

MILK

Written by

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FADE IN:

1 INT. HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL - NIGHT - 1978

Close on a finger pressing the "record" button of a circa 1970's tape recorder.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

This is Harvey Milk speaking on Friday November 18th. This is to be played only in the event of my death by assassination...

REVEAL: HARVEY MILK, 48, sitting at his kitchen table in a cluttered San Francisco apartment.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

During one of the early campaigns, I started opening my speeches with the same line and it sort of became my signature...

2 EXT. CITY HALL - NIGHT

In street clothes, trying to corral an angry mob on City Hall's steps, Harvey lifts a bullhorn.

HARVEY MILK

Hello, I'm Harvey Milk, and I'm here to recruit you.

3 INT. HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL - NIGHT

Harvey at his kitchen table making his recording...

HARVEY MILK

If I was speaking to a slightly hostile or mostly straight audience, I'd try to break the

tension with a joke...

4 INT. UNION HALL - NIGHT

Harvey is in a plain, ill fitting brown suit making a CAMPAIGN SPEECH to a crowd of stone faced UNION BOYS.

HARVEY MILK

I know, I know, I'm not what you were expecting, but I left my high heels at home.

Harvey gets a LAUGH from the AUDIENCE.

2.

5 INT. HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL - NIGHT

RETURN TO: Harvey speaking into his tape recorder.

HARVEY MILK

I fully realize that a person who stands for what I stand for - an activist, a gay activist - becomes the target or potential target for a person who is insecure, terrified, afraid or very disturbed themselves...

6 INT. CITY HALL OFFICES - MONTAGE - DAY

POLICE OFFICERS AND PRESS RACE THROUGH THE HALLS of City Hall, their walkie-talkies squawking. Something terrible has happened. It's chaos.

A STRETCHER IS WHEELED OUT OF AN OFFICE. On it, a FILLED

BODY

BAG with a WHITE SHEET draped over it.

The press rush to get a shot. The police officers quickly load the body onto the elevator and disappear from sight.

9 EXT. S.F. CITY HALL / FRONT STEPS - DAY

A shell shocked DIANNE FEINSTEIN, 45, wades into a throng of REPORTERS. Those surrounding her try to quiet the crowd.

DIANNE FEINSTEIN

As President of the Board of Supervisors, it's my duty to make this announcement. Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot... and killed. GASPS from the REPORTERS. Dianne struggles to be heard.

DIANNE FEINSTEIN (CONT'D)

Police are looking for a suspect... Supervisor Dan White.

10 INT. ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL - DAY

her The very picture of loveliness, MARY-ANN WHITE, 28, finds husband DAN WHITE, 31, sitting in the pews praying. He's a handsome, devout, all-American man in a three-piece suit. She sits by him. A weight hangs. He can't make eye contact.

DAN WHITE

Something has happened.

3.

She puts her arm around him, feels a gun at his side. She holds him, firmly gripping the revolver in his holster, to conceal, to keep him from using it, potentially on himself.

11 INT. HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL - NIGHT

RETURN TO: Harvey speaking into his tape recorder...

HARVEY MILK

Knowing that I could be assassinated at any moment, I feel it's important that some people should understand my thoughts. I think that-- (pauses, not sure what to say) I wish I had time to explain everything I did. Almost everything that was done was done with an eye on the gay movement.

CUT TO BLACK:

CLEAN WHITE LETTERS ON A BLACK SCREEN READ "MILK"

13 INT. NEW YORK SUBWAY PLATFORM - NIGHT

TITLE: "New York City. 1970."
HARVEY, 40, is HEADING UP THE STAIRS from the subway platform. He is wearing a SUIT, but he's less than clean

cut.

His hair is brushing past his ears.
HARVEY'S VERY INTERESTED POV: SCOTT SMITH, 22, a sexy curly haired hippie in tight jeans and boots, is HEADING DOWN THE THE STAIRS. Harvey tries to make eye contact.

HARVEY MILK

Hey. I'm Harvey.

SCOTT SMITH

(so what?)
Okay, Harvey...

HARVEY MILK

Today's my birthday.
(Scott laughs)
No, today is actually my birthday.
Well, tonight. At midnight.

SCOTT SMITH

Really?

4.

HARVEY MILK

And, believe it or not, I don't have any plans. People took me out after work...

SCOTT SMITH

(looking him over)
Work? So, that would be... Let me guess. Ma Bell or AT&T.

HARVEY MILK

The Great American Insurance

Company. I'm part of the big,
evil, corporate establishment that,
let me guess, you think is the
cause of every evil thing in the
world from Vietnam to diaper rash.

SCOTT SMITH

You left out bad breath.
Falling for it, Harvey covers his mouth. Scott laughs. They
both smile, realizing they share a wry sense of humor.
A TRAIN IS COMING, Harvey has to work fast.

HARVEY MILK

So... You're not going to let me
celebrate my birthday all by myself
are you?

SCOTT SMITH

(gently teasing)
Listen, Harvey, you're kind of cute
for a suit... But I don't do guys
over forty.

HARVEY MILK

Well then, I'm in luck.

SCOTT SMITH

How's that?

HARVEY MILK

Because I'm still thirty-nine...
(showing Scott his watch)
And it's only eleven-fifteen.

14 INT. HARVEY'S NEW YORK APARTMENT - NIGHT

IN A TIGHT TWO-SHOT, Scott is pressed against a wall with
Harvey pressed against his back having sex. Harvey is the
aggressor, completely uninhibited.

5.

OPERA MUSIC PLAYS on a record player. (Wagner's Tristan and

ISOLDE)

15 INT. HARVEY'S NEW YORK APARTMENT - NIGHT

of

Harvey feeds Scott spoonfuls of CREAM PIE from a TRAY FULL

FOOD that rests on the bed between them. Ice cream, cookies, milk, berries... It's over the top and adorable.

HARVEY MILK

Where are you from?

SCOTT SMITH

Jackson, Mississippi.

HARVEY MILK

Well, this isn't Jackson, but you still can't respond to every strange man you meet on a subway platform. It's too dangerous.

SCOTT SMITH

Now you tell me.

HARVEY MILK

There's nothing tougher than a New York City cop. They're arrogant, and they're everywhere. I'll show you the cruising spots, if you want, if you promise you'll be careful... little Scottie-san.

SCOTT SMITH

Are you on uppers or what?

HARVEY MILK

No. This is just... plain old me.

SCOTT SMITH

You're afraid of the cops?

HARVEY MILK

I'm just discreet. I know a lot of people here. If they found out, I could lose my job.

SCOTT SMITH

(meaning a closet case)
Oh. You're one of "those."
(examines Harvey's eyes)
I think you need a change of scenery. New friends.

6.

HARVEY MILK

I need a change.

SCOTT SMITH

(looks at the clock)
You're forty now.

HARVEY MILK

(just the truth)
Forty years old and I haven't done
a thing I'm proud of.

SCOTT SMITH

(re: the desert tray)
You keep eating like this and
you'll be a fat ass by fifty.

HARVEY MILK

(laughs it off)
No. Don't you worry. I won't make
it to fifty.
Scott distracts him, playful, like a newlywed at a wedding,
he rubs a slice of pie in Harvey's face.
Harvey reacts. Wipes the pie from his eye, and tackles his
young, frisky new lover. They kiss. The mess getting
everywhere. Harvey brushes it out of Scott's hair.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

(an idea, half-jokingly,

HALF-SERIOUSLY)

Why don't we run away together?

SCOTT SMITH

Where to?

16 INT. FLASH FORWARD - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL -

NIGHT

RETURN TO: Harvey speaks to the tape recorder. (Throughout
the film, these scenes should feel intimate, as if Harvey is
telling us things no one else knows.)

HARVEY MILK

In those days, San Francisco was the place where everyone wanted to go... To drop out... To fall in love...

16A INT. DODGE CHARGER - MONTAGE - (1972)

8MM HOME MOVIE MONTAGE of Harvey and Scott DRESSED FULL-OUT LIKE HIPPIES, long hair, beard, beads, sunglasses, driving

7.

through the redwoods, over the Golden Gate Bridge, and into San Francisco.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

But by 1972, The Haight was boarded up. Crime-filled. Drug-filled. The new place for us refugees was this run down Irish Catholic neighborhood in Eureka Valley. Six blocks square... The Castro.

17 EXT. CASTRO STREET - DAY

Harvey lifts a Nikon camera and starts SNAPPING PHOTOS of Castro Street.

WE SEE WHAT HARVEY SEES THROUGH THE LENS: A HARDWARE STORE, a LIQUOR STORE, empty buildings, boarded windows... Harvey points the camera toward The MARQUEE of the Castro Theater, big letters spelling out... "C A S T R O..." Harvey points his camera across the street at the gray-haired, OWNER of a liquor store. Harvey snaps PHOTOS of his face, an expression of distrust. Harvey SNAPS a SIGN in the liquor shop window that reads:

"EUREKA VALLEY MERCHANTS SOCIETY."

Harvey's CAMERA focuses on TWO CUTE, YOUNG, HIPPIE BOYS WALKING PAST, one puts his arm over the other. To Harvey's eyes it's a very new site. It's overt. Thrilling. Harvey snaps a photo of an empty storefront with a FOR RENT SIGN hanging out front.

19 INT. HARVEY'S AND SCOTT'S EMPTY APARTMENT - DAY

The place is FILLED with OPERA MUSIC from a record player. Harvey is loading a roll of film into his camera. Scott is getting high, lying in the sun that pours through the large, empty windows.

SCOTT SMITH

I cashed my last unemployment check yesterday...

HARVEY MILK

Well, I hope you did something useful with it.

SCOTT SMITH

I bought an ounce of pot. I was just wondering if you had any

(MORE)

8.

SCOTT SMITH (CONT'D)

plans, or thoughts... About us doing something to, you know, bring in an income.

HARVEY MILK

Don't move.
Harvey straddles Scott. He begins SNAPPING PHOTOS of him.

SCOTT SMITH

I suppose I can wait tables.

HARVEY

No way. I want you right here with me... Did you see place downstairs is for rent?

SCOTT SMITH

Yeah.

HARVEY MILK

I was thinking we could open a shop together.

SCOTT SMITH

What kind of shop?

HARVEY MILK

One with very little overhead. Not too much work... A little one, just like Morris and Minnie Milk of Woodmere, New York...

20 EXT. CASTRO STREET CAMERA SHOP - DAY (1973)

Harvey's empty store front has been converted to a CAMERA STORE (with a few, not very impressive, products). Harvey is out on the sidewalk directing Scott who is inside the store's large window hanging a sign: "CASTRO CAMERA."

HARVEY MILK

Just a little to the left...

The old liquor store owner from earlier, MCCONNELLY, crosses the street to watch. Harvey gives him a warm welcome:

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Hello there. I'm Harvey Milk.

MCCONNELLY

You're the new renters?

HARVEY MILK

Yes. Welcome to Castro Camera.

9.

Harvey extends his hand. McConnelly shakes, but is wary.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

I want to join the, um... What is it? The Eureka Valley Merchant's Association. I want to help in any way possible. I'm no interloper. A Jew perhaps, but I hope you'll forgive that.

McConnelly looks from Harvey to Scott in the window.

MCCONNELLY

I don't think your application will be approved, Mr. Milk. This is a family neighborhood. Your kind are far more welcome on Haight street.

HARVEY MILK

(trying to keep it friendly)
What "kind" do you mean, sir?

MCCONNELLY

(not playing along)
The Merchant's Association will have the police pull your license if you open your doors.

SCOTT SMITH

Based on what law?

MCCONNELLY

There's man's law and there's God's law in this neighborhood and in this City. The San Francisco Police force is happy to enforce either.

HARVEY MILK

(to McConnelly as he walks away)
Thanks for the warm welcome to the neighborhood!

SCOTT SMITH

We pay taxes you know!
Harvey grabs Scott's hand... keeps him from heating up, from pouncing. It's not the time for them to bite yet.

21 INT. HARVEY AND SCOTT'S APARTMENT ABOVE THE STORE -- DAY

Scott is sitting on the bed, while Harvey is TALKING A MILE
MINUTE FROM THE KITCHEN, totally energized.

A

HARVEY MILK

We'll form our own business association! Start with the gay-owned businesses... We'll take down the addresses of every customer that comes in for a roll of film. We'll ask them what they want to see done here... what they want changed... We'll get money rolling into this neighborhood. Revitalize it...

SCOTT SMITH

Can I come in now?

HARVEY MILK (O.S.)

One more minute!
(back to his new scheme)
I'll go to the neighborhood banks.
They must have some gay customers.

SCOTT SMITH

Harvey. What's with all this political activist crap? I thought you were a goddamn Republican.
Harvey walks into the small dining room holding two plates
of
food. He sets them out on a small dining room table, still rambling on to Scott in the bedroom.

HARVEY MILK

I'm a businessman, Scott. I think businesses ought to treat their customers right. Even their gay customers. For God's sake, this is San Francisco!

SCOTT SMITH

Harvey. It's just like every other city in this country. People hate us. Big surprise.

HARVEY MILK

We should have at least one block in one city right? Start there and take over the neighborhood.
(a smile)
Okay, you can come in now!
Scott heads toward the kitchen. The table is LAID OUT with a home-cooked meal, CANDLES and a huge bouquet of FLOWERS.

SCOTT SMITH

Wow. This is--

11.

Harvey SMASHES A CREAM PIE into Scott's face. Payback.

HARVEY MILK

Happy birthday!

Scott chases Harvey around the apartment, trying to smear some of the CREAM PIE onto him.

22 EXT. THE CASTRO - DAY

The street is shut down for the first ever Castro Street Fair. The crowd is mostly gay, the majority congregate outside Toad Hall bar.

about, ANGLE ON: SOME OF THE OLD-SCHOOL, IRISH LOCALS milling

eyeing the scene skeptically.

Harvey MOVES THROUGH THE CROWD with Scott, shaking hands.

MAN ON THE STREET

Thanks for the party, Mr. Milk!

HARVEY MILK

Thanks for joining the Castro Village Association!

Harvey arrives at A LONG LINE OF GAY MEN winding out of the Irish liquor store (from earlier). He squeezes past them, into the store, leaving Scott outside.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Excuse me gentleman... ladies.

(finding the shop owner)

Hello! Mr. McConnelly!

McConnelly, at the register, is overwhelmed with all the new business.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

I just wanted to stop in and see how business was doing.

MCCONNELLY

Fine.

HARVEY MILK

So you don't mind all these
homosexuals in here, do you?
McConnelly grins, uncomfortable. The line of gay men is
curious about the hubbub. Point made, Harvey does a 180.

12.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

No. No. Just a joke. Mr. McConnelly
here loves our kind. Spend away!
(to McConnelly)

Tell your wife Hello for me.

Harvey spots Scott in the crowd and PULLS HIM TOWARD HIM,
KISSING HIM ON THE MOUTH. It's quite the show. They step
back out onto the street where an Irish band is now playing.
Gay men watch. Some clap. Harvey grabs Scott and spins him
through a sharp waltz. OFF the pair at home in their new
neighborhood.

**23 INT. FLASH FORWARD - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL -
NIGHT**

HARVEY MILK

And people started hanging around
our store. Not customers.
Activists, kids, folks who needed a
home away from home...

26 EXT. CASTRO CAMERA - INTERCUT

A NEW sign goes in the window: "We are VERY open."

27 INT. CASTRO CAMERA SHOP - DAY

A FEW YOUNG MEN are hanging out in the shop, the beginnings
of Harvey's entourage. Harvey moves among them, sharing a
clipped Sunday cartoon, lecturing them on politics or the
arts, and checking out the cute ones.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

There was Danny Niccoletta, a cute
art student who I'd picked up at

Toad Hall. Turns out he was also good at running the Camera Shop... something Scott and I found we had surprising little interest in...
ON DANNY NICCOLETTA, young, waif-like, somewhat helpless.

DANNY NICCOLETTA

Opera is passe, Harvey. It's about street theater, now.

HARVEY MILK

What you're not getting is the spectacle of it, the bigger than life emotions...
Danny jumps up and IMITATES the LARGER THAN LIFE GESTURES of an opera diva, making Harvey laugh.

13.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Jim Rivaldo. A great mind. A great wit. A Harvard graduate, which nobody cared about, in those days, in the Castro... including himself.
JIM RIVALDO flops down into the vintage dental chair that sits in front of Harvey's desk. He seems to be looking for something to occupy his keen mind. A sharply dressed young man, 20s, DICK PABICH, walks up to peek over his shoulder.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And somewhere along the line Jim picked up a protege, a cute political kid from Wisconsin... Dick Pabich... And of course there was Dennis Peron, who ran a very popular business with the new kids...
DENNIS PERON hands Scott a FREE JOINT.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And on occasion we actually had a real customer. But only occasionally.
ACROSS THE ROOM, Scott is waiting on a CUSTOMER, he's out of place: straight, gruff, a union man, ALLAN BAIRD, 40s.

SCOTT SMITH

Harvey... This guy wants to talk to you.

HARVEY MILK

(approaches Allan)

Welcome. What can we do for you?

ALLAN BAIRD

Hi, I'm Allan Baird. Teamsters representative, and Director of the Coors beer boycott in California.

