

Adventures in Little League

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FADE IN:

EXT. CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY -- AFTERNOON

As the view from above scans along the highway, a bright canary yellow, 40 foot Motorhome is parked on the shoulder of the roadway.

The RV is missing the roof. All that remains is about two feet sticking out towards the rear.

What looks like a large 20 foot DONUT, is protruding from the RV with a bite taken out of it. The RV is bent in the middle from the donut. The donut is covered with white icing and rainbow sprinkles.

Large billboard advertising dominating both sides of the RV reflects a happy couple.

A man's upper naked body stands out as he holds a large model rocket upright. Slightly behind this figure, is a beautiful woman, her nakedness is blocked by the man and his large rocket.

Both have a greatly pronounced smiles across their faces as the ad is directed towards "Erectile Dysfunction". A long explanation of "getting it up with some help from this new yellow pill" fills in the rest of the space along the sides.

The RV has been stopped by the CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL. A patrol car is visible with blinking lights parked behind and slightly onto the roadway.

As we zoom in closer the OFFICER is walking along side the RV in disbelief. He is dressed in the usual patrolman uniform accented with his dark sunglasses.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

Very little of the interior is present, mostly the blackened shell and ash of a fire burnout dusted with the white powder from a fire extinguisher.

Nine kids are huddled in the remnants of what was once the seats, now only rusty metal frames with bent springs.

JOE CARTER, late thirties, sits in the drivers seat, his hair, matted and unruly, compliments his week long growth of the five o'clock shadow, now somewhat of a nightmare.

Dressed in ragged dirty clothing, leaning on what was once a steering wheel, he is accompanied by nine eight year old's dressed accordingly.

(CONTINUED)

The occupants look like they have been to hell and back, they're all identically dirty and appear like a band of rejects from an orphanage.

JOSE, a fat Mexican boy, DILLON, a skinny white boy, TYRONE an Afro-American boy with an unruly afro, FLANNERY, an uncommonly tall redhead girl with large freckles, MAYLIN, a petit Asian girl biting her nails, ABHEEK, an Eastern Indian boy with head gear braces on his teeth.

Adding to the hodgepodge of characters is KADMEIL, A Jewish boy with thick glasses on large frames, HARUKI a Japanese boy wearing a leg brace and EMILIO, a short Puerto Rican boy. Together they make up the inhabitants of this motley crew.

As the officer approaches the driver's side window, Joe slides it open, looking down at the officer Joe clears his throat.

JOE
Was I speeding, officer?

CUT TO:

FULL SHOT MONTAGE: PICTURES OF THE PAST

ROLL CREDITS

Picture: Joe, early 20's in a minor league baseball uniform.

Shot of newspaper headline: Joe Carter new Pitcher for the Minutemen.

Picture: Joe and Debra in their early 20's holding hands in front of a piece of crap car. Joe's arm in a sling.

Picture: Wedding pictures of Joe and Debra.

Picture: Debra pregnant.

Shot of newspaper headline: "Carter software company goes public".

Picture: Joe and Debra holding a baby.

Shot of newspaper headline: "Carter Software company bought by Yahoo! for ten million dollars".

Picture: Joe, Debra and Dillon age 4 standing in front of a very large and fancy house with a sold banner across the for sale sign.

Picture: Montage of shots - Joe playing games and baseball with Dillon as Dillon gets older.

Shot of newspaper headline: "AIG a ponzi, where did all the money go?"

(CONTINUED)

Picture: Joe and Debra's big house with a for sale sign in a rundown yard. The house neglected.

Picture: Dillon standing on the steps of a duplex age 8 with a baseball bat and glove, standing by himself.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOG RACE TRACK -- DAY

SUPER: ONE MONTH EARLIER

A wide angle view from above scans a dog race track with multiple dogs already running.

We come closer and scan over the bleachers where many spectators are watching the action excitedly.

Joe is sitting in the bleachers holding a ticket. The dogs are rounding the corner and racing towards the finish line.

Joe's dog loses. Joe tears up his ticket. He goes up to the ticket window and places another bet.

CASHIER

Can I help you?

JOE

Number five in the next race.

CASHIER

Good choice.

