

THE ART OF COOL

by

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EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Establishing shot of students milling about out front, waiting for the first period bell to ring.

FLEE (V.O.)

Once upon right about now, in a land not very far away there is a tiny kingdom known as Robert Frost High. Like all high schools it has its own distinct and unique cliques and clans, six major ones to be exact.

ANGLE ON THE GODS

The jocks and a few rich guys are huddled together. Their clothes are all stylish and expensive looking.

FLEE (V.O.)

The Gods... Undisputed masters of our small universe. They are, of course, the jocks, cheerleaders, rich, beautiful or any combination of the above. You know the type and most likely... You aren't one.

At the center of the group stands, GEORGE BUFTON, a tall, great looking guy. Right beside him is DONALD "PSYCHO" RUTLEDGE, who's as massive and mean as they come.

FLEE (V.O.) (cont'd)

Meet George Bufton, a second generation star quarterback, prick extraordinaire and the king of all he surveys. The monster next to him is Donald "Psycho" Rutledge. An all-state free safety who's nickname pretty much sums him up. He's the kind of guy who puts the press in oppression.

BUFTON

I'm walking down the beach at our summer house and I see a chick in a wheelchair watching this amazing sunset. She looks depressed, so I ask her what's wrong. She says she's sad because she's never been kissed. Now even though the chick's a cripple, she's super hot and I figure what the hell and give her a nice, long kiss.

Several of the guys CHUCKLE.

BUFTON (cont'd)

You think she'd be all smiles but no. The gimp seems even sadder and I'm like what's the deal?

(MORE)

BUFTON (cont'd)
I gave you the old tongue tango. She says she knows, it's just no one's ever screwed her.

JOCK #1
Holy spam, bra. What'd you do?

BUFTON
I gently lifted her out of the wheelchair and walked to the lake's edge. We locked eyes and then I flung her into the air. As she hit the water I yelled, "Now you're screwed."

All the guys burst out LAUGHING.

KERI (O.S.)
That better be a joke.

All heads turn to see KERI KENT, the prettiest girl in school, and her posse of cheerleaders walking towards the boys.

BUFTON
You know it is, baby doll.

We kick into SLOW MOTION and absorb every detail of Keri.

FLEE (V.O.)
This vision of perfection is Bufton's queen, Keri Kent. Like all head cheerleaders her first and last name begin with the same letter. Boy, what I wouldn't give to see her twinkle.

Back to real time. Keri walks up and Bufton kisses her passionately - the kind that screams, "Get a room." Bufton starts to grope her ass but she slaps his hands away.

KERI
Control yourself.

BUFTON
You're so hot it's hard... And I'm not talking about controlling myself.

Keri smiles and they start to kiss again but Psycho breaks it up by tapping Bufton on the shoulder.

PSYCHO
Target acquired at nine o'clock.

Bufton sees something off screen and smiles.

BUFTON
Down set!

Psycho instantly gets into a three point stance.

BUFTON (cont'd)
Hut, hut, sic!

Psycho races off the screen at top speed.

ANGLE ON THE GOTHS

A group of kids dressed in all black.

FLEE (V.O.)
The Goths, disciples of Marilyn Manson and everything else that's dark and disturbing. They're all really weird and coming from me, that says a lot.

All eyes in the group are focused on SHANNON BELL. Her black dyed hair is spiked out crazily and her face is hidden behind several layers of caked on make-up and various piercings.

FLEE (V.O.) (cont'd)
Shannon Bell is their high priestess. She's scary looking but every guy at school fantasizes about her because, well, she's a really big slut. I hear freshman year she let the Bufton brothers double team her. Don't know what a double team entails exactly but it sounds pretty darn slutty to me.

BELL
In the dream I had last night, the entire world was on fire and burning corpses ran through the streets.

Bell let's a SILENT pause hang in the air.

GOTH #1
And?

BELL
And we were cooking marshmallows.

GOTH #1
Wicked!

ANGLE ON THE GEARS

The auto-shop crowd. Lots of denim and rock band t-shirts.

FLEE (V.O.)
The Gears are lovers of all things metal, music included. They're also the only group the Gods give any semblance of respect, not that they respect them, it's just that the last war between the Gods and Gears was the bloodiest in our kingdom's history.

The biggest and baddest of them is BRIAN RAINEY.

FLEE (V.O.) (cont'd)
 The tough looking guy there is Brian Rainey and he's the Gears head mechanic. Next to Psycho, he's the most dangerous kid at school. I know a guy who knows a guy who knows for a fact that Rainey stabbed a cop once.

GEAR #1
 Dude, what's hotter, a mint '69 Corvette or Jessica Biel?

RAINEY
 Depends if you want to get laid or go driving.

All the Gears LAUGH.

ANGLE ON THE GEEKS

Nerd central and it's a fashion nightmare.

FLEE (V.O.)
 The Geeks... Possessors of the best and brightest minds in the realm. They also possess a mathematically impossible lack of fashion sense. Not that I know much about that myself.

The geekiest of all is ALLISON WILLIAMS, an Asian looking girl wearing big glasses and frumpy, unflattering clothes.

FLEE (V.O.) (cont'd)
 Behold nerdus maximus a.k.a Allison Williams. The undisputed mental heavyweight of our world. She's got a mind as sharp as a knife and a personality duller than a spoon.

ALLISON
 Ten Physics Club points to whomever can answer this. If you filled a pool with melted dry ice, could you swim in it without getting wet?

GEEK #1
 No.

ALLISON
 Why?

GEEK #1
 (hesitatingly)
 Because it has no liquid state.

ALLISON
Correct. Dry ice sublimates.

ANGLE ON THE GET-BYS

The camera now floats past a thick layer of very average and unexciting looking kids. For the most part they're all dressed like the Gods but not quite as stylish.

FLEE (V.O.)
Here we have the largest, only leaderless and least influential of the tribes, the Get-bys. I don't know what to say about them other than... They sort of just get by.

ANGLE ON THE LOSERS

We are now clearly on the fringe of Frost High society and what we see is not pretty.

FLEE (V.O.)
Now for my personal favorite... The losers. You know, the spazes, freaks, tards, tweakers, fatties, Trekkies, band dorks, AV clubbers, booger eaters, etc. We're a pretty loose knit group... 'Cuz hey, even losers don't like associating with losers.

The camera tracks past examples of all the loser "types" mentioned above and then pauses on NATALIE "FAT NAT" RODGERS, an overweight girl with a cute face.

FLEE (V.O.) (cont'd)
The monstrosity you're currently gaping at is Natalie "Fat Nat" Rodgers, the school's resident fat girl. She transferred here last year and promptly told everyone she was friends with the lead singer of "The Killers." Yeah, like that lie would make people like her... Pathetic.

The camera continues its journey and finally stops on an empty side field. We hear what sounds like a young girl SCREAMING.

Suddenly, JAY "FLEE" ENTLICH, small and weird for his age runs onto the screen and away from the camera as fast as he can - he's the one who's screaming.

FLEE (V.O.) (cont'd)
(sighs)
Sadly, that screaming little bitch is me. My name is Jay Entlich but everyone calls me Flee and... I'm officially the biggest loser of all.
(MORE)

FLEE (V.O.) (cont'd)
 Which I firmly disagree with as
 there's at least two, maybe three,
 other kids who are way more jank than
 me... But what can you do?

After a beat, we see Psycho fly onto the screen. Like a well oiled machine he quickly catches up to Flee. Psycho grabs and then drags him, kicking and screaming, off screen.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - MOMENTS LATER

The entire student body has formed a huge ring around the flagpole. Psycho drags a still kicking and screaming Flee to the pole where Bufton stands waiting.

BUFTON
 Thanks for stopping by, Flee.

FLEE
 Why can't you leave me alone?

Bufton pretends like he's thinking deeply.

BUFTON
 Uh, because you're a loser.

Bufton nods his head and Psycho gives Flee an atomic wedgie. Psycho then ties Flee's exposed underwear to the rope on the flag pole. Flee struggles to break free.

PSYCHO
 Calm down. You'll only make it worse.

FLEE
 You calm down, jerk-ass.

BUFTON
 Did the little faggot just say he
 wanted his ass jerked?

Bufton gives a nod and Psycho starts yanking the rope. Flee bounces up and down like a yo-yo.

The crowd LAUGHS and Flee absolutely goes berserk. It catches Psycho off guard and Flee breaks free. But he only makes it a few feet before the slack on the flag rope runs out and snaps him backwards to the ground - bringing more LAUGHTER.

Psycho instantly picks Flee off the ground and holds him.

BUFTON (cont'd)
 Babes and Grommets, I give you the
 eleventh annual loser lynching. Let's
 have a kick ass year.

With that, Bufton kicks Flee in the ass and the crowd CHEERS. Psycho starts working the rope and Flee is quickly lifted off the ground by his underwear.

Flee unsuccessfully tries to untie his underwear and him flailing around is comical. The crowd can't help but LAUGH.

FLLEE

You better put me down right now or I'll have my friend who's a thirteenth degree black belt beat you up.

BUFTON

I thought there were only ten degrees?

FLLEE

Yeah, well, he was taught an extra secret three. Ninja techniques.

BUFTON

And I bet he lives next door to your imaginary girlfriend.

FLLEE

My girlfriend's not imaginary, she's... She's just away at college.

BUFTON

Whatevs, Grommet.

Bufton pushes Flee's dangling body which forces it to start wrapping around the pole - like a tether ball.

We hear a RIPPING sound as Flee's underwear gives out and he falls face first on the ground. Which brings an explosion of LAUGHTER from the crowd.

BUFTON (cont'd)

God, I love the sound of underwear ripping in the morning... Sounds like victory.

PSYCHO

That was dank, bra.

A school bell RINGS and everyone instantly heads to class, leaving Flee lying all alone on the ground.

FLLEE (V.O.)

Ah dookie, not even ten seconds into it and I can already tell it's gonna be the worst semester ever.

After a beat, SONNY SHUE, cigarette in mouth, walks up and stands over Flee. Sonny's built lean but tough looking and has a James Dean air about him - cool without effort.

SONNY

A little piece of advice. Where your enemy is strong, avoid him.

Flee looks up at Sonny.

FLEE
Am I supposed to know what that means?

SONNY
Means you could've saved yourself the humiliation if you'd only come to school late today. A demerit's got to be better than... That.

FLEE
Thanks, but they just would've waited until lunch to get me.

Flee drops his head back down into the dirt. Sonny takes a drag off his cigarette then walks off.

INT. CLASSROOM - LATER

The period bell stops RINGING and everyone sits down. A beat later, Sonny casually strolls in and takes a seat at the way back. Necks strain to check out the new kid but he just looks forward as if he's totally unaware of the attention.

But then he slowly turns his head to gaze at Keri. His stare is so intense she starts to blush slightly. They lock eyes for a beat and he winks at her but before she can even react, he goes back to looking straight forward, smooth as they come.

INT. BATHROOM - LATER

Buften, Psycho and several other Gods carry Flee in. One of them opens a bathroom stall door and they unceremoniously stick Flee's head into the toilet.

INT. TOILET - CONTINUOUS

Flee's face is fully submerged and he looks directly at us. We hear the toilet flush and see the water swirl around his head as it drains.

FLEE (V.O.)
Yeah, so my life sort of sucks but I try to look at it like this. High school is a lot like prison. You do your time, make it out alive and then you get a shot at a real life.

INT. CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Flee comes into the room late and takes a seat at the front. His hair is still soaking wet from the swirly. Several Get-by Guys point and LAUGH but Flee ignores it.

EXT. SONNY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Sonny smokes a cigarette and stares at the night sky. In the driveway sits his car, a sweet looking 1970 Pontiac GTO.

FLEE (O.S.)
Will you teach me to smoke?

Sonny nearly jumps out of his skin.

SONNY
Christ, you scared the shit out of me.
Flee walks up to Sonny from out of the shadows.

FLEE
Sorry. I was taking the garbage out
and saw you and just thought I'd say
hey. I'm Flee by the way.

Flee holds his hand out and after a beat, Sonny shakes it.

SONNY
Sonny Shue.

FLEE
So would you?

SONNY
Would I what?

FLEE
Teach me to smoke.

SONNY
No. Why would you even want to?

FLEE
Because it looks dank.

SONNY
Dank?

FLEE
It's what the Gods say when something
is cool. 'Cuz saying cool at our
school is jank. Which means un-cool.
Oh, and a Grommet is a loser. Not that
you'll ever be called one.

(beat)
What did your cool kids say for cool?

SONNY
Cool.

FLEE

How come you moved in with your grandparents? Didn't you like your old school?

Sonny doesn't say anything, just ashes his cigarette. He takes a new cig out and lights it with his Zippo in one cool, quick snap of the lighter. Flee coughs from the smoke. The boys sit there in SILENCE until Flee can't take it anymore.

FLEE (cont'd)

Hey, you're not by any chance a thirteenth degree black belt?

SONNY

There's only ten degrees in Karate.

FLEE

The last three are secret Ninja techniques.

SONNY

I never really got into the whole martial arts thing.

FLEE

Just checking... But if anyone asks would you mind telling them you are?

Sonny looks over at Flee to see if he's serious and he is.

SONNY

Uh, okay.

FLEE

I wanted to take karate classes but mom wouldn't let me. She signed me up for ballroom dancing instead. I'm pretty good but knowing the tango doesn't really help you in a fight. I'm pretty small too, so maybe it would be better if I had Jedi powers. Then I could mind trick the bullies into beating each other up. You ever wish you had Jedi powers?

SONNY

No, but I'm starting to.

FLEE

I got a book on mind controlling other people and sometimes I practice. Nothing's happened yet but I've only tried my powers on a neighbor's dog and maybe it's impossible to mind control a canine. I could teach you though, if you want?

Sonny turns and stares at Flee in awe.

SONNY
You watch a lot of TV don't you?

FLEE
I guess.
(re: Sonny's car)
That's a pretty dank ride you've
got... If you wanna carpool I could
help pay for gas.

SONNY
Look, kid, you seem like a nice
person, so don't take this personally,
but I'd just rather fly solo.

Flee does his best to hide his disappointment.

FLEE
I'm kind of a loner myself.
(beat)
Well, welcome to the neighborhood.

SONNY
Thanks.

Flee slips back into the darkness and Sonny shakes his head in amazement.

INT. SONNY'S CAR - MORNING

Sonny drives to school and passes Flee riding his bike. They momentarily make eye contact and there's a glimmer of hope on Flee's face but Sonny is stone.

INT. CAFETERIA FOOD LINE - LUNCH TIME

Flee grabs some tater tots and puts them on his tray. He then moves forward and grabs a hamburger.

Buften and crew suddenly come bursting into the line HOOTING AND HOLLERING. They are totally cutting and it clearly pisses off a few of the students but no one dares say anything.

Buften pauses behind Fat Nat and makes pig noises. The Gods all LAUGH but she ignores it.

Buften moves on to Flee, grabs the burger off his tray and smacks the back of Flee's head.

BUFTON
Make sure you pay for that, Grommet.

Psycho reaches over Allison to grab some food.

ALLISON
Salve, Psycho.

PSYCHO
What did you say, Chinerd?
(fake Chinese accent)
You want robster craws.

The Gods LAUGH and then they're gone as fast as they came.

ALLISON	SUBTITLE
Accipere quam facere praestat injuriam.	It is better to suffer an injustice than to do an injustice.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Keri and the cheerleaders check their make-up in the mirrors.
Bell and a HOT GOTH GIRL enter.

KERI
Well, well, if it isn't the usual slut-
spects.

BELL
Know how I tell when you're saying
something stupid? Your lips move.

Keri gives Bell a hard stare then breaks into a big smile.

KERI
Tell you what, as it's our senior
year, why don't we agree to be civil.
Just keep your big, gaping, slutty,
diseased cock-grinder away from my
man. Not that he'd be interested...
Buff doesn't like tainted goods.

BELL
If anything's rotten, it's you, bitch.

KERI
Wasn't me who tore off my pants ten
seconds into their very first party
and screwed anyone who'd have her.

Bell releases a guttural SCREAM and lunges at Keri but Hot
Goth Girl grabs her and holds her back.

