

Youth Violence: Inside the Skin
**SCENE-BY-SCENE
DISCUSSION POINTS**

0:03 -- INTRODUCTION OF STORYLINE

1. Graphic
2. Graphic
3. Graphic
4. Graphic with voice
6. Older James throws a football and talks about the kids in his town.

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[SEGMENT 1.....12.5 MINUTES]

FLASHBACK: 7 YEARS EARLIER

0:1:33 -- INTRODUCTION OF CHARACTERS & SETTINGS

7. Kids playing in the park: *Establish the common thread of the playground*

MEET SEAN'S FAMILY: **VIOLENCE BEGETS VIOLENCE**

8. View of the apartment complex: *Establish "the projects"*
9. In Sean's apartment: *Beginning of a portrait of anger.*

OVERARCHING QUESTIONS - CHOICES: DO THEY EXIST? CAN WE CREATE THEM?

0:4:4 -- ZOOM IN ON JAMES' FAMILY: **THE FAMILY DYNAMICS WITH A LOW-INCOME SINGLE MOM WHO CARES**

10. The Park: *Back to common ground. Meet Kisha (status of running with an older crowd) and LaToya (peer pressure -- use your instincts).*
11. Denise Jenkins gets home from work: *A caring mom may look angry.*
- 12, 13, 14. Denise puts on make-up and puts the kids to bed: *To what lengths will you go for companionship for yourself, your kids? When is the stretch too far?*
15. Jamal comes to the door: *Denise: Can you/should you hold your ground? Getting in too far to get out... metaphorically and physically.*
16. The kids hear that Jamal is insisting on coming in, even though Denise has told him he must never come over drunk: *Kids on alert.*
17. Jamal gets more insistent and forces his way in: *Uncontrolled anger, expecting others to fulfill your needs.*
18. The kids listen: *Feeling helpless. Lack of control.*
19. Jamal pushes Denise down.
20. Kids listen.
21. Jamal leaves.
22. Denise comforts the kids: *Fear of parental harm: what it does to a child.*

0:11:41 -- SADIE TO THE RESCUE: **THE IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORT GROUPS**

23. Denise cleans up the broken picture. Sadie comes in and support Denise in breaking up with Jamal: *Support groups can help you sort things out.*

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[SEGMENT 2..... 23.5 MINUTES]

OVERARCHING THEMES - WANTING TO BE COOL: FOLLOWERS AND LEADERS

0:14:07 -- MEET THE GANG

24. James is watching a movie that shows young adults at a party. Sean comes to get him to play football.
- 25, 27, 29, 31, 36. Kisha imitates her mother by putting on make-up. *Wanting to run with a fast, older crowd.*
- 26, 28. Neighborhood boys play football.
29. Kisha continues finishes putting on make-up. Rap music signals gang approaching.
- 30, 32, 33. A long red car cruises down the street. We meet J. D., Jermaine, and Akeivo
34. Mothers grab their children and leave quickly.

35. Jermaine calls to James to come over to the car. James is afraid, but Sean is proud that the cool guys are paying attention to them.
- 36, 37. Kisha leaves the apartment and walks to the car, happy to see her boyfriend, Akeivo.
38. Kisha tries to make the boys go home. James thinks the car is cool and gets inside.
39. Sean gets in car. Kisha persuades James to get out, Sean won't leave.
40. James watches as the car drives away with his best friend Sean inside.
41. J.D. and Akeivo discuss being late for drug deal. J. D. steps on the gas.

0:23:50 -- THE DRUG DEAL: **FOR SEAN, WRONG PLACE WRONG TIME**

42. Car drives into parking lot.
43. All look for drug guy. Cop pulls up. Akeivo asks Sean to deliver drugs. Jermaine and Kisha protest. Sean agrees to do it and gets out of the car.
44. Sean walks toward the red sports car.
45. Inside the sports car, Mark is nervous, smoking. Sean knocks on the window.
- 45A. Mark unrolls window and gets the bag from Sean.
- 45B. Sean warns they are watching.
- 45C. Mark looks over at the J.D.'s car.
46. All watch Sean return. Sean gets in the car. Akeivo counts the money. J. D. starts the car.
47. J. D.'s car pulls out of parking lot followed by Mark's car. Mark speeds away.

