

CHOZEN

Pilot Episode

"Redemption"

Written by

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FADE IN:

Tight on a POSTCARD. A HAND with a PEN starts writing.

CHOZEN (V.O.)

Dear Jamal. Man, a day out the  
clink and I'm still feeling locked  
up. Those 10 years took a lot away  
from me.

The postcard FADES TO BLACK, BLACK BLEEDS TO HAZY COLORED  
LIGHTS, a MUFFLED BEAT.

CHOZEN (V.O.)

Back in the day, I was like Michael  
Jackson, but not creepy and  
smelling of bleach.

FLASHBACK TO:

Band on stage. CHOZEN (18, white, chubby, coiffed curly hair)  
Ricky (19, Hispanic, thin) CRISCO (19, Black, athletic, small  
Afro) PHANTASM (19, Black, tall with Wesley Snipes  
"Demolition Man" white hair). They all wear BRIGHTLY COLORED  
FOOTBALL JERSEYS with their names on the back. A giant sign  
reads: "PHRESH PHRIENDS"

CHOZEN (V.O.)

I was the coolest dude on the whole  
earf...

Snap to crowd, reveal only 50 people in a small rec center.

SONG (\*CUE 1)

*You can be anything! A poet, a  
preacher, a fireman, a grade school  
teacher....!*

Chozen and Phantasm rap at the front of the stage. Crisco  
hypes the crowd while Ricky DJ's. Chozen steps in front of  
Phantasm, unknowingly stealing his limelight. Phantasm is  
pissed.

Song continues under as--

CHOZEN (V.O.)

Makin' music wif my boys, crushing  
a regional tour of community halls  
and family amusement centers.  
Showing kids their lives be worth  
sumfin. It ain't all about drugs,  
gangs, violence against women-

CUT TO:



Move in on PUBLICITY PHOTO OF PHRESH PHRIENDS. Chozen slices up Phantasm's face with a shiv, draws hairy vaginas on Crisco and Ricky's likenesses.

CHOZEN (V.O.)  
You conquer it...

Tight on a ROLLING STONE COVER featuring Phantasm. SMASH! Pull back to see it taped to heavy bag in the prison yard, Chozen beating the hell out of it.

CHOZEN (V.O.)  
And you plan your next steps.

Chozen (Late 20's, Stocky, Wearing prison khakis and T-shirt) at PROCESSING WINDOW in prison. A GUARD slides him his BAG OF PROPERTY. He looks through his OLD POSSESSIONS.

CHOZEN (V.O.)  
Lucky for me, my sister's lettin'  
me crash while I begin my quest for  
rap domination. Phantasm ain't  
ready for this.

Chozen tosses a bunch of OLD CLOTHES into a wastebasket, holds onto a BASEBALL HAT, which he throws on.

CHOZEN (V.O.)  
I miss you bro, and I miss your  
soft cuddles...

Chozen rifles through his OLD WALLET. Throws away a WORN PHOTO OF HIM AND A TEENYBOPPER GIRL. Holds onto a CHUCK E CHEEZE FREQUENT GAMER CARD.

CHOZEN (V.O.)  
Say what up to Cookie and Little  
Ghost for me. Watch your ass homie,  
and watch who's watchin' your  
ass...I wish it could still be me.

EXT. PRISON GATE

Chozen stands, taking it all in as the prison gates shut behind him. He turns and walks into the sunset, his walk turns into a Terminator run. He's screaming, he's free! He slips and falls on his face.

BACK TO PRESENT:



CHOZEN  
What about that dude?

TRACY  
That dude...my boyfriend...left.

CHOZEN  
Why, he looked cool?

TRACY  
Why do you think? You climbed  
through the window, scared the shit  
out of us, and then insulted him.

FLUSH, Chozen steps out.

CHOZEN  
Aint no insult, just helping a  
brotha out.

TRACY  
What'd you do with the key I gave  
you?

CHOZEN  
I sold it.

TRACY  
Wha?! To who?!

CHOZEN  
I dunno. Some kid, said he knew  
you.

TRACY  
Great, why didn't you just invite  
him to rape me?

Moving to the kitchen, Chozen opens the fridge.

CHOZEN  
Don't trip, homey ain't look like  
the raping kind. You go to the  
store? I'd love a little snack  
before bed.

TRACY  
I'm keeping my food in my room from  
now on. You cleaned me out  
yesterday.

Chozen pulls a few loose cigarettes from his waistband.

CHOZEN

This should be good for about 6  
pizza rolls.

TRACY

Look around- we aren't in prison- I  
don't want your cigarettes!

CHOZEN

Fine then.

Chozen lights a cigarette.

TRACY

You can't smoke in here either!

CHOZEN

You're not being very fun right  
now.

Tracy sits down on the couch in a huff, takes a breath, calms  
herself.

TRACY

I was paying bills online today and  
noticed that I owe like \$100 to the  
cable company for pay per view.

Chozen grabs a beer from the fridge and sits down.

TRACY (CONT'D)

Would you know anything about that?  
Someone watching "GI Joe: Rise of  
Cobra" 5 times yesterday?

CHOZEN

Nah, wasn't me.

TRACY

Well I didn't watch it.

CHOZEN

Sounds like a mystery.