HARVEY MILK

Everyone, this is Allan Baird. He's a very big deal, so behave yourselves.

ALLAN BAIRD

I was told you were like the Mayor of the Castro, said you organized the CVA, you might know some people in the bars.

14.

HARVEY MILK

I do have friends in awfully low places, but just so you know, it's not official yet.

ALLAN BAIRD

What's that?

HARVEY MILK

The Mayor part. I've considered gathering an army of queers to march up to City Hall and secede, but so far the young gays seem more interested in jeeps and jeans. But if I could be of any use, I'm all ears!

ALLAN BAIRD

We can't get Coors to go union.
These guys are like me, they can't
be out of work too long.
Harvey pulls Allan aside, away from the audience, easing his
nerves. It's Harvey at his best.

HARVEY MILK

I'm just curious. Are we your first
stop or your last?

ALLAN BAIRD

(clearly his last)
It's been a tough one, Mr. Milk.

HARVEY MILK

Well, you seem to have noticed that
my kind of people drink a lot of
beer. If we're going to fast for
your sake, I think we should get to
deliver some of it when you win
this fight, don't you?

ALLAN BAIRD

(INCREDULOUS)

Is that what you really want?

HARVEY MILK

And allies. I'll have Coors out of
every bar in the Castro by the end
of the week. Deal?

ALLAN BAIRD

(nods, sincere)
Thank you Mr. Milk.

15.

JUMP TO: Allan is on his way out. Harvey walks back behind
the counter to Scott.

HARVEY MILK

No more Coors beer. It's gotta come
out of every bar. Gay and straight.

SCOTT SMITH

What's he giving you?

HARVEY MILK

Nothing for me. That's a convert.

SCOTT SMITH

A convert to what?

HARVEY MILK

The cause.

27A INT. VARIOUS SAN FRANCISCO BARS - PHOTO MONTAGE

A STILL PHOTO MONTAGE: Jim, Dick, Scott and Danny get bar owners throughout San Francisco to unscrew their Coors taps, throw out their Coors stock, put on "Boycott Coors" buttons and tape up "Dump Coors" posters.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

I got "my people" to get Coors out of all the Gay Bars. 30 million bottles worth in San Francisco alone. Coors beer immediately fell from number 1. They caved. One week later, union man Allan Baird hired the first ever openly gay union boys to drive Teamsters trucks... We weren't just a group of pansies anymore. We had a neighborhood. We had the unions. And for the first time, we had a little bit of power.

NIGHT
27B INT. FLASH FORWARD - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL -

HARVEY MILK

Maybe that was the day someone first called me the "Mayor" of Castro Street.
(a knowing grin)
Or perhaps I invented it myself.

28 INT. CASTRO CAMERA - ANOTHER NIGHT

Harvey, Jim & Dick, Scott, Danny and Dennis debate the merits of working within "the system" versus dropping out. Everyone is talking over each other...

16.

A YOUNG GAY MAN runs into the store.

YOUNG GAY MAN

The fucking cops, man, they're up on
Castro Street! Toad Hall.
Harvey and the guys race out of the store.

29 EXT. CASTRO STREET - DAY

Harvey, Scott, Jim, Dick, Dennis run up the street toward
one of the Castro GAY BARS where POLICE ARE GETTING OUT OF SQUAD
CARS AND APPROACHING CUSTOMERS crowding around the entrance.

COP

Clear the sidewalk!
Some of the GAY MEN move out of the COPS' way but some of
them don't move FAST ENOUGH. The COPS start BEATING them.
Harvey, Scott and the OTHERS try to break into the crowd, to
get closer to the fight. To pull the cops off their friends.
Danny HANGS BACK, snapping PHOTOS of the event.
Scott SHOVES his way past the cops. A COP BRINGS HIS NIGHT
STICK down hard on SCOTT'S HEAD.

30 INT. HARVEY'S AND SCOTT'S BATHROOM - THAT NIGHT

Scott sits on the toilet. Harvey rinses blood from a white
washcloth and goes back to cleaning Scott's HEAD WOUND.

HARVEY MILK

...if we had someone in the
government who saw things the way
we see them, the way the black
community has black leaders who
look out for their interests--

SCOTT SMITH

You're gonna run for Supervisor, is
that the idea?

HARVEY MILK

(HALF-JOKING)

I could go right for mayor, but I

think I should work my way up to
it... You'll be my campaign
manager.

17.

SCOTT SMITH

(SARCASTIC)

Because I have so much experience
in politics.

HARVEY MILK

Politics is theater. It doesn't
matter if you win. You make a
statement. You say, "I'm here, pay
attention to me."

SCOTT SMITH

Harvey, you do that every time you
cross the street.

HARVEY MILK

Coors looks like it might cave. The
union boys will owe me. Imagine if
we get their vote... It'll be fun!

SCOTT SMITH

Fun?
Harvey starts kissing him all over.

HARVEY MILK

We'll make it a spectacle.

31 EXT. CASTRO STREET - DAY

shakes,
UNION

Harvey walks down to Market St. with a box. He waves,
flirts with everyone. His warmest hello is from a gruff

MAN. Behind Harvey, Scott pushes a loaded shopping cart.
Harvey sets his box down right beside a SFPD OFFICER. It
reads, "Soap Box." Harvey steps onto it. A crowd forms.

HARVEY MILK

A week ago, Police officers came into our area with covered up badges and sent fourteen of our people to the hospitals, and to jail. The charges, "Blocking a Sidewalk."

Like a round girl at a boxing match, Scott parades around a blown up PHOTO from his shopping cart: TWO SF COPS DRAGGING

GAY MEN INTO A PADDY WAGON.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

--Let us have our tax money go for our protection and not our persecution. Worry about gun control and not marijuana control.

(MORE)

18.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

School supplies, seniors, not what books I read--

Scott displays an old "Muscle Boys" magazine. Harvey does a well timed take. A few hoots from the eclectic crowd.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

My fellow degenerates, I would like to announce my candidacy for San Francisco City Supervisor!

Scott unfurls three hand made "MILK FOR CITY SUPERVISOR" banners that lap over the sides of the shopping cart.

32 EXT. VARIOUS STREETS IN SF - HANDING OUT FLYERS MONTAGE

WE SEE SCOTT, DANNY, JIM handing out FLYERS to a variety of SF CITIZENS: gay boys, older people, Chinese people, scared straight people, heckling high school boys. Harvey EAGERLY APPROACHES anyone and everyone, shaking hands if they'll let him, reaching out to old people, straight people, gay people, even buttoned down BUSINESSMEN who cross the street to try to get away from him.

33 EXT. THE CASTRO/18TH AND CASTRO - DAY

Harvey hands out campaign literature to a PASSERSBY.

HARVEY MILK

Public dental care for retired
people... Legalize pot, vote Milk.
Harvey is distracted. A young, long haired CLEVE JONES
passes. At 18, he looks 15. Harvey tries for his attention:

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Hey, I like the way your pants
fit... Where are you from, kid?

CLEVE JONES

(LAUGHS)

Sorry old man, not interested.

HARVEY MILK

Where's home?

CLEVE JONES

Phoenix.

HARVEY MILK

I'm Harvey Milk. I'm running for
Supervisor. What's your name?

19.

CLEVE JONES

Cleve... Jones.

HARVEY MILK

Well Mr. Jones, we should walk up
to my camera shop and register you.

CLEVE JONES

Fuck that. Elections of any kind
are a bourgeois affectation.

HARVEY MILK

Is that right? Do you trick up on Polk Street?

CLEVE JONES

(only half-joking)
If I need the cash... But I'm selective about my clients.

HARVEY MILK

Tell me one thing before you get back to work then. What was it like to be a little queer in Phoenix?

CLEVE JONES

I faked a lung disease to get out of PE. So what? What are you, some kind of street shrink?

HARVEY MILK

Sometimes. But what I'm saying is, Phoenix can change. But we have to start with our street: rent control, police abuse, pot, parks, seniors.

CLEVE JONES

(turns to go)
Well, good luck with all that.

HARVEY MILK

You know what I think, Cleve Jones?

CLEVE JONES

That you're gonna get somewhere if you keep talking?

HARVEY MILK

No. That you need to do what you're good at. Be a prick. Fight City Hall. Fight the cops. Fight the people who made you come here to do what you do.

CLEVE JONES

Sorry old man, I'm leaving for Spain tomorrow. Europe. Got all the cash I need in my back pocket.

A GROUP OF CLEVE'S FRIENDS shout at him to join them. Harvey watches him dart across the street to his friends.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

I didn't come out until very late in life. There was nobody to--

34 INT. FLASH FORWARD - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL

HARVEY MILK

--look up to, no hope for a better life. Those that did were outcast... arrested.. suicide. And the young ones, who did escape home... and who arrive in San Francisco, and then what...

35 EXT. CHURCH STREET - EVENING

BAG.
ANGLE ON: PARAMEDICS placing a BLOODY VICTIM into a BODY

COP

The "fruit" was walking home with his "trick" when they were jumped.

REVEAL: Harvey picks a blood stained whistle up off the street, the man's last attempt to call for help.

COP (CONT'D)

(from the victim's wallet)
Name's Robert Hillsborough. Did you know him?

HARVEY MILK

He used to come into my shop. Are there any witnesses?

COP

Just the "trick." Jerry Taylor.

HARVEY MILK

Jerry wasn't a trick. They were lovers.

COP

Call it what you will. He's our only witness and he says he can't

identify the attackers.

21.

HARVEY MILK

There'd be a dozen witnesses if they thought you boys had any real interest in keeping them safe.

COP

You're the Mayor of Castro Street now, right Harvey? You really wanna help? Get your people to show some discretion on the streets, huh?

HARVEY'S POV: The PARAMEDICS pull up the zipper on the body bag. We follow the zipper past the victim's bloody hands,

his

torso, his face.

36 INT. CASTRO CAMERA - DAY

CLOSE ON: A CUSTOMER'S SET OF PHOTOS BEING PASSED FROM HAND TO HAND DURING THE FOLLOWING POLITICAL MEETING. (We catch a glimpse of the PHOTOS and see naked skin).

JIM RIVALDO

Well, it looks like the big guns and the rich gays in San Francisco are going to back Dianne Feinstein and other straight candidates they consider "gay-friendly."

SCOTT SMITH

Who cares about those old queens? Scott is laying down on THE BIG RED COUCH.

HARVEY MILK

Why isn't my campaign manager leading the meeting?

SCOTT SMITH

I'm beat, Harvey. I passed out flyers for seven hours straight.

HARVEY MILK

In the bathhouse?

SCOTT SMITH

(giving it right back)

People in bathhouses vote. I'm tired. I'm taking a nap.

Scott heads up the stairs to their apartment.

A CUSTOMER comes in. Danny quickly gathers the REVEALING PHOTOS and puts them back in the envelope.

22.

HARVEY MILK

Just checking the exposure. That a new boyfriend? He's very cute.

CUSTOMER

(taking the photos, embarrassed)

Um... Thanks, Harvey.

HARVEY MILK

(to Jim)

So who are these so-called "gay leaders?" And who appointed them? And what are you suggesting, Jim, that I'm supposed to go and solicit their endorsement?

opening PAST HARVEY WE SEE A GRANDMOTHERLY VOLUNTEER, THELMA, the mail, casually reading a letter, then rising and approaching Harvey.

THELMA

HARVEY--

HARVEY MILK

We're down here, on the streets, trying to help people, so where they hell are they?

DICK PABICH

David Goodstein is the publisher of
The Advocate and he has a house--

JIM RIVALDO

A mansion--

DICK PABICH

--in Atherton.

THELMA

(clearly shaken)

Harvey, you should read this.

CLOSE ON THE LETTER as it goes from Thelma to Harvey.

37 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT / KITCHEN - LATER

Scott reads the LETTER. Harvey sits VERY STILL.

SCOTT SMITH

"Harvey Milk will have a dream
journey and nightmare to hell, a
night of horror. You will be
stabbed and have your genitals,
cock, balls, prick cut off."

(MORE)

23.

SCOTT SMITH (CONT'D)

(BEAT)

I'm calling the police.

HARVEY MILK

They probably wrote it.

(off Scott's anxiety)

Hey, If somebody tries to kill me,
I'll get the sympathy vote, right?
Could be just the push we need.

SCOTT SMITH

You think this is funny?

Look at it.

Reluctantly, Harvey takes the letter from Scott.

HARVEY MILK

It's a complete joke. No rhythm. No humor. It's insulting.

CLOSE ON THE LETTER: Someone has drawn a STICK FIGURE of Harvey being tortured - bullets, knives, fire, etc. Harvey makes a DECISION: He sticks the DRAWING to the refrigerator, the first thing he'll see in the morning.

SCOTT SMITH

Don't do that.

HARVEY MILK

If you put it away, hide it in a drawer, it'll just get bigger and scarier. Now it's there. We'll see it every day. It can't get us.

SCOTT SMITH

All this energy... to make yourself a target. And what for? Something we have no chance to win. Harvey wraps his arms around him.

HARVEY MILK

I keep telling you, it's not just about winning.

38 EXT. DAVID GOODSTEIN'S MANSION - DAY

Harvey, in his work boots and jeans, watches as a LARGE GATE SLIDES OPEN allowing his entry. Scott, even scruffier looking than Harvey, stands next to him.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

The "top gays" in San Francisco were David Goodstein and his lawyer sidekick Rick Stokes. David was a

(MORE)

HARVEY MILK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

rich old queen who'd bought the biggest gay magazine, The Advocate. He had it delivered to subscribers in brown paper bags so no-one would know... That's how he lived his life, covered up, discreet.

Harvey and Scott are shown to the pool area by a HOUSE BOY. Statues and potted plants and expensive marble. Everything shouts "GOOD TASTE!"

Scott strips off his clothes and DIVES INTO THE POOL.

40 EXT. GOODSTEIN'S POOL - LATER

Harvey has lunch with the "gay establishment": DAVID GOODSTEIN, 58, gold and turquoise jewelry, and Goodstein's protégé, RICK STOKES, 45, reserved.

Rick can't keep his eyes off naked Scott in the pool.

DAVID GOODSTEIN

I worked for a financial institution. I was very discreet. But someone spotted me at the opera, sitting in a box, next to my lover. And I was fired. That's when I decided to do something. So I bought The Advocate. And I use my money and my influence in quiet ways, to do what I can...

HARVEY MILK

Endorsing straight candidates is what you think is best to help us?

DAVID GOODSTEIN

Yes, if they're friendly to our cause.

RICK STOKES

(DEFENSIVE)

Politics is complicated in San Francisco, and Supervisor is a citywide office. Political alliances need to be built. You can't simply move here from across the country and run for office.

HARVEY MILK

But I am running for office. I'm on the ballot. I have the union rank

and file, the seniors, and I could use your magazine's endorsement.

25.

DAVID GOODSTEIN

Harvey, we're like the Catholic church. We welcome converts, but we don't make them Pope the same day.

HARVEY MILK

And why haven't you run?

DAVID GOODSTEIN

It's too early for a gay candidate for Supervisor. Especially one from the Castro. It's bad for the community's image.

and
Scott climbs out of the pool and sits at the table, naked sopping wet.

SCOTT SMITH

What's wrong with the Castro?

DAVID GOODSTEIN

Nobody works there. It's all sex and drugs and more sex and no one taking responsibility for their own problems.

HARVEY MILK

The cops come into our neighborhood and beat us. They turn a blind eye if one of us is murdered.

RICK STOKES

Then we file a lawsuit against the city. We go to our political allies in City Hall...

HARVEY MILK

There are no real gay allies. Yes, our friends may sense our struggle,

but they can't feel it. It's not
life or death for them. We need our
own in office.

RICK STOKES

You can't demand acceptance overnight.

HARVEY MILK

Why not? How can we ask them to
respect us if we don't show
ourselves some self respect, David.

26.

DAVID GOODSTEIN

The more "out" you make us, the
more you incite them. Step back and
quiet down.

HARVEY MILK

Go back into the closet? Is that
what you're saying? Because I know
the closet. I lived in it for more
years than I care to remember.

(rising to go)

I don't need your endorsement. I'm
not asking anyone for acceptance.
I don't have time to ask.

DAVID GOODSTEIN

For you, politics is a game, a
lark. Like putting on a rock
festival or staging a "love-in."
You're too old to be a hippie,
Harvey Milk!
Harvey turns around, ready for a fight.

HARVEY MILK

I'm not a candidate, I'm part of a
movement. The movement is the
candidate. There's a difference. You
don't see the difference. But I do.

SCOTT SMITH

(getting Harvey out)
Thanks for the swim. I'm sorry I
pissed in your pool.

41 EXT. THE CASTRO - ELECTION DAY

A SLOW MOTION MONTAGE OF: the citizens of the Castro are
turning out to vote. Young, old, gay, straight... but a
weight hangs over the day.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

When the vote came in on election
day... out of 32 candidates vying
for 6 seats... We came in 10th.
Just a handful short of being the
first big eared, gay as a three-
dollar-bill, cock sucker ever
elected to public office.

27.

**42 INT. FLASH FORWARD - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL -
NIGHT**

HARVEY MILK

So... I went for it again in '75...
with just a few... minor...
adjustments.

