

Script

# OTTO TEUFEL

FROM THE APO ACTIVIST  
TO THE CARE CASE

Tragicomedy, social satire



Written by: Ruby Con  
Mobile: 0171/4980909  
Email1: rubycon@mail.de  
Email2: agentur@screencreator.de  
Website: www.screencreator.de  
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## OTTO TEUFEL, SCRIPT 1

### 1) INSIDE, SUPERMARKET - READY MEALS DEPARTMENT, DAY

The supermarket is decorated for Christmas. Christmas music can be heard.

There's a flurry of activity. A very fat woman catches your eye. Next, an old man standing in front of a shelf of canned food catches your eye—OTTO TEUFEL.

Otto has a wrinkled face, wears glasses, is unshaven, and wears a worn coat.

Otto holds a can of ravioli in front of him and carefully reads the ingredients. He places the cans in the shopping cart, where disposable razors and a bar of soap are already lying.

### 2) INSIDE, SUPERMARKET - LIQUOR DEPARTMENT, DAY

Otto holds coins in his palm and counts them. Then he places a bottle of Lambrusco in the basket.

OTTO  
(smiles with anticipation)  
Ravioli and Lambrusco - la dolce  
vita.

Otto leaves the frame. We see the disposable razor lying on the shelf where the bottle of Lambrusco used to be.

### 3) INSIDE, SUPERMARKET - TEA & COFFEE DEPARTMENT, DAY

Otto looks uncertainly at some types of tea.

OTTO  
(to himself)  
Mate tea, 12 euros?! - I guess  
that's only for spoiled, affluent  
Marxists.

### 4) OUTSIDE, SUPERMARKET, DAY

Otto comes out of the supermarket and walks towards his home in Marzahn.

OVERVOICE

This is me. Otto Teufel. I'm 74 years old. At some point in my life, everything went wrong. I want to tell my story to encourage all those who, like me, live without hope on the margins of society to stand up—because there are many of us. We are old people.

On the way, Otto passes a small group of climate protesters.

Otto looks briefly, shakes his head and continues walking.

OVERVOICE

I'm the younger brother of Fritz Teufel, yes, Fritz Teufel, once the most wanted terrorist. And when I see these climate activists, my experiences from the APO years come back to me. I was somebody back then!

5) OUTSIDE, HIGH-RISE HOUSING ESTATE, DAY

Otto walks through a run-down alley.

OVERVOICE

I fondly remember the Wild '68ers. The demonstrations back then were of a completely different nature than the unfortunate, indoctrinated climate children of today - no real APO activist would have thought of sticking to the street back then. We would have set the streets on fire. We were tougher, louder, more violent! We were the fifth, extra-parliamentary branch of government! - And I belonged to the hard core, who stood their ground even when everyone else was holding a sit-in. Rioting, beating up the cops - those were my messages!

Right-wing extremist youths scrawl Nazi slogans on building walls. Standing by Turks remind them that the word "foreigner" is not spelled with an "e."

OVERVOICE

I lived in the infamous Kommune 1  
in '67. My brother, Fritz Teufel,  
and I knew them all:

OVERVOICE (CONTINUED)

Ulrich Enzenberger, Dorothea  
Ridder, Volker Gebbert, Rainer  
Langhans, but also Andreas Baader  
and Gudrun Ensslin. It was also  
around this time that Thomas  
Hersterberg took the infamous photo  
of all the residents posing naked  
in front of a wall with their backs  
to the camera. I was repeatedly  
asked which of them I was? The  
clear answer: the one with the  
biggest balls.

Otto looks toward the playground, where six bums are sitting  
with beer bottles in their hands, chasing small children away.  
Drunk and slurring their words, they talk about the prevailing  
political situation.

OVERVOICE

Later, Uschi Obermaier moved into  
the commune. She was the icon of  
the '68 movement. Today's climate  
change activists only have Greta  
Thunberg—no wonder they're so  
unsuccessful. Anyway, Langhans, the  
rascal, told Uschi Obermaier  
something about free love and such.  
From then on, they were hardly seen  
outside the mattress. They held  
their Bed-In for Peace two years  
before John Lennon and Yoko Ono.

Two bums get into a loud argument:

PENNER1

They all have no idea! If I were  
Chancellor, ...  
(Burps can be heard)  
...I would do everything better.

PENNER2

You? You can't even pee properly.  
Or why do you have wet shoes?

PENNER1

Don't talk nonsense. That was a dog  
that caught me taking a shit behind  
the hedge.

The bums laugh happily and open more beer bottles.

OVERVOICE

Looking back, it was all pointless.  
I should have demonstrated for  
better retirement benefits and not  
for all this socialist nonsense. If  
only I'd campaigned for a minimum  
pension!

Under an underpass that leads to an inner courtyard, three  
teenagers come towards Otto.

OVERVOICE

In 1968, I was 18 years old. I was  
young, strong, and conquering the  
world with my revolutionary ideas.  
Now I feel like I'm 100 years old  
and I need help. I'm weak, frail,  
sick—and if I read anything at all,  
I only read the Bild newspaper.

Otto wants to move on. The three teenagers stand in his way.

TEENAGER1

Not so fast, Grandpa!

TEENAGER2

Give us your money!

OTTO

Leave me alone.

TEENAGER3

(aggressive, pokes  
Otto's chest with his  
index finger)

Give me the money, or you'll end up  
in the trash!

The three teenagers laugh maliciously.

OTTO

Caution! I'm a former APO activist!  
Now piss off!

TEENAGER3  
(laughs maliciously)  
A moldering '68er wants to scare  
me.

TEENAGER2  
Give that APO grandpa a slap in the  
face!

Otto gets a slap in the face from Halbstarker3. His glasses fly  
to the floor. A lens pops out, and a temple breaks off.

Teenager 2 takes the shopping bag from Otto and rummages  
through it. He takes out the bottle of Lambrusco. Then Teenager  
2 drops the bag. The items inside fall out.

OTTO  
(close to despair)  
You wankers! Take the soap and give  
me my medicine!

The three teenagers laugh maliciously.

TEENAGER 3  
Shut up, Grandpa!

Halbstarker2 unscrews the cap and drinks from the bottle.

Halbstarker1 grabs the bottle and drinks from it.

Halbstarker3 drinks afterwards.

Otto bends down and picks up his glasses and organizes his  
shopping bag.

Halbstarker2 kicks Otto in the butt, causing him to fall flat  
on his face to the ground.

Halbstarker3 looks at Otto contemptuously and spits on him.

TEENAGER3  
Shitty bum! You dirty old shitty  
'68er! Nobody helps you, nobody  
cares about you. You're just a  
piece of stinking shit!

Halbstarker1 pours the rest of the bottle over Otto.

OTTO

Forty years ago, I would have taken  
on all three of you at once. I  
would have turned you into  
cripples!

TEENAGER1

We no longer say "cripple." We say  
"people with special needs."

TEENAGER2

Yes, exactly. We're cultured, damn  
grandpa!

TEENAGER3

Come on. He's had enough.

TEENAGER1

Yes, let's go to my place and  
listen to Bach's Toccata and Fugue  
in D minor.

The three teenagers move on. They throw the empty bottle at  
Otto, followed by laughter.

Otto crouches on the ground, crying with impotent rage and  
despair.

OVERVOICE

I hate these guys. If I had a  
machine gun, I'd kill them all like  
mangy curs. And if I only had a  
club, I'd beat them until their  
heads were mush! - But I don't dare  
curse them afterward.

6) INSIDE, ELEVATOR, DAY

The elevator is filthy and covered in graffiti. Otto is  
standing inside.

The elevator stops. A woman with a stroller comes in. The woman  
has greasy hair and is missing some teeth. The child is fat and  
asleep.

The woman sees the stains on Otto's coat and smells alcohol.

WOMAN

Oh, Mr. ... thingamajig. - I haven't seen you in a long time. I thought... well, you know. They say dead people lie undiscovered in their homes for years.

Otto smiles crookedly.

The elevator door opens. A woman gets out.

WOMAN

Well, have a nice day.

The elevator door closes.

The elevator door opens. Otto gets out.

7) INSIDE, KITCHEN, DAY

We see a dilapidated kitchen. Dishes are piled up in the sink.

Otto stands at the window and looks out.

We see garbage bags falling from the window. Then we see a suicide victim fall.

Otto motionlessly acknowledges the suicide. Finally, he picks up a pen and makes a mark on a list next to the window.

We see the tally: There are 23 tally marks under garbage bags, 2 tally marks under men, and 1 tally mark under women.

8) INTERIOR, LIVING ROOM, NIGHT

Otto is sitting in the living room in front of an old television. The show is "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire."

Otto clamps the lens back into the frame and uses a strip of Tesa tape to reattach the broken temple. Then he puts the glasses on.

Otto puts the roll of sticky tape back in the drawer.

Otto opens the can of ravioli and places it on the folding table in front of the television.

We see Otto raise the forkful of ravioli to his mouth and eat the pieces with relish while watching television.

The TV picture disappears. Otto slams his palm against the TV. There's no improvement.

A drawer is opened. Two hands rummage through the contents. A small container appears. It is opened. A lump of hashish is visible.

We hear music by the Rolling Stones, Street Fighting Man, first quietly, then increasingly loudly.

Otto looks at the lump nostalgically.

A joint is rolled up. She brings it to her tongue, which licks the sticky side.

