

2002

Original screenplay

by

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FINAL DRAFT

FADE IN:

INT. SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Moves backward where the sheet of large cream paper hanging on the wall says Class of 2002.

Everyone in the hallway goes to their locker door using their lock numbers to open it.

They had their other books and notepads for their last classes.

It's their last day of school. The school bell rang, and everyone in the hallway went to their classrooms on time.

CUT TO:

INT. SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL - MATH CLASS - LATER

AIDAN CUNNINGHAM, an 18-year-old senior, appears quite pale as he sits at the edge of the windows towards the back of the room.

Aidan opens his blue navy binder.

From Aidan's point of view, he applied to three different colleges: the University of California, Los Angeles, Stanford University, and the University of Southern California. Unfortunately, he received rejection letters from all three.

Aidan shakes his head, showing he feels frustrated. He sought college, voicing every thought, but both schools denied him.

He keeps glancing rearward, towards the glass window.

The young girl and her companions, all eighteen, joyfully boarded the vehicle, ready for their next adventure.

The male teacher, Mr. Maddux, in his mid-30s, opened a folded notepaper from a student and announced his name.

MR. MADDUX

Aidan Cunningham

Aidan looks away from the windows and stares at his math teacher.

He walks to the front desk.

MR. MADDUX (CONT'D)
 (whisper)
 Principal Stewart wants to meet
 with you in his office. Are you
 alright?

Aidan nods.

Aidan exits the math class, and the students watch him leave.
 As he exits the room, a student yells at him.

MEAN STUDENT
 (shouting)
 BUSTED.

The entire class laughs out loud.

MR. MADDUX
 That is enough.

CUT TO:

INT. SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY

Aidan strolls down the empty hallway, waiting for the school bell to signal the end of the day, still looking down at the floor.

Aidan identified himself in a faded picture of the 1999 basketball team on the ground.

AIDAN
 I am going to miss this place.

Aidan's friend ERIC FRIDAY has been a best friend with Aidan since 9th grade.

He taps on Aidan's shoulder. Eric sounds excited.

ERIC
 Hey Aidan, can you believe it? We finally made it! Our high school days are over; we're ready to face the world. Did you receive the letter from Stanford University? I've just been accepted, and my whole family was incredibly proud of me when I shared the news with them.

We see that Aidan experienced embarrassment, didn't want to say anything, and had his eyes wide open.

AIDAN

Yeah, I got in, too. I'm eager to share the news with my parents as well.

Eric jumped up and down, experiencing a surge of excitement about Aidan's news.

ERIC

I can't believe we're going to be roommates.

We hear Eric's phone ring coming from his pocket. And he answers the phone.

He walks away from Aidan about six feet away as he strolls while talking on his cell phone.

ERIC (CONT'D)

Hello... yeah, mom... yeah...
where... sure I'll be outside...
okay... bye-bye.

Eric hung up the phone and returned to Aidan, still in the same spot.

ERIC (CONT'D)

I must get going; my mom is waiting for me in the parking lot. She wants to go shopping. I'll see you at the graduation party our friend Louis is hosting.

Aidan should have remembered the party to which they were invited.

AIDAN

Right. I forgot about that.

ERIC

See you later, roommate.

Aidan watches Eric running down the hallway as he exits the front building. We can hear him cheering, and his voice echoes.

Aidan smiled at Eric, and then his smile disappeared. We saw Aidan go back to look at the door, where we stared at the picture, and then went back to see the glass, where we saw the reflections of Aidan's face.

CUT TO:

INT. OUTER OFFICE

Two punk goth boys sit on the chair next to the entrance door.

Aidan enters the outer office, where we meet Mrs. Womack, 40, a Hispanic woman who looks like she hasn't aged a bit. She's sitting in front of the desk and glances at the front door entrance.

She grabs the phone to let the principal know.

Aidan walks to the front desk during her phone call from the principal's office.

MRS. WOMACK
Okay, I'll let him know...
(hangs up the phone)
The principal will be calling you
in a minute, dear.

Mrs. Womack is a polite woman.

MRS. WOMACK (CONT'D)
How about you sit with the other
student, and he'll be right there.

Aidan nods.

AIDAN
Thanks.

Aidan was about to sit next to those two mean punk kids, who wore dark outfits and silver piercings on their noses, eyebrows, and ears.

They were giving Aidan mean looks.

Aidan sat at the far end of the chair.

The SECRETARY looks up at him.

He grabs his CD players while he waits. He puts on his headphones, and we hear the button "click" as he presses play.

CUT TO:

INT. PRINCIPAL OFFICE

We're at the principal's office, and the camera is staring at his right hand while he's writing on yellow sticky tape. We don't get to see what he's writing on.

While on the phone with his wife.

PRINCIPAL STEWART
Honey, I already told you I will
make a reservation for our
anniversary dinner on Saturday
night. We have been married for
twenty years, and I want to make
our anniversary memorable. I'm
happy to invite our next-door
neighbor to join us, and, of
course, I'll cover the cost of the
meal. You love me as much as I love
you.

A young woman entered the office by knocking on the door.

PRINCIPAL STEWART (CONT'D)
Hold on, sweetheart.

He pauses his wife's conversation and asks a young woman for
a favor.

PRINCIPAL STEWART (CONT'D)
Could you please send me Mr.
Cunningham? Thank you.

She nods and leaves the office.

He smiles at her and says he is not having an affair. He's
only being polite to her.

CUT TO:

INT. OUTER OFFICE

Aidan looks down at his CD player, watching the disc spin
rapidly.

YOUNG WOMAN (V.O.)
Mr. Aidan Cunningham.

Aidan hears her call his name in a delicate voice.

Aidan gets up from the chair, grabs his stuff, and walks to
the office at the back.

MRS. WOMACK
He's ready for you, dear.

CUT TO:

INT. PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The camera shows the right hand, with no pen, waving during the phone conversation with his wife.

PRINCIPAL STEWART is handsome. He is wearing his white shirt, blue navy tie, and gray suit jacket on the front door hanger.

His thick, black, wealthy hairstyle is in the back. And his aftershave was made as smooth as a bottom.

Aidan knocks on the wide-open door. He points to the two chairs and suggests that they sit down.

Principal Stewart told Aidan to come in and ask him to close the door for a private conversation.

Aidan sat on the left side of the chair and waited for him to end his phone call.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

Sweetie, I'll call you back and
tell Mr. and Mrs. Williamson to be
ready by Saturday. Bye. I love you,
too.

Aidan looked at the wall and returned to Principal Stewart, where he saw his point of view hanging up the phone.

PRINCIPAL STEWART (CONT'D)

Hello, Aidan. How's everything
going?

AIDAN

Everything is going well, I want to
say. I will miss you, my teachers,
and the school; by the time I
graduate, I will remember all
this...

Principal Stewart stops him there for just a second.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

Please wait a moment, Aidan.
There's something important that we
need to discuss. However, before
you get excited, I want to clarify
that I didn't invite you here to
celebrate. I called you to my
office because you need to improve
your math skills. It seems that you
are struggling with the math class.

AIDAN

What are you talking about? I have no interest in it.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

I have reviewed your grades and found that you have straight A's in all subjects except math. Unfortunately, you cannot graduate until you have passed your math class.

Aidan is wide-eyed, his face shocked.

PRINCIPAL STEWART (CONT'D)

I have some news regarding your math class. You will be receiving three math assignments and one final exam. However, I want to assure you that I will immediately hire a math tutor to assist you in completing these tasks. Rest assured that you will be ready to graduate on time once you have completed them.

Aidan doesn't want to know what his principal says or give them advice about retaking math.

AIDAN

You can't do this to me. I am not taking another math. I wanted to graduate and get out of here.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

Aidan, I can only allow you to graduate once you have completed your math. My role is to assist you as a student, not to judge you. What if I offer you my help? I am very good at it.

AIDAN

I thought you had your anniversary planned tonight.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

(Surprisingly to hear)

It is not till tomorrow night. How did you know?

AIDAN

Your office has thin walls, and we can hear everything that's being said. Congratulations on your 20th wedding anniversary.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

It's not about me. It's about you and your grade; you will only succeed if you take this class seriously. Then, I must sign you up for summer school.

Aidan got a little upset about summer school, which he hated.

AIDAN

Can't you drop it and let me graduate, so you don't have to solve my problems?

PRINCIPAL STEWART

I cannot do that.

AIDAN

Then why can you drop it?

PRINCIPAL STEWART

I won't do that.

Aidan gets up from his chair and yells at the principal in the outer office to look at them; even the punk kids hear him.

PRINCIPAL STEWART (CONT'D)

Son, it would be best if you calmed down.

AIDAN

Don't tell me to calm down. Who the hell do you think you are? I don't have to calm down.

Principal Stewart slowly gets up from his chair and looks straight into Aidan's eyes.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

Get ready to attend summer school because you won't be graduating. I'll see you in June.

Aidan grabs his stuff and marches out.

Principal Stewart also gets up after Aidan leaves his office.

PRINCIPAL STEWART (CONT'D)
AIDAN, YOU GET BACK HERE RIGHT NOW!
AIDAN.

The door closes slowly until it CLICKS.

The punk boy raises his fist for "respect."

CUT TO:

INT. SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY

Aidan drops his binder, bends down to pick it up, stops there for a second, and looks down at his three college rejection letters and overdue schoolwork.

He throws his blinder in the trash on the left side of the door. Aidan opens the door.

A bright light comes into the building, and Aidan exits the school.

The door makes an echoing sound.

FADE TO BLACK

ROLL TITLE IN THE CENTER:

19 YEARS LATER

FADE IN:

EXT. SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

The bell rings on the last day of school, and all the front doors and windows open.

The students exited the school building by throwing their papers high into the air, and a group of seniors wore their graduation gowns as they prepared to receive their diplomas.

Everyone put their backpack and other stuff in the trash.

PIERCE CUNNINGHAM, 16, is the son of Aidan Cunningham. He is almost a little bit of a boyish and recently intelligent kid. He wants to be a writer. He's holding three books and carrying his black backpack on his back.

Pierce is on the phone with his father, who works as a mechanic and fixes cars.

PIERCE
(on the phone)
I know, Dad. It's important to me too. School finishes earlier, and I will have lunch with the guys. I don't know. In-N-Out, I guess.

Pierce walks on the grass straight without any noise in the back.

But unfortunately, Pierce forgot to tell Aidan the news.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
Oh yeah, Dad, I forgot to tell you. Daniella finally got his driver's license, so the guys and I went out and celebrated. No more riding buses for us... Okay, I'll tell him that. But, hey, when am I ever going to drive? I got my driver's license. It will take me three years to graduate from high school...

CUT TO:

EXT. GARAGE MECHANIC - AFTERNOON

We don't get to see Aidan's face yet, but we can see his voice, what he wears, where he's holding his phone, and where he stands outside, staring at the sky.

Aidan's voice is a little deeper when he talks to his son on the phone.

Aidan is outside while talking on the phone with someone.

AIDAN
I told you the last time, Pierce, you would only drive once you graduate. So I don't want you to go out there and drive around like those manic drivers looking for trouble.

Aidan's voice is a little deep.

AIDAN (CONT'D)
Now, listen, Pierce, I want you to become a better person and a better son to me; I don't want you to let me down. Like how I fail myself, I wish to take it back, but I can't.
(MORE)

AIDAN (CONT'D)

It would be best if you didn't end up like me. You understand me.

CUT TO:

EXT. SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL

Pierce is still walking from the grass field.

PIERCE

Yes, I understand. Listen, Dad, I should let you get back to work, and my friends will be out here any minute... I know... I will... love you too. Bye.

We see Pierce and Aidan hang up the phone.

AUSTIN

BOO. What up, dick licker.

He turns, and we get to meet Pierce's friend. AUSTIN MOORE is the same age as Pierce and has always been on Pierce's side.

They walk together.

PIERCE

Oh my god, Austin.

AUSTIN

Ha-ha, I can't believe these days are done. Didn't I mean to startle you like that, Pierce?

PIERCE

No, you didn't. I just got off the phone with my dad.

AUSTIN

How is he?

PIERCE

He's doing okay; he's just calling to check on me.

AUSTIN

That's nice of him.

PIERCE

Yeah. I am still complaining about it.

AUSTIN

Is it too early for us to think about that?

PIERCE

You don't know what he was like. My dad had a future, a life, but he blew it away. He rejected his dream, and as a result, he never had the chance to graduate from high school. I don't blame him. He was lost and had no idea what he wanted to do. He doesn't want me to end up like him.

Understanding what Pierce has been going through and suffering with his old man.

Austin understands his conversation.

AUSTIN

Pierce, I get it now. You love your dad no matter what, ever since your mom...

Austin stops himself.

AUSTIN (CONT'D)

Sorry... I didn't mean to.

Pierce stops him before he overwhelms him.

PIERCE

Austin, you don't have to be bothered. I know. I wish she hadn't left.

AUSTIN

Are you still in contact with her?

PIERCE

I wanted to call her, but it felt like I was backstabbing him. He's afraid I would leave him alone; the last time I spoke to her, she wanted me to live in Kansas. If I go with her, he will never forgive me, and he doesn't know about it.

Pierce and Austin stop. Pierce sat on top of the Santa Rosa High School sign in front.

Austin stands on his feet without sitting on anything for a while.

Pierce was looking left and right to see where the guys were.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
What's taking them so long?

AUSTIN
They told us to be here at this spot.

Austin and Pierce heard the car's squeaky, tired noise from the back of the building, only a minute away from the parking lot.

A red 2018 Ford Mustang convertible turns a little too fast on the right, drives straight to the school sign, and then parks on the sidewalk.

The car stopped, and we were going to meet Austin and Pierce's friends.

PIERCE
Damn, Daniella, sweet ride.

DANIELLA BARS, 16, with dark brown curly hair, is driving a Mustang Pass. Daniella may be the scary driver, but she's doing the best he can.

DANIELLA
You know it.

CHARLOTTE KINGSLEY, 16, sitting in the passenger seat, with light brown, blond hair.

Charlotte and Daniella are both wearing shade sunglasses.

PIERCE
Who bought this car for you?

DANIELLA
Well, my dad's friend sells cars.
Until I saw this, I had planned to take it on the road and head to the Grand Canyon.

Austin makes a joke about driving. Pierce and Charlotte both chuckle and laugh for a second.

DANIELLA (CONT'D)
Are we going to each lunch or what?

AUSTIN
Oh, hell yeah.

Austin jumped on Daniella's back, and Pierce jumped back on the passenger seat where Charlotte was sitting.

PIERCE

Hey, Daniella, it's a good thing
you have seats made of leather.

DANIELLA

Let's have some tunes.

Then, the cream-nude Jeep Wrangler comes to the front, and a group of football boys is driving exceptionally well.

One of the boys, getting up from the passenger seat of the Wrangler, became out of control. RICHIE MARTINEZ, 17, partied with his friends and ran out at them.

RICHIE

Hey, losers, nice car you got
there...

Richie's teammates' friends laugh.

RICHIE (CONT'D)

Did your boyfriend, Justin Bieber,
buy it for you?

Austin gets up from his seat and yells at him.

AUSTIN

SCREW OFF, RICHIE.

RICHIE

I'LL SEE YOU AT HOME, DORK.

The wrangler disappears on the road.

Austin sits back down.

PIERCE

What an asshole.

Charlotte has never met him before, and he looks confused.

CHARLOTTE

Austin, who were you yelling at?
Was he your bully?

AUSTIN

Even worse than a bully. That's my
stepbrother, Richie. He can be a
dick sometimes.

CHARLOTTE

Wait... that's the team throwing eggs at my house two years ago on Halloween.

AUSTIN

What!?

PIERCE

Dude, are you serious?

DANIELLA

That is messed up.

CHARLOTTE

Yeah, it's them because I recognize that laugh, and they started throwing eggs at my house. It was nonstop. So, my mom and I had to clean up their mess. It took us three hours.

Austin felt bad for Daniella, who was all excited to have a new car, but now it's all ruined. But, on the other hand, Austin always cheers up Daniella whenever he's dispirited.

AUSTIN

Daniella, you don't need to listen to them. Just ignore them. They're just a bunch of douche heads. And I will deal with Richie later.

DANIELLA

You're right. I don't need to hear it. Now, let's turn on some tunes.

She went to her iPhone, which he connected to Bluetooth, and turned the music on. The dashboard screen shows an artist image of THE WEEKND and the song titled BLINDING LIGHTS.

EXT. ROAD

Driving on the road, enjoying the breeze, Charlotte stares at every building passing by and moves her head while listening to the music.

Austin puts both of his hands up high to feel the heavy wind.

Pierce looked around while passing.

CUT TO:

INT. IN-N-OUT BURGER - LATER

Pierce, Austin, Daniella, and Charlotte all ordered the same burgers.

DANIELLA

Austin, what's up with this Richie guy? We have seen him sometimes at school, but not outside of school. What is it like living in the same house with him? Also, what was his problem?

AUSTIN

I don't want to talk about it.

CHARLOTTE

No, we cannot just drop it like that.

DANIELLA

Yeah, it would be best if you told us.

CHARLOTTE

Come on, Austin. Tell us.

PIERCE

Austin.

AUSTIN

He hasn't been himself since his father remarried my mother. He told me that Richie has never been himself since his divorce.

Austin shares a memory with his stepbrother, Richie, of where they met.

