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FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

"Bad Ideas"

Written by

Elizabeth Heldens

Directed by

Jeffrey Reiner

PRODUCTION DRAFT

July 13, 2007	Full
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FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

"Bad Ideas"

PINK

7/18/07

CAST LIST

COACH ERIC TAYLOR
TIM RIGGINS
TYRA COLLETTE
JASON STREET
BRIAN "SMASH" WILLIAMS
TAMI TAYLOR
MATT SARACEN
JULIE TAYLOR
LANDRY CLARKE
LYLA GARRITY

SPEAKING PARTS:

(in order of appearance)

KID
ANTWONE BELTRINE
TERRENCE BOYD
ASSISTANT COACH
GLENN REED
MAIL DELIVERY GUY
MRS. LORRAINE SARACEN
BUDDY GARRITY
MACGREGOR
LESTER DANIELS
WARREN BURL
CHAD CLARKE
CARLOTTA ALONSO
PAM GARRITY
BUDDY JR. GARRITY
THE SWEDE
PRETTY GIRL
CUTE GIRL
DOCTOR
STEVE
MARIANNE BOLINGER
TICK TOCKER
SUNNY BAKER
RANDOM PERSON
RANDOM CHICK
MAN
DOCTOR TROXEL

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FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

"Bad Ideas"

PINK

7/18/07

SET LIST

INTERIORS

STREET HOUSE - NIGHT
 JASON'S ROOM - NIGHT
TAYLOR HOUSE - NIGHT & DAY
TAYOR'S AUSTIN APARTMENT - NIGHT
COLLETTE HOUSE - NIGHT & DAY
CLARKE HOUSE - NIGHT
TMU - DAY
 TRAINING FACILITY - DAY
 BOYD'S OFFICE - DAY
SARACEN HOUSE - DAY & NIGHT
DINER - DAY
DILLON HIGH - DAY
 CAFETERIA - DAY
 TAMI'S OFFICE - DAY
 HALLWAY - DAY
PIMPED OUT CAR - MOVING - DAY
ALAMO FREEZE - DAY
DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY
 WAITING ROOM - DAY
FAST FOOD JOINT - DAY
TYRA'S TRUCK - DAY
FIELD HOUSE - DAY
 MACGREGOR'S OFFICE - DAY
OFFICE - DAY
 CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY
BAKER HOUSE - THE DAPHNE LEAGUE MEETING - DAY
AMAZING RANCH - DUSK & NIGHT
 ELSEWHERE - NIGHT
THE SWEDE'S CAR - NIGHT
TAMI'S CAR - NIGHT
BUDDY GARRITY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT
DARK OFFICE - NIGHT
HOSPITAL - NIGHT

EXTERIORS

BEACH - DAY
BRIDGE - NIGHT
DILLON HIGH - DAY
 QUAD - DAY
 PARKING LOT - DAY
HERRMANN FIELD - DAY
DILLON - DAY
GARRITY HOUSE - DAY
PARK - DAY
REC CENTER - DAY
SARACEN HOUSE - DAY & NIGHT
 FRONT PORCH - DAY
AMAZING RANCH - DUSK & NIGHT
CONVENIENCE STORE - NIGHT

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FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

"Bad Ideas"

TEASER

1 EXT. BEACH - DAY (D1)

1

White Sand. Water the color of vacation. We are CLOSE ON JASON STREET as he lies on the sand, looking up at the sky. A KID's shadow blocks out the sun.

KID

Cerveza, señor?

Jason props himself up on his elbows and squints at the Kid.

JASON

Sure. Yeah.

The Kid gives him a beer, then walks down the beach. We become aware of a FEMALE FIGURE lying next to Jason.

TAMI (O.S.)

Let me have a sip of that, would you sugar?

Yeah, it's TAMI. All stretched out in a bikini, reading a trashy gossip magazine like it's no big deal. Jason hands her the bottle and as she takes a swig, Tami smiles and leans over and kisses him - a real, sexy, awesome kiss.

TAMI (CONT'D)

Hey, why don't you get up and go for a swim, babe?

JASON

You know I can't do that.

TAMI

You know what I think? I think you're not trying hard enough. That's what I think.

Jason LAUGHS, but she's staring right at him and we see that actually, she's not kidding. She's waiting. Well, okay then. He sits up and to his surprise, he can get up.

JASON

Hey. Can you believe this?

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 1

But Tami's engrossed in her magazine. Jason lets out a LAUGH as he walks, then runs into the blue waves...

2 INT. STREET HOUSE - JASON'S ROOM - NIGHT (N1) 2

Jason wakes with a start and sits up, disoriented. The clock on his night stand reads - 1:34 AM. He rolls his eyes in a way that suggests this is not the first time he has had that dream. After a second, he flops back on the bed...

3 INT. TAYLOR HOUSE/INT. TAYLOR'S AUSTIN APARTMENT - NIGHT (N1) 3

The reality of Tami Taylor is a lot less glamorous than the vixen in Jason Street's dreams. She paces the house in the middle of the night in a dirty t-shirt and pajama bottoms with GRACIE in her arms and the phone cradled between her head and shoulder. Gracie is HOLLERING her head off.

TAYLOR is walking through his apartment with the phone, all bleary-eyed, trying to pretend he was awake when Tami called.

TAYLOR
Maybe it's colic.

TAMI
It's not colic.

TAYLOR
Julie was colicky.

TAMI
Babe, I love you but you don't know what you're talking about. Julie was never colicky. She just cried that one time you took her to the store and it's because you rolled up her fingers in the car window.

TAYLOR
That was over fifteen years ago. I didn't know her hand was stuck...

TAMI
Well, you're the one who brought it up. Were you asleep when I called?

TAYLOR
No.

TAMI
Liar. Go back to sleep.

(CONTINUED)

TAYLOR

Hey, I'm up now. I'm up. Talk to me. I miss you.

TAMI

How's work going?

TAYLOR

It's good. It's... good.

TAMI

What?

TAYLOR

Oh, nothing. It's like being the new kid in school still. There's an inner circle and I am not in it.

TAMI

Babe, it's just a matter of time. All you know how to do is be indispensable.

TAYLOR

Well, what a nice, wifely thing to say. You sure you're okay? When's the last time you had three hours of sleep in a row.

TAMI

Hush. It's fine. I can do it. It's not rocket science.

TAYLOR

Tell me something about my new daughter I don't know.

TAMI

Well, her poop turned from black to green today. And she won't stop crying unless she's strapped to my chest and I'm in motion.

TAYLOR

Put her on the phone.

Tami puts the phone up to Gracie's ear.

TAYLOR (CONT'D)

Gracie Alice Taylor. Listen to me. You need to let your mama sleep. She's very tired. And she gets a little scary when she's tired so

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TAYLOR (CONT'D)
it's best for everybody involved if
you just settle down. I'm serious.

Gracie stops crying.

TAYLOR (CONT'D)
That's better. Now put your mother
back on the phone.

TAMI
I love you.

TAYLOR
I love you, too.

They hang up. We STAY with Tami as Gracie starts to WAIL...

4 INT. COLLETTE HOUSE - NIGHT (N1) 4

TYRA is sleeping when the phone RINGS. She flips on the
light. Her clock says it's 2 AM and her cell phone says it's
Landry Clarke.

TYRA
What?

5 INT. CLARKE HOUSE - SAME (N1) 5

LANDRY is wide awake, dressed and freaking out.

LANDRY
I can't find my watch.

CUT TO:

6 EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT (N1) 6

We see the flashlight and hear the BICKERING before we see
Landry and Tyra trudging across the bridge with a flashlight,
scanning the ground. Landry is still freaking out.

TYRA
Even if you did lose it, they're
not gonna know it's yours.

LANDRY
It's engraved! To Landry. Love
Grampa. It's probably with the
body, that's probably where it is.

Tyra's on the verge of losing it too and Landry spinning off
like a goddamn top is not helping.

(CONTINUED)

TYRA

Okay, just take a breath here.

LANDRY

I can take all the breaths I want to. It's not gonna matter when I go to the electric chair!