The joint is lit with relish. Otto takes a deep drag and leans back in his chair.

We see the yellowed photos and newspaper clippings on the wall. Otto lets his gaze wander over the images of riots, violent clashes, and protest marches. Some images mark Otto with a thick red arrow.

#### OVERVOICE

Everything used to be better. I was young, I had ideals, I was a Marxist, a Leninist, a socialist— even if I didn't know the exact definition, I knew that refusing to work was active class struggle.

Otto continues smoking with relish. The Rolling Stones' music, "Dance with the Devil," now dominates.

#### 9) BLACK SCREEN

We continue listening to the music.

#### 10) FLASHBACK, 1967 AND 1968

Short sequences of a few seconds from documentaries, mixed with fictional plots (these in italics). Music is also included.

- We see scenes from Commune 1 with Langhans, Obermaier and other residents, including the young Otto.
- We see a poster with a red clenched fist.
- We see scenes from the Vietnam War.
- We see Che Guevara smoking a cigar.
- We see Marc Daniel Cohn-Bendit leading a demonstration.
- We see Jimi Hendrix during the Woodstock concert.
- We see Rudi Dutschke leading a demonstration. "Ho-Ho-Ho Chi Minh."
- We see the Rolling Stones playing My Generation.
- We see a Holger Mainz film clip showing the construction of a Molotov cocktail.
- We see Springer vehicles burning.
- We see a Springer-Bild newspaper, headline: "Red Guard"
- We see the shot Rudi Dutschke lying on the street.
- We see Janis Joplin during a concert.
- We see police water cannons trying to break up the Easter demonstration in 1968.
- We see the 1968 star march to Bonn.
- We see Martin Luther King Jr. shot dead.
- *We see Andreas Baader and Gudrun Ensslin preparing a department store attack.*

11) BLACK SCREEN

Silence.

12) INSIDE, BATHROOM, NIGHT

Otto turns on the light. We see a dilapidated bathroom.

Otto sees the roll of toilet paper with only one sheet left.  
Otto looks at the sheet silently.

OVERVOICE

I lived fast and intensely in '79,  
hoping to crown myself with a  
heroic death and join the 27 Club  
like Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin,  
and Jim Morrison. Well, then it was  
all over. I turned 28, and nothing  
had changed except my fear of  
ending up insignificant in the 100  
Club. I truly believed there would  
be no further development, that  
history would stop at my ideals.  
But history hadn't acknowledged me  
at all—I'm a nobody. Worse still,  
I'm a '68er! Where in life did I  
take a wrong turn that I now have  
to eke out such a shitty existence?

13) INSIDE, BEDROOM, NIGHT

Otto opens the cupboard. The bag containing what were once  
eight toilet paper rolls is empty.

Among all the junk, Otto finds an old pistol that he had long  
forgotten about.

He picks up the pistol and removes the magazine. We see the  
cartridges inside.

OVERVOICE

A souvenir. Looted at a Berlin  
demonstration in which Benno  
Ohnesorg was killed. Benno was also  
only 27 years old.

Otto puts the magazine back into the pistol and reloads it.

14) FLASHBACK 1967; OUTSIDE, DEMO DEUTSCHE OPER BERLIN, EVENING

This is followed by short sequences of a few seconds.

- We see an original scene from the demo.
- We see an original scene of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi in front of the red town hall in Berlin.
- We see an original scene of the Persian guards beating demonstrators with wooden slats.
- We see a re-enacted scene like Police officers in uniform and civilian clothes, including Karl-Heinz Kurras, pursue fleeing demonstrators, including the young Otto and Benno Ohnesorg, into the courtyard of the building at Krumme Strasse No. 66/67 (today: Schillerstrasse 29).
- We see a reenactment of Benno Ohnesorg lying lifeless in a meadow. The back of his head is bleeding. A woman turns Benno onto his back and holds his wounded head.
- We see a re-enacted scene of the police officers, including Karl-Heinz Kurras, retreating while demonstrators shout "Murderer, murderer!"
- We see a fictional scene in which, in the tumult, young Otto unnoticed takes the gun from policeman Kurras.

15) INSIDE, BATHROOM, NIGHT

Otto stands in front of a mirror in the bathroom. He looks critically at his reflection.

OTTO

(to himself)

Why are you still alive? Tell me,  
why haven't you died long ago? Then  
you'd have it all behind you.  
Nobody helps you, nobody cares  
about you. You're useless—old,  
sick, poor.

He puts the gun to his temple.

OTTO  
(to himself)  
If you have just a little bit of  
courage, you pull the trigger.

He squeezes his eyes shut. We see his trembling finger on the  
trigger.

OTTO  
(to himself)  
Pull the trigger!

Otto collapses. He crouches next to the toilet, crying.

OTTO  
Just useless. I'm just useless.

16) BLACK SCREEN

We hear a shot.

17) DREAM SEQUENCE/ INSIDE, BANK - COUNTER ROOM, DAY

OTTO  
This is a robbery! - If anyone  
moves, I'll shoot their brains out!

People are lying on the floor with their hands behind their  
necks. Between them, Otto runs to the counter with a gun in his  
hand.

Otto throws two Aldi bags to the cashier.

OTTO  
Go on, fill it up!

The cashier nods fearfully.

The bags are filled with banknotes.

Otto notices the guard moving. Otto shoots him motionless.

A special forces unit storms in. A wild gunfight ensues. Many are killed and injured.

Otto is fatally wounded. He falls dramatically to the ground.

OTTO  
(dying)  
Still better than basic security!

18) INSIDE, APARTMENT, NIGHT

Otto wakes up with a start. He sits up and turns on the light. He's lost in thought.

Otto opens the cupboard and takes out his gun again.

OTTO  
(holds the gun dreamily  
in front of him)  
Why not?! What do I have to lose?!

19) OUTSIDE, IN FRONT OF A BANK, DAY

Otto sits on a park bench and discreetly looks over at the bench.

To camouflage himself, he feeds some pigeons breadcrumbs. But the pigeons don't touch the bread; they turn around and shit on it. Then they fly away.

OTTO  
Hey, I don't have anything better.  
- Spoiled creatures!

OVERVOICE  
I'm determined to rob a bank. I've chosen this Volksbank—the name alone reveals that, as a representative of the people, the money belongs to me.

Otto discreetly takes notes.

OVERVOICE  
What would I have to lose? I could escape with a lot of money. More likely, I'll get caught. Well, then I'll go to jail. It's like a

nursing home, only free. And if I  
get shot, then the misery will be  
over.

20) OUTSIDE, NEAR THE BANK, DAY

We see Otto determining the best escape route and timing the  
time. He notes everything down.

21) INSIDE, APARTMENT, DAY

Otto draws various escape routes on a city map with a pencil.  
Then he calculates the distances and the required times on a  
piece of paper.

Otto fills two plastic bags with old newspapers and places them  
on the scale. He notes the weight.

Otto looks in a drawer. Among old papers, he finds a yellowed  
photo.

We see the photo: It shows a group shot. Otto is looking into  
the camera. He doesn't notice a woman being kissed by the  
police behind his back.

OVERVOICE

Angelika. We've known each other  
since our time as activists in the  
squatter scene. She was my great  
love, and we participated in every  
demonstration together.

Demonstrations had always been our  
passion. The main thing was that  
they were against something, no  
matter what.

22) FLASHBACK 1968; STREETS OF BERLIN, EVENING

We see the younger Otto. He is walking along the Berlin Wall.

Otto stops in front of a row of dilapidated houses.

OVERVOICE

After being thrown out of Kommune 1, I was homeless in the winter of '68-69. I no longer had friends where I could stay or beg for help. So these dilapidated old apartments came in handy.

Otto meets a resident.

OTTO

Hey, is there an apartment available here?

RESIDENT

(with a Berlin accent)

Sure, pick a ruin.

OVERVOICE

I had my backpack with me, so I moved in immediately.

23) FLASHBACK 1968; APARTMENT, EVENING

OVERVOICE

On the second floor I found a partially furnished apartment, dating back to the Kaiser Wilhelm era, but better than nothing.

We see Otto inspecting the broken furniture. In the bedroom, Otto discovers a sleeping bum. Otto grabs the drunken man by the arm and throws him out.

OTTO

Say hello to Willi Weinbrand for me. The apartment is now occupied by an APO activist.

OVERVOICE

When I returned to the living room, Angelika was standing there. It was the first time I...

We see Otto lying down and Angelika riding him, sucking on a thick joint.

OVERVOICE

Angelika was a great girl. She was for free love—usually in the plural. It wasn't until later that I understood why everyone just called her Angelika.

24) FLASHBACK 1968; INTERIOR, DRAG QUEEN HOUSE, EVENING

OVERVOICE

One day later, the entire street was taken over by squatters. And the house where I lived was declared a women's and lesbian shelter. I was forced to move into the house next door. But that was... very special. It was the so-called Transvestite House.

OVERVOICE (CONTINUED)

That was cool. For a few nude photos, I not only got to live rent-free, but also get free food and drinks at the gay café next door.

We see Otto in his underwear, assuming various poses following instructions from several men taking photographs.

OTTO

Only tasteful pictures, no filth, got it!

PHOTOGRAPHER

Yes, that's fine. Now take the teddy bear and cuddle with him.

We see Otto making out with the teddy bear.

