

Page One: 'Cloverfield' (2008)

[Scott Myers](#)

Written by Drew Goddard

6/8/07 CLOVERFIELD by Drew Goddard 1.

FROM BLACK -- block letters appear on-screen:

PROPERTY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

The letters disappear, replaced by:

DOCUMENT #USGX-8810-B467/DIGITAL VIDEOCASSETTE
MULTIPLE SIGHTINGS OF CASE DESIGNATE "CLOVERFIELD"

Then:

CAMERA RETRIEVED AT INCIDENT SITE "US-447"
(AREA FORMERLY KNOWN AS CENTRAL PARK)

FADE IN:

1 INT. BETH'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAWN 1

WIDE ON THE CITY -- we're looking DOWN ON MANHATTAN as the MORNING SUN breaks through the skyline.

And as the image adjusts slightly, we realize we're looking THROUGH A VIDEO CAMERA. We hear a MAN'S VOICE. It's whispered, quiet --

VOICE (O.S.)
Six forty-two a.m...

His name is ROB HAWKINS.

As he backs away from the window, we catch a glimpse of HIS REFLECTION in the glass. And even though the VIDEOCAMERA is obscuring most of his face, we can tell he's smiling --

ROB
It's already a good day.

And as Rob SWINGS THE CAMERA AROUND we get a better look at our surroundings -- we're in a MANHATTAN APARTMENT -- floor-to-ceiling windows; opulent but not garish. The tasteful decor suggests a feminine touch.

CAMERA MOVES THROUGH the living room. We hear Rob's BARE FEET quietly padding along the hardwood floors --

He approaches a SIDE TABLE covered with FRAMED PHOTOGRAPHS -- they're all of A GIRL (Beth) and her various friends and family. Rob's hand reaches into frame, selects one photograph in particular:

Note the use of CAPITALIZATION, bold, and underlining

to emphasize certain visual elements in the scene. Also for those of you who believe there is some rule stating that writers cannot use we see / we hear / we move, as I say: Who are you going to believe? Professional screenwriters like Drew Goddard who wrote the screenplay for *Cloverfield* or some 'rule' which isn't really a rule because there are no screenwriting rules?

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