

SILENT ROOM

ShotList & Beat Sheet

Shot list (chronological)

Scene 0 – Prologue (audio over black) [optional if you keep it]

Black screen – SFX montage

- Gunshots, sirens, screams, brief news VO about “another school shooting.”[Attachment]
- Duration: ~5–8 seconds.

Insert – Newspaper article (match cut into image)

- CU of newspaper front page: blurred headline, visible text “SCHOOL SHOOTING,” “TRAGIC LOSS / ONLY SON.”[Attachment]
- Duration: 2–3 seconds.

Scene 1 – The room as a tomb



WS – Child's bedroom, empty

- Off-kilter angle. Bed center frame with twisted superhero sheets, toys scattered, half-finished family drawing on desk, backpack spilling crayons, sunlight slashing in.[Attachment]
- Duration: 4–5 seconds, slow push-in.

CU – Family drawing

- Stick-figure parents and one child, smiles slightly smeared, paper edges curling, faint breeze making it tremble.[Attachment]
- Duration: 3 seconds.

CU – Backpack and spilled crayons

- Crayons on floor, one broken, backpack slumped, zipper open.
[Attachment]
- Duration: 2 seconds.

Scene 2 – Mother enters

MS – Mother in doorway

- Silhouette against brighter hall, face half in shadow, hand gripping doorknob, shadow stretching into the room.[Attachment]
- Duration: 4 seconds (she hesitates).

CU – Mother's hand on knob

- Trembling fingers, white knuckles, frame slightly canted.[Attachment]
- Duration: 2 seconds.

MCU – Mother steps in, scans room

- Slow move toward bed, eyes searching as if expecting him to appear.
[Attachment]
- Duration: 4 seconds.

CU – Mother's hand on sheets

- Fingers tracing rumpled superhero bedding, lingering on creases.
[Attachment]
- Duration: 3 seconds.

CU – Toy gun among action figures

- Gun dominates foreground, fallen hero figure beside it, barrel aimed at it.
[Attachment]
- Duration: 3 seconds.



MCU – Mother reacts to toy gun

- Eyes widen, body folds inward, hand recoils as if burned.[Attachment]
- Duration: 3 seconds.

Scene 3 – Father enters

WS – Father in doorway

- Rigid, statue-like, framed by chaos of the room behind Mother.[Attachment]
- Duration: 3 seconds.

CU – Father's hand lifting drawing

- Paper trembling slightly, smudged stick figures.[Attachment]
- Duration: 3 seconds.

ECU – Tear hits drawing

- Tear in slow motion, soaking crayon line, causing tiny warp.[Attachment]
- Duration: 2–3 seconds.

MCU – Father's face breaking

- Eyes squeeze shut, jaw clenched in silent scream.[Attachment]

- Duration: 3 seconds.

Scene 4 – Quick-cut metaphor montage

CU – Mother clutching small shirt

- Small shirt bunched in her fists, knuckles white.[Attachment]
- Duration: 2 seconds.

MS – Mother burying face in shirt

- Body curling inward, shoulders shaking.[Attachment]
- Duration: 2–3 seconds.

Detail – Shirt collar

- Slightly frayed, faint old stain (juice/paint).[Attachment]
- Duration: 2 seconds.

CU – Calendar on wall

- Red crayon circle around school event/date, lines slightly smudged/bleeding.[Attachment]
- Duration: 2 seconds.

MS – Father staring at calendar

- Half in shadow, pages flutter faintly.[Attachment]
- Duration: 2–3 seconds.

ECU – Red circle

- Slow micro-zoom, jagged crayon line almost pulsing.[Attachment]
- Duration: 2 seconds.

Scene 5 – Parents' embrace and mausoleum pullback

WS – Parents move to center of room

- Surrounded by toys, drawings, bed; clutter tight around them.
[Attachment]
- Duration: 3 seconds.

MS – Mother collapses into Father

- He holds her, posture strained, her hair like a veil over her face.
[Attachment]

- Duration: 4 seconds.

CU – Their faces pressed together

- Tears streaming, eyes closed.[Attachment]
- Duration: 3 seconds.

CU – Interlocked hands

- Fingers gripping hard, skin indentations.[Attachment]
- Duration: 2 seconds.

Slow pull-back – Room as mausoleum

- Camera recedes, parents shrink in frame, relics dominate.[Attachment]
- Duration: 5 seconds.