25) FLASHBACK 1969

We see short sequences of a few seconds

OVERVOICE

I felt comfortable here. I had really become involved in the squatter scene. I soon began delegating tasks to people so that everyone had a meaningful task.

- We see hemp plants being cultivated in the courtyard.
- We see garbage being picked up.
- We see anarchist slogans and the portrait of Che Guevara being painted on walls.
- We see how the hemp plants are watered.
- We see Angelika baking marijuana cookies.
- We see someone bringing in a television.
  
- We see women and men sitting together, watching television, smoking joints, eating cookies, and sometimes having sex, without the others being bothered by it.

#### OVERVOICE

The squatted houses developed into a haven of happiness. More and more apartments were occupied by autonomous groups. But that summer, a formal eviction order followed. Now it was time to fulfill the most important civic duty—active resistance!

- We see street barricades being erected under Otto's command.
- We see Molotov cocktails being prepared under Otto's instructions.
- We see Otto overseeing the installation of trip wires.

#### 26) FLASHBACK 1969; APARTMENT, MORNING

We see Otto standing in front of a room door and talking to Angelika, who is in the room.

OTTO

Are you coming? The street fight is about to begin!

VOICE ANGELIKA

Yes, I'll be right there.

Groaning can be heard from the room.

A police officer comes out of the room. He zips up his pants.  
Then a second police officer comes out.

POLICEMAN2  
(to Angelika)  
Until the next personal  
identification check.

POLICEMAN1  
(to Policeman2)  
That was tough police work!  
(Laughter)

POLICEMAN2  
Yes, very hard.  
(Laughter)

Policeman1 sees Otto and pushes him against the wall.

POLICEMAN1  
Okay, kid. We can do this the hard  
way, or you can call out the dope  
right away.

OTTO  
Hey man, that hurt!

POLICEMAN2  
That's still meant kindly.

Otto hands over a thick chunk of dope.

POLICEMAN1  
(to Policeman2)  
A little too little. Only enough  
until tonight.

OTTO  
Well then, let's go. The house  
clearance is about to begin.

Angelika comes out with disheveled hair. She pulls down her  
hippie skirt and buttons her blouse.

ANGELICA  
(smiles happily)  
These pig bulls really had me in a  
tight spot.

OTTO  
The cops took my dope away!

ANGELICA  
(angrily)  
The whole thing? - Those bastards.  
Next time they can suck each  
other's cocks!

OTTO  
(expectantly)  
Wait, I suddenly got really horny!

ANGELICA  
(rolls his eyes)  
With you? I'm fucking my dealer  
now. At least he still has some  
weed.  
(pushes Otto aside)  
Out of the way, wimp.

OTTO  
That was the last time I saw  
Angelika. That was shortly before  
the eviction, which now began.

Otto looks out through a slit in the cardboard covering a window onto the street. A street battle is taking place there.

27) OUTSIDE, STREET BETWEEN TWO ROWS OF HOUSES, DAY

We see many police officers using tear gas grenades, water cannons, and armored personnel carriers to fight dozens of squatters and autonomous groups.

28) FLASHBACK 1969; INSIDE, HOUSE, DAY

We see Otto standing at the cardboard window again.

The door is blown open. Three heavily armed police officers storm in. Otto immediately puts his hands up.

OTTO  
Hey, one at a time. I don't have  
enough dope for everyone.

We see Otto being clubbed to death.

29) OUTDOORS, STREETS, DAY

Otto walks a few meters with two filled plastic bags.

He takes a break on a park bench. He's out of breath. He checks his pulse and notes it.

On the park bench, he discovers a case with a pair of glasses inside. Otto looks around. He tries on the glasses and appears satisfied.

30) INSIDE, APARTMENT, DAY

Otto stands in front of a mirror and acts out a bank robbery.

On TV you can see: "Taxi Driver", scene in which Robert De Niro plays Travis Bickle practicing drawing a pistol in front of a mirror.

Otto looks alternately at the television and the mirror and practices pulling the gun out of his jacket pocket.

OTTO

(plays an imaginary cashier)

Hey you, what do you want here?

(Otto)

Who I?

(imaginary cashier)

Yes, you, you disgusting bastard.

(Otto)

Are you talking to me? Are you talking to me? Could it be that you mean me? I'm the only one here.

(imaginary cashier)

What do you want in my bank, you disgusting bastard?

(Otto)

Listen up, you jerks, you shitheads. Here's someone who won't take everything. Listen carefully, you jerks. Here's someone who'll

take what's his. Now give me my  
money, all of it!

OTTO (CONTINUED)

(Otto draws his gun, but it  
slips from his hand.)

Shit. This can't happen to me  
again.

(He draws his weapon again  
and takes a step forward)

Listen up, you jerks. There's  
someone here who's taking what's  
his. Now lie down! Anyone who moves  
will be shot.

(Otto draws his weapon)

You jerks, this is a bank robbery!  
Anyone who moves will be shot.

(Otto waves his weapon  
around)

Go there, everyone!

(Otto appears satisfied)

Yes, that's it. Now for another  
shot at the ceiling.

(Otto goes to the starting  
position)

This is a bank robbery!

Otto looks back at the television and sees himself on equal  
footing with Travis Bickle.

Otto looks at himself in the mirror again and smiles.

31) OUTSIDE, PARK, DAY

Otto runs repeatedly for several dozen meters. Occasionally, he  
is chased by a yapping pug. Behind him, his owner runs.

HOLDER

(cheering)

Yes, where is the bum, where is the  
bum, catch the bum! - Good dog.

32) INSIDE, APARTMENT, NIGHT

Otto looks through the plastic bag filled with newspapers and pulls out an old newspaper. He spreads it out on the table. He then cleans and oils his weapon.

Otto practices assembling his weapon blindfolded several times. It takes a relatively long time because his hand motor skills are no longer as good.

As Otto is about to crumple up the newspaper, he sees an article about the founding of the Green Party. He flattens the page again and sees the pictures.

OVERVOICE  
(nostalgic)

Oh yes, the Greens. I was a member in '80. I co-founded the party in Karlsruhe. I finally had a political home, a melting pot of college dropouts and work phobics.

33) FLASHBACK 1980; INSIDE, HALL, DAY

We see real scenes from the founding of the Green Party. We see Petra Kelly, Otto Schily, Antje Vollmer, Joschka Fischer, Gert Bastian, Lukas Beckmann.

Among all the party founders, we see the young Otto in a re-enacted scene.

OVERVOICE

I was a fundi from the very beginning, had bought myself some knitting and grown a massive beard.

Otto sits between fundamentalists, next to him a woman with messy hair.

OTTO  
(whispering)

Hey, little snail, do you want to see where Fundi's curls are?

WOMAN  
(roughly dismissive)

What kind of person are you?

OTTO

How about a quickie under the  
table?

The woman is publicly called out.

PARTY SPOKESPERSON

And with that, Jutta Ditfurth has  
the floor!

Applause erupts. The woman stands up and walks to the podium.

OVERVOICE

Well, shortly after that, it was  
all over again. Those nasty  
feminists had kicked me out of the  
party by majority vote. But before  
I left, I had helped myself to the  
party coffers. The weed and pizza  
had to be financed somehow.

34) OUTSIDE, STREETS, DAY

Otto is holding two plastic bags and running down the escape  
route. At the park bench, he checks his watch. He's breathing  
heavily. He checks his pulse and notes the readings along with  
the time.

We see Otto writing next to the recorded values for pulse and  
time: No improvement!

OTTO

This won't work. Any pug is faster.

Otto sees an outdoor food stand near a church.

Otto is running in this direction.

35) OUTSIDE, CHURCH STAND, DAY

We see a church soup kitchen run by three nuns and three monks.  
The nuns are serving food, and the monks are preparing the  
food.

Otto looks at what's on offer: goulash with noodles. Otto is joined by about 20 people who clearly look like they live on the streets.

NUN1

Come, come closer. Here you will be served a warm meal.

Nonne2 leads the insecure and sick people directly to the distribution point.

Nun1 approaches Otto and looks at him trustingly.

NUN1

Come. Here, lost souls can find refuge again - regardless of their denomination.

Otto doesn't need much convincing. A plate is handed to him. He hasn't eaten anything this delicious in a long time. He devours the goulash.

OTTO

Honestly, that's delicious. But I have to disappoint you: I'm non-denominational, a die-hard communist.

NUN1

What? You're a soulless communist? You fraudsters stole the food right in front of God.

(takes the plate away from Otto)

Give that here and get the hell out of here!

Otto is looked at disapprovingly by Nun 1 and the three monks.

OTTO

Hey, I'm not done yet. - I definitely won't be coming here again.

Otto turns away. In an unobserved moment, Otto takes a baguette and puts it under his jacket.

VOICE SISTER AGNES/ ANGELIKA

Incorrigible. To this day. You haven't changed a bit.

OTTO

(turns to the voice.  
Uncertain)  
Angelica?

AGNES  
Sister Agnes. My name was Angelika  
before, in my godless days.

OTTO  
(happy)  
I'm throwing away my dope. Angelika  
- Agnes! I don't even know what to  
say.

AGNES  
Sister Agnes. And just say: Hello,  
nice to see you.

OTTO  
Nice to see you. You're so...  
(looks her up and down)  
...serious, like a nun. Since...

AGNES  
Since when did I find God? Since I  
left the squatter scene and didn't  
know where to go. What about you?  
Still the same old APO activist? -  
Haven't found the way to God yet?