(pause)

Here you go, good luck.

Joe accepts the ticket and returns to his seat.

He loses the next race.

MONTAGE:

-- Multiple dog races and quick shots of Joe tearing up tickets.

EXT. DOG RACE TRACK -- EVENING

Joe, with his head hung low, walks out towards the van slowly. His cell phone rings. As he answers it he sees it is Debra calling.

JOE

Hello.

DEBRA (V.O.)

Hey honey, can you pick up some Chinese food for diner?

(CONTINUED)

JOE

I thought we were having left overs tonight.

DEBRA (V.O.)

I had to throw them out, they smelled bad.

JOE

(reluctant)

OK, sure I'll stop and get some.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOCAL BANK -- LATER

Joe is standing at the automated teller outside the bank. The screen shows a twenty dollar balance as Joe enters the with drawl amount of twenty dollars.

The machine beeps and now shows a zero balance as it spits out a twenty dollar bill.

CUT TO:

INT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- LATER

Joe enters into the kitchen and finds DILLON (8) and DEBRA (30's) waiting for him. Dillon is sitting at the table as Debra collects dishes from the cabinet. Joe places the sacks of food on the table and sits down.

DILLON

Hi Dad.

JOE

Hey sport.

DEBRA

Hey, how did the job search go today?

JOE

Not much out there, I looked all day until it got to late.

Debra places the dishes on the table. Dillon digs in the sacks and pulls the containers out.

DEBRA

Did you stop at Radio Shack like I said?

JOE

They weren't hiring.

Joe places some of the food from different boxes on his plate.

(CONTINUED)

DEBRA

They're going to shut off the gas if we don't pay it by the fifteenth.

JOE

I'm working on it... Can't you get any more hours at work?

DEBRA

I had to beg Mr. Chow not to cut the hours I already have.

JOE

Dillon, how was baseball practice today?

DILLON

It went ok... Are you going to come and watch the game?

JOE

Sure I'll come sometime.

DEBRA

You and Dillon haven't been spending a lot of time together... why don't you go with us?

JOE

Well, I may be busy, I'll let you know...

DEBRA

Busy? With what? It's not like you have a job to go too.

JOE

(disturbed)

Well maybe I'll be busy looking for a job.

DEBRA

Like you've done so far? Go to the game with your son.

DILLON

Yea, come on dad it'll be fun, then we can go get some ice cream like we used to.

FADE TO:

EXT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- DAY

The rain is beating down on a quiet suburban street lined with trees and cars, quaint houses along with occasional duplexes complement the neighborhood.

(CONTINUED)

Joe pulls onto the driveway of the blue-grey duplex in the older worn-out mini van, after spending the morning job hunting. He makes a mad dash for the front door.

CUT TO:

INT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- CONTINUOUS

Joe enters into the entry area and hangs his drenched jacket in the closet. He is greeted by Debra. She's wearing a cashiers apron for the M&W Market.

DEBRA

Hi honey, any luck today?

JOE

No. I'll check my E-mail and see if any responses.

DEBRA

(stressed)

Great... I have to get to work, don't forget to pick up Dillon from school today.

JOE

Yea alright.

He gives Debra a kiss as she straightens up her jacket. She gathers her purse and opens the door.

JOE (CONT'D)

You might want to take your umbrella.

CUT TO:

INT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- LATER

Joe is in the den area on the phone when Debra enters the room. She is dripping wet from the continued rain. Joe hangs up the phone.

DEBRA

Is Dillon upstairs doing his homework?

JOE

Uh? Oh crap!

Joe jumps up and races towards the door.

DEBRA

(upset)

Don't bother, I'll go get him.

She turns and walks back out the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT -- LATER

Dillon stands in the rain holding his book bag over his head waiting as Debra drives up in the mini van. Dillon opens the door and jumps into the right front seat.

DILLON
He forgot me again?

A tear rolls down Debra's cheek as she nods.

FADE TO:

INT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- DAY

Joe is sitting at the computer in the den area intently looking at the screen.

Closer observation shows he's on an "on-line dog betting" site.

He has his credit card in one hand and typing in the account number with the other.

BEEP goes the computer as a window pops up showing "your credit card is declined".