Detail pan – Relic objects

- Toppled block tower, lone sneaker, crayon stub glowing faintly.
[Attachment]
- Duration: 4–5 seconds (can be intercut with the pull-back).



Scene 6 – Newspaper and final closure

Flash insert – Newspaper clipping on desk

- Half-buried under crayons, visible “SCHOOL SHOOTING, ONLY SON LOST.” [Attachment]
- Duration: 2 seconds (hard cut/flash).

ECU – Key words

- “SCHOOL SHOOTING,” “ONLY SON” pulsing subtly.[Attachment]
- Duration: 2 seconds.

WS – Door begins to close

- Parents small in frame, door slowly swinging shut.[Attachment]
- Duration: 4–5 seconds.

Detail – Edge of door / narrowing light

- Sliver of hall light shrinking to nothing.[Attachment]
- Duration: 3–4 seconds.

Black screen – residual glow fades

- Faint sense of their outline fading to full black.[Attachment]
- Duration: 2 seconds.

Title card

- “In memory of the silenced” in white on black, slight blur at edges. [Attachment]
- Duration: 3–4 seconds.

Beat sheet

Beat 1 – Context of tragedy (Prologue)

Emotional function: Establish off-screen violence and frame the story as aftermath of a school shooting.

- Visual focus: Audio montage over black, then a newspaper clipping to anchor reality.

Beat 2 – The silent room

- Emotional function: Convey absence and eeriness; the child’s life is frozen mid-moment.



Negit No: 1.
Regit Note:



Negit No: 2.
Regit Note:



Hallit No: 3.
Regit Note:



Negit No: 4.
Regit Note:

- Visual focus: Empty bedroom tableau, drawing, backpack, and light/shadows establishing the room as a tomb.

Beat 3 – Mother's grief awakens the space

- Emotional function: Introduce intimate, personal grief; her entry reactivates the room emotionally.
- Visual focus: Doorway entrance, trembling hand, touch on sheets, discovery of toy gun.

Beat 4 – Father’s collapse

- Emotional function: Show the quieter, internalized breakdown of the father.
- Visual focus: His entrance, the drawing, the tear on paper, and his silent scream.

Beat 5 – Memory fragments / metaphor montage

- Emotional function: Fragmented, visceral grief; flashes of what was lost and of the day itself.
- Visual focus: Shirt, calendar, ghostly son playing and waving; fast, rhythmic cutting.

Beat 6 – Shared grief, one unit

- Emotional function: Parents become a single, broken entity; grief unites and crushes them.[Attachment]
- Visual focus: Embrace in center of room, interlocked hands, pull-back to reveal mausoleum of objects.

Beat 7 – Naming the loss

- Emotional function: Brief, brutal clarity of the event, tying emotion to explicit reality.
- Visual focus: Flash of newspaper clipping and key words.

Beat 8 – Sealing the tomb

- Emotional function: Finality; door closing as a metaphor for permanent loss and entrapment in grief.[Attachment]
- Visual focus: Door slowly shutting, narrowing light, near-darkness with faint outline of the couple.

Beat 9 – Dedication

- Emotional function: Transform personal story into collective memorial.
- Visual focus: Title card, “In memory of the silenced.

Actor Direction & Beat Notes (‘silent_room_direction.md’)

Covers:

Core directing principles (silence as language, restraint over melodrama, earned tears)

THE MOTHER (40s) – complete arc with 5 key beats:

- Doorway entry (trembling, dread)
- The bed (searching for presence)

- Toy gun reaction (rupture moment)
- The shirt (surrender & convulsion)
- The embrace (merging with Father)

THE FATHER (40s) – complete arc with 6 key beats:

- Rigid doorway entrance
- Walking to drawing (compulsion)
- The tear moment (dam breaks)
- Silent scream (primal eruption)
- Calendar stare (time as betrayer)
- The embrace (holding & being held)

Ensemble direction (room as character, micro-expressions, breath work)

Technical notes (high frame rate sequences, practical effects interaction, lighting precision)

Prop list

Core handheld / hero props:

- Toy gun (plastic, non-realistic but clearly gun-shaped).
- Assorted action figures (some “heroic,” with swords or accessories).
- Small child’s T-shirt (slightly worn, light color, shows texture on camera).
- Crayons (box plus loose crayons, including at least one broken).
- Crayon drawing of stick-figure family (multiple copies for resets).