KERI (cont'd)
God, you're so... Shannon Doherty.

With that, Keri and the cheerleaders walk out. Hot Goth Girl
releases Bell, who fights to not cry for a second then...

BELL
(screams)
Stupid slag thinks she's all that.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

FLEE'S MOTHER, a tired looking but upbeat woman drives. She looks over and smiles lovingly at her son.

FLEE'S MOTHER
So how's school going?

FLEE
Great. Best year ever so far.

FLEE'S MOTHER
Got a special lady yet?

FLEE
There's a couple I like but it's pretty early on, so I'm keeping my options open.

Flee's Mother smiles at her son.

FLEE'S MOTHER
Well, I hope they all know just how amazing you are.

Flee blushes and shrugs his shoulders. In the distance we can now see the glow of stadium lights.

FLEE'S MOTHER
You sure you don't want me to drop you off at the stadium?

FLEE
(frustrated)
Mom, how many times do I have to tell you it's jank to be dropped off by your mom?

FLEE'S MOTHER
Okay, okay.

Flee's Mother pulls over to the side of the road.

FLEE'S MOTHER
See you back here in two hours?

Flee nods his head and starts to get out of the car.

FLEE'S MOTHER (cont'd)
Hey, mister!

Flee stops and kisses his mom goodbye.

MONTAGE - FOOTBALL GAME

Buften throws a perfect thirty yard pass for a touchdown. The crowd goes wild.

A wide-receiver from the opposing teams jumps in the air and catches a pass. But before he lands Psycho comes flying in from off screen and lands a hit so devastating it knocks the receiver unconscious. He hits the ground like a rag doll and the football rolls out of his hands.

Keri and her crew of cheerleaders dance provocatively - it's extremely sexy.

The camera floats around the home team bleachers and we catch glimpses of all six of the clans but not Flee. Sonny, we notice, is standing alone on the ground next to the bleachers - smoking a cigarette.

The opposing team blitzes but Bufton escapes the onslaught and runs the ball in for a touchdown.

An opposing team running back bursts through the Frost High defense but before he gets even five yards, Psycho crushes him to the ground. The running back lies there twitching.

The cheerleaders whip the Frost students into a frenzy.

The camera pans across to the opposing team's bleachers and pushes in to find Flee sitting by himself cheering. Everyone around Flee stares at him angrily.

INT. AUTO SHOP - MORNING

Rainey and the Gears tinker with a car while they wait for the first period bell to ring.

An expensive SUV covered in mud pulls into the garage. Bufton, Psycho, Keri and Cheerleader #1 pile out of the car.

BUFTON

Yo, Rainey, shoulda seen it, bra. We did some mega-dank off-roading this weekend.

RAINEY

Good for you, man.

BUFTON

How about doing me a solid and having your boys clean her up during class?

Bufton smiles, takes a twenty out of his pocket and holds it up. After a beat, Rainey nods his head and grabs the bill.

BUFTON (cont'd)

Keys are inside and you rock.

Bufton and Psycho put their arms around the girls and stroll out. Once they're gone, Gear #1 spits on the floor.

GEAR #1
Shoulda knocked Bufton's block off.

RAINEY
Don't think Psycho would've taken too kindly to that. Besides, twenty bones is twenty bones and it ain't like we won't be working for his type our whole crap-ass lives anyway.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - END OF DAY

Kids pour out of the school. Flee walks up to a bike rack and finds the wheels on his bike have been bent - making it impossible to ride. He kicks a tire in frustration.

FLEE
(yells)
Freakin' idiots.

In the background we can see several of the Gods laughing. Flee unlocks the bike and starts dragging it home.

EXT. STEPHANIE'S HOUSE - LATER

Flee knocks on the door and STEPHANIE SMITH, an extremely cute, petite and tough looking nine year old, answers it.

STEPHANIE
Yes loser.

FLEE
Can I maybe borrow your bike?

STEPHANIE
Porquoi?

FLEE
I was doing a 360 off this sweet jump and bent my rims when I landed.

STEPHANIE
Sucks to be you.

FLEE
Come on, just until I get mine fixed.

Stephanie crosses her arms and stares at him for a beat.

STEPHANIE
Swear to come to all my tea parties.

FLEE
No way.

Stephanie starts to close the door but Flee stops her.

FLEE (cont'd)

Fine.

INT. STEPHANIE'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Flee sits in a ridiculously small chair at a equally small table. Several stuffed animals sit at the table with him while Stephanie hosts an imaginary tea party. She holds an empty plate in front of Flee.

STEPHANIE

Cookie?

FLEE

(sighs)

Sure.

Flee takes an imaginary cookie and pretends to eat it.

FLEE (cont'd)

Yummy.

STEPHANIE

I know. I baked them myself.

I/E. SONNY'S CAR - MORNING

Sonny drives to school. He turns a bend and comes upon Flee riding the cutest, girliest, little pink bike you've ever seen. Sonny pulls up beside him and rolls the window down.

SONNY

What do you think you're doing?

FLEE

Riding to school, duh.

SONNY

On a girl's bike?

FLEE

Mine's in the shop.

SONNY

Then take the bus.

FLEE

You take it.

SONNY

Christ, kid, people pick on you enough as is. Being seen on that won't help.

Flee gives Sonny an angry look, speeds up and pulls away from the car. Sonny barely taps the gas and instantly catches up.

SONNY (cont'd)
 What's your problem, little man?

FLEE
 My problem is that some assholes broke my bike, so I have to ride a pink piece of dookie because if I take the bus I get beaten up by freshmen which is even more humiliating than being seen on this. That's my problem.

Sonny starts to LAUGH and Flee gives him a look that could kill. Flee stands up on the pedals, gives it everything he's got and pulls a few feet ahead of Sonny's car.

Sonny guns the car, shoots ten yards forward and cuts Flee off. Flee stops the bike and Sonny gets out of the car.

SONNY
 Is that why you sat in the visitor section at the football game?

FLEE
 Yeah, it's safer.

SONNY
 Why even go then?

FLEE
 They're my team too.

Sonny stares at Flee for a long moment.

SONNY
 Give me the bike and get in the car.

FLEE
 Really?

SONNY
 Hurry up before I change my mind.

Flee smiles big, hands Sonny his bike and races into the car. Sonny opens the trunk, dumps the bike in and slams it shut.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - LATER

Sonny's car pulls into the parking lot. They get out and walk toward the school. All the students outside watch them.

Flee walks with a strut, loving the attention, whereas Sonny definitely doesn't. As they enter the building a bell RINGS.

INT. CAFETERIA - LUNCH TIME

One glance at the tables tells everything about the school's social pecking order. The Gods sit at the center tables and the farther away you are from them, the less cool you are.

Bell walks past the Gods' table and gives Keri a look that could kill. Keri responds by sticking her tongue out at Bell. Bell then mimes cutting her throat.

CHEERLEADER #1

I can't believe you're not scared of her. I mean, she's so evil like.

KERI

Evil doesn't scare me... Ugly does.

The Gods all LAUGH.

ANGLE ON SONNY

Sonny sits all alone and reads "Slaughterhouse Five" at a table on the farthest outskirts of the cafeteria.

Flee sits at a loser table near Sonny's. After a beat, he grabs his tray and walks over to Sonny.

FLEE

Mind if I eat here?

Sonny answers without looking up from his book.

SONNY

It's a free country.

Flee sits down.

FLEE

You know if you eat all by yourself people will talk?

SONNY

That would only matter if I cared what other people thought... But I don't.

FLEE

Me neither... I'm dank like that.

Sonny doesn't respond and after a beat, Flee leans in and studies the cover of the book.

FLEE (cont'd)

Slaughterhouse Five... You got homework already?

SONNY

Nope.

FLEE

Then how come you're reading it?

SONNY

Because knowledge is power.

FLEE

Is it about the meat business? Like Super Size Me was about McDonald's. I haven't eaten there since I saw it.

Sonny finally lowers the book down.

SONNY

Look, kid, sit there if you want but me giving you a lift doesn't make us buddies and the truth of it is, if you really knew me, you wouldn't want to know me. Now if you don't mind...

Sonny raises the book back up.

FLEE

Geez, I just asked a question. You don't have to flip out.

Sonny SLAMS the book down on the table.

SONNY

Does no good deed go unpunished?

ANGLE ON THE GODS

Sonny SLAMMING his book down catches Bufton's attention.

BUFTON

Check it out. Flee and his new boyfriend are having a lover's spat.

They all look over in Sonny and Flee's direction.

KERI

I highly doubt new guy's gay.

CHEERLEADER #1

Should've seen the way he checked Keri out in English last week.

All the cheerleaders GIGGLE. Bufton gives Keri a hard stare.

KERI

Not my job to stop guys staring at me.

BUFTON

Come on Psycho, time to give new guy a heartfelt hello.

Buften and Psycho charge off toward the land of the losers and Keri smiles a bitchy little smile.

ANGLE ON SONNY AND FLEE

Flee senses something and looks over his shoulder.

FLEE
Ah dookie.

Sonny glances up at the approaching boys.

SONNY
These the powers that be?

FLEE
Yeah... Our resident fascists.

SONNY
Let me do the talking.

Buften and Psycho arrive at the table. All eyes are on them.

BUFTON
Welcome to Frost, Grommet. Insert all the other bullshit that makes it sound like I care. Now see that chick...
(points at Keri)
That's my property. Look or ever think about her again and I'll break you.

PSYCHO
In Grommet terms... Mess with the bull and you get the horns, bra.

SONNY
Didn't know, Stans. Won't happen again.

BUFTON
Glad we're on the same page, faggot.

Buften waits for a response but Sonny just smiles. Buften taps Psycho's shoulder and they start to head back to their table. Flee says the next line low but just loud enough to be heard.

FLEE
Takes one to know one.

Buften slams to a halt and turns back. Sonny's face grimaces.

BUFTON
Douche-bag, said what?

Flee looks to Sonny for support but he just stares away. Psycho starts to step forward but Buften stops him. Buften then grabs Flee's plate of food and dumps it over his head.

BUFTON (cont'd)
Get up and dance like a monkey.

PSYCHO
(screams)
Do it you little Scrode-chode.

Flee's lower lip trembles as he slowly stands up and starts dancing like a monkey. The cafeteria explodes into LAUGHTER.

SONNY
Why you gotta be such a dick?

BUFTON
Because I can.

SONNY
Sounds like hubris to me.

BUFTON
If that means you've got a problem with the Bufton, we can step outside and take care of it right now.

Psycho cracks his knuckles and Bufton puffs his chest out.

SONNY
Not my battle, bro.

Bufton gives Sonny a hard stare then flips his tray of food onto the floor. The boys walk off and Flee, with tears in his eyes, runs out of the cafeteria in humiliation.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - MOMENTS LATER

Flee sits against a wall and wipes the food off himself. Right above his head is a plaque with ROBERT FROST'S "The Road Not Taken" inscribed on it. Sonny comes storming up to him.

SONNY
Did I or did I not tell you to keep your mouth shut?

FLEE
Leave me alone.

SONNY
Will do. Permanently.

Sonny starts to leave.

FLEE
I just wanted you to think I was dank.
Sonny stops in his tracks and turns back.

SONNY

And you thought insinuating that the school bully was a cock-gobbler was the best way to go about it?

FLEE

I'm sorry. I mess everything up. I'd be better off dead.

Flee starts to full on cry - it's pathetic. Sonny let's out a frustrated SIGH.

SONNY

Christ, kid, don't say stupid shit like that. Look, we all... We all make mistakes, alright? So calm down.

Flee nods his head and stops the waterworks.

FLEE

Does that mean...

SONNY

Stop... Just... Stop talking.

Sonny shakes his head, sits down next to Flee and lights a cigarette. Flee coughs. They sit in SILENCE until...

FLEE

You know those things are bad for you?

SONNY

You know you can be really annoying?

FLEE

Yeah, that's why they call me Flee.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - LATER

A bell RINGS and students pour out of the school. Sonny and Flee walk across the parking lot to the GTO. Sonny gets to the driver side door first, opens it and jumps back a foot.

SONNY

What the...

(beat)

Christ, why couldn't they just let it be.

Sonny kicks the door shut and starts pacing. Flee peeks inside and sitting on the driver seat is a huge human turd.

FLEE

A Psycho Steamer. I hate getting those.

Sonny looks over at Flee in amazement.

SONNY
The dude's deuced on you?

FLEE
Not on me. In my locker... A couple times.

Sonny bursts out LAUGHING and Flee looks pissed.

FLEE (cont'd)
It's not funny.

Sonny forces himself to stop laughing and composes himself.

SONNY
You're right... Apologies.

FLEE
So what are you gonna do?

Sonny stares intensely at Flee for a long beat and starts nodding his head, which clearly makes Flee uncomfortable.

SONNY
What I should've done in the first place.
(beat)
If the Gods want a war, we give them a war.

FLEE
A war? I meant about getting the dookie out of the car. I don't want a war. I'm a monkey-dancer, not a fighter... And what's with this we all of a sudden, Mister-I-wanna-fly-solo.

Sonny lights a cigarette.

SONNY
I know their type and these guys won't stop pushing on us unless we make them, so like it or not, we're in this together.
(beat)
For he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother.
(takes a drag)
Now take care of the turd-bomb.

FLEE
Me?

Sonny gives him a hard look and Flee quickly caves in.

FLEE (cont'd)
Fine.

Mumbling to himself, Flee grabs his notebook and starts ripping out sheets of paper to use to clean up the shit.

INT. SONNY'S CAR - LATER

The boys drive home in SILENCE.

SONNY
Cheer up, little man, your life's
about to take a turn for the better.

FLEE
Kinda hard to be cheery when you've
just cleaned human poop out of a car.

Sonny glances over at Flee and smiles a wicked little smile.

SONNY
If you could have any wish, what would
it be?

FLEE
I don't know... To see Keri Kent's
twinkle.

SONNY
No idea of what a twinkle is and not
sure I wanna find out. Try again.

Flee shrugs his shoulders.

FLEE
To be homecoming king then.

Sonny thinks about it for a second.

SONNY
Yeah, that'll work. Consider it done.

Flee doesn't say anything, just stares forward.

SONNY (cont'd)
You don't seem excited.

FLEE
Like that's really gonna happen. I
mean, do you honestly think Bufton
will just up and give me the crown?

SONNY
Of course not. We're gonna have to
steal it from him.

Flee looks at Sonny like he's crazy.

FLEE

Has the fact that you're completely nuts managed to escape your attention?
(shakes his head)

On second thought, my wish is to not get pummeled in the face by Psycho.

SONNY

That's bueno thinking, he'll definitely have to be neutralized.

FLEE

Neutralized? He's a two hundred pound hitting machine who runs the forty in four point four seconds flat. The Gods can't be beaten. They're too strong.

Sonny takes out a cigarette and lights it. Flee coughs.

SONNY

Those skilled in war subdue the enemy's army without conflict. Battles aren't won by strength, they're a product of a superior warrior's creative imagination. Thus, the primary target is not the body of the enemy but the mind.

Flee stares at Sonny in utter confusion.

FLEE

I have absolutely no idea of what you're talking about.

SONNY

Before it's all over... You will.

FLEE

Ah dookie, I'm gonna die without ever getting to see a girl's twinkle.

Sonny slaps the back of Flee's head.

FLEE (cont'd)

Ooowww!

SONNY

Stop saying that word. It's creepy.

FLEE

Which one? Dookie or twinkle?

SONNY

Both!

INT. FLEE'S BASEMENT - LATER

The basement's unfinished and pretty typical: boxes, an old sofa, a poker table, junk and a ping pong table in the middle.

The boys stand at opposite ends of the table. Flee serves a very weak and high arcing serve. Sonny slams the ball and it whips past Flee. He scurries off to find it.

SONNY

Five weeks until homecoming. Not a lot of time to depose an incumbent ruling house but definitely doable. Probably best to use a three stage approach.

Flee returns to the table and serves the ball. Sonny slams it and again it whips past Flee, who runs off to get it.

SONNY (cont'd)

Phase one: fortify our defenses, eliminate their heavy weaponry and forge a coalition.