0:29:34 -- MEET MARK: **BOREDOM AND ADDICTION**

48. Mark drives down the road. We hear more about him.
- 48B. Mark plays with his "toys".
49. Mark speeds down the road.

0:30:29 -- MEET BRAD: **FOLLOWERS AND LEADERS**

50. We meet Brad and hear about him and his family. Mark enters. Brad mixes "gee". He is clearly the leader and Mark is the follower.
51. Mark and Brad are high as they drive down the street.
52. Mark's car speeds along the street in an upper-class neighborhood.
53. Mark and Brad look for Logan's house.
54. Mark's car enters Logan's driveway.
55. Brad and Mark put on gloves and prepare to rob Logan's house.
56. Brad and Mark get out of car and go to back of house.
57. Brad and Mark go in back door, entering a large living room.
58. In Logan's parent's bedroom, Mark steals jewelry. Brad enters and finds money in the drawer. They discuss going into Logan's room.
59. In Logan's bedroom, Mark finds drugs and money in the air vent.

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[SEGMENT 3..... 13 MINUTES]

THE STORIES SPEED UP

0:37:44 -- SHAKEDOWN AT THE BASKETBALL COURT - **TERRITORIALITY, CONTROL ISSUES, POWER**

60. Another gang is playing basketball on an outdoor court. J.D.'s car drives up.
61. J.D., Jermaine, Akeivo watch from a distance, looking for one guy. They see him and Akeivo and Jermaine jump out of the car and run toward the court.
- 61A. Akeivo and Jermaine attack a guy.
- 61B. In the car, Kisha tells Sean to stay in the car as she is getting out. J.D. tells Sean "if you wanna ride..." Sean gets out of the car.
62. J. D. and Jermaine continue beating the guy. Sean walks up to the fence and watches.

0:40:33 -- BACK TO MARK AND BRAD: **FOLLOWERS AND LEADERS**

- 63A. We see the outside of a pawn shop. The camera zooms in through the window.
63. Meet wacky Pawn Shop dude. Mark and Brad hock the stolen jewelry.

0:43:10- -- **BRAD'S NEGLECT LEADS TO MORE ACTING OUT. MARK FOLLOWS TO FEEL COOL.**

64. Brad and his parents eat dinner. He leaves in anger when his mom tells of the principal calling.

65. In the church parking lot, Brad and Mark hang with their friends. They brag about the money they have from robbing Logan's house. Logan arrives and asks for his money back. They fight and leave Logan on the ground bleeding.

0:47:52 -- KISHA WALKS OUT: **HEARING YOUR PARENTS**

66, 67. James wakes up as he hears Kisha and Denise arguing.

68. Kisha and Denise argue about Akeivo. Kisha leaves. Denise tells James not to run around with guys like Akeivo and she wants better things for him.

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[SEGMENT 4..... 22.5 MINUTES]

OVERARCHING THEMES: *NEGLECT AND BULLYING*

0:50:55 -- MEET ANNE: **NEGLECT AND ANGER.**

69. Back at the playground, we meet Anne. She is happy. We learn of her parents' divorce and how her mother became distracted and aloof.

70. At Anne's house, the camera zooms in on a photo of Anne and her mom taken when they were getting along -- before the divorce.

71. In the living room, Anne pushes her younger sister to the floor. Her mother enters and sends Anne to her room.

72. Anne destroys things in her room.

73. Anne's mother is distractedly holding Anne's little sister. She responds to the noise in Anne's room.

74. Anne's mother enters Anne's room. Anne tells her that she never listens -- her mother doesn't know her correct age. Her mother realizes how out of touch she is with her child and is devastated. Anne runs away.

0:54:13 -- ANNE AND OTHERS BULLY MICHAEL: **BULLYING AND THE NEW KID IN TOWN**

75. We meet Michael, new kid in town. He is kicked out of a game by Anne.

76. In the middle school hall, Michael is at his locker. Harley and Jeremy knock into him, bullying him.

77. At home, Micheal tries to talk to his mom, but she's in a hurry to leave.

80. The next morning, Michael asks his parents if they can go to their old home for his best friend's birthday party. His parents say no, and Michael leaves angrily. Michael's parents are visibly upset.

81. On the bus, Harley and Jeremy shove each other into Michael. Michael snaps and throws a book bag at them. The bus driver has to pull them apart.

82. The Principal suspends Michael for throwing a book bag.

84. At home, Michael's mother yells at him -- he is far away.

85. Back at school, Michael is harassed by Harley and Jeremy.

86. School let's out at the end of the day. Harley and Jeremy line up to catch the bus behind Micheal.

1:4:45 -- JAMES: **THE COURAGE TO WALK AWAY.** SEAN: **THE SLIPPERY SLOPE.**

87. Walking home from school, the elementary school kids gather to watch a fight. James is being bullied. Sean tells him to fight back. James walks away. Kisha enters and tells him she's proud of him for walking away. James asks her to come home. As she leaves we can see she is pregnant. Denise honks the horn and James goes to meet her.