TRACY

Okay, I understand this is probably  
a really hard adjustment for you.  
But you gotta meet me half way  
here. I can't afford all this  
stuff.

Chozen laughs.

CHOZEN

Tracy, relax, it's all good. In a few months I'll be at the top of the charts and you'll be set. Dipped in the finest clothes, pushing the freshest whips... innumerable luxuries.

Chozen clicks on the TV, scans the channels. Tracy gets up, overwhelmed and exhausted.

TRACY

I'm going to bed.

Tracy heads to bedroom and closes door. Chozen flicks through channels.

ON TV: Flip past weather man, infomercial, stops on AN ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT NEWS FLASH

CHOZEN

Oh hell nah.

ON TV: A BLONDE REPORTER and PHANTASM on a RED CARPET.

BLONDE REPORTER

So, let's talk about your new album.

PHANTASM

Fo sho, fo sho. It's a concept album, and when it hits rap will never be the same. I'm elevating the genre to a whole new level.

BLONDE REPORTER

What's it called?

PHANTASM

Hot Playah.

On Chozen.

TV plays underneath-

CHOZEN

Keep talking bitch. Keep talking! Chozen be coming for dat ass!

TRACY (O.S.)

Shut up!

CHOZEN  
 (quietly to himself)  
 You just wait. Choze is gonna be  
 all up in it. All up in it.

INT. PAROLE OFFICE - DAY

TANESHA BRADDOCK (30's, Black), a no-nonsense "DMV type"  
 parole officer, sits at a desk and rifles through manila  
 folders. Chozen sits across from her, uninterested.

BRADDOCK  
 Mr. Cullens.

CHOZEN  
 Yo, I'd prefer to be called-

BRADDOCK  
 You'll be called what it says on  
 the file. According to the  
 government your name is Phillip  
 Cullens...

She cracks a little smile. Chozen angry/embarrassed.

BRADDOCK (CONT'D)  
 Phil Cullens? Sounds kinda like-

CHOZEN  
 I know, I'm not him-

BRADDOCK  
 No shit.  
 (beat)  
 Here's the drill. You gonna have to  
 adjust to life on the outside.  
 Don't expect nobody to help you  
 out. It's all on you. I suggest  
 you find employment. It won't be  
 easy given your past involvement in  
 gun running and prostitution-

CHOZEN  
 See it ain't like that. I was  
 framed.

BRADDOCK  
 Heard that one before.

CHOZEN  
 No, for real. My boy Phantasm sold  
 me down the river.

BRADDOCK

You mean THE Phantasm? (SINGS) I love it when you make it clap, make it clap! That's my jam!

CHOZEN

Yeah, same dude. It was like in that movie "Ricochet." Denzel was just like the top police guy, everyone loved him, and then the Dad from Harry and the Hendersons, who's a crazy ass racist, wants to throw salt on his game. So he starts messin' with him. Makin' it look like Denzel be into kiddie porn, and then drugging him all up with heroin and what not so a prostitute can do sex to him on videotape. You know? Ruining his good name. But lucky for Denzel he got his old boy Ice-T to help him out in the end and show the real troof. If I had a cool homie like Ice-T watchin my back then I'd-

BRADDOCK

(HAND UP) Enough. We're done here. Check in with me next week. In the meantime, you may want to take advantage of our free mental health services.

Chozen gets up to leave, laughs it off.

CHOZEN

My mentals is air tight player, and my skills are second to none. You just wait, I'm gonna blow up and you'll see what time it really is. One day you'll be telling your grand babies about how you met Chozen, and you'll probably act like we was friends. But in your heart you'll know the truth, and then you'll cry, and them kids will think "Damn, Grandma's a straight-up asshole."

Braddock jumps up from her desk, Chozen bolts out the door.

EXT. COLLEGE FIELD - DAY

Chozen alone on the bleachers with headphones and notebook, writes, erases, writes more.

EXT. COLLEGE FIELD - SPED UP TIME LAPSE

Chozen writes as a SOCCER TEAM PRACTICES, the COLLEGE BAND REHEARSES. The SUN FALLS IN THE SKY.

EXT. COLLEGE FIELD - AFTERNOON

On Chozen writing, he keeps looking up, distracted. Pan to the field to see a football team practicing.

Shots of football player butts in slow-mo, bend over stretching, etc.

An older guy, JIMMY TWIST (Mid-Forties, longish Hair, rocker), sits further down the bleachers, shooting photos.

JIMMY

(to himself)

There ya go, stretch it out  
darlin'. Have fun with it. Nobody's  
watching.

He sees Chozen, gives him a thumbs up. Chozen acts like he didn't see him, goes back to writing.

CHOZEN (\*CUE 2)

(rapping to himself)

*Dude creeping low key, trying be  
smooth. I cut him down to size, hit  
em' with the power move. One hand  
to the nuts, One hand to the neck.  
Bout time homie learned respect.  
You shaking like a leaf, silly  
little trick. You picked the wrong  
dude if you was fixin to hit a lick  
quick. I'm battle tested-*

JIMMY (O.S.)

Hey man! Hey!

Chozen realizes someone is talking over his headphones, looks up, pulls off headphones.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Shit, I'm usually the only one  
here. Good to have some company.  
Name's Jimmy!