(beat)

Who's the most formidable non-God?

FLEE

Rainey.

SONNY

Which clan?

FLEE

He's the head of the Gears.

SONNY

Perfect. Now how to get rid of Psycho.

Flee gets back to the table and serves. Sonny is lost in thought and just taps the ball back. Flee returns it and the boys rally while Sonny thinks.

SONNY (cont'd)

Wait... I got it. We'll need a camera, a slut and a friendly gay bar.

Flee completely whiffs the shot he's about to hit and looks up at Sonny like he's crazy.

SONNY (cont'd)

Don't worry, I got a camera. You just have to take care of the rest.

Flee's jaw drops and the room goes SILENT - except for the ping pong ball bouncing.

SONNY (cont'd)
 Only joking, little man. Point me in
 the direction of a slutty girl and
 I'll handle everything.

Flee breaths a SIGH of relief.

FLEE
 Bell, dark mistress of the Goths.

SONNY
 See, like her, that was easy.
 (beat)
 Unfortunately, this next bit won't be.

Sonny takes a cig out and lights it. Flee coughs as usual.

SONNY (cont'd)
 You gotta be less of an idiot, because
 your mouth is a flat out liability. A
 skilled warrior moves as intangibly as
 a ghost in the starlight, he is
 obscure, inaudible. Alright?

FLEE
 Fine, I'll try... But you have to stop
 smoking. It makes me nauseous.

SONNY
 Did you just give me an ultimatum?

FLEE
 No... Maybe... Yeah?

SONNY
 That's the fighting spirit.
 (thinks for a beat)
 Fair is fair, you got yourself a deal.

Sonny drops the cigarette on the floor and puts it out with
 his foot.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

A bell RINGS as the boys walk toward the school.

FLEE
 Hey, I've been thinking and I might
 have a plan for getting rid of Psycho
 that's less weird sounding than yours.
 We steal something priceless from a
 museum, plant it in his locker and
 turn him in. He'd get sent to jail for
 like forever. Saw it in a movie once.

Sonny smacks the back of Flee's head hard.

FLEE (cont'd)
Ooowww, why'd you do that?

SONNY
I quit smoking and you stop saying
stupid things, that's the agreement.
(beat)
Christ, if that idea was any dumber,
you'd have to wear a helmet.

INT. HALLWAY - LATER

Bell takes books out of her locker. She shuts the door and standing there are Sonny and Flee.

SONNY
So Flee tells me you're a slut.

Flee's eyebrows shoot up.

FLEE
No... I... He... I... You...

BELL
That's the rumor... Turd-boys.
(off Sonny's expression)
Heard about Psycho's little present.

SONNY
Well then, now that the niceties are
out of the way, we wanted to see if
you'd be interested in helping us...

BELL
Take the Gods down? Count me in.

SONNY
Don't you wanna...

BELL
Couldn't care less. In fact, I highly
doubt you'll succeed but if you're
giving it a shot, I'm your girl.

SONNY
Not a fan of theirs, I take it?

BELL
Wouldn't want to kill any, just hit
them all in the head with a
sledgehammer a couple hundred times.

Bell slams her locker shut and heads off to class - leaving
the boys standing there alone.

FLEE
She kinda scares me.

SONNY
 Feisty, I'll give her that.
 (beat)
 One down and one to...

INT. AUTO SHOP - LATER

Rainey, wearing coveralls, lies on a dolly on the ground next to a car he's working on. Sonny and Flee stand over him.

RAINEY
 No! The Gears got no quarrel with the
 Gods but if you do, then enjoy what's
 left of your short lives.
 (beat)
 And that ain't a crack at your height,
 Flee. I got a cousin who's a midget.

FLEE
 Thanks. I... Think.

Rainey slides under the car.

SONNY
 You know what the golden rule is?

FLEE
 Those with the gold rule.

Sonny looks at Flee in surprise.

SONNY
 Very good, grasshopper.

FLEE
 If I had money to throw around, I'd
 already be a God.

SONNY
 That's not the kind of gold I'm
 thinking about.
 (he squats down)
 We'll give you a case of beer a week.

Rainey rolls out from under the car.

RAINEY
 Payment up-front.

Rainey slides back under the car. Sonny and Flee start to make their way out of the shop.

SONNY
 That went as well as could be
 expected.

FLEE
 Uh, minus the fact that getting beer
 is impossible.

SONNY
 Nah, it's easy. All you need is Super
 Glue, three guys and a box of condoms.

FLEE
 Now you're scaring me.

SONNY
 If a general is not courageous he will
 be unable to conquer doubts or create
 great plans.

INT. BATHROOM - LATER

Overhead shot of Sonny and Flee sitting in separate stalls.
 Sonny eats a bag lunch.

FLEE
 Are we gonna have to spend every lunch
 in here?

SONNY
 Only until Rainey comes on board.

FLEE
 This sucks.

SONNY
 War is hell.

FLEE
 I'm hungry.

SONNY
 Should've brought a bag lunch.

FLEE
 You didn't tell me to.

SONNY
 I don't tell you to breathe and yet
 you do. Take it as a lesson. One must
 always be thinking two steps ahead.

Like a little kid, Flee mouths the last line.

FLEE
 Hope you're enjoying your meal.

SONNY
 The flavors are only five in number
 but their blends are so various that
 one cannot taste them all.

Sonny smiles and Flee pulls his hair in frustration.

FLEE
Stop talking like a fortune cookie.

INT. FLEE'S BASEMENT - LATER

Sonny, Bell and Flee sit at the poker table. Flee is shamelessly staring at Bell's breasts - like he's mesmerized.

SONNY
What do jocks fear most?

FLEE
Being kidnapped by an evil clown?

Sonny looks over at Flee.

SONNY
Is that your greatest fear?

FLEE
(sheepishly)
No.

Sonny shakes his head.

SONNY
Anyway, it's homosexuality.

BELL
Why is that exactly?

SONNY
Why is what?

BELL
Why are high school guys so terrified of homosexuals?

SONNY
It supposedly has to do with the fact that most teenagers have some level of sexual ambiguity and until they're fully confident of their identity they feel compelled to prove societal normality.

BELL
So they pick on gays to what... Make themselves feel straighter?

SONNY
Pretty much.

FLEE
 (loudly)
 I'm not.

SONNY
 You're not what?

FLEE
 Sexually ambiguous. I like girls.

BELL
 As evidenced by the fact you've been
 staring at my breasts non-stop.

Flee instantly looks away from Bell's breasts.

FLEE
 No I wasn't.

BELL
 It's understandable. I'm probably the
 first girl who's ever been in your
 basement. Big moment for you, so
 consider this time a freebie. Next
 time I'll knock your lights out.

FLEE
 I've had girls down here before.

BELL
 Like who?

Flee thinks about it for a beat.

FLEE
 A cousin once.

BELL
 Oh, that's disgusting.

SONNY
 For Christ's sake! We've got more
 important things to discuss.

BELL
 Like your brilliant plan to turn
 Psycho queer?

Sonny takes a Zippo lighter out and subconsciously starts
 opening and closing it over and over - very annoying.

SONNY
 We're not gonna make him gay...
 Just... Create the illusion he is.
 (beat)
 All warfare is based on deception.

BELL
And how exactly do I fit into this?

SONNY
Offer the enemy a bait to lure him in,
create disorder then strike. Plus, I
was hoping you could find us a gay bar
to use for the sting. Not exactly my
strong suit.

FLEE
(pipes in)
Mine either.

BELL
I'll talk...

Sonny continues to flick the Zippo open and shut. Bell
snatches it from his hand.

BELL (cont'd)
To the Queens.

Bell puts the Zippo in her bag, takes out a pack of gum and
tosses it to Sonny. He gives her a hard stare but she doesn't
even blink. After a beat, he takes a stick of gum out and
starts chewing it.

SONNY
Moving on then... Beer.

EXT. DRUGSTORE - LATER

The three of them stand in front of the store.

FLEE
No way.

SONNY
All you have to do is keep the cashier
distracted until we get up to the
register.

FLEE
Why can't Bell do it?

SONNY
She'd be more conspicuous.

Sonny takes some gum out and starts chewing it. Bell smiles.

FLEE
No one's more conspicuous than me.

BELL
Damn straight, tit-starer.

FLEE

See.

SONNY

Tough. You're doing it and that's that. We got glue?

Bell holds up a tube of Super Glue.

SONNY (cont'd)

It's plunder time.

Sonny and Bell walk in. Flee SIGHS and follows.

INT. DRUGSTORE - CONTINUOUS

Sonny and Bell head for the back of the store and Flee walks up to the pretty but bored looking CASHIER.

She's chewing gum and blows a bubble. Flee stands there looking nervous. After a beat she pops the bubble.

CASHIER

Can I help you?

FLEE

Need... Condoms... I.

The Cashier takes a step toward the huge condom display on the wall behind her. We notice that Flee's starting to sweat.

CASHIER

Which brand, Yoda?

Flee, hand shaking, randomly points at an area. The Cashier grabs a box of condoms and tosses it on the counter. Flee frantically looks around for Sonny.

ANGLE ON SONNY AND BELL

They're in the back of the store at the refrigerators. Sonny is taking out a case of beer and Bell grabs a case of Coke.

ANGLE ON FLEE

Flee pretends to read the box for a beat, looks for Sonny again and scrunches his face when he doesn't see him.

FLEE

Bigger... Need bigger.

The Cashier's eyebrows shoot up.

ANGLE ON SONNY AND BELL

Bell opens the case of Coke and dumps all the cans out onto a shelf. Sonny then opens the case of beer.

They bring the open ends of each box together and Sonny tips the beers up. The beers all slide perfectly into the Coke box.

Sonny dumps the beer box onto the shelf and takes out the Super Glue. He puts dabs of the glue on the open flaps of the Coke box and shuts them.

He holds them shut for a beat, so the glue can set, then takes the case from Bell. If you didn't know, you'd have no idea he wasn't holding a regular case of Coke.

ANGLE ON FLEE

The Cashier puts a box of Trojan Magnums on the counter and Flee wipes the sweat off his forehead.

CASHIER

I dated a guy who was that big. Talk about hurts so good.

The Cashier sexually twirls her gum on her finger.

FLEE

That... That's... A nice story.

(struggles)

My girlfriend's at college... But she's coming home this weekend... For a sex visit... Lots of sex... Maybe you knew her... Amanda Beckett... Went to Ridgemont High... Boy, do we have fast times together... Yeah.

Sonny and Bell come strolling up. Sonny puts the case of Coke on the counter and Flee let's out a huge SIGH of relief.

BELL

Magnums? You go, sexual vanilla.

FLEE

Can... Can we please just pay. I'm feeling kinda hot here.

EXT. DRUGSTORE - MOMENTS LATER

Sonny and Bell triumphantly walk out of the store. Flee sullenly trails behind them carrying the Coke and a bag.

BELL

Way wicked!

SONNY

And the best part, other than the fact they don't card you, is that a case of Coke is cheaper than a case of beer.

FLEE
 Except we also had to pay for the
 super big condoms.

SONNY
 No worries, little buddy, I'll put
 them to good use.

Sonny grabs the bag from Flee as they all arrive at the car.

BELL
 Don't even try to pretend you're hung
 like that.

Sonny innocently shrugs his shoulders.

SONNY
 Those skilled in the use of their
 extraordinary forces are as infinite
 as the heavens and earth; as
 inexhaustible as the flow of a river.

BELL
 What?

Sonny smiles, gives her a wink and gets into the car. Bell
 turns to Flee with an irritated look on her face.

FLEE
 Yeah, pretty annoying when he does
 that.

INT. SONNY'S CAR - LATER

The car pulls into Bell's driveway and comes to a stop. Bell
 opens the door and gets out.

BELL
 It was real and it was fun... But it
 wasn't real fun.

SONNY
 Nice hanging with you too, slut-shine.

Bell makes a face at Sonny and slams the door shut. Sonny
 waits until she's safely inside her house.

SONNY (cont'd)
 I'm not a chauffeur, Pinche.

Flee looks confused until it dawns upon him.

FLEE
 Oh.

Flee moves from the back seat to the passenger seat. Sonny backs out of the driveway and heads down the street. After passing a few houses he stops besides a garbage can.

SONNY
You can pitch the condoms now.

FLEE
But you said...

SONNY
Of course, there was a girl with us.
Always keep the ladies thinking.

FLEE
So you're not...

SONNY
Dude! Asking a guy about the size of
his sword is bad Dong Shui.

INT. AUTO SHOP - MORNING

As is their norm, the Gears tinker with a car before school has started. Sonny and Flee, carrying the Coke case, come walking in. Flee holds the case up to Rainey.

SONNY
As promised.

Rainey taps the side of his head with his fist.

RAINEY
I may not pack that much horsepower
under the hood but I know the
difference between suds and soda.

The Gears LAUGH.

SONNY
You can't tell how fast a car is by
its paint job.

Rainey takes the Coke case, opens it and smiles.

RAINEY
Consider yourself covered for this
week but shove come to punch, I ain't
fighting Psycho.

SONNY
He won't be an issue much longer.

Rainey stares at Sonny for a beat.

RAINEY

I got no love for Bufton and he ain't
no God but the real ones sure do seem
to smile upon him and his kind. You
get what I'm saying?

Sonny smiles his wicked little smile.

SONNY

Those whom the Gods would destroy they
first make all powerful.

With that, Sonny turns and walks off. Flee follows.

INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Bufton, Keri, Cheerleader #1 and Psycho stare at Bufton's
locker. Written on it in marker is, "Alea iacta est."

BUFTON

The hell?

PSYCHO

It means the die is cast or in
football terms, it's on. Caesar said
it when he crossed the Rubicon with
his legion, which in effect meant he
was declaring civil war.

(off Bufton's expression)

What? I take Latin... But it's not
like I'm in Latin Club or anything.

KERI

Wonder which jank lil' Grommet did it?

Bufton shakes his head.

BUFTON

Gotta be new guy or as I now like to
call him, dead-meat.

Psycho cracks his knuckles.

PSYCHO

Shock and awe, baby.

INT. CAFETERIA - LUNCH TIME

Sonny and Flee sit at their table eating. Something catches
Flee's attention and he looks up.

FLEE

You sure that graffiti-bomb was a
smart move?

SONNY

Agitate your enemy to ascertain the pattern of their movement.

FLEE

Oh, they're agitated, that's for sure.

SONNY

Good. If a general's quick tempered you can make a fool of him.

FLEE

Good? Not good, they look royally pissed.

Bufton, Psycho and a couple other Gods walk up to table and they do, in fact, look royally pissed.

BUFTON

Let's go.

SONNY

Go? Go where? I didn't even know we had a date.

BUFTON

Don't play dumb, shit-head. I know you wrote that crap on my locker.

SONNY

No idea of what you're talking about, Poindexter, so make like a hockey stick and puck off.

Psycho grabs the front of Sonny's shirt and pulls him up out of his chair. The second he touches him, we hear a commotion - the Gears all stand up and make their way over to the table.

BUFTON

This doesn't concern you, Rainey.

RAINEY

Now it does.

SONNY

(a la Tony Montana)
Say hello to my lil' bodyguard.

PSYCHO

Screw it, we can take them all.

SONNY

Maybe. But not without a few of you finding your football season cut short. Which begs the question, are you feeling lucky, punks?

Bufton looks like he's about to explode but Sonny's right and there's nothing he can do about it at the moment. Bufton taps Psycho and he unhappily releases Sonny's shirt.

BUFTON

Catch you later, Grommet and I mean that laterally.

SONNY

Actually, you mean literally but thanks for sharing, low-fi.

Both the Gods and the Gears tense up. Bufton looks like he wants to kill Sonny but gives his boys the retreat signal instead and the Gods head back to their table.

FLEE

That was awesome.

SONNY

That was only the beginning.

INT. SONNY'S CAR - LATER

Wide-eyed and terrified, Flee sits in the back scrunched between the Queens, two extremely GAY GOTH GUYS. Sonny drives and Bell sits shotgun.

FLEE

So... You guys... You... Like guys?

GAY GOTH GUY #1

And then some, sexy.

FLEE

I... I like girls.