AUSTIN (CONT'D)

He was depressed after his mom left him and moved to Vancouver.

They were concerned by the look on their faces when they heard the last word.

Pierce bites his burger and spits it out.

PIERCE

Hey, I said no onions.

Charlotte giggles. Austin and Daniella followed.

CUT TO:

EXT. GARAGE MECHANIC

Aidan stared at his phone and thought he could make a quick call, and he only had a fifteen-minute break.

He opened his phone screen, went to his contacts, and clicked on the name Eric.

Aidan stood there for a second, then pressed the call button. He puts his phone to his right ear and hears his phone ring.

Then we heard the phone pick up.

AIDAN

Hey Eric, it's Aidan from high school. It's been a long time since we last saw each other. How's New York?

CUT TO:

INT. CHARLOTTE HOUSE - NIGHT

Charlotte and her mother ROSIE... Both are eating at a circular dining table, eating spaghetti with a meatball.

Everything was silent, and she was still eating dinner with her eight-year-old sister, AVRIL, her sweet innocence and healthy blond pigtail.

Rosie looks at Charlotte's food while twisting around with his silver fork. Then, she looks at her daughter while enjoying her food, content to mind her own business.

ROSIE

So, Charlotte... how is school going?

Charlotte gazes at Rosie and then moves her plate back.

CHARLOTTE

School is going well, and today is our last day of school...

Charlotte stares at his dinner plate, still twisting around.

CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)

The guys and I went to have an In-N-Out Burger for Daniella's driving license, so we celebrated.

ROSIE

That's great. Good for Daniella. I knew she was going to pass. Anything else?

CHARLOTTE

No..., I think that's about it.

There's one thing Rosie must tell Charlotte. She sees her daughter eating.

ROSIE

Oh, and Charlotte, there is one thing I need to tell you.

Charlotte looks at her and stops her with her fork, which means she knows what she's about to say.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

Your father called and said he wants to see you in person by tomorrow morning. I'll drop you off, okay?

CHARLOTTE

I wouldn't say I like where he's at.

ROSIE

I know, honey. I wanted him home, too.

CHARLOTTE

It's just not fair. He didn't do anything wrong.

A fork drops loudly from a plate, and Avril looks at his big brother.

Rosie looks so shocked that she stares at him. Rosie's eyes were wide open.

ROSIE

Charlotte, your father doesn't want you to be all worried. All he wanted you to do was to be happy.

CHARLOTTE

Every time I see him, I hardly look at him. I was worried you would never love him again, but you never stopped visiting him.

Rosie tries to hold his sob, and she can feel choked by hearing those words.

ROSIE

Charlotte, never in a million years have I visited your father during my lunch break, and I have always loved your father since we were teenagers. Your father will always love you, no matter what.

Rosie turns to her daughter.

ROSIE (CONT'D)

That includes you, Avril.

Avril smiles at her mother.

CHARLOTTE

So, why did you name her Avril? Is that one of your cousins' names?

ROSIE

No, her name was after the singer Avril Lavigne.

Charlotte brings out the confusion.

CHARLOTTE

Who's Avril Lavigne?

The fork drops once again.

CUT TO:

INT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Pierce and Aidan live in two-story houses.

Aidan and Pierce watch television together, watching SHARK WEEK.

Aidan lies on the sofa staring at the television, and Pierce sits in the chair looking straight.

PIERCE

Why are they putting a tracker on a great white?

AIDAN

They're probably trying to imagine what it is like to become a shark and swim in the ocean 24/7.

PIERCE
I don't know.

We see the Sharks on television going through commercials.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
Dad. There's something I'd like to share with you.

AIDAN
As muting the commercial will let you borrow my Mustang tomorrow, you're not stepping on that car.

PIERCE
I wasn't talking about that.

AIDAN
Then what is it?

Aidan snips his glass beer bottle.

PIERCE
It's going to sound strange... Mom called me the other day.

Aidan stops him there. He gets up from the couch and puts his bottle on the coffee table.

Aidan stops drinking his beer and looks straight at him.

AIDAN
What does she say?

PIERCE
She called to check on me and how I was doing at school.

AIDAN
That's a very thoughtful thing of her--anything else she said.

PIERCE
Oh, look, Shark Week is back on.

Pierce gets the remote and unmutes the TV.

Pierce grabs the chip bowl.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
I'm going to grab some more chips.

AIDAN
Alright.

He got up from the chair and went to the kitchen.

Pierce returns from the kitchen and places the chips on the coffee table. He sits on the chair and opens his Sprite bottle to drink.

PIERCE

Dad, I have one more thing to ask.

AIDAN

What is it?

Aidan looks away from the television and looks at Pierce.

PIERCE

Can Austin, Daniella, and Charlotte come over tomorrow night?

AIDAN

You could bring them over, if you'd like.

PIERCE

And...

AIDAN

No dads allowed. I'll pick up some pizza after work today.

PIERCE

Thanks, Dad. I'll let them know tomorrow.

AIDAN

Sure thing, pal.

Aidan grabs one chip while watching television. Pierce looks at him, smiling.

CUT TO:

INT. PRISON CELL - MORNING

Male inmates visit their wives, children, and parents sitting on the silver bench and chair.

Charlotte watches the inmates, wearing black uniforms with white stripes on the left side, as they run up and down the corridors. The numbers, white and printed on the right side, are visible. They also wear white shoes and have white numbers on their backs.

Charlotte hears his father's number from the guards.

GUARDS (V.O.)
(shouted)
NUMBER 53478, YOUR VISITOR, IS
HERE.

We get to meet Charlotte's father... MARTIN KINGSLEY.

Charlotte gets up from the chair and hugs her dad.

CHARLOTTE
Dad.

MARTIN
Hey sweetheart, it's great to see
you again.

GUARDS (V.O.)
(shouted)
NO HUGGING THE INMATES.

They jump, scared by the guards' shouts in powerful voices.

Both of them sat down.

MARTIN
How have you been doing?

CHARLOTTE
I'm doing well.

MARTIN
How's everything in the house
going? How is your mother? Is there
any trouble going on?

CHARLOTTE
Uh... no trouble at the house. Mom
is doing okay. I went to tell her
that yesterday was my last day of
school, so we were on summer break.

MARTIN
That is great. Have you ever
considered getting a summer job to
help your mom?

Charlotte chuckled.

CHARLOTTE
Dad--I'm fifteen.

MARTIN
I know I was joking.

CHARLOTTE

Your dad's jokes don't fit.

Charlotte and Martin smile at each other, and Charlotte stares down at the table.

MARTIN

What about Avril? How's my other sweet baby girl?

CHARLOTTE

She's doing great. She mentions you when I put her to bed, asking when you are coming home. She misses you, Dad.

Martin loves hearing how his daughter misses him and wants to meet him badly. Marlon wants to meet her, too.

MARTIN

Tell her I miss her, too.

CHARLOTTE

I'll let her know that.

Charlotte's smile disappears.

CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)

When are you coming home? The house is quiet without you around. Mom could not stop looking at past pictures of you and her.

Martin knows what Charlotte's talking about.

MARTIN

Charlotte, you know I will be in prison for the rest of my life. I want to get out of here, but the judge has declined my parole several times. And I did everything in my power, but everything has fallen into pieces.

Charlotte breaks down into tears.

CHARLOTTE

Dad, you can't do this to me. You can't do this...

MARTIN

Hey, hey. Charlotte--look at me. Look at me.

Martin reaches Charlotte's hand, where the guards are not looking.

Martin wipes her tears, making them disappear.

Martin changes the subject.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

Did I ever tell you where I met
your mother?

Charlotte's head shakes.

CHARLOTTE

No. I don't recall you mentioning
that.

MARTIN

Before I was locked up, I was still
in high school, and I saw this
girl. I used to have a massive
crush on her...

INT. GARAGE MECHANIC - AFTERNOON

Aidan is at the bottom of the car while the black Honda is being fixed.

Until he hears his boss, GRAYSON, an overweight white man with gray/black hair loss in his mid-50s.

GRAYSON

Cunningham. My office.

Aidan rolled out under the Honda and saw his boss standing before his office.

Two male employees on a lunch break watch Aidan go straight to Grayson's office.

Aidan sauntered into the office and didn't know what he wanted with him. Aidan stood.

AIDAN

You wanted to see me, sir.

GRAYSON

Have a seat.

AIDAN

Sit, is everything okay? I don't
know what this is about. Am I
getting half a day today?

GRAYSON
No, it's not like that.

AIDAN
Are you asking me to do overtime because I can do that? My son is getting older and is bringing his friends to hang out with him.

GRAYSON
I'm cutting you off.

AIDAN
You can't fire me; I have a kid at home. I have worked my ass off to get over here. Why can you fire Ted? He's the one who is running late all the time.

GRAYSON
I'm sorry, but this is a business matter, and I'm unable to take any action on it.

AIDAN
I have been working here since 2004, and you're going to let me go for what?

GRAYSON
It's business, Cunningham.

AIDAN
No, it's not; yours is just after my money: my house, my kid's future.

GRAYSON
Well, you'd better get home to your rotten little bastard.

Aidan releases his rage and slams the table with his hardcore hands. He stands up from his chair and yells at Grayson, filling the room with a raging voice.

AIDAN
SHUT UP. DON'T YOU DARE TALK ABOUT MY SON LIKE THAT? WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? HUH-WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

Everybody looked at the office and heard Aidan's shouting voice mumble.

Aidan slides his hand to throw off Grayson's office supplies and paperwork off the desk, his paper flying around. Grayson's voice made a squeaky sound.

GRAYSON
YOU GET THE HELL OUT OF MY OFFICE--
YOU CRAZY SON OF BITCH.

Grayson still sits in his chair, never flinching over Aidan's rage.

GRAYSON (CONT'D)
I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE IN MY
BUILDING AGAIN.

Aidan makes his exit from the office and walks fast.

CUT TO:

INT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE

Pierce sits at the dining table reading Stephen King's THE SHINING. Pierce was sitting at the dining table. We heard the door slam.

Pierce looks out the window. He gets up and looks out the window. Aidan gets out of the car and carries three boxes of pizza.

Pierce went to the table, put his bookmark, and closed it, about to make his way to the front door.

He opens the door. Pierce grabbed the three pizza boxes and placed them on the dining table.

Aidan's all calm from work.

AIDAN
Son, please help me out; put the
pizza on the table. They're HOT.

PIERCE
Thanks, Dad, for getting the pizza.
The guys will be here in a minute.

Pierce arranges the stuff. As he turns around, he sees his father strolling. Aidan goes to the living room and sits on the couch with both hands covering his face.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
Dad, what's going on? What happens?

AIDAN
It's nothing.

PIERCE
That looks like nothing... tell me.

AIDAN
I got fire.

Aidan's world was crashing down.

PIERCE
WHAT--WHY.

AIDAN
That fat bastard just fired me for
no reason.

Pierce went to Aidan and hugged him with no tears or sobs.

PIERCE
Dad, I'm so sorry that he fired you
for no reason. Why could he fire
the other guys who were always
running late?

AIDAN
He has no problem with being late.

PIERCE
Well, that is just ridiculous. What
are we going to do?

AIDAN
I don't know.

Pierce looks out the window.

AIDAN (CONT'D)
I called your mother. Would you
explain why she wants you to live
with her in Kansas and why you
didn't tell me?

PIERCE
Dad, I wanted to tell you, but I
just...

AIDAN
Save it. If that's how you feel,
you should live with her instead.
Go on leave already. You're just
like her--a quitter.
(MORE)

AIDAN (CONT'D)

That's what she is, and you are
turning into her. A lying BITCH.

PIERCE

DAD.

We hear a knock on the door.

AIDAN

I'm sorry. I didn't mean to...

Pierce went to the door to open it, and Daniella, Austin, and
Charlotte walked into the house.

Aidan hides his anger.

DANIELLA

Hey Pierce.

AUSTIN

What's up, man?

DANIELLA

Something smells good.

CHARLOTTE

Where is the pizza? I am starving.

Aidan lay down on the couch, never saying a word. He didn't
cry.

INT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE - BASEMENT

On the television screen, they're playing TEKKEN 7 video
games: Austin's character, KAZUYA MISHIMA, and Charlotte's
character, PAUL PHOENIX, where they talk like they're insane.

Charlotte and Austin are sitting on the sofa. Daniella and
Pierce are in the back, watching them.

CU VIDEO GAME

AUSTIN

You're going down, Charlotte.

CHARLOTTE

How did you do that?

AUSTIN

Pay up!

CUT TO:

INT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE - KITCHEN

Pierce opens the refrigerator, taking some cold soda cans.

Pierce closes the fridge as he makes his way down the basement. He looks at Aidan, still lying on the couch, and hears him snoring.

PIERCE

Dad.

He was still sleeping and didn't hear Pierce calling his name.

He looks at the picture frame on the shelf and sees his mother, blond and mid-thirty, sitting in a red dress with white polka dots on the grass. She smiles so brightly.

Pierce looks away and returns to stare at Aidan.

Charlotte is calling from the basement.

CHARLOTTE (V.O.)

Pierce, you need to come and look at this.

Pierce looks at Aidan again and walks back to the basement.

CUT TO:

INT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE - BASEMENT

Pierce walks down the stairs quickly.

PIERCE

What's going on? Are they fighting again? Guys, do you need to calm down?

CHARLOTTE

No, it's not that, but take a look at this. Austin, the mute button.

Austin reaches the remote and unmutes the TV.

NEW LADY REPORTER (V.O.)

Two local spouses of professors were arrested last night. They have been hiding the old, banned factory outside Santa Rosa, California, where two people are being handcuffed and taken to the police station.

A cameraman is filming two men, in their fifties and forties, handcuffed, being escorted out of the factory building.

NEW LADY REPORTER (V.O.)

Some say these two men are building something illegal in the U.S. They have been hiding their project, using the old factory as a top-secret facility, for eighteen years. The government and the FBI will investigate this Top-Secret project on Sunday to assess its status.

Someone, mute the TV.

PIERCE

What do you guys think inside?

DANIELLA

I don't know, but I want to see what it is.

AUSTIN

Are you insane? You can't go there.

CHARLOTTE

I agree with Austin; we will be in serious trouble if we go there.

DANIELLA

Who cares what everyone says? I want to see what their project is.

Daniella looked at the TV and then smiled. Pierce knows where he wants to go and what to do.

DANIELLA (CONT'D)

Pierce, you passed your driver's test.

PIERCE

Well yeah...

Pierce's eyes were wide open.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

(shocking look)

NO.

DANIELLA

Yes.

PIERCE

No. I can't just take my dad's
MUSTANG on the road; he will
notice.

DANIELLA

Come on, Pierce. We must go over
there and check it out. Don't you
guys want to see it, too?

PIERCE

Daniella, you heard what they said;
we can't go there.

DANIELLA

It doesn't matter what people are
watching on television. Let's peek
inside, and we'll head back home.

Pierce looks at the TV screen and sees the two men being
carried inside the cop cars.

PIERCE

Find. I will go over there.

DANIELLA

(cheering)

YES.

PIERCE

We'll be leaving the house by
MIDNIGHT.

CUT TO:

EXT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE - FRONT YARD - NIGHT

Daniella, Austin, and Charlotte ran outside to the 1968
Mustang GT 350, which was black.

AUSTIN

Shotgun.

CHARLOTTE

Why do you get a shotgun? You
always get the shotgun.

Charlotte opens the back seat door from the driver's side.
Austin takes the passenger side, and Daniella takes the back
seat with Charlotte.

DANIELLA

Why is it so cramped in here?

CHARLOTTE
I can't even breathe.

DANIELLA
Charlotte quit pushing me.

AUSTIN
Guys, shut up; he'll hear us.

SLAM silently. On the passenger seat.

CUT TO:

INT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Pierce looks at Aidan while he's asleep on the couch.

Pierce grabs the keys from the coffee table and watches Aidan, trying not to make a sudden noise.

Pierce grabs the blanket from the chair and covers himself.

CUT TO:

INT. 1968 MUSTANG GT 350

Pierce gets in the car and closes the door gently.

Daniella, Charlotte, and Austin look at him.

DANIELLA
Everything okay.

PIERCE
I'm fine... just thinking.

Pierce wipes his tears on the left side.

AUSTIN
What is it?

PIERCE
Never mind. Let's go.

Pierce turns on the car, shifting the gear into reverse.

CUT TO:

EXT. FREEWAY

While driving on the freeway, all the drivers fell silent, staring at the road and one another.

Pierce drives north.

CHARLOTTE

Pierce...

Pierce looks at Charlotte in the mirror.

CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)

What do you want to talk about?

AUSTIN

Charlotte.

CHARLOTTE

Hey, he can tell us. I mean, we're not his dad.

Charlotte wants to be honest with Pierce.

PIERCE

He called my mom, and I lied that she was calling to check on him and me. She told him she would take me to live with her in Kansas, and he lost his temper.

CHARLOTTE

What.

DANIELLA

You're leaving us.

AUSTIN

No. He's not.

PIERCE

No, I'm not leaving; I am not moving to Kansas. My mom left me, and my dad and I will not forgive her for this. I am not going to leave my dad like my mom did.

DANIELLA

I'm so sorry to hear that.

CHARLOTTE

We are ALL here for you and your dad.

PIERCE
Thanks, guys. Let's listen to some
music.