Joe is rather agitated as he retypes in the number, being careful to type it in correctly. Half a dozen other credit cards are scattered about the desk next to the computer.

BEEP again the card is rejected. Joe pounds on the desk.

JOE
Damn it!

DEBRA (O.S.)
What's wrong?

Debra is in the kitchen rattling around. Joe hollers over his shoulder.

JOE
Nothing, just a little computer glitch.

DEBRA (O.S.)
You're not on that gambling site again are you?

JOE
Not anymore...

Joe looks very worried. He turns off the computer as he gets up.

(CONTINUED)

JOE (CONT'D)

I'm going to run some errands, be
back in a little while.

DEBRA (O.S.)

Don't forget to pick up Dillon. It's
his last day of school today and
he's going to have all his stuff.

JOE

Yea, Okay.

Joe puts on his coat and exits out the front door.

CUT TO:

EXT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- CONTINUOUS

Joe walks out his front door and immediately to the adjoining
duplex's front door. He knocks on the door.

BARBARA JENKINS (40s) answers the door. She is wearing blue
jeans and a tee shirt.

BARBARA

Hi Joe.

JOE

Hi Barb, you look nice today.

BARBARA

Thanks.

JOE

Is Fred home?

BARBARA

Let me get him.

Barbara turns back inside the house and at the top of her
lungs she yells for Fred.

BARBARA (CONT'D)

Fred!

FRED (O.S.)

What?

BARBARA

(yelling)
Joe's at the door.

FRED (O.S.)

I'll be right down.

(CONTINUED)

BARBARA
(to Joe)
He'll be right down.

JOE
So I hear.

Fred (40s) appears at the door.

FRED
Hey Joe, what's up?

JOE
I was wondering if I could get the
rent check today.

FRED
Sure Joe, but you're a couple of
days early.

JOE
Yea I know... I was going into town
today and just thought I would take
it and make the deposit while I was
there.

FRED
OK let me get it.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT -- LATER

Dillon is standing in the deserted parking lot with all his school stuff as it starts to rain. He is patiently waiting for someone to pick him up.

He places his book bag over his head and watches up the street for his ride.

As the rain increases Dillon spies the familiar mini van rolling down the street.

It stops along side of him. Dillon opens the right rear slider and starts piling in his belongings from school.

DILLON
I thought you forgot me again.

JOE
Nope, just got tied up running
errands.

Dillon slides the door closed then opens the right front door and hops in the seat.

INT. MINI VAN -- CONTINUOUS

Dillon closes the door and puts on his seat belt.

DILLON
Are you going to come to the game?

JOE
Yea I wouldn't miss it.

They drive off down the street.

FADE TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD -- DAY

Dillon and the team of misfits are out on the field playing horribly against the opposing team.

Dillon is pitching, Jose is catcher, Tyrone is on first, Kadmeil is on second with Maylin playing short stop and Flannery plays third base.

The outfield is covered from left to right with Emilio, Abheek and Haruki.

The score board shows the Mudhens zero, Patriots ten. It's the fifth inning.

Debra sits in the stands with Barbra and Fred.

FRED
Where's Joe?

DEBRA
(disappointed)
I don't know, probably gambling or something.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD -- LATER

Joe arrives strutting up to the stands. He looks over the spectators until he locates Debra. She waves him up. He steps between some people and makes his way to them.

JOE
How's he doing?

Joe sits down.

DEBRA
He's having fun.

JOE
That bad huh?

(CONTINUED)

FRED

They have a lot of team spirit.

Joe looks at the score board. Mudhens zero, Patriots sixteen, last inning.

The team down on the field looks whipped and tired. Dillon rubs his arm then tries a pitch.

The batter smacks it out over the fence.

FRED (CONT'D)

One more of those and we can go home.

DEBRA

Where have you been any way?

JOE

I just lost track of time, sorry.

DEBRA

You're always sorry. How do you think Dillon feels when you never show up to watch?

JOE

I said I was sorry, I'm here now aren't I?

DEBRA

Now that the game is over.

Joe stands up.

JOE

I'm going down to talk to the coach.

Joe steps down out of the bleachers and walks towards the

DUGOUT

Looking for the coach.

