

(Name of Project)

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BALLAD OF YOUTH

An original screenplay by Jason Reeves

INT. HOUSE-DAY

Camera pans around the Reed house. We see some pictures of a boy and his mother, no father.

Someone is pointing a shotgun at the back door.

In the back yard, walking towards the back door. Are Danny Beltran, 13, Hispanic, flat top, haircut, and Sean Sullivan 13, Caucasian, kind of chubby.

They're right at the door.

The shotgun fires and blows the door off.

Wood and glass fly everywhere.

Jesse Reed 13, Caucasian, spiky blonde hair. Is standing there. Holding the shotgun.

Danny and Sean look at each other, and Jesse walks out.

JESSE

Holy shit are you guys okay?

DANNY

What the fuck man?

SEAN

Dude, two seconds later, and we would've been toast.

JESSE

Shit, it's not even supposed to be loaded. When you guys walked in. I just wanted to be standing here looking all cool and shit. Like the Terminator.

DANNY

(Laughing)

Well it worked, that was the coolest shit I've ever seen.

SEAN

I never thought I'd say this, but It's good that you're dad left.

DANNY

We should at least clean this up.  
Before your mom gets home.

We see the massive mess. That was the door.

EXT-STREET-DAY

Sylmar, California 1987

Jesse, Danny, and Sean are walking down the street with a ghetto blaster. Danny's tossing a football in the air.

They stop at a streetlight with a neighborhood watch sign on it.

Jesse pulls out a black marker, gets on Danny's shoulders, and starts drawing on the sign.

It's a big penis on the neighborhood watch guy.

They laugh, and keep walking.

RICHIE

Where's Michael?

DANNY

At Suzanne's.

SEAN

Playing with the girls.

JESSE

You'd rather play with guys?

SEAN

Yeah, I mean no. You're a dick.

JESSE

You're fat.

DANNY

Vanessa's there.

JESSE

You talking to me?

DANNY

What are you Taxi Driver? You know you like her.

JESSE

She's got a boyfriend.

SEAN

He's an asshole, but then again so are you. That's why you don't have a girlfriend.

JESSE

You know every time I walk by your house I see that long line of chicks beating down your goddamn door.

SEAN

I'm a lone wolf that's all.

Jesse shakes his head.

DANNY

Well while you two homos argue. I'm gonna go see Suzanne.

David Reyes 13, Native American, long black hair. Wearing an Ozzy Osbourne t shirt. Blasting "Crazy Train" on his walk man is coming their way. On skateboard

DANNY

David, Dave!

David pulls off his headphones, and skates over. They all shake hands.

DAVID

Dude, I didn't even see you guys. When Randy Rhodes is playing, I just zone out man.

They continue on down the street.

EXT. BACKYARD-DAY

Two really cute girls, and one guy are sitting at a table, playing Pictionary.

Suzanne Rubio, 13, Hispanic.

Katie Ontiveros, 12, Hispanic.

Michael Wilton, 12, Hispanic.

Crystal Olsen 13, Caucasian, is painting her nails.

Vanessa Ontiveros, Katie's 13 year old sister walks up to the table.

VANESSA  
Yes, we win again.

She hi fives Michael.

SUZANNE  
It's my turn next time to have  
Michael.

VANESSA  
How did you learn how to draw so  
good?

MICHAEL  
Just practice, I draw a lot of  
comic book characters.

KATIE  
You're really good. You'll probably  
make a lot of money at it someday.

MICHAEL  
I'm gonna be an actor, and write my  
own movies.

VANESSA  
Like River Phoenix, he's so fine.

SUZANNE  
Or Corey Haim in Lost Boys. Oh my  
God.

CRYSTAL  
Johnny Depp.

VANESSA  
He looks like a creep.

MICHAEL  
Marlon Brando.

KATIE  
Who?

The guys walk through the driveway. Into the back yard.

Long shot pushing in on Vanessa.

Vanessa looks up and smiles.

Then a shot of Jesse.

Jesse's stops, and is lost looking at Vanessa.

VANESSA  
Hi Jesse.

JESSE  
How's it going?

VANESSA  
Good.

Danny walks up to Suzanne.

DANNY  
Your mom's gone?

SUZANNE  
No, my dad took her car.

DANNY  
This crazy bastard just blew his  
back door off with his dad's  
shotgun.

SUZANNE  
Jesse.

JESSE  
It was an accident.

DAVID  
Little Mikey, what's up?

They shake hands.

MICHAEL  
I just got a new Spider Man comic,  
check it out.

DAVID  
Cool.

Jesse hands Michael a book.

JESSE  
Here's that screen writing book you  
wanted.

MICHAEL  
Dude that's expensive.

JESSE  
I got a discount.

SUZANNE

You're gonna get caught. One of these days.

JESSE

Okay mom.

Vanessa smiles.

David throws the football to Sean.

DAVID

Smear the queer.

Sean runs with the ball. David, and Michael chase him.

KATIE

That sounds so disgusting.

JESSE

We didn't name it, we just play it.

VANESSA

No it was probably some jerk like fifty years ago.

DANNY

Not much for tradition huh?

A guy pops his head over the gate. It's Ray, Crystal's boyfriend.

CRYSTAL

Gotta go, see you guys later.

Sean's kind of bummed, he likes Crystal.

SUZANNE

Is that John?

VANESSA

John was last week that's Ray.

KATIE

What happened to Victor?

SUZANNE

Victor's ancient history. That was like, three weeks ago.

Danny, and Jesse walk to the game.

DANNY

How's it goin, that's all you  
could come up with?

JESSE

What was I supposed to say?

DANNY

One day you'll figure it out.

Only in my Dreams by Debbie Gibson comes on the radio.

KATIE

Oh my God, this is my favorite  
song. I love Debbie Gibson.

SUZANNE

I like Tiffany, who do you like  
more?

VANESSA

Well Debbie Gibson writes all of  
her own songs. Tiffany doesn't.

SUZANNE

What about I Think We're Alone Now.

VANESSA

That's a song from the sixties by  
Tommie James and the Shondells.

SUZANNE

And how do you know that little  
miss smarty pants?

VANESSA

My dad has the album. Anyway I  
think that I have enough room in my  
life for both of them.

Katie looks at her watch.

KATIE

Vanessa we have to go, karate  
class.

SUZANNE

That is so cool that you guys take  
that. I'm gonna ask my mom if I can  
sign up.

VANESSA

You can get a ride with us

SUZANNE  
I almost forgot did you break up  
with Angel yet?

VANESSA  
I'll call you later.

Michael gets tackled, the ball comes out.

SEAN  
Fumble!

JESSE  
Bullshit, he was down.

SUZANNE  
Jesse!

JESSE  
Sorry.

Vanessa makes eye contact with Jesse again.

VANESSA  
Bye, Jesse.

JESSE  
See you later.

Danny shakes his head.

DANNY  
How's it going? See you later? Come  
on man.

JESSE  
We already went over this.

Suzanne's mom Mary comes out.

MARY  
Suzanne did you finish that English  
report?

SUZANNE  
Not yet.

MARY  
Why don't you get to it? You can  
see your friends tomorrow.

Suzanne looks for her mom to walk away. She, and Danny kiss  
real fast.

INT. HOUSE-DAY

Jesse's with his mom Virginia. She's wearing a head scarf. She lost her hair from chemotherapy. She has cancer.

JESSE

How are those new pills working?

VIRGINIA

My appetite's a lot better, so good. You're becoming quite the chef.

JESSE

DO you need me for anything?

VIRGINIA

Yeah, I need you to blow the front door off.

(she smiles)

Come here.

(She puts her arms around him.)

Jesse that could've ended really, bad. You need to think about the things that you do. Before you do them. Everything has a consequence. Even if it seems small at the time.

Jesse nods his head.

JESSE

I love you mom.

VIRGINIA

I love you more.

He kisses her on the cheek.

EXT. STREET-NIGHT

It's Halloween night. Kids are trick or treating.

Jesse's walking by himself.

The guys walk up to Jesse.

They pass by Vanessa's house, and she's sitting on the porch alone.

DANNY

What happened?

VANESSA

Suzanne's at a party with her parents. Katie's with mine. Angel and his brother were supposed to pick me up. They didn't, and I don't have my house key. So here I am

SEAN

You can hang out with us.

VANESSA

No thank's. I think that I'm safer here.

Danny looks at the empty chair next to Vanessa, and looks at Jesse.

DANNY

I think you should rest that knee. I can't have my main receiver banged up.

JESSE

I'm good.

DANNY

Coach is gonna be pissed. If you can't play.

Danny nudges him towards the chair. Jesse sits down next to Vanessa. The guys walk away.

SEAN

See ya dude.

VANESSA

So no toilet papering, and egging houses?

JESSE

I can do that stuff any night.

VANESSA

You do, do that stuff every night. So is your knee hurt bad?

JESSE

My knee?

Vanessa folds her arms around, and shivers a little. Jesse takes off his jacket.

JESSE

Here.

VANESSA

I'm okay.

JESSE

I know.

Vanessa puts the jacket on. Her parents drive up and Katie runs over.

KATIE

Look at all the candy I got. Here take some.

DIANE

What happened honey, what are you doing here?

VANESSA

I'll tell you about it inside.

RUDY

Yeah, It's a little late Vanessa.

VANESSA

I hope your knee's better.

JESSE

See you at school.

Vanessa walks in the house.

RUDY

What happened to your knee? We're playing for Chatsworth on Saturday for first place.

JESSE

It's no big deal.

RUDY

Hey thanks for staying with Vanessa. She doesn't like to be alone. You should probably get in too, huh. Stay outta trouble.

JESSE

Yes sir.

INT. HOUSE-DAY

Michael's sitting on the floor playing Nintendo

INT-BATHROOM-DAY

Michael's older brother Nick, 21 years old is getting ready to go out. Combing his hair, drinking a beer, and doing a line of coke.

He puts a rolled up sock in his underwear, and walks down stairs.

NICK  
Did you pull those weeds in the back?

MICHAEL  
Mom told you to do that.

NICK  
That's not what I asked you.

MICHAEL  
Not yet.

Nick rips out the Nintendo and takes it.

MICHAEL  
Give it back.

Nick slaps Michael in the head, and walks out the door. Nick's walking into his van. As Jesse walks up.

They stare at each other for a second.

Nick throws the Nintendo in the van and drives off.

Michael walks out.

JESSE  
What's up?

MICHAEL  
My brother's such a loser. Mary Shelly wrote Frankenstein at twenty.

INT. HOUSE-DAY

Jesse, and Michael are outside of Sean's bed room. He's listening to "I Want Your Sex" dancing in front of mirror in his briefs.

JESSE  
You gotta be shitting me.

Jesse and Michael walk in laughing.

JESSE  
And the winner of the looking like  
an ass hole contest. Sean Sullivan.

SEAN  
Don't you guys fuckin' knock?  
Bullshit.

Sean's getting dressed.

JESSE  
Speaking of bullshit. The bullshit  
the bullshit police are here. We'll  
have to confiscate that son.

Jesse takes cassette out and gives it to Michael.

JESSE  
That dudes a homo anyway

SEAN  
No he isn't.

JESSE  
Yeah we'll see about that. Anyway  
check this out.

Jesse puts another cassette in. It's "Throw The Dick" by the  
2 live Crew. They're laughing their asses off.

Sean's mom Alice walks in standing behind them. They don't  
see her.