Pierce reaches for the radio station's dashboard to turn it
on.

SONG: YOUR LOVE by THE OUTFIELD.

AUSTIN
Oh yeah, this is my jam here.

CHARLOTTE
I love the '80s station.

Pierce and Charlotte gasped in shock.

They sang on the road while singing to THE OUTFIELD.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

The door opens outside the building, and Pierce pushes it
through everything. They see nothing but pitch darkness, and
the smell of the dust makes them want to sneeze.

AUSTIN
Guys, I can barely see what's
inside. I feel like I'm going to
sneeze.

PIERCE
You'd better hold it until I find
the light switch to turn on. It has
to be here somewhere.

The boys could barely see and knew where to walk, but they
weren't in a hurry. They took their time to walk steadily.

CHARLOTTE
Let's hope we don't get caught.
This is trespassing.

SLAMMED!!!

The door crashes, shatters, and echoes through the whole
building... they're not alone.

Charlotte and Daniella were shaken to death. Austin screams
his lungs out.

AUSTIN
WHAT THE FUCK!!!

Pierce comes running.

CHARLOTTE
Dude, can you control that?

Richie appears from the slams.

RICHIE
Sorry about that. Don't get all
scary, cats like that, little bro.

AUSTIN
Richie, what are you doing here?
And don't call me little bro.

CHARLOTTE
What are you doing here?

RICHIE
I will ask you the same question:
What are you guys doing here? Do
you realize the trouble you're in?

DANIELLA
Do you know where we are?

RICHIE
I followed you guys. I was going to
pick Austin up, and suddenly, you
guys took off with Pierce... or
should I say Mr. Cunningham's car.
I decided to follow you nerds and
see where you guys are this late at
night.

CHARLOTTE
Snitch.

RICHIE
Shut up.

PIERCE
Let's hurry up.

DANIELLA
Does anyone have a flashlight?

CHARLOTTE
I left my phone in the back seat of
the car.

RICHIE
I have it in my pocket.

Richie reached into his pocket, turned on his phone, and they continued searching.

AUSTIN
I can barely see a thing.

DANIELLA
Well, there's got to be a light
here somewhere.

AUSTIN
Just because you're with us doesn't
mean you must be a total dick the
entire time.

RICHIE
Well, excuse me, I can't be
perfect.

Pierce changes the subject.

PIERCE
I found the switch.

DANIELLA
Where?

PIERCE
It's over here behind you.

Pierce pushed the handle up from the electrical box.

Richie looks at the front and is shocked at what he has seen.

RICHIE
Guys, look at this.

Daniella, Austin, Charlotte, and Pierce turn around by the
look on their faces.

PIERCE
Woah.

Pierce, Austin, Charlotte, Daniella, and Richie's point of
view.

The center features a large, circular piece of hardcore
silver metal shaped into a 'ring,' and two tech machines
covered with white sheets on opposite sides.

Everything they look at is built and completed.

AUSTIN

Richie, are you seeing this?

Richie didn't say anything. He nodded.

CHARLOTTE

Guys, can you explain what this is?

RICHIE

It's some time machine.

PIERCE

That's a 'TOP-SECRET,' a time machine.

AUSTIN

Why would they build a time machine?

CHARLOTTE

Yeah, this doesn't make any sense. It does appear to be illegal to build one, but why?

PIERCE

Okay, now we have fun here; please go home now.

Daniella looks at Charlotte.

DANIELLA

What--are you insane? We just got here.

AUSTIN

Let's search.

Pierce removes the white blanket and sees so many buttons.

Austin and Charlotte went to the Time Ring. Austin is on the left, and Charlotte is on the right.

Richie removes the other sheets from the second.

CHARLOTTE

Do you have any idea how this works?

AUSTIN

This is unbelievable.

DANIELLA

Do you guys have any idea what they're building for?

CHARLOTTE

Who knows? Perhaps the machine was broken, and we don't know where or how to turn it on.

Pierce stood about to take the following detour, but then he saw a green button in the center. He looks at the time ring, which Austin Charlotte continues to look at.

Pierce pushes the green button; the light turns green. The whole machine turns on, and he can hear it warming up.

Richie and Daniella look at the time ring, which is trembling.

Austin and Charlotte were moving back from the ring. It scares them.

AUSTIN

Okay, what is happening here? Is that supposed to happen like that?

DANIELLA

I don't know.

The boys move about ten feet away before anything happens to the time ring.

The time ring warms it up, which it has yet to test to ensure it works without malfunction. Alternatively, they almost went to the door, just in case they had to run out of the building.

The time ring made lightning in the center, and then it continued with the bulb of light brightening that came out in the middle of the ring, where there was no building from behind.

The boys watch it with their eyes, wondering what will happen next as it runs. All they can see is lightning striking the middle and a massive blue cloud appearing in the middle of the time ring.

Blue fog is going straight in the back as it sucks in.

CHARLOTTE

This is the first time I have seen this.

Austin makes his first step toward the ring. Richie looks at him, sauntering.

The man's voice turned deep right behind them. The boys didn't turn around; they just heard a deep voice.

MAN (V.O.)
Stop right there.

Pierce turns around; it's only cops. Four FBI.

PIERCE
Guys, relax. It's just the FBI.

Pierce told his friends not to panic and to stay calm.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
Don't panic... stay calm.

FBI#1
What are you kids doing here?

Pierce freaks out. He follows the cop's order, puts both hands on his head, and turns around.

PIERCE
Sorry, you guys, we weren't doing anything. We just wanted to see what was behind those sheets.

Austin, Charlotte, Daniella, and Richie did the same thing as Pierce.

FBI#2
You, kids, aren't supposed to be here.

FBI#1
Why is that time machine on?

PIERCE
We didn't mean it. We're just trying to find a way to turn it off.

CHARLOTTE
I knew this was going to happen. I just knew it. We will get caught and arrested for this, and I will be in jail like my old man.

Charlotte's current panic is in his system.

RICHIE
My dad is going to destroy me.

AUSTIN
Face it. We are going to be so GROUNDED.

CHARLOTTE

This is all Daniella's fault.

DANIELLA

My fault!?

CHARLOTTE

If you hadn't gotten all crazy about seeing this stupid time machine and staying at Pierce's house, none of this would have happened.

PIERCE

Charlotte, calm down.

FBI#3

Whatever your kids are doing, do not go in there.

FBI number one talks to his crew members

FBI#1

I need to go to that computer and find a way to turn this machine on.

PIERCE

Listen, we don't want any trouble; my friends and I want to see what they're building; that's all. We're not doing anything wrong here.

FBI#1

Don't worry, kids; we don't want to harm you. Please move away from the machine.

FBI#3

Sir, we have a problem. The computer is stuck as if someone entered a secret code. I cannot turn this machine off.

CHARLOTTE

If the computer's not working, then what happens if you...

The time machine made a loud banging noise and had no controls to hold for an extended period.

PIERCE

What's going on?

The time ring made a BOOM, almost like an earthquake.

FBI#1
SHUT IT OFF; SHUT IT OFF NOW.

FBI#3
WE'RE TRYING, SIR, BUT IT'S NOT
RESPONDING.

We see the fog moving around with the kids. Pierce and his friends try to run, but cannot leave. The fog forms a shield that they cannot escape.

The kids are gone.

The time ring turned off.

FBI#2
Where are the kids?

CUT TO:

EXT. SMALL BUILDING FROM THE BACK BUILDING - AFTERNOON

We don't see the fog appearing, but we only hear a thundering sound. The boys collapse gently to the ground.

CHARLOTTE
What just happened?

DANIELLA
Is everybody alright?

AUSTIN
I'm fine.

RICHIE
Me too.

The boys got up and looked, wondering where the time ring had taken them.

RICHIE (CONT'D)
There are only three. Where's
Pierce?

CHARLOTTE
What's going on?

AUSTIN
Pierce is not with us.

DANIELLA AND CHARLOTTE
WHAT!

DANIELLA

This can't be happening; he was right behind us; how could we not even see it?

CHARLOTTE

What are we going to do? We have yet to learn where we are and what that time machine took us. All I know is that we arrived at a location in the back of the building.

Austin could hear the thunder getting closer, a smooth sound from behind them.

AUSTIN

Shhhh... quiet, you guys hear that?

Daniella, Charlotte, and Richie did not hear anything. All silent.

Suddenly, for about five seconds, the blue clouds POP out from the white brick building, and little white lightning strikes on the side. Pierce jumps off and collapses on the ground.

AUSTIN, CHARLOTTE, AND DANIELLA

PIERCE.

They ran up to Pierce to help him get back on his feet.

PIERCE

Yeah, I'm okay.

AUSTIN

I'm glad you've made out. I thought you were a goner.

DANIELLA

I thought the FBI had arrested you.

AUSTIN

I don't even remember. It felt like I was having a blackout.

DANIELLA

It doesn't matter now. I'm glad that Pierce is here, and he's okay.

Pierce walks out during their plans. He saw something walking past.

Pierce looked outside and could not believe what he had just witnessed from his point of view. We only see Pierce's reaction and haven't seen the view yet.

PIERCE

No way.

Pierce called out to their friends.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Guys, you should come and look at this.

They look at Pierce, confused, as they leave the back building and see Pierce's face with confusion.

CHARLOTTE

What is it?

Charlotte glances in front of the appearance and looks shocked, too.

Austin, Daniella, and Richie arranged the same thing.

The boys look around and see the view and the people passing by.

CUT TO:

EXT. SANTA MONICA, BEACH - AFTERNOON

Pierce, Austin, Richie, Charlotte, and Daniella exit the back building and walk outside.

The people look so different in what they're wearing, and their personalities look so different.

Individuals aged eighteen, seventeen, or even in their twenties. I did not notice that they might have looked too old to be in high school.

One man appeared, walking past them with his long hair all spiked up and pointed, his face covered up with all white powder, his eyes black eye shadows covered, black lipstick, his clothes only black clothing and jacket, black pants, and black boots with silver chains on his pants, his jacket, and his even nose and both of his ears.

AUSTIN

I don't know where we are or how we got here. We must get back home before our parents go wild.

RICHIE

How are we going to do this?

DANIELLA

Straightforward: We'll head to the highway, ask anyone for a ride, and I'll tell them we want to return to Santa Rosa as soon as possible. Problem Solved.

PIERCE

You guys. We might want to hold off on our celebration because we may be elsewhere.

RICHIE

Dude, what are you talking about? We are in 2021. It's just that we haven't been to this place before.

AUSTIN

Richie, look around; these people wear different clothes and look at their hair.

Richie looks at the view for the last time.

RICHIE

What's the point?

PIERCE

Do you have any idea where we are?

CHARLOTTE

Guys, we are not in Santa Rosa. Look at it. We are Santa Monica.

PIERCE

And that's not at all. Look at this news article.

Pierce shows them the newspaper's front page and perceives it as nothing but breaking news and sports.

RICHIE

What's the point? It's just a newspaper.

DANIELLA

The band *NSYNC broke up.

PIERCE

That's not what I meant.

Pierce looks at the front page.

As they look at it again, zoom in closer, and this time, they glance at the date and the year, knowing what month and year they're in.

Their presence and eyes were wide and shocked, and they could not believe how serious it was.

CU NEWSPAPER

Oh. RICHIE

My. CHARLOTTE

God. AUSTIN

DANIELLA
Dude, how is this possible?

RICHIE
What he is saying is we're not in
2021.

Pierce nods.

PIERCE
We were in 2002.

CUT TO:

EXT. SANTA MONICA PIER - LATER

At the Santa Monica Pier, everyone went on rides and played, and then the DJ played the music out loud.

Everybody on the dance floor is dancing to a song by a band.

SONG: WORD TO ME by SUGAR RAY.

Five boys saunter, staring at the Pier, seeing the food, rides, games, and photoshoots.

We can hear the children going on rides, and we can hear teenagers and adults screaming.

PIERCE
Okay, we must split up.

CHARLOTTE

Wait, what?

PIERCE

We had to ask for help and find our way home. If we don't ask someone, we will be stuck here before it's too late.

RICHIE

I'll ask that bartender.

PIERCE

Well.

AUSTIN

Where do we even begin?

Pierce searched and then found the employee, a man wearing a sleeved shirt, long gray pants, black cut-short spiked hair, black sunglasses, and a thick, bushy beard.

PIERCE

How about you two ask that guy from the rollercoaster, who works with you?

AUSTIN

Good idea. Let's go, Daniella.

DANIELLA

I'm right behind you.

Pierce still walks and sees a blonde lady eating pink cotton candy with her boyfriend.

Pierce shakes his head. He turns around and looks at the strange young man, whom he recognizes as familiar.

TEEN AIDAN. Pierce looks shocked to see his dad.

PIERCE

(whisper)

Dad...

The rollercoaster came out of nowhere, and Pierce looked at the metal.

Pierce walks backward, looking panicked. Then, both Pierce and Teen Aidan bump into each other and turn to meet face-to-face.

TEEN AIDAN
Whoa, watch where you're going
there, kid.

Teen Aidan leaves the Pier.

Pierce's friends call his name.

DANIELLA (V.O.)
PIERCE

AUSTIN (V.O.)
PIERCE

RICHIE
HEY NERD HEAD. WHERE ARE YOU?

They have returned to the circle in the same spot. They were shouting Pierce's name.

Pierce returns to the group.

PIERCE
Hey, sorry about that. So, did you
guys say anything?

RICHIE
I asked the bartender about it and
explained everything to him.

PIERCE
What did he say?

RICHIE
He thinks I'm on drugs. And he
tried to call security on me, and I
had to take off.

PIERCE
Oh great... Um, Daniella,
Charlotte—anything.

Daniella and Charlotte shook their head, and they had nothing.

CHARLOTTE
We told everyone that they thought
we were insane.

PIERCE
Austin.

Austin shakes his head.

RICHIE

What about you? Have you found anyone yet?

PIERCE

I haven't. But...

RICHIE

Are you serious? What are you doing? Are you enjoying the ride? We're searching and asking random people to help us, thinking we're weirdos.

PIERCE

I saw my dad today.

We stare at Pierce's face until it looks like he wants to cry in front of friends, but he holds it together to watch his breath.

--SUNSET

Pierce's conversation about meeting his father, Teen Aidan, for the first time as a teenager.

CHARLOTTE

Did you say anything to him?

PIERCE

No. I would want to, but I don't want him to think I'm insane.

DANIELLA

Where did you see your dad?

PIERCE

Over there.

Pierce pointed at the Ferris wheel.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

I was shocked to see him in person at such a young age.

CHARLOTTE

Did you say 'hi' to him or something like that?

PIERCE

I didn't want to say anything, and I bumped into him without seeking help because I didn't know how to handle him.

CHARLOTTE

Wow.

AUSTIN

That's unbelievable.

Richie wants to focus on the situation.

RICHIE

Okay, I would not go crazy with this; we still need to find a way to get back to 2021.

PIERCE

Now that I've gotten that out of my system, where are we heading?

AUSTIN

We could look at some CD stores.

PIERCE

Where?

CHARLOTTE

I know a store called Record Tower that my parents used to visit to pick out great music.

Pierce gawks down as he recognizes what's before.

AUSTIN

Record Tower?

CHARLOTTE

Yeah. Pierce, did your father use to work there before, when he was in high school?

PIERCE

Yeah, he used to tell me once back in eighth grade, but I never paid attention—he always kept bragging about it when he was in high school.

Pierce may remember him for only a matter of time.

AUSTIN

Then let's go check it out.

RICHIE

I'll call a cab.

Richie took off, grabbing his phone out of his pocket.

PIERCE

I had never been to Record Tower before; my dad kept his shirt while working there.

The boys who had never been to the store were surrounded by music and entertainment that would sell big music.

CHARLOTTE

While we're there, I want to grab some CDs I want to listen to, and it's a great way to save money.

AUSTIN

I won't get one, either.

DANIELLA

The only music I ever bought is from the iTunes Store.

BLOND GIRL

Excuse me... what's an iTunes Store?

Pierce speechless.

DANIELLA

I usually call it that. At the Record Tower stores, I have an eye for some good tunes.

BLOND GIRL

(smooth talk)

Nice.

As the Blond Girl leaves. The boys took a deep breath.

CHARLOTTE

That was close.

PIERCE

She is SO drunk.

AUSTIN

Yeah, I have gotten a minor freak-out for about a second there.

PIERCE

Guys, we must be careful what we're talking about. I know we might be in 2002, but we need to take kids from the future. We need to establish some ground rules.

(MORE)

PIERCE (CONT'D)

We can't let anyone know about the future. Never.

AUSTIN

Pierce is correct; you guys must be careful what you say. We don't belong in this timeline, and we must stay safe with our words, avoiding mention of future obligations.

DANIELLA

You're right, and we must be careful. This isn't our world or our year.

Richie came back, and he had terrible news.

RICHIE

Guys, we may have a problem.

PIERCE

What. The taxi driver is not coming.

RICHIE

It's not that.

PIERCE

Then what is it?

RICHIE

This.

Richie shows his cell phone.

AUSTIN

What kind of phone is that?

Richie showed them his Motorola model 120e cellular phone.

PIERCE

We are so not in 2021.

CUT TO:

INT. RECORD TOWER STORE - NIGHT

The television screen. The band shows three small black square televisions on the wall where they're showing the music video.