[Attachment]

- Wall calendar with red crayon circle around school event/date (backup copies).
- Newspaper with custom clipping/headline about school shooting / “only son lost.”
- Child’s backpack (bright, age-appropriate, half unzipped).
- Building blocks (for son’s ghost tower).
- Single child’s sneaker/small shoe for detail shot.

Set dressing props:

- Bed with superhero sheets and pillow (extra top sheet for continuity options).
- Nightstand (optional) with small lamp / kids’ items.
- Desk or small table with drawing, crayons, possibly school paper.
- Simple kid’s chair.

- Wall posters or decals (superheroes, space, sports—kept minimal for visual cleanliness).
- Curtain set that can look slightly tattered or worn; can be clipped/rigged to shape light slashes.
- Door and doorknob that read clearly in close-up.

Wardrobe:

- Mother: simple, neutral clothes (t-shirt/sweater, jeans), slightly rumpled, no large logos.
- Father: casual clothes (t-shirt/shirt, jeans), muted tones, light stubble.

Set / art notes

Room layout:

- Bed center or slight off-center to allow strong composition with door and window in frame.
- Desk placed to catch a hard shaft of light on drawing and later on newspaper.
- Calendar positioned where Father can be framed profile or 3/4 with calendar foreground.

Color and texture:

- Play strong contrast in real world even though final is black-and-white: dark bedframe, bright sheets, mid-tone walls.
- Props with clear texture (cotton shirt, paper edges, wood blocks) to read under high contrast.

Practical lighting motivators:

- One main window with curtains for shadow “claw marks.”
- Optional table lamp as practical (can stay off but give motivation for shape).

SPECIAL NOTES

Numbered shot list (38 shots total) with:

- Scene/beat assignments
- Lens recommendations (24mm, 35mm, 50mm, 85mm)
- Estimated screen durations for each shot

- Production-specific notes (lighting, movement, FX)
- ✓ Timing breakdown by scene showing how you reach ~2 minutes total
- ✓ Setup grouping to optimize your shoot day (5 main camera positions to minimize moving the rig)
- ✓ Complete prop & set list including:
 - Core handheld props (toy gun, shirt, calendar, newspaper, etc.)
 - Set dressing (bed, desk, curtains, door)
 - Wardrobe specs for all characters
 - Art department lighting/composition notes
- ✓ Post-production FX notes for:
 - Son ghost compositing
 - Tear slow-mo requirements
 - Newspaper flash transition
 - Door mechanics
 - Title card specs
- ✓ Estimated shoot duration (~10.5–12 hours for a small crew)

Location Scouting Guide ('silent_room_location.md')

Covers:

- ✓ Ideal room specs (9' × 12' minimum, 9–10' ceiling)
- ✓ Window requirements (East/South-facing, 3' × 5' minimum, for harsh directional shadows)
- ✓ Doorway specs (standard interior door, bright hallway beyond for silhouette lighting)
- ✓ Flooring, electrical access, acoustic notes
- ✓ Logistics (parking, crew amenities, availability)
- ✓ Budget reference (\$500–\$3,500/day depending on location type)
- ✓ Location checklist (14-point verification)
- ✓ Sample location descriptions (residential, boutique studio, rental studios)
- ✓ Post-scout note template