Yelling in a thick Boston accent.

ALICE  
Sean Frances Sullivan!

JESSE  
Frances?

ALICE  
Do You listen to this at home?

JESSE  
No, just over here.

ALICE  
Well no ones listening to it  
anymore.

Alice takes the cassette.

ALICE  
Is this what Christ died on the  
cross for Michael, so you kids can  
listen to this garbage?

Michael shakes his head.

ALICE  
God damn it, this a Catholic house.

SEAN  
Tell that to dad.

ALICE  
That's enough out of you mister.

SEAN  
What, I didn't do anything.

ALICE  
That's the problem. Everybody out.

Jesse picks up a fat cat figurine, and imitates Sean's voice.

JESSE  
Hey mom can I have a sandwich?

ALICE  
Out.

Jesse and Michael walk out.

EXT. FRONT YARD-DAY

Jojo a heavily tattooed ex cholo is teaching Jesse, and  
Michael how to box.

MICHAEL  
Ever get your ass kicked?

JOJO  
Hell no, I'm Jojo.

Jojo sips his beer.

JESSE  
Can I get one of those?

JOJO

Don't be an asshole. Lets have it,  
right here

Jojo slaps his chest.

Jesse punches him.

JOJO

Punch through me.

Jesse punches him harder.

JOJO

There you go, now you Mike.

Michael blasts him.

JOJO

That's what the I'm talkin' about.  
Mikey you should give this a real  
shot.

MICHAEL

My uncle used to box. He was really  
good.

JOJO

What happened?

MICHAEL

My aunt.

JOJO

Yeah, well you guys will find about  
that soon enough. Speaking of, I  
gotta pick up my wife from work.  
Try not to get into too much shit  
all right, later.

INT. HOUSE-DAY

Sean's dad Bob is walking to the car in the garage.

Alice puts the cassette in the trash.

ALICE

The liquor store, or the bar?

BOB

Yep.

ALICE

Bastard.

INT. CAR-DAY

Bob puts in the cassette it, and is laughing hysterically.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE-NIGHT

Jesse, Michael, and David are pitching quarters. David wins

DAVID  
One more, double or nothing.

JESSE  
I'm done man.

MICHAEL  
I'm out too.

DAVID  
Time to get reclaim my title at  
Sprint.

INT. LIQUOR STORE-NIGHT

David walks to the back of the store. Where Danny's already playing a game.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE- NIGHT

JESSE  
You want a soda.

MICHAEL  
I just lost my last dime.

JESSE  
I got it.

INT. LIQUOR STORE-NIGHT

Jesse's in line. Behind an elderly lady with a little girl. A man is behind Jesse.

CLERK  
Fifty more cents, comprende?

The lady just looks at him. She doesn't speak English.

CLERK  
Aw shit another one.

The man in line is getting impatient.

MAN

Jesus Christ some of us have things  
to do.

JESSE

Running a little late for the old  
NAMBLA meeting?

MAN

Huh?

JESSE

Forget it.

LADY

(In Spanish)

That's all I have.

Jesse throws two quarters on the counter.

JESSE

There's your fifty cents. Now go  
buy a fuckin' Cadillac.

Jesse puts another quarter down, and hands the little girl a  
Charms Blow Pop.

They walk out of the store.

LITTLE GIRL

Thank you.

LADY

(In Spanish)

Thank you very much. God bless you.

Jesse walks out sits down on a milk crate next to Michael.  
The little girl looks back smiles, and waves.

Jessie waves back.

Danny walks out of the store.

MICHAEL

Hey what do you guys think about  
Katie?

JESSE

She's cute, she's a really cool  
chick.

DANNY

If you like her ask her out, before  
someone else does. Unlike another  
guy that I know.

Shot of Jesse.

Danny puts a rap song on his ghetto blaster.

INT. CAR-NIGHT

Three guys are driving in a 80's Camaro.

Wearing Chatsworth High School letter man jackets, drinking  
booze.

They're are listening to an 80's Hair Metal song.

TIM

This is the middle of nowhere. How  
again did you meet this chick?

FRANK

At a party, dude I'm telling you  
she's fine.

EFREN

Her friends better be too.

TIM

And slutty, coming out to this  
place I better get laid. I need  
some smokes.

They pull up to the liquor store.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE-NIGHT

Jesse, Danny, and Michael have on their San Fernando Braves  
Jerseys.

TIM

You guys play for the Braves?

Jesse looks down at his jersey.

JESSE

No.

TIM

My little brother plays for the  
Chiefs. We're gonna kick the shit  
out of you tomorrow.

JESSE

They have some good players. What's your brothers name?

TIM

Brendan Russell.

DANNY

Is he the kicker?

TIM

You smart asses want to make a little wager?

JESSE

Betting on a sporting event in which one is participating in. Is illegal. What the hell, I'll even give you 14 points but at two to one.

TIM

You're pissing me off, and turn that god damn nigger music off. It's giving me a migraine.

FRANK

If only the South had won the war.

JESSE

Chatsworth's missing three pussies tonight.

TIM

What did you say?

Jesse flips him off.

TIM

I'm gonna break that finger, and that fuckin' radio.

Tim stands right in front of Jesse about two feet taller.

Jesse punches him right in the gut, and Tim bends over.

Jesse starts to punch him in the ribs. Tim grabs him and throws him into the wall.

Danny and Michael go after him.

Michael hits him in the back with a milk crate.

The other two guys grab Danny and Michael in neck holds.

Tim punches Jesse right in the face and cocks arm back for another one.

Jojo comes from behind, grabs Tim's arm. Turns him around and decks him.

The other guys let Danny and Michael go.

FRANK  
The little, punk started it.

JOJO  
Hey fucker did I ask you for play  
by play.

Shot of Tim, Frank, and Efren.

JOJO  
Five seconds.

They take off in the car. The guys walk down the street.

JOJO  
What's the first thing I taught you  
guy's about fighting?

MICHAEL  
Last resort.

JOJO  
Was it?

JESSE  
No.

JOJO  
You got lucky.

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

Suzanne, Vanessa, and Katie are having a slumber party at Suzanne's house.

They're laying with a folded paper fortune teller. Suzanne unfolds it.

VANESSA  
Who's your future husband?

SUZANNE  
Michael.

VANESSA  
That's Katie's man.

KATIE

Shut up.

VANESSA

He's cute, and he's going to be a big actor someday.

SUZANNE

What about you?

Vanessa unfolds it.

KATIE

Angel?

Vanessa doesn't say anything. Suzanne looks at the paper.

SUZANNE

Jesse, and how many kids?

Vanessa unfolds the paper again.

SUZANNE

Two kids, and no Angel in sight.

VANESSA

It's just a stupid game.

SUZANNE

Vanessa he likes you.

VANESSA

No he doesn't.

SUZANNE

Trust me.

There's a knock on window Suzanne's opens curtain. It's Danny.

SUZANNE

This is a good idea.

DANNY

Can I come in?

SUZANNE

No.

DANNY

I'm just kidding

SUZANNE

No your not.

DANNY

I know, Jesse and Michael are here to.

SUZANNE

Where?

DANNY

In your back yard relieving themselves.

VANESSA

Nice.

KATIE

Have you seen Crystal, she snuck out like two hours ago?

DANNY

No, we just had a little incident at the liquor store.

SUZANNE

How little?

DANNY

Not really we...

Danny turns around and Suzanne's mom Mary's standing right there. Jesse and Michael climb a back fence.

DANNY

Hi Mary, umm, I was just asking Suzanne to borrow a book.

MARY

Which one?

DANNY

A math book, I forgot mine at school.

MARY

Suzanne's in pre algebra.

DANNY

Yeah that's what I meant.

MARY

I don't want to see you around here again. At the window, the front door, anywhere.

Danny walks away.

MARY

And you girls, bed.

SUZANNE

Mom it's only nine o'clock. God what are you so mad about?

MARY

Bed, or your friends go home now.

SUZANNE

I noticed all those sold signs in the garage.

MARY

You don't want to cheer very bad tomorrow do you?

Mary walks away.

VANESSA

Your mom really hates him huh?

SUZANNE

She knows that his dad's in a motorcycle club. Maybe she thinks Danny will call me his "old lady," and I'll get a tattoo.

KATIE

A girl with a tattoo. How nasty is that.

SUZANNE

Can you even imagine?

VANESSA

Our parents know his dad. He's not a criminal, or anything.

SUZANNE

I know, and the thing that really pisses me off. Is that I know some of her friends do some really shady things, but they do it in real estate. So it's okay.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD-DAY

The San Fernando Braves are playing the Chatsworth Chiefs. A montage of Braves players scoring, intercepting passes, recovering fumbles, etc. The clock gets to 0:00 Braves 42 Chiefs 7.

The players are walking to the sidelines shaking hands. Jesse looks in crowds, spots Tim, and points to scoreboard.

MARK

Who was that?

Jesse laughs.

JESSE

No one.

Crystal runs up to Mark hugs him and they walk away.

Michael's with Katie.

Danny and Suzanne make eye contact, but Mary's standing there.

Vanessa walks up to Jesse.

VANESSA

You were really good.

JESSE

They sucked too.

VANESSA

No you guys would've won anyway.

JESSE

Well next week we got the Bears.  
They're undefeated too.

VANESSA

You'll win by at least two  
touchdowns.

JESSE

And how do you know that?

VANESSA

Because Madame Vanessa can see the  
future.

JESSE

What do you see?

She just smiles really big.

EXT. SIDELINES-DAY

Rudy the coach, and also Vanessa and Katie's dad is talking to the players.

RUDY  
Reynosa, what the hell was that  
crap in the end zone?

MARK  
What?

RUDY  
What do mean, what?  
This is a foot ball field Not Soul  
Train, and you.

Shot of Jesse.

RUDY  
That pointing at the scoreboard  
crap stops now. Those kids were  
playing just as hard as you guys  
out there.

JESSE  
I wasn't..

RUDY  
I don't want to hear it. Look, what  
goes around comes around, and not  
just in football. In life, you got  
me?

JESSE  
Yes sir.

RUDY  
Look, we did some good things out  
there today. We also made some  
mistakes. All in all we did kick  
the crap out of them, so let's go.  
Pizza's on me.

The players hi five.

EXT. FRONT YARD-DAY

Michael's in his front yard

Jesse, Danny, and Sean walk up and stop.

Michael's opening a package.

He pulls out a pair of army fatigues, and an army hat.

MICHAEL  
My dad sent me these.

SEAN  
Cool, real thing.

JESSE  
Can I borrow those for a minute?

EXT. STREET-DAY

They sit down on the curb. Jesse pulls out candy, chips, etc. From the cargo pockets, and an ice cream from under the hat.

He hands Michael pack of Garbage Pail Kids cards.

Michael flips through them.

MICHAEL  
Hey Jess check it out Fowl Raul,  
get it, fowl he has a really bad  
mouth, here. That's you.

Michael gives Jesse the card. Jesse smiles and puts it in his pocket.

JESSE  
More money for the movies.

MICHAEL  
Lets see La Bamba. Richie Valens is  
my second cousin.

DANNY  
You might have mentioned that once  
or twice.

SEAN  
I want to see the Lost Boys.

JESSE  
Lost Boys looks bad ass.

The girls walk up.

VANESSA  
Another big sale?

JESSE  
We're lucky like that.

DANNY  
We're going to the movies. You guys  
want to come?

