

Fireman Sam on Brokeback Mountain

\$SAMBACK

On a remote Welsh mountain, fireman Sam and his loyal colleague Elvis battle a wildfire while their own unspoken blaze threatens to consume their duty-bound lives. In the sleepy village of Pontypandy, Station Officer Steele dispatches Fireman Sam and Elvis Cridlington to contain a rogue blaze raging across Brokeback Mountain. What begins as another routine call turns into a forced overnight vigil when the wind shifts and traps them in a high meadow. By the light of their own extinguished campfire, the two men share stories of lonely shifts, childhood dreams of heroism, and the quiet weight of never quite fitting the village mold. A single, charged moment passes between them-hands brushing while sharing a thermos of tea-before dawn and duty force them apart. Years later, Sam spots Elvis at a regional training exercise, both men older and ringed by family obligations. They exchange terse nods, but when a new fire breaks out on the same mountain, they volunteer together one last time. In the smoke, the old spark flickers; this time Sam whispers the words he swallowed before. The mountain burns, sirens wail, and the two men part again, each returning to their separate engines. The final image lingers on Sam alone at the station, polishing his helmet as a single spark drifts upward like a secret he will never voice.

Style

PALETTE

bracken brown, soot black, heather purple, mist grey, flame orange, slate blue, cold dawn white

Screenplay

Fireman Sam on Brokeback Mountain

The fire wasn't the only thing burning.

****Logline:**** On a remote Welsh mountain, fireman Sam and his loyal colleague Elvis battle a wildfire while their own unspoken blaze threatens to consume their duty-bound lives.

Synopsis

In the sleepy village of Pontypandy, Station Officer Steele dispatches Fireman Sam and Elvis Cridlington to contain a rogue blaze raging across Brokeback Mountain. What begins as another routine call turns into a forced overnight vigil when the wind shifts and traps them in a high meadow. By the light of their own extinguished campfire, the two men share stories of lonely shifts, childhood dreams of heroism, and the quiet weight of never quite fitting the village mold. A single, charged moment passes between them—hands brushing while sharing a thermos of tea—before dawn and duty force them apart. Years later, Sam spots Elvis at a regional training exercise, both men older and ringed by family obligations. They exchange terse nods, but when a new fire breaks out on the same mountain, they volunteer together one last time. In the smoke, the old spark flickers; this time Sam whispers the words he swallowed before. The mountain burns, sirens wail, and the two men part again, each returning to their separate engines. The final image lingers on Sam alone at the station, polishing his helmet as a single spark drifts upward like a secret he will never voice.

Tone & genre

Straight-faced tragicomedy that treats Fireman Sam's earnest public-service ethos with the solemnity of a 2005 neo-Western. The humour emerges from the collision between wholesome village-rescue platitudes and repressed adult longing.

Look

Widescreen 35 mm with anamorphic flares, shot in the muted greens and golds of Brokeback Mountain yet punctuated by the cherry-red of Pontypandy turnout gear. Soft dawn light and heavy smoke diffusion give the mountain an epic, lonely scale; practical firelight supplies the only warmth.

Characters

- Fireman Sam: Square-jawed professional whose every heroic line reading now carries an undercurrent of private ache.
- Elvis Cridlington: Eager second-in-command whose cheerful incompetence masks the same unspoken hunger.
- Station Officer Steele: Gruff authority figure whose clipboard routines cannot contain the mountain's emotional wildfire.
- Dilys Price (radio cameo): The village gossip whose cheery updates underscore how little anyone suspects.

Screenplay

FADE IN:

EXT. BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

A wildfire glows on the horizon. Two red fire engines sit parked on a ridge.

FIREMAN SAM (40s, neat moustache) and ELVIS CRIDLINGTON (40s, slightly singed) stand beside a dying campfire, helmets under their arms.

SAM

Wind's dropped. We'll hold the line till first light.

ELVIS

Right you are, Sam. Another day, another drill.

They sit. The only sounds are crackling embers and distant sirens.

SAM

You ever wonder what we'd be doing if we weren't always running toward the smoke?

ELVIS

(quiet)

I used to think about opening a little station of our own. Just us. No bells.

Sam looks at him. The pause is longer than any children's programme allows.

SAM

Pontypandy's got enough fires to last a lifetime.

ELVIS

Aye. But the mountain doesn't ask questions.

They share a thermos. Their fingers touch. Neither pulls away.

CUT TO:

EXT. SAME RIDGE - DAWN

The fire is out. Steele's voice crackles over the radio.

STATION OFFICER STEELE (V.O.)

Good work, lads. Back to base. Mrs Price has pies waiting.

Sam and Elvis stand, brushing ash from their jackets. They do not look at each other.

SAM

See you at the station, Elvis.

ELVIS

Aye. See you, Sam.

They climb into separate engines. The vehicles descend opposite sides of the ridge.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. PONTYPANDY FIRE STATION - DAY (YEARS LATER)

Sam, older, polishes his helmet alone. The radio plays a cheerful children's jingle. Through the window, a distant mountain is visible. A single spark from the chimney drifts upward, glowing against the grey sky, then vanishes.

FADE OUT.

Storyboard

12 FRAMES

STORYBOARD

FRAME 1



FRAME 2



STORYBOARD

FRAME 3



FRAME 4



STORYBOARD

FRAME 5



FRAME 6



STORYBOARD

FRAME 7



FRAME 8



STORYBOARD

FRAME 9



FRAME 10



STORYBOARD

FRAME 11



FRAME 12