JOE (CONT'D)

Hi coach, how's it going?

COACH REYNOLDS, a well overweight balding man, short and in his 50's, steps out.

COACH REYNOLDS

Hi Joe. We're getting the crap beat out of us again... Sure wish you could give us some pointers.

JOE

That was a long time ago coach.

(CONTINUED)

COACH REYNOLDS

Yea but you played for the minor's,
I'm just a school teacher... Couldn't
you just stop by at practice sometime
and show the kids some things?

JOE

(reluctantly)

Well I've been a little busy.

COACH REYNOLDS

Is that why you never show up to the
games any more?

JOE

Na, I've been working on some stuff,
I really meant to get here over the
last few weeks... Are they really
that bad?

COACH REYNOLDS

Their hearts are in the right place,
none of them can play worth beans.

JOE

How's Dillon playing?

COACH REYNOLDS

Dillon's the only one that can even
hit...

CUT TO:

INT. MINI VAN -- LATER

Joe and Dillon are sitting in the Fancy Freeze parking lot
eating ice cream.

JOE

Coach Reynolds says you played pretty
good.

DILLON

Yea but unfortunately not good enough.
It's like I'm the only one that even
knows how to play.

JOE

It's just a game, Dillon.

DILLON

Since we lost today, next Saturday
is our last game.

They continue eating their ice cream.

(CONTINUED)

JOE
Who're you playing?

DILLON
The Razorbacks.

JOE
Are they good?

DILLON
Only the best team in the whole
eastern division.

JOE
Really?
(deep in thought)

FADE TO:

INT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- DAY

Joe is in the den talking on his cell phone.

JOE
(to cell phone)
Yea I want to put it all on the
Razorbacks to win this Saturday.
(pause)
Yea, that's right... they're the top
team.
(pause)
What's the odds?
(pause)
That's all? Not very good... Ok I'll
transfer it to your account now.

CUT TO:

INT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- LATER

Joe is in the den as Debra comes in carrying an envelope.
She hands a letter to Joe. It is from the mortgage company.

DEBRA
So what's up with this? They say
we're two months behind on the
mortgage.

Joe looks surprised at the letter.

JOE
I'll take care of it, must be a
mistake.

He takes the letter from Debra and places it on the desk.

(CONTINUED)

DEBRA

(agitated)

It's no mistake... I called them earlier. They said they have not received any payments. I checked our bank account and you haven't sent them any payments.

JOE

I'll fix it, don't worry... It'll all be taken care of in a couple of days.

Debra heads into the

KITCHEN

Joe follows her.

DEBRA

Barbara said you already collected the rent from them, where is it?

(pause)

Did you gamble it all away again?

Debra opens the fridge and takes out a head of lettuce, a cucumber and a bag of cherry tomatoes. She places them on the cutting board of the island.

JOE

What?

(agitated)

You don't trust me so now you're checking up on me?

She takes a small PAIRING KNIFE from the KNIFE BLOCK and starts to cut up the tomatoes.

DEBRA

What does that mean? I trusted you to make the house payments and you lost it all on your stupid gambling... Don't try and turn this around, I'm not the bad guy here.

JOE

It's just a temporary setback... Trust me, everything will be fine next week. I have some irons in the fire.

DEBRA

(angrily)

It better be or else...

She pulls a large CHEF'S KNIFE from the knife block and chops it down abruptly splitting the cucumber.

(CONTINUED)

JOE

Or else what?

Debra continues to forcibly chop up the cucumber. She is getting more upset as they continue to argue.

DEBRA

Don't make me go there, I'm warning you.

JOE

You're warning me? You're warning me? Look you, I've provided for this family for a long time.

DEBRA

Your gambling is an addiction just like alcoholism.

JOE

I made all the money before, I can do it again.

DEBRA

(yelling)

How? By gambling? You're on a losing streak, get a clue!

Debra slams a MEAT CLEVER through the head of lettuce whacking it in two. Joe stares at it. Debra glares at Joe.

DEBRA (CONT'D)

Get a job!

CUT TO:

INT. JENKINS RESIDENCE -- DAY

Debra and Barbara are in Barbara's

KITCHEN

DEBRA

I just don't know what to do about Joe, he's been so distant for several months.