VANESSA  
How are we getting there?

SEAN  
The dollar fifty limousine, the  
bus.

KATIE  
Let's go Vanessa.

VANESSA  
We can't.

CRYSTAL  
I can.

SUZANNE  
I'm in enough trouble for the other  
night. Have fun though.

DANNY  
Always.

Danny and Suzanne kiss.

SUZANNE  
I'll call you later. When my mom's  
gone.

SEAN  
We're gonna go clock some ho's.

Everyone's silent.

JESSE  
Can we please leave this dildo  
here.

Vanessa's smiles.

EXT. STREET-DAY

They're walking after the movie.

MICHAEL  
We should've seen Lost Boys.

JESSE  
Yeah that damn Lou Diamond Phillips  
man.

CRYSTAL  
The older brother was fine.

MICHAEL  
I have to ask my mom if that's the  
way things really happened.

SEAN

They always change shit for the movies.

DANNY

Well, at least we got the new LL Cool J tape.

Danny puts it in his radio. Crystal sees two guys by a pay phone.

CRYSTAL

I know those guys, go ahead. I'll get a ride.

DANNY

Remember the school talent show tomorrow.

CRYSTAL

I'll be there. It's gonna be a blast.

SEAN

One of them's got a moustache, a fuckin' moustache. Unbelievable.

EXT. STREET-DAY

They're all walking to school.

JESSE

Hell yeah, last day of school.

DANNY

You guys have been practicing for this show for like a month, and it's still top secret.

SUZANNE

You'll see in a few hours.

MICHAEL

We're doing something to. We signed up last week.

VANESSA

What are you doing?

DANNY

You'll see in a few hours, and we practiced for all of. Well not at all.

KATIE  
You won't have a chance.

SEAN  
No, but it's gonna be pretty cool,  
and you can't get suspended on the  
last day of school.

MICHAEL  
Lets race.

DANNY  
To the start of the drive way.

There's a huge running puddle of water in the gutter.

The guys get bottle caps, and sticks.

They put them in the water and race them.

They're running along side following their "boats."

SEAN  
Yes, the number three car. The  
intimidator does it again.

SUZANNE  
Gross.

They all check their shoes.

Vanessa's standing right next to Richie.

VANESSA  
I think it's the intimidator.

SEAN  
Damn it these are new too.

DAVID  
I hate when that happens.

SEAN  
Well who in the hell likes it.

Vanessa's boyfriend Angel walks up and takes her arm. He  
pulls her away.

INT. WAREHOUSE-DAY

Rudy comes in for work, and his buddy Bear walks up to him.

BEAR  
Hey brother, you talk to Chuck yet?

RUDY  
I just got here, why?

BEAR  
Big time layoffs man.

RUDY  
You?

BEAR  
Not this time.

Bear knocks on a table.

A woman Angela walks out of the office with tears in her eyes, Rudy walks in.

INT. SCHOOL AUDITORIUM-DAY

The school talent show is about to start.

MRS. HARRIS  
Faculty and students without  
further delay. The 1987 Olive Vista  
junior high school talent show.

Vanessa, Suzanne, and Katie do the Cover Girls song Because of You.

They're wearing really nice dresses and everything.

They finish and the guys start a standing ovation.

Back to the stage She's Crafty by the Beastie Boys kicks in.

Jesse, Danny, Michael, and Richie are the Beastie Boys, and Sean is the DJ.

Crystal is the girl gyrating in a bikini. Just like the video.

They're pouring beer on each other, throwing it in crowd.

INT. PRINCIPALS OFFICE-DAY

MR. ROSEN  
What do think your mothers gonna  
think about this.

CRYSTAL  
I don't know, but you can call her  
at the bar. It's almost happy hour.

MR. ROSEN

I see kids like you all the time. Didn't take anything seriously in school, everything was a big God damn joke. You know where I see them? Pumping my gas and taking my order.

JESSE

Selling you booze at the liquor store? By the way there's a full one left if you want it.

MR. ROSEN

You little bastard..

Mrs. Harris walks in.

MRS. HARRIS

Who in the hell do you think you are?

MR. ROSEN

The goddamn principal of this school. So get the fuck out of my office.

Jesse moves towards his desk.

JESSE

You son of a bitch.

Mrs. Harris stops him.

MRS. HARRIS

I guess the school board hasn't called you yet. Clean my desk out today before you leave.

The kids are floored.

INT. CLASS ROOM-DAY

MRS. HARRIS

Jesse you are one of the brightest. If not the brightest students I've ever had the pleasure of teaching. The special needs kids love you, but I swear sometimes you... Remember we talked about you going to that magnet school.

Jesse nods his head.

MRS. HARRIS

I think you should. Things come so easy for you. Sometimes that's not good.

JESSE

Can my friends come with me?

MRS. HARRIS

You know that they can't.

JESSE

Then I think I'll just stay in public school.

MS.HARRIS

Look Jesse, kids mess around. I did, but there's also times when you need to take things seriously. Too much of any one thing can be bad, do you understand?

JESSE

Yes ma'am.

MRS. HARRIS

How's your mom doing?

JESSE

She's still doing really good.

MRS. HARRIS

Give her my love. I'll see you next year.

She hugs him.

EXT. STREET-DAY

The kids are walking home.

Gretchen a special education student walks up.

JESSE

Hey Gretchen let me see your report card.

Gretchen shows it to Jesse.

JESSE

Nice, you really got better.

GRETCHEN

You helped me a lot.

JESSE  
Hell even Don Mattingly's got a  
hitting coach.

Gretchen smiles.

GRETCHEN  
  
You guys were awesome, the Beastie  
Boys are my favorite.

Michael puts his base ball cap on Gretchen's head.

Another student P.J. (a little gangster) starts imitating her  
voice.

P.J.  
You guys were awesome, fuckin'  
retard.

His friends all laugh. She gets a sad look on her face.

Jesse throws down his books.

MICHAEL  
I got this.

DANNY  
Here we go.

Michael walks over to P.J.

P.J.  
Is that your girlfriend? What are  
you gonna do? Pussy.

Michael get ready to fight.

P.J.  
Look at Wilton. Thinking he's his  
brother and shit.

Michael decks him to the ground. P.J. gets up slowly.

PJ.'s friends walk over.

They stop cold, Michael turns around and David's standing  
there with his arms crossed.

P.J.  
This aint over fucker.

The bullies walk away.

DAVID  
Check out little Mikey, kicking  
some ass. You should've done No  
Sleep Til Brooklyn. I could've  
brought my guitar and been Kerry  
King from Slayer.

DANNY  
Maybe next year.

INT. BAR-DAY

The woman Angela that got laid off is sitting at a bar  
drinking, and Rudy walks up.

ANGELA  
You too?

Rudy sits down.

EXT. BACKYARD-DAY

All the kids are in Vanessa, and Katie's back yard swimming.

Danny's with Suzanne.

Jesse's teaching Michael how to swim and Vanessa's watching.

JESSE  
Try to dog paddle, or the breast  
stroke like this.

Sean walks up in a Spuds McKenzie t shirt.

SEAN  
Look at Michael dog paddling and  
shit.

JESSE  
Yo want to see something funny.  
Take off that stupid fuckin' shirt  
and stand in front of the mirror.

SEAN  
I was just kidding, damn.

JESSE  
Me too.

VANESSA  
You do know that the F word isn't  
an adjective right.

JESSE

Yes I do.

VANESSA

Than why do use it in front of like every word?

JESSE

I don't know, it's just a habit I guess.

VANESSA

It's a really bad habit.

JESSE

I know.

VANESSA

Think that we can work on it?

JESSE

We'll try.

VANESSA

Good enough.

Crystal's laying out putting on suntan lotion. Sean looks at her for a few seconds then walks over.

SEAN

Need some help with that.

CRYSTAL

No thank's, I think I got it.

SEAN

This aint' my day. I'll just hang out here with you buddy.  
(the dog)

The dog walks away. Sean shakes his head.

SEAN

Hey can I use your rest room. I gotta drain the main vein.

He laughs. No response from anyone.

VANESSA

It's the first door on the left.

Sean's looking in the drawers.

SEAN  
Come on man. Not even a lingerie  
catalog. Aw fuck it as long as I'm  
in here.

Sean sits down on the toilet.

Katie, and her mom Diane walk out. With trays of cupcakes,  
and lemonade.

The kids all run over.

Sean walks out of the bathroom sees all of the empty  
wrappers, and glasses.

SEAN  
They're all gone?

JESSE  
Where were you.

SEAN  
In the bathroom, people do that.

DANNY  
Snooze you lose.

SEAN  
Cool, thank's.

KATIE  
There are more in the house.

SEAN  
I'll take two please, and a big  
glass of lemonade.

David walks in the back yard.

JESSE  
Big D, what's up?

David pulls a tape out of his pocket.

DAVID  
Sorry, dude's, Dance Party USA's  
over.

He puts on a heavy metal tape.

VANESSA  
Hey we were listening to that.

The thrash music kicks in.

Jesse's standing on the roof.

JESSE  
Ric Flair off the top of the steel  
cage.

Jesse jumps off the roof into the pool.

The guys start wrestling, throwing each other around. Having  
a battle royal.

DANNY  
Where's Michael?

Shots of different places in the pool.

Everyone's looking around.

JESSE  
Oh shit.

Michael's standing at the edge of the two story roof, frozen  
stiff.

SUZANNE  
Michael get down.

DAVID  
Or jump.

KATIE  
He can't swim.

SEAN  
Jump in and we'll get you.

VANESSA  
I don't believe this.

JESSE  
Either jump in or walk back, but  
don't look down.

He's still standing there frozen.

KATIE  
Someone do something before he  
falls.

Danny walks up right behind Michael.

DANNY  
I'm right behind you. I'm gonna put  
my arms around you, and we'll walk  
back all right.

He's tipping forward.

VANESSA  
Oh my god, he's falling.

SUZANNE  
Danny!

Danny grabs him and jumps off of the roof. They both land in  
the deep end of the pool.

DAVID  
Dude that was fuckin' awesome.

SEAN  
That's it, we need to pitch in and  
get a video camera.

MICHAEL  
Let me go I want to swim.

DANNY  
You sure?

Michael starts swimming.

SUZANNE  
I know that I say this like every  
day, but one of these days one of  
you is going to get really hurt.

VANESSA  
Or worse.

JESSE  
You can get hurt walking across the  
street.

RUDY  
All right playtime's over. Now it's  
time to go work.

KATIE  
What?

RUDY  
I need my car washed. You didn't  
think all this stuff was free did  
you?

VANESSA  
Come on dad.

RUDY  
The only thing free is air, lets  
go.

SEAN  
Is he serious?

MICHAEL  
We play for him, yes.

DAVID  
Dude if I wanted to work I could've  
stayed home.

EXT. DRIVEWAY-DAY

They're washing the car. A mint, 57 Chevy.

JESSE  
Hey coach, do yo have any sodas?

RUDY  
In the garage.

JESSE  
Do you have orange?

RUDY  
What do you think this, a liquor  
store? There's regular and diet.

VANESSA  
My dad can be kind of rude  
sometimes.

JESSE  
I think he's cool.

VANESSA  
It figures.

Katie goes to put on a tape and Rudy stops her.

RUDY  
Hey, hey. When I'm washing your  
car. We can listen to your music.