Flee wipes the sweat off his forehead.

GAY GOTH GUY #2

Do you know why most guys become gay?

Flee nervously shakes his head no.

GAY GOTH GUY #2 (cont'd)

They get sucked into it.

Gay Goth Guy #2 licks his lips seductively.

BELL

Girls! Leave the homophobe alone.

GAY GOTH GUY #2

Sorry, he's just so petite-n-sweet.

INT. GAY BAR - LATER

The Gang stands in front of the flamboyantly GAY BAR OWNER.

GAY BAR OWNER
I would love to help, boys but as you're underage, unless you rent the bar out for the night, my hands are tied and not in a good way.

GAY GOTH GUY #1
How much?

GAY BAR OWNER
A thousand is as low as I could go and that would barely cover costs.

Sonny nudges Flee in the back.

SONNY
(under his breath)
Go convince him.

FLEE
(under his breath)
I can't.

SONNY
(under his breath)
You didn't think you could buy those condoms either.

Flee starts to retort but Sonny pushes him to the front of the group. He now stands face to face with the Gay Bar Owner.

GAY BAR OWNER
Cute but you can't bribe me into it.

Flee looks like a deer caught in the headlights. There's a very long SILENT beat and then...

FLEE
Re... Remember those guys at your high school who made every single day of your life a living hell?

GAY BAR OWNER
Vividly. You think it's tough being gay now.

FLEE
I'm not... Just because a person's different doesn't give them the right to shit on us but no one ever stands up to those jerks and someone should.

Gay Bar Owner suddenly becomes serious and less flamboyant.

GAY BAR OWNER
 Tomorrow's biker night, that's your
 best bet. I'll arrange everything.

EXT. GAY BAR - MOMENTS LATER

The Gang walks out of the bar triumphantly.

GAY GOTH GUY #1
 You were fantabulous.

FLEE
 No... I was just... Yeah.

The entire group congratulates Flee, who smiles and blushes.

EXT. SONNY'S HOUSE - LATER

The GTO pulls into the driveway and stops. Both boys get out
 of the car and Flee happily starts walking home.

FLEE
 See ya tomorrow.

SONNY
 Hold up.

Flee stops and turns back.

SONNY (cont'd)
 Bueno work back there.

FLEE
 I just got lucky.

Sonny smiles and starts chewing a stick of gum.

SONNY
 No such thing as luck. You assessed
 the situation, chose a course of
 action and made that guy change his
 mind. You shaped your own destiny
 today and now that you know you can,
 it's time to step it up a notch.

Sonny opens his truck, searches through the clutter and takes
 out a dog-eared and worn looking book. He then tosses it
 perfectly to Flee. Flee tries to catch it but drops it. He
 quickly leans down and picks it up.

FLEE
 (reads the cover)
 The Art of War.

SONNY
 Think of it as the dummies guide to
 being cool.

FLEE
So if I read this I'll be dank?

Sonny CHUCKLES.

SONNY
You can't just read it, you have to
live it.

With that, Sonny slams the trunk shut and disappears into his grandparent's garage.

INT. FLEE'S ROOM - LATER

His room is pretty much what you'd expect: Lord of the Rings' posters, action figures, Spiderman bedsheets, etc. He sits at a small desk and opens the "The Art of War."

FLEE
Chapter one. Estimates. War is a
matter of vital importance; the
province of life or death; the road to
survival or ruin. It is mandatory that
it be thoroughly studied.

Flee looks up with an extremely confused look on his face.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Psycho gets books out of his locker. Bell and Hot Goth Girl walk up to him.

PSYCHO
What do you weirdos want?

Bell puts her arm around Hot Goth Girl's waist.

BELL
You, Psycho. That is... If you're man
enough for the both of us.

Bell holds a single finger out and Hot Goth Girl sucks on it for a beat. Psycho smiles crazily at the girls.

PSYCHO
I've dreamt about this moment for a
long time... The things I could do to
you two with a bag of marshmallows and
a can of Cheez Whiz.
(beat)
Say where and I'll be there.

Hot Goth Girl looks a little freaked out but Bell is ice.

BELL
 Why don't we start off with some
 cock... Tails... To loosen up the 'ole
 inhibitions.

Bell takes a piece of paper from her bra and hands it to him.

BELL (cont'd)
 Just tell the bouncer you know me.

Bell winks then plants a deep kiss on Hot Goth Girl.

BELL (cont'd)
 (sexy, to Psycho)
 Looking forward to our little outing.

Bell and Hot Goth Girl walk off hand-in-hand. Psycho punches
 the air in excitement.

INT. CAFETERIA - LUNCH TIME

Sonny and Flee sit alone at their usual table.

SONNY
 Tonight is gonna be fun.

Flee nods his head and then...

FLEE
 I don't get it.

SONNY
 What's not to get? Psycho shows up at
 the gay bar and we...

FLEE
 Not that, the book. I mean, how can
 knowing ancient Chinese military
 strategies make you dank?

SONNY
 Combat and being popular in high
 school are not all that different.
 Traditionally the strongest person
 wins but if one masters the indirect
 approach, which is what the Art of War
 teaches, then the use of subtlety,
 surprise and manoeuvre becomes ten
 times more powerful than brute force.

FLEE
 Uh, yeah, that doesn't really help me.

SONNY
 Direct approach, war, punch Psycho in
 the face and he'll kill you.

(MORE)

SONNY (cont'd)

Socially, tell people you have a college girlfriend that no one's ever seen and they'll hate you. Indirect approach, war, lure the guy to a gay bar and you can devastate him without a single blow. Socially, show up at an event with a hot looking hooker and never, ever say a word about who she is and people will worship you.

Flee's jaw drops.

FLEE

We're... We're gonna... Hire Prostitutes?

SONNY

Only using it as an example... Unless, of course, you want to.

FLEE

No, no... Hooker free's good with me.
(beat)
But I still don't get it.

Sonny smiles.

SONNY

Just keep on watching and learning, grasshopper.

FLEE

Why do I gotta learn it? You already know it all.

SONNY

Give a man a fish and he eats for a day. Teach him to fish and he eats for a lifetime.

EXT. GAY BAR - CONTINUOUS

Psycho walks up to the BOUNCER at the door.

PSYCHO

I'm here to see Bell.

BOUNCER

Go right on in, stud.

Psycho struts into the bar.

INT. GAY BAR - CONTINUOUS

Psycho enters and freezes in his tracks. The place is packed - think the Hells Angels but really, really gay. The music suddenly stops and all eyes turn to him.

PSYCHO
Jesus, what are you all, faggots?

GAY BIKER
You nailed us. Now it's our turn.

Several bikers step forward and as big as Psycho is, they're twice his size and way more built.

PSYCHO
Ah shit.

In the background, we see Sonny step out holding a camera.

MONTAGE

A camera flash strobes each of the following scenes:

Psycho in a gay conga line.

Psycho slow dancing with a huge biker.

Psycho being spanked by the bikers as he crawls through a paddle wheel.

Psycho being kissed on both cheeks by two different bikers.

Psycho being dipped by a really massive biker.

Psycho standing alone in a corner trembling violently.

INT. IHOP - LATER

Sonny and Psycho sit at a booth. Psycho still shakes and looks like he's in shock.

SONNY
Sucks being on the receiving end, no pun intended, of harassment, don't it?

PSYCHO
I... I... I feel... Vi... Violated.

SONNY
Good and on that note, unless you want these lovely action shots getting around school, I highly suggest you transfer to St. Mary's pronto.

Sonny drops prints of all the shots he took at the gay bar onto the table. Psycho stares at them in utter dismay.

SONNY (cont'd)
I know, you couldn't look gayer if you had a cock in your mouth.

Psycho suddenly gets a crazed look in his eyes. He lunges across the table and grabs Sonny by the neck.

SONNY (cont'd)
(choking)
Hurt me and Flee will post the photos
on every gay website on the internet.

Psycho's rage instantly deflates. He releases Sonny and slides back down into his seat.

PSYCHO
(frustrated)
But I'm not gay.

SONNY
Ain't that the bitch of it.
(chuckles)
Christ, I wish I had a cig to enjoy
this with.

Sonny starts chewing a stick of gum ferociously.

PSYCHO
Even if I wanted to go to Catholic
school, my dad will never go for it.

SONNY
He'll have to if you get expelled.

PSYCHO
Principal Lesman won't expel me. I'm
the best player the team's ever had.

A smile spreads across Sonny's face as "Funeral Music For Queen Mary (March)" from *A Clockwork Orange* begins to play.

SONNY
Where there's a will, there's a way...
Little brother.

INT. HALLWAY - MORNING

There are no sounds other than the song. Psycho walks down the hallway with a determined look on his face. He carries a large duffle bag in one hand.

He walks past Bufton who says something but we can't hear what it is. Bufton grabs Psycho's arm but he shakes him off and keeps walking.

INT. PRICIPAL'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

PRINCIPAL LESMAN, think Bufton thirty years later, sits behind his desk. Psycho enters as the music continues to play...

PRINCIPAL LESMAN
Can I help you, Donald?

PSYCHO
Sorry, Principal Lesman.

Psycho opens the duffle bag and pulls out a rather large axe. In SLOW MOTION, he proceeds to chop the principal's desk in half. Principal Lesman jumps back, grabs his phone and dials a number. He says something but it's garbled in SLOMO.

INT. HALLWAY - LATER

Police officers drag a handcuffed Psycho down the hallway. They pass an utterly confused looking Bufton.

BUFTON
What happened, bra?

PSYCHO
(crazed)
We've awoken a sleeping giant and filled it with a terrible resolve.

BUFTON
I don't...
(yells)
Psycho.

But it's too late, the cops have dragged Psycho out of range.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Sonny, Flee and Bell watch the cops drag Psycho to their car and stuff him in the back. Cheerleader #1 comes running out. She screams Psycho's name and pounds on the backseat window as the car pulls away.

SONNY
Christ, I love to crush my enemies. To see them driven before me and to hear the lamentations of their woman.

BELL
You're one sick and twisted individual and I mean that as a compliment.

SONNY
Why thank you, Bell.
(beat)
Now to put the last piece of the puzzle into place.

INT. HALLWAY - END OF DAY

The final bell RINGS and students race out of their classrooms. We see Sonny and Flee walking against the current.

FLEE
Why do we need the Geeks?

SONNY
He whose ranks are united in purpose
will be victorious.

Flee starts to retort but Sonny heads into a classroom before he can say anything.

INT. CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

"Latin Club," is written on the chalkboard. Allison and the Geeks mill about. Sonny and Flee walk up to her.

ALLISON
Salve, which means hello. Are you gentlemen interested in joining Latin Club?

FLEE
Yeah, right.

Sonny slaps the back of Flee's head.

SONNY
Actually, we were hoping you'd join our "club," as it were.

ALLISON
And why would I consider doing such?

SONNY
To have some fun for once in your life.

ALLISON
We have plenty of fun.

Sonny looks around the classroom at all the Geeks. Then takes a stick of gum out and starts chewing it.

SONNY		SUBTITLE
Stercus tauri.	Bullshit.	

Allison smiles at Sonny's use of Latin.

ALLISON (cont'd)
I admire what you're attempting to do but statistically speaking, it's an impossible endeavour.

SONNY
Impossible is a word found only in the dictionary of fools.
(beat)
Trust me. I know what I'm doing.

ALLISON
 Quidquid id est, timeo Danaos
 et dona ferentes.

SUBTITLE
 Whatever it is, I fear the
 Greeks, even bearing gifts.

SONNY
 Si vis pacem, para bellum.

SUBTITLE
 If you wish for peace, prepare
 for war.

ALLISON
 War is a grave matter; one is
 apprehensive lest men embark upon it
 without due reflection.

Sonny CHUCKLES and briefly bows his head in deference.

SONNY
 Touche. Let's go, Flee.

Sonny briskly walks out of the classroom.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sonny exits the room with Flee hot on his heels.

FLEE
 Stop.

Sonny obliges and Flee holds his hands up as if to say, "What the fuck just happened?"

SONNY
 She'll think about it but I wouldn't
 hold my breath.

FLEE
 So we give up just like that?

SONNY
 I made a miscalculation. I always
 thought the worst part of being a Geek
 or Loser was that you never got to
 have any real fun but clearly...

FLEE
 That's not even close to the worst
 part and I know better than anyone.

SONNY
 Then why didn't you say something?

FLEE
 You didn't ask.

SONNY
 So what are you gonna do about it?

FLEE
 Me?

The boys stare each other down until a smile slowly spreads across Flee's face.

FLEE (cont'd)

Fine.

Flee heads back into the classroom and Sonny smiles his wicked little smile for a beat before following.

INT. CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

Flee, with Sonny behind him, stands just inside the doorway.

FLEE

Join us and we guarantee that every Geek who wants, will have a date to homecoming. Carpe diem.

The Geeks collectively catch their breath and turn to stare expectantly at Allison - we can feel the pressure on her.

FLEE (cont'd)

(under his breath)

Carpe diem means let's party, right?

SONNY

(under his breath)

Close enough.

We see Allison slowly cave in against her better judgement.

ALLISON

Under those terms, we accept. The Geeks are yours to command.

The Geeks all CHEER and Sonny high-fives Flee - though it's totally awkward as Flee's clearly not used to high-fiving.

SONNY

Phase one is now complete.

INT. SONNY'S CAR - LATER

The boys drive home and Flee looks pretty happy with himself.

FLEE

I did good today, huh?

SONNY

Definitely an excellent use of the indirect approach... On your part.

Flee thinks about Sonny's last sentence for a second.

FLEE

Ah doo... Crap. You wanted her to say no to you to see what I'd do.

Sonny starts chewing a stick of gum.

SONNY

Maybe... Maybe not but either way I was impressed with the fact you threw down a layered ploy. You're finally starting to think two steps ahead.

FLEE

I am? I mean... Yeah... I am.
(beat)
How exactly was it layered?

SONNY

It'll come to you.

INT. FLEE'S BASEMENT - LATER

Flee and Rainey play ping pong - Flee holds his own. Bell sits on the sofa and Allison is seated at the poker table.

SONNY

The supreme importance in war is to attack the enemy's strategy. In simple terms... What makes the Gods cool?

ALLISON

They're the beautiful people.

SONNY

Granted beauty's an advantage but anyone can be pretty if they're popular enough. Take Mick Jagger for example, uglier than sin and yet a sexual icon.

RAINEY

Don't bag on the Stones, man.

SONNY

Only saying how it is, Chico. My point being, popularity's an illusion. Flee, what do you most envy about them?

Flee thinks about it for a beat.

FLEE

I guess that they eat at the cool table, make up the cool words and wear the cool clothes.

SONNY

Exactly. Take those away from them and the empire will come tumbling down.

BELL
And you've got some nifty plan to
steal their mojo, no doubt?

SONNY
Target, George and the great outdoors.
The Gang stares at Sonny blankly and he smiles.

SONNY (cont'd)
The Gods don't dress better than you,
they just wear stuff that most people
can't afford. To counter it, we have
to create a style that's simple and
inexpensive. Something everyone can
buy. Cheap as chic.

A cell phone RINGS - it plays GLORIA GAYNOR'S "I Will
Survive." All eyes turn to Allison but she shakes her head.
Everyone then looks at Flee and he reluctantly answers it.

FLEE
Hello... I can't I'm busy... Fine.
(hangs up)
I gotta jet but you guys can stay.

SONNY
Where could you possibly have to go?

FLEE
(embarrassed)
A tea party.
(off Sonny's expression)
You know... The whole bike thing.

SONNY
She's a child. Tell her no.

FLEE
She's pretty tough.

EXT. STEPHANIE'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Stephanie stands in her doorway and Sonny stares her down.

SONNY
Deal's off, kid.

STEPHANIE
Not-uh.

SONNY
Ya-huh and that's how it is. Welcome
to the real world.

STEPHANIE
 (yells)
 Mommy, a strange boy just tried to
 touch my pee-pee.

Off Sonny's shocked face...

INT. STEPHANIE'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The entire Gang is now seated around Stephanie's little table.

STEPHANIE
 Tea?

SONNY
 Whatever.