SONG: JUST A KID by SIMPLE PLAN

We see groups of teenagers and adults grabbing the album. They are not pushing or striking; simple people buy one at a time. They're heading to the cash register.

AUSTIN
This place looks fantastic.

DANIELLA
This place looks packed.

CHARLOTTE
Who are those guys on TV?

Pierce looks at SIMPLE PLAN... he grabs one CD and looks at it.

PIERCE
I don't even know. I had never
heard of their song or them before.

They heard a male voice behind them, and Pierce recognized it.

TEEN AIDAN (V.O.)
They're called Simple Plans.

PIERCE
Simple who?

They turned around and saw Teen Aidan working at the store and standing at a cash register. Teen Aidan pointed at Pierce.

TEEN AIDAN
Hey, I know you.

PIERCE
I'm pretty sure you don't.

TEEN AIDAN
No, I'm pretty sure I do.

Three seconds there, Pierce reminds himself he can't alter the past.

PIERCE
Well, you probably met someone who
looks like me.

TEEN AIDAN
Sorry about that. I've been working
here since I was a sophomore.

Three seconds there, Pierce reminds himself he can't alter the past.

PIERCE

Well, you probably met someone who looks like me.

TEEN AIDAN

Sorry about that. I've been working here since I was a sophomore.

Teen Aidan gave him a handshake.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)

Anyway, my name's Aidan.

PIERCE

I'm Pierce...

TEEN AIDAN

Pierce is a nice name.

PIERCE

Thank you, and these are friends.

TEEN AIDAN

Could you excuse me for a minute?
I'll be right back.

We watch Teen Aidan running to the customers.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)

Hey guys, do you find everything good for the day?

Pierce went back and talked to his friends.

CHARLOTTE

Look how young your dad is.

PIERCE

I know it's wild.

Teen Aidan returns.

TEEN AIDAN

Sorry for keeping you guys long.
What brings you to the city of people who want to become stars?
Are you guys planning to get a job here?

AUSTIN

Uh, no, we're not from here.

Richie smacks Austin on the back of his head.

TEEN AIDAN

Then, where are you guys from?

They stare at each other, wondering who's going to say.

Until Pierce's utterances.

PIERCE

My friends and I are on vacation
and on summer break, having
completed our sophomore year and
are now heading toward becoming
juniors.

TEEN AIDAN

That's awesome. Are you guys
staying at a hotel somewhere in
Hollywood? I can give you guys the
tour at the Walk of Fame.

PIERCE

Oh no, the hotel is expensive. We
can't afford it, so we have been
sleeping in the back of the
building in Santa Monica.

Pierce makes a good lay. Teen Aidan believes them.

TEEN AIDAN

You can crash at my place if you
plan to save money for an
adventure. How long will you guys
be staying?

PIERCE

Not too long. We'll say like three
weeks.

TEEN AIDAN

Okay.

PAULO TULLIE came out as a Manager, appeared, and went to
Teen Aidan.

PAULO

Aidan, I need you to grab more
boxes and restock them. The Simple
Plan sold out quickly. I have never
seen an album sell out since
Michael Jackson's "Bad."

Charlotte turned and saw the stock of CDs empty.

PAULO (CONT'D)
Look how empty they are.

Paulo looks at Pierce and his friends.

PAULO (CONT'D)
Hello.

Paulo walked out and continued working.

TEEN AIDAN
I'll be there, so I'd stick around
and hang out. You might want to
look at their CD. I hope you get
something money-saving.

PIERCE
Yeah, we all got money.

TEEN AIDAN
It would be best if you listened to
their music. You might like them.

PIERCE
We'll think about it.

TEEN AIDAN
I'll be back in ten minutes.

Teen Aidan left the registered head at the back of the
building.

Pierce went back to see his, and they were looking at Pierce.

PIERCE
Shall we look around?

CUT TO:

EXT. THE PACIFIC BAY TOWERS CONDOS

Aidan, a teenager, lives in an apartment with his parents.
Teen Aidan has the apartment to himself. He lives on the
first floor.

CUT TO:

INT. TEEN AIDAN APARTMENT

The door opens from inside the medium-sized apartment, which
is a bit dark, to the well-lit hallway.

Teen Aidan tried to get the key to release the lock, which had been stuck for about a second.

As Teen Aidan turns on the light in the kitchen and the living room.

TEEN AIDAN
WELCOME to Aidan's independent
apartment.

We see Aidan's apartment, which is on the first floor. He has a large black square television, and the living room connects to the kitchen, where they walk to a small living room. Aidan has two tall chairs from the bar table.

They walk toward the living room and move around, taking in the scene; they see the black shelf on the right side, next to the television, with a filled stock of movies on top, friends and family photos in the middle, and a CD collection on the bottom.

Aidan has three posters—one from above on the television, a movie poster for Jason X.

We see two posters on the wall above the couch, staring directly toward the television.

The first poster of Eminem from his album, The Eminem Show, and the second artist are next to the poster of Aaliyah. She is sitting on a wooden bench, wearing a leopard-print dress with her name on it.

CHARLOTTE
Cool, you live by yourself.

TEEN AIDAN
Yup. It's all mine. You like it.

RICHIE
Yeah.

AUSTIN
Looks cozy.

TEEN AIDAN
Sorry, I could only afford a one-bedroom apartment, and I apologize for the mess on the coffee table. You guys are the first people who have ever come here to stay.

PIERCE
If you live alone, where are your parents?

TEEN AIDAN
They live next door. They're
asleep.

Teen Aidan changes the subject.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)
Well, since it is still eight
o'clock. Just make yourself at
home. I'm going to make some quick
calls, and I'll order some pizza.
You guys like pizza.

PIERCE
Sure.

CHARLOTTE
Yeah.

AUSTIN
I love pizza.

RICHIE
Pizza is cool.

Teen Aidan grabs the black portable phone and exits the
apartment building.

TEEN AIDAN
Yeah, I like to order three pizzas.

Teen Aidan closed the door as he went outside.

They all stare at the door, look at each other, and have no
idea where to go first.

RICHIE
So, what now?

CUT TO:

INT. TEEN AIDAN APARTMENT - MORNING

The toast turns a crisp brown as it pops out of the toaster.
The Apartment turns into noise as Teen Aidan cooks breakfast.
Charlotte, Austin, Richie, and Daniella wake up to a strange,
unfamiliar smell of smoke.

Pierce woke up with the smell of burn--he didn't panic
because the apartment was not on fire.

PIERCE
(made a bad smell)
What is that smell...

DANIELLA
Something smells funky.

Daniella could smell the smoke but had his eyes closed.
Daniella went back to sleep.

Teen Aidan speaks out loud from the kitchen, dressed nicely
for Saturday morning.

TEEN AIDAN
GOOD MORNING, RISEN SHINES SLEEPY
BEAUTY. TODAY'S THE BIG DAY.

Pierce got up and went to the kitchen, his messy hair
separated. He watched his father cook breakfast and was
astonished to see what he was cooking.

Pierce got up from the couch bed, went straight to the
kitchen, and sat in the tall chair.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)
Morning, sunshine.

PIERCE
Morning.

Pierce rubs his eyes like he hardly got enough sleep.

TEEN AIDAN
You slept well last night.

Pierce is not going to lie.

PIERCE
No... I couldn't sleep last night.

TEEN AIDAN
How long did you stay up?

PIERCE
2 in the morning.

TEEN AIDAN
Dude.

Teen Aidan looks at Pierce while he's pouring dark coffee and
hands it to Pierce.

Pierce looks at the black mug filled with dark black coffee.

PIERCE

Uh-no, thank you. I don't drink coffee.

TEEN AIDAN

You look like you need some. Here.

PIERCE

My dad told me I couldn't drink coffee until I was thirty.

Teen Aidan chuckles, thinking he might be joking.

Pierce holds the handle of the mug, and he pushes the mug toward Teen Aidan.

TEEN AIDAN

Well, your father is wrong.

Teen Aidan looks up at Pierce, who goes back to sleep on the table bar by holding his head with his knuckle fist on his cheekbones, which he tilts on his left side.

Teen Aidan smirked a little, then slammed the coffee mug on the table loudly, making an echo sound.

BANG!!!

PIERCE

(snorted)

Ugh, I'm sorry, Dad!

TEEN AIDAN

You call me Dad.

PIERCE

What.

TEEN AIDAN

You call me Dad.

Pierce had a fearful moment there, and he inhaled.

PIERCE

I did.

TEEN AIDAN

Is everything okay with you and your dad?

PIERCE

Yeah, he and I are okay.

Pierce looks away from him and stares at the coffee.

TEEN AIDAN

Okay, listen. Since you're all on vacation, I'd like to take you on an adventure.

PIERCE

Where are we going?

TEEN AIDAN

I can't tell you.

CHARLOTTE

Ugh, man--what a weird dream I had.

AUSTIN

I know. Same here.

CHARLOTTE

That is it. I am done drinking sodas for a month.

AUSTIN

I am with you, sister.

TEEN AIDAN

Morning to you, too.

CHARLOTTE

Morning Aidan.

AUSTIN

Morning.

Charlotte and Daniella yawned, trying to wake up. Their eyes opened quickly, and they gasped simultaneously.

AUSTIN AND CHARLOTTE

(both shouted)

AIDAN!!!

They both got up, as they looked so panicked.

Teen Aidan went up to Austin and Charlotte.

TEEN AIDAN

Hey, calm down, boys--watch where you're stepping.

Pierce watches as Teen Aidan tries to calm Charlotte and Daniella, piecing their lives back together.

Charlotte crashes and lands on Austin while he's still sleeping. Austin wakes up fast as someone attacks him. Daniella also crashes into Richie, and then he wakes up fast.

AUSTIN
WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING?

RICHIE
DUDE, GET OFF OF ME

Richie pushed Daniella off him.

Pierce gets up from the chair, runs to the living room, and helps him out.

TEEN AIDAN
Guys, stop; you're going to break
my CD radio.

EXT. TLC CHINESE THEATER

Where we see them standing there, where they are looking at the TLC CHINESE THEATER.

CUT TO:

INT. TLC CHINESE THEATER

We see them walking inside the theater, giving the people a tour.

CUT TO:

EXT. HOLLYWOOD SIGNS

We see an elderly lady taking a picture of the Teenagers: Aidan, Pierce, Charlotte, Daniella, Austin, and Richie, takes a picture of them in front of the Hollywood sign.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RECORD TOWER STORE

Charlotte sees his picture of her and her father and hears Pierce calling him. We see Charlotte standing where the stock of random CDs is.

Charlotte and the television. We see the three televisions playing random music videos, then returning to the Simple Plan music video.

The album is fully stocked, and only because they restocked it about two hours ago.

MANAGER (V.O.)

Charlotte.

Charlotte turns.

Charlotte went up to the register, and we saw teenage high school girls. They're the HIGH MAINTENANCE standing in line, and we looked at the regular girl, TINA, the black girl who gave the CD; she wore casual clothes.

Tina gives Charlotte Ashanti a self-title.

Charlotte scans the CD.

CHARLOTTE

Find everything you need.

TINA

Oh yeah, I'm only getting one CD for the day.

CHARLOTTE

Cool, that'll be \$7.99

Tina gets her burst and puts it on the counter. We see her hand Charlotte a ten-dollar bill.

Charlotte gives Tina her change back.

CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)

Have a nice day.

TINA

Thank you.

Tina left with the bag inside her CD, and she left the store.

The three CDs on the counter are Britney Spears' album BRITNEY.

The customer in line is the high-maintenance girl and her two girls behind her. But they also have an attitude. High-maintenance girls wear tracksuits in various colors.

HIGH MAINTENANCE GIRL NUMBER ONE in the center wears a pink tracksuit.

HIGH MAINTENANCE GIRL NUMBER TWO on the right wears a green tracksuit.

HIGH MAINTENANCE GIRL NUMBER THREE on the left wears a baby blue tracksuit.

CHARLOTTE

You find everything you girls need.
All standing while she

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1

Yeah, whatever. Scan it so I can
get out of here. Thank you.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #2

Yeah, hurry up.

CHARLOTTE

Okay.

While Charlotte scanned three CDs, the scanner malfunctioned.
It does not even scan the CD barcode.

High Maintenance is talking to each other while looking at
their flip phones.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1

Oh my goodness, did you hear that
Joshua is attending my math class?
I heard that he was flirting with
our math teacher.

Shocking look on the girl's face.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #2

Wait, our math teacher, Mr. Maddux.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1

Ew! Gross, I'm talking about the
other math teacher, Mr. Barnett.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #2

Shut the front door... Are you
serious?

HIGH MAINTENANCE #3

Joshua is such a creep.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #2

Yeah, I mean, Mr. Barnett is like a
70-year-old man.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1

Plus, is Mr. Barnett married?

HIGH MAINTENANCE #3

No, I heard his wife passed away
three days ago. Rest in peace,
girl.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #2
 He's a widower now. I met her once
 in the classroom. She was the
 sweetest lady who handed out
 cookies to all of us. I can't
 believe I cheated on my diet.
 Anyway, those cookies are
 delicious.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1
 She is such a sweet lady. Rest in
 Peace.

We see the three girls staring at Charlotte.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1 (CONT'D)
 What are you doing?

CHARLOTTE
 Nothing, it's the scanner. I think
 it's jammed.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #3
 So, use another scanner.

CHARLOTTE
 I can't. I don't have the key to
 it.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1
 Oh... my... God, are you serious?
 Who hired you to work in this DUMP
 and put you in charge?

HIGH MAINTENANCE #2
 You're wasting time here, and you
 don't even have the guts to use
 another scanner no one uses. So,
 what are you doing here?

HIGH MAINTENANCE #3
 Yeah, what are you going to do,
 loser?

CHARLOTTE
 Okay... geez.

Three girls gasped.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1
 Excuse me, did you threaten me?

CHARLOTTE
 What are you talking about?

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1
You used the G word in front of me.

CHARLOTTE
Yeah, so.

The three High Maintenance girls gasped... AGAIN.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1
Ugh... Come on, girls, we are out of here.

The three high-maintenance girls left without their CDs.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1 (CONT'D)
Let's go, girls, we'll find another store to buy a CD.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #2
Such a loser.

Charlotte grabbed the album and put it in the back area, rolling her eyes.

Charlotte checked on the scanner and then suddenly fixed it.

CHARLOTTE
Next.

Charlotte went back to the cash register, and suddenly she saw...

The last customer is a 17-year-old boy with short blonde hair. He is wearing a white extra-large t-shirt with long white sleeves, blue jeans, and black sneakers.

As she had seen him before, Charlotte stared at him briefly.

CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)
You find what you are looking for.

CUSTOMER
Yeah, I'm just here to buy these two.

He hands it to Charlotte, along with both albums. The first CD she scans is *NSYNC's last third album, "CELEBRITY," and the second is Simple Plan's first new album.

While they're having a bit of conversation.

CHARLOTTE

I have no idea what is up with those girls. They just had no boundaries.

CUSTOMER

I know... I know those girls.

CHARLOTTE

Wait, you do.

CUSTOMER

Yeah... They attend my high school and are either juniors or seniors.

CHARLOTTE

They don't seem to be in the mood.

CUSTOMER

Good mood... those three are a nightmare.

Charlotte looks at him with surprise.

CHARLOTTE

You're kidding.

CUSTOMER

They kept passing everybody in school, telling them to get what they wanted. They even shoved them in front of their lockers and cleaned me. They own the school. One had a bruise on his back. He even went to the emergency room to get that checked. And they claimed that they never shoved that hard.

CHARLOTTE

That's not cool.

CUSTOMER

I know.

Charlotte looks at him briefly and looks down at the *NSYNC album.

CHARLOTTE

I can't believe this is their last album.

CUSTOMER

I know it's ridiculous. I'm here to buy them before they stop selling them.

CHARLOTTE

And a Simple Plan album.

CUSTOMER

My uncle told me to listen to them. He said their songs are good. Don't get me wrong; I love rock music. Do you want to know who my all-time favorite rock singer is?

CHARLOTTE

Who?

CUSTOMER

Elvis Presley.

Charlotte looks up at him quickly.

Charlotte hears the car honk, giving a signal. She looks outside the glass door.

We see the 2001 red Saturn

As we returned, Charlotte's face was aghast at the sight of the car.

CUSTOMER (CONT'D)

Oh, that's my ride. Are you going to tell me what my total is?

Charlotte snaps out of it.

CHARLOTTE

Sorry, your total will be \$19.98.

The customer hands her a twenty-dollar bill.

CUSTOMER

Keep the change.

Charlotte puts the two CDs in the white bag and gives them to him.

When he's about to walk out, Charlotte wants to stop him from saying something before it's too late.

CHARLOTTE

Hey, wait.

We looked at the customer as he turned around and looked at Charlotte.

CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)
I didn't get your name.

CUSTOMER
It's Martin.

CHARLOTTE
Martin...

CUSTOMER
Kingsley.

As we watched Teen Martin exit the building, Charlotte had no idea she was talking to her father as a teenager.

CHARLOTTE
Dad.

CUT TO:

INT. TEEN AIDAN APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Daniella, Austin, and Richie stayed at the apartment to watch TV shows. There are some shows they have never seen before.

Richie sits on the couch in the center, where he has a remote. We see a television screen switching randomly through channels.

Daniella and Austin sit on the carpet, staring at the television and going through random channels.

CLICK... CLICK... CLICK.

Austin couldn't take it anymore.