TYRA

Landry! Get a grip! We just need to act normal. And this? Wandering around with a flashlight at three in the morning? Not normal.

LANDRY

Oh. I'm sorry. Am I embarrassing you?

TYRA

You're not supposed to return to the scene of the crime! That's like, a basic rule.

LANDRY

Maybe you should write a how-to book since you're so knowledgable.

TYRA

Oh, that's really gonna help. Nasty comments like that. I'm just trying to hold it together... What?

Landry is distracted, staring down into the black water below. Somewhere down there is the body.

LANDRY

(softly)

You think anybody's looking for him? Like, family or anything?

Tyra takes his hand.

TYRA

Come on. Let's go home.

SMASH TO:

MAIN TITLES

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

7 INT. TMU - TRAINING FACILITY - DAY (D2) 7

College athletes lift weights in this state of the art training facility. We find Taylor catching up on some paperwork. TMU head coach TERRENCE BOYD finds Taylor and asks him to come into his office...

8 INT. TMU - BOYD'S OFFICE - DAY (D2) 8

Taylor walks into this huge, very comfortable office where a couple of ASSISTANT COACHES - in the inner circle - stand around. Taylor sees ANTWONE BELTRAINE, a star running back at TMU, sitting on a chair in front of Boyd's desk. Antwone's whole persona says bad boy. His chains, his tattoos, his posture.

TAYLOR

Hello, Antwone.

Antwone looks up at Coach Boyd.

ANTWONE

Who the hell's he?

BOYD

Antwone, this is Coach Taylor.

TAYLOR

We've met several times.

BOYD

Antwone is in trouble with the infractions committee for accepting gifts from a booster, isn't that right, Antwone?

Antwone CHUCKLES. Boyd stares at Antwone, then--

BOYD (CONT'D)

Taylor, I need you to escort this knuckle-head to his hearing tomorrow because I do not trust him to get there on his own. We fully expect him to be suspended for the season because he was stupid enough to get caught at the Justin Timberlake show with an agent.

ASSISTANT COACH

Justine Timberlake, huh? Hope it was worth it, Antwone.

(CONTINUED)

ANTWONE

Hey, step off. That little white boy's got soul.

BOYD

I don't want to hear another word out of you.

TAYLOR

What about practice?

BOYD

We'll cover you. Don't worry about it.

Taylor doesn't like it. Seems like a shit job, babysitting this asshole.

ANTWONE

We're taking my car.

INT. TAYLOR HOUSE - DAY (D2)

DING DONG! Tami, Gracie strapped to her chest, opens the door to GLENN REED, 30s, nice looking, a little uptight. He is holding a box of files. She waves him in.

GLENN

Thanks for seeing me.

TAMI

No problem. Come on in.

GLENN

I just, there's so many of them. These kids. They're coming at me like ninjas...

Glenn stops talking, a little taken aback at the state of the house. Right now, there is no other word to describe it except for gross. There are dishes piled in the sink, laundry waiting to be folded, the dining room table has been set up as a changing table and there's a dirty diaper on it.

GLENN (CONT'D)

Wow. I hope you didn't go to all this trouble just for me.

Tami narrows her eyes.

TAMI

I'm sorry?

(CONTINUED)

GLENN
I was... kidding.

TAMI
I just had a baby, Glenn.

GLENN
I'm sorry. You're right. I just--

TAMI
Now, what's the problem?

GLENN
Okay, um, Barry Harby.

TAMI
Linebacker. Junior. Don't tell me
he told you...

GLENN
...that he can't read.

TAMI
Football players are going to mess
with you. He's just trying to get
into an easy English class, okay?
You have to wise up, Glenn. These
kids are gonna walk all over you.

GLENN
Okay. Got it. Tiffany Barnes.

TAMI
Uhh... Is she making you write her
a letter of recommendation...?

GLENN
To Vassar, yeah.

TAMI
That girl needs to take a reality
pill. She's not getting into
Vassar any more than I'm getting
back into my jeans.

GLENN
Okay, I'll tell her.

TAMI
No, Glenn. If you tell her that
she's gonna start throwing up on
purpose again. Write the letter.
Let her apply. Just make sure she
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

TAMI (CONT'D)

applies to Texas Tech and TMU and a couple of other places she has a snowball's chance of getting into. How's she doing with her parents getting divorced and all?

GLENN

I have no idea. Look, I'm a science teacher.

TAMI

Glenn. This job is about connecting with the kids. It's about getting to know them so you can help them. You have to intuit, okay? It's not something I can teach you, it's just innate...

JULIE comes down, all bad attitude-y.

TAMI (CONT'D)

Hey, sweetie. You excited for the first day of school?

There's something a little heartbreaking in the chirpy, overly-friendly way she tries to connect with her daughter. Julie doesn't even bother to look at Tami.

JULIE

Not really.

TAMI

Hey, I was thinking you and Matt could get some take-out and watch a movie here tonight if you want.

JULIE

Mom, why is it always Matt Matt Matt with you? We're not joined at the hip, you know. Jeez.

Julie walks out. Tami and Glenn watch her go. Tami looks at Glenn, who is staring at her.

TAMI

What are you staring at?

INT. SARACEN HOUSE - DAY (D2)

Landry stands in the doorway, ready to go, while MATT SARACEN gets his stuff together to leave for school.

(CONTINUED)

LANDRY
We're late. Let's go.

SARACEN
I don't know if we're supposed to pick up Julie or not. I've left like, four messages for her and no call back. So, probably we should swing by her house and see if she needs a ride.

LANDRY
Does she have your testicles in her underwear drawer? Even I know she's not at her house waiting for a ride.

SARACEN
(after a beat)
You don't have to be a douche about it. What's your problem?

LANDRY
I don't have a problem... I'm great.

SARACEN
Yeah. You seem really great.

LANDRY
Well, good. Because I am. I'm awesome.

SARACEN
If by awesome you mean douche-y, then yeah, you seem totally awesome.

LANDRY
Well thank you, ass hat. Coming from you that means a lot.

This could go on all day, but thankfully they are interrupted by the MAIL DELIVERY GUY, who appears at the door.

MAIL DELIVERY GUY
Package for Lorraine.

Matt rolls his eyes like, "not again." He opens the package.

LANDRY
What now? Some George W. Bush commemorative plates...

(CONTINUED)

10

CONTINUED: (2)

10

As Landry is talking, Matt pulls a tiara out of the box. It's a beautiful and finely made tiara, but still. He looks like he wants to cry. GRANDMA SARACEN swoops in from her room.

MRS. SARACEN

Is that my tiara? Oh, look at how pretty...

LANDRY

You know what that'll be good for? Like, when you want to just pop out to the Rite Aid.

SARACEN

(looking at the receipt)
Grandma, this has to go back. This cost four thousand dollars.

MRS. SARACEN

(putting it on)
Oh, Matthew. You can't put a price tag on happiness.

Landry stares at Lorraine, wearing the tiara, beaming like a deranged princess.

LANDRY

Can we go?

11

INT. DINER - DAY (D2)

11

A booster power breakfast. BUDDY GARRITY sits at the head of a table that includes eight leathery BOOSTERS and COACH MACGREGOR. Buddy has the air of a man in charge.

BUDDY

So, the season kick-off pep rally is coming up. Garrity Motors will be hosting again this year.

Silence. One of the boosters, LESTER DANIELS, and Coach MacGregor exchange looks. Buddy picks up on this immediately.

BUDDY (CONT'D)

What?

MACGREGOR

We've all been talking. We think it'd be nice to try a new venue.

(CONTINUED)

BUDDY

What do you mean, 'You've all been talking?'

MACGREGOR

Lester's got his ranch. Lots of space indoors and out. We can barbecue. Make it a family affair. More, you know, wholesome.

BUDDY

Garrity Motors is wholesome.

LESTER

Buddy, you have a lot going on right now.

BUDDY

What does that mean?

Another booster, WARREN BURL, pipes up.

WARREN

It means that maybe you ought to let us take some of the burden off you while you get your house in order.

BUDDY

I can see what's happening here, plain as day. I am being railroaded.

MACGREGOR

Buddy, Buddy. Calm down. It's just a party. It'll be fun. I sure hope you can make it.