OTTO  
I guess the old man up there  
doesn't like communists.

AGNES  
If that ever changes, you now know  
where to find help.

OTTO  
Sure, of course.  
(whispering)  
How about it? Fancy a little bag? -  
Just for old times' sake. We'll  
definitely be undisturbed in the  
church.

AGNES  
(laughs quietly)  
You really haven't changed!

Agnes turns again to those in need.

36) OUTSIDE, RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX, DAY

On the way home, Otto accidentally meets the three teenagers again.

TEENAGER1

Look who's coming crashing in.

Otto continues running quickly and crouching down.

TEENAGER2

Leave that calcified grandpa alone.  
We should beat up cultured people.

TEENAGER1

Yeah, screw it. I have to go home  
and massage my mom's sore feet.

TEENAGER3

Uh, that's disgusting.

37) OUTSIDE, RESIDENTIAL AREA, DAY

Otto is out of breath. He coughs. He holds his hip. He leans against a wall.

An old man in a wheelchair rolls towards Otto.

OLD MAN

Hey man, can you take me home?

Otto is slowly recovering.

OTTO

Which house number?

OLD MAN

(confused)

House number?

OTTO

What's your name? Who takes care of  
you?

No answer.

OVERVOICE

It turned out he was suffering from dementia, was brought here every day, and was left to fend for himself. His fate was unfortunate, but I couldn't help him. Yet I also didn't want to leave without leaving him with a sense of hope.

Otto rummages in his pocket and hands something to the old man.

OTTO

Here, take this. You can keep it.

We see the old man open his fist and find a beer bottle cap.

The old man looks questioningly. But we see that Otto has already moved a few meters further.

OLD MAN

(smiles now)

Thanks.

Otto cautiously looks around the corner of the house and sees the three teenagers going their separate ways.

Otto secures his weapon.

38) INSIDE, STAIRCASE, DAY

Teenager 2 goes up the stairs. As he turns around, he encounters Otto.

Otto draws his gun and pushes Halbstarker2 against the wall.

OTTO

(energetic)

Where is your grin now?

TEENAGER2

(fearful)

Hey man, that was all just a joke.  
No offense.

OTTO

Shut up or I'll shoot another  
asshole in your face.

Otto presses the gun against Halbstarker2's nose. Halbstarker2  
bursts into tears.

TEENAGER2

Don't mess around. The gun could  
easily go off.

We see Halbstarker2 peeing his pants.

OTTO

Did you pee your pants? You're a  
pathetic wimp! - Go on, stand  
there.

Halbstarker2 goes to the top step of the stairs. Otto stands  
behind him and presses his gun into his back.

TEENAGER2

What are you planning?

OTTO

I will guide you on the path of  
virtue.

Otto gives Halbstarker2 a push so that he falls down the  
stairs.

Down below, Halbstarker2 remains lying there, numb to pain.

Otto grabs Halbstarker2 by the collar and pulls him up a  
little.

OTTO

Boy, when you're my age, sick,  
penniless, and afraid of being  
mugged every day, you'll piss your  
pants every day.

Otto takes Halbstarker2's cell phone and dials a number.

OTTO

Hello, please send an ambulance to  
Schillerstrasse 3. There's a  
seriously injured person in the  
stairwell... yes, he fell down the  
stairs—and bring a clean pair of  
underwear.

Otto throws the cell phone at Halbstarker2 and leaves.

The satisfaction of having brought Halbstarker2 to justice awakens a strong sense of self-worth in Otto. He smiles.

### 39) INSIDE, APARTMENT, DAY

We hear the ticking of a clock. We see a clock. Karl Marx is depicted on the clock face. The hands point to 7:00. A mechanical flag rises, bearing the inscription: "I will back!" At the same time, the Internationale is playing.

Otto strikes down the flag. The Internationale falls silent.

Following this, we hear the ticking of a clock throughout the entire scene.

Otto lays out his clothes. He places the gun and some cable ties next to it. Then he neatly folds the Aldi bags.

Otto eats lettuce leaves for breakfast and drinks a glass of water.

Otto looks at the clock. 7:30 a.m.

Otto empties the ashtray over a trash can.

Otto looks at the clock. 7:40 a.m.

Otto cleans up the apartment.

Otto looks at his watch. 8:45 a.m.

Otto gets dressed. He puts the gun and the cable ties in his jacket pocket. He puts the neatly folded bags in his pocket.

We see the clock, which shows exactly 9:30.

We see an apartment door being closed from the outside.

### 40) BLACK SCREEN

We hear someone walking down the street.

41) INSIDE, BANK - CUSTOMER AREA, DAY

Otto enters the bank like a normal customer. There are four other customers present.

Otto is standing at the cash desk.

A bank employee strikes Otto as very strange. He approaches him and speaks to him.

BANK EMPLOYEE  
(friendly)  
Can I help you?

OTTO  
You jerk, are you talking to me?  
You're talking to me? Listen, you  
jerk...

We see Otto pulling the gun halfway out of his jacket pocket.

At that moment, two masked and armed robbers come in.

ROBBER1  
This is a robbery!

Robber2 shoots into the ceiling.

Robber1 goes to the cash register and pushes Otto aside.

Robber2 rounds up customers and bank staff in a back office.

Robber1 stuffs the money into a travel bag.

ROBBERS2  
Mr. Green, hurry up!

ROBBER1  
(annoyed)  
I'm Mr. Blue, that's what we agreed  
on.

ROBBERS2  
And who am I again?

ROBBER1  
Man, you're Mr. Green.

ROBBERS2  
So who is Mr. Red?

ROBBER1

Heinz is Red. He couldn't come  
because of Corona.

ROBBERS2  
No names, Mr. Green!

ROBBER1  
Blue, Blue, you idiot. Remember  
that!

42) OUTSIDE, BANK, DAY

Two police cars stop in front of the entrance. They get out and  
draw their weapons.

43) INSIDE, BANK - CUSTOMER AREA, DAY

ROBBER1  
Shit, cops! What now?

ROBBERS2  
Plan B

ROBBER1  
That means?

ROBBERS2  
No idea! That was Heinz's job—I  
mean, Mr. Blue.

ROBBER1  
Mr. Red! I'm Mr. Blue.

ROBBERS2  
I thought Mr. Green.

ROBBER1  
Man, just shut up.

44) OUTSIDE, BANK, DAY

The detective discusses the situation with a colleague. Then  
she takes a megaphone out of the car.

COMMISSIONER

This is the police. Surrender and  
come out unarmed and with your  
hands up.

45) INSIDE, BANK - CUSTOMER AREA, DAY

Robbers 1 & 2 observe the situation in front of the bank from  
cover.

ROBBER1  
They can wait a long time.

ROBBERS2  
Should we shoot our way through?

ROBBER1  
Are you out of your mind! Let's  
keep a cool head. As long as we  
have hostages, nothing will happen.

46) INSIDE, HOSTAGE ROOM, DAY

The hostages watch the robbers.

MAN1  
(calm)  
I've seen this before; it's my  
third robbery. The police will try  
to negotiate, offering pizza and a  
free exit in exchange for the  
hostages. - It'll all be over in  
two days at the latest.

WOMAN1  
(upset)  
Two days? I can't wait that long.  
My husband will starve by then.

OTTO  
I'm going to take care of those  
guys.

MAN2  
With what? With her smelly socks?

OTTO

I have a gun.

WOMAN2

Are they crazy, acting like Dirty  
Harry here!

OTTO

(points to a bottle)  
Is that water?

MAN1

Certainly not Lambrusco.

OTTO

Give me the bottle.

Otto opens the bottle and pours the water down his pants. Then  
he ruffles his hair. He stands up and approaches Robber 1.

47) INSIDE, BANK - CUSTOMER AREA, DAY

OTTO

(pretends to have dementia)  
Have to go to the toilet.

ROBBER1

Go back and sit down, Grandpa!

OTTO

Toilet... must toilet.

Robber2 sees the wet pants, then sees the toilet and sends Otto  
in.

ROBBER1

(to Robber2)  
Go with him and make sure he  
doesn't do anything stupid, I  
mean... well, you know what I mean.

ROBBERS2

And the others?

ROBBER1

I'll keep an eye on them.

48) INSIDE, TOILET, DAY

Otto rummages in his pocket, pulls out the gun and holds it under Robber 2's nose.

OTTO

One sound and you're dead!

ROBBERS2

Hey man, be careful with that thing.

OTTO

Shut up and kneel down!

Otto takes out the cable ties and ties Robber 2's neck to the radiator. He ties his hands behind his back.

Otto stands behind the toilet door and waits patiently.

49) INSIDE, BANK - CUSTOMER AREA, DAY

Robber 1 appears nervous. He looks alternately at the hostages, at the restroom door, and outside.

50) INSIDE, HOSTAGE ROOM, DAY

MAN1

What is happening there?

WOMAN1

I only see one.

MAN2

The other one must have killed the old man.

51) OUTSIDE, BANK, DAY

The inspector waves to her colleague.

COMMISSIONER

I guess we won't be getting home  
anytime soon today. Prepare for  
overtime.

COLLEAGUE

Just today. Chantal gave birth to  
babies.

COMMISSIONER

Chantal?

COLLEAGUE

My dachshund.

COMMISSIONER

Man, find yourself a woman! Tsk -  
dachshund. - And google a pizzeria  
with delivery service.

