SUNSET BOULEVARD (1950)

Written by

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EXT. SUNSET BOULEVARD - EARLY MORNING

Police cars race down Sunset Boulevard, sirens wailing. We follow them to a large mansion.

EXT. MANSION - POOL - CONTINUOUS

A body floats face down in the swimming pool. Police and reporters crowd around the edges. Flashbulbs pop. The pool lights illuminate the body from below.

JOE (V.O.)
Yes, this is Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. It's about five o'clock in the morning. That's the Homicide Squad, complete with detectives and newspaper men.

We move closer to the body. A young man, face down, arms spread.

JOE (V.O.)
A murder has been reported from one of those great big houses in the ten-thousand block. You'll read about it in the late editions, I'm sure. You'll get it over your radio and see it on television because an old time star is mixed up in it. Her name is Norma Desmond.

The camera moves past the police, past the reporters, and settles on the body in the pool.

JOE (V.O.)
The poor dope. He always wanted a pool. Well, in the end he got himself a pool — only the price turned out to be a little high.