CHOZEN  
I'm Chozen.

                  JIMMY  
Chozen for what?

                  CHOZEN  
Nah, that's my name.

                  JIMMY  
Oh, bad ass man. It's cool, just  
like- one word- easy to remember.  
Football fan?

                  CHOZEN  
Something like that.

                  JIMMY  
Not me, I'm into cheerleaders.  
Young ones. Their panties, their  
boobs. Check it out.

Shows Chozen the LCD on his camera: shots of cheerleaders  
doing exercises.

                  JIMMY (CONT'D)  
Ho ho, nip slip!

Wide on the field, reveal cheerleaders at the far end.

                  CHOZEN  
Cool.

                  JIMMY  
Damn right it's cool! Candid  
cheerleader snizz dot com. That's  
the place buddy. Guaranteed hard-  
ons. I can get you a promo code, 2  
months free!

                  CHOZEN  
No thanks, aint really my thing.

Jimmy a bit vexed, notices Chozen's TATTOO- (on forearm)

                  JIMMY  
Cool tat, where'd you get it?

                  CHOZEN  
Prison.

JIMMY

Been there amigo. When Motley Crue says they need ass, you just start grabbing girls, you don't check ID's.

Chozen lights up.

CHOZEN

Motley Crue, damn, them boys was big! You in the business?

JIMMY

I was. 20 years. Did it all. Bus driver, roadie, lights, pyro.

CHOZEN

Pyro? That's tight yo, I love me a big presentation. What you doin' here?

JIMMY

The rock and roll scene changed, so I moved on. All folks seem to like these days are skinny little twinkles singing about how sad they are. I like my tunes to have power, ya know? Balls!

CHOZEN

I feel you on that man. I like my shits to have balls too.

Chozen gestures to the notebook.

JIMMY

Ah, a songwriter huh?

CHOZEN

An MC.

JIMMY

Ya know, they have an open mic deal every weekend at the Study Hall bar down the street. I mean, if you need somewhere to play.

Fired up. Chozen stands to leave.

CHOZEN

Thank you Jimmy. This Study Hall sounds like the perfect spot to begin my rise to the top.

(MORE)

CHOZEN (CONT'D)

The plan is all coming together. I will annihilate!

JIMMY

Well, it's just an open mic.

CHOZEN

I'm gonna bounce, gotsta fuel up for this mission!

Chozen hurriedly makes his way down the bleachers.

JIMMY

(calling after him)

I mean, anyone can do it. Like, anyone!

Chozen can't really hear him, but he pumps his fist in excitement.

EXT. CAFETERIA - NIGHT

Chozen weaves through tables, tray piled with food. He spies TROY (19, thin, geeky) at a table alone with a LAPTOP. Chozen plops down next to him, a little too close.

CHOZEN

Mmm Mmm, these fries is on point. What's crackin'?

Troy ignores. Chozen points at the laptop with a french fry.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)

I need to use that. I'll give you a Salisbury steak.

TROY

Thanks, but, I have a paper due in the morning.

Chozen looks left and right and leans in close, intimidating.

CHOZEN

I'd hate to see your computer smashed up on the ground with macaronis and Salisbury juices all over it. That'd be a waste of food, nah mean?

Troy is scared. Chozen slides over his old MARKED UP PUBLICITY SHOT OF PHRESH PHRIENDS, he circles Crisco and Ricky.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)  
Find these men.

TROY  
This is just a picture.

CHOZEN  
Indeed it is. Analyze this with  
your technology. Their facial  
patterns, iris constructions.

TROY  
I can't do that.

CHOZEN  
I don't believe you.

TROY  
Can I just have their names?

Chozen perks up.

CHOZEN  
Oh snap, that's all you need?

Chozen starts writing the names on the photo. Looks up.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)  
Can you make musics with that  
thing?

TROY  
(sarcastic)  
Uh, yeah.

2 JOCK BULLIES walk up to the table. Troy cowers.

BULLY #1  
Well looky here, a little pussy and  
a big dickhead. How perfect.

Bully #2 knocks Troy's drink to the ground. Chozen casually  
gets up and in one fluid motion smashes the guys heads  
together and pins them to the ground. He leans in to their  
faces.

CHOZEN  
I saw this fish first, don't y'all  
be violating the code now.

The jocks run away scared as hell. Chozen wipes himself off  
and sits back down next to Troy.

TROY

Wow, thanks man. Those guys mess with me every day. I'm Troy.

CHOZEN

I'm Chozen. And yo, you ain't gotta worry about them fools no more. You with ME now.

Troy smiles, looks at the photo and begins furiously typing.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)

The way this works is, I save your ass from steak-dick jocks, and you do pretty much whatever I say. You feel me?

TROY

Absolutely. Totes feeling you right now. Anything you need I got.

Chozen giggles.

CHOZEN

Don't count on it little man.

Troy turns the computer screen to Chozen.

TROY

Boom.

Chozen looks at the screen, cracks a smile.

CHOZEN

You gotta be shittin me.

EXT. SUBURBAN BACKYARD - DAY

A BANNER: HAPPY BDAY BRANDON hangs from a tree. A GROUP OF KIDS sit on the grass in front of a stage with a SIGN: KOOL KIDZ. MUSIC STARTS, CRISCO (29, Still athletic, shaved head) and Ricky (29, still looks exactly the same) run onto stage wearing LEATHER BASEBALL JERSEYS AND CAPS with the KOOL KIDZ LOGO. Ricky jumps behind the turntables.