52) INSIDE, BANK - CUSTOMER AREA, DAY

Robber1 takes the bag with the money and carefully moves to the  
toilet.

ROBBER1

Horst?

53) INSIDE, TOILET, DAY

The door is pushed open. Robber 1 cautiously enters. Otto waits  
behind the door.

ROBBER1

Horst?

Otto holds the gun to Robber1's head.

OTTO

Horst is currently unwell.

Robber 1 is also tied to the radiator by his neck in such a way  
that both robbers could kiss each other.

ROBBER1

You idiot, you let a pensioner rob  
you.

ROBBERS2  
Don't spit on me.

Otto opens the bag, which is full of money.

OTTO  
So, I'm going to tell you idiots  
something about Marx...

ROBBER1  
Get rid of us, or you will regret  
it bitterly.

OTTO  
In his major work, "Capital," Karl  
Marx argues that societies with a  
capitalist mode of production are  
class societies in which private  
ownership of the means of  
production increases through the  
use of wage labor. Thus, wealth  
accumulates in the form of  
capital,...

ROBBER1  
Stop, this is unbearable!

ROBBERS2  
We repent. We face up—just spare us  
their nonsense.

OTTO  
... while its producers are  
permanently excluded from wealth:  
According to Marx, workers  
participate in wealth only insofar  
as the use of their labor power  
necessitates their remuneration. -  
But by this, Marx certainly doesn't  
mean robbing a bank...

ROBBER1  
Stop! Help, we're being tortured!

OTTO (CONTINUED)  
...and steal my damn money! - It's  
all MY money!

Otto tightens the cable ties a little more.

OTTO (CONTINUED)

Before we leave, a piece of good  
advice: Start planning for your  
pension early.

54) INSIDE, BANK - CUSTOMER AREA, DAY

Otto comes out of the restroom with the money bag. He speaks to  
the hostages.

OTTO

There's no danger anymore. The  
robbers are trapped in the toilet.  
They've been purified.

55) INSIDE, HOSTAGE ROOM, DAY

The hostages stand up and dust off their clothes.

MAN1

I won't believe it until I see it.

56) OUTSIDE, BANK, DAY

The detective is comfortably seated with her colleague in the  
patrol car, eating a quarter of a pizza by hand. Her colleague  
is eating a lasagna.

Otto comes out of the bank unnoticed.

COMMISSIONER

Where does that come from?

COLLEAGUE

(splatters himself)

The old bum? I didn't notice.

COMMISSIONER

Go out and chase him to hell. This  
isn't a picnic for retirees.

The colleague runs to Otto and drags him away from the bench.

COLLEAGUE

Get out of here.

OTTO

I overpowered the bank robbers.  
Here in this bag is the money they  
tried to steal.

COLLEAGUE

(looks at his wet pants)  
Man, get out of here or I'll arrest  
you for obstruction of justice.

The colleague runs back to the inspector.

COLLEAGUE

This rheumatic old man actually  
claimed to have overpowered the  
robbers.  
(laughs happily)

COMMISSIONER

No more fun. We're storming the  
bank. Something's happened inside.

The detective and her colleagues load their weapons. Then they  
storm the bank.

57) INSIDE, BANK - CUSTOMER AREA, DAY

The police storm in.

COMMISSIONER

Police! Nobody moves.

MAN1

(with raised hands)  
The suspects are in the restroom.

COMMISSIONER

In the toilet? They have the nerve  
to be sailing here while we're  
freeing the hostages.

MAN1

(still with hands raised)  
The old man overpowered her.

COMMISSIONER

The one who came out of the bank earlier? - And put your hands down.

MAN1

Exactly. He also has the bag with the money—about €500,000.

COMMISSIONER

(to colleague)

Where is the old man now?

COLLEAGUE

I sent him away, like they said.

COMMISSIONER

Did you take down the personal details?

COLLEAGUE

Uh ...

COMMISSIONER

I don't believe that. This is grassroots police work!

Inspector goes towards the toilet.

58) INSIDE, BANK - TOILET, DAY

The detective sees two bank robbers tied up and crying. She takes out her cell phone and takes a video.

COMMISSIONER

You will go viral on YouTube and TikTok.

ROBBER1

First Marx, now TikTok - the day couldn't get any worse.

59) INSIDE, APARTMENT, DAY

Otto rummages through his bag of money. He throws some of it over himself.

OTTO  
I'm old and I can afford it!

Otto laughs with joy.

The laughter continues seamlessly into the next scene.

60) INSIDE, APARTMENT, DAY

Otto is sitting on a lounge on the balcony, holding a cocktail with an umbrella and straw.

Otto continues to laugh until the sun goes down.

61) BLACK SCREEN/ END CREDITS

We hear the doorbell.

***End of Script 1***

***Script 2  
follows on the  
next page***

**OTTO TEUFEL, SCRIPT 2**

62) INSIDE, POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM, DAY

The inspector and Otto sit opposite each other at a table.

COMMISSIONER

We need to talk.

OTTO

About what?

COMMISSIONER

What you did in the bank. After all, you overpowered two bank robbers.

OTTO

The two idiots? That was easy—you know, I acquired certain skills during my time as an APO. That's not something you forget easily.

COMMISSIONER

Respect! But we analyzed the surveillance cameras and saw them repeatedly scouting the bank. What were they really up to?

The inspector throws Otto some photos showing Otto in front of the bank.

OTTO

Bank robbery. Only these two idiots got there first.

COMMISSIONER

Bank robbery? - At her age? - Unmasked? - What happened, was MacGyver deposed?

The detective offers Otto a cigarette. Otto takes it.

OTTO

(smokes with relish)

That feels good. If they still had some grass, that would be the icing on the cake.

COMMISSIONER

I'm still waiting for an answer.

OTTO

Do you know what it's like to have to shit and there's no ass wipe?

COMMISSIONER

No.

OTTO

My pension is just enough to keep me from starving. I suffer from arthritis. And the worse the pain, the less I find a place in a society where there are so many people like me. But we're just zombies without a squeegee.

COMMISSIONER

I certainly have sympathy for her. Yet I can't let her go.

OTTO

(coughs asthmatically)

I had three options: I'd be shot. I'd be arrested and sent to prison. Or I could escape with the loot. Either would be a satisfactory outcome.

COMMISSIONER

(astonished)

You wanted to be shot?

OTTO

(smiles)

I wanted to escape with the loot. (takes a drag on his cigarette and exhales quickly)  
But jail isn't bad either.

COMMISSIONER

(throws himself back into the chair)

You're crazy. No one gives up their freedom voluntarily.

OTTO

(puts out the cigarette)

Freedom? That's just bullshit at my age.

COMMISSIONER

What do you mean?

OTTO

Most people associate freedom with freedom of movement and consumption. I'm old enough to need

medical care. But I can't afford a nursing home...

COMMISSIONER

And?

OTTO

How clear I still have to be. I don't want to starve on a park bench just because the pigeons won't feed me.

COMMISSIONER

(smiles as if she were looking at a madman)

They're truly out of their minds. They're thrown into a hole with murderers, manslaughterers, and rapists.

OTTO

For you, it's a hole; for me, it's assisted living with free board and lodging. A single room with a TV, medical care, and daily access to the yard in a safe and quiet environment.

COMMISSIONER

Tell me about yourself. Do you have children?

OTTO

...made, yes, a whole bunch. But I don't know a single one. - You know, it was a wild time in the commune back then.

COMMISSIONER

Which municipality?

OTTO

Man, what century are you living in? I mean Kommune 1, which was founded on January 1, 1967, in West Berlin.

COMMISSIONER

(sarcastically)

Apparently we don't live in the same century - but keep telling us!

OTTO

Well, I was a philosophy student and never had much money. But instead of writing children's books, I decided to found K1 with Fritz and get involved with the APO.

COMMISSIONER

(looks at her documents)  
Fritz, Fritz Teufel? Are they related?

OTTO

Fritz is my older brother. And with Enzenberger, Baader, Ensslin and I was friends with Langhans. Langhans always had good stuff to smoke and the hottest girls around. I fondly remember Muschi Obermaier; she could roll the best joints—and she could fuck, man, that brings back memories.

COMMISSIONER

Now just don't get a hard-on - move on!

OTTO

Later, in April '68, I helped Andreas Baader and Gudrun Ensslin with the department store arson attack. I gave them two bobble hats.

OTTO (CONTINUED)

After all, it had been a bitterly cold night. Without my bobble hats, the attack would never have happened - I'm especially proud of that!

COMMISSIONER

And the RAF, were you a sympathizer or an active supporter?

OTTO

I would have loved to be an activist. But I was always too stoned and always overslept when attacks were planned—I was always late. And then those Marxist-

Leninist groupies—I couldn't even get out of bed for a long time. There was simply no time left for attacks.

COMMISSIONER

And after 1968, what did they do?

OTTO

I was kicked out of the commune for allegedly stealing from the residents. Yet all the money and drugs were public property, so it belonged to the people's representative, that is, me.

COMMISSIONER

What happened to Fritz Teufel?

OTTO

My brother, I had him to thank for the committee's decision. From then on, our paths diverged.

COMMISSIONER

How did it continue?

