

The Dismemberment Plan

“Time Bomb”

by Ruben Fleischer

We dolly behind a cute, young girl as she walks into a dark and dingy rock club. She thought that she was going to see a show, and is a little surprised when there's no one there, and no band on stage. She approaches the disgruntled, rock bartender to find out what's up.

“I'm here to see the show. Is there a show tonight?”

“Oh yeah. Who did you want to see?”

”The Dismemberment Plan. Aren't they playing?”

“Sure, hang on a second.”

The bartender gets on the phone and makes a call. We cut to an upper office where we find a gnarled old rock dude (Dante) in an office full of years and years of rock shit. He pulls out a weird retro looking machine with an interface and types in (?) The Dismemberment Plan.

We cut back to the show area, where the girl is standing by herself in front of the stage, waiting. With a strange, otherworldly glow, the band materializes out of thin air and starts rocking out. The girl goes crazy. This is her dream come true! *Her favorite band playing a private concert just for her.* She starts to lose it, freaking out to the song, jumping around singing along. We cut away to the bartender and see him look up from his crosswords and groove for a second. (0:23) Even he likes it.

Upon the start of the second verse, we notice that there is strangely another singer on stage beside Travis. He has seemingly materialized out of thin air, but we are not quite sure how/where he came from. We cut to the girl and see that she hasn't realized the guy's presence, but we cut back to the stage and see a couple new “band guys” materialize on stage and rock out with the band. They are indie rock, and don't look too dissimilar from the DPlan, who doesn't seem to notice their presence either. We the viewers might register this as a little strange. We cut back to the girl who continues to be very excited about the music, but then we register on her face a slight look of concern. When we cut back to the stage, we see that there is now a ska band rocking out in addition to all the previously mentioned musicians. The Dismemberment Plan still doesn't seem to notice, but it's getting kind of crowded. We cut to the bartender who looks up from his newspaper, and for the first time we realize that there is something wrong. He stares at the stage trying to determine what the fuck is going on.

We cut back to the stage and now it is somewhat of a melee on stage. There are even more bands on stage. A hip hop band, a goth band, a bunch of guys looking like Kraftwerk. They have started to spill off the stage. And every now and then a new band or band member will materialize. The Dismemberment Plan does not react to this specifically, other than their ability to play the song is a bit encumbered. There is a Yanni New Age guy, a reggae band, a country band. The DPlan doesn't have much room to move, and there is not a lot of space to rock out on their instruments. We see that the girl has slowed her enthusiastic dancing, and now is trying to figure out what is going on. Maybe she goes to the bartender and asks him "Is this supposed to happen" or maybe he just takes the initiative and gets on the phone with the Wizard of Oz guy (Dante) who he originally talked to. We see this guy in his rock office (as the song plays somewhat distorted and quieter underneath), trying to figure out what is happening. (1:46)

We cut back to our heroine. She is starting to get a little nervous. A Korn looking band has bounded off the stage and is rocking out right in front of her. It's freaky, and she is not sure what to do. She is definitely not rocking now. She looks to the DPlan guys for help, but they are just playing the song, definitely encumbered, but unaware. She looks to the bartender and he is on the phone exasperatedly telling the guy on the other end of the phone what is going on. We cut to a wide and see how things have really started to go out of whack. As the song starts to build to a big crescendo (2:31) we see a montage of the girl looking scared, the DPlan playing, the zombie musicians closing in, and it ends with when Dante has taken the machine and either banged it really hard or smashed it to the ground. All of the computer generated bands/rockers fizzle away, and the DPlan remains on stage, starting slowly again as the song is really minimal. There may be a few fizzles of evaporated rockers, but by and large it is pretty serene. The girl (and the bartender) look relieved.

As the song starts to build back up (2:58) the machine breakdown takes place twice as hard and band members are materializing like crazy. There is an laptop musician, a string quartet, a folk band, Chuck Brown and the Soul Searchers, Svenonious. It is out of control. The girl is freaking out as the musicians swarm her, Dawn of the Dead style. She is scared, but can not move. They are all circling her. We cut to the bartender who is hiding behind the bar as a crazed Go Go band comes towards him. We cut back to the girl, who is being swarmed and engulfed by musicians. She is frozen. The song is swelling and loud. The camera dollies past her, leaving her there, and out the door, exactly like it came in. The song ends as we exit the club.