Rudy turns on the radio. Vanessa walks up with a bucket.  
Jesse, and her grab a sponge at the same time. Jesse lets go.

JESSE  
This sounds like Springsteen.

VANESSA  
He wrote it.

JESSE  
How do you know that?

Vanessa motions to her dad.

DANNY  
My parents let me back the car out.

RUDY  
Good for them.

Danny hits Jesse in the head with a sponge.

They all start throwing water, and soap on each other.

Diane walks out, and Rudy grabs her arm.

RUDY  
C'mon babe remember this song.  
Cindy's party, about five years  
ago?

Rudy and Diane dance.

Everyone's having a good time.

DIANE  
I came out here for something. Oh  
Vanessa, Angel's on the phone.

Vanessa reluctantly walks inside.

Jesse gets on his bike and rides off.

EXT. STREET-DAY

The next day Jesse's riding his bike down the street, and runs into Suzanne. At her mailbox.

SUZANNE  
Where is everybody?

JESSE  
I don't know, just one of those  
days.

SUZANNE  
Vanessa broke up with Angel  
yesterday.

JESSE  
And.

SUZANNE  
She likes you. You know you like  
her. I know you like her. She  
doesn't.

Shot of Jesse.

JESSE  
She can do better.

SUZANNE  
Jesse, you're not your dad. You're  
a great guy. You need to see that.

INT. HOUSE-DAY

Suzanne walks into her house, holding the mail.

SUZANNE  
Here mom, mail. You might want open  
this one right now.

It's a letter from the IRS.

EXT. FAIR-NIGHT

They're all walking around the fair.

Playing games, going on the rides.

Crystal sees some guys and goes with them.

Sean's bummed again.

DANNY  
Time to get on that kick ass roller  
coaster.

MICHAEL  
Cool.

They all start getting on.

VANESSA  
I'm not getting on that.

JESSE  
Why not everyone else is?

VANESSA  
That is the single dumbest reason  
in the world to do anything.

JESSE  
I know.

VANESSA  
Let's go.

JESSE  
You sure?

VANESSA  
Before I change my mind.

They're on the roller coaster.

They're back on the ground.

VANESSA  
Oh my God, I was so scared.

JESSE  
Me too.

VANESSA  
Really?

JESSE  
Yeah you almost broke my hand with  
your kung fu grip.

VANESSA  
Look I went on that ride. Now you  
have to do something for me.

Vanessa points to the ferris wheel.

JESSE  
The ferris wheel sucks.

They're on the ferris wheel.

You Got It All by the Jets is playing.

On the way up Jesse sees Rudy kissing Angela from the bar.

Vanessa's looking at Jesse. Jesse's just kind of spacing out.

VANESSA

You really don't like this, huh?

JESSE

No it's cool. I was just looking at the stars.

VANESSA

See that one. That's the little dipper. The north star's the last star on it's handle. It actually helped slaves escape to Canada, because they could always tell which way was north. I did a report on it in history.

JESSE

I'm not really into history.

VANESSA

You have Mr. Brown right, with the coffee?

JESSE

Yeah.

VANESSA

That's why. Hey you're going to Boston tomorrow right?

JESSE

Six in the morning.

VANESSA

When are you coming back?

JESSE

A month.

VANESSA

Do you like it there?

JESSE

I guess. Really great sea food, and really loud relatives.

VANESSA

They have one of the biggest aquariums in the world.

JESSE

Yeah we were supposed to go last year, but, you know it doesn't matter anyway. I don't really care, because I don't want to go.

VANESSA

Why?

Jesse doesn't say anything.

VANESSA

My older sister's at the Madonna concert right now. I was so mad at my mom for not letting me go. I'm not mad anymore.

Jesse can't talk.

They're back on the ground.

JESSE

I have to tell you something.

VANESSA

You can tell me anything.

Big, loud fireworks go off.

All the other kids run over to them.

The girls have stuffed animal prizes.

Richie's kind of trudging along, alone.

Suzanne takes two pictures of Jesse and Vanessa together.

Rudy walks up.

RUDY

It's getting kind of late. You guys need a ride?

Vanessa just stares at him.

DANNY

My brother's gonna give us a ride later.

RUDY

All right try to stay out of trouble. Let's go girls.

Katie and Suzanne go with Rudy. Vanessa just stands there.

EXT. STREET-DAY

DAVID  
It's quiet.

DANNY  
Too quiet.

SEAN  
He's probably running his big mouth  
in Boston. Damn I wish he was doing  
it here.

INT. HOUSE-DAY

Jesse's in Boston laying on the floor.

He finishes a letter.

The last words are "Vanessa I miss you so much. I'm coming  
back early. I can't wait to see you. Love Jesse"

His cousin Gary walks in.

GARY  
Hey Jess, whiffle ball. Everybody's  
here. You've been working on that  
letter for a week, let's go.

Jesse puts it in an envelope.

JESSE  
I gotta mail this first.

INT. HOUSE-NIGHT

Rudy and Diane are at the kitchen table.

Vanessa and Katie are watching TV.

DIANE  
Girls, turn that off and come here.  
Your father and I need to talk to  
you.

Vanessa and Katie walk into the kitchen and sit down.

KATIE  
What's up?

Shot of Rudy and Diane.

Shot of Vanessa.

EXT. STREET-DAY

Danny, Michael, Sean and David are sitting on the sidewalk.  
Jesse rides up on his bike. He just got back from Boston.  
They all shake hands.

MICHAEL  
Back early?

SEAN  
They probably got sick of your  
mouth and sent you home.

DANNY  
You should've come back earlier.

JESSE  
Why, what's up?

DAVID  
Dude, bad news.

JESSE  
What?

DANNY  
Shit man.

JESSE  
Just say it.

SEAN  
Rudy and Diane separated. They all  
moved.

JESSE  
And you look like you lost some  
weight.

MICHAEL  
It happened right after you left.

JESSE  
Are you fuckin' serious?

DANNY  
Diane found out Rudy cheated on  
her. That was pretty much that.

JESSE  
So where in the fuck are they?

DANNY

Vanessa, and Katie are in Denver with Diane and her sister. Coach is in Phoenix.

JESSE

Shit I sent her a letter, she didn't get back to me.

DANNY

She never got it.

JESSE

Denver, you gotta be fuckin' kidding me.

MICHAEL

She'll come back.

JESSE

For what?

INT. KITCHEN-NIGHT

Jesse walks into the kitchen and sees a note on the refrigerator. It says Vanessa called, and a phone number.

He grabs the phone.

Diane answers the phone.

DIANE

Hello.

JESSE

Hi, is Vanessa there?

DIANE

Jesse?

JESSE

Yeah, hi.

DIANE

Look, Jesse you're a good kid. You have no idea how hard this has been for Vanessa. She's seeing a therapist. Who thinks that she needs a new start. So if you really care about her, please leave her alone. It's not just you. I've asked all of her other friends the same thing, okay.

No answer.

DIANE

Jesse?

INT. HOUSE-NIGHT

Rudy's watching the tape of their wedding from 1975 with a drink.

Him and Diane are dancing to their wedding song.

Feeding each other wedding cake, drinking champagne, etc.

After a minute or so he picks up the phone and makes a call.

INT. HOUSE-NIGHT

Diane and Katie are in the kitchen getting dinner ready and the phone rings Katie goes to answer it.

DIANE

Don't answer that.

KATIE

Why not?

DIANE

Just don't.

KATIE

Whatever.

Rudy's holding phone.

Diane's looking at phone ringing.

Back to Rudy.

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

Vanessa's sitting on her floor holding a teddy bear crying. There's a knock on the door. The girls share a bedroom.

On Katie's side there is posters, stuffed animals, etc.

On Vanessa's side there's just a bed and a dresser. Nothing else.

KATIE

Vanessa it's me can I come in?

Katie comes in with two bowls of ice cream, and hands one to Vanessa. Who's sitting on her bed.

She puts it down trying to force a smile but with tears in her eyes.

Katie puts her arms around Vanessa.

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

Jesse's sitting in his bedroom. Looking at the picture from the fair.

He throws a football at a mirror. Shattering it, and walks out.

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

Vanessa's still sitting on the floor. Holding her teddy bear.

The ice creams completely melted and untouched.

She presses play on a cassette player.

Could've Been by Tiffany starts to play.

She pulls out her picture from the fair and starts to cry again.

EXT. STREET-NIGHT

Jesse's sitting on his bike in front of Vanessa's old house.

The house for sale sign says sold.

A couple is moving in with their 13 year old daughter.

She sees Jesse and smiles at him.

He rides off.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE-NIGHT

The guys are all their sitting on milk crates drinking sodas. Jesse walks up puts his bike against the wall.

FADE TO:

EXT. LIQUOR STORE-DAY

It's now 1992 and 17-18 year old actors are playing the parts.

They're all still sitting on crates like the last scene but instead of sodas. They're drinking beer.

Thunder Kiss 65 by White Zombie's playing.

Crystal walks up with her baby in a stroller.

CRYSTAL  
Another productive day?

Jesse raises his forty ounce.

CRYSTAL  
Don't they care that you guys drink  
out here?

DANNY  
Not as long as some of us don't act  
like ass holes.

Shot of Jesse.

CRYSTAL  
You still talk to Suzanne?

DANNY  
She lives in Northridge in the dorm  
at CSUN. Probably going with a pre  
med major or something. I'm sure  
that her mom's happy.

Crystal's using the pay phone and the baby starts to cry.

CRYSTAL  
One of you guys pick him up please.

No one does.

CRYSTAL  
Just pretend that he's that big  
bottle of beer. Don't give him any  
by the way.

Michael's holding him and shaking his rosary. The baby's  
smiling.

Carl a down on his luck Vietnam vet walks up.

CARL  
Hey buddy.  
(to the baby)  
Damn those look good. Can someone  
help me out with a dollar?

Jesse hands him two dollars.

CARL  
Thank's brother, I appreciate it.

SEAN  
He's just gonna buy booze with it.

JESSE  
What the hell do you think I was gonna buy with it? Besides the guy did two tours in that bull shit, false flag Vietnam war. If he wants to get drunk then God bless him.

Crystal's still on the phone.

CRYSTAL  
Look asshole this is your son too.

RAY  
I told you to get an abortion. That makes him your son.

CRYSTAL  
You're a real piece of shit.

RAY  
Don't call again.

Crystal slams the phone down.

CRYSTAL  
Fucker.

MICHAEL  
You want me to kick his ass?

SEAN  
Because we will.

CRYSTAL  
Yeah, no, he's not worth it.

The guys pull out a few bucks each.

CRYSTAL  
Oh my God you guys. Are you sure, thanks.

She kisses all of them on the cheek. Sean smiles.

INT. HOUSE-DAY

Ray's on his couch and his girlfriend walks in the room.

JENNIFER

Who was that?

RAY

Bobby, I gotta go in late tonight.

JENNIFER

Again?

RAY

Gotta make a living babe.

She kisses him, walks back into the bedroom and closes the door.

Ray looks to make sure she's not there.

Picks up the phone and dials a number.

INT. HOUSE-DAY

A girl's pager goes off, she looks at it and smiles

EXT. LIQUOR STORE-DAY

MICHAEL

What are we gonna do tonight?

DAVID

I think you're looking at it.

JESSE

Another night in fuckin' Sylmar.  
Let the good times roll.

DANNY

Ruby's picking me up. I'm gettin'  
laid tonight.