AUSTIN
Richie, could you stop going through different channels and pick already?

RICHIE
Shut up. I'll stop switching channels whenever I feel like it.

AUSTIN
All you do is keep clicking and clicking, and it's always the same.

RICHIE

Well, we're not watching Cartoon Network; those are for babies.

Daniella rolled her eyes.

DANIELLA

I should've gone with Charlotte.

AUSTIN

It's for everyone of all ages to watch the Cartoon Network. It's only the channel that keeps everyone entertaining.

RICHIE

Yeah, it's entertaining for babies.

Austin couldn't take it after hearing the word 'baby' and flipped slightly.

AUSTIN

IT'S NOT A BABY SHOW.

DANIELLA

If you're not going to watch any of these shows, then let's go outside and take a walk.

AUSTIN

Walking. Please.

RICHIE

I would rather walk whenever my dad is pissing me off. And besides, it's hot outside.

DANIELLA

What are you talking about? It's only sixty degrees out there.

Richie and Austin all look at her.

DANIELLA (CONT'D)

What. I watched the news, and we had to go old-fashioned this year.

AUSTIN

We can watch something funny.

RICHIE

I'm not watching Will & Grace.

DANIELLA
What's Will & Grace?

AUSTIN
It's a show that my parents used to
watch back in the day, which means
it's still on now.

Austin looks curious when he hears Richie's conversation and
turns to Richie.

AUSTIN (CONT'D)
Karen Walker is my favorite, and
she always makes me laugh.

DANIELLA
Come on, Richie, admit you watched
it.

RICHIE
Okay, fine, I'll watch it. It was a
funny show.

AUSTIN
I freaking knew it.

Richie felt a little embarrassed.

Richie stops the channel, where we see the Discovery Channel
and a great white shark swimming by. While Daniella and
Austin gaze at Richie.

DANIELLA
Richie, there's nothing to be
embarrassed about.

AUSTIN
Yeah, step-bro... It's just a show,
and I know you'll find something
that makes you laugh.

We see Richie still feels embarrassed by it. He wants to
change the subject.

RICHIE
Cartoon Network makes you laugh.

AUSTIN
It makes everyone cheer and laugh.

Austin and Richie argue in mixed words, making it unclear
what's happening.

DANIELLA

Okay, can you guys just shut up?

Austin and Richie look at her, all silent.

DANIELLA (CONT'D)

This whole mocking thing is going to make it worse. If nothing's happening on this channel, let's watch a movie.

AUSTIN

Sure.

RICHIE

Fine.

DANIELLA

Great. Now, let's see what Aidan has.

Daniella went to the right side of the bottom drawers, where the DVD case was stacked.

We see the name title in the center.

Austin went up to Daniella and looked at them together.

DANIELLA (CONT'D)

Okay, let's see what he has to keep us in the mood.

Daniella and Austin name the movie without picking it up.

They would go by the name each at a time.

DANIELLA (CONT'D)

What about QUEEN OF THE DAMNED?

RICHIE

Not the vampire crap.

AUSTIN

Okay, find. How about... BIG FAT LAIR.

RICHIE

Nope.

Daniella whispers to Austin.

DANIELLA

Your stepbrother is so picky.

AUSTIN
You have no idea.

They continue with the name title.

DANIELLA
What about CLUELESS?

Richie watched a movie he used to watch before.

RICHIE
What am I, a shopaholic?

Daniella went back to Austin.

DANIELLA
He has yet to learn what it is.

RICHIE
Find something with a comedy that
has nothing to do with family films
or horror.

DANIELLA
All we see here is a mix of comedy,
horror, and drama. You mean it.

RICHIE
It sounds like Aidan has the worst
taste.

Austin and Drew are searching for R-rated comedy films.

Until we see Austin's POINT OF VIEW, we see a title that says
NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE.

AUSTIN
Hey, what about... NOT ANOTHER TEEN
MOVIE.

RICHIE
What the crap is that?

DANIELLA
This is the first I have heard of
that.

AUSTIN
Me neither.

Daniella picks up the DVD case as he recognizes someone.

DANIELLA
Dude, Chris Evans is in this movie.

Austin looks surprised to hear the name.

AUSTIN
What, no way. Are you serious?

We see the front cover of the movie image.

AUSTIN (CONT'D)
Oh my god, that's him.

DANIELLA
He still looks the same as he did
back in our time.

AUSTIN
I don't know. Something is not
right about this film.

DANIELLA
What are you talking about?

AUSTIN
I don't know, look so... douchey.

DANIELLA
What do you think, Richie?

Daniella and Austin look at Richie.

Richie decides by making a humming sound.

RICHIE
Let's see how douchey it is.

Daniella looks at Austin. Daniella sounds like she's in a
rush.

DANIELLA
Well, put it on and see what it
looks like.

AUSTIN
Okay, okay, jeez. Please don't push
me.

Austin turns on the DVD Player.

CUT TO:

EXT. BIG DEAN'S OCEANFRONT CAFE - AFTERNOON

Teen Aidan and Pierce are eating lunch together, and we get
CLOSER to see them hanging out.

Pierce has a Turkey with lettuce, tomato, and spicy aioli...

Teen Aidan orders a Big Dean Cheeseburger with double meat, double cheese, and French fries.

PIERCE

So, what's going on with you today?
I just thought you might have some
plans after high school.

TEEN AIDAN

I am waiting for the letters from
the three colleges to which I
mailed applications the other day,
and I hope to hear back soon.

Pierce looks up quickly when his smile disappears.

PIERCE

What.

TEEN AIDAN

Well, I can't wait to get into one.
My friend and I are going to
college together, and I asked him,
'Why do we go to all three
different colleges and see which
one we would get into?' We both
want to be in college together so
we can be roommates.

PIERCE

What are the three colleges you
send out to?

TEEN AIDAN

The first is the University of
California, Los Angeles, the second
is Stanford University, and the
last is the University of Southern
California. It sounds wild, but I
want to see which colleges are
lucky to have me. I have good
straight A's and B's. Everything is
well except for math.

PIERCE

What's wrong with Math?

TEEN AIDAN

The mixing number is just too much,
and we would solve everything
together, but doing it on our own
is too much.

PIERCE

University and Community colleges do have math classes. If a big school like yours attempted to do so, it might put you in math classes to see if you're good at it.

Teen Aidan takes a sip of his soda drink.

TEEN AIDAN

Well, I hope not. It's not going to happen.

Pierce will try not to alter the time.

PIERCE

Okay, picture this: if the three colleges don't accept you, you probably have one more college to try—not just in California, but somewhere else in a different state.

Aidan took a bite of his food.

TEEN AIDAN

Like we are.

PIERCE

I don't know where, like Nevada, New Mexico, New York, or even Arizona.

TEEN AIDAN

What are you trying to say? Do you want me to leave California?

PIERCE

I don't consider calling LEAVE. I'm not saying I'd move away to escape California for a while.

As Teen Aidan looks at Pierce and thinks about it.

TEEN AIDAN

Sounds complicated.

Pierce nods.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)

If three colleges don't approve of me, I should consider attending a different school in a different state, outside of California.

PIERCE

Yup.

Teen Aidan didn't make a judgment out of it or overreact.

Pierce smiled at his younger father but was concerned about messing up the timeline.

TEEN AIDAN

What type of college do you want me to attend?

Pierce looks at the Pier. He thought about it briefly, but then it hit him.

PIERCE

What is the University of Arizona? I've heard it's a great place to study and discover what you're passionate about.

TEEN AIDAN

U of A... that's in Tucson, Arizona.

PIERCE

Try not to overthink it; I want to go there. Don't you want to get out of California? It's not about moving; it's about learning.

TEEN AIDAN

Alright, Pierce, I'll take your advice and send my letter to the U of A.

Pierce eats his sandwich and enjoys their time.

CUT TO:

INT. TEEN AIDAN APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

We see Richie, Daniella, and Austin still in the same position. Then, we see the television screen where Chris Evans and Chyler Leigh's characters kiss at the airport at the movie's end, and the screen fades to black.

The three of them look shocked, frozen, and cloudy. Then, after they finish watching the movie, suddenly they have no idea what they're thinking about.

RICHIE

What the shit. What kind of movie is this?

DANIELLA

I have never seen Chris Evans show up naked.

AUSTIN

This movie is for teenagers who want to be douche-heads but MORE.

Daniella laughs out of his lungs when she remembers parts of the movie that make them want to laugh.

Austin and Richie followed.

They continued with the laugh.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BUS BENCH - NIGHT

We moved the bank from daytime to nighttime.

The CAMERA moves backward, getting behind Charlotte's back, and we see him standing on the sidewalk, just staring at the front of the bank, on the side of the public telephone.

We went back to stare at Charlotte, waiting for them to arrive.

Charlotte stared down at his watch, and it was only eight o'clock. His father wouldn't show up around nine o'clock, and it was not where Marlon got set up; it was a different bank, and the second bank would be where they would set him up.

CUT TO:

INT. TEEN AIDAN APARTMENT

Teen Aidan is sitting beside Pierce at the dining table, eating dinner.

Daniella, Austin, and Richie are on the floor, eating at the coffee table in the living room.

The television they're watching is CARTOON NETWORK.

They're watching **THE GRIM ADVENTURE OF BILLY AND MANDY**.

They couldn't stop laughing at the Billy character.

Pierce laughs at the show and finds it very amusing.

PIERCE

You guys don't want to eat.

DANIELLA

We're okay. Thanks.

TEEN AIDAN

Are you sure I made macaroni and cheese?

AUSTIN

We're okay.

TEEN AIDAN

Okay, there is more on the stove.

RICHIE

Thanks.

Daniella notices something different, knowing someone's missing in the group apartment.

DANIELLA

Where is Charlotte? I thought you'd pick her up at the record store.

TEEN AIDAN

We were going to, but she said she would stay there and work overtime, so I had to stay up late and pick her up.

DANIELLA

Okay then.

PIERCE

I hope she'll be okay.

TEEN AIDAN

She will; I have worked overtime five times. It's fun to get out more.

Piercer whispers to Teen Aidan.

PIERCE

Did you send your essay to the U OF A?

TEEN AIDAN

Yeah, I sent it to them, and I hope I can get in. I sent out three colleges and attempted to see what they had to say.

Pierce and Teen Aidan smile at each other.

Pierce's smile disappears.

INT. SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Teen Aidan looks at the glass through the location where he sees himself, and the basketball team was taken back in 1999.

TEEN AIDAN

That's me in the picture with the other basketball teams, including my friend Eric.

PIERCE

I can't believe you guys won. And you made the school into a championship.

Pierce arrived at the school where Teen Aidan had been sent to the office about his math problems.

TEEN AIDAN

Yeah, those were the good old days.

Teen Aidan had already opened the three college envelopes.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)

I'm shocked that all three colleges to which I submitted my essay rejected me in that manner. It's a good thing that I have submitted to the University of Arizona.

They are still looking at the glass through the shelf while conversing.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)

I hope this last one will be accepted.

PIERCE

Don't worry. They will.

TEEN AIDAN

How would you know that?

PIERCE

You must be patient and have faith.
And don't overthink it.

TEEN AIDAN

Alright. I'll focus on the positive
side and don't overthink it.

PIERCE

My friends and I, including your
parents, are excited to see you
walk down the aisle and watch your
graduation.

Pierce went to ask Teen Aidan a question.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Hey, you know where the restroom
is.

Teen Aidan points to the sign on the wall.

TEEN AIDAN

Right there.

Pierce looks up and sees the sign on the wall reading "BOYS
RESTROOM." He does not notice it.

PIERCE

(eyes rolled)

DUH.

Pierce walks to the hallway, heading to the restroom.

TEEN AIDAN

I'm going to head to class now.
I'll see you at the house.

PIERCE

Okay.

Pierce walks away from Teen Aidan. Teen Aidan stands there
and then walks away from the shelf to his math class.

By the time we see Pierce go inside the restroom. Then,
finally, we see Teen Aidan's friend Eric show up.

ERIC

Hey Aidan, can you believe it? We
finally made it...

CUT TO:

INT. SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL - RESTROOM

The toilet made a rapid flush, and we saw Pierce coming out of the bathroom by opening the door.

Pierce went to the sink and looked at himself in the mirror. We watched him turn on the water sink while washing his hands with no rush.

Then another toilet flushed down fast. We watch the door open, where Pierce mirrors that someone's coming out.

Martin Kingsley is leaving the toilet room and heading to the sink to wash his hands.

Pierce looks shocked and cannot believe what he's seeing.

As we saw, TEEN MARTIN looks at the mirror reflection and then at Pierce. Pierce suddenly looks back down quickly.

TEEN MARTIN

Can I help you with something?

PIERCE

What? Oh, nothing. It's nothing.

TEEN MARTIN

Well, whatever you're doing, stop.
It's creepy.

PIERCE

Everything okay.

Pierce looks at TEEN MARTIN when he looks down at the sink.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Don't get too hard on yourself;
what's your problem?

TEEN MARTIN

I got a collect call from an
anonymous person who told me that
my mother was in the hospital. What
kind of sick person says something
like that?

PIERCE

It's probably one of those prank
people.

TEEN MARTIN

Can you imagine me staying in a
prison cell for the rest of my
life?

PIERCE
Yeah--one lucky man.

TEEN MARTIN
Whoever that person is, they saved
my life, and I wanted to express my
gratitude to them for that.

As Teen Martin exits the restroom.

Pierce took a deep breath.

PIERCE
Charlotte, what have you done?

CUT TO:

INT. OUTER OFFICE

Pierce entered the outer office and went straight to the desk.

PIERCE
Excuse me, Hi, I am looking for...

As he was about to have his meeting, he heard an argument at the principal's office.

Pierce turns and looks at Teen Aidan, yelling.

TEEN AIDAN
DON'T TELL ME TO CALM DOWN.

As Teen Aidan gets up from his chair and walks out of the principal's office, everybody in the outer office looks at them, including the punk kid, to hear him too.

As Teen Aidan walks out of the office.

PRINCIPAL STEWART
Aidan, you get back here right now.

Principal Stewart also gets up from his chair after Aidan leaves his office.

PIERCE
Aidan... Aidan, what happens?
Aidan.

Teen Aidan exits the outer office.

Principal Stewart sat in his chair after reaching for his phone. Pierce went up to the office.

CUT TO:

INT. PRINCIPAL OFFICE

Pierce knocks on the door with little, medium sounds.

KNOCK-KNOCK

Principal Stewart looks at Pierce.

PIERCE

Uh-hi there, Principal Stuart,
right?

PRINCIPAL STEWART

Son, you'll have to wait for your
turn. Ms. Womack sent me another
student in.

PIERCE

It won't be long, I promise.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

Ms. Womack tells them to wait for a
minute.

PIERCE

Thank you.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

Please. Make it quick; I don't want
my students to wait all day. How
can I help you?

PIERCE

I want to know what was happening
with Aidan and what just happened.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

Son, this is not of concern to you
here.

PIERCE

Please, I am with him.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

You're his friend or something.

PIERCE

Technically, yeah, but he's...

PRINCIPAL STEWART

What?

PIERCE

He's my cousin. I was here to pick him up earlier to celebrate his graduation dinner before he graduates.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

I'm sorry to inform you, but I have some bad news: your cousin won't be able to graduate from high school.

PIERCE

What... why, what did he do?

PRINCIPAL STEWART

Your cousin Aidan, however, failed his math class. Not just one.

PIERCE

Whatever this is, I know my cousin Aidan may not be a math person. I don't know why I didn't ask for help.

PRINCIPAL STEWART

Aidan is in denial. Whenever we ask him if he needs help, he rejects every offer.

PIERCE

Can you help him with it?

PRINCIPAL STEWART

I did my best to help him raise his math grade, but he refused to do so. If he doesn't pass his math, he will not be able to graduate. I do care about his grades, and I do want him to graduate. The boy is ruining his future; I'm sorry you had to deliver the bad news to your family.

PIERCE

Maybe there is a way. What if I help him out? I'll help him with his math issues daily and at night.

Principal Stewart looked at Pierce with a little bit of excitement.

PRINCIPAL STEWART
You will help him.

PIERCE
He's my cousin, trust me. I'll take care of it. You have some math homework paper that you're going to give him.

PRINCIPAL STEWART
Sure.

Principal Stewart grabs his phone and calls the outer office.

PRINCIPAL STEWART (CONT'D)
Ms. Womack, would you send me five homework sheets? Thank you.

PIERCE
Thank you, sir, for giving him a second chance. It means a lot to me and my family.

PRINCIPAL STEWART
I appreciate your help. If you encounter any issues, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Ms. Womack entered the office, and Principal Stewart told her to hand him the math homework sheet.

Ms. Womack gives Pierce the five math homework sheets. All five sheets of paper are stabilized together.

Pierce grabs it, and as he looks at it, his POINT OF VIEW: He doesn't look shocked or worried.

We don't see the math printed on paper; we only see the blank paper.

PIERCE
I remember this. This is so easy, well, for me. Don't worry, sir. This homework will be done in at least 2 or 3 days.

PRINCIPAL STEWART
Great. I want those homework sheets to be completed and handed to Mr. Maddux. After he's done, tell your cousin to be ready for his final exam. Graduation starts next Friday.

PIERCE
Yes, I will certainly get to it
right away. Thank you.

Pierce exited the chair and left the principal's and outer
offices.