Hope he can make it? OFF Buddy, finding himself on the outs and not liking it one bit.

First day of school!

--Kids see each other for the first time. Lots of hugs and handshakes.

--Landry and Saracen get out of Landry's car. Saracen is on Landry's cell phone. Landry stands next to Matt as he hollers - and he is really yelling - at some insurance company lady.

(CONTINUED)

SARACEN

You promised me some in-home care. I call you people once a month and nothing ever happens. My dad's in Iraq. I'm sixteen years old trying to take care of my grandma, okay? My grandma's going bananas. I never know when she's going to wander off or set the house on fire or, buy a four thousand dollar tiara off QVC. What do I have to do to get some help around here? I swear to God, I will call the news. I will call the boosters. I will call the police if you don't send me that in-home care nurse that I am entitled to... yes, I'll hold.

Saracen looks up to see Julie getting out of Lois's car. Saracen looks like a lost puppy as she approaches.

LANDRY

Oh, no.

SARACEN

Hey. I didn't know if you needed a ride. I called you a bunch of times.

Landry rolls his eyes and walks off. It's just too painful to watch. Julie is backpedaling away. She's not mean to Matt. She just was hoping to avoid him for a little bit.

JULIE

Oh. Sorry. I...

SARACEN

Hey, you want to get together...

JULIE

...Later. Yeah. Let's do that.
Bye.

Julie walks off. Matt stares after her. Just then SMASH pulls up right in front of the school and gets out, giving Saracen a wide smile. A bunch of CHEERLEADERS call out to Smash and a gaggle of freshman GUYS, who clearly adore him, cluster around.

SMASH

Hey, Matty. First day of school!
What up?

(CONTINUED)

12

CONTINUED: (2)

12

Smash tosses his keys at one of the freshmen.

SMASH (CONT'D)

Hand wash, okay? And watch the rims, alright? Have it back by lunch. And don't mess with my presets.

The adoring freshman hops in the car and drives off. Smash throws an arm around Matt and guides him into school.

SMASH (CONT'D)

Grab onto my coattails, Matty. The year of the Smash has begun.

13

INT. DILLON HIGH - CAFETERIA - DAY (D2)

13

LYLA sits in a circle with her Christ Teen Messengers group, (about six earnest looking KIDS.) Lyla leads them in prayer.

LYLA

Christ shield me today against wounding...

TIM RIGGINS walks in with a couple of RALLY GIRLS. Tim locks eyes with Lyla as he gets a water, downs it to replenish fluids leeches by many, many beers, then gives one of the dumb girls on his arm a big make-outy kiss that will not end. Lyla can't quite take her eyes off the spectacle, mostly disgusted, but perhaps remembering some of Tim Riggins' more redeeming qualities as she recites the oddly sexy prayer:

LYLA (CONT'D)

Christ with me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me, Christ in me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my
left, Christ when I lie down - Tim,
can you take your orqy somewhere
else? Please?

Tim looks up with a smirk. Mission accomplished. He walks off without another word. Lyla looks around, embarrassed at her outburst.

LYLA (CONT'D)

Sorry.
(back to the prayer)
Christ in the heart of everyone who
thinks of me, Christ in the mouth
of everyone who speaks of me...

14

INT. DILLON HIGH - TAMI'S OFFICE - MINUTES LATER (D2)

14

Tyra sits in front of Glenn, who reads her file.

GLENN

Mrs. Taylor wants you to get involved in some extra-curricular activities...

TYRA

Why?

GLENN

It'll look good on your college application. You've been doing really well since last year. Mrs. Taylor thinks you have a real shot at getting into a good school. So. Community service! How about it?

TYRA

What, like pick up garbage on the side of the road?

GLENN

Um, no. That's for criminals. I'm talking about volunteer programs. What about The Daphne League?

TYRA

The Daphnes? You mean the debutantes? Those girls are bitches. Why would I do that?

GLENN

Look, this is the way the world works. If you want to change your life then maybe you need to hang out with some different people.

TYRA

Who said I wanted to change my life?

GLENN

Why else would you be working so hard in school?

TYRA

Those girls are never going to be my friends.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED: 14

GLENN
Friendships are formed on shared
experiences.

Glenn grabs a pink information packet and gives it to Tyra.

15 INT. DILLON HIGH - HALLWAY - DAY (D2) 15

Landry walks to his locker and opens it to find a Panther jersey. Number 82. He pulls the jersey out of his locker, not comprehending its meaning, and we REVEAL a group of Panthers -- Saracen, Riggins and Smash among them, walking up, forming a little circle around him, smiling.

RIGGINS
Close your mouth, Lando. It's
really happening.

SMASH
You're a Panther, baby! A bench
warmer, but a Panther, for sure.

SARACEN
Congratulations.

Back slaps, head pats - whatever the hell guys do to show affection. It's a big, sweet moment. Landry tries to experience it, but there is a cloud over him...

16 EXT. HERRMANN FIELD - DAY (D2) 16

The Panthers practice in the sweltering sun.

Saracen takes a snap, throws the ball over a blitzing defender to Smash. It's a beautiful pass and lands right into Smash's arms. Smash takes off down the field. Saracen turns to MacGregor for feedback, but MacGregor just stares at Smash.

MACGREGOR
Nice catch! Look at Smash, boys.
He's a thing of beauty!

Jason, who is next to MacGregor, looks over at Saracen.

JASON
Nice throw, Saracen.

Saracen looks a little glum. Riggins walks up to Saracen and, completely dead serious, does a little pirouette and a clumsy ballet leap through the air.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

RIGGINS

Look at me, coach. Am I a thing of beauty too?

Saracen and some of the other guys LAUGH. MacGregor notices, gives a pointed look at Jason, who puts on his coach hat.

JASON

Something funny? Riggins, maybe you should pay attention to your assignment instead of running your mouth!

RIGGINS

Sorry, man. I was just so distracted by how beautiful Smash is that I forgot to--

MacGregor inserts himself into the conversation.

MACGREGOR

Can you count to fifty, Riggins?
(pointing)
Right there. Bleachers.

Riggins rolls his eyes, then runs off to do his punishment, catching Jason's eye as he goes.

--QUICK POPS of Landry taking hit after hit in practice! The guy's getting creamed. Finally the whistle BLOWS.

JASON

Five minute water break!

Landry pulls himself up off the ground and heads over to the sidelines. He looks up to see his dad, OFFICER CHAD CLARKE, standing in the bleachers, grinning from ear to ear, watching his son play. Landry walks over, pulls off his helmet and looks up at his father.

LANDRY

Hey.

CHAD CLARKE

Looking good out there, son.

LANDRY

Are you sure you were watching me?
I'm getting my ass handed to me out there.

Chad smiles and shrugs, all loose and kind-eyed.

(CONTINUED)

CHAD CLARKE

Give yourself some time. The important thing is you're on the team. I'm real proud of you, son.

Landry looks at his dad. It's all he ever wanted to hear...

--Jason catches up to Riggins as Tim is leaving the field.

JASON

Hey. Rigg! Wait up.

Riggins looks back at Jason, annoyed.

JASON (CONT'D)

Hey, you ever have any like, recurring dreams?

RIGGINS

Yeah, I have a nightmare where my best friend can't remove his lips from Coach MacGregor's ass.

*
*

JASON

Okay, okay. We're still friends, alright?

RIGGINS

We are? Maybe you should let me know what the schedule is.

JASON

(back on point)

I keep having this dream where I'm in Mexico. And Mrs. Taylor is there and we're sort of making out...

RIGGINS

Yeah, I've had that dream. What's she wearing?

JASON

A bikini. But I don't think that's important.

RIGGINS

What color's the bikini?

JASON

I don't know. Blue? You're not letting me finish. I think the dream means something...

(CONTINUED)

RIGGINS
Street! Um, I'm not a doctor or anything, but I think it means that you're horny.

JASON
No, you don't understand...

RIGGINS
I just ran fifty bleachers. I'm not going to sit here and talk about your sex dream.

JASON
Oh, why? Because we're not friends anymore?

RIGGINS
Yeah. And plus, it's kind of gay.