DAVID

That chick's a whore.

DANNY

You said that like that's a bad  
thing.

SEAN

No shit. I wouldn't fuck her with  
someone else's dick.

JESSE

Well you sure as hell wouldn't fuck  
her with yours.

MICHAEL

Cops.

Cops pass by.

They hide their beers behind the milk crates. Then pull them back out.

Ruby pulls up, and honks the horn.

DANNY

Well, sorry to leave the circle jerk, but I got some business to take care of.

JESSE

See ya later lightweight.

Danny grabs his crotch.

DANNY

I'm a heavyweight where it counts bitch.

They drive off.

DAVID

Well I'm gonna go home and get stoned before my mom comes home. Later.

SEAN

I'm taking off too. I'm starving.

Sean throws a can in the trash but misses. It lands on the ground.

JESSE

Kind of symbolic huh?

Sean walks away.

INT. GARAGE-NIGHT

Jesse and Michael are drinking beer. They're pretty fucked up.

We see a picture of Jesse's mom. It has the born and died dates on it.

MICHAEL

Hey you know when Richie, Buddy Holly and the Big Bopper died in the plane crash.  
(MORE)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Buddy Holly's guitar player flipped a coin with Richie for the last seat on the plane. Richie won the toss and died. He lost and lived. He still feels guilty.

JESSE

I guess if it's your time. It's your time. If it isn't. It isn't.

MICHAEL

What song would want played at your funeral?

JESSE

Mike, what the fuck. Why are you all serious and shit?

MICHAEL

I don't know, I'm just in a weird mood. Humor me

JESSE

You're fucked up.

MICHAEL

That too.

JESSE

I don't know. I don't think about that shit.

MICHAEL

I want Alive by Pearl Jam.

JESSE

The song's called Alive, not fuckin' dead.

MICHAEL

Only your body dies, your soul lives forever.

JESSE

I don't know, Guns n Roses, Paradise City.

MICHAEL

Where the grass is green, and the girls are pretty?

JESSE

Better be.

MICHAEL

Cool.

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT-DAY

The guys are shooting around. Playing asshole instead of horse.

On the football field. Five guys in College of the Canyons jerseys are throwing the football around. Running some plays.

Danny dunks the ball.

DANNY

You're next.

SEAN

You know I can't dunk.

JESSE

Well you already have an  
A,S,S,H,O,L, one more and your,  
everybody.

EVERYBODY AT THE SAME TIME.

An ASSHOLE.

SEAN

Bullshit.

Sean makes a pathetic, attempt to dunk, and gets about an inch off the ground.

The football bounces on the court and Danny throws the hell out of it back to them.

JAMAR

Hey y'all want to get a five on  
five goin'? C'mon man we won't hurt  
you, too bad.

JESSE

Let's go.

DAVID

I feel like hitting someone.

SEAN

I think I pulled a muscle earlier.

JESSE

How can you pull something that you  
don't have?

SEAN  
Fuck you, it hurts all right.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD-DAY

Danny's at quarterback.

Jesse, and Michael are wide out.

David, and Sean blocking.

REGGIE  
This is gonna be easy man. I got  
the white boy.

JESSE  
Which one are you, Bell, Biv, or  
Devoe?

JAMAR  
Nigga, he called you B.B.D.

REGGIE  
All right bitch.

Richie hikes it.

Jesse goes deep.

Danny throws a bomb.

It's a touchdown to Jesse.

Reggie gets beat.

JESSE  
Where were you man? It's lonely in  
that end zone all by yourself.

REGGIE  
Man fuck your lucky ass.

JESSE  
If you got lost. You know, I can  
draw you a map.

REGGIE  
Fuck you lets play.

One of their guys rushes Danny.

David lays him out with a block and throws his long hair back.

Michael and Sean sandwich someone on a tackle.

Jesse's running after the catch, and Reggie cheap shots him in face.

REGGIE  
Hell yeah bitch.

JESSE

Jesse's wiping a little blood from his mouth.

JESSE  
Bitch, you've been my fuckin' bitch all day.

Reggie gets in Jesse's face. Jesse shoves him.

REGGIE  
Man I'll fuck you up.

JESSE  
For your sake, I hope your bite's better than your bark.

The other guys break it up.

JAMAR  
Nigga you just pissed cuz he been burnin' you all day.

REGGIE  
Man that fool's gettin' lucky.

JAMAR  
Larry Bird aint' that lucky. You cover the slow dude. I got this nigga.

Danny throws a deep pass to Jesse and Jamar knocks it down.

JAMAR  
That's what the fuck I'm talkin' about.

Jesse's walking back to huddle

JESSE  
Fuck.

Jesse taps his left shoulder twice. Danny nods.

Danny pump fakes and throws it deep.

Jesse looks over his right shoulder.

Jamar gets faked out, the balls right over his left shoulder.

It's a touchdown. Jesse nods his head at Jamar.

End of game. They all shake hands.

JAMAR

Hey man you can play. I looked at you and..

JESSE

Yeah I know it's not the first time.

JAMAR

So where do you guys play?

JESSE

Mike plays at Alemany. We're not in school. I work in construction

JAMAR

Man you need to be in school playin' ball, and your partner the quarterback. That nigga's got an arm.

JESSE

He's better at basketball.

JAMAR

I'm serious man. You're better than any of the receivers we got. Including my cousin.

Shot of Reggie.

JAMAR CONT'D

I mean being in the sun all day swinging hammers and shit. Or playin' ball, and being around all these fine ass chicks. C'mon now.

JESSE

You got a point.

JAMAR

I'm supposed to be at Oregon, but my grades sucked.

(MORE)

JAMAR (CONT'D)

I didn't take it serious. Now I got me a B minus average. Think about it man.

JESSE

Yeah.

JAMAR

All right man, later.

JESSE

Later.

They shake hands.

SEAN

Are we still picking up Crystal tonight?

JESSE

I am.

SEAN

Oh bull shit I'm coming. I don't want to see Crystal though, not like that.

JESSE

Na man she's like our sister,

SEAN

Yeah.

MICHAEL

Think they'll let me in?

JESSE

You look eighteen.

INT. STRIP CLUB-NIGHT

Crystal just finished dancing and is getting off stage. Larry the club manager is waiting for her.

LARRY

Crystal I want to see you in my office for a minute.

She walks in he shuts the door behind them.

LARRY

I know you haven't been working here very long, but your one of the best dancers I've got. I know the money's okay, but if you want to make some real money. I know a guy that does movies.

Shot of Crystal.

INT. STRIP CLUB-NIGHT

Jesse, Michael, and Sean are at the front paying to get in and the guy asks Michael for ID.

GUY

How old are you?

MICHAEL

Eighteen.

GUY

Just be cool.

MICHAEL

Thank's man.

The guys walk to sit down in front of the stag. The dancer's finishing her set.

SEAN

Hell yeah, rockin' the Polo tonight.

JESSE

You smell like an ass hole. Who spent too much on cologne.

SEAN

Cool, thanks.

ANNOUNCER

And now, Deja Vu North Hollywood presents Ginger and Mary Ann. Lets hear it.

Big applause, Girls School by Britney Fox kicks in.

Two dancers wearing private girl school uniforms come out and start dancing to the music.

SEAN

Holy shit.

JESSE  
There's nothing holy about them.

SEAN  
I should've went to Catholic  
school.

MICHAEL  
I do go to Catholic school. None of  
the chicks look like that.

One of them gets right in front of Michael.

She kisses him on his cheek.

They finish their set and Sean throws a ten dollar bill on  
stage.

JESSE  
Nice move. You just but her  
boyfriend a twelve pack.

Crystal walks over.

CRYSTAL  
Ready?

JESSE  
Not really.

A guy walks by.

GUY  
Hey Candy.

CRYSTAL  
Hi.

SEAN  
Candy?

CRYSTAL  
You think I want these creeps in  
here knowing my real name? Lets go  
eat I'm starving.

MICHAEL  
Where?

CRYSTAL  
As far away from here as we can?

They get up.

CRYSTAL  
Oh and Gina wanted me to give you  
this.

MICHAEL  
Who?

CRYSTAL  
Ginger.

SEAN  
No fuckin' way. Let me see that.

It says "Wait for me to get off at midnight, Gina"

JESSE  
Right on Mike.

SEAN  
He shouldn't even be in here.

MICHAEL  
I'll get a ride later.

JESSE  
Have fun man.

SEAN  
The chick's a fucking amusement  
park. How's he not gonna have fun?

EXT. STREET-DAY

It's morning now.

Gina drops off Michael in front of his house.

They kiss in the car, and he gets out.

Looking real proud and walks inside.

Nick's sitting on the couch, and starts to get up.

NICK  
Hey.

MICHAEL  
Don't fuck with me.

Nick sits back down.

EXT. GARAGE-NIGHT

Jesse, Michael, Sean, and David are drinking beers.

MICHAEL  
Hey Jess you like Clapton right?

JESSE  
Yeah.

Michael hands him a tape.

MICHAEL  
Here check this out.

SEAN  
What do Eric Clapton and coffee  
have in common?

No one says anything.

SEAN  
They're both better with Cream.

They all look at Sean and David throws a bottle cap at him.

DAVID  
How was that stripper dude?

MICHAEL  
Incredible, I'm gonna see her again  
tomorrow night.

David slaps his hand.

Danny walks up.

DANNY  
I figured you losers would be here,  
there's a party on Borden. Let's  
go.

JESSE  
You want to drive my car? I'm  
pretty, fucked up.

DANNY  
I got a ride.

DAVID  
Fuckin' Danny.

MICHAEL  
I'm outta beer.

SEAN  
Me too.

JESSE

Let's go to the store first.

DANNY

There's gonna be beer there.

JESSE

Yeah, but they'll have fuckin'  
Miller low life, or some bullshit.  
We need some malt liquor.

DANNY

Before you get in, none of you guys  
have ever been fingerprinted right.

They all shake their heads.

They're driving to the store

JESSE

There's Keith.

SEAN

Oh great, the Fonz. Thirty years  
old, still hanging out with high  
school kids and shit.

JESSE

He's not thirty.

SEAN

Excuse the fuck outta me. I think  
he's only twenty seven.

Danny hands Jesse some money.

DANNY

See if he's got an eight ball.

They pull up.

Keith is standing in front of the store with some buddies.  
Drinking beer, blasting Wild Side by Motley Crue.

The store owner comes out.

Jesse's walking up.

STORE OWNER

You need to turn that down, now.

KEITH

I don't have to do shit. Except get more fucked up than I already am, and there's only one way to listen to the Crue buddy. That's fuckin' loud.

STORE OWNER

I'm calling the cops.

KEITH

Make sure they send a chick cop. So I can make the little pig bitch squeal.

JESSE

What's up Keith?

They shake hands.

KEITH

What's up man? What are you doin' tonight?

JESSE

Hanging out in a liquor store parking lot. Listening to a five year old Motley Crue song.

KEITH

(Laughing)

What a dick.

JESSE

Na we're going to a party on Borden.

KEITH

Yeah I'll be there later. Dude I'm so fucked up right now.

JESSE

You can't tell.

KEITH

Want to hit this Kool?

Jesse takes the cigarette and hits it.

KEITH

Keep it.

JESSE

Hey man can you buy us some beer?

KEITH  
That I can definitely do

JESSE  
And you got an eight ball?

KEITH  
I do, would you like to purchase one.