Barbara is mixing up a pitcher of ice tea and fills up two glasses. Barbara hands a glass to Debra and sits down at the table.

BARBARA

Want sugar?

(CONTINUED)

DEBRA

Please... He's pulled away from Dillon
and doesn't play with him anymore...
Dillon knows something is wrong.

Barbara passes the sugar bowl to Debra.

BARBARA

Well you have to nip that in the bud
or Dillon will start to blame
himself... You know how kids think
everything is their fault.

Debra puts in four teaspoon full's and stirs.

DEBRA

That's why I have insisted that Joe
goes to Dillon's game Saturday.

BARBARA

That'll be good for both of them.

Barbra gets up and takes some cookies out of the oven.

DEBRA

You know he's really an enthusiast,
playful, high spirited and practical,
but I think the loss of the money
has done something to him.

Barbara puts several cookies on a plate and sets them on the
table as she sits down.

BARBARA

Joe needs to get back to work or
find a hobby other than gambling.

DEBRA

I just don't know how to get him to
do that.

Debra picks up a cookie and enjoys it with her ice tea.

BARBARA

You gotta wake him up. Maybe you
need to threaten to leave.

Barbra takes a cookie.

DEBRA

He used to be so much fun when he
was working.

BARBARA

Didn't you tell me he was a software
engineer?

(CONTINUED)

DEBRA

Yes, that's what he did before.

BARBARA

Get him to design something and get his mind off the gambling... You know that gambling can be an addiction.

DEBRA

That's obvious.

BARBARA

Fred was saying something the other day about one of those I-phone applications that he wished somebody would make.

DEBRA

That might be a good idea, it'll give Joe something to think about..

BARBARA

Let me put some of these cookies in a bag for Dillon.

DEBRA

Oh look at the time, I got to get ready for work.

Barbra gets up and takes the plate of cookies, she puts some in a bag.

BARBARA

Here take these with you.

Debra gets up and takes the bag.

DEBRA

Thanks, Dillon will love them.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD -- DAY

Saturday morning and several people are filling up the bleachers.

Dillon and eight misfits are gathering around the dugout area for their side.

Coach Reynolds, is giving them some news.

COACH REYNOLDS

Gather around everyone, I got some good news and some bad news.

(CONTINUED)

The team gathers close as some ask what's the news.

COACH REYNOLDS (CONT'D)

Well it seems that last night the other team was out celebrating over at Tony's Pizzas and got food poisoning.

JOSE, the rather overweight Mexican boy, perks up.

JOSE

What's the bad news?

COACH REYNOLDS

That was the bad news.

JOSE

Hows' that the bad news?

DILLON

Now we won't get slaughtered today.

TYRONE, the black kid with the big afro hair, steps up.

TYRONE

(disappointed)

Dude, I was so looking forward to playing.

COACH REYNOLDS

Well okay, now the good news is, we won today!

All the kids stand amazed of the news, speechless they are mulling over what that means.

COACH REYNOLDS (CONT'D)

Don't you understand what this means?

HARUKI, the Japanese boy with the leg brace, raises his hand as he speaks.

HARUKI

We don't have to play today?

COACH REYNOLDS

Well, that and we're the champions of the eastern division.

KADMEIL, the Jewish boy with the extremely thick glasses gets into the discussion.

KADMEIL

But we have lost almost every game we played, now we're the champions?

(CONTINUED)

COACH REYNOLDS

As it turns out, this was the last game and the winner is to represent the eastern division against the western division... Since the other team didn't even show up then you win by default.

FLANNERY, the overly tall redhead girl with the freckles, boldly asks.

FLANNERY

We have to play the western division?

COACH REYNOLDS

You *get* to play the western division.

All the kids look really bummed out about the news.

ABHEEK, the Hindu boy with the head gear attached to his braces speaks up.

ABHEEK

We aren't any good to play those guys.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD -- MOMENTS LATER

Joe and Debra, along with Fred and Barbara are sitting in the stands. Joe gets impatient, he gets up and starts to head down on to the field.

JOE

I'll be right back.

DEBRA

Where're you going?