CRISCO

Hey yo, can anybody tell me what time it is?

Ricky, waves his hands, encouraging the kids to join.

RICKY

I think it's time for a birthday!

CRISCO  
What, I can't hear you?!

RICKY  
A cool guy's birthday!

Chozen peeks over the backyard gate. On the stage, Ricky and Crisco are into their HORRIBLE SONG, exchanging lines.

CRISCO  
Hey yo Brandon, this is your celebration.

RICKY  
We're glad to be here, thanks for the invitation.

CRISCO  
No doubt this is a marvelous day.

RICKY  
Hanging with our friends, no school, all play.

CRISCO  
But first things first, yo let's eat.

RICKY  
You need to have the dinner, before you get the treats.

SONG STOPS, the guys freeze in a pose. BRANDON'S MOM stands.

BRANDON'S MOM  
All right, time for hot dogs!

All the kids CHEER.

EXT. SUBURBAN DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

The backyard gate swings open and Ricky and Crisco step out.

RICKY  
(anxious)  
We started a little slow that time.  
I hate when we do that.

CRISCO  
Relax man, it was fine. Ayo, you peep Brandon's Mom? Bitch is fine.  
I'ma hit that, you just watch.

CHOZEN (O.S.)

Yuck.

The guys turn, Chozen is posted up on the hood of a car. They don't recognize him.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)

You can do better than that man,  
but I know how it goes. Sometimes  
that dick just be hungry.

CRISCO

Take a hike freak.

Crisco turns back to Ricky, ignoring Chozen.

CHOZEN

Nah, hiking ain't my thing...  
Crisco.

Crisco and Ricky look over again, stare for a beat.

RICKY

Choze?

Chozen pops off the car and strides right up, face off style.

CRISCO

(gobsmacked)

Damn.

CHOZEN

What, you ain't recognize your old  
boy? I ain't surprised. Would have  
been nice if y'all coulda visited a  
brother, returned a letter and what  
not.

Crisco and Ricky are nervous, spooked, looking up and down the street.

RICKY

How'd you find us?

CHOZEN

I have my ways.

Off Ricky confused

CHOZEN (CONT'D)

The internet.

CRISCO  
 We can't be talking out here man.  
 The streets is watchin.

Ricky spies a BLACK MINIVAN with BASS BUMPING slowly coming down the street.

CHOZEN  
 What you talking bout, this is a  
 rich ass neighb-

RICKY  
 Hit the deck!

Slow motion; Crisco and Ricky sprawl on the ground, hands over ears. Chozen stands, confused.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - CONTINUOUS

The sliding door of the minivan opens to reveal 2 TEENAGE GUYS, One guy moons the crew while the other points and laughs. Slow motion ends.

TEENAGE GUY #!  
 Cool outfits nerds!!!

The door of the minivan slams and they speed away laughing.

EXT. SUBURBAN DRIVEWAY - DAY

Ricky and Crisco gingerly look up from the ground to see the van gone. They get up, try to play it off.

CHOZEN  
 (laughing)  
 What the hell was that? Y'all got  
 beef with some pimply ass  
 teenagers?

RICKY  
 It's not like that.

CRISCO  
 False alarm yo.

BRANDON'S MOM (O.S.)  
 Hey guys?

The guys turn to see Brandon's Mom at the gate.

JACOB'S MOM  
 We're about to cut the cake.

Jacob's Mom leaves, Crisco and Ricky pat down their jerseys, adjust their hats, get ready for the show.

CHOZEN

Look dudes, I ain't know what y'all into but we gots to talk. If you can't do it here then meet me tonight at Chuck's.

CRISCO

We'll think about it.

Ricky and Crisco enter the gate, Chozen calls after them.

CHOZEN

Be there suckaz, but be careful, watch out for them minivans! Ha ha, stupid.

Chozen turns to leave and sees the kids in the minivan coming by for another pass. The driver is laughing. Chozen sticks his arm out and makes his hand into a gun. He mugs the driver and points at him. We see the driver stricken with fear, they speed off.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)

(to himself)

That's right.

INT. TIGHT ON CHOZEN AT A TABLE - DAY

Chozen sits at a table with his notebook. He has headphones on and is furiously writing/erasing.

CHOZEN (\*CUE 3)

(rapping to himself)

Ain't nobody said it was gon' be easy.  
*Struggle, the true test of a man.  
 Maintain focus, implement the  
 master plan. How do I play? I play  
 to win. What do I like? Dudes with  
 smooth skin...*

Scratches out a line, smiles. Pull back to reveal Chozen in a STARBUCKS, table full of empty coffee cups. A few MOM-TYPE WOMEN with their KIDS are in line, and an OLD MAN.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)

(rapping to himself)

*Back in the game and I'm in it to  
 win it. My status grows steadily  
 minute to minute.*

(MORE)

CHOZEN (CONT'D)  
*Spitting fire over hot beats, deep cuts. Shaking the spot between yo butts and yo nuts.*

MOM-TYPE WOMAN #1 (O.S.)  
 Filthy.

