

CENTRAL – Beat Sheet

1. Opening Image – The Clock & the Station

Wide shot of the railway station at night: vast, echoing, subdued light.

The grand clock looms above, marking time.

DAVID waits beneath it, checking his phone, fidgeting, growing anxious.

2. Set-Up – Waiting Alone

David's date, EMMA, has not arrived.

The station feels emptier as time passes; David looks more isolated.

3. Inciting Incident – A Stranger Appears

KATE, a backpacker, notices him and strikes up a conversation.

Her humour and warmth lift the mood.

They share small talk that grows into playful banter.

4. Rising Action – A Spark

Over coffee, Kate encourages him to stop waiting.

David resists at first, still hoping Emma will arrive.

Time ticks on – half an hour late now. His hope falters.

5. Turning Point – A Decision Made

Kate suggests grabbing a drink.

David hesitates, then decides he must be mad to keep waiting.

He chases after Kate, takes her rucksack, and leaves with her.

6. Midpoint / Shift – Emma Arrives

From the far side of the concourse, EMMA bursts in, breathless and hopeful.

Relief spreads across her face as she spots David.

Then: she sees Kate, the rucksack, the intimacy. Her joy collapses.

7. Crisis – Heartbreak

Emma stands frozen, unable to call out. Her voice dies in her throat.

She slumps onto a bench, frustration spilling over as she hits her bag.

8. New Connection – Owen Appears

OWEN, a young art student sketching nearby, notices her.

At first Emma is wary – it's late, and she's alone.

His gentleness wins her trust. They begin to talk.

9. Resolution – Two Departures

David and Kate exit through one door, laughing.

Emma and Owen walk the other way, side by side, a tentative spark forming.

The clock looms above – silent witness to both endings and beginnings.

10. Closing Image – The Clock Again

Time passes, people move on. The clock keeps ticking.