Riggins walks off, leaving Street by himself. Jason looks down and makes a fist.

17 INT. SARACEN HOUSE - DAY (D2) 17

Saracen walks in to see all the furniture pushed against the wall. What the hell?

SARACEN
Grandma?

Grandma answers from her room, where she huddles on her bed.

MRS. SARACEN
Call the police. She turned off the TV.

SARACEN
Who turned off the...

CARLOTTA ALONSO walks in from the back, wearing surgical scrubs and holding a garbage bag. Carlotta is nineteen, an immigrant from Guatemala, and doesn't take crap from anyone. *

SARACEN (CONT'D)
Who are you?

CARLOTTA
Carlotta. Carlotta Alonso. The in-home nurse you demanded. *

Carlotta starts throwing away junk food from the cupboards.

(CONTINUED)

MRS. SARACEN (O.S.)
Don't let her throw away my
tapioca.

Carlotta totally throws away the tapioca.

SARACEN
What are you doing?

CARLOTTA
This is junk. It's not helping
her. And we need to get rid of the
TV.

MRS. SARACEN (O.S.)
(shouting)
Get out of my house!

CARLOTTA
(shouting back)
I can't! It's my job!

SARACEN
The TV is the only thing that seems
to settle her down.

CARLOTTA
It's destroying her mind. I'm
sorry, but a lot of things are
going to have to change. Where am
I supposed to sleep?

SARACEN
Sleep? What do you mean?

CARLOTTA
I mean sleep. I'm going to live
here.

Saracen just stares at her.

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

18 OMITTED 18

19 INT. PIMPED OUT CAR - MOVING - DAY (D3) 19

Antwone is listening to JAY-Z - loud. Taylor turns it down.

ANTWONE

What are you doing?

TAYLOR

I thought maybe we could use this time to think about what you are going to say to the committee.

ANTWONE

I already have it all worked out.

TAYLOR

Okay, let's hear it.

ANTWONE

No, man. I want it to come from the heart. Make it sound spontaneous. If I say it to you it won't sound like I mean it.

TAYLOR

Let's do it anyway.

ANTWONE

I'm sorry for taking those tickets to Justin Timberlake. Especially since there was no Crystal in the box.

TAYLOR

I gotta say, I'm not hearing a lot of contrition from you.

ANTWONE

Oh. That would be because I'm not sorry.

TAYLOR

You're not.

ANTWONE

No sir, I am not.

Antwone rolls down the window, sticks his head out and hollers.

(CONTINUED)

ANTWONE (CONT'D)
I'm not sorry!

TAYLOR
Get your head back in this car.
You don't see any reason to follow
the rules?

ANTWONE
Not when the rules are stupid.

Taylor looks at the car, the jewelry Antwone's wearing.

TAYLOR
You pay for this car yourself?

ANTWONE
Oh yeah.

TAYLOR
What about all your jewelry? You
pay for that, too?

ANTWONE
Yeah. I got a paper route.
(off Taylor's look)
Everybody knows we get stuff. I
play football, I make millions of
dollars for the university. In
return I get some perks.

TAYLOR
Didn't anybody ever teach you to
respect the game?

ANTWONE
Oh my God. Did you walk out of a
field of corn? Don't worry. I'll
act sorry in front of the board. I
got this routine down.

Taylor's phone RINGS and he picks up.

TAYLOR
Hey, babe. What's going on...
Something wrong?

INTERCUT WITH:

20 EXT. DILLON - DAY (D3) 20
Tami is walking by the side of the road, little Gracie
strapped to her chest.

(CONTINUED)

TAMI

No, no. Everything's fine. I'm just out walking with Gracie. We're going in to work.

TAYLOR

Work? Why? You think that's a good idea?

TAMI

It's a fine idea. She needs some air and so do I. Say hello to your daughter.

TAYLOR

No, Tami, you know what? Now's not a good time--

But it's too late. Taylor gives a look to Antwone and turns toward the passenger side door.

TAYLOR (CONT'D)

(talking in a baby voice)
Hello, Gracie. What are you doing? Are you having a good day? I love you. Daddy loves you. Yes he does...

TAMI

It's me now. I'll call you later.

TAYLOR

Okay. Love you, too.

Taylor hangs up. Antwone is staring at him.

ANTWONE

How old's your baby?

TAYLOR

Shut up.

ANTWONE

What are you doing in a car with me when you have a baby?

Buddy knocks at his door - well, Pam's door, as he looks curiously at a taxidermy of his sitting on the front porch. PAM answers and gives him a cold, withering look.

(CONTINUED)

BUDDY

What's my taxidermy doing out here?

PAM

I don't want it. Get it out of here by Sunday or it's going in the garbage truck. And you're early.

BUDDY

Five minutes. Let me come in.

PAM

Frankly, I'm not sure I feel safe.

BUDDY

I'm sorry about the other night. It was not my finest hour. But a man can only be pushed so far...

PAM

Don't you dare talk to me about being pushed, Buddy. I am the victim here...

BUDDY

This innocent victim routine's getting a little old, Pam. Honest to God it is.

They are interrupted by Lyla, who pushes between them, TABBY and BUDDY JR. in tow.

LYLA

Come on. Let's get this over with.

Buddy Garrity stands in the middle of a park, a football in his hand.

BUDDY

Okay, Buddy, go long. Keep going. You're a star, son...

Buddy Jr. runs, looking over his shoulder. Buddy tosses a nice, powerful spiral. It hits Buddy Jr. square in the back. Buddy Jr. HOLLERS. Buddy chases after him.

BUDDY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I'm sorry. You okay?

BUDDY JR.

Don't touch me dad! Just leave it.

(CONTINUED)

BUDDY

Okay, now. Don't get discouraged. You want to walk it off for a minute? Okay, you do that Buddy.

Buddy watches his son, who obviously can't stand him, walk away from him to join Tabby on the monkey bars. Buddy looks over at Lyla, who is reading her Bible on a bench. After a minute he sits down next to her.

BUDDY (CONT'D)

So, how's it going with your "Jesus Delivery Team?"

LYLA

"Christ Teen Messengers," dad.

BUDDY

Oh. Yeah. So, how's it going?

LYLA

Did mom put you up to this? Because if you're going to call me a freak or lecture me...

BUDDY

Sweetie, look at me. I have three hours a week to try to talk to my kids. I'm just asking because I'm interested is all.

LYLA

Mom thinks I'm a freak. She thinks this is a phase.

BUDDY

Well, maybe it is.

LYLA

No. It's not. It's just, you know, after last year, Jason getting hurt and you and mom splitting up, it started to feel like nothing made any sense. Everything seemed so random. And this, for me, Jesus, being born again. All of the sudden I feel like a part of something. I feel safe and peaceful in a way that I never did before. And I know you and mom think it's just because of the group, like it's a social thing, but it's not. It's Jesus.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LYLA (CONT'D)

It's being a good Christian. I don't know why that's such a bad thing.

BUDDY

That doesn't sound like a bad thing. It sounds nice. Maybe I could come with you to your church some time.

Lyla narrows her eyes, but then sees that he is sincere. OFF the two of them, sitting on the park bench...

23 EXT. REC CENTER - DAY (D3) 23

Julie is walking through the rec center, pulling her last check out of an envelope and looking at it. She looks over and sees THE SWEDE talking to a hot GIRL near the snack shack. Julie looks mortified and speeds up, trying to get the hell out of there before he sees her, but no such luck.

THE SWEDE

Hey, Julie!

Julie makes a face, then turns and acts all happy to see him.

JULIE

Hey! What's up?

THE SWEDE

Where'd you disappear to the other night?

JULIE

I um... had another party to go to.

THE SWEDE

Oh. That's cool. So you really liked the music, huh?

JULIE

Oh yeah. It was amazing, but seriously, I have a bunch of studying to do...

THE SWEDE

Oh yeah. School started, huh?

JULIE

Yeah.

(CONTINUED)

THE SWEDE

Well, I guess this is goodbye, huh?
Don't grow up too fast. You're
gonna be a heartbreaker some day.
Guys'll be beating down your door.

Something in Julie rebels against his condescending tone.

