOC

That fool woman. I told her we weren't school children anymore.

STAN

Doc, what happened?

DOC

She tried to kiss me. But she wasn't herself anymore.

(RE: bottle on floor)

She drank one of those snake oil potions, and it changed her.

(beat)

I had to do it. I *had* to kill her!

EVERETT

Doc, do you see what's happening outside? We've all had to do things we're not proud of to survive.

He steps toward Doc, but Doc raises a hand.

DOC

Stay away! It's not safe! It's contagious. Whatever happened to her is gonna happen to me.

MAGGIE

How do you know?

Doc slowly turns to reveal the other side of his face. He has a gaping hole chewed through his cheek.

DOC

Because she kissed me a little too hard. And I can feel it changing me. It's the bite. It's the blood. Don't let it get into your blood.

He spots Chief's bleeding knuckles. A look of concern flashes over Doc's face, but it's quickly replaced by eagerness.

DOC (CONT'D)

We need to do something about that hand. I recommend amputation. Do you concur, doctor?

He grips his saw tightly and shuffles toward Chief who steps back and raises his axe.

STAN

Whoa, Doc! Hold it right there.

DOC

It's just a minor procedure.

He keeps moving forward, and the group looks for an exit.

DOC (CONT'D)

You might feel a slight sting.

RAY

Sorry Doc.

He clubs Doc's arm, breaking it. Doc cries out in pain.

DOC

Multiple fractures!

Ray clubs him over the head, knocking him out.

EXT. SALLY'S SALOON - CONTINUOUS

Sam stumbles into the saloon. Down the street, Zeke and Sally watch in surprise and run to intercept him.

INT. SALLY'S SALOON - BACK CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Zeke and Sally rush in from the front room just in time to see Sam descending down into the secret passageway. Sam turns to grin weakly at the pair just before slamming the doors. Zeke and Sally run to them.

INT. SECRET PASSAGEWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sam slides his shotgun into the handles of the heavy doors, barring them. Try as Zeke and Sally might, they can't get the doors open. Stan stumbles back and grunts in approval. He turns to shuffle down the passageway.

INT. DOC MURPHY'S - CONTINUOUS

Stan pokes his head out and looks down the street.

STAN

Looks pretty clear. Let's go.