Keith's friend Art walks up.

ART  
Hey.

KEITH  
Hey dude, you need something?

ART  
Yeah, but not that. I need to ask you something, but if you can't help me out with it. Don't repeat it all right.

KEITH  
Yeah whatever.

ART  
Having a little problem with my old man.

KEITH  
What's the problem?

ARTHUR  
He's still alive, but ten grand can fix that. Five up front, five after. This weekend would be perfect actually. I'm going to San Diego tonight. You know anyone?

INT. CAR-NIGHT

Jesse hands Danny the coke.

DANNY  
Cool.

SEAN  
What smells?

JESSE  
You.

SEAN  
No, asshole, like Windex or something.

JESSE  
Keith gave me a Kool.

SEAN  
There's a recipe for success. Add some PCP to all the beer.

JESSE  
You suck, anyone want a hit?

They all pass it around.

They're pulling up to the party.

Sean drops a pack of condoms on the floor.

Jesse picks them up.

JESSE  
(Laughing)  
What the hell are these for?

SEAN  
If you don't know that.

JESSE  
I mean what are you doing with them?

SEAN  
You never know.

JESSE  
Oh yes I do. I have a better chance of winning the lottery tonight. I didn't even buy a fuckin' ticket.

SEAN  
You're a dick.

DAVID  
And extra large.

Everyone's laughing.

SEAN  
It felt good all right.

JESSE

Maybe you can be the spokesman for them. Tell us Sean is this the only brand of condoms you found. That could harness a man hung like a black rhinoceros?

SEAN

All right, give it a rest.

MICHAEL

Then he might get sued for false advertising.

JESSE

That's funny Mike.

Jesse pulls out some concert tickets.

JESSE

Cypress Hill one week from tonight.

MICHAEL

I didn't know you got tickets. Fuck it, I didn't have any money anyway.

Jesse hands him a ticket.

MICHAEL

For real, thank's.

SEAN

I actually had money. I could've paid you back.

DAVID

We didn't think you wanted to go dude.

DANNY

You can always stay home and admire your monstrous cock.

SEAN

You guy's are assholes.

Jesse hands him a ticket.

SEAN

Cool, I'll pay you back.

JESSE

Just buy some beer.

EXT. LIQUOR STORE-NIGHT

Two girls get out of a car and walk by Keith.

KEITH  
What are you ladies doing tonight?

GIRL 1  
Nothing with you.

GIRL 2  
Nice car. Did you go back to 1982  
and bring it back?

They laugh.

Keith just looks at his old, shitty, car.

EXT. BACKYARD-NIGHT

The guys walk into the party with forty ouncers.

Louie walks up.

LOUIE  
The forty ounce brothers, what's  
up?

They shake hands.

Michael's wearing a bandana pirate style, and the girls from  
the liquor store girls walk up.

GIRL 1  
Rico Suave.

She says it like the song, and they laugh.

JESSE  
Ya know it's interesting how a half  
decent looking chick always hangs  
out with less attractive ones. To  
be the hot shit of the bunch.

GIRL 1  
My shoes are worth more than your  
whole wardrobe.

JESSE  
Yet you still manage to look like a  
cheap whore.

GIRL 1

Fuck you.

JESSE

If a genie popped out of this forty  
ouncer right now, and granted me  
three wishes. You wouldn't be one  
of them.

GIRL 2

You're a drunken ass hole.

JESSE

Guilty on both counts. Look slunt,  
I don't give a shit who you are. Or  
who you think you are..

GIRL 1

I'm.

Jesse cuts her off.

JESSE

It doesn't matter.

They walk away.

GIRL 3

(Giggling, and under her  
breath to Girl 2)  
Slunt.

GIRL 2

It's not funny.

MICHAEL

That was pretty cool Jess.

JESSE

Well she needed to hear it.

DANNY

No she didn't actually. Why do  
always have to act like a fuckin'  
ass hole?

JESSE

Fuck these skanks. They walk into  
someone's back yard like it's the  
fuckin' Oscar's.

DANNY

Fuck this, I'm gonna get laid.

SEAN

Me too.

JESSE

Couldn't get laid on the Love Boat.

Walking to the keg Michael makes eye contact with a girl.

Her name is Yolanda.

She's smiling at him.

Michael is just standing there staring at her.

DAVID

Mikey, Mike.

MICHAEL

You guys go ahead.

Michael walks towards her.

Jesse and David get beers and stand by the keg.

Danny and Sean are talking to two girls. Michael is talking to Yolanda.

Some cholos walk up to the keg where Jesse and David are standing.

HECTOR

(To David)

Hey Chewbacca can anyone else get some beer?

DAVID

Sounds like someone wants to get their ass kicked.

FELIX

Hey white boy I hear you gotta pretty big mouth.

JESSE

I hear you got a pretty small. Aw fuck it, it's probably just a rumor.

FELIX

A funny fucker huh?

JESSE

I have my moments.

FELIX  
How bout I fuck you up right now  
white boy.

They put their beers down and get ready to fight.

Some older guys come over to break it up.

RALPH  
Can't you guys just hang out, and  
not act like assholes.

FELIX  
You're dead.

Jesse gives him a raspberry.

FELIX  
Dead.

DAVID  
Dude he was pissed.

JESSE  
Fuck him

Michael walks up.

MICHAEL  
What was that?

DAVID  
Some punk was talkin' shit. No big  
deal.

MICHAEL  
I'm gonna take off with Yolanda.  
We're going to another party.  
Sean's coming with us.

MICHAEL  
Jess I have feeling some bad shit's  
gonna happen tonight.

JESSE  
What?

MICHAEL  
I don't know, but take this.

Michael hands Jesse his rosary.

JESSE  
You never take this off.

MICHAEL  
Just take it.

Jesse takes it.

MICHAEL  
I'm gonna jam. Here's the address  
if you guys want to cruise by.

JESSE  
Later.

They all shake hands.

JESSE  
See ya later Long Dong Silver.  
Don't hurt anyone with that thing

SEAN  
Fuck you.

INT. CAR-NIGHT

Danny's driving. David's riding shotgun. Jesse's in the  
middle of the back seat

DAVID  
Dude I'm feeling In-N-Out, Right  
about now.?

JESSE  
We need more beer.

DANNY  
You don't need any more beer.  
Besides who's around to buy it

JESSE  
We'll go to Seven Eleven, some ones  
always around.

DANNY  
Jesus Christ.

JESSE  
He might even buy it for us.

David cranks up the radio.

Jesse's holding Michael's rosary up in front of his face, and  
drops it. He leans down to pick it up when the back window  
gets blasted out from a gunshot.

It goes through the front window right in between Danny and David.

Danny slams on the brakes.

Jesse's still leaning down.

Jesse slowly pulls his head up.

Felix and his friends drive by.

Felix is pointing a shotgun.

DAVID

Holy shit, is everyone alive.

DANNY

Jess?

JESSE

Let's go.

DANNY

They have a gun, what are gonna use, are dicks? Fuck this I'm dumping this car and we're walking home.

Jesse's holding Michael's rosary.

JESSE

Fuck man Mike saved my life.

DAVID

Huh?

JESSE

I'll tell you later. Now I really need some beer.

Red lights, it's the cops.

DANNY

My coke. I hope it's not fuckin sheriff's.

JESSE

Give me it.

DANNY

It's an eight ball.

JESSE

You're in enough shit as it is, and  
it's my fault. They might not even  
search us.

Cops are walking to the car.

Danny hands the coke to Jesse.

Jesse puts it in his boot.

They all get out of car.

Danny gets put in cop car.

Jesse and David are sitting on the sidewalk as the cops drive  
off.

INT. GARAGE-NIGHT

A man is walking in the house from his car. Holding a  
newspaper.

A gunshot with a silencer goes off.

He falls to the floor, blood splatters all over the  
newspaper.

Camera pans from a pair of sneakers up to a Keith holding a  
357 Magnum.

The man's head's in a puddle of blood.

Keith looks at him for a few seconds. He's still really  
wasted.

EXT. BACKYARD-NIGHT

At the party Michael and Yolanda are talking.

Sean's standing there alone drinking a beer.

YOLANDA

Let's dance.

MICHAEL

Not this guy.

YOLANDA

Come on just do that stupid cholo  
dance.

MICHAEL

I'm not a cholo. I'll slow dance,  
but that's where it stops.

YOLANDA

I'm just kidding. So do you always  
drink this much?

MICHAEL

I guess, you want one?

YOLANDA

I don't drink beer, it's nasty. I  
have a couple wine coolers  
sometimes.

Michael spots Sean all alone.

MICHAEL

I'll be right back okay.

Michael goes over to Sean.

MICHAEL

You all right man?

SEAN

Batting zero again. As fucking  
usual. Jess is right.

MICHAEL

Look Jess is my brother, and he's  
pretty funny. Actually he's really  
funny, but he's not right. You want  
to kick it with me and Yolanda?  
She's trying to get me to dance. I  
could use your help.

SEAN

Na, get back over there. I'm gonna  
kick it here.

They slap hands.

Michael walks back to Yolanda.

Hand On The Pump by Cypress Hill is playing.

MICHAEL

Hell yeah, Cypress Hill.

YOLANDA

This music's so stupid. I shot this  
guy. I got this much money, this  
many ho's. Blah, blah, blah.

P.J. from the Junior High fight and his friends walk in.

He spots Michael, and remembers Michael decking him five  
years ago.

P.J.

I know that fucker.

SERGIO

He's with that big white boy over  
there.

Shot of Sean.

P.J.

We'll fuck him up too.

Angel Baby by Angelica comes on.

YOLANDA

This is my song.

MICHAEL

I like the original version.

YOLANDA

Whatever buddy, you said you'd slow  
dance.

MICHAEL

I did, didn't I. Did you pay the DJ  
to put this on?

Yolanda grabs him, and they dance like they're the only two  
people there.

The song ends, and Yolanda's friend Stephanie comes up.

MICHAEL

You look like Olivia Hussey from  
Romeo and Juliet.

YOLANDA

I have no idea who you're talking  
about.

MICHAEL

We have to work to do on your movie  
collection.

STEPHANIE

Yolanda it's getting late, I have to go.

YOLANDA

Me too, my parents want me in before midnight. Do you guys want a ride?

MICHAEL

We'll hang out for a little while, and see if my other friends show up. Can I call you tomorrow?

YOLANDA

You better, if you know what's good for you.

She kisses him on the cheek.

Her and her friend walk to the car.

She turns around and waves, Michael waves back.

P.J. and his friends walk up behind Sean, and hit him in the back of the head with a full beer bottle.

He still turns around ready to fight, but two guys get him on the ground and start kicking his teeth in.

Michael runs over

MICHAEL

(yelling)

Sean!

Michael starts beating the shit out of the two guys when P.J. stabs him in the side. With a little knife.

Michael looks down at the blood, and the guys get him down.

P.J stabs him a few more times.

They finally stop, and walk away.

Michael and Sean are laying there. Bloody, and unable to move.

P.J.

Payback's not just a bitch holmes.  
It's a fuckin' cunt.

INT. BAR-NIGHT

Keith and some friends are at a bar drinking.

He's buying the drinks, throwing money all around.

Having a good time, still almost completely out of it.

EXT. FRONT YARD-DAY

Jesse's in front of Michael's front door.

Reading a note that says "I'm at the hospital with Michael. Connie"

INT. HOSPITAL-DAY

Jesse runs in the hospital room.