Chozen looks up, everyone is staring at him mouths agape. The old man winks, grins.

OLD MAN (CREEPY)  
 Mmmm, boy.

EXT. CHUCK E CHEESE- ESTABLISHING - EVENING

INT. CHUCK E CHEESE/GAME AREA - CONTINUOUS

We follow a BALL whizzing up a SKI-BALL RAMP. It jumps the lip and lands in the 1000 POINTS HOLE.

CHOZEN (O.S.)  
 Boo yaaaa!

Pull back to see Chozen, pockets dripping with tickets. He dances around 3 ANGRY LITTLE KIDS.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)  
 I be owning y'all tonight! You can't see me! You can't see me!

Chozen looks down, puts his hand out.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)  
 Alright Devin, that's 20 tickets. You talked a big game but you done got smacked down. Pay up son !

DEVIN (6, Sour faced, pudgy) starts bawling.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)  
 Oh come on now, don't be gettin' all childish.  
 (BEAT)  
 You got a daddy? Step daddy?

Devin, sniffing, nods his head "no."

DEVIN  
 I don't have a daddy.

Chozen kneels down, face to face with Devin.

CHOZEN  
 (sarcastic sweetness)  
 Well, tell yo mama if she learnt  
 how to keep a man her son wouldn't  
 be such biyatch.

Devin starts crying even louder.

CRISCO (O.S.)  
 Yo Choze!

Chozen turns to see Crisco and Ricky standing in the hall.

CHOZEN  
 About time fellas.

INT. CHUCK E CHEESE/DINING AREA - CONTINUOUS

Crisco and Ricky sit on one side of a table, Chozen on the other, flanked by 2 HUGE STUFFED BEAR PRIZES. Ricky and Crisco keep looking around, nervous again.

TIM, the waiter, enters.

TIM  
 What can I get you guys tonight?

CHOZEN  
 3 Mr. Pibbs please, (whisper) extra  
 icy.

Tim turns to leave, Chozen smacks him on the ass. Tim whips around.

TIM  
 Hey, not cool.

CHOZEN  
 Sorry dog, the bears be feelin'  
 frisky. (growling sounds)

Tim leaves in a huff. Crisco and Ricky are weirded out.

RICKY  
 Hey, why are we here Chozen?

CHOZEN  
 Ease up Rrricky. It's been a long  
 time, lots of emotions up in this  
 Chuck E. Cheese's.

CRISCO

You be lookin different yo.

RICKY

Yeah dog, I was gonna say the same shit.

CHOZEN

Yeah, well, jail changes a man. If y'all had been cool friends and reached out to a brother you might know that.

RICKY

I got to mass bro. Sunday's are for the Lord, not the incarcerated.

CRISCO

It was Phantasm man. After he sewed you up on them bullshit charges things got ugly.

RICKY

Bro, we knew that you were innocent, and we were ready to go to the cops, and then boom, Phantasm found out.

CRISCO

He tell us we gotta stay out the game, stay away from you. He was kicking it with these rough necks man. Real hood shit.

RICKY

Gangster shit.

CHOZEN

Y'all are playing right now. Phantasm ain't no gangster. We only let that fool in the group cuz his hairs is white.

CRISCO

Nah dog, he changed. Remember Ricky's cat, Reginald?

CHOZEN

Oh yeah, that black muthafucka was cool as hell.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. HOUSE

We see a black cat grabbed by a hand with a 4 finger ring that reads "PLAYAH."

RICKY

Reggie disappeared one night, and the next day I get a letter.

CHOZEN

Oh no, not a letter!

CUT TO: Hands fumble to open a letter. The letter, written in cat fur and glue reads "I like your pussy, keep your mouth shut!"

RICKY

It was written in hairs  
bro...(starting to break) He was  
probably cold dog...so cold dog!

BACK TO PRESENT

Ricky sobs.

CRISCO

I got a DVD delivered to my house.  
I played that shit and seen my Mama  
laying on a table. She up at that  
massage place she go to for her  
Fibromyalgias.

RICKY

That wha?!

FLASHBACK TO:

CUT TO: Video Cam POV- Hands rubbing a large black woman. She moans. Phantasm's face comes into frame.

PHANTASM (INTO CAMERA)

I learnt how to use You tube, the  
rap game is mine, zip yo lips  
nigga!

BACK TO PRESENT

Crisco puts his head down defeated.

RICKY

What if he found out we were making  
music again, or talking to you? Who  
knows what he's capable of!

CHOZEN

Man, you done let that fool get up  
in your head space. Homeboy is soft  
yo. I spent years with some real  
tough brothers, and Phantasm ain't  
caca. I know fools who'd be playing  
his butt-hole like a saxophone.

Chozen mimes blowing into a butt, makes saxophone noises.  
Ricky and Crisco nonplussed.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)

Jazzmatazz fo' dat ass.

(Beat)

John Hole-Pain.

(Beat)

Kenny G. But with an asshole.

Guys still non-plussed.

RICKY

But the culo is like, really close  
to the balls-

CHOZEN

It's like this. Phantasm stole  
something from all of us. I mean,  
he stole a lot more from me than  
you guys, but still! We gotta show  
that punk ass what time it is!