CUT TO:

INT. SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY

Pierce looks to his right and then to the left, and from
Pierce's POINT OF VIEW, we watch Teen Aidan walk almost to
the door.

Pierce ran up to Teen Aidan, trying to stop him before
throwing his binder out.

Teen Aidan's left hand as he's about to make his way to throw
his stuff in the trash.

He heard Pierce's voice.

PIERCE
STOP. AIDAN, STOP FOR JUST A
SECOND!!!

As Teen Aidan stops and turns. He saw Pierce running towards
him.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
What are you doing? What happened?

TEEN AIDAN
I'm sorry, Pierce; I thought I
could do it, but couldn't. It's too
much for me. I thought I was ready,
but I panicked. I wish I could
return and get the homework paper,
but I can't go there; he won't give
me a second chance.

Teen Aidan had never felt embarrassed at the office.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)
I'm sorry, Pierce. I guess I won't
be able to graduate; I'm just going
to drop out—I just can't.

PIERCE
You don't have to drop out. I'll
help solve your problems.

Pierce grabs Teen Aidan's shoulder.

TEEN AIDAN

What are you talking about?

Pierce showed Teen Aidan the five math homework papers, and Teen Aidan was shocked and couldn't believe them.

He brought a smile back to his face.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)

What. I don't believe it. How did you...

Pierce stops him there.

PIERCE

Let's say that your principal is very gracious. He's worried about you. He wants to help you; you're treating him like he's the wrong person.

Both Pierce and Teen Aidan smile.

TEEN AIDAN

I guess I pushed him too hard. How did you make him...

PIERCE

My father once told me it's never too late for a second chance. Once you give up, get yourself back up. You can bring yourself back up. And do the right thing.

Pierce had a clear discussion with adult Aidan.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Let's go home and finish this problem.

CUT TO:

INT. TEEN AIDAN APARTMENT

Richie, Daniella, and Austin were staring at the television screen, which showed news about bank robberies.

Charlotte came out of the bathroom and saw his friends standing there like statues, and then they looked at Charlotte.

Charlotte looks curious.

Charlotte went to the TV screen.

NEWS REPORTER

The three high school students were robbing two different banks in California. The anonymous caller calls the cops on time. They were arrested before they could execute their escape plans. Yesterday, they were taken to court; the judge found them guilty of stealing money from two banks. Now, the judge is sentencing the boys to life in prison with no parole. Up next, we've got...

Richie mutes the TV.

AUSTIN

Charlotte, didn't your father plead guilty and get sentenced to prison?

RICHIE

I remember Charlotte explaining that those three guys framed Martin for something he didn't commit.

Richie, Austin, and Daniella turn around slowly to look at Charlotte and are furious.

RICHIE (CONT'D)

Charlotte, what have you done?

DANIELLA

Why did you go there to save your father by not getting arrested? Did you even think about it? What's going to happen to you?

AUSTIN

Have you lost your mind?

CHARLOTTE

I have no idea what you're talking about.

RICHIE

STOP LYING AND TELL US WHAT YOU DID.

AUSTIN

RICHIE, STOP IT!

Austin pushes Richie back, and Richie walks away to the TV.

DANIELLA

Charlotte, please tell me you did
not go out and save your father's
life.

Charlotte has no words.

AUSTIN

Is that why you've been gone all
night?

There were no words, just Speechless, and Charlotte looked
down at the ground, not looking at Austin and his friends.
Daniella looked shocked and scared.

RICHIE

Charlotte.

Charlotte looks up at them with tears welling up in his
cheeks.

CHARLOTTE

I did what I had to do.

Austin's eyes turn red.

PIERCE

Charlotte.

CUT TO:

EXT. TEEN AIDAN APARTMENT

Richie, Austin, Daniella, and Pierce are outside the
apartment, standing in front of Charlotte, where he's in the
center.

Charlotte looks at her friends, one by one.

CHARLOTTE

Guys. I know you're upset about
something that is going to happen.
But what I did was that I had no
other choice.

RICHIE

You do know that we don't belong in
this year.

DANIELLA

Have you watched Back To The Future? Once something changes the past, you won't exist anymore in the future.

PIERCE

How could you do this?

CHARLOTTE

I know.

PIERCE

Do you realize what you have done? What's going to happen to you when we get back?

CHARLOTTE

Well, excuse me for all the situation going on here, and I'm not the one forcing us to go to the abandoned warehouse and mess around with that machine; maybe if someone hadn't forced us, none of this would've ever happened.

Charlotte glances at Daniella.

DANIELLA

What's that supposed to mean?

RICHIE

This is not about us. It's about you, Charlotte—things you messed up.

CHARLOTTE

My whole life was falling apart. If I had ever done what I did, all those people would have blamed me for nothing, and I have never done anything wrong.

RICHIE

Well, at least my dad doesn't screw up his life.

Charlotte punches Richie in the face hard.

Austin is holding Richie, and Pierce is holding Charlotte.

RICHIE (CONT'D)

YOU LITTLE SHIT.

AUSTIN
Richie, could you stop it?

CHARLOTTE
At least I have a mother who
doesn't abandon me.

Everybody is silent, and then Richie looks at Austin, who appears shocked. He glances with an upset look on his face.

RICHIE
Did you tell them?

AUSTIN
Richie, just let me explain.

RICHIE
You have no right to spread gossip
about me.

DANIELLA
Only because you were being a dick.

RICHIE
Screw you. I don't need anyone to
tell me what to do. I'm better off
on my own instead of being stuck
with your waste of space.

Daniella walks toward Richie, but Pierce stops them by shouting at them.

PIERCE
THAT'S ENOUGH.

Daniella walked back to the apartment.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
Richie, you need to apologize right
now. You don't get to talk to her
like that.

Pierce walks back to the apartment.

RICHIE
I would rather watch you guys fade
away.

Pierce stops and walks back to shout at Richie; Pierce is still the dad plug.

PIERCE
You better not get me started with
that victim bullshit on me, Richie.
(MORE)

PIERCE (CONT'D)

We don't believe it's our fault
that our parents made many
mistakes. If you're acting like the
son who is being a smart ass, then
I suggest you stay outside and
think about what you said; now, if
you excuse me, I need to get back
inside to check on Daniella and
help my father fix his math
problem.

Charlotte's eyes were wide open and shocked.

Pierce returns to the apartment, returning to Charlie,
Austin, and Richie.

They're shocked; they stop him, and Pierce looks back at his
friends.

CHARLOTTE

Wait what.

AUSTIN

Pierce, what are you doing?

RICHIE

Are you insane?

PIERCE

I'm sorry, you guys. You have no
idea what it is like growing up
with a single parent who is
struggling. This is for the best of
him. If something were to happen to
me, I just wanted to say that
you've always been there for me
since we were kids. My dad ruined
his future, and this is his only
future, and a career that he didn't
have.

Pierce walks back to the apartment.

Charlotte and Austin watch Pierce returning to the apartment,
looking all worried.

Including Richie, where he did not expect that to happen.

Charlotte walks away fast, not looking back.

Austin stood in the center, watching Charlotte leave.

Richie leaves the group, too.

Austin glances at Richie, leaving. And he had no idea what to do.

CUT TO:

EXT. ORIGINAL BEACH SANTA MONICA - LATER

The files of the beach... Charlotte is sitting in the center of the swing set, staring at the beach, just watching the people passing by.

Charlotte stares at the approaching ocean waves, then slams down. The pedestrians ride bikes or walk and see shirtless, short-sleeved men jogging.

Two boys—one wearing a cap backward with his blond, spiky hair and another man beside him without a cap—saw his black, curly hair. They look more like a fraternity boy riding their skateboard, just passing by. They didn't look at Charlotte.

Three kids were building a sandcastle, and they all looked happy and enjoyed their vacation.

On Charlotte's left side. TEEN MARTIN meets TEEN ROSIE. She never thought she looked as beautiful as she did in high school.

Charlotte was surprised to see his parents when they were young.

TEEN MARTIN and Teen Rosie are talking to each other and introducing themselves.

TEEN MARTIN smiles. His shyness emerges as he looks down and smiles; he stares back at her.

As Teen Rosie reaches for his hands. They are holding hands.

We don't get to hear what TEEN MARTIN is saying to her. But he did ask her to go on a date.

When Teen Rosie smiled, she nodded. Charlotte can read lips, and she said, "Yes."

Charlotte smiles, and we watch his younger parents leave the beach and head out for their dates.

Charlotte could not be so proud.

CUT TO:

EXT. RAE'S RESTAURANT - DAY

The camera moves forward slowly to see the outside, where the sign reads "Rae's Restaurant."

CUT TO:

INT. RAE'S RESTAURANT - DAY

We see the empty food plates and watch the waitress grab them from the bar table.

After the plate has been taken away...

Richie is sitting in the booth, looking out at the window.

He didn't order any food; he only ordered a milkshake. He's not in the mood to eat anything.

Staring out at the parking lot, we see these high school students getting out of their 2001 black Ford Mustang GT.

We see four jock football boys wearing orange and black sports jackets. They attend Beverly Hills High School.

Three cheerleaders and two popular casual girls were getting help from their two different boyfriends out of the car.

One boyfriend is polite, and one boyfriend is a player and hardcore.

The popular girl is tickled by her polite boyfriend, knowing how sweet he can be.

One popular girl slapped her boyfriend on the left shoulder and told him to cut it out. He was being rude to her, and she didn't appreciate being treated in such a manner.

Sports jocks turn off their car by wearing their black square sunglasses.

We see the light green 2001 Volkswagen Beetle convertible parked in front of Richie's booth window.

We can hear the music from the window, and it's Britney Spears' pop song, 'Boys.'

We recognize those girls from the Record Tower Store.

It's those Three High-Maintenance Girls again.

CUT TO:

EXT. RAE'S RESTAURANT - DAY

She turns the volume up high in the Volkswagen Beetle convertible, where High Maintenance Girl #1 is driving. Just make everyone hear the song.

The High Maintenance Girls are jamming the song.

High Maintenance #1 looks at her shade mirror as she applies her light pink lip gloss.

CHEERLEADER #1
HEY, SPEARS-FREAK, WOULD YOU TURN
YOUR VOLUME DOWN? IT'S HURTING MY
INNOCENT EAR.

The cheerleaders and two popular girls laugh together, laughing at them.

High-maintenance girls know how to make a scene.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1
Keep it up, Beverly Hills. You do
not want to mess with us.

CHEERLEADER #2
Or what. What are you going to do
about it?

High Maintenance #2, sitting in the back seat, gets up and starts talking.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #3
We might even steal your boyfriends
and take them with us.

High Maintenance #3 puckers her lip as she tries to kiss one of their boyfriends.

Popular girl number 2 flips out. She almost goes to the girls, but her boyfriend, a football player, suddenly holds her back.

POPULAR GIRL #2
OH... YOU BITCH, YOU'RE WONNA GO,
YOU LITTLE BITCH, YOU'RE WONNA GO.

Her screaming squeaked out of her lungs.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1
Hey sweetheart, you might wanna
hold your bulldog, at least
tightly, before it bites.

High-maintenance numbers two and three laugh extremely hard.

We can hear the jock's boyfriend telling his boy to "let's go." They get back in the car, and we watch him turn on his car, put it in Reverse, move it back, and leave the parking lot.

High-maintenance girls are laughing so hard as they have won.

Richie and his other teammates recall 2021 as a time of dueling combat with high school students, including his stepbrother.

Knowing how he understands what Austin felt like with his friends, being embarrassed and assaulted.

We zoom back inside the restaurant.

Richie shook his head and avoided the girls in the parking lot. He never thought he felt too embarrassed to remember those times in Santa Rosa.

CUT TO:

INT. RAE'S RESTAURANT

We see the waitress heading to Richie's dining booth as he reaches for his wallet in his back pocket.

She hands him the receipt to pay for the milkshakes.

Richie looked up and could not believe it with his own eyes.

In Richie's POINT OF VIEW, Richie looks at his younger mother, Ruth, at eighteen, and she looks happy.

RUTH

Is everything okay there?

RICHIE

Yeah, I'm kind of down for the day.

RUTH

Okay.

Richie returned to the window and gazed at the High-Maintenance girls sitting in the parking lot listening to their son.

RICHIE

I couldn't believe what I had just seen with my very own eyes.

Ruth looks and smiles.

RUTH

Oh, yeah, those girls always come here. They act like they own the place

Richie picks up the receipt and checks the total; we don't see how much it costs.

We can only see the back of the receipt paper.

Ruth stares at him as if he feels lost and sad.

RUTH (CONT'D)

Are you feeling okay there?

RICHIE

No, it's just... I have a stepbrother and must've pushed him away, and I want nothing from him, mainly because I don't even know him and never want to be part of his life and family. I grew up with siblings. I was an only child, and I used to like it that way. Ever since my dad met his mother, my whole life has changed. Austin was the only person who cared about me. I was never into being part of a big, happy family.

RUTH

It sounds like you don't want your father to be happy.

RICHIE

No. I don't want him to be happy. It's just too fast for me.

RUTH

What did 'Austin' ever do to you that you make him push?

RICHIE

He was telling my secret life to his friends, which he had no right to do. I got so furious at him when he was talking about my mother, who left me and moved to Vancouver.

Richie's talking to his young mother, Ruth, in the past.

RUTH

I felt like I wanted to HATE her.

Ruth felt sorry for him.

She sees the emptiness inside him, knowing how an only child has been alone for years, and instead, another boy comes into his life and doesn't want it.

RUTH (CONT'D)

Honey, listen, I understand what you have been going through, but you can't hate yourself for the things your mother did to you when you were a kid. Your father doesn't want to see you like this; he wants you to be happy.

(MORE)

Life can be different, and having a family that is not yours is challenging, but that doesn't mean they won't love you. They are still your family, and you want to know what I love about things changing. We must rebuild the bad memories left behind, create new good memories, and build a future that lasts forever.

(MORE)

You don't have to know how to release it; you must leave that past behind and move forward. Your new family cares for and loves you, and your father wants you to have a better life.

(MORE)

If you don't let your past life go, it will worsen. It would be best if you stopped blaming your mother, your father, and your step-brother because it is not their fault or his, and even your father's. All he wants is to be happy. That's all he wants to see: YOU happy.

We see Richie's eyes almost tearing up as he looks down at the table, knowing how derelict it is.

Hearing him catch his breath, as if choked up to hear his mother's voice, gave him good advice.

RICHIE

I wish I could go back and tell him and apologize, but I can't. I don't think Austin would understand.

RUTH

Don't worry—he will understand. It would be best if you gave him time to think. Like I said, you need someone who cares about you. Don't push them away, kid. Let them come to you.

Richie nods.

We hear the doorbell ring, and the high-maintenance girls walk in like they own the place.

High Maintenance number one looks to her right side and sees that the last booth at the far end has become available.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #1

Hey, losers, what's up? You have some tables available for my girls. Ladies, let's take the booth at the end to look at these fantastic shirtless boys passing by.

High Maintenance girls laugh with each other.

HIGH MAINTENANCE #3

Move it, losers.

They push the innocent nerd kid with pimples on his face and wearing large square reading glasses, and he almost collapses, but the tables save him.

Ruth stared at the girls while sitting in the last booth at the bar. She shook her head like she couldn't take it with these girls.

RUTH

I have to go. Those girls are sitting there at the far end. That's my table. I can't wait to leave this place and even think about traveling the world.

Richie smiles a bit because he heard the same word Ruth told him when he was only a kid.

Ruth grabs the receipt and the cash.

RICHIE
Keep the change.

RUTH
Thank you; it's nice talking to
you.

RICHIE
Yeah. You too.

Richie watched Ruth leave the table as he was about to say
his last word to her.

Richie was left alone, where he'd pronounce the words without
letting Ruth hear them.

RICHIE (CONT'D)
Mom.

Richie looks at her with a sad, innocent smile.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SIDEWALK - LATER

Richie walks on the sidewalk, listening to his rock music,
which plays loudly.

Richie looks to his right from the back of the building.

RICHIE
No freakin' way.

Richie removed his headphones, and the two young professors
hired people to help them pack up in the semi-truck. All the
items are covered in white sheets.

RICHIE (CONT'D)
The Time Ring.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACK BUILDING

We see DONNIE, 35, writing down his boards.

We see Logan, 34, watching as their workers load the devices
onto the truck and cover them with a white sheet.

Donnie approaches outside the back of the building, where
he's talking to his staff members, but we don't hear him
talking.

We only hear the silence and the sound of his lips moving while he's having the conversation. Richie went to Donnie.

RICHIE
Excuse me, Donnie, sir.

Donnie looked at Richie; by coming towards him, he approached him and stopped him as fast as he could.

DONNIE
Sorry, son, you can't be here. This is private. You need to leave.

RICHIE
I understand, but please, let me hear you out...

DONNIE
Listen, kid, there's nothing for you to see, okay? As I mentioned on the news, this is a top-secret project, and you can't disclose any information. All right, boys, score them out.

He sent him to the staff to escort Richie out, then shouted out as he was about to blur out the words.

RICHIE
No, you need to understand; we're not from here. You have to listen to me...

Donnie saunters to the truck.

RICHIE (CONT'D)
We know about building a time machine.

DONNIE
Let him go.

They release Richie.

DONNIE (CONT'D)
Who are you?