43 INT. SECOND HAND STORE IN THE CASTRO - DAY

CLOSE ON: Harvey looking through a hole in the bottom of a
pair of well worn wing-tips. He tries them on anyhow.
JUMP TO: Harvey steps out of a dressing room in a brown
suit.
a
His hair is cut short, his face is shaven clean. It's quite
a
transformation. Scott and the old owner, LILY, size him up.

SCOTT SMITH

No. Not cute. The shoes are hideous
and I hate your hair. You're not
fooling anybody.

stubs

HARVEY MILK

I'm not gonna let the Pacific Heights biddies write me off again because of a ponytail. I like it. Scott is horrified. Harvey pulls a pair of movie ticket from its inner pocket.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Cabaret? For two? Lily, is this from one of my kind?

LILY

No, no. You won't run into the owner. He died in that suit.

SCOTT SMITH

This isn't sexy, Harvey. Harvey grabs Scott, kisses him. Then playful:

HARVEY MILK

Too bad. No more pot, no more bath houses for me and little poo.

44 INT/EXT. CASTRO CAMERA - DAY

MONTAGE: More ACTIVITY inside and outside the shop. More VOLUNTEERS. The printing press burns through flyers.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

We ran and we lost the Supervisors race a second time in '75, but with

(MORE)

28.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

more votes than ever. So in 1976, against everyone's advice, I really pissed off the Democratic political power houses, because I ran against "their boy"--

A SIGN GOES IN THE SHOP WINDOW "HARVEY MILK VS. THE MACHINE."

HARVEY MILK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

--Art Agnos, a part of their "Political Machine." And this time we weren't running for City Supervisor. This time it was bigger, California State Assembly.

50 INT. HASTINGS COLLEGE OF LAW / CANDIDATE DEBATE - NIGHT

It's a firestorm of words as Harvey debates Art Agnos.

HARVEY MILK

It's a racket. It's 1976 and you still have to be straight, white, Catholic and male to get into the San Francisco police force. It's Racist. Homophobic.

ART AGNOS

How many people do you consider enemies, Harvey? I've counted five already.

Art smiles. Chuckles flutter through the audience.

HARVEY MILK

You're right, Art. And many are your closest friends. You see, I don't think State Assembly seats should be awarded on the basis of service to the Democrat Machine. Machines operate on oil and grease. They're dirty, dehumanizing, and too often unresponsive to any needs but those of the operator.

ART AGNOS

Mr. Milk, I've worked for years as a social worker in this city. I know Sacramento. I know how to get done what we all need done there.

HARVEY MILK

Tell me Mr. Agnos... right here in the Castro, Robert Hillsbrough was murdered for walking home with his long time partner. Stabbed,

(MORE)

29.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

fifteen times. The last words he heard were "Faggot, Faggot, Faggot..." And you say you're outraged, but why won't your liberal establishment return our calls? Why won't they bring these murderers to justice?

51 EXT. HASTINGS COLLEGE OF LAW - LATER

Art Agnos puts his arm around Harvey as they walk out.

ART AGNOS

You know Harv', your whole rap's a real downer.

HARVEY MILK

My God, you're handsome up close. I can't tell you how much I'm looking forward to licking you... in the polls.

ART AGNOS

(LAUGHS)

You talk a lot about what you're against. What are you for? In this town, you gotta give em' a reason for optimism or you're cooked.

Art gets into his car and goes. Harvey has no car. He stops and PONDERs ART'S WORDS... They stick with him.

51A INT. HARVEY'S AND SCOTT'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Scott tries to make a simple meal of pasta, struggling to operate in the kitchen that is filled with Harvey's

POLITICAL

ENTOURAGE and VOLUNTEERS.

He finds Harvey, Jim, and Dick having an impromptu strategy meeting in the adjoining bedroom.

SCOTT SMITH

Harvey. Dinner.

HARVEY

... get some union boys in the audience, they love me...

JIM RIVALDO

I can't control who's in the audience...

SCOTT SMITH

Harvey, you need to eat something. Now.

30.

Scott steps back into the kitchen.

SCOTT SMITH (CONT'D)

Ladies and Gentlemen. Our apartment is officially off limits.

CHASES the VOLUNTEERS out of the kitchen, out of his bedroom... down the stairs...

SCOTT SMITH (CONT'D)

Downstairs. Time to go. Go. OUT!
Harvey emerges, about to intervene.

SCOTT SMITH (CONT'D)

Don't say anything.
For once, Harvey keeps his mouth shut. Jim and Dick sneak past Scott, sheepishly. When Scott and Harvey are alone...

SCOTT SMITH (CONT'D)

Sit down and eat.
Harvey and Scott eat dinner in tense silence.

HARVEY

SCOTTIE--

SCOTT

If you say one thing about politics

or your campaign or where you're speaking tonight or whose endorsement you need... I'll stab you with my fork I swear to God.

HARVEY

I just wanted to say... This is the most delicious meal I've ever eaten in my entire life.

Harvey gives a warm smile. Scott gives a laugh, but he looks like he's about to lose it.

HARVEY MILK

If we lose this one, it'll be just me and you again. I promise.

Scott nods. That's exactly what he needed to hear.

52 EXT. THE CASTRO - NIGHT

Harvey walks Castro's streets alone, toward his apartment.

31.

and
A CAR PULLS UP BEHIND HARVEY. A MAN jumps out of the car,
the driver speeds around the block. Harvey turns a corner.
The man follows. Harvey picks up his pace. He searches his
shop,
pockets for a whistle, a weapon, and beelines it to his
his nerves are failing him.
He gets to the doorway of his camera store, and runs face
first into: CLEVE JONES. He's not the feisty young kid he
met
on the street earlier. He's been sitting on Harvey's steps,
waiting with wet eyes.

HARVEY MILK

Phoenix?

(off Cleve's smile)

We should go inside.

They do. Harvey locks the door behind them.

53 INT. CASTRO CAMERA - LATER

Harvey pours two cups of coffee, and delivers one to Cleve

who is pulled away on the big red couch.

CLEVE JONES

You staying up with me?

HARVEY MILK

The election's tomorrow. I won't sleep... Was he good looking?

CLEVE JONES

No. He was hideous.

HARVEY MILK

Hard to tell what's worse. With me, my boyfriends usually find better looking ones to cheat with.

CLEVE JONES

I thought we were gonna spend the rest of our lives together.

HARVEY MILK

Guess what, Cleve Jones.

CLEVE JONES

What?

HARVEY MILK

You're going to meet the most extraordinary men, the sexiest, brightest, funniest men, and you're going to fall in love with so many of them, and you won't know until

(MORE)

32.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

the end of your life who your greatest friends were or your greatest love was.

CLEVE JONES

Is that supposed to help?

HARVEY MILK

Maybe a little. Or not.

CLEVE JONES

I went to Spain last month... long story. In Barcelona, there was this memorial march for gay people who died under Franco. The police tried to break it up. It started a riot. A bullet ripped through a drag queens scalp, his wig flew off, but he kept fighting. There was blood literally running in the gutter.

HARVEY MILK

We could have a revolution here too. But you can't just use the Castro to cruise. You gotta fight.

CLEVE JONES

You think you'll win?

HARVEY MILK

Winning isn't my strong suit.

CLEVE JONES

(BRAVADO)

Well, I don't "do" losing. Ever. Maybe I should run for office, and you can work for me.
(off Harvey's laugh)
If you can do it, I can do it.

HARVEY MILK

Can you assemble a thousand people in an hour?

CLEVE JONES

Yeah, sure.

HARVEY MILK

All right, if I run again, you're my man.

CLEVE JONES

If...?

33.

HARVEY MILK

Polls open in 3 hours. Lets hit the bus stops.

54 EXT. SAN FRANCISCO - DAY

Harvey is on the back of a motorcycle. The driver heads up Market Street. Folks stand in voting lines, flags outside of polling places. City Hall's tall dome grows nearer.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

And we lost that Assembly Race too, which made me a bona fide three-time, political loser.

55 INT. CASTRO CAMERA - NIGHT

CLOSE ON THE TV SET PLAYING A 1970's ORANGE JUICE COMMERCIAL featuring runner up to Miss America, ANITA BRYANT.

ANITA BRYANT (SINGING ON TV)

"Come to the Florida sunshine tree,
great tasting orange juice
naturally, orange juice with lots
of vitamin c, from the Florida
sunshine tree."

Harvey is alone in the shop, surrounded by remnants of a celebration party that never happened.
Jim Rivaldo lets himself into the store. Jim has his maps rolled up under his arm.

JIM RIVALDO

(trying to cheer up Harvey)
We lost, but we lost by less! More
votes than ever...

(Harvey fake grins)

I remember when that used to work.
I want to show you something. This
is remarkable.

Jim starts laying out his trusty MAPS, color coded with precinct results from that night.

JIM RIVALDO (CONT'D)

The red is where you did best

tonight. If we can get the initiative on district elections to pass, and we can -- we can -- our new Supervisor's District will go right up Market. Right around the Castro.

34.

The district Jim outlines is ALL BRIGHT RED.

JIM RIVALDO (CONT'D)

If you run for Supervisor with this new district, it's a potential landslide. You'll be the first up-front gay man elected to major office in the U.S.

HARVEY MILK

I don't know if I have another one in me. Or Scott.

But Harvey's gaze deceives his words. HOLD ON HARVEY - contemplating a FOURTH run for office.

56 INT. CASTRO CAMERA - EVENING

The GROUP gathers around the TV WHICH SHOWS NATIONWIDE NEWS CLIPS OF ANITA BRYANT celebrating her election victory in Florida (overturning a pro-gay statute).

A CHYRON READS: "Landslide defeat for Florida Gay Rights Law."

ANITA BRYANT (ON TV)

Tonight the laws of God and the cultural values of man have been vindicated. The people of Dade county, the normal majority, have said enough, enough, enough.

57 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - THE SAME NIGHT

ON THE TV: A REPORT ABOUT ANITA BRYANT'S VICTORY IN FLORIDA.

TV REPORTER

Gays in Florida can now be removed from their jobs and prosecuted if their "deviant" lifestyles are uncovered.

HARVEY'S POV OUT A WINDOW: FURIOUS GAYS pour out of the bars BLOWING WHISTLES, raising TRASH CANS... It might turn into a

RIOT.

ANITA BRYANT (ON TV)

Gays can't reproduce, so they must recruit young people into their lifestyle...

TV REPORTER

Bryant, a spokeswoman for the orange juice industry, vowed to

(MORE)

35.

TV REPORTER (CONT'D)

bring her campaign to the rest of the country...

Harvey's PHONE RINGS. He snatches it up.

HARVEY MILK

Scottie?

BOY'S VOICE

I'm sorry sir. I um... I read about you in the paper.

HARVEY MILK

I'm sorry. I can't talk right--

BOY'S VOICE

Sir, I think I want to kill myself.

HARVEY MILK

No. You don't want to do that.

(BEAT)

Where do you live?

BOY'S VOICE

In Minnesota.

HARVEY MILK

You saw me in a paper in Minnesota?
How'd I look?

BOY'S VOICE

My folks are taking me to this place
tomorrow. A hospital. To fix me.

HARVEY MILK

There's nothing wrong with you.
Listen to me. You don't have to
hurt yourself, okay? Are you there?
(only breathing from the
other end)
Here's what you have to do. Are you
listening?

BOY'S VOICE

Yes.

HARVEY MILK

Get on a bus. Go to the next
biggest city. New York, San
Francisco, LA, or even Minneapolis.
It doesn't matter. Just leave.
(off the boy's tears)
You won't be alone. There are
people out here just like you who
will welcome you and love you.

(MORE)

36.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

You're not sick. You're not wrong.
God does not hate you. Just leave.

BOY'S VOICE

I can't.

HARVEY MILK

Yes. You can. Just get on a bus.

BOY'S VOICE

I can't... I can't walk, sir. I'm
in a wheelchair... Sir. Are you
there?

Harvey FORCES HIMSELF TO SOUND CALM...

HARVEY MILK

That's okay. It's going to be okay.

Over the phone, Harvey hears the SOUND OF AN ADULT VOICE,
someone finding the BOY on the phone, then...

The LINE goes DEAD. It's all too much for Harvey. There's
nothing a speech or a pep talk can do to fix this. Harvey is
overwhelmed. Dick comes upstairs.

DICK PABICH

Harvey, you better come down.

There's gonna be a riot.

Moving in a daze, stunned by the call, Harvey digs out A
BULLHORN and heads out.

58 INT. CASTRO CAMERA - SAME

From inside, SCOTT WATCHES HIS LOVER JUMPING BACK IN THE
FREY. A weight hangs. He doesn't follow...

58B INT. CASTRO STREET BAR - NIGHT

Cleve RUSHES into the bar (ON FIRE WITH RIGHTEOUS FURY) and
BLOWS A POLICE WHISTLE to get everyone's attention.

CLEVE JONES

Out of the bar and into the
streets! Anita Bryant is coming
after you!

59 EXT. CASTRO AND MARKET STREET - NIGHT

Angry young men mill around the streets, their rage
building.

Someone TOSSES a trash can and it ROLLS.

A POLICEMAN in riot gear comes up to Harvey.

37.

POLICEMAN

If you can't control em', we will.

HARVEY MILK

Give me permission to march them.

POLICEMAN

Where?

HARVEY MILK

Anywhere.

60 EXT. CASTRO AND MARKET STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Surrounded by the massive crowd, HARVEY CLIMBS THE LARGE BOX that covers the subway construction at Market and Castro. It's a stage of sorts. Harvey lifts his bullhorn to his

lips.

HARVEY MILK

I know you are angry. I am angry.
Follow me through the streets of
San Francisco to share our anger!
Harvey jumps down and begins walking, not sure if the mob
will follow. Finally, they do. Cleve catches up.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Are they following in back?

CLEVE JONES

Yes. Where are we going?

HARVEY MILK

I don't know.
(off Cleve's concern)
We have to keep them moving.
Exhaust them. March them till they
drop. We can't have a riot tonight.
Harvey LIFTS THE BULLHORN. He starts a marching chant. The
crowd starts following along.
JUMP TO: Gays glare at cops. Cops beat their nightsticks
against their chests and power poles. Anger burns as Harvey
marches the mob toward City Hall. Dick and Jim catch up.

DICK PABICH

They're still too hot in back.
They'll burn the joint down.

HARVEY MILK

Help me turn them up Van Ness.
We'll go all the way to Broadway.

38.

Dick heads back to try and wrangle the crowd. Harvey continues marching.

61 EXT. CITY HALL - LATER THAT NIGHT

Harvey arrives, the crowd still hot. Cops beat their nightsticks against their shields. Some jab protesters, trying to incite a fight. Anger burns. Harvey climbs the steps, his stage. He lifts his bullhorn.

HARVEY MILK

My name is Harvey Milk... And I
want to recruit you.
The CROWD ROARS APPROVAL.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

I am here tonight to say, we will
no longer sit quietly in our
closets. We must fight. Not just in
the Castro, or San Francisco, but
everywhere the Anitas go. Anita
Bryant did not win tonight. Anita
Bryant has brought us together...
She is going to create a national
gay force!

(The crowd ROARS)

And the young people in Richmond,
Minnesota, or Jackson, Mississippi,
or Woodmere, New York... Who are
coming out and hearing Anita Bryant
on television telling them that
they're wrong, they're sick, that
there is no place for them in this
great country, in this world...
They're looking to us for something
tonight...

(his big moment, realizing
his true mission)

And I say, we have to give them
hope!
The CROWD goes WILD. HARVEY'S SPEECH CROSSES THE CUT TO...

63 INT. COMMUNITY CENTER - NIGHT

Harvey speaks to the "PARENT-TEACHERS UNITED FOR BETTER
SCHOOLS" group.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

--Hope for a better world... Hope
for a better tomorrow... Hope for a

(MORE)

39.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

better place to come to if the
pressures at home are too great...

64 INT. UNION HALL - NIGHT

Harvey speaks to a hall filled with TEAMSTERS.

HARVEY MILK

Hope for the worker who awakens
from the American dream to find
that all the jobs have left the
country... We gotta give em' HOPE!

PAN FACES OF TEAMSTERS - Several MINORITY FACES. CLOSE ON

ALLAN BAIRD (UNION LEADER OF THE COORS BEER BOYCOTT). HE

STARTS TO APPLAUD. OTHERS JOIN IN.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

(pre-lap, an intimate tone)
When San Francisco changed the
voting rules--

65 INT. FLASH FORWARD - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL -

NIGHT

Harvey is still speaking into the tape recorder...

HARVEY MILK

--they allowed people to elect Supervisors directly from their own neighborhoods. A black neighborhood could elect an African-American. Chinatown could elect a Chinese Supervisor... And the Castro could choose me or Rick Stokes. But decent art begs for balance, right? So little district 8, two miles south of The Castro--

66 EXT. DISTRICT 8 - DAN WHITE'S NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

CAMERA MOVES ALONG THE STREET catching glimpses of churches, shops and tidy houses.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

--promised to stay the same as ever. Conservative, Irish, Catholic and with just the right touch of poetry, they found themselves a handsome ex-cop.

67 INT. S.F. FIRE STATION 1977 - DAY

DAN WHITE holds a small press conference. His words are fiery, but his delivery and stage presence are lacking.