Chozen slides a burned CD over the table.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)

I booked a show. I'm taking back  
what's mine, and you can too.  
Redemption fellas, redemption.

Ricky and Crisco look to each other for a beat, cautiously.

CRISCO

Look bro, it's good to see you and  
all that, but we got a good thing  
going.

RICKY

We're kind of hot on the party  
circuit right now, but we're still  
like small enough to fly under the  
radar of Phantasm. We're not rock  
stars and shit, but, it's  
something.

CRISCO

Sorry dog.

Crisco and Ricky hop up and head for the door. Chozen stands. Calling after them.

CHOZEN

Oh ayight, I see how it be then,  
y'all wanna live like little scared  
babies? Fine! Enjoy them birthday  
cakes! When I blow up Phantasm's  
spot I'll be sure to send him your  
way. Dicks!

EXT. COLLEGE/DORM BUILDING - NIGHT

Chozen walks towards the dorm with the stuffed bears, he has a brown bag bottle of booze, he's hammered. He drunkenly mumbles to himself. He kicks the bears into A FOUNTAIN.

CHOZEN (\*CUE 4)

(drunk rapping to himself)  
*Sometimes yo friends let you down,  
Take your dreams, and smash em' on  
the ground. What do I do, turn the  
page?*

WE SNAP INTO THE MUSIC VIDEO IN CHOZEN'S HEAD. THE BEARS TURN INTO MUSCLED OUT DUDES WHO HIP HOP DANCE. HOOCHIES BLAST CHAMPAGNE. CHOZEN SNAPS THE NECK OF ONE OF THE BEAR-MEN.

*Uh uh, hell no I'm goin' channel my  
rage and spit, rhymes of horror,  
unspeakable things, from deep  
inside me the darkness sings Murder  
murder, sex sex, murder murder,  
murder murder, sex...*

Back to reality. Chozen is in the fountain, humping one of the bear dolls. It's head falls off. A few kids on the steps of the dorm get up and run off.

INT. TRACY'S DORM/LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Tracy is having a get together. A WANNABE DJ works the tunes on a laptop. Other HIPSTER COLLEGE KIDS mill about, partying.

Chozen drunkenly opens the door, he surveys the scene, a smile crosses his face.

CHOZEN

Yo Tracy, you ain't tell me we was  
having a party. Let's get weird  
y'all!

Chozen drops the bear and jumps onto the DJ table, pushing his body up into a plank, he looks to the people at the party while holding the position and then moves to an impossible one handed iron cross type position.

CHOZEN (CONT'D)

Yo fellas, peep the upper body  
strength.

SMASH! The table breaks and he goes crashing to the ground.

Tight on Tracy

TRACY

Shit.

INT. TRACY'S DORM? LIVING ROOM - LATER

Chozen wanders through the guests, drunkenly looking everyone up and down, he sees a college kid, JEREMY, sitting alone on a bean bag chair. Chozen comes and stands directly in front of him.

CHOZEN

What's up, you go to school here?

JEREMY

(smart-ass tone)

Uh, yeah.

A joint comes around, Chozen takes a pull.

CHOZEN

(holding in the smoke)

Oh yeah, that's cool. You look  
pretty comfortable all nestled in  
that bean bag. I'm Tracy's brother,  
I'm a rapper, but she probably  
already told you.

JEREMY

Nope.

CHOZEN

Well, I am. I like your shirt  
player, it fits yo little muscles  
nice. Make me a muscle.



TRACY

You're drunk, you're a mess, and you lied to me about renting that dumb movie.

CHOZEN

Not dumb.

TRACY

Seriously Phil, what the hell? I'm trying to help you out and you're blowing it, again!

CHOZEN

What you mean? I've never let you down before.

TRACY

You got locked up when I was 9, left me without a brother! You were my hero! I was so proud, seeing you up there on the stage. But now? I just don't know who you are!

INT. TRACY'S DORM/LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Tracy runs crying into her room, slamming the door. Party-goers start leaving.

CHOZEN

Don't worry about Tracy, she'll be alright. It's just that time, you know? She be making eggs and blood and stuff, feeling all gross and emotional. It's disgusting.

EXT. CITY STREET - MORNING

Chozen walks disheveled, drunk, eyes puffy, BOTTLE in hand, CIGARETTE DANGLING. You can tell he hasn't slept. He comes upon a line of kids. He follows the line to a record store.

EXT. RECORD STORE - MORNING

The windows of the store are plastered with a huge photo of Phantasm, SIGN reading "DA NEW ALBUM: HOT PLAYA, OUT NOW." Chozen cuts the line and walks in.

INT. RECORD STORE - MORNING

It's all Phantasm in the record store. TV's play a MUSIC VIDEO showing Phantasm dancing around hoochies and throwing up money. Chozen approaches a big cardboard cut out of Phantasm. He puts his bottle down, and in a flash pulls a SHANK from his waistband, stabs the cut out twice in the stomach, once in the face. A FEW KIDS film the whole scene on their cell phones, giggling. As Chozen exits the store he grabs a SMOOTHIE from the hand of a kid on line.

EXT. RECORD STORE - MORNING

Chozen dumps his booze in the smoothie cup, drops the bottle to the ground with a SMASH. A few steps down the street he nonchalantly drops the shiv in a storm drain.