OTTO

Social Security. I assumed I wouldn't live past 27 - like Jimi Hendrix and Jim Morrison. So I waited throughout the '70s and nothing happened. Then in the 1980s, the No Future movement emerged. I was already 40 and believed that everything was over—you know: the Cold War, forest dieback, environmental pollution, famine, overpopulation.—Well, that was it. There's nothing more to say.

COMMISSIONER

Does that mean that - let me do the math - you have been scrounging your way through life on welfare for 50 years?

OTTO

That sounds so negative to them.

COMMISSIONER  
Have you tried working?

OTTO  
I am a class warrior, not an idiot.

COMMISSIONER  
From left-wing revolutionary to  
Harz native and bank robber. That's  
what I call a career. Robert  
Harbeck would turn green with envy.

OTTO  
Careful, miss, I've messed up cops  
before!

COMMISSIONER  
Speaking of which, we examined your  
weapon. It's a service pistol  
confiscated from a police officer  
in Berlin in 1967.

OTTO  
I remember. It was fun.

COMMISSIONER  
Did you also know that the police  
officer, Karl-Heinz Kurras, with it  
on June 2, 1967, and that this  
official was employed by the East  
German Stasi? - Just because this  
weapon was not found, nothing could  
be proven against the official.

Otto looks at the inspector intensely.

63) BLACK SCREEN

We hear a steel door click and lock.

64) OUTSIDE, PRISON, DAY

We see aerial photographs of the Waldheim Prison.

We also see a bird's-eye view of a prison bus approaching the prison. The view follows the bus. The view penetrates the bus and leads past the inmates to Otto.

OVERVOICE

I've achieved my goal. I'm housed in the 60+ section of Waldheim Prison. And the name Waldheim says it all: a home beautifully situated near a forest.

65) INSIDE, PRISON CELL, DAY

We see Otto in his cell. He's brooding and smoking a cigarette.

OVERVOICE

I'm safe and well looked after: a single room, TV, radio, free electricity, hot water, and three-ply toilet paper. And the guards are really nice, more like valets than guards.

The radio is blaring oldies. Posters of T-Rex, Status Quo, and Deep Purple, as well as Uschi Obermaier, hang on the wall.

OVERVOICE

Even though we elderly people have certain privileges that the normal prison system didn't offer, I'm still overcome by ambivalent thoughts. The fact that I can't go wherever I want is irrelevant; I couldn't do that before either. Isn't freedom just an illusion, at best a sensation of movement and consumption? What remains is freedom of thought. It can manifest itself anywhere, at any time, in the universe. And yet, by definition, I am unfree.

Otto hears an unusual beeping sound. He checks the radio and adjusts the volume. Then Otto turns the radio off. The beeping has persisted. He tries to determine the source.

Finally, Otto opens the window in front of the bars. In the corner of the window is a kestrel's nest. Inside are three newly hatched chicks, cheeping loudly for food.

Otto watches for minutes as the parents bring insects and feed the chicks.

OTTO

I name you Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela and Che Guevara.

A guard comes in through the open cell door.

GUARD

Well, Mr. Devil, how are we today?

OTTO

Oh, we're fine, we just have back problems.

GUARD

Well, then come with us. We have a well-equipped medical unit for our elderly inmates.

66) INTERIOR, MEDICAL DEPARTMENT - WAITING ROOM, DAY

The guard leads Otto to the waiting room. There, Otto sits next to other prisoners, some of whom are in wheelchairs.

We see the waiting area gradually emptying until Otto is sitting there alone.

The doctor comes out.

PHYSICIAN

Mr. Devil?!

67) INTERIOR, MEDICAL OFFICE, DAY

PHYSICIAN

Well, how can I help you?

OTTO

Back ...

The doctor examines Otto. Then he sits back down at his desk.

PHYSICIAN

Well, you can forget about hurdles and dancing with groupies in the future. - But seriously: You suffer from advanced osteoarthritis. I'll give you pain relief medication. You'll also receive physical therapy.

OTTO

Physiotherapy! - Sounds good.

68) INSIDE, PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT, DAY

The guard leads Otto through the prison wards. In the physiotherapy room, five inmates, all around 70 years old, are already sitting on a chair, following the instructions of a therapist.

ANDREA

Now stretch out your left leg and stand up with your right leg.

The five prisoners try to follow the instructions, but only with moderate success.

OVERVOICE

I don't know what I was expecting—a therapist, yes; a rough-looking guy who used to work as a butcher. But certainly not a gorgeous woman, Andrea Jasse.

ANDREA

(sees Otto)

Ah, our new arrival. Please sit down and tell us your name.

Otto sits uncertainly on an empty chair.

OTTO

I'm Otto, Otto Teufel... I'm here because I have a back problem.

OVERVOICE

Andrea has a smile that has prevented earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

#### 69) SHORT SEQUENCES

Scenes without dialogue and monologues lasting a few seconds are shown, accompanied by overarching music.

- We see Otto and seven other prisoners throwing a ball to each other under Andreas's instruction.
- We see Otto smoking weed. He rolls a joint.
- We see Otto doing group pottery.
- We see Otto smoking weed. He leans back in his chair and smokes with relish.
- We see Otto in the crochet class.
- We see Otto smoking weed. An inmate joins him. They smoke the joint together. The cell fills with smoke.
- We see Otto in the prison cinema.
- We see Otto smoking weed. Otto and the prisoner are making silly jokes and laughing themselves silly.
- We see Otto playing chess with large pieces in the courtyard.
- We see Otto smoking weed. Otto and the inmate walk out into the hallway and cough.
- We see Otto in the workshop. He is welding the base of a table. Another inmate is making the wooden top.
- We see Otto lying in bed and sleeping (happily).

#### 70) INSIDE, CELL, DAY

Otto cares for his falcon chicks. He feeds them small pieces of meat. All three have made it. They have developed well, are strong, and are able to fly. They are constantly training their wings.

The falcon parents seem to want to thank Otto by looking directly at him.

71) INTERIOR, DINING ROOM, DAY

A chess tournament organized by the prison is being played at several tables. Initially, the tournament will be played at four tables. One of the chess players is Otto.

The game is played at two tables. Otto is one of the players. More and more onlookers arrive. In addition to some inmates and guards, the director and even Miss Andrea show up.

Otto sees Andrea and winks at her.

Otto is playing at a table for the final. We see the tension in the faces of the players and spectators. Only Otto is completely calm.

Otto wins the game and thus the tournament.

The audience applauds Otto.

DIRECTOR  
(enthusiastic)  
Congratulations, Mr. Teufel. You  
have won the 2025 Prison  
Championship.  
(hands Otto a certificate  
and shakes his hand,  
followed by a pat on the  
back)

Otto is happy and raises his fist in victory.

ANDREA  
Otto, that was absolutely  
brilliant! You deserve an extra  
hour of physiotherapy.

OTTO  
Thank you. That means something to  
me.

72) INSIDE, CELL, DAY

Otto, still in a euphoric mood, wants to feed his falcons. He takes his tweezers, picks up pieces of meat, and opens the window.

OTTO

So, my dears. Here's something  
else...

Otto discovers that the nest is empty. His euphoric mood suddenly vanishes.

OVERVOICE

There it was again, the feeling of  
being unfree while my charges  
celebrated life in freedom.

Otto sits down on his chair without any illusions and muses to himself.

In this silence, Otto hears a beeping sound. Otto stands up and looks out the window.

We see Otto's falcon again. It flies back and forth, as if inviting Otto to follow it.

We see Otto smiling and tears rolling down his cheeks.

OTTO

I understand, I understand...

73) INSIDE, PRISON - CELL OF CANCER PATIENTS, EVENING

Otto sits in bed next to a cancer-stricken, semi-comatose old man.

The scene is frozen for 30 seconds.

Otto lights a cigarette.

SICK MAN

(coughs)

Give me one too.

OTTO

I don't think it's so good with  
lung cancer.

SICK MAN

(in a weak voice)

I'm pumped full of morphine. - Give  
me a cigarette.

Otto lights another cigarette and puts it in the sick man's  
mouth. Then Otto places the ashtray on the sick man's chest.

SICK MAN

Thank you. You know, Otto, I used  
to be a really tough guy. Now I  
have cancer and I'm in jail. But  
dying out there would be harder for  
me.

OTTO

It's okay. Dying is never easy.

SICK MAN

(coughs)

I've lived through seven different  
decades, experienced two different  
centuries. And now, Otto, I'm going  
to die here in prison. I'll never  
experience freedom again...

(breathes heavily)

Many people have been injured and,  
yes, even killed by my hand. And  
now, at the end of my life, I  
regret it—unfortunately, I can't  
undo anything.

Otto takes the burnt cigarette from the sick man's hand and  
puts it out in the ashtray.

OTTO

I'll come back tomorrow.

SICK MAN

(coughs and spits out blood)

There will be no tomorrow for me,  
Otto.

Otto looks at the sick man with a pinched smile.

OTTO

Then you'll get out of here after  
all.

We see Otto leaving the cell, barely able to hold back his  
tears.

OVERVOICE

I left with a heavy heart. I knew  
he would regain his freedom  
tonight.

74) INTERIOR, KITCHEN - FOOD SERVING, DAY

The prisoners stand in a row at the food distribution counter.

CHECKO

Looks interesting, what is it?

Checko is a serious-looking man, about 75 years old, who is in  
prison for check fraud.

COOK

Uncertain. Ask me again tomorrow.