40.

DAN WHITE

I'm not going to be forced out of San Francisco by splinter groups of social radicals, social deviants, and incorrigibles. You must realize there are thousands upon thousands of frustrated, angry people such as yourselves waiting to unleash a fury that will eradicate the malignancies which blight our beautiful city.

68 INT. HARVEY MILK'S APARTMENT - DAY

from Harvey's suit is laid out. A record turns. Wagner blasts the windows. Scott is folding his clothes into a box.

HARVEY MILK

Evelyn Lear's in town, at the Opera house in Tannhauser.

SCOTT SMITH

Clearly.

HARVEY MILK

What if she strolls into the Castro for a cocktail?
(Scott keeps packing)
Just one more. We can't let Rick Stokes take it.

SCOTT SMITH

Let Rick have it. Nobody thinks you're a fraud here, Harvey. You're not in New York, you're not a closet case asshole anymore. People respect you here. Relax for a year. Get us back on our feet.

HARVEY MILK

If people are ever going to take me seriously, I have to win this one.

SCOTT SMITH

Since when did you care if anyone took you seriously?

HARVEY MILK

Anita wants to put us all back in concentration camps. Rick Stokes is too weak to beat her back if she gets to California. I have to be in office to protect us from them.

41.

SCOTT SMITH

I can't do another one.

(Harvey says nothing)

I'll be back for my sheets. If you're not here, I'll see you in the shop next week.

Scott picks up his box of clothes and starts out of the apartment. Harvey, not meaning a word:

HARVEY MILK

If you leave me right now... I can find someone new.

SCOTT SMITH

I know. You're a catch.

Scott leaves. Harvey is in shock, unable to comprehend the loss. Unable/unwilling to reverse the choice he's made.

69 INT. CASTRO CAMERA - DAY

The ENTOURAGE is completely caught up in the new campaign (Cleve, Jim, Dick, and newcomer MICHAEL WONG, 23, asexual

and

devoutly political). Harvey is RANTING, ripping down an Assembly campaign poster.

HARVEY MILK

--Ring out the old, ring in the new. This is over. Done. I don't want to see anything that say's fucking Assembly. This three-time loser faggot is running for Supervisor goddamn it!

ANNE KRONENBERG, 23, parks her motorcycle outside, WALKS

INTO

THE CAMERA SHOP, and plants herself behind HARVEY'S DESK. Cleve, Mike, Jim and Dick are STARING at Anne.

JIM RIVALDO

Who the heck is she?

HARVEY MILK

(suddenly cool)

Our new campaign manager. She called last week to volunteer and I asked her to help.

DICK PABICH

Help or take over? What about Scott?

HARVEY MILK

We need new blood.
(introducing them)

(MORE)

42.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Guys... Anne Kronenberg.
(Off their puzzled looks)
She's a woman... A woman who likes
women. Odd, isn't it?

ANNE KRONENBERG

Hi guys. Mr. Milk... Rick Stokes
isn't pulling out. He's officially
filed to run against you. My friend
at The Advocate says David
Goodstein is backing him.

MICHAEL WONG

A gay candidate against a gay
candidate. It's unfortunate.

JIM RIVALDO

They'll split the gay vote. The
straights will divide and conquer.

HARVEY MILK

Try to find out when they're going
to announce.

DICK PABICH

You replaced Scott with a lesbian?

HARVEY MILK

Anne worked on a recycling campaign
up North. She's very organized.

JIM RIVALDO

How do you know she's not a plant
from Rick Stokes' campaign?

ANNE KRONENBERG

Are you guys always this paranoid?

MICHAEL WONG

Yes. They take after Harvey.

HARVEY MILK

Shouldn't you be doing someone's laundry?

MICHAEL WONG

Right after you redecorate my house.

ANNE KRONENBERG

(pointed at Jim Rivaldo)

Sir, my girlfriends say you guys don't like women. Just asking, is there a place for us in all this, or are you scared of girls?

43.

HARVEY MILK

Gentleman, we already have a tinker bell, a lotus-blossom, Jim and Dick in your three-piece suits. We need someone to manage things. A woman this time. She's the right price, and she has bigger balls than any of you.

ANNE KRONENBERG

Just give me whatever's left over in the register at the end of the day. So should I call the Chronicle about getting US an endorsement? No? OFF the group of misfits, considering the addition.

69B INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE A LECTURE HALL - NIGHT

PAN OFF: a large "RICK STOKES, SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 5" poster to reveal Anne Kronenberg outside the hall handing "MILK" signs to a long line of gathering women and lesbians who are filing in.

Flanked by a PEEVED AID, Rick Stokes rushes out of the

lecture hall and confronts Anne.

RICK STOKES

Young lady, you must be confused.
This is my night, not Mr. Milk's.

ANNE KRONENBERG

(as pleasant as can be)
No, sir. I'm Harvey's new campaign
manager. Anne Kronenberg.

RICK STOKES

Then you should know this race is
for District 5, the Castro, not for
all of your lesbian... compadres--
A tough lesbian kisses Anne and stares Rick down as she

heads

in. Rick looks uncomfortable around all these women.

ANNE KRONENBERG

I'm sorry. Are we distracting you,
Mr. Stokes? I'd hate to screw you
up on your big night.
Dick runs up looking for more fliers. Taking Rick even more
off his game, Dick is flirtatious.

DICK PABICH

Hi Rick, handsome suit. Annie, do
you have any more hand cards?

44.

RICK STOKES

These people are not from this
area. They need to leave. Now.

DICK PABICH

Not true. Guess where we found them
all, Rick? A slew of them. Way up
on Valencia Street. Living right
there in our district. And you see,
as it turns out, Annie here is
very, very popular with the ladies.
Dick puts his arm around Anne. Rick is stupefied.

70 EXT. SF STREET - DAY

Dozens of supporters hold "MILK for Supervisor" signs in a long line along Market St. waving to commuters. Anne walks the long line, handing out new signs to arriving volunteers. Harvey is handing out FLYERS. He is exhausted, his throat is RAW. The campaign is nearly over.

A WEIRD MOMENT: A BOY walks up to Harvey and hands him a flier. ALL SOUND GOES DEAD ON THE SOUNDTRACK as HARVEY'S

EYES

lock into the BOY'S EYES.

Harvey reads the FLIER: "Unite and Fight for Dan White." Harvey looks back to pat the BOY'S head, but he's gone. He looks to the sidewalk for the kid... a parent... nothing...

71 INT. CASTRO CAMERA - NIGHT

Harvey is still looking at the flier. Anne is leaving with a stack of SF Chronicles. Cleve comes in, pulls one off her stack, and looks for "the article."

HARVEY MILK

They've accused me of many things,
but never as blatant a lie as this.

ANNE KRONENBERG

First ever newspaper endorsement.

CLEVE JONES

(reading the article)
They endorsed you for being a good
businessman? Has Scott read this?
He'll piss himself.

HARVEY MILK

Yeah? Go show him.
(Cleve starts to go)

(MORE)

45.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Cleve, maybe you should go find a boy to celebrate with. Just in case.

CLEVE JONES

I'm going to The Stud. Meet me out.
Cleve goes. His energy is boundless. Harvey sits alone watching the bargoers return home through his front window.

A

bitter-sweetness lingers. A couple waves, one shouts out:

GAY MAN

Gonna win this time, Milk?
They walk on, not waiting for an answer.
Then, a drunk, cute, Latino, JACK LIRA, 25, stops. He stares in at the political ads in the window. Harvey watches him sway drunk out of his mind, waiting for him to fall. The two make eye contact. Harvey smiles. Jack tries to. Harvey picks up a folding chair and walks it out to him.

JACK LIRA

(re: poster in the window)
You're more handsome in the posters.

HARVEY MILK

Thank you. Where do you live?

JACK LIRA

(too drunk to hear, flirting)
...Palomino's are my favorite horse. They're smart. They're fast and compact. Do you think I'm more like a Palomino or a Stallion?
Jack smiles, out of his mind. Then he sits/falls down into the chair, and slides off. Harvey stands above the passed

out

young man. A newcomer. A wounded bird. Perfect.

72 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Completely nude, Jack plays a tantalizing game of seduction, allowing Harvey to hold him, then wriggling away... Dancing against Harvey then BITING his shoulder... LYING on the bed, then ROLLING away when Harvey tries to hold him...
No TALK. No POLITICS. Just SEX. A perfect RELEASE for Harvey.

73 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - LATER THAT NIGHT

Harvey holds Jack after lovemaking.

46.

JACK LIRA

My father beat me when he found out... So I came here. I stay in this man's house. But I don't like him.

HARVEY

Shh, it's okay, now. No one's ever going to beat you again.
A long, comforting beat between them.

JACK LIRA

I love you.

HARVEY

(smiles, playful)
Do you even remember my name?
(a beat, Jack shakes his head, he can't remember)
Harvey.

JACK LIRA

I love you, Harvey.

74 INT. VOTING BOOTH - DAY

HARVEY stands in a voting booth. He goes down the list of names. He finally punches the one next to "HARVEY MILK" District 5, and pulls the lever. The chads fall.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

And for the first time in my life,
it all came together... the union
boys, the women, the seniors, the
minorities... All of the us's
showed up...

75 EXT. CASTRO CAMERA - ELECTION NIGHT

the
TV lights blast Castro Camera. A raucous crowd pours into
streets to greet the roar of motorcycles. Anne pulls up with
the Sheriff on back. Harvey is passenger on a second bike.

HARVEY IS VICTORIOUS! He is instantly swarmed.

76 INT. CASTRO CAMERA - LATER

The Shop is packed. It's a giant celebration party. Anne and Cleve are working the door. SCOTT SMITH WATCHES FROM THE CROWD OUTSIDE THE SHOP as Rick Stokes and David Goodstein

try

to get in.

RICK STOKES

We just want to congratulate him.

47.

CLEVE JONES

I'm sorry. We're all full.

DAVID GOODSTEIN

(seeing Harvey inside)
Harvey! Harvey!

HARVEY MILK

It's too crowded. Sorry!
JACK LIRA shoves his way toward the door...

JACK LIRA

Harvey!
Harvey PULLS JACK INSIDE, right past Goodstein and Stokes.
Harvey CATCHES A GLIMPSE OF SCOTT OUTSIDE...

HARVEY MILK

Scottie--?
But Scott fades into the CROWD. Harvey (with Jack at his side) is pulled back into the party.

CLEVE JONES

(eyeing Jack skeptically)
The new Mrs. Milk. I give it a week.

JACK LIRA

(the crowd)
Harvey, is this all for you? Are

you this famous?

HARVEY MILK

No, darling. We do this all the time. Do you like it?
Jim is calling out NAMES of the OTHER WINNERS.

JIM RIVALDO

Carol Ruth Silver... Gordon Lau...
It's the most liberal Board in years!

HARVEY MILK

What about Dan White? Did he win?

JIM RIVALDO

(YES)

We'll deal with him tomorrow.
Harvey is DOUSED with champagne.

48.

JUMP TO: Harvey is interviewed by a TV REPORTER. Jack squeezes his way under Harvey's arm and into the picture.

CHANNEL 5 REPORTER

Does this mean, as many straights are concerned, maybe the gays are taking over San Francisco? Are you going to be a Supervisor for all the people?

HARVEY MILK

I have to be. That's what I was elected for. I have to be there to open up the dialogue for the sensitivities of all people, all their problems, the problems that effect this city effect all of us.
(toasts the camera)
Thank you San Francisco! Thank you!

77 EXT. MARKET STREET MONTAGE - DAY - JAN 1978

SET TO MUSIC: In his old brown suit, Harvey walks to City Hall with a crowd of supporters. The familiar faces now include Jack Lira.

78 EXT. CITY HALL - DAY

On City Hall's steps, Mayor Moscone swears in HARVEY.

HARVEY MILK

I, Harvey Milk, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter and during such time as I hold the office of Supervisor, City and County of San Francisco.

Bulbs FLASH. A light rain begins to fall. Umbrellas go up.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Anita Bryant said gay people brought the drought to California. Looks to me like it's finally started raining!
Cheers. Harvey is emboldened.

49.

79 INT. SCOTT'S APARTMENT / TV SET - MORNING

show Off a TV in Scott's NEW APARTMENT, we see a S.F. Morning featuring new Supervisors, Harvey Milk and Dan White.

HOST (ON TV)

This will be the first time in many years that we've seen so many new faces on the Board of Supervisors. Do you think such diversity will cripple the Board?

HARVEY MILK (ON TV)

The name of the game on the Board is six votes to get anything passed. So, like it or not, Dan and I are now in bed together... politically speaking.

THE CAMERA REVEALS SCOTT watching the program. He's been up all night.

DAN WHITE (ON TV)

I've assured Harvey here that my brochure's comments about "social deviants" referred more to junkies than to his people. See, I'm about to have my first child. I have to make sure this city remains a decent place to raise him.

80 INT. TELEVISION STATION - MOMENTS LATER

remove The segment over, sound assistants help Harvey and Dan their microphones. Harvey tries to draw Dan in:

HARVEY MILK

How long were you a fireman, Dan?

DAN WHITE

A couple of years.

HARVEY MILK

And before that... You were a police officer?

Dan studies Harvey suspiciously... What's his point?

DAN WHITE

You have something against cops?

HARVEY MILK

No. They tend to have something against me.

(MORE)

50.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

(seeing Dan react uncomfortably)
But firefighters. Now those are true
heroes... They supported me in the
last campaign. I support them fully.

DAN WHITE

I appreciate it.

HARVEY MILK

I meant what I said. I'd like to
work together.
Dan hesitantly accepts Harvey's handshake. It's a step.

DAN WHITE

(cracking a smile)
I'll see you at the office, Mr.
Milk.

81 INT. CITY HALL - DAY

Harvey goes through the metal detectors at the entrance and
finds Cleve in a NEW SUIT waiting for the elevator.

HARVEY MILK

What do you think of my new
theater?

CLEVE JONES

A bit over the top.

HARVEY MILK

What's with the suit?

CLEVE JONES

I got it from a friend.
Harvey leads Cleve from the elevator to the grand staircase.

HARVEY MILK

When you come here, I want you to
wear the tightest jeans possible.
Never blend in. And no elevators.
Ever. Always take the stairs, you
can make such a grand entrance
going up the stairs.

82 INT. CITY HALL / SUPERVISORS' OFFICES - MOMENTS LATER

Harvey leads Cleve down the hall of Supervisors' offices,
passing Dianne Feinstein's open door.

HARVEY MILK

And street talk only around
Feinstein. Shit, goddamn, fuck,

(MORE)

51.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

all that. It bugs the hell out of
her.

They arrive at his Lead Aide's desk: it's Anne Kronenberg.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Morning Annie, let's set Cleve up
on mail.

ANNE KRONENBERG

Will do.

HARVEY MILK

Come into my office...

83 INT. CITY HALL / HARVEY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Harvey walks in. Michael and Jim are in a strategy session.

HARVEY MILK

The first order of business that
will come out of this office is a
city wide Gay Rights Ordinance.
Just like the one Anita shot down
in Dade County. What do you think,
Lotus Blossom?

MICHAEL WONG

I think it's good. Not great.

HARVEY MILK

Then make it brilliant. I want
Anita's attention here. In San
Francisco. I want her to bring her
fight to US... This Bill needs a

unanimous vote. We need headlines.

JIM RIVALDO

Dan White won't vote for this.
Harvey puts his fingers to his lips and points down the

hall,

indicating Dan is down there. Harvey whispers:

HARVEY MILK

Dan's fine. He's just uneducated.
We can teach him.
Dan pops his head into Harvey's office.

DAN WHITE

Harvey, committee meets at 9:30.
Oh, hi Michael, Jim.
(to Harvey)
Hey, did you get the invitation to

(MORE)

52.

DAN WHITE (CONT'D)

my son's christening? I invited a
few of the other supes as well.

HARVEY MILK

I'll be there.

DAN WHITE

Great!
All smiles, Dan leaves. Cleve mocks him. OFF Mike Wong's
expression: THAT WAS BIZARRE.

ANNE KRONENBERG

Are you going?

HARVEY MILK

Hey. I'll let him christen me, if
he'll vote for my Gay Rights
Ordinance. We need allies. We need
everyone.

84 EXT. THE CASTRO - TWILIGHT

The neighborhood is booming. Storefronts and sidewalks filled. This is not the rundown Castro that Harvey moved into 3 years ago.

Harvey heads home, greeted by his PROUD CONSTITUENTS. He stops at the CAMERA SHOP when he notices a BROKEN WINDOW near the side entrance to his apartment.

85 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - TWILIGHT

Harvey RUSHES UP THE STAIRS into his apartment and finds:
set JACK LIRA - Lighting a candle on the table which has been
for a lovely, romantic dinner.

HARVEY

Jack?

JACK LIRA

Welcome home, Harvey! I hope you're hungry. I only know how to cook one thing, but I make it good.

HARVEY

Did you... break in?

JACK LIRA

I asked the boy downstairs to let me in...

HARVEY

Danny?

53.

JACK LIRA

He wouldn't let me in. So I came in this way. Your friends aren't very nice to me.