Michael's mom Connie, his sister Valerie and brother in law Henry are there.

Michael sleeping with tubes in him.

JESSE

Is he all right? What the hell happened?

VALERIE

He got into a fight with some guys and they stabbed him.

HENRY

God damn, pussy, cholos. Can't fight like fuckin' men.

CONNIE

Henry!

HENRY

Sorry mom, I'm just a little pissed off right now.

JESSE

Is he gonna be all right?

VALERIE

Yeah, thank God it was a small knife. Otherwise we'd be at the morgue right now.

HENRY

Sean's in room 107. The little bastard's got him too.

Jesse takes off the rosary and puts it on Michael's chest.

INT. HOUSE-DAY

Keith's passed out in bed.

There's a loud, knock on the door. Another loud, knock, he's still asleep.

The door gets broken down.

Marshals bust in with guns drawn.

Keith gets up still foggy. The Marshall's are yelling "hands on your head now, etc.

He puts his hands in the air. They throw him on the floor, and handcuff him.

EXT. SIDEWALK-DAY

Jesse and Dave are sitting in front of Michaels house drinking beer. Jesse's holding the Cypress Hill tickets.

JESSE

Wanna try and sell em'?

David takes the tickets. Tears them up, and drops them in the gutter. They roll away in the stream of gutter water.

EXT. FRONT OF JAIL-DAY

Two months later. Danny's walking out of jail.

His parents are waiting for him with tears in their eyes, they hug.

INT. HOUSE-DAY

Sean's dad Bob is sitting on the couch drinking beers, and having a smoke.

He flips the channel to the 1992 Presidential debate. Between Clinton and Bush.

Sean walks in.

SEAN

Who are you voting for?

BOB

Remember a long time ago when you thought wrestling was real.

SEAN

Yeah.

Bob nods his head.

Bob flips the channel to the Sir Mix A Lot "Baby Got Back" video.

SEAN

Dad I'm thinking about joining the Army.

BOB

You tell your mother about this.

SEAN

Yeah, she called me an asshole.

BOB

I don't really agree with her on anything, but she's right. You're an asshole.

SEAN

I just wanna do something with my life.

BOB

Sean have you ever been so drunk that you pissed yourself?

SEAN

No not yet dad.

BOB

Well it's like this ya see. You start peeing your self, and it feels real good. All warm and stuff. Then you sober up in the morning, and you're just all covered in piss. Ya know what I'm sayin'.

Sean stares at his dad for a few seconds.

BOB

Yeah, thank's dad.

BOB

Any time man.

INT. HOUSE-NIGHT

The guys are at Danny's house. Waiting for him to get home from jail.

MICHAEL

I'm writing this Christmas play for the church. It's gonna be cool. Saint Frances and Saint Clare come down from heaven to show this little girl the true meaning of Christmas. I'm playing Satan. You guys can be in it if you want.

JESSE

You're the actor, but I can't wait to see it.

MICHAEL

Come on Dave, you can be one of the disciples.

DAVID

I'm a disciple of metal, but I'll be sitting in the front row dude.

Danny walks in with his parents. They all hug.

JESSE

It should have been me in there.

DANNY

I stole the car.

JESSE

Yeah but..

Danny puts his arm around Jesse, and looks at him.

DANNY

I'm playing basketball again. Signing up for junior college. No more bullshit.

DAVID

Hey dude, we got a little surprise for you.

David's looking behind Danny.

Danny turns around.

Suzanne's standing in the doorway.

Danny's stunned, she walks up.

They look at each other for a few seconds, and she gives him a big hug.

EXT. PORCH-NIGHT

Danny and Suzanne are sitting on the porch.

DANNY

Suzanne I know that I'm getting my  
shit together, but your mom didn't  
like me before I went to jail.

SUZANNE

I'm eighteen years old now. I live  
in the dorm. I make my own  
decisions.

DANNY

Are you sure this is what you want?

SUZANNE

I'm looking right at what I want.

They have a long, passionate, kiss.

EXT. CAR-DAY

Jesse and Michael are on their way to pick up Yolanda.

Jesse's giving them a ride to Hollywood.

JESSE

She knows we're on our way right.

MICHAEL

Yeah, I told her six. Hey, can we  
make a top real fast. I really need  
to do something.

INT. CHURCH-NIGHT

Michael is in the church waiting for confession.

The priest is giving confession to another guy.

GUY

Sorry Father, that took a little  
longer than I thought.

PRIEST

That's okay, my last one is usually  
the longest.

The Priest walks out. He sees Michael standing there.

MICHAEL  
I know I'm late father, but it's  
important.

The Priest motions him into the confessional.

INT. CONFESSIONAL-NIGHT

Michael makes the sign of the cross.

INT. CAR-DAY.

Jesse's looking at his watch.

MICHAEL  
Thank you father.

PRIEST  
Peace be with you my son.

The Priest puts his head in his hands.

INT. CAR-DAY

They pull up to Yolanda's house.

MICHAEL  
Man I want to see Bram Stokers  
Dracula. She wants to see The  
Bodyguard.

JESSE  
A walkin', talkin' reason to live.

MICHAEL  
Huh?

JESSE  
Siskel and Ebert both gave The  
Bodyguard the thumbs up.

Michael nods his head.

INT. HOUSE-NIGHT

Yolanda's arguing with her mom Linda about Michael.

LINDA  
Yolanda I told you I don't want you  
going out with that boy.

YOLANDA

Mom, he's a nice guy. He goes to church every Sunday. He's even writing a play for the church. He's gonna be an actor.

LINDA

Dreams.

YOLANDA

If you don't dream you might as well be dead.

LINDA

And he's lucky that he's not. I know what happened.

Yolanda walks away.

YVETTE

Might you have something to say?

Linda's husband John is reading the sports pages and looks at his watch.

JOHN

Dodgers are on in an hour.  
Hershiser's pitching

LINDA

Great.

John puts his sports page down.

JOHN

He seems like good kid. I mean I got into a few scuffles when I was his age. I turned out all right. Hell you married me.

YVETTE

I don't recall you getting stabbed in a street fight.

JOHN

I was lucky.

YVETTE

John, you're a police officer. You see these punks every day.

JOHN

Did you ever think that it wasn't his fault?

YVETTE  
Does it matter?

JOHN  
Actually it does. Look, we raised a  
great girl. Let her go tonight or  
we might lose her forever.

Yolanda comes back.

JOHN  
Bye honey have a good time.

YOLANDA  
(kind of taken aback)

Bye dad.

LINDA  
Be careful.

YOLANDA  
Bye mom.

Yolanda mouths thank you to her dad and he winks at her.

Michael gets out of the car and opens the front door for her.

YOLANDA  
Thank you kind sir.

Michael gets in the back.

YOLANDA  
Sorry I took so long. Hey is this a  
66?

JESSE  
Yeah.

YOLANDA  
My uncle has one.

JESSE  
Your uncle has good taste.

YOLANDA  
So do I.

Shot of Michael.

JESSE  
Yeah I guess you do.

Yolanda takes her hair out of a ponytail and shakes her head.  
She takes off her shoes and sticks her feet out the window.

YOLANDA  
Sorry, you don't mind do you.

JESSE  
No.

YOLANDA  
Cool, let's go.

They pull up on Hollywood Blvd.

MICHAEL  
You sure you don't want to come?

YOLANDA  
It's totally cool. I mean you  
drove, and everything.

JESSE  
Na I'm meeting some chick later.

MICHAEL  
All right Jess thank's for the  
ride.

They shake hands.

JESSE  
Later man, have fun.

YOLANDA  
Thanks again. This looks,  
interesting.

Shots of all of the freaks and weirdos.

They start walking down the Blvd.

On the radio the DJ says "and here's the San Fernando  
valley's own Richie Valens with "Come on Let's Go."

The song starts playing.

MICHAEL  
I told you Richie's my second  
cousins right?

YOLANDA  
You might have mentioned it once or  
twice.

They start walking and Michael buys a cheap, camera.

Yolanda takes his picture next to a wall painting of Marlon Brando.

She takes another picture of him on Richie Valens star.

He takes a picture of her with a Charlie Chaplin imitator.

He buys her a rose from a little girl selling them.

They come to the end of the street.

The song ends, and some 80's rocker guys are standing behind them.

BRUCE

Hey punk with the bandana.

Michael stops, but doesn't turn around.

YOLANDA

Keep walking.

Michael turns around and smiles.

They know each other.

MICHAEL

Bruce what's up man?

They shake hands.

BRUCE

What are you doing down here dude?

MICHAEL

Just hanging out, this is Yolanda.

YOLANDA

Nice to meet you.

BRUCE

The pleasure's all mine. We're playing the Roxy tonight man.

MICHAEL

No shit.

BRUCE

I can try to get you guys in if you want.

MICHAEL  
Any other time man, I would.

BRUCE  
No worries, you need some beer or anything?

MICHAEL  
Na I'm cool, kick some ass tonight.

BRUCE  
Absolutely, later dude.

MICHAEL  
Later.

YOLANDA  
How do you know that guy?

MICHAEL  
We party with him sometimes. He's old enough to buy beer. He's cool.

EXT. STREET-NIGHT

Jesse's talking to a prostitute. She gets in the car.

EXT. PARK-NIGHT

Michael and Yolanda are on top of a hill. Over looking the city and all of the lights.

She hands him a key chain. It's a star like on Hollywood Blvd. With his name on it.

MICHAEL  
When did you get this?

YOLANDA  
When you were buying the camera.

MICHAEL  
That's so cool, I didn't even see these.

YOLANDA  
Just until you get a real one.

Michael pulls out his copy of Romeo and Juliet.

MICHAEL  
Here, read this and tell me what you think.

YOLANDA

I don't get all of that thou and thee stuff.

MICHAEL

(smiling)

The words are a little different, but you'll get it. It's universal.

YOLANDA

You read it to me.

Michael flips to a passage.

MICHAEL

Juliet if I profane with my unworhiest hand. This holy shrine, the gentle sin is this. My lips, two blushing pilgrims ready stand to smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.

Michael points to the page.

MICHAEL

Start here.

He gives her the book.

YOLANDA

Good pilgrim, you do wrong your hand too much. Which mannerly devotion shows in this. For saints have hands that pilgrims hands do touch, and palm to palm is a holy palmers kiss.... So do it already.

Michael kisses her.

EXT. STREET-NIGHT

Jesse pays the prostitute. The prostitute gets out of his car

EXT. SIDEWALK-NIGHT

Sean's talking to Kim a really pretty African American girl with a great body.

She hands him her phone number, and walks away.

Sean's pretty stoked.

He walks back down the sidewalk and his dad's standing there drinking a beer.

BOB  
Ya did good kid.

SEAN  
She's pretty cute huh.

BOB  
Well to tell the truth man. I  
wasn't really looking at her face  
if you know what I'm sayin'. Like  
that song. My anaconda don't want  
none, if you aint got buns hon.

SEAN  
You're somethin' else dad you know  
that.

BOB  
Yeah, I know man.

EXT. SCHOOL-DAY

A boy is standing behind a girl at a drinking fountain.  
Getting agitated that she's taking so long.

It's Jesse back in junior high school.

The girl turns around and it's Vanessa.

She wipes her mouth, and they look at each other for a few  
seconds.

She winks at him and walks away.