EXT. ESTABLISHING. SYNAGOGUE PARKING LOT - MORNING

INT. SYNAGOGUE MEETING HALL - MORNING

Ricky and Crisco set up gear. They wear LEATHER YARMULKES and MATCHING JUMPSUITS. CATERERS ready tables. A FAT JEWISH BOY in a SUIT watches them from the dance floor, bored. The guys run cables to mic stands when MR. STEINBAUM (40's. Lean), pissed off, rumbles up to the foot of the stage.

MR. STEINBAUM

Get out!

Ricky and Crisco jump a bit, caught off guard.

MR. STEINBAUM (CONT'D)

Pack up all your crap and leave, now!

CRISCO

Whoa, whoa. Hold up. What's the problem sir.

MR. STEINBAUM

The problem?! The problem is you two! You're disgusting!

Ricky cowers behind his decks.

CRISCO

Okay, I'm confused, what-

MR. STEINBAUM

A concerned parent called me this morning, and thank God he did. I saw your website. You should be ashamed of yourselves!

On Fat Jewish Boy wagging his finger "no." Ricky pops open the LAPTOP in his DJ rig.

MR. STEINBAUM (CONT'D)

You have 5 minutes or I'm calling the cops!

RICKY (O.S.)

Uh oh.

Crisco runs up behind the decks, looks at the laptop screen, his eyes go wide.

ON LAPTOP SCREEN: We see the KOOL KIDZ WEB-SITE. There is a picture of Chin and Crisco, but different bodies have been shittily photo-shopped on. Ripped muscles, speedos with boners. Text at the bottom of the screen reads "WE LOVE KIDS, WE'LL TEACH YOU HOW TO KISS."

RICKY (CONT'D)

Oh no.

Ricky clicks furiously his laptop. He shakes his head in disbelief.

RICKY (CONT'D)

The whole week is cancelled, all our bookings!

CRISCO

What kind of bullshit is this man, maybe someone hacked us?

RICKY

Obviously. But who would-

DING! The e-mail inbox on the computer rings. Ricky clicks.

ON LAPTOP SCREEN: An e-mail opens from UNKNOWN ADDRESS. The text reads "I'm still here bitches. I learnt how to use photoshop. Your life sucks, You're welcome. P"

The guys look up, dumbfounded, The Fat Jewish Boy stands there making Chinese eyes at them, giggling.

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

Chozen walks through campus. His shirt looks like it's been puked on and the front of his pants are soaked. He passes a Sorority car-wash. Girls in bikinis, soaping up cars, frat guys drinking.

JIMMY(O.S.)  
Mmm, hmm, just a little more soap.  
There it is!

Chozen looks to some bushes and sees half of Jimmy's head sticking up.

CHOZEN  
Hey Jimmy.

JIMMY  
Shhhh, be cool man, don't ruin my  
spot. Come here!

Chozen heads over to the bushes, crouches down with Jimmy.

JIMMY (CONT'D)  
Check these out.

Jimmy turns the camera towards him. Shots of soapy girls.

JIMMY (CONT'D)  
Moist sorority chonch dot net. I'm  
gonna make a killing!

Chozen, despondent, can't be bothered with the camera.

CHOZEN  
Cool, I guess.

JIMMY  
Someone shit in your Wheaties?

CHOZEN  
Worse. 2 guys, 1 girl, 3 shits  
total. My old crew punks me out,  
and then my sister be talking about  
"losing her faith in me." So here I  
am, drinking an alcoholic smoothie,  
hiding behind a bush with a grown  
ass man. Normally this would be a  
cool thing, but right now it sucks.

JIMMY  
Well, what are you going to about  
it besides act like a pussy?

CHOZEN

I'm gonna play the show tonight,  
that's what.

JIMMY

Ha, not like this you're not. It  
looks like you got into a fist  
fight at a bukkake party.

Chozen drunkenly scans his clothing. Sniffs his shirt, pulls  
back at the stench.

CHOZEN

You think you could help me out?

JIMMY

I could, but that's a manager's  
job. I've always been more of a  
road hog, ya know?

CHOZEN

I'll give you my sister's meal card  
for a week.

JIMMY

Deal! Let's get to work.

MONTAGE:

Jimmy and Chozen walk through the mall with bags.

Jimmy helps Chozen set up Facebook and Twitter.

Jimmy messes around with FIREWORKS and little explosions  
behind the dorm, Chozen cheers.

Jimmy hosing Chozen down outside.

Chozen in barbershop chair, tight on SCISSORS CLIPPING HAIR.

We see a hand place a NOTE on a table.

CHOZEN (V.O.)

Yo Tracy, I'm sorry I let you down.  
You was right, a girl needs her big  
brother.

The hand lays out JOLLY RANCHERS around the note in a frame.

CHOZEN (V.O.)

I shouldn't have rented all them  
movies either. It's just Channing  
Tatum, dude is magnetic, I can't  
get enough.

A "DEAR JOHN" DVD is placed next to the note, a few jolly ranchers around it.

CHOZEN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Enjoy these candies and this "Dear John" movie disc. Hopefully it will touch you as much as it touched me. Be at the Study Hall tonight! Feelings, Chozen.

We follow as a pair of NEW RED SNEAKERS leave the room. As the door shuts pan up to reveal Tracy's empty dorm room.

