

## TRACK 19 - A MOMENT ON YOUR OWN

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11 year old Peter is making his very own sci-fi movie. Editing in camera on his parents S-VHS camcorder he uses his brother to play heroic space warrior 'Johnny Lightwing'. He has a whole cacophony of homemade special effects including a huge firework with a toy spaceship attached, to give the effect of the ship being launched.

The first minute of the video will be the build up to 'Johnny Lightwing's' launch with Peter the film-maker pulling out all the stops and using tricks he's seen from all his favourite movies. There are tracks, crash zooms, pans, extreme close-ups and the like as Johnny Lightwing runs through the front garden from some unknown foe, trying desperately to get to his ship. He makes it in the nick of time. The 'control room' of the ship is actually a small room in the garage, fashioned from cardboard, pvc glue and poster paint. Peter cuts quite clumsily between the control room and the Spaceship/firework, ready for take off out in the garden. The fuse is lit. Johnny Lightwing works the controls.

The rocket takes off. We are now one minute into the song and things turn strange. There is suddenly a large shadow hurtling towards earth. The camera shakes and wobbles madly and then fixes onto the cause of the commotion. The body of a man in some crazy late 19<sup>th</sup> century flying costume - all wicker and canvas - is lying on the grass. He is in agony as the rocket is piercing his chest. Peter whips the camera around as his brother (Johnny Lightwing) comes out of the garage. He sees the man lying on the grass and comes over shouting and crying. The two boys are shocked. Their game is over as they look at the man. He looks back at them. Then they notice something.



The fuse is still burning.

They run and the camera blurs and then shakes as the explosion goes off. The camera falls to the ground. A plume of smoke clouds everything else. As it clears, on a low angle we see Peter (for the first time) approach the scorched spot where the 'Flying Man' lay. He's gone. Disintegrated. Johnny Lightwing runs inside to tell mum. Peter walks over and picks up a broken canvas wing wondering what just happened. He stands for a moment on his own.

We cut to the next video.

### Notes

The entire video will be in the style of a ten year old kid's first directorial effort. Shot on ropey looking VHS and edited in camera (or at least giving the impression of being edited in camera). There will even be a cheesy little title at the start - 'The Intergalactic Adventures of Johnny Lightwing'. I want to reference classic Sci-Fi directors like Cameron, Carpenter, Scott etc to give the humorous impression that Peter is mimicking a lot of their style and motifs.

Framing the video inside a home movie in this way will make it all the more strange when the flying man appears half way through the song. Hopefully once the audience accept that this is a kid's home movie we can pull the rug from under them by throwing in this ultra-surreal and hopefully quite funny version of 'friendly fire'.

It's possible that the flying man could pop up in a later or earlier video giving a kind of through line to his character and with 'a moment on your own' marking an end to his story in the universe of Kalamazoo...

*REQUIRED:*

11 year old & brother; VHS camcorder & stock; firework; toy spaceship; control room of spaceship built; birdman & costume; explosion & smoke; bits of birdman costume; garden location [could use the back of ours at Eglantine Avenue]

2 camera shoot - one HDV & one VHS. 1 day shoot. Spaceship interior & birdman outfit are key for this one.