FADE TO:

EXT. STREET-NIGHT

Jesse's sitting in his car staring at the sky. He cranks up  
his stereo and drives off.

INT. JUNIOR COLLEGE-DAY

Jesse's signing up for classes. Talking to the football  
coach.

Crystal walks up.

CRYSTAL  
What are you doing here?

JESSE

Going back to school. Playing ball again.

CRYSTAL

I'm taking night classes.

JESSE

What about..

CRYSTAL

I quit. Are you still as smart as you used to be?

JESSE

I don't know why?

CRYSTAL

Well if I need some help will you be around?

JESSE

Always.

EXT. FRONT YARD-NIGHT

Michael's mom and her friend Ruth are sitting outside talking. Michael and Jesse are standing there.

RUTH

Have you finished writing that play?

MICHAEL

Last night something told me, you have to finish this tonight. So I did the last twenty pages.

RUTH

I can't wait to see it.

MICHAEL

The plan is for Christmas Eve. Now we have to start casting, rehearsing, getting costumes. All that stuff.

RUTH

Sounds like a lot of work.

MICHAEL

Not if it's your passion. Hey Jess can you give me a ride. To get something to eat?

JESSE

Dude I can't. I'm late for practice. You know I would.

MICHAEL

It's cool, I'll just walk to the corner and get a sandwich. Get to practice. Dude I'm so glad you're back in school and playing again. The next Steve Largent,s back.

They slap hands.

Michael looks at his mom for a few seconds, and walks off.

INT. CAR-DAY

Two guys in a car going in Jesse's opposite direction. Almost swerve into him.

Jesse pulls his steering wheel away from them.

JESSE

Have another drink, assholes.

Jesse drives for a few seconds.

Then there's loud tire screeching and a big crash.

EXT. STREET-DAY

A memorial is by a streetlight. Candles, pictures of Michael, etc.

INT. AUDITORIUM-NIGHT

The church is putting on the play that Michael wrote. It ends to a standing ovation. Everybody's crying and clapping at the same time.

Shot's of all his friends. Jesses's not there.

EXT. STREET-NIGHT

It's raining hard.

Jesse's walking down the street looking at different places that he and Michael used to hang out.

He's already drunk and gets to the liquor store.

Darrel and Kenny two African American guys in their mid 20's are there having a couple beers in front of the store. They hug.

DARREL

Hey man I just heard about Mike. I can't believe that shit. I know you guys are boys. Man how you doin'?

Jesse shakes his head.

JESSE

Can you buy me something?

Jesse goes to hand him the money.

DARREL

Whatever man it's on me. Mike was a special kind of cat. I mean I only talked him like four or five times, but the last time I saw him. We were talking about this positive thinking book right. So he says he has it and was ready to go home and get it for me. I only talk to this dude a handful of times and he's about to give me a book.

JESSE

That's Mike.

KENNY

Man I lost my brother. I know how you feel right now, but I know he's always around. He's gonna be with me forever, same with Mike. He's part of you, that shit don't die.

DARREL

Remember about a year ago when he fucked up that big white boy over there. That shit was bad.

JESSE

He told me about it.

Kenny comes out with a pint of rum, and hands it to Jesse.

KENNY

Hey man promise me you won't get to carried away with that shit all right.

Jesse nods.

DARREL

Take care bro.

They hug, and Jesse walks away.

Jesse's walking home in the rain pretty wasted.

He sees an angel made of Christmas lights and tears it down.

He walks into his room and keeps drinking.

INT. CAR-NIGHT

Danny and Suzanne are driving to Jesse's.

SUZANNE

Any word on the guys that hit Michael?

DANNY

His sister said it was two illegal, wet backs. The cops think that they went back to Mexico. I'm thinking about getting a couple of my dad's biker buddies. Knocking on some doors and tracking these mother fuckers down.

SUZANNE

That's great and end up back in jail for something more serious. What about all those things that you said?

DANNY

I'm just thinking about it.

SUZANNE

Well think about something else. Look we all miss him, but let the police do their jobs.

DANNY

Yeah.

SUZANNE

Damn it Danny I'm serious. Promise me right now, or you can stop the car and I'm gone for good.

DANNY

I promise.

Suzanne stares at him with her arms crossed.

DANNY

Don't cross your arms.

SUZANNE

Lets put on our happy faces now.

He smiles kind of half assed.

SUZANNE

That'll do, let's go.

INT. BEDROOM-NIGHT

Danny and Suzanne are in Jesse's room.

DANNY

What's up man? Why weren't you there?

SUZANNE

It was beautiful Jesse. Everything that he wanted.

DANNY

Dude you gotta knock this shit off. You think Mike would want you all fucked up all the time?

JESSE

Mike's dead.

EXT. STREET-NIGHT

Joanna, 13 is waiting for the bus. In the pouring rain.

The driver doesn't see her. The bus just passes by.

INT. CAR-NIGHT

Jesse's driving completely wasted.

Drinking in the car, he puts on the tape that Michael gave him.

It's the song "Holy Mother" by Eric Clapton.

He drives for awhile and looks down to pick up Michaels picture.

He slams into a street light.

The car's front end is totaled, his head's on the steering wheel.

Joanna, the girl from the bus stop walks up to the window.

JOANNA

Oh my God, are you okay? Can you move?

JESSE

I think so.

JOANNA

Here take my arm.

She helps him out of the car.

They look at the car.

His head's bleeding, and she gives him some tissue.

JOANNA

What happened?

Jesse shows her the bottle.

JOANNA

Oh.

She stares at him for a few seconds.

JOANNA

Hey I know you.

Jesse shrugs his shoulders.

JESSE

Maybe, hey, uh, can you please not say anything about this.

JOANNA

Sure, no problem.

JESSE

All right, stand back and cover your eyes.

Jesse picks up a big rock and smashes the drivers side window.

JOANNA

I won't say anything, but can I just ask why you did that?

JESSE

To report it stolen.

JOANNA

You stole this car?

JESSE?

No it's mine. You know for insurance and stuff.

JOANNA

Okay, hey what's your name?

JESSE

Jesse, what's yours?

JOANNA

Joanna?

JESSE

Well thank's for everything Joanna, but I really gotta go.

They look at each other for a few seconds.

JOANNA

I remember you. You bought me a Blow Pop.

JESSE

I did what?

JOANNA

About five years ago at the liquor store. You don't remember?

JESSE

I won't remember tonight.

JOANNA

That's okay, I will.

They look at each other for a few more seconds.

JESSE

Thank's again, really.

JOANNA

Can you do me one favor though? Take care of yourself, no more crashing cars okay.

JESSE

I'll try.

JOANNA

Good enough.

EXT. DORM ROOM-DAY

Suzanne's in her dorm room. There's a knock on the door. It's Vanessa, and Katie. They hug.

SUZANNE

How are you? My God it's been so long.

VANESSA

I've missed you guys so much.  
I just heard about Michael last week. I can't believe it.

KATIE

He was so special. All those thing's that he wanted to do. I started watching all of those classic movies because of him.

SUZANNE

I know, he was our little brother. It's been really bad for all of us, but Jesse. He wrecked his car the other night, drunk. He really needs to see you.

VANESSA

What do I say?

SUZANNE

You don't have to say anything.

INT. GARAGE-NIGHT

Jesse's sitting in his garage drinking and Vanessa walks up. He's pretty much in shock.

JESSE

Hi.

She has tears in her eyes.

VANESSA

Are you okay?

JESSE

No.

VANESSA

Do you want me to stay?

JESSE

Yeah.

She sits on the bed next to him.

Vanessa sees the picture on his mirror that they took at the fair five years ago.

VANESSA

Oh my god, you still have this.

She pulls the same picture out of her purse.

VANESSA

Me too. That was the last good time that I had. Before my therapist turned me into a zombie. With anti depressants.

JESSE

I got your message as soon as I got back. I called, and your mom asked me never to call again. Because it would mess you up more. So I didn't.

VANESSA

My mom thought all the good things in my life at the time were bad. They had me so messed up.

JESSE

I shouldn't have said anything that night. I mean, I didn't think it would go down like that. Just with my dad and all. I thought you should know. Vanessa, I ruined your life.

VANESSA

Don't ever think that, and it wouldn't have. If it were the first time. I love my dad, but...

Jesse takes a drink from a whiskey bottle.

VANESSA

Jesse have you thought about getting help for the drinking? Maybe a program?

JESSE

I think it's gonna take something a lot stronger.

FADE TO.

The clock says 12:00

It's now 12:PM

Jesse and Vanessa are laying in bed with their clothes on.

They talked all night and fell asleep.

Vanessa's has her head on Jesse's shoulder and they wake up

VANESSA

What time is it?

JESSE

Noon.

VANESSA

I have a flight at four o'clock to Phoenix. For my interview at Arizona State.

JESSE

I can give you a ride.

VANESSA

I thought your car was totaled.

JESSE

I got a rental. It's a douche bag Honda Civic, but..

VANESSA

Suzanne's taking us. Katie's with her right now. I think it might be better anyway.

JESSE

You have no idea how good it is to see you.

VANESSA

Yeah, I do. Jesse please keep in touch. If you ever want somebody to talk to will you please promise to call me? I mean it.

JESSE

Promise.

She hugs him, and kisses him on the cheek.

INT. CAR-NIGHT

Suzanne's driving Vanessa and Katie to the airport.

It's raining hard.

The windshield wipers are slapping the rain away.

Vanessa's crying.

INT. BEDROOM-DAY

Jesse's waking up around noon.

He looks in the refrigerator, no beers.

He looks at an empty whiskey bottle.

He grabs some crumpled up dollar bills and shoves them in his pocket, and walks outside.

Vanessa's sitting on the lawn.

There's not a cloud in the sky. It's a bright sunny day.

VANESSA

It's too late for breakfast, so how about lunch?

JESSE

What happened to Arizona State?

VANESSA

I'm going to CSUN with Suzanne.  
You're stuck with this chick. Jesse  
I..

JESSE

(Interrupting.)

I've known you were the one. Since  
I first saw you at the drinking  
fountain.

Shot of Vanessa with tears in her eyes.

He kisses her.

They have a long awaited, passionate kiss.

EXT. CEMETERY-DAY

Jesse and Vanessa are standing at Michael's headstone.

Alive by Pearl Jam's playing on the car stereo.

Jesse puts down a dozen red roses.

He has a beer in his other hand.

JESSE

I couldn't just give him a ride.

VANESSA

Jesse no one should carry this much guilt.

Jesse looks up at the sky.

There is only one cloud in the bright, blue sky. It looks like an angel.

JESSE

Mike said that sometimes clouds are guardian angel's.

Alive by Pearl Jam is still playing.

It's the lines "Is there something wrong, she said? Of course there is. You're still alive she said, but do I deserve to be? Is that the question, and if so, if so, who answers, who answers? I'm still alive. Hey I'm still alive, I'm still alive. Hey I'm still alive. Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah."

Jesse looks up at the sky for a few seconds and nods his head.

VANESSA

Are you okay?

JESSE

Yeah, I think so.

He takes one of the roses and gives it to Vanessa.

JESSE

Trust me, he won't mind.

Jesse puts the rest of the roses on Michael's grave.

They walk away.

Jesse stops at a trash can and drops his beer in the trash.

He takes Vanessa's hand and they keep walking.

THE END.

"Ballad Of Youth" by Richie Sambora plays over the credits.

