JULIE

I have a boyfriend, which you know.
Matt Saracen. He's amazing. And
we're very, very happy. He's the
love of my life.

THE SWEDE

That's right. I forgot. Well,
you're all dialed in then.

He ruffles her hair - like she's twelve.

THE SWEDE (CONT'D)

See you around, kid.

The Swede walks away. Julie crumples up her face.

Glenn looks up to see Tami walk in with a baby strapped to
her chest. She plops down on the sofa.

TAMI

Oh, my God. Let me sit down. I'm
so tired. I just walked here from
my house.

GLENN

That's insane.

TAMI

No, it's not, Glenn. Gracie likes
to be moving. So, I thought I'd
come down here and see how you're
doing? Is it hot in here? It's so
hot...

GLENN

You know what that is? It's your
glands. Side effect of breast
feeding.

TAMI

You know what? I didn't come here to talk about my glands. I came here to talk about the job, so...

Gracie starts to CRY.

GLENN

Do you think the baby's comfortable in here?

TAMI

Thank you for your concern, Glenn, but I've been through this before. This isn't my first barbecue, you know, so, if you could please refrain from saying I'm a bad mother, that would be great.

GLENN

I'm not saying you're a bad mother. What I was saying, although I'm a little scared to say it because you frighten me, is that after a having a baby, some women experience a drop in their levels of thyroid hormones. Causing some depression, anxiety and poor judgement.

Tami stares at him, furious for a beat, then bursts into tears. Glenn looks terrified.

GLENN (CONT'D)

Oh God. Oh God. Are you okay?

TAMI

Do I look okay, Glenn?

GLENN

I'm sorry. You know what? I'm going to get you a glass of water, okay? I'll be right back.

Glenn leaves. Tami stays on the sofa, Gracie right there with her. Tami looks down and sniffs.

TAMI

I'm sorry, honey. I'm not always such a mess.

Saracen is on the Alamo Freeze phone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARACEN

Hey, Julie. It's Matt. You said to call you later, so... it's later. Anyway, give me a call.

Matt hangs up. REVEAL Smash looking at him, shaking his head. Smash grabs a cup and pumps some soft serve into it.

SMASH

Matty. Come on. Sit down with me. Have a little ice cream. You and Uncle Smash need to have a talk.

Smash pulls Saracen around the counter.

SARACEN

But, there's customers...

SMASH

They can wait.

The two of them settle into a booth. Saracen sits in front of his ice cream and looks about ten years old.

SMASH (CONT'D)

I'm going to tell you something and you're not gonna like it, but it's true. You and Julie? Over. She's clowning you.

A PRETTY GIRL walks by.

PRETTY GIRL

Hey, Smash.

SMASH

Hey, baby.

(back to Matt)

When a girl's not returning your phone calls, it's over...

SARACEN

But, maybe...

SMASH

There's no maybe. It's done. There is no other possible explanation. Matty, I care about you too much to watch you get played. Only thing to do now is move on.

(CONTINUED)

Saracen's annoyed. He doesn't want to hear this and he really doesn't want to hear it from Smash. Another CUTE GIRL comes up to Smash.

CUTE GIRL

Hey. Smash. You gonna do a rap at the pep rally this year?

SMASH

Oh yeah. I'm cooking up something special to kick off the season, don't you worry.

SARACEN

You're doing a rap?

SMASH

Someone's got to say something. What, are you gonna do it?

Smash CHUCKLES at the thought. Saracen is beyond annoyed. He gets up.

SARACEN

Come on. There's people waiting.

SMASH

I'll be there in a minute, Matty. Don't rush a man through his soft serve.

Tyra rummages through her closet, while Julie flops on the bed, staring at the ceiling.

TYRA

You told him that Matt was the love of your life? You used that expression? "The love of my life."

JULIE

I didn't want him to think I liked him.

TYRA

Well, now he just thinks you're a person who uses the expression, "The love of my life." Why are all my clothes so slutty?

JULIE

What about that blue cashmere sweater thingy?

TYRA

It's backless.

JULIE

Oh. I just wish I could put Matt in a jar. Like for a year. I mean, I know he's the nicest guy in the world. I know he loves me. What's wrong with me?

TYRA

You want to screw The Swede, babe. It's not science.

(putting on a headband)

What do you think? Nice girl?

JULIE

It's not just about The Swede. The Swede is not gonna happen. He thinks I'm eleven. You look like Lyla Garrity. Is that what you're going for?

Tyra makes a face, pulls the headband off.

JULIE (CONT'D)

Who cares? Just go and be yourself. You're great. And those girls are bitches. I don't even know why you want to do this...

TYRA

I just want to fit in, okay? The first meeting is tomorrow and I want to look like I belong there. Don't make me feel bad about it. Can we go shopping?

Julie gets up from the bed.

JULIE

Later. I have to go break up with Matt.

TYRA

That's gonna suck.

27 INT. SARACEN HOUSE - DAY (D3)

27

Carlotta is in full cleaning mode, moving furniture, rolling up rugs and throwing stray catalogues and newspapers into a big garbage bag.

SARACEN

My grandma likes to save stuff like that. Magazines and stuff.

CARLOTTA

One time I had a client who never threw anything away. She was crushed to death under a pile of newspapers. Is that what you want, Matt?

SARACEN

No.

CARLOTTA

I can't live here unless it's clean. We - that means you - should install a guard rail on the steps. The thing you want to be careful of at her age is falling down. And we're all going to have dinner together from now on.

SARACEN

What about her mind?

CARLOTTA

Yeah, she's a little cuckoo. She needs structure. She needs the TV off. She needs crossword puzzles and walks and conversation...

Carlotta walks into Matt's room. He looks alarmed and follows her...

SARACEN

Hey. Where are you going?

CARLOTTA

I think you people may have a mildew problem. Did you draw this?

She holds up a sketch of Julie. Matt looks mortified.

SARACEN

Yeah. I did. Can I have that back?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CARLOTTA

What's the matter? It's good.

SARACEN

Thanks. Can we get out of here?
This is my room.

CARLOTTA

It's kind of depressing. You need
some new curtains. How old are
those sheets?

SARACEN

Listen, seriously, can we...

CARLOTTA

Help me move the bed.

Before Matt can respond, Carlotta is moving the bed away from
the wall. A couple of porno magazines fall on the ground.
Carlotta stoops to pick them up between thumb and forefinger.

CARLOTTA (CONT'D)

Really, Matt. Haven't you heard of
the internet?

We actually see Saracen die a little inside as Carlotta
tosses Matt his porn with a teasing smile. There's a KNOCK
on the screen door.

JULIE (O.S.)

Matt? Are you there?

SARACEN

She's here. Oh God.

CARLOTTA

Who?

SARACEN

My girlfriend.

Matt starts to walk out the bedroom door to the living room.

CARLOTTA

(whisper)

Matt! Wait!

Carlotta spins him around, grabs the porn he's still
clutching.

SARACEN

Oh. Thanks.

(CONTINUED)

27

CONTINUED: (2)

27

Carlotta wipes a smudge of dirt off his forehead, looks him over, then shoves Matt out of his bedroom.

Saracen walks out to Julie and smiles with a confidence he does not feel.

SARACEN (CONT'D)

Hey!

28

EXT. SARACEN HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - LATER (D3)

28

Matt and Julie sit on the front porch drinking sodas.

JULIE

So she's gonna live here?

SARACEN

I guess. She's like, really bossy and she kind of scares me, and grandma is terrified of her. It's weird. There hasn't been a woman like this in the house since my mom was here. And I was like, eleven. It kind of brings back memories.

(looks at Julie)

I'm glad you're here. I was worried that maybe you were feeling a little distant. When you said you needed some space or something.

Saracen reaches out and takes her hand. She looks at him and opens her mouth to break up with him but... he looks so fragile and adorable and Matt-like that she just can't do it.

JULIE

No. I'm good. Just busy.

SARACEN

(a beat)

I love you.

JULIE

I... I love you too, Matt.

29

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY (D3)

29

A DOCTOR, serious, but not unkind, extends both hands to Jason.

