

The song I chose to do for my music video was an original song I wrote called stolen love syndrome. As a very upbeat song that is sung in an almost satirical fashion, I knew I wanted my video to be colourful, funny, and overall very entertaining. I watched a number of pop music videos by artists including Taylor Swift, Dua Lipa, Katy Perry, and Halsey. I was very drawn to the way these singers were able to portray interesting storylines, as well as mix in elements of dancing, performance, and dialogue. These elements were something I was certain I wanted to incorporate into my own music video. With an idea of how I wanted my video to end up holistically, the next step in the process was formulating a story line. When I wrote Stolen Love Syndrome in 2022, the song was about a person who was trying overly hard to make someone fall in love with them, whilst this person was not available. I perceived this behaviour to be some kind of love sickness, and hence referred to it as a syndrome. As I ran through the concept of this song in my head, I had the idea to set my video in a hospital, and make stolen love syndrome a physical and literal sickness that needed a diagnosis, treatment, symptoms, and side effects.

To fulfil my desire to have more of a storyline throughout the video, I developed the plot. It was going to be about a doctor and her assistant diagnosing a number of patients with stolen love syndrome. All of the patients were going to be in love with the same girl, who plot twist, the doctor happens to be dating. The patients were to worship and fight over this girl, and go to great lengths to try to get her attention. At the end, I wanted to have a chaos sequence where the love interest shows up at the hospital or clinic, and the patients chase her through the hallways. As an extra bit of plot, the assistant doctor would also develop stolen love syndrome and join the patients in the chaos. I reached out to a number of my friends asking them to be a part of the video. All of them agreed and we organised 2 5 hour sessions to film. With these ideas in my head and plans in my head, I developed a detailed shot list over the span of two weeks. Throughout this process I made sure to note down any props and set items I would need.

With a clear idea in my mind about how I wanted my video to look, it was time to properly develop my set. I did my research and drove to a number of stores to collect my supplies. The first was Bunnings. I knew I wanted a lot of colour in this video meaning I'd need to invest in lighting. I ended up purchasing these waterproof LED garden lights. Being bluetooth controlled, and with 16 million different colour options, they were used profusely throughout my music video. Other purchases included a new trellis table to make the beds, tubing for a hospital aesthetic, wiring for the curtains, and blue drop sheets for the floor. The next stop was Ikea. I ended up buying these shower curtains, and smaller decorations. The final stop was Officeworks where I printed out a number of hospital posters that I'd either designed myself or found online.

Next came the actual set up. My dad helped me empty the entire garage and set up the drop sheets, beds, and curtains. After 2 hours of hard work we managed to achieve the set up I had had in mind. Here is a before and here is an after. I additionally created a props box, collecting almost anything I thought could be used in a beneficial way. With everything ready to go I started getting excited to film, however I ran into an issue, as on the first day scheduled for filming 2 of my actors dropped out the morning of. I managed to find 2 other friends who were

able to do the first day of filming but not the second. This meant I had to adapt my short list and slightly change the plot by eliminating these characters and finding a new way to introduce the original actors for the second day of filming. Other than this instance the rest of the process went smoothly.

Over the 2 set filming days we managed to film over 200 shots filming hospital sequences, choreographed wrestles in the front yard, date footage, and dance breaks, the component that took the longest time to film, this was due to the fact that I had to teach the dance and record it multiple times due to the number of slip ups. In a similar sense, I had to choreograph the fight scenes that appear in the second chorus and communicate to my actors exactly what I wanted.

After filming for a total of 12 hours over 3 days, I was finally able to start editing. Since the video and footage itself is already quite elaborate, the majority of the editing was very straightforward, simple and easy to achieve. One of the techniques I worked with was slow motion. Now as much as this may seem very simple, I ran into the issue of having jittery footage. After doing some research I managed to take my slow motion from looking like this...to this. I also played around with different text styles to fit the aesthetic of my video, and used keyframing in the end credits. My video was finally done.

After the amount of time, effort, money, blood, sweat, and tears spent on this video, I can genuinely express how proud I am of my work. I loved watching my song come to life with this video, and how I stayed true to my original vision despite missing actors and technical difficulties. I hope you enjoyed my music video, for my song, stolen love syndrome.