Stephanie pours an imaginary cup of tea for everyone.

STEPHANIE
 (to Allison)
 Those glasses don't fit your face.
 (to Flee)
 Fart-sniffer.
 (to Bell)
 Make-up's a bit much. You need help.
 (to Rainey)
 One word grease-monkey, shower.

RAINEY
 Who is this little monster?

FLEE
 Everyone, meet Stephanie Smith, future
 head cheerleader.

STEPHANIE
 I can't wait.

INT. TARGET - LATER

The Gang simultaneously walks out of several changing rooms. All of them wear the "new uniform," i.e. nearly identical outfits - same style shoes, same brand of pants or skirt and a short sleeve t-shirt over a long sleeve t-shirt. The colors of the outfits vary per person though.

RAINEY
 I feel like a Grommet.

SONNY
 You mean like a George. Grommet's
 their word and we no longer use those
 because that empowers them.

FLEE
 We can't just make up new dank words.

SONNY

Why not? A cool word is nothing but gibberish and anyone can make that up. Only reason most people don't is because they're afraid they'll get laughed at but the age of fear is over. From now on anyone who wants can make up a cool word.

BELL

And George is the best you could come up with for loser?

SONNY

It's Bufton's first name.

BELL

Love it.

RAINEY

I don't and I can't tell my crew to dress exactly like everyone else. What we wear is how we show who we are.

SONNY

No, Rainey. How you act is how you show who you are.

The boys stare each other down until Allison raises her hand.

SONNY (cont'd)

Yes, Allison.

ALLISON

One time at math camp...

FLEE

Does this end with you putting a calculator somewhere you shouldn't?

Sonny smacks the back of Flee's head.

ALLISON

As I was saying, we were divided into teams for the calculus decathlon but to our dismay, provided with no means by which to differentiate. So we customized the camp t-shirts ourselves with patches, buttons and iron-ons.

SONNY

That's bueno thinking, Williams.

(beat)

You heard the lady. If you wanna show personality, add some flair. Alright?

Sonny winks at Allison and she smiles.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - LUNCH TIME

The Gang sits outside all by themselves. They all wear the new uniform but each one has decorated their's differently and we can clearly see their personalities, e.g. Rainey has safety pinned a Metallica bandana to his shirt, Bell has put studs on her shirt and pants, Allison has ironed on math formulas, etc.

BELL

Gee, this is tons of fun.

SONNY

Those skilled in war bring the enemy to the field of battle and are not brought there by him.

BELL

I hate to state the obvious but we're the only people out here.

SONNY

Which is why I assembled the leaders of all the clans, minus the Gods, of course. Rally your troops and the rest will fall into place.

Allison raises her hand in the air.

SONNY (cont'd)

Yes, Allison.

ALLISON

I've given it some thought and believe I may have a word that encapsulates the essence of dank. Whiz-bang. As in, making new friends is whiz-bang.

SONNY

Actually, maybe not everyone can invent cool words. Why don't we let Bell take a crack at it instead.

BELL

Crisp. If Keri caught on fire and burnt to a crisp, that would be dank.

SONNY

Giddy-up. Crisp is the new cool.
(gives Rainey a nod)
Why don't you finish things off and give us a word for jank.

RAINEY

I ain't smart like that.

SONNY
Sure you are. First word that comes to
you... Engine.

RAINEY
Torque.

SONNY
What's worse, high or low?

RAINEY
Depends but I'll go with low.

Sonny points at Flee.

FLEE
Getting a swirly is low-torque.

SONNY
Genius. Congrats on inventing your
first saying, Rainey.

Rainey breaks into a smile, first one we've seen on him.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

The place is packed with Get-by Girls. Allison and Hot Goth Girl, in the new uniform, check themselves out in the mirrors. Keri is in a stall expertly purging her lunch into a toilet.

ALLISON
Did you see the Flintstone outfit Keri
Kent is wearing?

HOT GOTH GIRL
So Hasselhoff.

ALLISON
For Swayze.

All the girls in the bathroom LAUGH. Allison and Hot Goth Girl exit and a beat later, Keri bursts out of one of the stalls.

KERI
Who said that?

This brings more LAUGHTER. Keri turns to Get-by Girl #1.

KERI (cont'd)
Wipe that face off your head, bitch.

Get-by Girl #1's face turns red and Keri storms out of the bathroom. Bell steps out of a stall wearing a huge smile.

INT. DRUGSTORE - NIGHT

Flee blushes and stands in front of the same Cashier.

FLEE

I'll take the... Uh, shared sensation.

CASHIER

They only come in regular size.

FLEE

Oh, well, they're for a friend... He's too shy to buy condoms... Unlike me, you know, because I have a huge... Thing... I mean pencil, penis... Big penis, not shy, that's me... Yeah.

INT. SONNY'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Sonny sits in the driver's seat. Flee, Allison and Bell get in with two beer filled Coke cases.

SONNY

Two cases?

BELL

Girls just do it better.

ALLISON

We were able to significantly increase our time efficiency by practicing trial runs in my parent's garage.

FLEE

You practiced stealing beer?

ALLISON

One doesn't become valedictorian by chance alone. And for the record, I find this morally reprehensible.

SONNY

Fun though, isn't it?

Allison breaks into a smile.

ALLISON

Indeed. Who knew committing a crime would be so exhilarating? It was totally... Whiz-bang.

Sonny disapprovingly shakes his head.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Buften struts to class down the student packed hall. He passes the Queens, in the new uniform, at their lockers.

GAY GOTH GUY #1

Don't be a George, Clay A's way gay.

Bufton stops, grabs Gay Goth Guy #1 by the shirt and slams him against the lockers.

BUFTON
The hell does that mean?

GAY GOTH GUY #1
He's straight if you say, big guy.

A group of Get-by Guys quickly forms to watch the action.

BUFTON
Not that Scrode-chode, why'd you call
dick-head number two a George?

GAY GOTH GUY #1
You know, don't be a loser. George is
so like the new Grommet.

BUFTON
That's my first name, ass-wipe.

GAY GOTH GUY #2
Did he just say he's gonna wipe your
ass... Tres kinky!

The entire hallway bursts into LAUGHTER. Bufton looks over at Gay Goth Guy #2 with rage in his eyes, cocks his arm and unleashes a vicious blow but...

A massive hand catches Bufton's hand inches from Gay Goth Guy #2's face. He turns to find Rainey standing there. Rainey shakes his head no. Bufton looks apoplectic but there's nothing he can do.

BUFTON
Don't ever say my first name again and
stop dressing like retards.

With that, he releases Gay Goth Guy #1, rips his hand out of Rainey's and storms off.

GAY GOTH GUY #1
Rough me up anytime, Buff-Buff.

Which brings more LAUGHTER from the crowd. A beat later, a very happy looking Flee steps out from a doorway and gives the Queens and Rainey the thumbs up.

INT. CAFETERIA - LUNCH TIME

Everyone eats as normal and each clan sits in the respective area. Sonny and Flee suddenly stand up. A second later, all the Gears, Goths, Geeks and Losers also stand up - about half of them wear the new uniform.

Then all at once they walk out of the cafeteria. Through the windows we can see that they are all sitting down on the grass right outside of the cafeteria.

ANGLE ON THE GODS

The cafeteria has remained pretty full with all the Get-bys still there but the Gods look far from happy.

KERI

This is supposed to be our year. Ours!

BUFTON

Keep your thong up your ass. Those Grommets aren't the only ones who can play games. I didn't make all-region without knowing strategy and as Coach likes to say, the best defense is a strong offense.

JOCK #1

Except when we had Psycho on the team.

BUFTON

I'm not talking football, dick-nose.

JOCK #1

My bad, bra. What's the play call?

BUFTON

I'm thinking.

JOCK #1

Sucks that Sonny fag is too much of a load-catcher to fight you man-to-man.

Bufton suddenly starts to smile.

BUFTON

God am I smart.

(beat)

I want everyone to snag a little cash-ola from the rents tonight. It's time to show them how the big dogs roll.

INT. AUTO SHOP - DAY

Rainey works on a car during class. Bufton strolls on in.

RAINEY

You lost or something?

BUFTON

Something...

Bufton smiles and takes out a huge wad of cash rolled tight with a rubber band.

BUFTON (cont'd)
In the arena of about a grand.

RAINEY
So?

Bufton throws the money at Rainey and he catches it.

BUFTON
So it could be yours and I'm not asking you to betray your new found friends. Just take the Gears out of the mix. Be like Switzerland.

Rainey and Bufton stare at each other for a long beat.

INT. FLEE'S BASEMENT - AFTERNOON

Bell and Flee play pong and Flee is winning. Sonny and Allison sit at the poker table. Rainey walks to the bottom of the stairs and drops a beer filled Coke case onto the ground.

RAINEY
I don't want your beer no more.

Sonny absentmindedly puts a stick of gum in his mouth.

SONNY
Pray tell.

RAINEY
Bufton offered me a king's ransom to switch sides.

BELL
Traitor.

RAINEY
Don't go all Donnie Darko. I told him to lick undercarriage. From now on I'm doing this for me and no other reason.

SONNY
How does it feel?

RAINEY
Pretty darn good... And you shoulda seen Bufton's face. Worth all the money in the world.

SONNY
I knew you'd make the right choice and I'm proud of you, Brian. You're no longer Ronin, a mercenary but Samurai, a knight.

Something that Sonny said catches Flee's attention and he stares intensely at his friend for a beat.

RAINEY

Thanks, man.

Rainey beams with pride.

INT. FLEE'S ROOM - NIGHT

The room is dark until we hear a CLICK and a lamp on a night stand turns on. Flee gets out of bed and goes over to his desk. He turns another light on and flips thru "The Art of War" until he finds what he's looking for.

FLEE

The skilful commander takes up a position in which he cannot be defeated and misses no opportunity to master his enemy.

Flee thinks for a beat and begins to smile. He then sits down at the desk and really starts to read the book.

INT. SONNY'S CAR - MORNING

Sonny pulls into Flee's driveway and Flee gets in. Sonny then backs the car out and heads to school.

FLEE

Got it.

SONNY

Got what?

FLEE

The Art of Cool.

SONNY

Do you now? Well then, enlighten me, grasshopper.

Flee takes a stick of gum from a pack on the dash.

FLEE

You always have to make it appear like you're trying to achieve something away from the actual intention. Like when you called Rainey your bodyguard in the cafeteria I thought it was a mistake. I mean, even a moron like Buff was eventually gonna figure out his services were for hire... Which is exactly why you said it... Because then you knew where he would attack first and to counter that you paid with beer instead of money.

(MORE)

FLEE (cont'd)

Bosses give you cash but friends give you gifts and by treating Rainey like an equal, you felt confident he'd be insulted when Bufton tried to buy his loyalty. So not only did it permanently push Rainey into our camp... It made the Gods' opening assault utterly useless.

(beat)

Risky but as water has no constant form, there are in war no constant conditions.

Sonny stares at Flee like a proud father.

SONNY

Hot damn, you got it.

Flee blows a bubble with his gum and pops it.

FLEE

Told you so.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - LUNCH TIME

About half of the Get-bys are now eating lunch outside and the majority of them wear the new uniform. All of the Gears, Goths, Geeks and Losers sport the new uniform. Though we do notice that every clan is in their own individual area.

BELL

It's working... Unbelievable.

SONNY

Deep down all anyone wants is to be treated as an equal. Give them the chance and they'll take it. That being said, we gotta do something to coax the rest of the Get-bys out.

RAINEY

Who cares about them?

ALLISON

Agreed, they're all just a bunch of followers.

SONNY

Exactly. They're the middle class. Whoever they think is cool is cool regardless if they are or not. You can't win without them.

FLEE

So what do you have in mind?

SONNY

We throw a kegger.

FLEE
I like it.
(thinks for a beat)
Wait... Where?

SONNY
Where else, your house.

INT. FLEE'S BASEMENT - LATER

Sonny and Flee play pong - they're evenly matched now. Rainey, Bell, Allison and Stephanie, who is overseeing a transplanted fake tea party, sit at the poker table.

FLEE
No way. My mom will never go for it.

SONNY
You'll convince her.

FLEE
Even if I did, you know the Gods will find out and call cops on us?

SONNY
So I'll snag my grandparents' RV and shuttle everyone.

Flee thinks for a beat.

FLEE
When near, make it appear you're far away... And no one will drive drunk, brilliant.

Sonny nods his head.

RAINEY
(to Allison)
You have any idea of what the hell they're talkin' about?

ALLISON
Yeah, it's pretty straight forward.

Rainey shakes his head in confusion.

FLEE
And getting kegs?

SONNY
Not a problem.

With all eyes on him, Flee struggles with the decision.

STEPHANIE

Don't be a fucking wuss, you booger-eater.

FLEE

(sighs)

Fine. Let's make it happen.

Flee slams the ping pong ball past Sonny.

INT. FLEE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Flee and his Mother sit at a table and eat dinner.

FLEE

Ma, there's no easy way to say this so... I need you to visit Aunt Mindy this weekend 'cuz I gotta throw a keg party. Clearly there will be beer but no liquor or drugs and I promise no one will drive drunk. We even hired a bouncer, well, not exactly hired but we have a hard ass who will make sure nothing gets out of control.

Flee's Mother is clearly a bit taken back.

FLEE'S MOTHER

I don't... I don't understand.

FLEE

You know how I always pretend my life is great and you pretend like I'm telling the truth? Well, I'm done pretending and I'm sick of being a loser.

FLEE'S MOTHER

You're not a loser.

FLEE

Mom, we went to a Star Trek convention for my sixteenth birthday.

FLEE'S MOTHER

I had a great time that weekend.

FLEE

And I wouldn't trade it for the world but let's face it... Ever since dad died... I've... I've had some problems dealing with life.

Her lower lip begins to tremble a bit.

FLEE'S MOTHER

You're a kind, sensitive, inquisitive, beautiful boy and those are rare and wonderful traits to have.

FLEE

I hope so but in high school... All they do is get your head shoved in a toilet every other week... And this is my chance to put an end to that, not only for myself but for everyone.

Flee smiles lovingly at his mother.

FLEE (cont'd)

I love you and know you love me and I wouldn't ask you to do something like this if it wasn't important.

FLEE'S MOTHER

Honey, I... I wish I could say yes but I can't. It wouldn't be right.

FLEE

I'm asking you just this once... Don't do what's right... Do what's right for me.

Flee's Mother sits there in SILENCE for a beat.

FLEE'S MOTHER

Guess I better whip up a cake.

Flee gives his mother a confused look.

FLEE'S MOTHER (cont'd)

You know how Aunt Mindy likes her sweets.

INT. DISTRIBUTOR WAREHOUSE - AFTER SCHOOL

Sonny and Flee stand at a counter. On the other side of it stands the DISTRIBUTOR. Flee looks extremely nervous.

DISTRIBUTOR

I.D.

Sonny takes a driver's license out of his wallet and hands it to the Distributor. He reads it then gives it back to Sonny.

DISTRIBUTOR (cont'd)

Thank you, sir. What can I do you gents for today?

SONNY

A couple of your finest kegs.

EXT. DISTRIBUTOR WAREHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Sonny and Flee walk back to the car. Flee looks pissed.

FLEE
You have a fake I.D.?

SONNY
Of course.

FLEE
Then why the whole song and dance to
get the cases of beer?

SONNY
Sometimes the journey is more
important than the destination.

FLEE
Christ, you're Machiavellian.

SONNY
Thanks, little buddy.

FLEE
(screams)
It wasn't a compliment.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Fat Nat stands at her locker and eats a candy bar. A group of cheerleaders walks past and notices her snacking.

CHEERLEADER #1
Little miss piggy sitting in a tree, E-
A-T-I-N-G, first comes fatness, then
pant rippage, next thing you know it's
spandex wearage.

The cheerleaders LAUGH and Fat Nat tries to ignore it.

FLEE (O.S.)
Leave her alone.

The cheerleaders turn to find Flee standing there.

CHEERLEADER #1
Buzz off you annoying little pest.

Flee walks over to Cheerleader #1 and whispers in her ear.