HARVEY

(avoiding the fight)
I have a Town Hall meeting tonight,

Jack.

JACK LIRA

You work too hard. I'm sorry about
your window. I'll fix it tomorrow.
(turning on the charm)
Are you surprised?!

HARVEY MILK

Jack, I have to go. I have an
invitation to a party tomorrow.
Lots of rich people, politicians.
We could get all dressed up...
Jack turns up the music, takes Harvey's hands and guides him
through a simple dance.

JACK LIRA

So I could be the first lady?

HARVEY MILK

Uh-huh.

JACK LIRA

I watched TV here today. All day. I
saw All My Children. They killed
Margo. I knew it was going to
happen. They try and trick you but
it never works.

HARVEY MILK

(enjoying this)
You always see it coming?

JACK LIRA

What? Killing the blonde? Every
time. I'm good with that.
(gets slow, sensual)
I think now the old lady is going
to have an affair. Then she'll get
killed or married. Always one or
the other. Dead or married.
Jack starts dancing with Harvey again. It's sweet, intimate.

HARVEY MILK

If I make you a key, you won't
break my windows again, right?

JACK LIRA

That's right.

The dance lesson is a lovely distraction. Harvey won't be
going back to work tonight.

86 INT. CATHOLIC CHURCH - DAY

Harvey watches water pour over an INFANT BOY. He tries hard
to feel comfortable, but he's the only Jew, and likely the
only gay man at Dan's child's baptism.
Dan looks to Harvey, the proud father. Harvey waves.

87 INT. CATHOLIC CHURCH - LATER

Harvey and Dan have pulled themselves away.

HARVEY MILK

I'm proposing a citywide ordinance.
It ensures that a person who
already has a job can't be fired
for their orientation.

DAN WHITE

I'm not sure my constituents would
favor that.
Dan looks over to his WIFE and NEWBORN SON.

HARVEY MILK

Is anyone else here from the Board?

DAN WHITE

You're the only one who showed up I
think.

HARVEY MILK

Were you christened here?

DAN WHITE

Yes. Right here. Same Parish. My
grandma immigrated here when this
was an Irish Catholic city. The
City of St. Francis... A lot's
changed here since then.

HARVEY MILK

You're more like one of us now...
an outsider.

55.

DAN WHITE

You're not like most homosexuals,
are you, Harvey?

HARVEY MILK

Do you know a lot of "homosexuals?"

DAN WHITE

(smiles, then)
Say, where do you stand on the
Psychiatric Center the City's been
pushing into my district?

HARVEY MILK

Well, I'd have to study it...

DAN WHITE

Getting it out of my district was a
key piece of my platform. It only
attracts arsonist, rapists, all
that, you know.

HARVEY MILK

Sure, sure. A campaign promise.

DAN WHITE

A big one.

(QUIET)

What do you say we watch out for each
other's interests? I'd like that.

HARVEY MILK

I'd like that, too, Dan.
Mary Ann White approaches with their child. It's awkward, as
if she's walked in on something intimate.

DAN WHITE

I'm sorry. Slipped into some shop
talk.

HARVEY MILK

The Gay Rights Ordinance. My fault.

MARY ANN WHITE

Seems an inappropriate subject in here don't you think?

HARVEY MILK

Hey, don't knock it till you've tried it.

His attempt to break the tension goes down in flames. She cracks a polite smile. They're from very different worlds.

56.

88 INT. HARVEY'S CITY HALL OFFICE - DAY

Harvey is under pressure from his own advisors (Michael, Dick, Cleve) to vote against Dan's bill.

DICK PABICH

Supervisors Silver and Lau are asking you to vote to keep this Psychiatric Center in Dan's district. It'll go down 6 to 5 if you vote to get rid of it.

MICHAEL WONG

It's a Youth Campus, Harvey. These are kids that would be displaced from their families if it's moved.

HARVEY MILK

I can't just dump Dan. The guy's got nothing going for him. No friends...

CLEVE JONES

Here we go, Harvey to the rescue. Isn't it enough we have to put up with Jack?

HARVEY MILK

Lay off. He registered 120 voters

last week.

CLEVE JONES

So do any of your volunteers, but
you don't make them all first lady.

MICHAEL WONG

What does Dan White do for you?
Really? Politically?

HARVEY MILK

He intrigues me... I think he may
be one of us.
Everyone groans. Cleve camps it up:

CLEVE JONES

Dear God, say it ain't so!

HARVEY MILK

It's just a theory...

DICK PABICH

You just think he's cute.

57.

HARVEY MILK

No... I know what it's like to
live that life. That lie. You can
see it in Dan's eyes... The fear,
the pressure...
Anne Kronenberg walks in. She's got that look in her eyes.
Something's up.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Good or Bad?

ANNE KRONENBERG

Not great. State Senator John
Briggs is Anita Bryant's go-to guy
in California for sure. He's filed
his petition for a statewide
referendum to fire all gay teachers
and anyone who supports them.

A pall falls over the room. This is worse than expected.

HARVEY MILK

How many signatures will he need to qualify for the ballot?

CLEVE JONES

Whatever. He can get them in two Sundays at church in Orange County.

HARVEY MILK

(instead of fear,
excitement bubbles up)
This means the fight's coming here,
where we can do something about it!
Wichita's one thing, Kansas City.
But Anita's heading for San
Francisco! She's not going to know
what hit her. Smile, children! This
is the fight we've been waiting for.

89 EXT. S.F. CITY HALL STEPS - DAY

CA State Senator, JOHN BRIGGS, 47, delivers his message to the PRESS, THE TV CREWS, AND A MASS OF PROTESTERS. HARVEY AND HIS GROUP are amongst the crowd.

JOHN BRIGGS

My proposition promises to protect our children from these gay perverts and pedophiles who recruit our children to their deviant lifestyles, including the ones who

(MORE)

58.

JOHN BRIGGS (CONT'D)

do it in our public schools. It's time to root them out.

In the crowd is teacher TOM AMMIANO, 36, colorful, worked

up:

TOM AMMIANO

And how are you going to determine who's a homosexual?

JOHN BRIGGS

Sir, my bill outlines procedures for identifying homosexuals.

ANOTHER PROTESTER

How? Will you be sucking them off?

JOHN BRIGGS

Sir, you can argue with me, but you cannot argue with God. It's getting ugly fast. Briggs is whisked away by TWO OFFICERS. He trips off the curb and is quickly scooped up.

90 INT. DAN WHITE'S HOME - DAY

Dan's house is filled with RELATIVES for a birthday celebration. Dan is glued to the NEWS, watching BRIGGS. Dan's RELATIVES gather around the TV. Mary Ann puts their BABY into Dan's arms and returns to wrangling kids.

THE COVERAGE CUTS TO HARVEY BEING INTERVIEWED:

HARVEY MILK (ON TV)

Look what happened in Germany. Now Anita Bryant already says that Jews and Muslims are going to hell, you know she's got a shopping list. We are not going to let John Briggs or Anita Bryant legislate bigotry in this city...
Hold on Dan watching Harvey on TV.

90B INT. UPSCALE SF HOUSE - NIGHT

jeans
Cleve and Anne sit in the entry way, Cleve in his tight and shirt. He's very out of place amongst all the suits. Harvey walks in. Cleve and Anne rush to his side. David Goodstein and Rick Stokes turn to greet Milk.

DAVID GOODSTEIN

Hello, Harvey. Running late?
(Harvey doesn't stop)

(MORE)

59.

DAVID GOODSTEIN (CONT'D)

Oh Harvey... your boyfriend is in the closet.

HARVEY MILK

Excuse me, David?

RICK STOKES

(QUIETLY)

The Latino, he's locked himself in the coat room... Mr. Milk, Phil Burton is here. He's likely the next Speaker of the House and a much needed ally against Prop Six. We don't need a scene.

90C INT. UPSCALE S.F. HOUSE / COAT ROOM DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

Harvey is at the door. Jack is locked inside the room.

HARVEY MILK

You're right, I know, I was late by twenty minutes. I'm sorry, Jack.

JACK LIRA (O.S.)

Who were you with? Scott? Some boy?

HARVEY MILK

I was at work. Come out, sugar pea.

JACK LIRA (O.S.)

No. You embarrassed me. I didn't know anyone. These are not good people. I don't want to be here.

HARVEY MILK

Then go home, Jack.

JACK LIRA (O.S.)

No. I'll wait for you. Go away.
A tight smile from Harvey as he looks up to Cleve.

91 INT. UPSCALE S.F. HOUSE / STUDY - LATER

room Harvey, Cleve and a dozen others are scattered about the
for a meeting with the DEMOCRATIC PARTY ESTABLISHMENT. U.S.
Congressman PHIL BURTON, 51, leans on a desk, listening.

DAVID GOODSTEIN

The Briggs initiative is polling at
75 percent for approval statewide.

CLEVE JONES

80 percent in other polls. Some
even have us losing San Francisco.

60.

DAVID GOODSTEIN

(condescending to Cleve)
So it's important we not deceive
people into thinking we can beat
this, or we'll have riots and only
increase this backlash.

HARVEY JONES

Good point, David. Let's just roll
right over. Make it easier for
Briggs to fuck us up the ass.
Rick and David are horrified. Phil Burton rises above it,
passing out copies of his new Anti-Briggs Initiative flier.

PHIL BURTON

We're taking this very seriously in
my office. We want to send one of
these to every home in California.
We'll need money to do that.

HARVEY MILK

(reading the flier)
"Proposition Six is an affront to
Human Rights. An invasion of the
State into the private lives of
California citizens."
(points to the pictures)
Does it even say the word gay on

this thing? Anywhere?

DAVID GOODSTEIN

No Harvey, purposefully not.

PHIL BURTON

With the heat bearing down on your movement right now, we think it's best to dodge the "gay" bullet. Go for the human rights angle.

HARVEY MILK

People need to know who's affected. This flier needs at least one old queen on it.

(a dig, to Goodstein)

Why don't you volunteer for that, David?

RICK STOKES

(an olive branch)

Corey Wares is an out gay--

61.

DAVID GOODSTEIN

(cutting Rick him off)

RICK--

HARVEY MILK

This is shit. Shit and masturbation. It's a coward's response to a dangerous threat.

DAVID GOODSTEIN

(a beat, then)

I think you should leave.

In the face of Phil Burton, most the others seem to agree.

HARVEY PUTS PHIL BURTON'S FLYER IN THE FIREPLACE on his way out of the room.

91B INT. UPSCALE SF HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Harvey knocks on the coat check door.

HARVEY MILK

Jack, it's time to go.

(to Cleve)

Get everyone together. I want young people, women, fresh heads. Fighters and organizers, not politicians.

CLEVE JONES

(as if Jack can't spell)

What about, S-C-O-T-T?

OFF HARVEY, knowing Scott would be an asset. Jack opens the door and grabs Harvey's hand. They go.

92 INT. CLEVE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Harvey's clan is assembled (Jim, Dick, Mike, Cleve, Anne, Jack, Denis) along with fiery teacher Tom Amiano and MANY

OTHER YOUNG ACTIVISTS.

A HANDSOME PIZZA DELIVERY GUY is setting down boxes of pizzas. They're in for the night. The atmosphere is 180 degrees different from the previous stuffy meeting.

CLEVE JONES

We're not interested in working with those old Democratic Party shits.

THE DOOR OPENS and someone new enters. He's HOLDING THE HAND OF... SCOTT SMITH. They are obviously a new couple.

62.

Scott and his BOYFRIEND find a place on the floor. Harvey's and Scott's EYES MEET across the room.

JIM RIVALDO

But we can't afford infighting anymore, Cleve. We have to bring together every group. Even the old school Democrats.

HARVEY MILK

(taking over)
Is anybody gonna pay the pizza guy,
or are we just gonna stare?
People start chipping in for the HANDSOME PIZZA GUY.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

If we're gonna convince the 90% to
give a shit about us 10%... We
have to let 'em know who we are.
(his big new idea)
Everybody's coming out. The entire
state. No matter where they live.

DICK PABICH

"Come out, come out, wherever you
are!"

HARVEY MILK

I'm serious.
(beat, the room gets quiet)
We're going to tell everyone in the
state to come out. Every gay doctor,
lawyer, teacher, dog catcher... We
have to leave the ghetto, let all
those people out there know that
they do know one of us. And if
people won't step out of the closet,
we open the door for them.

ANNE KRONENBERG

Jesus.

SCOTT SMITH

The whole state is not San Francisco.

HARVEY MILK

Clearly, Scott.

JIM RIVALDO

It could be dangerous. There is
such a thing as a right to privacy.

HARVEY MILK

Privacy's our enemy. You want real political power? Let's tell the truth for a change. Starting here. If there's anybody in this room, right now, who hasn't told their families, their friends, their employers... Do it. Now.

ANNE KRONENBERG

My folks know already.
A beat. The room is silent. Dick looks ill.

DICK PABICH

I haven't told my father yet...

HARVEY MILK

(a beat, then)
People vote two to one for us if they know just one of us.

(BEAT)

Cleve, show Dick where you keep your phone.

CLEVE JONES

It's in the bedroom.
After a moment, Dick RISES and follows Cleve out of the
room.
People are stunned by Harvey's outrageous demand. Harvey
sees
Scott GLARING at him.

93 EXT. CLEVE'S APARTMENT / STAIRCASE - LATER

The meeting is breaking up, and Scott lets his NEW BOYFRIEND go ahead. Harvey ducks away from Jack and intercepts Scott.

HARVEY MILK

I thought you were done with politics.

SCOTT SMITH

Politics. Not the movement. What the hell was that in there?

HARVEY MILK

The movement needs people to be up-front. Why were you fighting me?

SCOTT SMITH

You were the biggest closet case

alive in New York. You told me and
all your boyfriends to keep our

(MORE)

64.

SCOTT SMITH (CONT'D)

traps shut. You were the hypocrite
in there.

HARVEY MILK

My parents are gone. My brother
knows. I'm sure they knew.

SCOTT SMITH

I had to listen to your phone calls
home to Mom. Hear you deny that I
existed. You want to be "normal" as
bad as any of us. More than any of
us... Those are kids in there.
You're asking them to lose their
families.

HARVEY MILK

If their families won't love them
for who they are, who they really
are, then they should lose them.

SCOTT SMITH

That's fucking insane.

HARVEY MILK

(re: Scott's new Boyfriend)
Who's he? Do you live together?

SCOTT SMITH

Someone I'm seeing. He's good for
me. He makes me stay home at
nights, out of the bars...

HARVEY MILK

(quietly, so Jack doesn't hear)
I miss you.

SCOTT SMITH

Oh, Harvey, don't...
(eyeing Jack down the street)
What's that about?

JACK LIRA

(calling out)
Har-veyyyyy!

HARVEY MILK

He needs me.
Scott nods. THAT'S ALWAYS BEEN HARVEY'S ACHILLES HEAL.
He walks away from Harvey, leaving him alone.

65.

94 INT. CITY HALL / SUPERVISORS' CHAMBERS - DAY

Dianne bangs her gavel like a mad woman. Harvey's adamant.

HARVEY MILK DIANNE FEINSTEIN

I have told no lies here Supervisor Milk, you will
today or to Supervisor White come to order.
in the past--

HARVEY MILK

--I want it noted that I never
promised to back moving any Mental
Health Centers. I greatly respect
Supervisor White, but I would like
his remarks stricken.

DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Duly noted. We will take a recess
before recording the vote.
Fellow Supervisor, CAROL RUTH SILVER, leans over to Harvey.

CAROL RUTH SILVER

Thank you, Harvey.
Harvey is preoccupied with Dan approaching. He leans back.

DAN WHITE

Can I have a moment with Harvey?

Alone, please, Carol?
She politely recognizes the tension and gets up.

DAN WHITE (CONT'D)

Why are you turning on me like this
at the last minute? What did I do?

HARVEY MILK

I didn't have all the details. I'll
help you craft a different version
that doesn't displace any kids.

DAN WHITE

Harvey, I can't go back to my family
and to my folks and to my district
without this. Don't do this.

HARVEY MILK

I'm getting a lot of pressure, Dan.

DAN WHITE

You strung me along. And now you're
throwing me to the wolves.

66.

HARVEY MILK

You only need one more vote, Dan.
There are 5 other Supervisors you
could convince besides me.
Dan grabs Harvey. It's threatening. A new side of Dan.

DAN WHITE

I'll vote against your Queer Law.
I'll get Quentin against it.

HARVEY MILK

It'll still pass. You can't keep
alienating yourself here, Dan.

DAN WHITE

I gave you a chance, Harvey. I
really did. You blew it. You really
blew it.

Dan goes, the rage of a scorned adolescent under his suit.

94A INT. FLASH FORWARD - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL - NIGHT

Harvey's mood has darkened as he talks into his recorder...

HARVEY MILK

Across the country, a handful of city councils had passed the very first ordinances protecting gay people against discrimination. But Anita Bryant and her right wing Christian fundamentalists were creating and exploiting and fanning a backlash. Now she had referenda to repeal all of these gay rights ordinances. While we were preparing for the battle against Briggs and Prop Six, Anita Bryant was taking her show on the road... sweeping the country. Her next stop was Wichita, Kansas.