SILENT ROOM – Production Shot List

****A micro short film by Kevin B. Ploth****

****Black and white. Silent. Runtime 2 minutes.****

Numbered Shot List with Lens Suggestions & Estimated Durations

 #	 Scene/Beat	 Shot Type & Lens	 Duration	 Description	 Production Notes
1	Prologue	Black / SFX	5–8 sec	Black screen with layered gunshots, sirens, screams, brief news VO about a school shooting.	[file:1] No camera; sound-only design.
2	Prologue	CU 50mm	2–3 sec	Newspaper front page, blurred headline, readable "SCHOOL SHOOTING," "TRAGIC LOSS / ONLY SON."	[file:1] Slight handheld to feel unstable.
3	Scene 1	WS 24mm	4–5 sec	Off-kilter wide of child's bedroom: twisted superhero sheets, scattered action figures, desk with drawing, backpack spilling crayons, harsh light through curtains.	[file:1] Slow push-in on slider; frame slightly canted.
4	Scene 1	CU 50–85mm	3 sec	Family crayon drawing on desk, edges curling, faint movement from breeze.	[file:1] Subtle fan for paper tremble.
5	Scene 1	CU 50mm	1–2 sec	Backpack by door, zipper open, crayons spilled, one broken.	[file:1] Static, brief hold.
6	Scene 2	MS 35mm	4 sec	Mother in doorway, silhouette against brighter hall, face half in shadow, hand on knob.	[file:1] Slow dolly-in as she hesitates.
7	Scene 2	CU 85mm	2 sec	Mother's trembling hand gripping doorknob, knuckles white, slightly skewed frame.	[file:1] Could shoot at high fps for micro-linger.
8	Scene 2	MCU 50mm	4 sec	Mother steps into room, scanning, eyes searching, the room behind her.	[file:1] Very slow push, shallow depth.
9	Scene 2	CU 50mm	3 sec	Mother's hand on twisted sheets, fingers tracing creases.	[file:1] Macro-ish if available; emphasize texture.
10	Scene 2	CU 50mm (low)	3 sec	Toy gun and action figures; gun dominant foreground, fallen hero beside it.	[file:1] Hard side light for long shadow.
11	Scene 2	MCU 85mm	3 sec	Mother's reaction to gun: eyes widen, body folds inward, slight recoil.	[file:1] Hold in silence; minimal movement.
12	Scene 3	WS 35mm	3 sec	Father appears in doorway behind her, rigid, framed by room's chaos.	[file:1] Static; composition statue-like.

| 13 | Scene 3 | MS 35–50mm | 3 sec | Father walking toward desk, his shadow crossing the drawing.[file:1] | Slow track with him. |

| 14 | Scene 3 | CU 50mm | 3 sec | His hand lifts drawing; paper trembles, smudged stick figures.[file:1] | Add micro shake in hand performance. |

| 15 | Scene 3 | ECU 85–100mm | 2–3 sec | Tear in slow motion falling onto drawing, spreading into crayon.[file:1] | Shoot high fps for clean slow-mo. |

| 16 | Scene 3 | MCU 85mm | 3 sec | Father's face breaking, eyes squeezed shut, silent scream.[file:1] | Background soft, isolate him. |

| 17 | Scene 4 | CU 50mm | 2 sec | Mother's hands crushing small shirt, knuckles white, veins visible.[file:1] | Handheld micro-movements. |

| 18 | Scene 4 | MS 50mm | 2–3 sec | Mother pressing shirt to face, body curling inward.[file:1] | Slight dolly-in to intensify. |

| 19 | Scene 4 | Detail 85mm | 2 sec | Shirt collar, slightly frayed, faint stain.[file:1] | Very shallow depth, nearly abstract. |

| 20 | Scene 4 | CU 50mm | 2 sec | Calendar on wall; red crayon circle around school event, lines smudged.[file:1] | Hard top light, background dark. |

| 21 | Scene 4 | MS 50mm | 2–3 sec | Father staring at calendar, half in shadow, pages fluttering slightly.[file:1] | Gentle fan to move pages. |

| 22 | Scene 4 | ECU 85mm | 2 sec | Red circle, slow micro-zoom, jagged lines pulsing.[file:1] | Push in on slider or digital zoom. |

| 23 | Scene 4 | WS 24–35mm | 2–3 sec | Son ghost overlay in center of room, stacking blocks, semi-transparent.[file:1] | Lock-off plate for FX work. |

| 24 | Scene 4 | CU 50mm | 2 sec | Son's joyful face, edges flickering like old film.[file:1] | Shoot clean; flicker added in post. |

| 25 | Scene 4 | MS 35mm | 3 sec | Son at door waving goodbye; then dissolves into light and shadows.[file:1] | Matched plates for FX dissolve. |

| 26 | Scene 5 | WS 24–35mm | 3 sec | Parents move to center of room, surrounded by toys and drawings.[file:1] | Static, let blocking play. |

| 27 | Scene 5 | MS 50mm | 4 sec | Mother collapsing into Father's chest, his arms straining to hold her.[file:1] | Slow lateral move or push. |

| 28 | Scene 5 | CU 85mm | 3 sec | Their faces pressed together, tears, eyes closed.[file:1] | Extreme intimacy, shallow DOF. |