CUT TO:

INT. TEEN AIDAN APARTMENT

Pierce and Teen Aidan are sitting at the dining table together and helping with his math problem.

On the left side, Teen Aidan's handwriting is in front of the paper, and the homework is completed.

As the pencil scribbles, Pierce is watching Teen Aidan doing his math work.

Teen Aidan put the last homework on the left and completed all five.

PIERCE

Alright, we are done.

TEEN AIDAN

I can't believe I finished it; I hope everything we solved is correct.

PIERCE

You are going to pass this math, trust me.

A knock is coming from the front door.

Daniella and Austin look away from the television while he's watching Malcolm in the Middle.

DANIELLA

Charlotte.

PIERCE

I don't think Charlotte knocked.

TEEN AIDAN

Oh my god, it's here.

Teen Aidan got up from the chair and went straight to the front door.

PIERCE

What's here?

Pierce watches Teen Aidan coming back. When he hears the door open, he turns back.

TEEN AIDAN

The University of Arizona is the one you asked me to consider.

Austin and Daniella look at Pierce, speechless. They do not look surprised.

Pierce looks at them and never says anything.

PIERCE

Well, did you open it?

TEEN AIDAN

I was going to wait for everybody
to come back.

Austin and Daniella get up from the floor and go to Pierce
and Teen Aidan.

DANIELLA

Well, go on, open it, and let's see
if you got in or not.

Teen Aidan opens the envelope, and we don't see it.

Daniella, Austin, and Pierce look at him to see if he got in.
Richie comes back into the apartment, filled with excitement.

RICHIE

Guys... guys... you're going to
believe who I ran into.

Teen Aidan looks down. Pierce, Austin, and Daniella look at
him.

RICHIE (CONT'D)

What happens?

Charlotte came back into the apartment.

CHARLOTTE

Richie, I want to say I'm sorry for
punching you in the face. I didn't
mean it.

(He looks at Teen Aidan)

What's going on?

RICHIE

I don't know. They were like this
when I came back. I'm the one who
should be sorry. I don't know what
got into me. All this hatred that I
have gotten through me was a wrong
choice. I don't blame you. I know
what you have been going through. I
deserve it. We're cool.

Richie raises his hand as the first in the center. Charlotte
looked down and smiled.

CHARLOTTE

We're cool.

Richie and Charlotte fist each other by touching each other's knuckles.

RICHIE

Can someone please explain what's going on here?

DANIELLA

Aidan got the envelope from the University of Arizona.

CHARLOTTE

No way – did he get in?

DANIELLA

We're not sure.

AUSTIN

Well, did you get in or not?

Teen Aidan looked up to the boys.

TEEN AIDAN

I got in.

The boys went up in shock.

PIERCE

WHAT.

AUSTIN AND CHARLOTTE

WHAT.

TEEN AIDAN

I GOT IN. I GOT IN.

Teen Aidan and the boys cheer, jumping up and down.

DANIELLA

Congratulation.

AUSTIN

Congratulation.

They continue to cheer and celebrate Teen Aidan's freedom.

CUT TO:

INT. SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Pierce, Austin, Richie, Charlotte, and Daniella

Pierce, Austin, Richie, Charlotte, and Daniella sat on the bench in the hallway.

While waiting, we see Richie explaining to Austin, Daniella, and Charlotte, except for Pierce, who still stares at the door while listening to him.

Pierce is standing, walking back and forth, looking worried, and waiting for Teen Aidan during his final exam.

CHARLOTTE

So, wait, you're saying there's a chance to return home, back to our time?

AUSTIN

I can't believe this is happening-- we're finally going home.

RICHIE

Yeah, and the only way to get back home is to travel to our hometown in Santa Rosa, and we have to build that time ring altogether.

CHARLOTTE

Perfect--I'm in.

DANIELLA

Home sweet home, here we come.

AUSTIN

So, when are we leaving?

RICHIE

Yeah. They said the truck and the van won't be leaving until Sunday.

CHARLOTTE

Okay, great, that gives us plenty more time.

Richie looks confused there. What Charlotte

RICHIE

What do you mean?

AUSTIN

On Friday, when Aidan graduates, he's inviting us to his ceremony, and we will be there to watch him receive his diploma and graduate.

Pierce gets up from the bench.

PIERCE

What's taking them so long? How long does the final exam take?

AUSTIN

Just relax and be patient, Pierce; he will find it.

RICHIE

It would be best to give Aidan time; the final exams can be very tough.

PIERCE

Let's hope he gets it right. We've studied this many times.

Pierce overthinks it.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Well, if he doesn't pass it. What if he's not going to graduate? What if this is the end of Aidan's...?

CHARLOTTE

He's going to pass it. You need to think positively and not overthink it.

Richie puts Pierce back on the bench and waits.

DISSOLVE TO:
LATER

Staring at the clock on the wall from 3:05 PM

Charlotte and Austin look at the glass shelf, seeing both old and recent pictures, and watch as they point at the old and new trophies and golden medals. Daniella goes to the water fountain to drink some water. Pierce is still walking back and forth. Richie leans on the wall as he stands.

DISSOLVE TO:
LATER

Piers sits on the bench. Daniella lies down on the floor, looking up at the ceiling. Charlotte sounds on the floor behind the glass shelf. Richie leans against a different wall next to the door, and we see Austin exit the restroom.

We looked back at the clock on the wall and turned it to 3:30 PM.

CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)

How long is the final exam going to take?

DANIELLA

The final exam is for seniors. We won't find out later on.

PIERCE

Come on, Dad. I know you can do it.

The door opened and made a sound, clear of echoes from the hallway.

Richie went up to Austin while he sat on the bench next to Pierce, sitting in the same spot.

RICHIE

Can we talk? Alone.

AUSTIN

Sure.

Austin gets up from the bench and leaves Pierce while he's waiting. Austin and Richie walked down to the hallway, which was not too far away, about 15 feet.

Charlotte watches them sauntering. And we don't get to hear their conversation.

Austin stares up at Richie, who tears himself down and has no idea what Austin said.

Austin can feel his throat choke him tight; his eyes tear up, too. To hear him sob after the end of the discussion.

Richie shook his head.

We can feel the emotional feeling going through Austin and their giving brothers' advice.

Richie went up to Austin and started crying. Hug out. Brothers needed to be loved.

Pierce looks to his right, seeing Austin and Richie hug each other. Richie hugs Austin tightly.

Pierce's smile.

The door opens. Pierce jumps up.

PIERCE

Guys.

Austin and Richie return to the area.

Charlie and Drew get up from the floor.

They all got up and went to the front door, where we saw Teen Aidan exiting the classroom.

Teen Aidan looks at the boys.

TEEN AIDAN

Hey guys.

PIERCE

So, did you pass?

TEEN AIDAN

I'm not sure how to explain this.

Teen Aidan looks at them with a straight look as if he is not happy about the exam.

CHARLOTTE

Aidan.

TEEN AIDAN

I'm so sorry, you guys.

DANIELLA

Well, you did your best.

TEEN AIDAN

Yes, I know I did the best I could.
That's only because...

We see Teen Aidan smile.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)

I PASS.

They look back and stare at Teen Aidan with shocking excitement when he gives them the good news.

CHARLOTTE

WHAT.

RICHIE

REALLY.

PIERCE

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

TEEN AIDAN

No. I did pass the test. Our homework was four Bs and one A, and my final exam was also a B+.

CHARLOTTE

OH MY GOD.

PIERCE

Congratulations, Aidan, you did it. You can finally graduate.

TEEN AIDAN

GRADUATION, HERE I COME.

We see them cheering.

CUT TO:

EXT. GRADUATION - PARKING LOT

As we stared up at the clear blue sky, which almost looked like noon, we saw the whole graduation hat being thrown high into the air, as if reaching from the sky.

We can hear the audience and the graduating students cheering.

Teen Aidan's mother held her camera to take pictures as she tried to take pictures of her son. Teen Aidan's father watched as he and his new friends stood together.

Aidan, a teenager, wears his graduation gown and hat.

The camera flashes a bright light.

CUT TO:

EXT. SANTA MONICA PIER - NIGHT

The DJ stage is still in the same position.

Students are dancing on the dance floor, not just from Santa Monica High School, but from different high schools as well, enjoying the graduation party.

The music of the R&B singer.

SONG: "ARE YOU THAT SOMEBODY" by AALIYAH.

PIERCE

Wow, this graduation party is fantastic.

DANIELLA

I didn't know graduation could be so much fun.

TEEN AIDAN

As soon as you graduate, you might throw a party like this... or wherever you come from.

PIERCE

Yeah, it will take us four more years to go.

TEEN AIDAN

I would like to have posed a toast.

Teen Aidan raised his red plastic cup high. Pierce, Austin, Richie, Daniella, Charlotte, and Eric raise their clear plastic cups to toast the graduates for Teen Aidan and Eric's graduation and start a new life.

TEEN AIDAN (CONT'D)

First, it has been an honor to meet you guys. I never had any friends like you guys, who have always been there to help with math problems. I don't have to worry about that anymore.

(MORE)

Before you came into my life, there was only one best friend I had ever had, Eric. We've been together since seventh grade to this day.

(MORE)

I can't believe that he and I will be roommates as we move to Tucson to start life at the University of Arizona, and I could never do it without my new friends sitting next to me right now, in the class of 2002.

ERIC

I'll cheer for that.

AUSTIN

We can't wait to have a graduation party when we graduate.

ERIC

Well, take your time with everything. I want you kids to stay in high school for a while before you face the real world as soon as you graduate.

AUSTIN

Oh, we will be on time for anything. Trust me, Eric, there are some things we want to do.

After they post a toast to the drink, the song that they will dance to is Jennifer Lopez's music.

SONG: WAITING FOR TONIGHT BY JENNIFER LOPEZ

ERIC

Oh, hell, that is my jam right there. I'm heading to the dance floor if anyone wants to join me.

AUSTIN

I'm going to pass on that.

TEEN AIDAN

Why not Austin?

AUSTIN

Well, she's overrated.

Richie turns to Austin quickly.

RICHIE

I love J.Lo, and I'm going to dance to that.

Eric and Richie left the table and went to the dance floor.

Teen Aidan, Pierce, Charlotte, Austin, and Daniella, watching Richie and Eric dancing together, look goofy, but Richie looks good at dancing.

AUSTIN

I have never seen a dance like that.

TEEN AIDAN

You tell me... Eric loves to dance, Goopy, but doesn't care what everyone says. He'll dance his ass off.

Pierce gets up from his chair.

PIERCE

I'm going to get some more punch.

Charlotte gets up from his chair, too.

CHARLOTTE

I'll come with you.

Pierce and Charlotte leave the table and walk to the counter to get some red fruit punch. Charlotte stands beside each other as they grab a clear plastic cup.

PIERCE

This place is something.

CHARLOTTE

Sure, it does.

Charlotte looks back and around, seeing people everywhere on the pier.

CHARLOTTE (CONT'D)

So, this is what it feels like to be at a graduation party; I will miss being a high school student.

PIERCE

Don't forget that we are still in high school, and by the time August arrives, we'll be juniors.

CHARLOTTE

The way I look at Eric's face. I have never seen Richie as a good dancer, and I am as shocked as Austin.

PIERCE

Yeah, I can't believe this will be our last night to celebrate my dad's high school graduation.

CHARLOTTE

You know you'll see him again.

PIERCE

I don't know what he will look like as an adult, but I don't think he will look like a teenager. I hope our timeline doesn't mess up when we return.

Charlotte felt the same way.

CHARLOTTE

I'm the same here. I'm worried about my dad. I don't know what he's going to look like. I hope he will do great things. I can picture it.

PIERCE

I picture my dad and his friend turning into frat boys.

Charlotte and Pierce laugh.

They got their red punch and returned to the table.

CHARLOTTE

What did we miss?

DANIELLA

Their dancing is nonstop.

AUSTIN

Eric was dancing like he had no idea what he was doing.

Then we heard another song come on.

SONG: TRY AGAIN by AALIYAH

They all start dancing.

DISSOLVE TO:

As they see an empty table, the boys return to their tables. Catching their breath, they sat back down on the chair. The boy is sweating.

PIERCE

I am partying right now.

TEEN AIDAN

Oh yeah, I am all sweating up here.

AUSTIN

Does anyone know where the water bottles are?

TEEN AIDAN

It's under the table where the red punch is.

AUSTIN

Awesome.

They all left and went to get some water bottles.

TEEN AIDAN
Some party, huh?

PIERCE
I had never had that kind of dance before. Thanks, Aidan, for inviting us.

TEEN AIDAN
You're welcome, and I'm glad I can dance with my new friends.

PIERCE
Eric.

TEEN AIDAN
Eric can get a little jealous these days.

PIERCE
He will be there soon, and we must get back on the road.

TEEN AIDAN
You guys are leaving so soon. I wish you guys could stay for a little while.

PIERCE
We could, but we had to head home.

TEEN AIDAN
I'm going to miss you all.

Pierce almost cries, but he's holding it.

PIERCE
We're going to miss you, too.

Pierce stares at Teen Aidan, knowing how deeply he wants to tell him—Pierce's smile.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GAS STATION

Austin and Daniella, at the ash register, got some good snacks.

Austin got three Hot Cheetos, two Snickers bars, and two large Sodas.

Daniella even got two Coca-Cola bottles, Doritos Nacho Cheese and Cool Ranch, three bags of M&M's, and two different-flavored green and blue Baby Bottle Pops.

AUSTIN
Do you think we're suitable for the road?

DANIELLA
Yeah, I think so.

The blond girl scanned the stuff.

Richie looks at two different Baby Bottle Pops. Richie looks curious about those two products.

AUSTIN
What is this? Is that a baby bottle?

The blonde girl responds.

BLOND GIRL REGISTER
It's called Baby Bottle Pop.

AUSTIN
It's what?

BLOND GIRL REGISTER
Baby Bottle Pop. It's a candy.

DANIELLA
I saw these things in the commercial. They certainly look unusual, but they also look delicious.

Richie looks at the cash register.

DANIELLA (CONT'D)
These will be separate.

Richie is standing at the door. To give those two a headshot.

RICHIE
Guys, they'll be here in three minutes

DANIELLA
Okay.

Richie exits the building.

CUT TO:

EXT. GAS STATION

Austin and Daniella exit the building.

AUSTIN

I can't believe it cost \$32.63. I clearly said, 'We want to pay separately.' What does she do... scanning altogether?

Austin and Daniella walk to Charlotte and Pierce.

AUSTIN (CONT'D)

Hey guys.

Pierce and Charlotte look at them behind them.

AUSTIN (CONT'D)

Pierce, are you okay?

DANIELLA

He doesn't want to talk.

Austin and Daniella nodded to agree.

The bus horns are coming closer. Austin, Daniella, and Charlotte turn and look, and they arrive.

Richie is standing there waving his arms up high, letting them give a signal.

A small white school bus was parked. At the back of the bus, two white trucks were parked on the side, their drivers and employers standing nearby. They get out of the truck.

Donnie and Logan get off the bus. Donnie gets out of the driver's side when he opens the door.

EMPLOYER MAN

When are we leaving, Don?

DONNIE

We'll be leaving in thirty minutes, so grab something quick.

Donnie and Logan look at the future kids.

CHARLOTTE

Look how young they were.

They walk toward Donnie.

DONNIE

So, you're the kids from the future.

CHARLOTTE

Yeah, sir, we are all, and you guys are the only ones who help us get back home.

DANIELLA

You are Donnie and Logan. You guys were young in 2002. We saw you on the news then.

Logan looks at the kids.

DONNIE

Great Scott.

Logan rolls his eyes when Donnie uses the catchphrase from the movie BACK TO THE FUTURE.

LOGAN

Donnie is trying to say that your kids made it right on time and that we will help them return home.

DONNIE

Alright, you kids, get on the bus, and we'll grab some snacks on the road.

DANIELLA

How long does it take to drive to Santa Rosa?

DONNIE

It'll take us about 7 hours.

CHARLOTTE

Wow.

LOGAN

Come on, kids, get on the bus.

Austin, Daniella, and Richie rushed to catch the bus.

Charlotte and Pierce walk.

We see the kids looking excited to be back home in Santa Rosa. They cannot wait to get back to their own time. And they can feel and know that deep down inside, they will miss the year 2002.

DANIELLA
Home sweet home, here we come.

AUSTIN
I'm eager to return home.

RICHIE
I miss Netflix.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE BUS - LATER

Austin and Richie sit in the first row on the left side of the bus.

Daniella and Charlotte sat on the right side.

Pierce sat at the end of the left side, looking down at the glass window and gazing outside.

Donnie turns on the bus.

LOGAN
Shall we turn on some music? Light
up the mood.

Donnie turns on the radio by pushing a button to unmute it.

We heard the song turn on.

SONG: IF I COULD TURN BACK TIME by CHER.

Donnie looks at Logan.

LOGAN (CONT'D)
Don't judge me. I love her.

Donnie pulls down the gearshift. The white leaves the gas station, and the white truck follows him.

CUT TO:

INT. ROUTE 5 FREEWAY

While Cher sings, the bus is driving on Route 5, the freeway heading north.

Still, at night, Richie and Austin are sleeping.

Pierce's wide awake.

Charlotte had his headphones on to cover his ears while he was listening to music.

Daniella tilts his head to the glass window.

Everybody's all silent, never saying a word on the road.