88. In the car, Denise asks about James' day. James watches Sean get into J. D.'s car.

OVERARCHING QUESTION: *HOW FAR WILL A GOOD KID GO WHEN PUSHED TO THE MAX?*

1:8:19 -- MICHAEL IS CORNERED: **VIOLENCE BEGETS VIOLENCE**

89. Back at the middle school, Micheal freaks and bolts from the bus line toward the back of the school. Jeremy and Harley run after him.

90. Behind the school, Jeremy and Harley beat up Micheal.

92. At home, Michael limps into the kitchen and finds a note from his mom that they are out with clients -- again.

93. Micheal goes into his parents bedroom and gets a hunting knife from his father's dresser drawer.

94. The next morning on the bus, Micheal clutches his backpack with the knife in it. Harley and Jeremy get on the bus. Micheal starts to pull out the knife and Anne yells to stop. Micheal thinks she is yelling at him and he quickly zips up his bag. Anne was actually talking to another kid on the bus. Exhausted from the tension, his timing thrown off, Michael slumps into the seat.

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[SEGMENT 5 7 MINUTES]

FLASH FORWARD 7 YEARS TO THE PRESENT

1:13:23 -- ANNE, JAMES, SEAN ARE TEENAGERS NOW: *WHEN DESTRUCTIVE TRAITS AREN'T DEALT WITH OVER TIME*

95. On the bus. Now a teenager, Micheal is talking to a girl. Anne is yelling at someone about a pencil in much the same way as she did 7 years ago. She is clearly angry and generally unhappy. Anne and 2 friends get off the bus.

96. Anne and friends walk down the street and pass a basketball court where James and Sean are playing.

96A. We zoom in on their game and hear James telling Sean he shouldn't be out all night every night with the gang. J. D. pulls up and calls to Sean to come with him. Sean leaves.

1:15:49 -- BRAD, MARK AND ANNE: *OLDER AND COLDER. ANNE'S FATAL TEMPER.*

97. In a parking lot, we see Brad and Mark in Brad's car doing cocaine.

97A1. Anne and Sue come out of a night spot and go to their car.

97A2. Brad and Mark watch the girls. Brad has an idea and gets out of the car. As he walks toward Anne and Sue, he pulls a gun out of his pocket. Mark is anxious about this and doesn't know what Brad is up to.

97B. Brad and Mark approach Anne and Sue and say hello.

97C & D1. Brad shows them the gun and asks for their purses.

97D2. Brad yells. Mark is very nervous. Brad hands a purse to Mark.

97E, F, G. Anne refuses to give up her purse. Sue pulls it out of her hands and gives it to Brad.

97H. Ext. As they turn to go, Brad sees a cell phone on the dash board and asks for it. Anne hands it to him. Brad and Mark walk away. Brad insults Mark.

98. Inside Anne's car, Anne and Sue are visibly upset.

98A1. Inside Brad's car, Brad yells at Mark about being a coward.

98A2. In Anne's car, Anne tells Sue to fasten her seat belt. Through Anne's windshield we can see Brad's car leaving. Anne rams his car.

99. Mark grabs Brad's gun, gets out of the car and shoots into Anne's car. He gets back in the car and Brad skids out of the parking lot.

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[SEGMENT 6 9 MINUTES NOT COUNTING CREDITS]

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE CHILDREN?

1:20:27 -- BACK TO JAMES AND SEAN: *ENDGAME*

101. In the High School Gym, basketball practice is ending. Coach Miller asks James to meet him in his office. As they are walking off the court, Coach Miller gets a phone call. He looks upset and tells James to go on ahead to his office.

103. In Coach Miller's office, Coach Stevens is waiting to offer James and Sean scholarships. James enters and Coach Stevens tells him of the offer and he asks where Sean is. Coach Miller asks Coach Stevens to wait outside. He then tells James that Sean has been killed in a gang-related shooting. James leaves angry.

105. Alone in the locker room, James punches Sean's locker.

106. We see J. D., a little gray now, driving down the street.

107. James looks out of the apartment window and sees J. D. pull up. A few boys are playing football in the yard. They walk toward the car.

108-109. James runs out of the apartment. He tells J. D. to leave the boys alone. J.D. is insulted and angry. He leaves. James plays football with the boys. As we watch James play with the boys, we hear what happens in the end to all of the characters.

1:30:55 -- CREDITS

110. Credits over black.