DOCTOR

Squeeze my hands as hard as you can. -- Pretty good. Can you take my pen from me?

(CONTINUED)

Jason reaches out and plucks the pen from the Doctor's hand.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
That's great. It's really
wonderful, Jason. There's definite
improvement. No question about it.

JASON
Right? So what do you think it
means?

The Doctor looks up and sees the hope in Jason's face.

DOCTOR
You're still recovering from your
injury, Jason. And you've been
great with your therapy and some of
the muscles are coming back. This
improvement in your hands is
wonderful, but it's in no way
indicative of anything else if
that's what you're thinking.

JASON
But who's to say...

DOCTOR
I am. You're not going to walk
again, Jason. At least not without
a major medical breakthrough and
we're still years away from that.

Jason looks at the Doctor, hating the guy's guts.

30 INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - WAITING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER (D3) 30

Jason wheels himself out and pauses for a moment to bang his
fist against a wall. There's another young quad in the
waiting room. This is STEVE.

STEVE
No good news?

JASON
Just the usual. I'm never going to
walk again.

STEVE
Have you heard about this operation
they're doing in Mexico?
Experimental surgery, bro. Stem
cells. They're having some luck.

(CONTINUED)

JASON
Seriously?

STEVE
Yeah. You should look into it.

Off Jason's look, we,

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

31 INT. FAST FOOD JOINT - DAY (D3)

31

Taylor checks his watch as he looks at Antwone tucking into his third quarter pounder.

TAYLOR

Antwone, we're on a schedule here.

ANTWONE

You got that baby on a schedule?
Oh wait, you wouldn't know. Your wife okay all by herself with that baby?

TAYLOR

She's fine. Listen, Antwone.

Antwone picks up his phone and snaps a picture of Taylor.

ANTWONE

I just want to get a picture of you to send to your baby...

Taylor grabs Antwone's phone.

TAYLOR

You think this is a joke? You're letting down your whole team. You're like a little kid. Didn't anybody ever tell you how to act? You don't deserve to play this game. God gave you all that talent and all you want to do is get a bunch of free stuff.

ANTWONE

Who do you think you are?

TAYLOR

I think I'm the guy who's been sitting next to you for the last four hours. I'm also your coach. You're not going to be able to play for the whole year. You let the team down, you let yourself down.

Antwone stares up at Coach. Truly angry, but then puts his smirk back on.

(CONTINUED)

ANTWONE

Wow. Thanks for the deep talk,
Coach. That really changed my
outlook.

TAYLOR

I'll be in the car when you're
ready.

Taylor walks out.

32 EXT. DILLON HIGH - DAY (D3) * 32

As kids are leaving the school, Tami walks out with baby
Gracie. Jason sees her and starts wheeling away, mortified,
but then changes his mind. He turns his chair around and
smiles at her. *

JASON

Hey. Mrs. Taylor.

TAMI

Jason Street, how are you doing?

JASON

Do you have a second?

33 EXT. DILLON HIGH - QUAD - MOMENTS LATER (D3) 33

Jason holds Gracie as he is mid-conversation with Tami.

JASON

I've been having the same dream
over and over again. Actually,
you're in it.

TAMI

Really?

JASON

Yeah, it's like, we're on a beach
in Mexico...

TAMI

Well, I hope I'm not wearing a
bathing suit because, believe me,
nobody wants to see that.

Jason shifts uncomfortably, then just moves on--

(CONTINUED)

JASON

In the dream, you tell me to get up
and walk. And I do. You made me
walk.

(CONTINUED)

TAMI

Huh.

JASON

And, and... look at this.
(making a fist)
I couldn't do that before.

TAMI

Have you been to the doctor?

JASON

Yeah. They say it's normal. But,
the thing is, I feel like the dream
means something. Like it means I'm
going to walk again. Soon.

OFF Tami...

34 EXT. DILLON HIGH - PARKING LOT - DAY (D3) 34

Landry is heading to his car when a Rally Girl, MARIANNE BOLINGER, approaches him.

MARIANNE

Hey, Landry. I just wanted to say
congratulations on making the team.
Anyway, I'm sort of, you know, your
Rally Girl.

Tyra walks up.

TYRA

Really? Landry, your own personal
Rally Girl, I guess you've arrived.

MARIANNE

We can work out the details later.
I just thought I'd say hi.

LANDRY

(to Marianne)
Do you think all human beings are
capable of evil?

Tyra grabs Landry by the arm.

TYRA

Can I borrow him for a minute?

Tyra hauls Landry over to her truck and pulls him in.

35 INT. TYRA'S TRUCK - DAY (D3)

35

Once inside, Tyra tries to right this ship.

TYRA

You have to find a way to hold it together. This is not how we're going to get through this, okay?

LANDRY

Do you have ice water running through your veins? A human being is dead. And you're running around trying to join the stupid Daphnes.

TYRA

Hey! He was a rapist, okay? Let's not make him into a saint. C'mon, Landry, suck it up and act like a man.

Landry becomes furious and for a moment loses some of his inherent geekiness and becomes formidable, commanding Tyra's respect and attention.

LANDRY

Act like a man? I can't believe you just said that to me. You weren't the one who killed him. I hear the sound of that guy's skull cracking every time I close my eyes. But you know what? I'd do it again. In a heartbeat. Because he hurt you and I am completely in love with you.

Tyra's completely taken aback. He's breaking their unspoken agreement never to acknowledge the elephant in the room that is Landry's love for her.

LANDRY (CONT'D)

Don't look at me like that, Tyra. You know. You've always known. And who cares? It doesn't matter anymore. Just let's not pretend that it was some great thing we did, okay? And don't you tell me to be a man. If that's what you think being a man is, well, that's pretty sad.

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: 35

Landry opens the truck door and slides out, leaving Tyra sitting there in her nice-girl outfit.

36 INT. FIELD HOUSE - MACGREGOR'S OFFICE - DAY (D3) 36

MacGregor is sitting at his desk. Saracen taps on the door.

SARACEN

Hey, coach. I was thinking that I should make a speech at the pep rally tomorrow. I mean, I'm QB1.

MACGREGOR

Why?

SARACEN

You wanted me to be the big dog. This is me being the big dog. I think if anyone should make a speech it's me.

MACGREGOR

Sure. Fine. Whatever.

37 INT. OFFICE - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY (D3) 37

Taylor and Antwone sit in front of the INFRACTIONS COMMITTEE, awaiting Antwone's suspension. There are four or five older dudes in suits sitting at a table.

ANTWONE

I am very remorseful and I can assure you it will not happen again. I give you my word.

The men are shuffling papers, clearly not buying it. Taylor looks from Antwone to the panel. He stands up.

TAYLOR

Antwone Beltraine is going to the NFL. He's going whether he plays for us at TMU this year or not. Either he's going to go as the undisciplined, selfish, childish brat you see or you can give TMU the opportunity to shape him for another year. This problem is systemic. It's not just this self absorbed prima donna over here. It's the entire culture we have created. No one taught this overgrown baby anything. Give us the next year to drill some sense into
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TAYLOR (CONT'D)
his head and take away his i-Phone
and his car and his jewelry and
make his life miserable. He will
be representing us, gentlemen.
Let's see if we can do a little
better by Antwone Beltraine.

Taylor sits down. After a beat he looks at Antwone and gives
him a sweet little fuck-you of a smile.

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

38 INT. TAYLOR HOUSE - DAY (D4)

38

Tami has Gracie in the bouncy seat as she folds laundry, all bleary eyed and exhausted. She reaches out to run a hand over Gracie's head and does a double take.

TAMI

Gracie, honey, do you have a fever?

Julie comes out, all dolled up for the pep rally, looking sexy.

TAMI (CONT'D)

Julie, does Gracie feel hot to you?
Touch her head.

JULIE

Mom, I have to go! Lois is outside waiting.

TAMI

Okay. Go. Have fun. Home by ten!

JULIE

Yeah, yeah!

Tami turns back to Gracie and touches her forehead again.

TAMI

Oh, baby. Don't do this to me.

39 INT. TMU - BOYD'S OFFICE - DAY (D4)

39

Taylor knocks on the door.