The cook, an obese, sweaty man, throws the already fried fries  
back into the fryer. Then he slowly and listlessly prepares the  
food and places everything on plates for Checko and Pump.

PUMP

(somewhat disappointed)

Are those fries or pretzel sticks?

Pumpe is a muscular hothead, about 70 years old, tattooed, even  
on his face. Not stupid.

CHECKO

The sausage has already been  
digested.

COOK

The next!

We see Otto nodding slightly to the cook.

COOK

I have something special for you:  
Confit de Canard, based on a recipe  
from Gascony.

Otto appears satisfied. He discreetly hands the cook an unidentifiable object.

OTTO  
(conspiratorial)  
That will help.

COOK  
(looks into his hand, in  
which a smallTube of  
ointment is)  
My hemorrhoids say thank you.

At the table, Checko pulls a curly hair out of the mayonnaise. Pompe, sitting across from Checko, chuckles quietly. Then they look enviously at Otto's plate.

75) INSIDE, PRISON - CELL, DAY

Otto sits on a chair and has the portrait of Che Guevara with a cigar tattooed on his left upper arm.

Otto doesn't look. He grits his teeth.

The tattoo artist, a 70-year-old with a visibly shaky hand, has a picture of Che Guevara with a cigar in front of him.

TATTOO ARTIST  
So, done.

OTTO  
Finally, it took long enough. But what would a prison sentence be without a tattoo?! - Give me the mirror.

Otto takes the mirror and looks at the result in horror.

OTTO  
What the hell is this! Che is completely unrecognizable, he looks like a regular bum. And Guevara is spelled with uev, not uw. And that

cigar, it looks like he's sucking a  
cock. You stupid moron!

TATTOO ARTIST

Hey, I'm no Michelangelo, I've only  
done anchors and hearts so far.

Annoyed, Otto leaves the cell.

76) INSIDE, PRISON - DAY ROOM

We see many prisoners. All of them are old men (70 and over) in  
gray prison suits. Most of them wear glasses, hearing aids, and  
crutches. Some sit apathetically in wheelchairs. Other  
pensioners suffer from dementia and wander around in bathrobes  
and slippers.

OTTO

Shall we watch Quincy or Matlock  
later?

CHECKO

No, I want to go to bed early  
tonight. - I'm not feeling well  
today.

OTTO

Diarrhea again?

CHECKO

Worse, my daughter was visiting -  
with her five kids.

OTTO

Five?

CHECKO

All from different guys. -  
Sometimes I think she throws these  
brats out of pure contempt. - I  
told her to marry two batteries and  
leave me alone. But she keeps  
coming back, thank God only once a  
year.

Checko and Otto laugh happily.

Pump is added.

PUMP

I can't see my daughter's children often enough.

(resigned)

But at least in here, I'm taken care of.-not a bad trade.

CHECKO

Whose fault is it that we want to live here in prison?

PUMP

The broken pension system - none of us would be here if we received a decent pension. - Shit, too.

OTTO

No, it's not the pension system that's to blame, it's the social system. I know what I'm talking about:

(shows the social list fist)

APO activist from the very beginning.

CHECKO

Modern medicine is to blame for this - it has increased quantity, but quality has fallen by the wayside.

OTTO

What quantity?

CHECKO

We're living longer and healthier lives. But we don't know how we're going to finance this longer life.

pump

Older, yes, but not healthier. I've experienced it myself. Modern medicine only delays death. My mother developed dementia at 60.

She died at 84. While she was initially able to care for herself, for the last 10 years she spent only in bed, had a dozen illnesses, had to be fed, and was constantly defecating. And worst of all, she had no memory. It was just a fading away. Death was a release.

OTTO

We've all experienced such cases. In my case, it's my father, who developed dementia. He drove his car on the sidewalk and honked at pedestrians, assuming cars were supposed to drive on the sidewalk.

Otto, Checko and Pumpe laugh amusedly.

PUMP

(pensive)

It's our own fault if we become crazy and sick.

CHECKO

How come?

PUMP

We've had 60 years to work towards a healthy lifestyle in old age. No alcohol, no cigarettes, healthy eating, exercise, and... most importantly, building up savings.

CHECKO

Yes, that's it. Then start a family, raise the children properly, so that they can support and care for you in your old age.

OTTO

(thoughtfully)

For us, the realization comes too late. Now we have the same problem here: We can no longer cope in the universe outside the prison walls. Here in prison, we have a fixed daily routine, are well cared for, get good food, and don't have to worry. Outside, we are helpless, disoriented—we are outcasts,

discarded, the rotting waste of a  
sick society.

Otto, Checko and Pumpe fall silent.

77) BLACK SCREEN

We hear several steel doors closing and being locked one after  
the other.

78) OUTSIDE, PRISON GATE, DAY

We see two buses drive through the prison gate into the secure  
area. The buses stop. Some wheelchairs and walkers are taken  
out of the buses' storage compartments. The inmates are  
escorted out of the buses by officers. All of the inmates are  
70 and older.

79) INSIDE, PRISON GATE, DAY

We see Otto, Checko and Pumpe looking out the barred window at  
the scene in the security area.

CHECKO

These are the new ones.

OTTO

Allegedly, all of them were  
convicted of attempted bank, shop,  
or gas station robbery.

PUMP

Where are they supposed to stay?  
The prison is full.

OTTO

Things can't go on like this. The  
pension and care systems must be  
reformed. Otherwise, millions of  
people will soon be in prison.

80) INSIDE, OTTO'S CELL, DAY

Otto has just gotten up. Still half asleep, he's brushing his teeth.

The cell door opens and two guards enter with another bed, followed by Klepto holding a mattress.

GUARD1

Good morning. You'll have company.

OTTO

Hello! - They storm in here like Siegfried the dragon slayer.

The bed is raised to a bunk bed and the mattress is laid out.

GUARD2

There's no other way. We're overcrowded.

OTTO

Ever heard of privacy? This is my residence.

GUARD2

Don't get upset. You'll get along.

Guards 1 & 2 leave the cell.

Klepto (75 plus) stands there like an advertising column.

OTTO

(looks at Klepto critically)  
Why are you in prison?

KLEPTO

(unsure)  
I am Gustav, pickpocket and bigamist.

OTTO

We all have pseudonyms here - from now on, your name is Klepto.

KLEPTO

And what are you called?

OTTO

Otto! - Well, sit down first.

Klepto notices that there is only one chair, on which Otto is sitting.

KLEPTO  
(unsure)  
Where?

OTTO  
(smugly)  
See, no room.

81) EXTERIOR, COURTYARD, DAY

Yard walks. Some prisoners walk around with walkers or are pushed in wheelchairs.

Otto stands at the exit with his new walker. A guard approaches.

GUARD  
Good morning, Mr. Devil. I'm  
assigned to you today.

OTTO  
Good morning. The service is truly  
excellent.

Otto and the guards join the procession in the courtyard.

GUARD  
Ready to do a few laps?

OTTO  
I'm really motivated. Besides, my  
cell has become way too cramped.

GUARD  
Confidentially, Mr. Teufel. As far  
as I know, some prisoners will be  
released soon. I heard your name  
was mentioned, too.

OTTO  
(surprised)  
Why get out - I still have 9 years.

GUARD

Judicial reform.

OTTO  
Judicial reform?

GUARD  
In recent months, crimes committed  
by the 60-plus generation have  
increased by 350%. Prisons are  
overcrowded. Now, a judicial reform  
is expected to release many  
prisoners over the age of 65.

OTTO  
(horrified)  
Are we supposed to be thrown out on  
the street like that? - This has to  
be a joke.

GUARD  
(surprised)  
Yes, aren't you happy to be able to  
live in freedom again?

OTTO  
Nope! I have everything I need  
here. - Shit!

82) INSIDE, CELL, EVENING

Otto, Checko and Pumpe hold a conspiratorial meeting.

OTTO  
Gentleman, our meeting here never  
took place - is that clear?!

PUMP  
Why so mysterious?

CHECKO  
Yes, what's going on?

OTTO  
I spoke to a guard this morning. He  
confided in me that we'll be  
forcibly released shortly.

PUMP  
What? This can't be true?

OTTO

Apparently so. Justice reform. More and more people affected by old-age poverty are choosing state care in a correctional facility.

CHECKO

We must prevent forced release unless someone funds our freedom.

PUMP

Preventing this is hopeless. So far, escaping has been the first option.

PUMP (CONTINUED)

How is what we're planning supposed to work? There isn't even a word for it.

OTTO

I used to be active in the squatter scene. From that, we're prison squatters.

CHECKO

Does the problem still remain of how to conduct a prison occupation? There are no examples of this.

OTTO

We're all good at something. So, here's what we're going to do. Pump, you have access to a welding machine. We can use it to lock doors. Checko, you spy on the guards' habits.

(Pump nods in agreement)

I will organize the uprising and make phone calls to the press. I will make it clear to them that we are unrehabilitable, serious criminals who must not be released.

CHECKO

But we also need keys to access the guards' area. We also need certain medications, like sleeping pills and Valium, for the guards. I can't get those easily.

OTTO

I know someone who is perfect for  
this task - Klepto.

(looks at the pump and check  
one after the other)

Gentleman, mission prison  
occupation begins!

83) INDOOR, RECREATION ROOM, EVENING

We see Otto, Checko, Pumpe and Klepto putting their heads  
together. They are plotting to prevent the release. Can't  
understand the details.