FLEE
Call me a pest or make fun of her ever
again and I'll tell everyone you've
been giving two dollar hand jobs under
the bleachers and don't think I can't
make it stick you dumb anorexic bitch.

Cheerleader #1 catches her breath in shock and then quickly scurries away. Flee also starts to leave but then stops.

FLEE (cont'd)
You're coming to my party, right?

FAT NAT
I wasn't invited.

FLEE
Everyone is but you can consider this an official invitation.

FAT NAT
Really?

FLEE
Yeah... And a little piece of advice. Stop telling people you're friends with a rockstar.

FAT NAT
But it's true.

FLEE
I'm not saying it's not and even if it weren't, hell, I've been telling people I have a girlfriend in college since seventh grade and I've never even been on a real date. Thing is, the harder you try to make people like you, the more they won't, so just let them get to know you before you throw something like that down. Alright?

Fat Nat nods her head.

FLEE (cont'd)
Crisp. See you there then.

Flee walks off and Fat Nat smiles big.

INT. FLEE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The party rages and it's like no high school party you've ever seen - it's not a drunk-fest, kids are just talking and having fun. We also notice that they're all wearing name tags.

ANGLE ON THE KEGS

Standing behind a makeshift bar is Stephanie. Rainey walks up.

RAINEY
Beer me.

STEPHANIE
Show your hand.

RAINEY

Just give me a beer, kid.

STEPHANIE

It shows it's hand or it gets none.

He tries to stare her down but she's ice. He finally gives in and puts his hand out. Stephanie marks it with a permanent marker then grabs a cup of beer and holds it up. Rainey reaches for it but she pulls it away from him.

STEPHANIE (cont'd)

Two dollars.

RAINEY

You're popping my clutch?

STEPHANIE

All proceeds go to Flee's safe ride homecoming bus rental fund.

Rainey angrily takes two bucks out of his pocket and slams it down on the table. Stephanie hands him the beer.

RAINEY

I don't like you little girl.

STEPHANIE

Double D-I-T-T-O ditto, diaper-breath.

ANGLE ON THE LIVINGROOM

Fat Nat stands in front of a set of shelves and studies several proudly displayed dance certificates. She's done up her new uniform shirt way cool.

FLEE (O.S.)

I wish my mom would put those away.

Flee walks up and stands next to her.

FAT NAT

You must be good.

FLEE

Five years of me and a dozen geriatrics twice a week. Wasn't pretty but I can cut a rug.

FAT NAT

My sister's a dance major. She's beautiful and graceful... Not like me. You'd like her. Everyone does.

FLEE

When this is all over, everyone will like you too.

Fat Nat blushes and smiles.

FAT NAT
Thanks for being nice to me.

FLEE
We all need a friend.

Flee starts to walk off when a thought comes to him.

FLEE (cont'd)
Oh, hey, I went to your Killers' fansite and it's pretty sweet and I don't know if you heard but I agreed to set all the Geeks up for "HC." Now half the damn school wants dates and I could really use some computer help.

FAT NAT
Okay.

ANGLE ON THE DINING-ROOM

Sonny, Rainey, Allison and a dozen other kids sit around the dining-room table. In the middle of it, a bottle spins around.

RAINEY
Aren't we a little old for this?

SONNY
How can you ever be too old for a game that lets two people kiss with no strings attached? What I can't figure out is why anyone ever stops playing spin the bottle?

The bottle stops on Rainey. With a GIGGLE, Allison leans across the table and plants one hell of a kiss on him.

RAINEY
Good... Uh... Yeah... Game.

INT. BUFTON'S SUV - SIMULTANEOUS

The car comes to a stop across the street from Flee's house. Bufton's truck is the only car on the street.

BUFTON
Look at that... Not a single car. The Grommet can't even get people to his place with free beer.

JOCK #1
The peeps are there, bra. I heard some crazy shit like they were gonna pick up then like take everyone home.

CHEERLEADER #1
Flee's against drunk driving. He's in
S.A.D.D.

KERI
How do you know about that Grommet?

CHEERLEADER #1
People are starting to talk about him.

BUFTON
S.A.D.D. is for fags. Real men join
G.L.A.D.

CHEERLEADER #1
G.L.A.D.?

BUFTON & JOCK #1
Get loaded and drive.

Bufton and Jock #1 LAUGH and bump fists. Keri shakes her head.

KERI
We should've thrown a party of our
own.

BUFTON
And what? Invited the whole school?
There's no point in being dank if just
anyone can come to your parties. Not
allowing them to ever mix with our
kind is what makes us superior.
Besides, this fag bash is o-ver.

Bufton starts the car and hits the gas. As they pull away he
takes out his cell phone and dials a number.

BUFTON (cont'd)
(in fake adult voice)
Hi, I'd like to report some underage
kids drinking...

ANGLE ON THE LIVINGROOM

Rainey and several Get-by Girls play Twister. Flee spins the
color wheel and calls out...

FLEE
Green.

The Twister kids groan as they struggle to move to the green
circles. Flee's cell phone rings - this time it plays GUNS N'
ROSES' "Welcome to the Jungle." He answers it.

FLEE (cont'd)
Yo... Got it and thanks, Bell.

Flee hangs the phone up.

FLEE (cont'd)
(yelling)
Incoming!

The party instantly goes dead SILENT and everyone freezes - including the Twister kids in uncomfortable looking positions.

RAINEY
Gotta be yanking my crankshaft.

I/E. FLEE'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Two COPS walk up to the door and KNOCK. After a beat, Stephanie, holding a doll, opens it a crack.

STEPHANIE
Yes pigs.

The Cops are bit taken aback but before they can say anything Sonny appears behind her.

SONNY
Sorry officers, she's a real kidder.
How can I help you?

COP #1
We had a report there was a party in progress at this address.

SONNY
I wish but it's just me baby-sitting my bratty little sister.

Cop #1 leans forward and listens - complete SILENCE.

COP #2
No cars on the street either.

Cop #1 gives them both a hard stare but they look as innocent as can be, especially, uncharacteristically, Stephanie.

COP #1
Sorry to bother you. Have a good evening and stay out of trouble.

Stephanie starts to retort but Sonny quickly covers her mouth.

ANGLE ON THE LIVINGROOM

The entire party still stands frozen. Stephanie walks in and gives Flee a nod.

FLEE
(yells)
Party on!

The crowd goes WILD and the party restarts. All the kids playing Twister instantly collapse to the floor.

EXT. FLEE'S ROOF - MOMENTS LATER

Bell sits on the roof and watches the cop car disappear down the street. She has an Ipod in one hand and a cell phone in the other. Sonny crawls out a window and sits next to her.

SONNY

Go enjoy the party. I'll take lookout.

Sonny takes some gum out and starts chewing.

BELL

Not really my thing...

(beat)

Got royally wasted at my first party ever. Wanted to impress Bufton's older brother, John. A senior slash star quarterback. Go figure. Anyway, the last thing I remember before passing out is going into a room with John and kissing him on a bed. The next day I woke up lying beside George and the only thing I knew for sure was that I was no longer a virgin. And as an added bonus, Keri Kent made it her job spreading the rumor I was a slut even though I haven't had sex with anyone since. Needless to say, I've kinda lost my lust for alcohol and parties.

SONNY

Is that why you hide behind all that make-up and metal?

BELL

I'm not hid...

They both stare out into the darkness for a long SILENT beat.

BELL (cont'd)

You probably think I'm pretty gross. I know I do.

SONNY

Actually... I think you're pretty amazing and...

Sonny smiles his wicked smile, stands up and bows with a flourish while trying to keep his balance on the slanted roof.

SONNY (cont'd)

I would be honored if you agreed to accompany me to the homecoming dance?

We can tell Bell is blushing even though we can't see it through the white make-up covering her face.

BELL
Don't ask me out of pity.

SONNY
I only pity those who are afraid of taking risks.
(beat)
Some say the world will end in fire;
some say in ice. From what I've tasted of desire. I hold with those who favor fire.

Bell lets out an uncharacteristically girlish GIGGLE.

BELL
Wow, was that cheesy.

SONNY
Cheesy? Waxing poetic is never...

A shingle Sonny's standing on gives out, he falls onto his back and slides off the roof. We hear him land with a THUD and GROAN. Bell scrambles to the edge and looks down at him. He lies perfectly on his back. A bit stunned but unharmed.

BELL
Are you alright?

SONNY
Only if you say yes.

BELL
I won't get all dressed up like some stupid stuck up Barbie bitch doll.

SONNY
Wear whatever you feel like.

BELL
Okay.

SONNY
Just okay?

BELL
Don't push it, buddy, I said I'd go.

ANGLE ON THE BASEMENT

A few Get-by Guys sit around the poker table drinking and joking. Flee sits down and the conversation comes to a stop.

FLEE
So how y'all doing?

Complete SILENCE.

FLEE (cont'd)
Alrighty then.

Flee takes a sip of beer and then pours some onto his hand.

GET-BY GUY #1
Dude, why are you wasting the beer?

FLEE
I'm not wasting it... Just getting my
date drunk.

Flee kisses his hand and the table bursts into LAUGHTER.

GET-BY GUY #1
This guy's totally crisp.

ANGLE ON THE KITCHEN

Goth #1 holds his thumb to the end of a beer bong, waiting for the foam to rise. Allison stares at it with great interest. We notice Einstein's face on the front of her new uniform shirt.

ALLISON
If you were to attach a standard hose
value to the end of the tube, it would
in essence self load itself.

GOTH #1
Serious?

ALLISON
I never joke about physics.

GOTH #1
That's a wicked idea. Thanks.

Goth #1 hands her the now ready beer bong.

ALLISON
No... I... Oh, what the heck.

Allison takes it and tentatively puts her lips on the tube.

SMASH CUT:

ANGLE ON THE LIVINGROOM

Allison walks in holding the empty beer bong above her head.

ALLISON
Einstein can suck my relativ-a-titty.

The entire party CHEERS and she lets out a huge BURP.

ANGLE ON FAT NAT

Fat Nat stands in a corner people watching. Gay Goth Guy #1 and 2 walk up.

GAY GOTH GUY #1
Honey, your shirt's divinelicious and
I'd die if you said you'd make me one.

FAT NAT
I... I'd be delighted to.

GAY GOTH GUY #2
Me three, por-Tina-Fey-vor.

A glint of acceptance starts to shine in Fat Nat's eyes.

ANGLE ON THE KEGS

Gear #1 walks up to the makeshift bar and he's clearly a bit buzzed. He holds his hand out and on it we see five pen marks.

STEPHANIE
Looks like someone's had enough.

GEAR #1
Come on, don't be a low-torque bitch.

Stephanie smiles, grabs a baton and nails Gear #1 in the balls. He instantly crumbles to the ground in pain.

STEPHANIE
Did that hurt, poop-head? Because it
looked like it hurt.

INT. RV - LATER

Dozens of kids are crammed inside the rather large RV - still having fun. Sonny drives and Bell sits shotgun. Sonny brings the RV to a stop and Bell opens the door.

SONNY
Mantua! Next stop Fairfax Acres and
remember, go straight to bed. If you
try to talk to your parents they'll
know you've been hitting the sauce.

Several kids file off the RV. Bell shuts the door and Sonny puts the vehicle back into motion.

Bell slowly and shyly lets her left hand drop over the seat. Sonny smiles and grabs it with his right hand.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - LUNCH TIME

All the Get-bys are now outside and the clans are all mixed together.

We notice that everyone wears the new outfit and they're decorated in an awesome and wide variety of ways. A Get-by Guy walks up to thank Flee.

GET-BY GUY #1
Your party was mega-crisp, bro.

FLEE
Glad you made it, Jeff.

Next it's a Get-by Girl's turn.

GET-BY GIRL #1
Thanks, Flee, I had the best time.

FLEE
You're welcome, Crystal and I really like what you've done with your shirt.

She blushes and walks off. Flee and Sonny stare at everyone getting along and having fun - it's a rather cool sight.

SONNY
You wanna say it or should I?

FLEE
Phase two is now complete.

They perfectly high-five Top Gun style - high then low.

INT. CAFETERIA - LUNCH TIME

The place is completely empty except for the Gods - it's pretty pathetic looking.

CHEERLEADER #1
This sucks.

JOCK #1
Totally low-torque.

KERI
Don't use their words.

JOCK #1
I meant jank, sorry.

BUFTON
Would everyone stop looking so God-damned pathetic. We never show weakness. The only pain that matters is the pain we inflict.

KERI
The only thing that's gonna be inflicted is one of those peasants onto the homecoming court.

BUFTON

Shut your whining. I'm the man with the plan and once we're crowned king and queen... Everything will go back to how it should be.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

MS. DANIELS, a prudish looking teacher, sits behind a table set up in the lobby. She checks names off a list as students place their homecoming court votes into a box.

Our Gang waits their turn in line to vote. They all wear t-shirts with, "Vote for Flee" on them. Except for Flee whose shirt reads, "Chaos was what killed the dinosaurs."

INT. COMPUTER LAB - AFTER SCHOOL

Flee and Fat Nat sit at a computer.

FLEE

Here's what I'm thinking, we build a website that lists about five hundred things, like books, bands, movies, TV shows, etc. Everyone ranks their top fifty and we match the people with the most things in common. Then we tell the couples why they were put together and they have stuff to talk about right from the get go. You know?

Fat Nat nods her head.

FLEE (cont'd)

And the best part about it, which admittedly I didn't see at first, is that not only will people be grateful to us for setting them up, we get the pick of the litter. I'm gonna take that hot goth girl. When the kids see me walk in with her on my arm... Bingo. So which stud do you want?

FAT NAT

I'll probably just go alone. Anyone who gets stuck with me won't be happy.

FLEE

Hey, now, none of that. You're getting a date and that's final.

INT. CLASSROOM - SIMULTANEOUS

Ms. Daniels sits at her desk and prepares to count the votes, which she's stacked into a single neat pile in front of her.

Bufton and two Gods stroll into the room. She looks up, sees Bufton and smiles - clearly a bit infatuated with him.

MS. DANIELS
Hello, George, how's my favorite student?

BUFTON
Not so good, Miss D.
(beat)
I'm sorry, I know you're busy but I've got a bit of a problem.

MS. DANIELS
I always have time to help.

BUFTON
In private?

MS. DANIELS
Of course.

Bufton walks to a corner of the room and Ms. Daniels follows. As soon as she gets up, one of the Gods grabs the votes off her desk and puts them in his jacket. Another takes a faked stack out of his coat and sets them down on the desk.

EXT. BELL'S HOUSE - LATER

Sonny and Bell sit in a pair of swings that hang from a large wooden swing set in her back yard and stare at each other. He leans in to kiss her but Bell, with a girlish GIGGLE, pushes herself backwards and starts swinging.

BELL
Gotta earn that, buddy.

SONNY
Name your price.

BELL
What's your favorite all-time CD?

SONNY
Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars.

Bell brings her swing to a stop, gives him a quick kiss on the lips and then starts swinging again.

SONNY (cont'd)
That's all I get?

BELL
You want more... Tell me more. Tell me something about you that's shocking.

Sonny's expression suddenly gets super serious, so serious that Bell stops swinging. Sonny leans in close to her.

SONNY

I'm a soldier from the future sent
back in time to protect you from...

Bell pushes Sonny's swing away from hers and they both LAUGH.

BELL

I'm serious. I wanna know everything
about you.

SONNY

No... You don't.

BELL

I told you the one thing I've never
talked to anyone about.

Sonny stares off into space for a beat.

SONNY

You really wanna know that at my old
school I wouldn't have ever spoken to
you and most likely would've picked on
Flee.

BELL

You really think I didn't know you
were a God once?

Sonny takes a stick of gum out and starts chewing it.

SONNY

So we're at a party this summer
getting liquored up when Derek, our
Bufton, decides we need to teach Mike
Salih a lesson. Derek hates Mike for
no other reason than he's the smartest
guy in school.

(beat)

Now it's common knowledge that Mike
has a phobia of heights and next thing
I know we're holding him upside down
off a balcony. He's freaking out and
crying and... And then Mike pisses his
pants, right there in front of the
entire party. Most everyone's laughing
except him and me. He's just hanging
there, soaking in his own urine and
staring up at me... Christ, the look
in his eyes...