CUT TO:

INT. RECORD TOWER STORE - DAY

Aidan still works at the Record Tower Store and stocks random CDs on the shelf.

CUT TO:

INT. TEEN AIDAN APARTMENT - NIGHT

After Teen Aidan finishes his shift, he enters his apartment and stares at the living room.

Their clothes were left.

He looks down at his dining table and sees the accepted mail from the University of Arizona.

CUT TO:

INT. WHITE BUS / ROUTE 5 FREEWAY

Charlotte reached into his pocket and saw the picture of him and his father in prison—the same picture he had seen before.

Charlotte stares at the pictures carefully till she realizes something is wrong.

As we investigate Charlotte's POINT OF VIEW, the picture of Marin and Charlotte slowly fades away. They are no longer in prison, and all we see is an empty table.

She checked his hands to ensure she was not fading away, but she was still there. Her eyes were wide, shocked. She shook Daniella's shoulder to wake her up.

Charlotte and Daniella followed the picture, where they saw Charlotte, Rosie, and Avril sitting on the blanket and grass, enjoying a picnic.

We see Martin fading in the picture, standing next to Rosie. Martin looks wealthy.

Martin wears a white button shirt, light navy pants, and brown brogue leather shoes. His hair turns into a classic pompadour. He had a police badge on his pants, attached to his light brown belt around his waist.

Charlotte smiles.

Daniella and Charlotte smile at each other, knowing that their father made it and never stepped foot in prison.

Martin smiles, his shiny white teeth on display, as he stares at the camera.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SANTA ROSA

The small white school bus and the white truck pulled up to the gas station. The city of Santa Rosa appeared a little different, with some buildings still under construction.

CUT TO:

INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - AFTERNOON

The door opens inside from the abandoned factory, and the building brings out a bit of light. Logan and Donnie walk inside the building for the first time, from their point of view.

The ceiling was filled with dust that flew around the building.

DONNIE

Wow, this is the place you've been talking about.

(he looks up from the ceiling.)

This place looks huge. We have plenty more space to build our Time Ring.

LOGAN

Are you boys sure that this is the place where we got arrested?

RICHIE

Yeah, plus it wasn't just the state of California. The news spread rapidly around the world.

PIERCE
People think you guys are crazy.

DANIELLA
After that, they put you guys into
the asylum.

DONNIE
Alright, enough with the
conversation; let's get this
equipment inside.

They all work together on the time machine.

Pierce, Charlotte, and Daniella sweep the floors.

We see Austin, Richie, Donnie, and Logan's employees working
on the time ring machine.

And working on the TIME RING was nonstop.

CUT TO:

EXT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE

The sunlight DISSOLVES to nighttime.

CUT TO:

INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Pierce twists the lightbulb as a final piece.

PIERCE
That's the final piece.

DONNIE
Alright, let's give this a try.

Donnie and Logan went to the counter to press the buttons on
the dashboard.

LOGAN
Here we go.

The black figures typed fast, and they pressed the green
clear button. Logan pushes the button, and the blue light
turns on.

The Time Ring made an electronic lighting sound, with one or
three lighting strikes remaining on the two edges, moving
toward the middle.

The six or five lights and a bulb of faded blue light appear for about a second, then disappear.

CHARLOTTE
WHAT HAPPEN.

RICHIE
ARE YOU SERIOUS?

DONNIE
There is something wrong with the machine. I am trying to figure out what is missing.

LOGAN
Everything needs to be completed; everything we check is fully completed.

DONNIE
Sorry, guys, it's getting late.
We'll pick it up tomorrow morning.

They're about to leave. Pierce heard a lightning strike sound again.

Pierce turned around and saw another lightning strike.

PIERCE
Guys look.

The light bulb transforms into a blue fog portal and opens by spinning around; the bulb of light stands in the center.

DONNIE
It works.

LOGAN
I don't believe it. It's beautiful.

DANIELLA
You guys did it.

DONNIE
Alright, guys, we'll transport you back to May 2021. Alright, everything's good to go.

LOGAN
You boys are ready.

The boys nodded.

Pierce walks backward, turns, and sees his friends lining up.

Charlotte, Daniella, Richie, Pierce, and Austin walk together slowly.

A fog portal surrounds them; they're almost about to cover them.

The fog portal is fading the kids away, helping them enter.

After that, the light flashed, and the bulb flashed out as the portal CLOSED... they disappeared.

As the CAMERA pulls back, we see the title appear.

TITLED: 2021 on the bottom in the center.

Until we gaze at the time ring and the two lightning strikes appear.

The fog portal opens, and Pierce, Austin, Richie, Charlotte, and Daniella walk. They exit the portal.

After that, the Portal closed again.

CHARLOTTE

You think we're home.

DANIELLA

I'm not sure if we can check it out.

Richie reaches into his pocket to get his phone, where he's worried that he might've forgotten where he's overthinking. He might leave it on the white bus, and while they're looking around to see if anything changes, it still looks the same as always.

PIERCE

Everything still looks the same.

AUSTIN

I hope we're back.

RICHIE

Guys.

They turn around and look at Richie.

RICHIE (CONT'D)

We're home.

Richie shows them his phone; it is no longer the old one, but rather his actual touchscreen phone. On the phone screen, look at the month, date, and year...

PIERCE

We did it.

CHARLOTTE

We're finally home.

Pierce is about to make his announcement.

PIERCE

We'd been gone since yesterday.

DANIELLA

I feel like it's been so long.

PIERCE

Alright, guys, don't get excited yet. We had to return home before my DAD killed me if I took his car.

AUSTIN

Oh crap, he's right.

Pierce went to the back building, and we heard his voice, all panicking.

PIERCE

Guys, we have a problem; the Mustang is gone.

DANIELLA

What do you mean it's gone?

PIERCE

The Mustang is GONE, Daniella. Someone stole my dad's car.

(he felt the sweat and guilt.)

Oh my god, my dad is going to have my head.

AUSTIN

Well, that is just great. What are we going to do?

RICHIE

Guys, guys, you don't have to worry about that. Don't you guys forget that I'm the one driving the truck? Let me send Aiden home first.

AUSTIN

Let's go.

They ran out of the abandoned factory. Pierce felt the wind blow from the back of his head. He stops and turns around.

Richie honks the horn.

RICHIE (V.O.)
PIERCE, LET'S GO.

PIERCE
COMING.

Pierce exits.

The CAMERA moved slowly to the left side. As we arrived at the designated spot, we saw nothing but an empty area, and the time ring was no longer there.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE - DAY

We see Richie driving as he stops his truck, and they look at Pierce's house suspiciously, as they almost didn't recognize the houses from before.

Pierce looked at his house, and he couldn't believe what he saw with his own two eyes, his eyes wide and shocked.

RICHIE
Pierce, has your house always been
that clean?

PIERCE
No. It was never clean.

Pierce's house is painted white and looks nice and clean, with no signs of rust. The grass in the front yard looks lovely, green, and fresh.

We see the green fence cedar raised garden bed with four tall legs, and pink and white stripes of flowers are in the center of the window.

PIERCE (CONT'D)
I have never seen my house this
clean.

DANIELLA
Pierce looks... Your dad's car.

Pierce turned and saw the Mustang parked in front of the house next to the emerald green arborvitae.

PIERCE

Oh, good, it's here. I can finally breathe.

RICHIE

Did your dad get a new job as a gardener?

PIERCE

I don't know, and I would say do.

AUSTIN

Are you sure you'll be alright? I can come with you.

PIERCE

I'm okay, Austin, it's okay. I'll see it for myself. It would be best if you got home, too. I'll be alright.

AUSTIN

If anything happens, please let me know.

PIERCE

Sure.

Pierce gets out of the passenger seat and closes the door. We see the truck leave, and Pierce follows, looking back at the house. Pierce walks toward the house.

INT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE

Pierce went inside the house. He looked shocked; he had just seen his house turn too messy to clean.

Pierce closes the door and looks right; the kitchen looks nice and white.

Pierce looks at the living room and sees two brand-new sofas. One couch is on the wall, and the second is in the middle, staring at the flat-screen television and the coffee table.

The wall shelf is next to the television.

Pierce got close to the bookshelf, reading everything from thin to thick books—four Literary fiction, three horror, and two romance novels.

Pierce looks at the picture frame where the picture of Teen Aidan's graduation is. The one thing is that he looks so different.

Pierce, Richie, Austin, Daniella, and Charlotte are not in the picture; we only see five different kids.

AIDAN (V.O.)
There you are, son; I have been
looking everywhere for you. Where
have you been?

PIERCE
Sorry, I went for a run.

AIDAN (V.O.)
Without me.

PIERCE
Dad, you never like to run; you'll
just...

Pierce puts the book back on the shelf, and when he stops the conversation, he turns around, his smile disappearing.

Aidan Cunningham looks sharp. He doesn't wear his mechanic's uniform to work; instead, he wears square reading glasses. His blond hair went flat and transformed into an Undercut.

The clothes he's wearing are silver-gray dress pants with a black belt, brown leather dress shoes, and a long, white, wrinkle-free shirt with buttons.

AIDAN
Everything okay, Pierce?

PIERCE
Dad... you look... different. Did
you get a haircut?

AIDAN
Twenty minutes ago. You sure you're
alright?

PIERCE
Yeah, I'm fine.

AIDAN
I hope you're ready, because we're
celebrating in La Gare.

PIERCE
For what.

Aidan Chuckles.

AIDAN
Please tell me if you remember.

PIERCE

I'm pretty sure it's not your birthday. Just tell me.

AIDAN

We are going to celebrate the release of my brand-new book.

Pierce pretends.

PIERCE

Right, your new book. When is that coming out?

AIDAN

In June. Come on, and we must get going before they give up the table. But first, you need a shower.

PIERCE

Sure, I'll be quick.

Pierce walks up the stairs, and Aidan watches him, continuing with his phone.

INT. CHARLOTTE HOUSE - LATER

Charlotte's house looks so lovely. She never thought it looked half-empty, and everything they owned was still there, as if it had never left.

Charlotte was sitting in the middle of the sofa in the living room.

Rosie emerges from the kitchen, looking HAPPY and wearing her wedding ring.

Charlotte looks at the picture of Martin and Rosie getting married in a church. Rosie wore a white wedding dress, and Martin wore a black suit.

Charlotte turns back to where Rosie is carrying three bags of sandwiches. Please place it in the basket from the dining table.

ROSIE

Are you excited about the park, Charlotte?

Charlotte acts excited.

CHARLOTTE
Yeah, I'm excited.

Rosie smiled and went back to the kitchen to continue packing.

Martin comes down the stairs with his daughter, Avril, on his shoulder. Charlotte saw his little sister laughing and giggling.

MARTIN
Okay, sweetheart, it's time to put you down.

AVRIL
But daddy.

MARTIN
No buts, save it for the park.
Okay.

AVRIL
Okay, Daddy.

Martin stares at Charlotte, who looks shocked to see her father as a detective with a cop badge on his belt, and he is not wearing a prison uniform.

MARTIN
Hey Charlotte, you alright?

Charlotte nodded without saying a word.

MARTIN (CONT'D)
Okay.
(he went to the kitchen.)
Hey, sweetheart, I've got everything ready to go.

ROSIE (V.O.)
Yes, I have everything ready.

Charlotte followed her dad as she sat on the sofa. Charlotte looked up and choked up.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLAYGROUND

Charlotte is sitting on the bench table, watching Rosie and Avril play.

She's looking at Martin, grabs Avril, and we can hear her scream as he spins her around in a circle. Martin never looks so happy.

Charlotte smiles.

FADE TO BLACK.

TWO MONTHS LATER

FADE IN:

INT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE - DAY

Two people carrying luggage sit at the bar table. Aidan sat on the tall table, looking at his phone and texting.

AIDAN

Pierce, come on, your friends will be here any minute.

Pierce appears wearing his summer clothes, short pants, t-shirts, and black and monochrome Converse shoes.

AIDAN (CONT'D)

You look sharp.

PIERCE

Thanks, Dad. Is that everything?

AIDAN

Yup, everything is packed up and ready to go. Man, I can't believe you're going to Santa Monica.

PIERCE

Yeah, we could take a vacation out there.

AIDAN

I could do something special, so you don't have to stay in a hotel room.

Pierce's eyes were wide open without Aidan noticing it.

Pierce turns around.

PIERCE

Thanks for letting us borrow the beach house over there.

AIDAN
I have many fond memories of Santa
Monica.

Pierce looks at the picture frame on the bookshelf.

PIERCE
Hey, Dad, what happened to those
kids in the picture frame during
your graduation year?

Aidan had no idea, which makes it a good question.

CUT TO:

EXT. SANTA MONICA PIER - NIGHT - 2002

We see Teen Aidan exiting the restroom.

As he walks toward it, we see an empty chair while Eric is
still dancing.

AIDAN (V.O.)
I don't know. When I returned from
the restroom, the tables were
empty. The last time I saw them was
at the graduation party, and that
was the last time I'd ever seen
them.

Teen Aidan arrived at the empty table, looking sad, as he had
never had a chance to say goodbye.

AIDAN (V.O.)
They had to return home, so I never
could say goodbye.

Then, Teen Aidan saw a yellow sticky note that he picked up.

AIDAN (V.O.)
Then they left me a note, which I
should have kept.

INT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE

We see Pierce still looking at the picture frame and then
turns to Aidan.

PIERCE
What does it say?

CUT TO:

EXT. SANTA MONICA PIER - NIGHT - 2002

We see the yellow sticky note, written in black ink, which says...

'YOU CAN DO ANYTHING YOU PUT YOUR MIND TO!! I WILL MISS YOU SO MUCH! NEVER CHANGE.'

Teen Aidan smiles as he looks away, looking around and seeing random people.

CUT TO:

INT. PIERCE AND AIDAN HOUSE

Aidan responds that he doesn't remember but can't announce it.

AIDAN
It just said, 'Good luck in the future.'

PIERCE
That was it.

Pierce wrote it and never used his name.

Then we heard a knock on the door three times.

AIDAN
I'll be right back.

Then we hear the door open.

MAILMAN (V.O.)
Aidan Cunningham.

AIDAN (V.O.)
Yeah, that's me.

MAILMAN (V.O.)
Sign here.

We see Aidan sign his signature.

MAILMAN (V.O.)
Have a good day, sir.

AIDAN
Thanks.

Aidan closes the door.

AIDAN (CONT'D)
Pierce, it's here.

Pierce placed the picture frame back on the bookshelf.

PIERCE
What's here?

AIDAN
My new book.

PIERCE
Excellent, open it.

Pierce watches Aidan open the wooden box. As we open the package, we see a thick book.

They all look surprised to see it.

We see a picture of a white blossom flower floating in the river water. We see a pink title that says. "Sleep nights"

PIERCE (CONT'D)
Wow, this book looks pretty interesting.

As we hear the doorbell ring, Aidan heads to the door.

AIDAN (V.O.)
Hey man, long time no see.

While looking at the book, Pierce heard Aidan calling out to him.

AIDAN
Pierce, please meet my friend from high school.

Pierce turns around and sees Eric as an adult.

AIDAN (CONT'D)
Pierce, this is my good friend Eric. And Eric, this is my son Pierce. Eric is the person who tutors me on my math problems.

ERIC
Nice to meet you.

PIERCE
It's charming to meet you, too...
Eric.

AIDAN

Hey Eric, we can grab a drink at the bar before my son leaves for his trip with his friends. I heard it's a nice place to go, and my agent told me it's a great place to hang out.

ERIC

I am in. I am ready to get drunk. But before that, we have a lot of catching up to do with your old man.

AIDAN

Older man? Huh, I'll show you, older man.

The car honks the horn from outside, and it's got to be Richie's truck.

PIERCE

That's Richie's truck.

AIDAN

Eric and I will grab the luggage for you.

Aidan and Eric grabbed Pierce's luggage and carried them outside.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD - DAY

We watched Pierce, Aidan, and Eric exit the house. We saw Richie in the back of the truck with Austin, Daniella, and Charlotte inside the passenger seat.

AUSTIN

So, are we ready to go?

PIERCE

Yeah, let's get going. My dad says I can borrow his car for the summer.

Aidan gave Pierce the car key. Pierce hugs Aidan tightly, and Aidan hugs him tightly. Everybody in the car watches them hugging.

PIERCE (CONT'D)

Thanks, Dad. I love you.

AIDAN
I love you, too, son.

Aidan still hugged Pierce for five seconds.

PIERCE
Dad, you can let go now.

ERIC
Aidan, come on, dude, let's go.

AIDAN
Sorry about that. You boys have fun. Alright.

PIERCE
We will. Bye, Dad.

Aidan waves his hand goodbye, and Eric waves.

AIDAN
Bye, son.

CUT TO:

INT. 1968 MUSTANG GT 350

Pierce enters the Mustang in the driver's seat and closes the door.

PIERCE
Are you guys ready to go back to Santa Monica?

RICHIE
I can't wait.

CHARLOTTE
I got the GPS ready to go.

Pierce turns on the Mustang and hears it roar; it sounds nice. Before he drives, he reaches the dashboard and turns on the radio.

SONG: RIDE WITH ME by NELLY

They look at each other. *Smile.*

Pierce grabs the Gearshift and pulls it down as he smiles.

FADE TO BLACK.

END ROLL TITLES

THE END

(November 20th, 2020 - May 8th, 2021)