BOYD

Three games.

TAYLOR

Sir?

BOYD

Antwone Beltraine's only going to be out for three games.

TAYLOR

That's great news, sir.

(CONTINUED)

BOYD

He said you put on quite a show.
He said you hollered at him pretty good.

TAYLOR

Well, he has that effect on people.

BOYD

Why don't you come out for a drink with us tonight?

TAYLOR

I'd like that.

BOYD

I bet you were one helluva high school football coach, Taylor.

TAYLOR

Yes, sir.

Taylor thinks about that for the tiniest second before turning and leaving...

40 INT. BAKER HOUSE - THE DAPHNE LEAGUE MEETING - DAY (D4) 40

The Daphnes gather in the living room of SUNNY BAKER, a 50-something, kind-hearted Texas matron. Tyra walks in to the room by herself. There are about twenty GIRLS, who all look like money, milling around GIGGLING and SHRIEKING hello to each other. The girls keep looking at Tyra and she thinks they're all judging her. Maybe they are, or maybe they're just looking at the new person. Tyra goes over to pour herself some punch. A DAPHNE GIRL walks up to her.

DAPHNE GIRL

You're not gonna drink the punch, are you? No one actually drinks the punch.

Tyra pours out her punch, feeling stupid.

SUNNY

Okay, ladies. Let's take our seats!

40A INT. BAKER HOUSE - THE DAPHNE LEAGUE MEETING - LATER (D4) 40A

Sunny is making a speech. The Daphnes all sit around the living room.

(CONTINUED)

SUNNY

You may think The Daphne League is all about parties and being a debutante, but that is simply not true. The Daphne League is a grand tradition. What we are about is building a better world.

Tyra starts to squirm, looking around the room at all the girls sitting there. They all look so nice and so... *good*. When she turns back to Sunny it seems like she is speaking directly to Tyra.

SUNNY (CONT'D)

What we are about is building a better world by building a better community, taking care of our fellow human beings and being the best people we can possibly be. The only thing one needs to be a Daphne is character.

Suddenly Tyra feels like crying. *She does not belong here*. She grabs her purse and walks out, stumbling over another girl's bag as she goes...

42

INT./EXT. AMAZING RANCH - DUSK (D4)

42

Pep rally. It must be said, Lester Daniels' ranch kicks ass all over Garrity Motors.

--A huge barbecue pit with gigantic spits.

--Pony rides! Panthers hoist little kids on and off the ponies, posing for pictures taken by their parents.

--Smash and Riggins play horse shoes. A crowd of people gathers around them. Money is changing hands.

--A band PLAYS. People dance and drink beer and everybody's having the best time ever... Except for Buddy Garrity, who watches all the fun-having with a mixture of disdain, fury and heartbreak. Buddy finishes his beer and helps himself to another.

--Saracen stands next to Landry, going over his speech.

SARACEN

Being a Panther is being a part of a fifty-five member team that is all about courage and bravery and heroism, strength, vitality, standing firm. Like a rock.

LANDRY

Can I stop you? It's sounding a little like a Viagra commercial.

Saracen looks horrified.

(CONTINUED)

SARACEN

Oh, no...

CUT TO:

42A EXT. CONVENIENCE STORE - NIGHT (N4) [PREV. 41] 42A

Julie is pumping gas for Lois, who's inside buying a couple of Diet Cokes. The Swede walks up with a six pack in his hand.

THE SWEDE

Hey.

Julie turns, surprised to see him.

JULIE

Hey.

The Swede looks her up and down. Remember, she's looking HOT. Julie can tell he's seeing her in a whole new way, but she plays it cool.

JULIE (CONT'D)

Are you stalking me?

THE SWEDE

Nope. Lucky coincidence. What are you doing?

JULIE

Going to the big Panther pep rally with Lois.

THE SWEDE

Sounds fun.

Julie LAUGHS, all flirty and sarcastic.

JULIE

Oh, you have no idea.

THE SWEDE

Hey, why don't you hop in. I'll take you.

Julie glances to where Lois is paying at the register.

JULIE

Sure. Let me just go tell Lois.

43

INT./EXT. AMAZING RANCH - NIGHT (N4)

43

Lester Daniels stands on the stage.

LESTER

Ladies and Gentlemen. I give you
the Dillon Panthers. State
Champions!

AS the Panthers file on stage, the crowd goes crazy. It feels like a concert. Spirits are high. Except Buddy, who helps himself to another beer.

Saracen pushes his way to the podium. The crowd claps for him, but he takes a little too long unwrapping his speech and adjusting the mic.

RANDOM PERSON (O.S.)

Come on, Matty!

SARACEN

(finally)

Being a Panther is the best thing
that will ever happen to most of
us. It is about courage and
strength. It's like being a member
of a team. I mean, I guess, that's
pretty obvious. Sorry, I had to
take some stuff out...

People are getting restless. Matt's losing them. Landry cringes.

RANDOM CHICK

Where's The Smash?

SARACEN

This is the best time of our lives.
God has smiled on us today...

Smash can't take another second. More to put Matt out of his misery than anything else, he swoops in and grabs the mic.

SMASH

Matty, let me help you out there.

(to the crowd)

Are you ready for some Smash-ball?

(CONTINUED)

FNL "Bad Ideas" PINK 7/18/07 48.
43 CONTINUED: 43
Smash starts doing his crowd-pleasing RAP and everybody CHEERS. Saracen looks like he wants to disappear...

44 INT. THE SWEDE'S CAR - NIGHT (N4) 44
The Swede pulls up to the pep rally with Julie in the passenger seat. He looks out the window at the party.

THE SWEDE
Wow. That's a party.

JULIE
We're serious about our football.

Julie puts a hand on the door.

JULIE (CONT'D)
Well, thanks for the ride.

They hold a look. There's been a power shift and Julie can feel it. She makes a bold move. Julie leans over and kisses him - a real kiss. Then, tipping the power balance even more in her favor, she pulls away first and calmly grabs her bag and opens the door.

JULIE (CONT'D)
You can call me if you want.

Julie gets out of the car and walks into the party without looking back, feeling buzzed from the kiss, a feeling that lasts right up until she walks into...

45 INT. AMAZING RANCH - NIGHT (N4) 45
...And sees Matt across the room, looking morose. A knot forms in her stomach and she walks up to him.

JULIE
Did I miss your speech?

SARACEN
It doesn't matter.

JULIE
Listen, we need to talk.

Matt knows what that means. And you know what? Fuck her.

SARACEN
Okay. Talk.

(CONTINUED)

JULIE

I just think maybe we've like,
grown apart.

Matt is staring at her in a hard way and Julie is realizing that maybe she should have put a little more thought into this conversation.

JULIE (CONT'D)

It's not you. It's me. I mean,
you didn't do anything.

SARACEN

I know it's not me. It's The
Swede.

JULIE

No. It's not...

SARACEN

Julie, come on. You're gonna lie
to me now? Just say it. Say it to
my face. You owe me that.

Julie stares at him, wide-eyed, tears springing to her eyes. He's never been anything but sweet to her and... is he really going to make her say it?

JULIE

It's... it's The Swede. I... yeah.

Matt takes that in, the thing he was dreading.

SARACEN

Okay. Well, have fun. I hope he's
worth it. I really do.

Matt turns and walks away, leaving Julie standing there. She looks up to see that people are watching her.

46 INT. AMAZING RANCH - ELSEWHERE - NIGHT (N4) 46

Buddy Garrity is loaded and talking loudly to a group of people who can't quite figure out how to get away.

BUDDY

There were fourteen seconds left in
the fourth quarter. Mind you it is
pouring down rain at this point.
The country is depressed. Jimmy
Carter is in the White House. The
town of Dillon needed a win and
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BUDDY (CONT'D)

Buddy Garrity was going to give it
to them come hell or high water...

Buddy takes another slug of his drink -- and now it's
bourbon, not beer.

PICK UP Tim Riggins, watching Buddy. He's got a good idea
how this is all going to end.

Meanwhile, Buddy is in the full throws of his story, acting
out a play from thirty years ago.