(spits the gum out)

Here's the bitch of it, when we were
younger, Mike and I had been the best
of friends.

(MORE)

SONNY (cont'd)

It's like one minute we're playing D&D together and the next I'm helping torture him. I could've stopped it, I should've stopped it but... If I had, it would've gotten me banished from the in crowd, so I chose the coward's path... Funny thing is, after that, I didn't want to be cool anymore and worst of all, I knew I could never look Mike in the face again.

BELL

So you transferred out here?

Sonny nods his head.

SONNY

We all have a defining moment and sadly that's mine.

BELL

You've taken a weird, lost little boy and turned him into a man... And...
(starts to cry)
And made a broken and bitter girl...
Whole and happy again... Those...
Those are your defining moments.

Bell starts to sob. Sonny lovingly lowers her head into his lap and gently strokes her hair.

INT. CLASSROOM - MORNING

The first period bell RINGS and the students take their seats. Static squawks from the P.A. and Flee looks up expectantly.

PRINCIPAL LESMAN

(over the P.A.)

Good morning students. The votes are in and this year's homecoming court is as follows: George Bufton, Kip Owens, Joe Fortunato, David Taylor, Greg Garza, Keri Kent, Kim Webb, Jenny Sweda, Liz Stanley and Cathy English.

Flee frowns and shakes his head.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Bufton, Keri, Cheerleader #1 and Jock #1 stand at Buff's locker. We notice that "Alea iacta est" has been crossed out.

Flee comes storming up, stands as high as he can on his toes and get's in Bufton's face.

FLEE

I don't know what you did, George but I'm demanding a recount.

Bufton puts his hand on top of Flee's head and forces him down onto the flats of his feet. The Gods all LAUGH.

BUFTON

Listen to me you little midget,
recount them as many times as you
want... Won't change the results.
You're a Grommet and I'm a king.

Flee thinks for a beat then starts to nod his head.

FLEE

You swapped the real votes out with
fake ones, didn't you?

BUFTON

Damn right I did. Cockroach like you
doesn't deserve to be in same room as
us... Let alone on homecoming court.

FLEE

At least have the sack to tell me how
I really did?

Bufton stares Flee down but he doesn't even blink. This is not the same kid we first met and Bufton clearly knows and ever so slightly respects it.

BUFTON

You were fourth.

FLEE

No shit... Wow... Thanks.

Flee start to walk off but then stops and turns back.

FLEE (cont'd)

By the way, the Gods are banned from
riding my homecoming safe ride busses.

KERI

As if we'd be caught dead on your
Grommet-commets.

Flee gives her a fake smile, turns on his heel and takes off.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - LUNCH TIME

The Gang, now including Fat Nat, sits off by themselves and eats lunch.

RAINEY

Those dicks.

ALLISON

I'm so mad I could defenestra them.
That's Latin for throw out the window.

BELL
 We could always burn the school down.
 (off their expressions)
 Joking... Sort of.

FLEE
 It's all good... Me being elected king
 was never the main objective.

BELL
 What's he talking about?

SONNY
 The odds of Bufton losing were pretty
 slim. The masses love the incumbent.
 For Christ's sake, Bush got reelected.
 We were always gonna have to steal the
 crown.

RAINEY
 Homecoming crown ain't like a hub cap,
 you can't just steal it.

SONNY
 Flee.

Flee starts chewing a stick of gum.

FLEE
 It's easy... You rent the elks, round
 up some grey hounds and play pirate.

The Gang stares at Flee in confusion for a beat then turns to
 Sonny for an explanation. Sonny shrugs his shoulders.

SONNY
 Once more unto the breach, dear
 friends, once more.

INT. STEPHANIE'S ROOM - DAY

Stephanie plays with a doll. Her cell phone rings and she
 answers it.

STEPHANIE
 "S" squared, speak... You, I hate
 you... Uh-huh... I'm not a miracle
 worker but I do like a style
 challenge, so okay, I'll do it.

She hangs up the phone and just as she does it RINGS again.

STEPHANIE (cont'd)
 (sighs)
 The price of popularity.

She hits the answer button on the phone.

INT. FLEE'S BASEMENT - AFTERNOON

Flee stands at the ping pong table. He holds a list in one hand and furiously writes on a name tag with the other.

SONNY (O.S.)
Shouldn't you be getting ready?

Flee turns to find Sonny standing there.

FLEE
Just making a couple last minute matches.

SONNY
You give yourself that hot goth girl?

FLEE
Nah, I asked Nat. She's been helping me a lot with things and was nervous about being set up, so...

Flee shrugs his shoulders.

SONNY
People are gonna talk.

FLEE
Well, screw them. She's a good person and my friend and we're gonna have a blast and that's all that matters.

Sonny stares at Flee in awe for a beat.

SONNY
Don't ever let the mirror fool you, brother, you're ten feet tall.

Sonny takes his keys out of his pocket and throws them at Flee. He catches them one handed and smiles.

FLEE
Really?

SONNY
A class act shouldn't have to roll in his mom's Hyundai.
(beat)
Speaking of your mom, would you mind snaking some of her eyeliner for me?

Flee gives Sonny a confused look.

EXT. ALLISON'S HOUSE - LATER

Rainey, in a suit and sharp new haircut, KNOCKS on the door. Allison opens it. She isn't wearing glasses and looks fantastic in her dress.

RAINEY
Dang, you look cherry.

ALLISON
Thanks... As do you.

RAINEY
Stephanie sorta pimped me out.

Allison GIGGLES.

ALLISON
Me too.

INT. BELL'S HOUSE - SIMULTANEOUS

Bell stands at the top of the stairs and she's stunning. The pink prom dress she wears is perfect. Her hair is no longer dyed black, it's back to its natural golden blond. Her piercings are gone and there's a minimal amount of make-up on her face, just enough to highlight her angelic features.

BELL'S MOM (O.S.)
Oh baby, you're so pretty in pink.

The camera pans and finds BELL'S PARENTS starring up at her with tears in their eyes. Standing next to them is Stephanie.

STEPHANIE
I'm good. I know.

The doorbell RINGS. Bell walks down the stairs, takes a deep breath and opens the door. Her face falls in shock.

After a beat, the camera pans and standing in the doorway is Sonny. His face is covered in make-up - he's all "Gothed" up. He looks as stunned as Bell is and there's a long SILENT beat.

BELL
I'm feelin' kinda weird here so could you please say something nice or just say anything.

SONNY
Who knew?

BELL
Knew what?

SONNY

That you were as gorgeous on the
outside as you are on the inside.

Sonny takes a single red rose from behind his back and hands
it to her. Bell starts LAUGHING.

BELL

You look ridiculous.

SONNY

(to Stephanie)
A little help here.

STEPHANIE

Is my work never done?
(yells)
I need make-up remover stat.

EXT. THE RODGER'S HOUSE - SIMULTANEOUS

Flee knocks on the door and REBEKAH RODGERS, a extremely
beautiful college sophomore in a prom dress, opens it.

REBEKAH

Hi, you must be Flee. I'm Rebekah
Rodgers, Natalie's older sister.

FLEE

Nice to meet you. Is, uh, she around?

REBEKAH

Nat decided to go to the dance with
the Queens but if it's okay with you,
I'd like to take her place.

FLEE

I'm a little confused here?

Rebekah LAUGHS and it sounds like silver water.

REBEKAH

She got this crazy notion in her head
that I had to go with you and pretend
to be your college girlfriend. Said it
would fix your reputation somehow. I
agreed because I wanted to meet the
man big enough to finally look past my
sister's skin.

(beat)

Of course, if you don't want...

FLEE

No, no, no, I'd be delighted to have
you at my side.

Flee quickly holds his arm out like a gentlemen.

FLEE (cont'd)
Let's make like Paris and party.

Rebekah smiles and takes it. They walk to the car.

FLEE (cont'd)
Hey, were you by any chance a head cheerleader?

REBEKAH
Yeah. How'd you know?

FLEE
Lucky guess.

EXT. ALLISON'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Rainey, wearing a helmet, sits on a sweet looking motorcycle parked in the driveway. Allison puts a helmet on. Her PARENTS, dad is white and mom is Asian, watch her with trepidation.

ALLISON'S DAD
Honey, are you sure that's safe?

ALLISON
No, daddy, it isn't and that's what makes it fun.

Allison hikes her dress up high and jumps on behind Rainey. She hugs him tight and the bike shoots out of the driveway.

EXT. BELL'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Sonny, make-up free now, and Bell walk out arm-in-arm. Sitting in the driveway is the RV. Bell's parents and Stephanie stand in the doorway behind them.

STEPHANIE
Your ride sucks.

SONNY
Thanks, Steph and don't ever stop being the kind, caring cherub you are.

STEPHANIE
Piss off.

Sonny opens the RV door for Bell. She pulls her dress up to step in and we see that she's wearing black combat boots.

BELL
(off Sonny's expression)
They're all the rage in Baghdad.

Bell gets in and with a smile, Sonny shuts the door.

INT. SONNY'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Flee and Rebekah sit in SILENCE as he drives.

FLEE

Would you mind if we swung by my house real quick? It'd mean a lot to my mom. She's never seen me with a girl before. Except my cousin, which, okay that sounds weird, so I'm gonna stop talking now. Yeah.

Rebekah GIGGLES at Flee's bumbling.

REBEKAH

Anything you want.

INT. RV - MOMENTS LATER

Sonny drives and Bell sits in the navigator's seat.

BELL

I'm assuming there's a reason?

SONNY

For?

BELL

Us taking the RV.

SONNY

I was hoping for a quickie before the dance.

(off her expression)

What? You are the school slut.

Bell punches Sonny in the shoulder hard.

SONNY (cont'd)

Alright, alright. Flee did something noble and I figured he deserved to take the GTO.

BELL

Coulda just said that in the first place, jerk... And don't be thinking because I'm in a girly dress I can't still kick your ass.

Bell gives Sonny a hard stare which only makes him smile.

SONNY

On the subject of your attire and let me preface by saying you look utterly phenomenal... What possessed you to take a walk on the pink side?

BELL

You said to wear whatever I felt like
and when I'm with you... This is how I
feel... Jerk.

Sonny blushes for the very first time.

EXT. FLEE'S HOUSE - LATER

Flee's Mother literally glows as she takes photos of Flee and Rebekah.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - SIMULTANEOUS

A Greyhound bus drives down a street toward the school. But instead of turning into the school's parking lot, it goes right past it.

INT. GREYHOUND BUS - CONTINUOUS

The students stare out the window and watch in dismay as they fly past the school.

STUDENT #1

Hey, we just passed the school.

Hot Goth Girl presses play on a DVD player and Flee's face appears on several video monitors scattered about the bus.

FLEE

Friends, countrymen and Frostonians.
Please don't be alarmed. Due to an act
of extreme George-ism, we were forced
to pirate this years dance and move it
to an alternative location. I'm sure
you're all a bit freaked out right
about now but never fear... Tonight
will be the best night of your lives.

The students all look totally freaked out.

STUDENT #2

This is kidnapping. Call the cops.

A dozen kids whip out their cell phones.

FLEE

Oh, and did I mention that we have ten
kegs on ice waiting.

The bus literally explodes with CHEERS and excitement.

EXT. ELK'S LODGE - LATER

Four Greyhound busses, Rainey's motorcycle and the RV are parked in the lot. The GTO comes tearing in and parks.

Flee gets out, runs around the car and opens the door for Rebekah. She steps out, takes his arm and they head in. As they enter, we notice a large sign above the doors that reads, "The Elks Lodge No. 425."

INT. ELK'S LODGE - CONTINUOUS

Flee and Rebekah walk in and it's like walking into a fairy tale - the decorations are unbelievable.

Everyone wears a name tag with their name and top interests on it. We notice that every couple, regardless of their clan, has matching interests.

The place is flat out hopping. Beer flows freely. Tables are laden with food and at one end there is a stage with closed curtains. At the front of the stage is a microphone on a stand and a makeshift DJ table - playing an Ipod.

Gay Goth Gay #1 and 2 and Fat Nat walk up to the them. The three of them all wear matching homemade dresses. Fat Nat winks at Flee and gives her sister a little wave.

GAY GOTH GUY #1

Welcome.

GAY GOTH GUY #2

As are any compliments.

FLEE

Ladies... It's perfect. Thank you.

GAY GOTH GUY #2

It was all Nats. Everything from the decos to the dresses. She's our VerMarZa angel.

GAY GOTH GUY #1

That's Vera Wang, Martha Stewart and Liza all rolled into one. If only she were a boy, I'd do things to her that are illegal in forty-eight states.

FAT NAT

You stop.

(to Flee and Rebekah)

And you two have fun.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - LATER

The place is empty except for the Gods, Principal Lesman, Ms. Daniels and several other adult chaperons. Talk about sucking!

CHEERLEADER #1

This...

BUFTON
 Don't even say it.
 (beat)
 Everyone on their cell phones. I wanna
 know where the hell they are and I
 wanna know now.

With his head shaking, Bufton walks over to Principal Lesman.

BUFTON (cont'd)
 Excuse me, Principal Lesman, can I
 have word with you...

INT. ELK'S LODGE - LATER

Sonny and Flee stand at a keg and Flee fills two cups with
 beer. Sonny already holds two cups of soda.

SONNY
 Dude, I can't believe you hired a
 hooker. I wasn't serious, I was...

FLEE
 She's not a hooker. She's Natalie's
 sister and she's only pretending, you
 know, to give me a little credibility
 with the ladies, so let's keep it on
 the down low. Okay?

They finish filling the cups and start to walk toward where
 Bell and Rebekah are standing.

SONNY
 Wow, she is bueno, bueno... You should
 definitely try to bag her?

FLEE
 Uh, she's a woman... And way out of my
 league.

SONNY
 When the strike of a hawk breaks the
 body of its prey, it's because of
 timing.

FLEE
 Give it a rest.

SONNY
 Alright... But if you need the keys to
 the RV, you know where to find me.

FLEE
 Why would I want the ke...
 (it dawns on him)
 Oh.

The boys get back to the girls and hand them their drinks. The song that's blasting from the sound system comes to an end and the tango starts play.

GAY GOTH GUY #1
(over the sound system)
This one goes out to Flee.

REBEKAH
Oh, I just love the tango.

Flee looks up at the stage and Gay Goth Guy #1, who's manning the Ipod, gives him the double thumbs up. Flee suddenly starts to sweat and looks a bit nervous. After a silent beat...

SONNY
Aren't you gonna ask the lady to dance?

FLEE
Dance... Yes... Ask.

Flee holds his slightly shaking hand out. Rebekah smiles, takes it and Flee leads her toward the dance floor.

BELL
Flee!

Bell throws him her red rose, Flee catches it with his free hand and puts it between his teeth. They reach the dance floor, pause for a beat and then they...

Start to tango and it's like two bodies have become one. A circle forms around them and the crowd watches amazed - it's like poetry in motion.

ANGLE ON THE GET-BY GUYS

Several Get-by Guys shamelessly stare at Rebekah in awe.

GET-BY GUY #2
Snuggle my grundle, that chick is hot.

GET-BY GUY #1
Told you Flee had a college girlfriend. Guy's the bomb-shivits.

All the Get-by Guys nod their heads in agreement.

ANGLE ON THE GET-BY GIRLS

Several Get-by Girls gaze longingly at Flee.

GET-BY GIRL #1
God, he's so McConaugh-hot-hey.

GET-BY GIRL #2
 Totally and I'd let him play my bongos
 naked any night.

All the Get-by Girls GIGGLE.

ANGLE ON FLEE AND REBEKAH

The rose is now in Rebekah's mouth and they dance like they
 were meant for each other until we suddenly hear a commotion.

The music goes dead and all heads turn to see...

INT. ELK'S LODGE - CONTINUOUS

Principal Lesman, Ms. Daniels, Bufton and the Gods standing at
 the entrance.

PRINCIPAL LESMAN
 Who's in charge of this?

Flee walks over to him.

FLEE
 I am.

PRINCIPAL LESMAN
 You're in a lot of trouble son.

FLEE
 No, I'm not.