95 INT. TV NEWS REPORTS - NIGHT

CHYRON: "Landslide: Wichita says NO to Gays." Anita talks to a REPORTER. BRIGGS is among the supporters at her side.

ANITA BRYANT

I give thanks for all of our foot soldiers of God here in Wichita. But we must push on. Look what happened to Sodom and to the world of Noah. Onward Christian soldiers!

(MORE)

67.

ANITA BRYANT (CONT'D)
(lifting her hand with

BRIGGS'S)

On to California!

96 I/E. TELEPHONE TREE MONTAGE / EFFECT - DAY

A telephone tree MONTAGE starts with Cleve on a PAY PHONE on Castro Street:

CLEVE JONES

Hi. We're losing Wichita. Rally tonight. Sundown. Market and Castro.

A MULTIPLYING FRAME EFFECT: the person he called calls two others, they call four, then more and more as the tree

grows.

98 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - THAT NIGHT

HARVEY'S POV ON: The VIOLENT DEATH THREAT LETTER AND DRAWING that is still tacked up to his refrigerator.

OUTSIDE: The SOUNDS of a RIOT in the making.

Harvey rips down the threatening LETTER and throws it away.

99 INT. CAMERA SHOP - CONTINUOUS

Harvey BOUNDS down the stairs and into the shop. Cleve

RUSHES

into the store, breathless.

CLEVE JONES

They're moving. I don't know where, but...

HARVEY MILK

Did Jim call the press?

(shouting at Danny)

Get out there with your camera!

DANNY NICCOLETTA

I'm going!

CLEVE JONES

Press is covered. But we don't have a permit to march.

HARVEY MILK

(digs for his bullhorn)

When I got Coors out of the bars, the Union gave me this. I want you to have it.

CLEVE JONES

What do I do with this?

68.

HARVEY MILK

You're an activist. Take it. March them.

(off Cleve, unsure)

March those people up to the front doors of City Hall. When it looks really bad, the city's first gay Supervisor will come out and play peacemaker. We save the city from a riot. We can turn this night into more political power for the cause.

CLEVE JONES

I can't do it like you do it.

HARVEY MILK

I won't always be here. Somebody else will have to take over.

(looking him in the eye)

I need you to be the scary one now.

100 EXT. CASTRO AND MARKET STREET - NIGHT

a
reads
A massive, angry crowd has gathered. Baby-faced Cleve takes
makeshift stage. He lifts the bullhorn and with nerves,
a speech. Its pages blow about.
CLEVE'S POV: Harvey watches from afar. Encouraging him.

CLEVE JONES

Forty years ago tonight, the gay citizens of Germany found out they no longer had civil rights. Tomorrow morning, the gay citizens of Wichita will also awaken to find that they too have lost their civil rights. You have whistles. You use them when we have been attacked. Tonight we have been attacked. Initially Cleve is successful, but then the crowd turns, marching toward City Hall without him.

CLEVE JONES (CONT'D)

Fuck. Shit. Harvey!

get
Cleve runs as fast as he can to cut through the crowd, to
to the front. He gets on his walkie-talkie.

CLEVE JONES (CONT'D)

Get the press to the overpass!

AHEAD
ON HARVEY: Ducking through EMPTY STREETS, trying to get
OF THE CROWD and beat them to City Hall.

69.

Cleve gets to the head of the crowd.

CLEVE JONES (CONT'D)

Move... Left... Move... Left...

JIM RIVALDO

(charging up)

What are you doing? Where's Harvey?

CLEVE JONES

We're shutting down traffic, both
directions.

Cleve looks up at the press that's arrived on the overpass
above, and turns to two HIPPIE KIDS near the front.

CLEVE JONES (CONT'D)

Disconnect the power arms!

The boys climb up a trolley and knock down the power arms.
Sparks fly. Brakes squeal. The press snaps photos.

100B INT. CASTRO STREET BAR - NIGHT

The angry protesters march past the large glass windows of
TWIN PEAKS bar. Unlike the Dade County march, the bar is
empty. The patrons are already in the streets.

101 INT. CITY HALL - LATER

Harvey RACES to his office. He stops at a mirror to
straighten his tie and collect himself.

OUTSIDE: The SOUND of the ANGRY MOB on City Hall's front

steps. "Civil Rights or Civil War!" Someone THROWS A ROCK at the City Hall doors.

to Harvey rushes out the front doors, pushing past the police

greet THE MOB on City Hall's front steps. Through the glass doors we see Cleve rush up and hand Harvey his bullhorn:

HARVEY MILK

Hello. My name is Harvey Milk, and I want to recruit you.

(AN ENORMOUS CHEER rises)

I want to recruit you for the fight to preserve our democracy against the Anita Bryants and John Briggs who are trying to legalize bigotry! We have a choice to make. The fight is at our doors. We must either go back in the closet and shut it tight, or fight... History shows

(MORE)

70.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

that if we continue to fight, we... will... win.

101B INT. CITY HALL / HARVEY'S OFFICE - DAY

Jim, Dick, Anne, Michael, Frank and Cleve are all in the office. The FRONT PAGE of the Examiner features a PICTURE OF CLEVE AND HARVEY ARM IN ARM on City Hall's steps. Cleve is jazzed. Harvey stews.

CLEVE JONES

They're calling it a "successful mediation." You're a God damn hero. Fuck. It came this close to a riot.

HARVEY

Lose the note cards next time. Your job is just to say into that bullhorn what they're all feeling.

CLEVE JONES

You're just jealous it wasn't you
out there.

HARVEY MILK

We're losing Prop Six by 60% and
you're over there celebrating a
riot. I need more visibility...
(the real problem:)
If we're going to beat this thing,
we have to get Briggs to
acknowledge us.
Harvey steps away, hot, pensive. Anne gets quiet.

ANNE KRONENBERG

Every paper's calling Prop Six the
main event now. We lose this, we'll
have anti-gay laws in all fifty
states, and Briggs won't return our
calls for a public debate.

DICK PABICH

He's ignoring us to death.

HARVEY MILK

(steaming back in)
We need something populist. What's
the number one complaint about city
life?

CLEVE JONES

The piss smell in the Tenderloin.

71.

HARVEY MILK

Close.

FRANK ROBINSON

Dog shit.

JIM RIVALDO

If you cleaned up all the dog shit

in the city, you could be elected
Mayor.

CLEVE JONES

"Mayor Milk."

HARVEY MILK

I like it.

104 EXT. SF SIDEWALKS - DAY

of Cleve searches frantically for something... He SEES a pile
DOG POOP. He scoops it up and runs it back to City Hall's
front lawn and plants it in the grass.

105 EXT. CITY HALL / FRONT LAWN - MOMENTS LATER

IN THE VERY SAME SPOT CLEVE JUST WAS: Harvey with a clump of
REPORTERS, a red and white "No on 6" button pinned to his
lapel (HENCEFORTH, IT'S A FIXTURE).

HARVEY MILK

Dog mess is a hazard, and on top of
that, it's disgusting. Under the
ordinance, dog owners that don't
clean up can be fined. This really
is the bottom line!

He smiles at his own joke, punctuating it by "accidentally"
stepping in Cleve's well-placed dog shit. A BIG grin. BULBS
FLASH. These flashes transition into:

106 INT. CITY HALL / SUPERVISORS' CHAMBERS - DAY

HARVEY STUDIES HIS OWN PHOTO on the FRONT PAGE of the
Chronicle, making his announcement about dog poop.
The SUPERVISORS are assembled for a vote. The CLERK, 60,
wraps up his roll call

CLERK

Supervisor Lau?

GORDON LAU

Aye.

72.

CLERK

Lau, Aye. Supervisor Silver?

CAROL RUTH SILVER

Aye.

CLERK

Silver, Aye. Supervisor White?

DAN WHITE

No.

CLERK

White, No. Madam President, I have ten ayes and one no. Dianne Feinstein BANGS HER GAVEL down hard.

DIANNE FEINSTEIN

The San Francisco Gay Rights Ordinance sponsored by Supervisors Milk and Silver is passed.

CAMERA'S FLASH! THE PACKED CHAMBERS ROAR!

Harvey locks onto Dan White. Dan makes eye contact. Harvey turns his attention to the chamber audience's applause.

107 INT. CITY HALL / MAYOR MOSCONE'S OFFICE - DAY

A gaggle of press has congregated. Mayor Moscone and Harvey walk into the office keeping their conversation private.

MAYOR MOSCONE

I can't get my stories on page ten, you're getting page one?

HARVEY MILK

Doggy-doo's a real problem, George. With a shit eating grin, Harvey offers up a powder blue pen.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

Powder blue to sign they city's first Gay Rights law... George, we need your help with Briggs... The gay community will have your back from now on. On all issues. I hope you'll have ours.

A beat between them. An alliance is forming. The Mayor sits behind his desk and turns to the press with Harvey's pen.

73.

MAYOR MOSCONE

Good morning, everyone... I don't do this enough, taking swift and unambiguous action on a substantive move for civil rights.

Mosccone signs the law with the powder blue pen. Harvey leans over him. THE PRESS CAPTURES THE MOMENT.

107A INT. DAN WHITE'S OFFICE - DAY

Dan sits at his desk, agitated. DAN'S POV: The FRONT PAGE of the Examiner featuring MOSCONE AND HARVEY. Harvey comes to the door.

HARVEY MILK

What are you working on, Dan?

DAN WHITE

If you have something to discuss, you can have your aide make an appointment with my aide.

HARVEY MILK

Listen, I know you're disappointed about the Psychiatric Center... What else do you have coming up?

DAN WHITE

Now you need something from me. You want my me to join in with the Queers on this Prop Six business?

HARVEY MILK

We prefer the word "gay," Dan. Just as I'm sure you prefer the word, "Irish-American" to "Mick."

DAN WHITE

Harvey, our society can't exist without the family, without the church.

HARVEY MILK

We're not against those things.

DAN WHITE

You're not? Can two men reproduce?

HARVEY MILK

(a smile)

No. But, we keep trying!

(SERIOUSLY)

(MORE)

74.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

C'mon, Dan. You're channeling Anita and Briggs... we can work together. On something...

DAN WHITE

Okay. You introduce an initiative for Supervisor pay raises.

HARVEY MILK

(anything but that)

It's a bad time politically. I have an election next year.

DAN WHITE

You asked for something. Introduce pay raises. I can't take care of my family on our salaries. You don't have that problem, do you? Dan's AIDE steps into the doorway. She seems surprised to

see

Harvey in Dan's office.

DAN WHITE (CONT'D)

Mr. Milk, You'll excuse me, I have a development meeting. Dan goes.

108 INT. A SAN FRANCISCO HALL - NIGHT

Harvey's
GOODSTEIN
breaks
Harvey.

A crowd sings "Happy Birthday." One after another, guests throw CREAM PIES in his face. RICK AND DAVID INCLUDED. A PEACE OFFERING. Harvey wipes pie from his eyes. In the B.G. the black drag queen sensation, SYLVESTER, into his top 10 anthem, "You Make Me Feel." It's a who's who of San Francisco's political elite. Jack scoots up to Harvey.

HARVEY MILK

What's wrong, Taco Bell?

JACK LIRA

Anne and Cleve tried to cut me out of your table. You should fire them.

HARVEY MILK

I'll take it under consideration.
Why don't you get us a drink?
A kiss and Jack heads to the bar. Scott approaches.

SCOTT SMITH

Don't let Cezar Chavez hear you calling him Taco Bell.

75.

HARVEY MILK

He's getting better. He's enrolling in classes on Monday.
Scott wipes PIE CREAM from Harvey's jacket.

SCOTT SMITH

I remember when your birthdays were a bit less... lavish. More intimate.

HARVEY MILK

Who invited you? Anne?

SCOTT SMITH

My boyfriend got an invitation. I was his "plus one."

HARVEY MILK

Congratulations. It was a tough ticket to get.

SCOTT SMITH

Congratulations to you. Looks like you're part of the Machine now. (Harvey looks away, toward Jack) You can do better.

HARVEY MILK

When I come home to Jack, I don't have to talk politics or talk intelligently. Or even talk.

(SELF-DEPRECATING)

And where's an old man like me going to get such a good looking young man, right?

SCOTT SMITH

You're not so old. You look handsome... Happy 48th. Looks like you're gonna make it to fifty after-all, Mr. Milk. Scott gives Harvey a BIRTHDAY KISS.

109 INT. A SAN FRANCISCO HALL - LATER THAT NIGHT

waits Harvey, still wearing cream pie remnants on his jacket, for Jack to come out of the rest room. Harvey's one of the last guests to leave. WAITERS are clearing tables.

HARVEY'S POV DOWN A DIMLY LIT CORRIDOR: A MALE FIGURE

APPROACHES, footsteps ECHOING on the marble floor. Harvey braces himself.

76.

Emerging from the shadows: DAN WHITE. He approaches Harvey

with a bottle of Chivas.
Dan is SUPER-FRIENDLY, as if nothing unpleasant has ever happened between them.

DAN WHITE

Sorry I missed the party, Harv...

HARVEY MILK

No problem, Dan. Good to see you.

DAN WHITE

Dog poop?

HARVEY MILK

Yeah.

DAN WHITE

It's good! It's a good one.

HARVEY MILK

Thanks. But it's a real problem.

DAN WHITE

Oh, yeah. I mean, God knows how many problems it causes. All kinds of diseases, birth defects probably, I mean, stuff you can't even...
(drifting off, drunkenly)
Hey, I got you a little something.

HARVEY MILK

You didn't have to--

DAN WHITE

(at the same time)
You didn't have to--

(LAUGHING)

Why do people always say that?
"You didn't have to?" I mean, of course, right? But, that's what they always say. They always say things like that...
Dan's attempts to be witty and erudite (like Harvey) only leave him confused and tongue tied.
Harvey HAS NO IDEA why Dan is here.

HARVEY MILK

Are you okay, Dan?

77.

DAN WHITE

Oh, what? Yeah, sure. Harvey, I just... I just want to say... Happy Birthday.

Dan PUTS HIS ARMS AROUND HARVEY for a sort-of macho but really weird birthday hug. Harvey stiffens, it's such a peculiar moment. Dan steps back, looks him over.

DAN WHITE (CONT'D)

I've really learned a lot from watching you, Harvey.

HARVEY MILK

I doubt that.

DAN WHITE

No, I have. You gotta get out there. Get noticed. That's how it works. But, you have an issue. That's your advantage.

HARVEY MILK

It's more than an issue, Dan.

(a beat, one last try to get through to him)

Dan. I've had four relationships in my life. Three of those four tried to kill themselves. I know it was my fault they did it. I told them to stay quiet. To hide. Most of my life I've been closeted. That's what living this life is like for most of us. The way things are... This isn't just about our jobs, or any issue, it's our lives we're fighting for.

Jack emerges from the bathroom, barely together and leans on Harvey. Dan steps back from Harvey and Jack, his moment alone stolen away.

DAN WHITE

I've learned a lot from you, Harvey. I'm going to get my picture in the papers, too. You'll see.

I've got my own issue. That's
right. Dan White's Got An Issue!

110 EXT. GAY FREEDOM DAY PARADE - DAY

STOCK FOOTAGE: Along Market street: 375,000 people have
shown
up for the parade, many holding signs naming their
hometowns:
Newark, San Antonio, Lincoln.

78.

A MONTAGE: of the various marchers, floats, "Parents and
Friends Of", high-camp drag queens, etc.
Harvey sits on top of a car with a pink lei around his neck,
a fistful of white flowers in one hand, and in the other, a
hand written sign: "I'm from Woodmere, NY." To a news
camera:

HARVEY MILK

Come out! Just come on out!

DRIVING THE CAR: Anne keeps a close eye on the parade
watchers. Any one of them could be an assassin.

111 ON A STREET CORNER - DAN WHITE IS WITH A REPORTER:

DAN WHITE

I see naked men walking around,
naked women walking around, which
doesn't bother me as far as my
personal standards of nudity, but
it's not proper. We wouldn't allow
it for any other parade in San
Francisco, and it should not be
allowed for the gay parade.

112 EXT. GAY FREEDOM DAY PARADE / STAGE - LATER

Just off stage. Anne hands him a typed postcard.

ANNE KRONENBERG

It came in the mail today.

HARVEY MILK

"You get the first bullet the minute
you stand at the microphone."
(looking for a silver lining)
Looks like the publicity's working.

ANNE KRONENBERG

You don't have to go up there.

HARVEY MILK

It could happen any day, any night,
any time...

(off the ROARING CROWD
that's waiting for him)

The nation's eye is on us. I have
to do this.

JUMP TO: POV shots of cops and loners amongst the massive
audience hint at Harvey's paranoia.
Like diving off a cliff, Harvey launches up to the
microphone. The deafening cheers surely would have drowned

79.

out gunfire, but when it fades, He's standing. He delivers
his impassioned call to action:

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

My name is Harvey Milk, and I want
to recruit you. I want to recruit
you for the fight to preserve your
democracy. Brothers and sisters, you
must come out. Come out to your
parents. I know that it is hard and
will hurt them but think about how
they will hurt you in the voting
booth! Come out to your friends, if
they indeed are your friends. Come
out to your neighbors, to your
fellow workers. Once and for all,
break down the myths, destroy the
lies and distortions. For your sake.
For their sake. For the sake of the
youngsters who are becoming scared
by the votes from Dade to Eugene. On
the Statue of Liberty it says "Give
me your tired, your poor, your

huddled masses yearning to be free."
In the Declaration of Independence
it is written "All men are created
equal and are endowed with certain
inalienable rights." For Mr. Briggs
and Mrs. Bryant and all the bigots
out there, no matter how hard you
try, you cannot erase those words
from the Declaration of
Independence. No matter how hard you
try, you cannot chip those words
from off the base of the Statue of
Liberty. That is what America is.
Love it or leave it.
Wild applause. He scans the crowd as he steps off stage. A
bit surprised to still be alive. Cleve grabs him.