END MONTAGE

EXT. ESTABLISHING. STUDY HALL BAR - NIGHT

Patrons loiter outside the bar. Muffled noise.

INT. STUDY HALL BAR/STAGE - NIGHT

On stage is a SKINNY CHICK in a beanie finishing a poem.

SKINNY CHICK

...The dream melted, and all that was left? Me, him, naked...on fire.

A few claps, the girl leaves the stage.

INT. STUDY HALL BAR/BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Tight on Jimmy's face.

JIMMY

Alright pal, we're all set. They aren't going to know what hit em. You ready for this?

Tight on Chozen's face, deep in thought, pull back to reveal the new look Chozen. NEW BLACK HAT, TIGHT HAIRCUT, WHITE HOODIE, A CHAIN WITH A "C", NEW JEANS, the red sneakers.

CRISCO

You best be ready!

Ricky (track suit) and Crisco (wife beater, khakis) enter the dressing room ready to rock. Chozen lights up.

RICKY

We're with you man. We're done being afraid...or something.

CRISCO

Yeah baby, we started this together, and we gon' finish it together!

CHOZEN

Oh hell yeah!

RICKY

I listened to your song, umm, and I made a new beat for it.

CRISCO

That flow is still fire dog!

RICKY

Yeah, but, well, what's with all the stuff about butts and dicks?

CHOZEN

(triumphantly)

That's called truth my little vato. Life ain't always like a Phresh Phriends song. Prison changes a man. I've been through some hard times, learned some killer tactics. These are my tales, and the world needs to hear them.

JIMMY (O.S.)

You're up!

CHOZEN

The time for talking is done fellas. Shall we destroy?

INT. STUDY HALL BAR/STAGE - CONTINUOUS

QUICK SHOTS: Laptop flops down in between the turntables on the stage, black hand grabs mic, Cable slides into laptop, Jimmy fiddles with wires on the side of the stage.

Ricky cues up A SONG (\*CUE 5), the intro blares from the speaker. Chozen looks to Crisco, Crisco gives him a head nod, Chozen looks to Ricky who makes a "slit throat" motion with his hand. Chozen turns to the audience, starts building the drama.

CHOZEN (CONT'D) (\*CUE 5)

*What up childrens? It's been a long time. You can lock the man down, but his passion know no bounds.*

CRISCO  
Get up muthafuckaz!

BOOOM! Fire balls light from either side of the stage as the group breaks into a full song.

CHOZEN (\*CUE 5)  
*Redemption! Free at last, gimme a  
mic, a beat, and a tight little  
ass, and I'll be crushing it!  
Bloody like a murder scene, I'm  
coming through with techniques  
supreme...*

Music continues under as-

We see the group synced up perfectly, just like in the old days, controlling the stage, having the time of their lives.

Some of the crowd is warming up.

Back on the group

CHOZEN (\*CUE 5) (CONT'D)  
*2nd chances, new mission, been  
plottin' this out since my first  
day in prison. Locked down on some  
federal shit. Doing a bid on some  
stuff I ain't did. Set-up, by one  
of my own crew. A jealous bitch  
that ain't unknown to you.*

CRISCO (\*CUE 5)  
Phantasm!

CHOZEN (\*CUE 5)  
*Yup he said it, that little  
motherfucker goin' learn to regret  
it. Because I'm back with passion,  
ready for action, grip the booty  
spread it wide. Mashin'!*

Music continues under as-

Cut to Jimmy throwing up the Devil horns and flicking his tongue, Tracy grooving.

On the crowd: A bunch of people are really into it.

Troy dances by himself, the bullies round the corner, see him, and run away. Troy cheers louder.

Crisco points to a girl at a table- she winks back at him.

Pull back on the scene as the SONG FADES.

EXT. STUDY HALL BAR - NIGHT

The crew outside, just finished. Troy throws them beers from his backpack.

CRISCO

Man, you see how hype we got them fools? That one bitch was straight moist son!

RICKY

Just like back in the day.

CHOZEN

No doubt fellas, that felt damn good. I was dying up there without my squad.

The guys do a GROUP HUG DANCE THING like teams do before a game.

JIMMY (O.S.)

Hey! Y'all wanna stop prancing around! It's time to get lit!

The guys look up to see Jimmy's head poking out of the bar, Tracy and Troy are with him, waving.

CHOZEN

Word!

Chozen, Troy, Crisco, and Ricky walk towards the bar. We follow from behind.

RICKY

Who's that guy?

CHOZEN

That my dudes is our new manager.

We hold from behind as the guys walk to the bar door, conversation becoming unintelligible. Pan over to a BLACK LIMO with the window half way down, PHANTASM. The window slides up.

INT. LIMO - NIGHT

A MUSCLEBOUND DRIVER sits in the limo. We see Phantasm (28, Same Hair) through the partition.

Tight on an IPAD:

A YOUTUBE VIDEO titled "GROSS WEIRDO ATTACKS PHANTASM!!" plays. We see Chozen stabbing the cutout in the record store.

On driver.

MUSCLEBOUND DRIVER

We good boss?

Tight on Phantasm's face.

PHANTASM

Yeah, I've seen enough. Let's roll.

Limo pulls away.

END