PRINCIPAL LESMAN
 I can clearly see kegs of beer.

Flee takes a piece of paper out of his jacket and hands it to
 Principal Lesman.

FLEE
 You'll see on the invoice that all the
 kegs here are O'Douls, that is, non-
 alcoholic beer. But if you're looking
 for a bad apple, you've come to the
 right place.

Flee takes out his cell phone and hits some buttons.

FLEE (cont'd)
 (on cell phone)
 You swapped the real votes out with
 fake ones, didn't you?

BUFTON
 (on cell phone)
 Damn right I did. Cockroach like you
 doesn't deserve to be in same room as
 us... Let alone on homecoming court.

Flee hits stop. Ms. Daniels sucks her breath in and Principal Lesman gives Bufton the evil eye.

PRINCIPAL LESMAN

I'll be speaking to you at length on Monday, Mr. Bufton.

(beat)

Let's go Ms. Daniels, we've wasted more than enough of our time.

With that, he and Ms. Daniels storm out of the building.

BUFTON

This isn't over.

FLEE

Yeah, it is but thanks for playing.

(to the Gods)

Everyone's welcome to stay as we don't discriminate. Except, of course, you, George.

Flee pretends like he's thinking deeply.

FLEE (cont'd)

Uh, because you're a loser.

RAINEY

George, George, George, George...

EVERYONE

(chanting)

George, George, George, George...

BUFTON

(to the Gods)

Let's rocket.

The Gods all shake their heads no as the chanting continues. Bufton grabs Keri's hand but she rips it away from him.

KERI

I don't associate with Georges.

Bufton LAUGHS.

BUFTON

You're all nothing without me.

He then flicks everyone the bird and struts out. The crowd goes WILD for a beat and then settles down when...

GOTH #1

(yells)

You promised us real beer.

Flee walks up to the microphone on stage.

FLEE

Come on folks, we don't need booze to have a good time, just each other.

The crowd BOOS and HISSES.

FLEE (cont'd)

Joking. The only thing here that's fake, other than Keri Kent's breasts, is the invoice... Thanks to the mad computer slash forgery skills of Natalie Rodgers.

Flee holds the invoice up and crumples it in his hand. The crowd CHEERS.

FLEE (cont'd)

Let's also take a sec to give her kudos for the amazing job she did blowing this place up.

All eyes turn to Natalie and the entire crowd begins clapping. Natalie blushes and takes a small bow.

FLEE (cont'd)

But most of all, we need to thank her for the unbelievable entertainment she lined up for us.

GEAR #1

(yells)

A lousy Ipod ain't entertainment.

FLEE

There always has to be a hater... Though you're right... So without further ado... I give you...

Flee gives Gay Goth Guy #2 a signal. He pulls a rope, the curtains open and standing on stage is...

FLEE (cont'd)

The Killers.

BRANDON FLOWERS, lead singer of the band, walks forward and grabs the microphone from Flee. The crowd stands there in a stunned SILENCE.

BRANDON FLOWERS

This one's for my good friend, Natalie.

The band starts to play, the kids go berserk and rush the stage. Everyone is in absolute heaven.

INT. BUFTON'S SUV - LATER

Bufton sits in his car fuming and staring at the Elk's Lodge. He chugs a can of beer and drops it on the floor - next to five other empty cans. After a long beat, he grabs a baseball bat from his back seat and gets out of the car.

INT. ELK'S LODGE - MOMENTS LATER

The kids rock out to the music when a SMASHING NOISE suddenly rings out. The music goes dead and everyone turns to find Bufton destroying a food table with the bat.

Rainey and a few Gears walk over to grab Bufton but he crazily swings the bat at them and they jump back to avoid it.

BUFTON
I'll kill you dead.

SONNY
(yells)
Rainey, let me do the talking.

Sonny heads over and as he does, Bufton drunkenly destroys another food table. When he's done he LAUGHS a crazed laugh.

BUFTON
You ruined me over a deuce.

SONNY
Not at all, Skolnick. I thought the turd-bomb was funny. Very original.

BUFTON
Then why?

SONNY
Because I could.
(beat)
Now go get on one of the busses you drunk jack-ass and I'll have it take you home before you do something you'll regret in the morning.

BUFTON
I'm not leaving until you fight me like a real man, you puss.

SONNY
And there it is.

FLEE
Come on guys, we can...

BUFTON
This is a taco and burrito conversation, nachos.

SONNY

Combat is a tool of ill omen but if that's what you really want... Put the bat down and we'll rumble, Pinche.

Bufton throws the bat down and charges over toward him but Sonny raises his hand to stop him.

SONNY (cont'd)

Gimme a sec to take my shirt off...
Don't wanna get any blood on it.

Sonny hands his jacket to Flee and a ring of people quickly forms around them. Sonny takes his shirt off and when he does, we see that he's totally fucking ripped. We also notice that a pair of gold boxing gloves is tattooed on his chest.

FLEE

I thought you never got into fighting?

SONNY

I said martial arts, boxing is an entirely different story.

FLEE

And your whole, "Attack the mind not the body," thing?

SONNY

In the immortal words of Dalton, "Be nice until it's time not to be nice."

Sonny steps towards Bufton and he moves like a cat on the prowl. He clearly knows his way around a boxing ring.

SONNY (cont'd)

I came to chew bubble gum and kick ass, and I'm all out of bubble gum.

Sonny throws two lightning fast jabs to Bufton's face. Bufton swings back but Sonny easily dodges it and counters with a wicked body blow that sends Bufton stumbling backwards.

BUFTON

Ah shit.

Bufton rushes forward and swings hard. Sonny ducks the punch and faster than lightening, unleashes a crushing roundhouse. Bufton crumbles to the floor and like that, the fight is over. Sonny raises his hands above his head in triumph.

SONNY

Veni, vidi, vici.

ALLISON

(yells)

I came, I saw, I conquered.

The crowd CHEERS. Flee and Rainey help a stunned Bufton to his feet. Sonny proceeds to kick Bufton in the ass.

SONNY

Let's have a kick ass dance.

The band starts to play again. Bufton, with tears in his eyes, runs out of the building in humiliation.

FLEE

That last bit was hubris. And yes, I know it means overbearing arrogance... I looked it up.

SONNY

If anyone deserves it, he does.

FLEE

No one deserves it. Wasn't that the point of all this?

Flee turns and starts to walk away.

SONNY

Where are you going?

Flee stops.

FLEE

Power without compassion is tyranny.

SONNY

Thomas Jefferson?

FLEE

Jay Entlich.

SONNY

Who?

FLEE

Me. I'm Jay Ent... Oh, never mind.

Flee walks off. Sonny smiles his wicked little smile and starts to put his shirt back on.

EXT. ELK'S LODGE - MOMENTS LATER

Bufton sits against the wall and uses his tie to stop his nose from bleeding. Flee walks up and sits down next to him.

BUFTON

Leave me alone.

FLEE

It's never as bad as it seems.

BUFTON
My life is shit.

FLEE
Welcome to how the rest of the world
feels. Don't worry though, I used to
be a loser like you... Now look at me.

Bufton gives Flee a look that could kill.

FLEE (cont'd)
Kidding... But on a serious note,
this'll all blow over and I promise to
get Psycho back, so you can win state.

BUFTON
The school will never agree to it.

FLEE
If you hadn't noticed, I can be pretty
resourceful.

BUFTON
Why would you want to help me?

FLEE
For a long time I thought seeing you
humiliated would make me feel good but
it didn't. Made me sad... Sad that I
wanted another person to suffer 'cuz
I'm bigger than that. So you can keep
on not liking me if you want but I
refuse to hate you... Because a true
man hates no one.

Flee puts his hand out and after a beat, Bufton shakes it.

BUFTON
For what it's worth... I'm sorry.

FLEE
A little late for that but there is
something you could do for me...

INT. ELK'S LODGE - MOMENTS LATER

The band finishes a song. Bufton walks out on the stage, grabs
the microphone and just stares at it for a beat.

FLEE (V.O.)
Bufton had learned his lesson the hard
way and was a better person for it.
Well, as good a person as that bastard
could be. So I did get him Psycho back
and they did win us our first state
championship. It was sweet, especially
when Buff gave me the game ball.

Bufton taps the mic then talks.

BUFTON

I'd like to apologize for being such a dick tonight. I also want to set the record straight. Neither my brother or I had sex with Shannon Bell at Stacy's party freshman year. I just said we did so people would think I was crisp and for that, Bell, I'm truly sorry.

ANGLE ON SONNY, FLEE AND BELL

Both Bell and Sonny's jaws drop.

FLEE

I know it doesn't change what really happened but at least people will see you in a kinder light now.

Bell tears up, hugs and then kisses Flee.

BELL

You're a true king. Now if you'll excuse me, I have to go powder my nose... By which I mean cry.

Bell quickly walks off before she loses it.

SONNY

I gotta say, Jay, I'm impressed. What you did for Bell... Is one of the coolest things I've ever seen.

FLEE

I had a good teacher.

SONNY

The student is now the master.

FLEE

Thanks... For everything.

SONNY

It's what friends do.

Flee CHUCKLES.

FLEE

You're my first best friend ever.

SONNY

I didn't say best, Wormser.

Flee slaps Sonny in the back of the head. Both boys smile and stare at the dance thriving around them.

SONNY (cont'd)
Phase three is now complete.

INT. ELK'S LODGE BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Bell fixes her tear streaked make-up in the mirror.

FLEE (V.O.)
Losing the title of school slut let
Bell release all the anger she'd been
holding in and she became one of the
happiest, least sarcastic, nicest,
people you could know. For the most
part, that is.

Keri, looking drunk and disheveled, sits in a stall and drinks
from a flask. She puts it back in her purse, walks out and
stumbles over to the sink next to Bell.

KERI
Bufton's lie doesn't change anything.
We both still know you're a slut.

BELL
Listen here, Tara Reid two, I don't
wanna waste any more energy on you, so
I'm only saying this once. Starting
now you are never going to speak to me
again or I swear to Satan I'll tit-
punch you so hard you'll piss milk for
a month. Got it?

KERI
You don't scare me.

BELL
Yes I do.

Bell fakes like she's gonna punch Keri. Keri flinches, slips
out of a high heel and drunkenly falls on her ass. Several
girls LAUGH. Keri angrily looks up at Get-by Girl #1.

KERI
What are you laughing at, freak?

GET-BY GIRL #1
You... You bitchy, bulimic bimbo.
(to her friend)
Is it me or is Bell way more beautiful
than Keri?

GET-BY GIRL #2
For Swayze times two.

Keri let's out a SCREAM and Bell smiles ever so slightly.

ANGLE ON RAINEY AND ALLISON

They dance slow and close with each other.

FLEE (V.O.)

Allison became quite the wild child. Enjoyed every minute of her senior year and got so out of control her GPA dropped from a 4.0 to a 3.99. Rainey on the other hand, with Allison's help, turned into a model student and actually got himself into college.

ALLISON

Riding your hog made me feel hot and I'd like to ride it again but I don't necessarily mean the mechanical one.

RAINEY

You trying to talk dirty to me?

ALLISON

That assumption would be correct. Now you say something to rev my engine.

Rainey smiles big.

RAINEY

There's a plethora of things I'd like to do to your whiz-bang little body.

Allison sucks in her breath in excitement.

ALLISON

Plethora. Say it again.

RAINEY

I'll do you one better... Myriad.

Allison looks like she's about to orgasm.

ANGLE ON THE STAGE

The band finishes another song. Sonny walks out and whispers in Brandon Flower's ear.

BRANDON FLOWERS

I hear there's one piece of business still to be finished, so I nominate Flee and Natalie as your homecoming king and queen.

EVERYONE

(chanting over and over)
Flee and Natalie. Flee and Natalie...

BRANDON FLOWERS

Sounds unanimous to me. Come on up here you two.

FLEE (V.O.)

And that, as unbelievable as it may seem, is how the fat girl and the weird kid were crowned king and queen.

Fat Nat and Flee walk onto the stage. From the wings, Gay Goth Guy #1 and 2 run out and put those paper crowns you get from Burger King onto each of their heads.

BRANDON FLOWERS

The royal dance.

The band starts to play.

ANGLE ON FAT NAT

The camera follows her as she looks for a dance partner.

FLEE (V.O.)

Once everyone found out Natalie was, in fact, friends with a rockstar, her popularity sky rocketed. And with a little positive attention, she blossomed into a totally cool, confident and kick-ass person.

Fat Nat stops in front of Bufton, who sits in a chair looking sorry for himself.

FAT NAT

Care to dance?

BUFTON

Fine.

Fat Nat takes his hand and leads him off to dance. The camera pans to find an unhappy looking Keri standing all by herself.

FLEE (V.O.)

Poor, poor Keri ended up being the only girl at the dance without a date. I guess some people really do get what they deserve.

Keri stamps her foot on the floor like a petulant child.

ANGLE ON FLEE AND REBEKAH

The two dance and once again, it's like poetry in motion.

FLEE (V.O.)

As for me, let's just say I got to do more than see a girl's twinkle, I got to tickle it, if you know what I mean?

REBEKAH

God, you're an amazing dancer. I bet you're awesome in bed.

FLEE

Well... Actually, I'm... Sort of... Kind of... Pretty much... A virgin.

REBEKAH

Not for long.

Flee's jaw drops and he starts to sweat.

INT. RV - FLASH FORWARD

The RV is PITCH BLACK and we can't see much but we can hear the sounds of two people fooling around.

FLEE (V.O.)

Boy, was I nervous. Losing one's virginity is no small thing and speaking of small things... Hell, I can't even put into words what happened, you're just gonna have to see for yourselves.

REBEKAH (O.S.)

It... It... It won't fit.

Flee turns a light on. He and Rebekah lie in bed. Rebekah holds a rubber in her hand and looks like she's seen a ghost.

FLEE

What... What do you mean?

REBEKAH

Your cock is huge.

FLEE

Really?

REBEKAH

Gigantic. How could you not know?

FLEE

I just always figured it was small like everything else on me.

REBEKAH

You never sneaked a peak at another guy in the shower?

FLEE

I never showered with other guys. Got exempt from gym 'cuz of my asthma.

(beat)

Does... Does this mean you don't wanna do it?

REBEKAH

Oh, I wanna do it, baby, but we're gonna need a bigger condom.

INT. DRUGSTORE - FLASH FORWARD

Flee races up to the counter and the usual Cashier is there.

FLEE (V.O.)

Ends up I have a really, really big penis. How ironic is that?

CASHIER

Hi, Flee.

FLEE

Hey, Jill.

CASHIER

The Magnums?

FLEE

You know it and better give me two boxes, gonna be a long night... Pun intended.

Flee winks and the Cashier blushes.

ANGLE ON SONNY AND BELL - BACK TO REAL TIME

Bell tries to drag Sonny out dancing but he fights it.

FLEE (V.O.)

Last but not least, Sonny. He had sought to exile himself from the world but ended up finding the woman who would become his wife and meeting his best lifelong friend instead. Life's funny like that sometimes.

SONNY

I can't dance, alright?

(beat)

No one's perfect.

BELL

I know and could care less because I love you, imperfections and all.

SONNY
Mon amour, quand je regarde ton visage
mon coeur bat plus fort...

BELL
Just... Just say you love me too.

SONNY
You love me too.

She starts to retort but Sonny grabs Bell and kisses her slow, soft and deep.

SONNY (cont'd)
I love you, Shannon.

BELL
Then dance with me, Shue.

Sonny starts to refuse but now Bell kisses him. Sonny smiles and shakes his head.

SONNY
You asked for it.

Sonny leads Bell out onto the dance floor. They're surrounded by Flee and Rebekah, Fat Nat and Bufton and Rainey and Allison. They start to dance and Sonny really, really does suck. After a beat, the entire school joins them.

INT. ELK'S LODGE - CONTINUOUS

A wide shot of all the students of Robert Frost High dancing and having fun, not as separate clans but as one group.

FLEE (V.O.)
In a land not very far away there is a tiny kingdom known as Robert Frost High. Unlike most high schools it has no distinct cliques or clans, just friends and equals.

FADE TO BLACK.