CLEVE JONES

The Mayor says Briggs is on his way
here. He could intercept him for
us. We could get him face to face.
He couldn't ignore us anymore.

HARVEY MILK

Get the press.

SAME

113 INT. LIMOUSINE / 5 BLOCKS FROM THE FREEDOM DAY PARADE -

As

John Briggs rides in a limo watching the "freaks" outside.
he nears the Parade Stages his POLICE ESCORTS take an
unplanned turn. He leans forward.

80.

JOHN BRIGGS

The parade is the other direction.

DRIVER

They're taking us another way, Sir.

114 INT. WAREHOUSE ON THE PIER - MOMENTS LATER

The limo pulls in. Briggs cautiously steps out. Greeting him are Moscone, the POLICE CHIEF, 25 SFPD officers, a gaggle of press, and Harvey Milk.
It's a showdown... HIGH NOON.

JOHN BRIGGS

I have a right to be here, Mr. Mayor.

MAYOR MOSCONE

I'm afraid it's not in the interest of your safety, or my public's safety to let you into that parade grounds.

for
Finally face to face, Harvey extends his hand. Its a show
the FLASHING CAMERAS. Briggs is clearly uncomfortable.

HARVEY MILK

Hi, I'm Harvey Milk. It's quite an honor to meet you, Mr. Briggs.

JOHN BRIGGS

I'm aware. Sad you're too afraid to fight this out in public, Mr. Milk.

HARVEY MILK

No sir. I would love to have a public debate. I'm very interested in the details of your argument.

JOHN BRIGGS

You know the details. As do the people. Look at the votes across this nation. The "public" is with me.

HARVEY MILK

Yes sir, today they are. But with my City's Mayor and the San Francisco press as my witnesses, I'm challenging you to a public debate.
John nods, stiff. He can no longer avoid Harvey Milk. He
gets
back in his limo.

81.

INT. SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - NIGHT - (ON TV) 115

Harvey sits with John Briggs at a table facing forward. We hear the cheers and jeers of the packed audience.

HARVEY MILK

Senator, as a Christian it's interesting that you don't seem to understand what Christ was about. He was about accepting people and giving love, not carrying a Bible in one hand and hatred in the other...

(cheers from the audience)

...Now all the gay myths have been shattered, all the fears, all the--

JOHN BRIGGS

Not in my mind they haven't--

HARVEY MILK

That's it. In your mind they haven't, and I'm wondering why--

JOHN BRIGGS

Mr. Milk, we don't allow people who believe in practicing bestiality to teach our children, and the reason we don't is because it is illegal. But it's not illegal to be a homosexual in California.

HARVEY MILK

And your law goes even further. Any school employee who even supports a gay person will be fired--

JOHN BRIGGS

True. But, gay people don't have children of their own. If they don't recruit our children, they'd all die away. That's why they want to be teachers, to encourage our children to join them.

HARVEY MILK (ON TV)

How do you teach homosexuality? Like French? I was born of heterosexual parents, I was taught by heterosexual teachers in a

fiercely heterosexual society. So then why am I homosexual? And no offense meant, but if it were true that children mimicked their

(MORE)

82.

HARVEY MILK (ON TV) (CONT'D)

teachers, you'd sure have a helluva lot more nuns running around.

The audience eats it up. It feel like "The Harvey Milk Show."

116 EXT. CITY HALL - DAY

Briggs makes a STATEMENT to the press.

JOHN BRIGGS

If they're going to lead such an open life of homosexuality that they want a 21-gun salute every time somebody goes by them, those people are going to be in danger of being removed their job.

116B INT. FLASH FORWARD - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL - NIGHT

Continuing on with his recorded will...

HARVEY MILK

We were really genuinely frightened by Proposition Six, and with the backlash gaining strength, we were very pessimistic. We didn't think there was any chance we could beat it. What we hoped to do was to organize to the point that when we did lose, there would be a revolt... That all hell would break lose.

117 INT. CITY HALL / HARVEY'S OFFICE - DAY

Harvey, pacing, decisive.

DICK PABICH

People are coming out, though. We met with groups in Bakersfield, Redding, a dozen people showed up in a library basement in Fresno asking for our support if they came out. Last Sunday, the Reverend of St. Mary's came out to his entire congregation...

HARVEY MILK

We're still losing, 60 to 30. We have to take the show on the road. Call Briggs's office. Do a press release. Tell them he can pick the town, the audience, and I'll ask our supporters not to attend.

83.

DICK PABICH

Their audiences are insanely devout. We'll get killed.

HARVEY MILK

Get me Orange County.

118 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Jack is FLIPPING OUT, storming around the place.

JACK LIRA

You just have to go down to LA and guess the right things on TV and they'll pay us... You have to use your fame now while you have it. We could have nice things.

HARVEY MILK

I don't have time to do game shows

right now...
This stops Jack cold.

JACK LIRA

You are horrible! I have worked on
this surprise for you for weeks!

HARVEY MILK

Are you drunk right now?

JACK LIRA

You are an ungrateful asshole!

HARVEY MILK

Jack, I'll have more time soon.

JACK LIRA

You're ashamed of me!

HARVEY MILK

That's not true. I think you're
smart. You're capable. No matter
what your family or your father
said. I believe in you... We
should figure out something for you
to do. I could get you a job.

JACK LIRA

I'll never be good enough for you!
Jack **THROWS A PIECE OF POTTERY AT HARVEY.** It misses,
CRASHING
THROUGH THE WINDOW onto the street below.

84.

HARVEY MILK

I'll get a broom.
Harvey goes. Jack collapses into a chair.

119 INT. AUDITORIUM IN ORANGE COUNTY - NIGHT

TV CAMERAS ROLL. They've gotten their ORANGE COUNTY DEBATE!
BRIGGS'S SUPPORTERS jeer Harvey as he rips into their State
Senator. Their vehemence frightens Dick in the audience.

Harvey lifts a Briggs flier.

HARVEY MILK

If in your statements here you say that child molestation is not an issue, why do you put out literature that hammers it home, why do you play on that myth and fear?

JOHN BRIGGS

Same thing with VD Harvey, we put out publications about VD so you can avoid it.

HARVEY MILK

(with a grin)

But you've even admitted that there's more molestation in the heterosexual group! So why not get rid of the heterosexual teachers? Boos from the conservative audience.

JOHN BRIGGS

We are not talking about homos... child molestation, the fact is, at least 95 percent of the people are heterosexual. If we took heterosexuals out AND homosexuals out, you know what--

JOHN BRIGGS (CONT'D) HARVEY MILK

--we'd have no teachers We'd have no teachers--

HARVEY MILK

--No child molestation... So you're saying the percentage of population is equal to the percentage of child molestation?

JOHN BRIGGS

(getting more lost)

No, no, I'm not saying that at all--

HARVEY MILK

That's what you just said.

JOHN BRIGGS

No. I'm saying that we cannot prevent child molestation so let's cut our odds down and take out the homosexual group and keep in the heterosexual group--

Harvey laughs in disbelief at the asinine argument. Briggs looks down to his notes, lost. Harvey takes the opportunity to rip into the State Senator:

HARVEY MILK

(directly to Briggs)

--Sir, in your own drive for personal power, how many careers are you willing to see destroyed? How many lives will you destroy in your lust for power, and when will you stop?

The crowd boos, rails. This isn't San Francisco, it's Orange County. In the audience, Dick Pabich sweats, taken aback by the level of hatred. Harvey tries to maintain his composure.

120 EXT. CASTRO STREET - NIGHT

Harvey heads home from work. He starts into his store. He sees JACK LIRA'S SHADOW through the curtains upstairs,

and

turns instead to the cafe next door.

121 INT. CASTRO CAFE - NIGHT

Harvey sits down at the bar. The WAITER pours a coffee for him. Harvey looks up to the TV.

HARVEY'S POV: DAN WHITE ON TV talking to a news reporter. It feels as if Dan is talking directly to Harvey.

DAN WHITE

All I'm really saying is, if we don't protect ourselves with this kind of legislation, a transvestite can show up at a public school with all the qualifications for teaching and they can't refuse to hire him.

86.

122 INT. CITY HALL / HARVEY'S OFFICE - DAY

Harvey rushes from a packed session in the Supervisors' Chambers to his office. Anne is behind him. He picks up the phone. It seems urgent.

HARVEY MILK

Hey Jack, what's wrong?

123 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - INTERCUT

JACK LIRA

Nothing. I just want to know when you'll be home.

HARVEY MILK

You just had them pull me out of my big vote on the dog shit ordinance. Did you do this on purpose, Jack?

JACK LIRA

It's poop, Harvey. Aren't I more important than poop?

HARVEY MILK

Yes, but... I don't know when I'll be home. Maybe 6. 6:15.

JACK LIRA

Fine. 6:15.

Harvey hangs up. His patience is slipping. He looks up in time to see Dan heading down the hall with his briefcase.

124 INT. CITY HALL / SUPERVISORS' CHAMBERS HALLWAY - DAY

Harvey catches up to Dan who is on his way out.

HARVEY MILK

Dan? How's the baby?

DAN WHITE

You didn't bring up Supervisor pay raises. In fact, I heard you plan to publicly oppose them.

HARVEY MILK

I heard you planned to vote against them too, Dan. Were you trying to set me up?

DAN WHITE

(parrotting Harvey)

EARLIER)

(MORE)

87.

DAN WHITE (CONT'D)

It's not a good time for me to bring it up. Politically.

HARVEY MILK

Dan, there's a vote to approve the police desegregation settlement, give me that and I'll consider backing pay raises.

DAN WHITE

(suddenly very dark)

I don't trade votes... unlike you, the way I was raised, we believe in right and wrong. Moral and immoral.

HARVEY MILK

Black skin and White in your police department?

(Dan steams)

Dan, even Ronald Reagan's come out against Proposition Six. You're looking more and more out of touch.

DAN WHITE

If I come out against Prop Six, it's only for the invasion of State's rights issue.

HARVEY MILK

(smiles, trying to lighten)
And the potential witch hunts
against you "straight people,"
right?

Dan tries hard to come up with a cogent response. He can't.
His behavior is alarming. He sets down his briefcase.

DAN WHITE

You underestimate me, Milk. You're
very, very wrong about me.

HARVEY MILK

I don't know what you mean.
A moment. Dan is on the verge of tears, hot angry tears.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

What is it, Dan? You can tell me.

DAN WHITE

You don't... You can't humiliate
me. And you will not demean me.

88.

the
of
Anne appears down the hall. Dan has more on his mind, but
moment has passed. He picks up his briefcase and walks out
the building. Off Harvey, concerned.

125 EXT. CITY HALL - LATER

Harvey walks home. A PASSERBY shouts:

PASSERBY

You're the asshole that just passed
that dog shit thing aren't you? What
the hell do you have against dogs?

HARVEY MILK

(with his trademark charm)
Sir, blind people can't see "shit."
What the heck do you have against
blind people?
The young folks surrounding the PASSERBY laugh and hoot at

Harvey's joke. Even the harassing PASSERBY can't help but crack a grin. Harvey beams.

126 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Opening the door, Harvey finds a trail of voter registration cards, anti-Briggs literature, and Coors beer cans. Pushing through his fear, he carefully follows the cans and flyers

up

the stairs and through his apartment.

Odd notes are taped to the walls. They all lead to a black velvet curtain with a note attached: "YOU'VE ALWAYS LOVED

THE

CIRCUS, HARVEY, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY LAST ACT?"

Harvey pulls back the curtain to find Jack's body, cold and discolored, hanging from a beam by a noose.

HARVEY CAN'T MOVE. He is mesmerized... horrified.

He grabs a knife and frantically tries cutting Jack down. He cuts through the rope and FALLS TO THE FLOOR with the HEAVY

BODY.

127 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - LATER

Scott arrives. Sitting very still, Harvey is being consoled by Cleve and Anne. Tears in his eyes, Harvey won't look up.

SCOTT SMITH

Harvey. Look at me. Look at me. You did everything you could.

HARVEY

No, I didn't. Not everything...

89.

SCOTT SMITH

What else could you have done?

HARVEY

I could have come home at six o'clock, not six-fifteen.

Scott puts his arm around Harvey. Harvey buries his head.

Anne helps Cleve take down Jack's many hidden notes. Cleve quietly reads a prominently placed one:

CLEVE JONES

"Beware. The ides. Of November."

NIGHT

127A INT. FLASH FORWARD - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL -

Into the recorder as if re-living the event over again...

HARVEY MILK

Jack was gone. I didn't have time to mourn... There was no choice but to keep on... to keep fighting.

DAY

128 INT. BARNUM AND BAILEY CIRCUS / MAKE UP ROOM / S.F. -

are

Harvey sits in a make-up chair. A MAKE-UP artist is painting him up to look like a clown. Several other CITY OFFICIALS

in chairs beyond him. Harvey turns to the make-up artist. With sincere enthusiasm:

HARVEY MILK

Thank you for this great honor. But do you think once the magazine is done snapping pictures, maybe I could keep the suit for a while?

129 EXT. SAN FRANCISCO - DAY

Still made up from head to toe as a clown, Harvey walks the streets of San Francisco. He waves, smiles, poses for photos with tourists. It's a rare moment of grace. He jumps on a trolley headed toward Castro. He instantly captures the imagination of a small GIRL wearing a knit hat.

HARVEY MILK

(re: their hats)
Would you like to trade with me?

GIRL

No. What the heck are you?

HARVEY MILK

Oh, me? I'm an elected official. I run this city.

90.

He makes a show of it. She smiles. He hands her the flower he's been holding onto all afternoon.

130 INT. "NO ON SIX" CENTER / MARKET STREET - NIGHT

THIS IS THE MOMENT. Harvey watches aides on the phones comb districts for voting results. Jim fills up a map on the wall.

DICK PABICH

San Bernadino is coming in. Not good.

HARVEY MILK

Of course not. How not good?

MICHAEL WONG

60% for Briggs. Same in Fresno.

HARVEY MILK

Dear God, little Lotus Blossom. Harvey is stunned. Other districts follow with similar results. They go up in red on the map.

JIM RIVALDO

Imperial is 69% "for" so far.

HARVEY MILK

Put it up on the board. Harvey tries to stomach this major defeat, loss after loss. He starts reflexively tying his tie in a knot. Cleve comes up to Harvey, concerned.

HARVEY MILK (CONT'D)

The whole world is watching this. This is San Francisco we're about to lose. Are you ready?

CLEVE JONES

I can have 15,000 people in an hour. But there's gonna be riots if this thing passes.

HARVEY MILK

(darkens, pointed)
There goddamn better be.

CLEVE JONES

(stops, a beat, then:)
What are you telling me?

91.

HARVEY MILK

I can't say it because I'm a public
official, but for God's sake, if
this thing passes, fight back.
Cleve is stunned, holding the weight of Harvey's words.
Harvey's focus is interrupted when Anne brings him the

phone.

ANNE KRONENBERG

Don Amador down in LA.

HARVEY

(reluctantly answers)
Kind of a bad time, Don.

YOUNG TEEN (V.O.)

No sir, this is Paul. Don just gave
me the phone.

HARVEY MILK

Paul who?

YOUNG TEEN (V.O.)

You talked to me on the phone a
year or so ago. I'm from
Minnesota... I'm in a wheelchair.
REVEAL: The boy in his wheelchair on the other end.

HARVEY MILK

(a beat to take it in, then:)
I thought you were a goner, Paul.

YOUNG TEEN

I'm sorry. I should have called.
When I read in the paper that you

won the Supervisor seat, I got a friend to put me on a bus to LA.

HARVEY MILK

Who did you know in Los Angeles?

YOUNG TEEN

Nobody. That's the uh... I just didn't want to die anymore, sir. (Harvey's at a loss for words) I met your friend Don down here. I turned 18. I voted today against Prop Six... Thank you, Mr. Milk.

HARVEY MILK

No. You did this all by yourself.

92.

YOUNG TEEN

I don't think I'd be alive right now without you, sir. You were right about LA. It's like gay Disney World.

HARVEY MILK

Then you have to see San Francisco!

YOUNG TEEN

Okay. I will. Don wanted me to um... congratulate you on what he says looks like a big win for us tonight. Congratulations Mr. Milk. Harvey turns back to the map. Jim Rivaldo is now coloring in LA county with green. On the other end of the phone,

Harvey's

friend in LA, Don Amador, is back on the line.

DON AMADOR (V.O.)

It looks like we've taken LA County, Harvey. By 65%. It's huge.

HARVEY MILK

I gotta go, Don. Thank you.