BUDDY (CONT'D)

RED 22! OMAHA! TOMAHAWK HUT HUT!

In acting it out, Buddy knocks the drink out of some lady's
hand. He's oblivious.

BUDDY (CONT'D)

Bucky Tolden snapped me the ball
and I took two steps back and
noticed the blitz was coming. I
had to make a run for it--

Buddy takes few steps and stumbles. Riggins steps in.

RIGGINS

Hey, Mr. Garrity. Maybe you better
slow down.

Everybody uses the interruption as an excuse to leave.

BUDDY

Hey, Tim Riggins! State champion!

Buddy takes a step toward Tim, stumbles and falls on his ass,
almost pulling Tim down with him. Everything that Buddy has
had to drink tonight is hitting him full force. He is shit-
faced.

BUDDY (CONT'D)

Whoa. I must have a had a little
too much to drink.

RIGGINS

That's okay, Mr. Garrity. Why
don't you try to stand up.

BUDDY

Tim, I'm a lost man.

RIGGINS

Come on, Mr. Garrity. Just get up.

(CONTINUED)

BUDDY

Didn't you hear what I said? I'm a
lost man. I can't get up. I don't
have one single thing left, Tim.
My family. My reputation. Not
even football.

RIGGINS

Oh come on, Mr. Garrity...

BUDDY

I see the writing on the wall, Tim.
It's plain as day. The new regime
is trying to railroad Buddy
Garrity.

Riggins looks across the room to see Lyla making a beeline
toward them.

RIGGINS

Uh oh.

LYLA

What is going on here?

Riggins rolls his eyes.

RIGGINS

Seems pretty obvious what's going
on here, Lyla. Maybe if you and
Jesus put on your lab coats you
could figure it out.

LYLA

Is he drunk?

RIGGINS

(sarcastic)

Um yeah, Lyla. I think so. Come
on. I'll help you get him home.

LYLA

No thank you. I'm sure you must be
loving this.

RIGGINS

Why would I love this?

LYLA

Just forget it. Go. I'll handle
it.

(CONTINUED)

RIGGINS
Okay. Suit yourself.

Riggins starts to walk away, leaving Lyla staring down at the large, drunken pile of Buddy Garrity. Shit. How's she going to...?

LYLA
Tim! Wait!

Riggins stops.

LYLA (CONT'D)
Yes. Please, if you don't mind. I could use some help.

RIGGINS
Sure.

OFF the two of them, pulling Buddy up off the floor.

47 INT. TAMI'S CAR - NIGHT (N4) 47

Tami is on her cell phone while she fastens little Gracie into her car seat. Gracie is CRYING.

TAMI
Hang on, sugar. Everything's going to be okay. Hush now...

Tami is struggling with the stupid car seat. She makes a frustrated noise. We can see that she's panicking.

TAMI (CONT'D)
(into the phone)
Hi. I've been on hold for fifteen minutes. My baby girl has a fever and I can't get a hold of my pediatrician. I'm going to bring her in...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

48 INT. BUDDY GARRITY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT (N4)

48

Riggins and Lyla arrange Buddy on the couch. Lyla goes in to the kitchen for a glass of water. Tim follows. Lyla is obviously upset.

LYLA

Why is everything always falling apart?

RIGGINS

Hey, your dad's gonna be alright. I've been around a lot of drunks and I don't really think he's one of them. He's just sad is all.

LYLA

He made his bed.

RIGGINS

He thinks the boosters are trying to get rid of him.

LYLA

How do you know that?

RIGGINS

He told me. Are you okay?

LYLA

Yeah. Are you?

RIGGINS

(a slightly rakish smile)
Always.

LYLA

You should go. You probably have a three-way to get to.

RIGGINS

Naw, that got cancelled.
(off her look)
I'm kidding.

They look at each other for a long, loaded moment. Then Tim leans in and kisses her on the cheek.

RIGGINS (CONT'D)

See you later, Lyla Garrity.

49 INT. CLARKE HOUSE - NIGHT (N4)

49

Landry Clarke is listening to MUSIC in his room when his bedroom door opens -- Tyra. She's upset and agitated, but Landry doesn't see that yet. He's too stunned. Angelina Jolie might as well have just strolled in.

LANDRY

How'd you get in here?

TYRA

Front door's unlocked.

(launching into it)

I'm glad he's dead. I can't pretend I'm not. He wasn't going to stop. Maybe there's something wrong with me, but I am glad he's dead. I just wish it was me who killed him. And if anything happened to you because of this I'd never forgive myself. You're... the best guy I know, but I'm sorry we're even friends because if we weren't then you wouldn't have been with me that night...

Tyra is crying now. Landry can't stand seeing her like this. He reaches for her.

LANDRY

Tyra, no. Stop...

Landry pulls her to him and before either of them knows what's happening they're kissing...

OFF the two of them...

50 INT. DARK OFFICE - NIGHT (N4)

50

Street sits in a small office by himself. The door opens and a MAN in a suit walks in and sits down behind the desk. He is an administrator from a hospital in Mexico. He holds a file folder.

MAN

The surgery involves implanting stem cells into your spine. We have had very encouraging results. But it is risky and invasive surgery with a long recovery time. And there is a slight chance that it could result in further injury.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAN (CONT'D)

Also, it is going to cost you ten thousand dollars in cash so you should think long and hard about...

JASON

I don't have to think about it. Put me on the list. I'll sign whatever.

OFF Jason's determined look.

51 EXT. SARACEN HOUSE - NIGHT (N4) 51

Matt walks up the steps, feeling like he wants to die. He stops on the stoop to look up at the sky before going into...

52 INT. SARACEN HOUSE - NIGHT (N4) 52

...Where it's clean and peaceful. Grandma's in bed. The TV is off. There's even a small bunch of flowers on the table. Carlotta sits on the couch doing Sudoku in her pajamas and she looks more like a kid -- not all stupid-sexy, just a kid in flannel pajamas and slippers. Carlotta looks up at Matt.

CARLOTTA

Uh-oh. She dumped you?

SARACEN

Could you just not... I don't want to talk about it, okay?

CARLOTTA

Okay.

Silence.

CARLOTTA (CONT'D)

You know, it doesn't seem like it now, but you're going to be okay.

SARACEN

I'm not.

CARLOTTA

You want to watch TV?

SARACEN

I thought we weren't allowed.

(CONTINUED)

CARLOTTA
Special occasion.

Carlotta turns on the forbidden TV and she and Matt watch in silence.

53 INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT (N4) 53

Tami talks to DOCTOR TROXEL.

DOCTOR TROXEL
Make sure she's getting enough fluids. Offer her formula after you breast feed. She needs to eat once every hour, okay? Maybe you and your husband can take shifts.

Tami bursts into tears.

DOCTOR TROXEL (CONT'D)
She's gonna be fine. Do you have anybody you can call? Maybe you shouldn't drive yourself home.

54 INT. HOSPITAL - MINUTES LATER (N4) 54

Tami sits in the emergency room holding Gracie. She's on the phone with Taylor.

TAMI
Babe, she's fine. The doctor brought the fever right down. You don't need to come home. I will call you if anything happens or changes, but you just sit tight...

Tami wipes at a tear and opens her eyes wide, willing herself to quit crying right this second. She does not let Taylor know she's crying - in fact she makes her voice all bright and shiny.

TAMI (CONT'D)
I'm fine. I swear. Honey, it's a trip to the emergency room. Remember how many times we were here with Julie? Okay. I love you, too. Bye, baby.

Tami closes her phone. The doors to the hospital slide open and Glenn walks through. He sits down next to Tami, hands her a tissue and does her the favor of finding something besides her to look at while she collects herself.

(CONTINUED)

GLENN
She asleep?

TAMI
Yeah. Thanks for coming.

GLENN
Sure.

TAMI
I know it's late. I just didn't
know who to call.

GLENN
I promise, it's fine.

TAMI
I'm sorry I was such a bitch to
you.

GLENN
Don't worry about it. Can you tell
me one thing though? This living
apart from your husband thing.
What was the point exactly?

TAMI
I really don't remember. But it
was my idea. My big, stupid idea.

BLACK OUT:

END OF EPISODE