Guards 3 and 4 observe their activities. It's clear that they  
find it unusual, but they don't intervene.

GUARD3

This has been going on for days.  
They're up to something.

GUARD4

Should we report this to the  
director?

GUARD3

No. They're probably talking about  
how to escape from here.

GUARD4

(smiles)

No one here has managed to do that  
yet.

84) INSIDE, PRISON

This is followed by short sequences of a few seconds

We see Otto talking conspiratorially with some prisoners, who  
in turn talk to other prisoners.

We see Checko rolling a laundry basket into the workshop. Pump  
hides a welding machine inside.

We see how the welding machine is housed in Pumpe's cell.

We see Klepto talking to the pharmacy lady and stealing a lot  
of medication.

We see Otto writing an article.

We see Otto talking on the phone.

#### 85) SPINNING NEWSPAPER

Newspaper1. Headline1 is read by a shocking voice:

VOICE-OFF  
Judicial reform. Non-  
rehabilitable Dangerous criminals  
should be released!

Newspaper2. Headline2:

VOICE-OFF  
Uprising at the Waldheim. Elderly  
criminals refuse to be released.

Newspaper3. Headline3:

VOICE-OFF  
Prisons are overcrowded with  
patients who cannot afford a  
nursing home.

Newspaper4. Headline4:

VOICE-OFF  
Forced release! A former APO  
activist announces new crimes.

#### 86) INSIDE, PRISON CANTEEN, DAY

Otto stands on a chair and elevates himself to the position of ringleader. A banner hangs crookedly on the wall: "Prison instead of freedom! - Forced release without us!"

OTTO  
(with raised fist)  
We are criminals! We are patients  
with criminal intent. We have  
robbed banks, gas stations, or even  
kiosks. We have committed  
shoplifting or stolen lollipops  
from small children just to get  
here.

Murmurs of approval. One person taps his walking stick rhythmically on the floor.

OTTO (CONTINUATION)

And now? Now we're supposed to be deported, deported to "freedom"! I say no! I say we'll fight back!

(absolutely serious)

We demand the right to remain for everyone! We demand free nursing care and free access to medication.

Loud cheers. Applause. Two others salute with their crutches. One waves a homemade flag: "Autonomous Old People's Block Against Deportation!"

The director and guards are standing in the back of the cafeteria. They are astonished, calmly observing the goings-on.

DIRECTOR

(incredulous)

Am I dreaming, or is there a revolt going on here with the goal of not being fired.

GUARD5

(leafs through a newspaper)

Even the press got wind of it.

(reads from it)

"Rebellion of the Grey Convicts - Prison System on the Wrong Track" - that sounds like a cabaret title.

We see Otto on the chair again.

OTTO

Brothers, we say no to forced release unless we are guaranteed a sufficient basic pension for a dignified life!

We see the director and the guard again.

Loud cheering and applause can be heard from the front of the cafeteria.

DIRECTOR

(shrugging)

If judicial reform is to happen, we need a new narrative. Things can't go on like this.

GUARD5

Maybe outsourcing. A private nursing facility with security features.

DIRECTOR  
(doubtfully)

A care facility with a security character? These prisoners can't even walk to the bathroom without getting short of breath. They're here because no one knows what to do with them. And now they're going to be thrown out because it's too expensive for society.

GUARD5

Then they are supposed to pay rent as private residents in holiday cells.

DIRECTOR  
(slightly angry)

What are they babbling about? That doesn't help.

GUARD5

Sorry, I used to be a vacation rental agent.

87) INSIDE, PRISON - OTTO'S CELL, DAY

Otto sits on his bed. Next to him is a box containing his belongings.

The director opens the door and comes in.

DIRECTOR  
(with regret in his voice)

Otto Teufel. You're free. Today at 2:00 p.m.

OTTO  
(without looking up)

I refuse!

DIRECTOR

No chance. The paperwork has  
already been written. - And no one  
can beat the bureaucracy!

Silence.

DIRECTOR (CONTINUED)  
So, Mr. Devil. I wish you all the  
best. And try not to relapse.

The director leaves. The door remains open. Otto goes to the  
door and looks around.

OTTO  
(to Klepto)  
Let's begin.

#### 88) SHORT SEQUENCES

Scenes without dialogue and monologues lasting a few seconds  
are shown, accompanied by overarching music.

- We see Pumpe welding a door shut.
- We see Checko unnoticed throwing pills into the guards'  
coffee.
- We see Klepto taking a set of keys from the guards.
- We see the guards sleeping soundly in their break room.
- We see Klepto unlocking the cell doors and the prisoners  
coming out, some with walkers and crutches.
- We see Otto inciting the prisoners.
- We see the director urging police officers to open a welded  
door with a grinder.
- We see police outside firing tear gas grenades through the  
windows.
- We see the prisoners retreating, coughing.

89) INSIDE, PRISON, DAY

The welded door opens. The warden and the police officers run forward. Otto approaches them. Behind him are Checko, Pumpe, Klepto, and several other prisoners.

DIRECTOR

(good-natured)

Otto, give up. Your resistance is futile.

OTTO

I'm a former APO activist. I never give up.

DIRECTOR

What do you want?

OTTO

You know what we're demanding. We want to stay. - We're lost out there.

DIRECTOR

(shakes his head)

You know that's not possible.

90) OUTSIDE, IN FRONT OF THE PRISON, DAY

Otto is standing at the exit with a walker. A small suitcase is attached to the front of the walker.

As he leaves, a guard gives Otto a Resocialization brochure "Back to a dignified life from 65 onwards".

GUARD7

(seriously)

Take it. It contains useful tips.

(hands over some coins)

And your starting credit for freedom - 4.50 euros for a bus ticket.

The guard signals to his colleague. The gate opens with a creaking sound.

GUARD7

All the best.

Otto looks at him silently. Then he crosses the threshold to so-called freedom. After a few meters, Otto looks up at the sky.

In the background we see the prison gates closing with a loud, dull bang.

It starts to rain heavily. Otto rolls up his collar and runs across the street to a bus stop. Otto sits down and waits patiently.

We see a bus approaching. Otto prepares to board. But the bus continues, driving through a puddle of water, splashing Otto.

Otto sits down again at the bus stop and lowers his head.

91) OUTSIDE, PEDESTRIAN ZONE, DAY

Otto wears a cardboard sign on his walker that reads: Need help!

People rush past Otto indifferently. Otto tries to speak to passersby, but no one stops. A woman with a smartphone avoids him. A teenager says, "No change," without Otto saying anything.

OVERVOICE

(with a broken voice)

There it was again, the feeling of being useless and invisible.

OVERVOICE (CONTINUED)

In prison, I was someone, a recognized criminal, had a regular daily routine, and didn't have to worry about my existence. Now, back in freedom, I'm once again just society's trash.

92) OUTSIDE, PARK, EVENING

Otto sits on a bench. Then he lies down lengthwise. His walker and his suitcase are neatly placed next to it.

It's quiet. The city glows in the background. The moon is visible in all its glory.

You hear a faint rustling, distant life - but around Otto there is only silence.

93) OUTSIDE, PARK, MORNING

Otto continues to lie on the park bench. Three pigeons move around on and beside him. One pigeon places some seeds on Otto's closed mouth, as if trying to feed him.

A jogger approaches. He sees Otto and the pigeons. The jogger stops and looks on in disbelief. Then he chases the pigeons away.

JOGGER

(lean forward and gently nudges Otto)

Hey... is everything okay?

The jogger hesitates - then he takes his cell phone and dials.

94) OUTSIDE, PARK, NOON

Two paramedics place Otto's body on a stretcher and cover him with a sheet.

A police officer questions the jogger and takes notes.

POLICEMAN

Was he still alive when they found him?

JOGGER

(unsure)

I don't know. I just saw pigeons that seemed to want to feed him.

POLICEMAN

(smiles)

Pigeons feeding a human?

JOGGER

Well, at least it looked that way.

POLICEMAN

Very strange. I won't mention that  
in my report. - Thanks, you can go.

The jogger walks.

Commissioner arrives.

COMMISSIONER

Any insights yet?

POLICEMAN

Another neglected homeless person  
that no one misses.

COMMISSIONER

(bends down and picks up the  
brochure and glances over  
it)

This is Otto Teufel.

POLICEMAN

You knew him?

COMMISSIONER

He was a customer. He was always  
afraid of dying in the park because  
the pigeons wouldn't feed him.

POLICEMAN

Strange. The jogger who found him  
had apparently seen the pigeons  
feeding him—I thought that was  
nonsense.

COMMISSIONER

(reads out the title of the  
brochure)

"Back to a dignified life from 65".  
(smiles dryly)

Well, it didn't quite work out.

The inspector throws the brochure in the trash.

95) OUTSIDE, PARK, EVENING

We see the walker with the suitcase. No one takes it.

A hawk perches on the walker. It looks around briefly and flies away again.

96) BLACK SCREEN

A text in white appears:

"Only memories allow people to have lived."

Now another text appears in white font, which is from VOICE OFF(factual, feminine, tone like train announcements)is read out:

"This film was supported by the Federal Ministry for a Dignified Life. Any resemblance to real persons or events is purely coincidental."

END

CREDITS

Written by: Ruby Con  
Mobile: 0171/4980909  
Email1: rubycon@mail.de  
Email2: agentur@screencreator.de  
Website: www.screencreator.de  
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