(frantic, to the room)
LA by 65% put it up! Put it up!
The tone in the room is changing. Jim storms up.

JIM RIVALDO

The polls were off. Briggs is going down by more than 2 to 1. The only district where it's leading in San Francisco is Dan White's. Harvey takes a moment to absorb the map. Anne, Dick & Jim, all the volunteers. What this apparent win means to him, to his people. To Cleve:

HARVEY MILK

Well crap Cleve, now what are we going to do tonight?!
(re: a giant, jock strap wearing, Lady Liberty)
Cover up Lady Liberty. The cameras will be coming our way.

131 INT. "NO ON SIX" CENTER / MARKET STREET - LATER

TV cameras roll. Lady liberty is covered with a "No on Six" poster. A brass band marches dramatically into the hall. Balloons fall. Harvey MOUNTS the stage to INCREDIBLE CHEERS.

93.

HARVEY MILK

To the gay community all over this state... my message to you is... so far a lot of people joined us and rejected Proposition Six, and now we owe them something... We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out... and most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

(CHEERS)

Tonight... Tonight it is clear that everyone out there does know one of

us. And now that they do, they see we are not sick... they can feel we are not wrong... and they know we should have a place in this great country and in this world... A message of hope has been sent to all the young people out there... to all those afraid of this wave of hate... to all those who have lost their homes and their hometowns... tonight we know there is a place for us! My brothers and sisters... we can come home again!

The crowd goes WILD. Harvey BEAMS. Moscone walks up onto stage and lifts Harvey's hand. Harvey is now a member of the S.F. political elite. Cleve watches from afar as Harvey

steps

off and disappears into the crowd.

132 INT. DAN WHITE'S HOME - NIGHT

Dan watches HARVEY'S VICTORY SPEECH on the local news.

133 EXT. THE CASTRO - MOMENTS LATER

The party behind him, Harvey scans the block. Cleve catches up, looking at Harvey, probing:

CLEVE JONES

What's the matter?

HARVEY MILK

You ever heard of sore losers? Well, I'm a sore winner... I thought we were goners.

(HALF-JOKING)

I'd started looking forward to the riots.

94.

CLEVE JONES

I told you, I don't "do" losing.

HARVEY MILK

I think maybe we're best with our
backs to the wall. It's too quiet.
(a new idea, what's next)
I think we should march on
Washington D.C. next year.

CLEVE JONES

Milk, you're a decent politician, a
mediocre businessman, but you're a
lousy gay man.
(Harvey knows what he's
getting at)
Take some time off. Fifty's right
around the corner.
(a devilish grin)
Nobody will want you after that...
I can handle D.C.

HARVEY MILK

(smiles, incredulous)
The people voted for us, Cleve Jones.

CLEVE JONES

They did. There's nowhere to march
tonight, Mr. Harvey Milk. Lets go
back inside.
Turning back, they savor the moment, like father and son
walking to Castro Camera, growing ever smaller in the frame.

134 INT. CITY HALL / SUPERVISORS' OFFICES - DAY

Dan White slides a sealed letter across a desk to an Aide.
It's addressed to Moscone. He seems oddly calm.

DAN WHITE

Could you give this to the Mayor
for me? As soon as possible.

135 INT. CITY HALL / SUPERVISORS' OFFICES - DAY

Harvey walks down the hallway to his office, a spring in his
step. There are nods, hellos if not outright deference from
most passersby. His newfound political muscle is evident.
He comes face to face with Dan White.

HARVEY MILK

Morning, Dan.

95.

DAN WHITE

I just resigned. Congratulations.
I'm sure you're pleased.
Harvey doesn't know what to say. Dan's right, it does make
him happy. But it's not that simple.

DAN WHITE (CONT'D)

You'll be the next President of the
Board.

HARVEY MILK

I'm sure we could work together--
Dan walks away from Harvey. He doesn't want to hear anything
Harvey has to say.
Harvey watches as Dan is met in the hallway by an OFFICER
from the POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION.

OFFICER

Hey, Dan. Just got word. Can we
talk to you for a minute?

DAN WHITE

Sure...
Dan heads for his office.

OFFICER

Downstairs. The Association
meeting room...
Harvey watches as Dan follows the officer down the stairs to
an ASSOCIATION MEETING ROOM on the next floor. When the DOOR
OPENS, Harvey sees SEVERAL REPRESENTATIVES from the Police
Department wearing somber expressions.
It looks as if Dan is about to get REAMED OUT.

136 INT. TV NEWS REPORT - DAY

ACTUAL FOOTAGE: Channel 5 reporting from Dan White's street:

DAVID FOWLER (ON TV)

Most people were surprised when Dan
White quit last Friday citing
financial difficulties. Now we've
heard that White is asking for his
Supervisor job back. But many say--

137 INT. CITY HALL / HARVEY'S OFFICE - DAY

Harvey, watching on the small TV set in his office.

96.

DAVID FOWLER (ON TV)

--White gave up all of his political chits when he resigned without making any arrangements. The news story transitions in the B.G. as Harvey gets up.

NEWS ANCHOR (ON TV/BG)

The city of San Francisco is in disbelief. Four-hundred bodies have been found thus far in Jonestown, Guyana. Leader of the People's Temple, Jim Jones...

138 INT. CITY HALL / DAN WHITE'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Harvey heads to Dan's office. He toys with the nameplate. Something bittersweet lingers. He walks in. HARVEY'S POV: On City Hall's lawn, Dan is with the press. He looks up, seeing Harvey in his office window. They make eye contact. It bears all the awkwardness of a relationship lost.

139 EXT. CITY HALL - MOMENTS LATER

Something's snapped. With adolescent frustration in evidence,
Dan is with his wife, the press and a few supporters.

DAN WHITE

It was a major decision on Friday that I had to come... to arrive at. But since that time, people unknown to me, plus my family and friends, have come to me and stated that they want me to stay in office, that they support me... So I'm asking the Mayor to let me stay in

office to serve the people...

140 INT. CITY HALL / MAYOR MOSCONE'S OFFICE - DAY

Harvey is firm, his hands planted on the Mayor's desk.

HARVEY MILK

He gets dragged into a closed door meeting with the Police Officers Association, and comes out demanding his job back? What do you think they promised him? Or worse, how did they threaten him?

97.

MAYOR MOSCONE

A man has the right to change his mind. Give me some peace.

HARVEY MILK

How many of our propositions has Dan shut down? We could finally settle this police desegregation nonsense. Cement rent control. It's his vote on this Board that stands in our way.

MAYOR MOSCONE

I get it, Harvey. I've been lobbied all week. Enough.

HARVEY MILK

Let me just remind you that you're up for re-election. If you re-appoint Dan, you lose the gay vote. They listen to me. You won't get elected dog catcher.

MAYOR MOSCONE

(stern, silent, a beat, then:)
I'll make my decision on Monday.
(as Harvey's on his way out,
with a wry grin)

You know what you sounded like just now? Boss Tweed or Mayor Daly.

HARVEY MILK

(returns the smile)

A "homosexual" with a bit of power... rather scary isn't it, Mr. Mayor?

OFF Harvey. He's come a long way.

OPERA MUSIC CROSSES THE CUT TO:

141 INT. SAN FRANCISCO OPERA HOUSE - NIGHT

Harvey sits in a balcony seat of the filled, darkened opera house next to Brazilian opera star BIDU SAYAO, 76. He's enraptured by a production of TOSCA.

ON STAGE IT'S "O Scarpia, we shall meet before God!"

Refusing

to be taken prisoner, Tosca jumps from the walls of the castle set to her death.

142 INT. DAN WHITE'S HOME / LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Mary Ann offers the phone to Dan. Dan takes it.

98.

DAN WHITE

(into the phone)

Yes. This is Dan White.

KCBS REPORTER (V.O.)

I'm Barbra Taylor from KCBS. I'm interested in your reaction. I've received information from the Mayor's office that you won't be getting your job back.

DAN WHITE

I'm sorry. I don't know anything about that.

Dan hangs up on her.

143 INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - LATE NIGHT

Harvey can't sleep. He dials the phone. He lets it ring and ring. Finally, a voice picks up on the other line.

SCOTT SMITH

Hello?

REVEAL: Scott, half asleep.

HARVEY MILK

Sorry to wake you up.

SCOTT SMITH

What's wrong?

HARVEY MILK

I went to the opera tonight. Guess who my date was.

SCOTT SMITH

Who?

HARVEY MILK

Bidu Sayao herself. She was in the first Puccini I ever saw. The crowd went wild. It was like I was young again, seeing my first live opera...

SCOTT SMITH

If you go to the opera again, you should call me.

HARVEY MILK

Really?

Scott gets out of bed, considers his words. It's intimate.

99.

SCOTT SMITH

Yes. I'd go with you.

HARVEY MILK

I'd like that.

Harvey is quiet, a rare moment of reflection. An unexpected

tear rolls down his cheek.

SCOTT SMITH

Harvey?

HARVEY MILK

Look out the window, the sun's coming up.

SCOTT SMITH

It's late. You should get some sleep.

HARVEY MILK

I don't want to miss it.

SCOTT SMITH

Miss what?

HARVEY MILK

This.

Harvey's single word answer means, "Life."

OFF Harvey: Neither wants to hang up the phone.

144 INT. DAN WHITE'S HOME / LIVING ROOM - MORNING

The sun rising in his own living room, Dan White has been up all night, too. The coffee table is covered with coke cans and junk food wrappers.

145 INT. CITY HALL - DAY

Waiting for a MAN inside to turn away, Dan sneaks in through a side window at City Hall. The man calls after him:

MAN

Hey, wait a minute, Mr.--

DAN WHITE

My aide was supposed to come down here and let me in the side door, but she never showed up.

MAN

And you are?

100.

DAN WHITE

I'm Dan White. City Supervisor.
We follow Dan down the hall and into the grand entry-way.

146 INT. CITY HALL / METAL DETECTORS - SAME

up
Like
Harvey walks through City Hall's METAL DETECTORS. He picks
his keys from the dish and heads up the grand staircase.
ships in the night, Harvey just misses Dan exiting the
elevator. Dan heads into Mayor Moscone's office.

147 INT. CITY HALL / SUPERVISORS' CHAMBERS - MOMENTS LATER

With Dianne, Harvey is thrilled, rubbing it in.

HARVEY MILK

Who's it gonna be? Is he replacing
Dan with that God Damned liberal
lefty Don Horanzy? That'll really
shake up the Board, huh?

DIANNE FEINSTEIN

All I know is that we're getting a
new Supervisor today. If Dan shows
up, just avoid him. We don't need
a scene today, right Harvey?

HARVEY MILK

(grins ear to ear)
Heaven forbid, Dianne.

148 INT. CITY HALL / MAYOR MOSCONE'S WAITING ROOM - SAME

heard
The MAYOR'S SECRETARY sits at her desk. Shouting can be
from inside his office.

149 INT. CITY HALL / MAYOR MOSCONE'S OFFICE - SAME

Moscone leads Dan White to the bar beside his office. Dan is
enraged. Moscone lights a cigarette.

DAN WHITE

You can't take this away from me!
Moscone has his back turned, pouring them cocktails.

MAYOR MOSCONE

The issue is what's fair, for the people of your district. Take some time off. Spend it with your family.

101.

Mosccone finishes pouring two cocktails, and turns to see Dan White brandishing his revolver.

150 INT. CITY HALL / MAYOR MOSCONE'S WAITING ROOM - SAME

Mosccone's Secretary, and a WAITING MAN note the THREE DULL THUDS, not so different than a backfire. The secretary looks out the window, concerned. The waiting man checks his watch.

151 INT. CITY HALL / MAYOR MOSCONE'S OFFICE - SAME

Still gripped in his hand, Moscone's cigarette burns a hole in his tie.

152 INT. CITY HALL / SUPERVISORS' OFFICES - MOMENTS LATER

Dan walks past Dick Pabich, past Dianne's office. Harvey's voice can be heard down the hall. He sounds up-beat,

OPTIMISTIC:

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

This time next year we're marching on Washington D.C. It'll look like Market and Castro, but with a million people. Write that down. Tell President Carter we're coming after him next. I'm going to deposit this. I'll be back in 20 minutes.

FRIEND,
Dan arrives at Harvey's office door. Harvey is with a preparing to leave, surprised to see Dan in his doorway.

DAN WHITE

Say, Harve, can I see you for a minute?

HARVEY MILK

Sure.

Dan walks Harvey down the hall to his old office.

153 INT. CITY HALL / DAN WHITE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

door. Harvey walks in first. Dan stays between Harvey and the

Dan closes it. Harvey smiles, sensing something is off. Dan draws his revolver. Harvey raises his hand. Dan Fires. The bullet rips through Harvey's hand and down his arm.

HARVEY MILK

Oh no... N--

Dan Fires again, silencing Harvey's cry for help.

102.

he Harvey turns away. Another bullet rips into his chest, and

toward falls to his knees, now facing the window. He staggers

it. The moment is extended as we see Harvey's POV of the Opera House outside the window, and the Castro beyond it. HOLD ON HARVEY, gazing out at his beloved city.

FIRES. Dan puts his revolver to the back of Harvey's head. HE

And just like that, Harvey falls.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Last week I got a phone call--

156 INT. FLASH BACK - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL

Harvey is still speaking into the tape recorder...

HARVEY

--from Altoona, Pennsylvania, and the voice was quite young, and the person said... "Thanks." You've got to elect gay people so that that young child and the thousands upon thousand like him know there's hope... hope for a better world...

157 INT. MEMORIAL SERVICE / SAN FRANCISCO - EARLY EVENING

Scott and Anne enter a sparsely attended memorial service. Most of the seats are empty. The speaker is unfamiliar, some appointed CITY OFFICIAL.

SCOTT SMITH

(finally crumbling, tears roll)
Where is everybody? Didn't anyone
give a damn?

158 INT. FLASH BACK - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL

Harvey speaking into the tape recorder.

HARVEY MILK

I ask this... If there should be an
assassination, I would hope that
five, ten, one hundred, a thousand
would rise. I would like to see
every gay lawyer, every gay
architect come out--

159 EXT. MEMORIAL SERVICE 1978 - CONTINUOUS

look

Walking back out onto the street, Anne and Scott turn to
down Market Street, the camera pans and drifts to reveal:

103.

**A MASSIVE CANDLELIGHT MARCH. CLEVE JONES LEADS TENS OF
THOUSANDS** of San Franciscans of every religion, nationality,
sexuality, all of the familiar faces and many new ones...
THEY ALL MARCH SILENTLY up Market Street to the palace

Harvey

dreamed could be his own: City Hall.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.)

--If a bullet should enter my
brain, let that bullet destroy
every closet door... And that's
all. I ask for the movement to

continue. Because it's not about personal gain, not about ego, not about power... it's about the "us's" out there. Not only gays, but the Blacks, the Asians, the disabled, the seniors, the us's. Without hope, the us's give up-- As the thousands of mourners arrive at City Hall, they place their candles around the statue of Lincoln.

HARVEY MILK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

--I know you cannot live on hope alone, but without it, life is not worth living. So you, and you, and you...

NIGHT
159B INT. FLASHBACK - HARVEY'S KITCHEN - RECORDED WILL -

HARVEY MILK

You gotta give em' hope... you gotta give em' hope. Harvey closes his note pad, puts down his pencil, and pushes stop on his recorder.

160 EXT. CASTRO CAMERA - NIGHT

Push in on Castro Camera. The sign still in the window, "We're Very Open."

FADE TO BLACK.

161 END TITLES:

TITLE CARD: A JURY OF DAN WHITE'S PEERS FOUND HIM GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER, THE MINIMUM CHARGE FOR BOTH MURDERS. THE DEFENSE ARGUED DAN WHITE'S DIET OF JUNK FOOD CREATED A CHEMICAL IMBALANCE THAT CAUSED THE KILLINGS.

TITLE CARD: THE VERDICT SET OFF "THE WHITE NIGHT RIOTS," THE MOST VIOLENT UPRISING IN THE GAY MOVEMENT'S HISTORY.

TITLE CARD: IN 1984, AFTER SERVING ONLY 5 YEARS, DAN WHITE WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON. LESS THAN TWO YEARS LATER, HE RETURNED TO SAN FRANCISCO AND COMMITTED SUICIDE.

AS CREDITS ROLL: The following updates are accompanied by images of the actual people from 1977 to current day:

TITLE CARD: SCOTT WORKED TO PRESERVE HARVEY'S LEGACY. HE DIED

OF AIDS RELATED COMPLICATIONS IN 1995.

TITLE CARD: ANNE KRONENBERG IS A MOTHER OF THREE AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN SAN FRANCISCO.

TITLE CARD: JIM RIVALDO AND DICK PABICH WENT ON TO RUN THEIR OWN POLITICAL PR COMPANY OUT OF THE CASTRO. DICK PABICH PASSED AWAY FROM AIDS RELATED COMPLICATIONS IN JANUARY 2000. JIM RIVALDO PASSED AWAY IN 2007.

TITLE CARD: CLEVE CONTINUES HIS POLITICAL ACTIVISM TODAY. IN 1987, HE CREATED "THE NAMES PROJECT" AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT WHICH REMAINS AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SYMBOL FOR THE AIDS CRISIS.