| 29 | Scene 5 | CU 85mm | 1–2 sec | Interlocked hands, fingers gripping tightly.[file:1] | Quick insert. |

| 30 | Scene 5 | Slow pull-back 24mm | 5 sec | Camera pulling back, parents shrinking, relics dominating frame.[file:1] | Long, smooth pull on slider/jib. |

| 31 | Scene 5 | Detail pan 35–50mm | 4–5 sec | Pan across objects: toppled block tower, lone sneaker, crayon stub.[file:1] | Can intercut with shot 30. |

| 32 | Scene 6 | Flash CU 50mm | 2 sec | Newspaper clipping on desk under crayons; "SCHOOL SHOOTING, ONLY SON LOST." | Single-frame-ish flash or hard cut. |

| 33 | Scene 6 | ECU 85mm | 2 sec | Key words "SCHOOL SHOOTING," "ONLY SON" with subtle pulse. | Quick zoom-in or static. |

| 34 | Scene 6 | MS 50mm | 4 sec | Parents' desperate embrace; their merged shadow on wall. | Angle to clearly show shadow fusion. |

| 35 | Scene 6 | WS 24mm | 4–5 sec | Door slowly closing, parents small in deep background. | Agonizingly slow move of door. |

| 36 | Scene 6 | Detail 50mm | 3–4 sec | Edge of door, hallway light narrowing to sliver. | Match-cut from shot 35 for emphasis. |

| 37 | Scene 6 | Black | 2 sec | Near-black frame with faint residual glow around their silhouette, then full black. | Done in color grade. |

| 38 | Scene 6 | Title Card | 3–4 sec | White text "In memory of the silenced" on black, edges slightly blurred. | Simple fade out. |

Total Estimated Screen Time by Beat

- **Prologue**: 7–11 seconds
- **Scene 1 (Empty Room)**: 8–12 seconds
- **Scene 2 (Mother)**: 18–21 seconds
- **Scene 3 (Father)**: 14–16 seconds
- **Scene 4 (Quick Cuts & Overlays)**: 20–24 seconds
- **Scene 5 (Embrace & Pullback)**: 20–24 seconds
- **Scene 6 (Closure & Title)**: 20–24 seconds

Grand Total: ~107–132 seconds (1:47–2:12)

Target: 2 minutes (120 seconds)

Production Notes & Optimization

Setup Grouping (To Minimize Company Moves)

Setup A – Mother at Doorway & Bed (Shots 6–11)

- Position mother in doorway, then move her into room toward bed
- Hold for all doorknob, hand, and reaction close-ups

- Change lenses for detail work (85mm for reactions)

****Setup B – Father Enter & Desk (Shots 12–16)****

- Father enters from doorway, walks to desk
- Capture his approach, his hand lifting drawing, tear, face break
- Use matching angle for continuity with Setup A

****Setup C – Quick Cuts Montage (Shots 17–25)****

- These shots can be recorded in flexible order
- Mother's shirt sequence (17–19)
- Calendar inserts (20–22)
- Son ghost overlays (23–25) – requires VFX coordination in post

****Setup D – Central Room Embrace (Shots 26–31)****

- Static and slow-moving shots of parents in room center
- Capture them meeting, collapsing together, interlocked hands
- Run the slow pull-back while capturing detail pans

****Setup E – Door Closing (Shots 35–37)****

- Position door for slow closure
- Shoot from inside room looking toward exit
- Light so hallway is brighter, parents' silhouette visible

Lens Summary

- ****Wide (24mm)****: Establishing, room scale, pull-backs
- ****Standard (35–50mm)****: Medium coverage, hand/object detail, blocking
- ****Telephoto (85–100mm)****: Close-ups, emotional beats, isolation

Handheld vs. Locked-Off

- Most shots ****locked-off**** or on rails/slider for precision and silent operation
- Slight handheld for newspaper (shot 2) and quick-cut montage for urgency
- Slow, motorized movements for emotional weight (pulls, pushes, pans)

Post-Production FX Notes

- ****Son ghost overlay****: Composite plates with semi-transparency fade
- ****Tear slow-mo****: Shoot at 60fps minimum
- ****Newspaper flash****: Hard cut or quick dissolve in edit
- ****Shadow fusion****: Practical or post-graded shadow on wall
- ****Door close****: Motorized or practical rigged for slow-motion effect

- **Title card**: Simple fade, white text on black, slight blur at edges