JOE

To find out what's going on... Haven't you noticed there's no other team?

BARBARA

Maybe they're just running a little late.

Joe walks down to Coach Reynolds.

JOE

Hi coach, where's the other team?

COACH REYNOLDS

I was just telling these guys that they won. Isn't that great?

(CONTINUED)

Joe turns pale.

JOE
A forfeit?

COACH REYNOLDS
Yea now they're winners.

A look of anguish surfaces as Joe almost faints.

JOE
(shocked beyond belief)
They won?.

Joe, looking quite sick, returns to the stands.

DEBRA
You look like you just lost your
best friend.

JOE
Worse... They won.

DEBRA
How can that be a bad thing?
(pause)
You didn't...
(agitated)
Tell me you didn't do what I think
you did.

Joe nods his head in shame.

Dillon runs over to his mom all excited.

Dillon looks at his dad.

DILLON
What's wrong with dad?

Debra stands and picks up her things.

DEBRA
He bet against you.

Sadness races across Dillon's face.

Dillon runs towards the parking lot crying.

DEBRA (CONT'D)
(to Joe)
You can sleep on the couch tonight.

Debra walks off towards the parking lot following Dillon.

FADE TO:

INT. CAFE -- DAY

Joe is worried as he is sitting drinking coffee with Fred. The cafe has a few patrons scattered about working on various food items, as waitress is busy taking an order from a table of six, while the busboy cleans up the table nearby.

FRED

I can't believe you bet all that money on a kids baseball game.

JOE

There was no way I could lose.

FRED

Except one. And to top it all off you bet against your own kid... That's low.

JOE

Debra is really pissed and Dillon won't speak to me.

FRED

Can you blame them?

The waitress comes over and refills their coffee cups. They thank her.

JOE

No, I guess not... I've just been having a bit of a losing streak... It can't last forever.

FRED

That's what you think. I knew a guy once that lost everything he had, won millions and lost all that. Now he lives in a box in the alley.

JOE

Well I'm positive if I just had a little more money I could win big at the dog track. There's a race coming up next week and Shadow is favored to win.

FRED

You just don't get it do you?

JOE

Get what?

FRED

You're about to lose the duplex, you're into debt up to your ass, and
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FRED (CONT'D)

Debra is gonna leave you if you don't knock this crap off.

JOE

I know I can win, I can feel it, it's close.

FRED

Well I'm going to be really pissed if we have to move again.

JOE

Don't worry, I'll get back on track before that happens.

(pause)

Can I...

FRED

No... Why don't you design some software or something? You should stick with what you know, cus you suck at gambling.

JOE

It's been years, things have changed... I wouldn't even know where to start.

FRED

I got an idea, I can't figure out why nobody has done it yet.

JOE

What's that?

Fred goes on explaining his idea to Joe.

FADE TO:

INT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- EVENING

Joe, Debra and Dillon are sitting at the dinner table finishing up their meal. Dillon doesn't look up at Joe. Debra continues to glare, wanting to say something.

She clears her throat then sits silently as she plays with the last few peas on her plate. The air is thick with a heaviness brought on by Joe's recent actions.

Finally Debra sits up and confronts Joe.

DEBRA

That was a really disgusting thing you did to your son.

(CONTINUED)

JOE
I know and I'm sorry.
(to Dillon)
Is there any way I can make it up to
you?

Dillon doesn't respond, he just continues eating.

DEBRA
He may never forgive you for not
believing in him and his team.

JOE
I don't know what to say... I'm trying
to take care of us.

DEBRA
You haven't been doing so good.

DILLON
Mom, can I be excused?

DEBRA
Yes dear, put your dishes in the
sink and you can go watch some TV.

Dillon gets up and does as his mother asked then leaves the
kitchen.

DEBRA (CONT'D)
There is something you can do if you
want to save face with your son.

JOE
And what would that be?

DEBRA
I got a call from the baseball
commission today, Dillon's coach has
had a heart attack.

JOE
(concerned)
What? Coach Reynolds? Is he okay?

DEBRA
Yea he's going to be fine, he just
has to take it easy for a few weeks.
He may not be able to coach anymore.

JOE
Who's going to coach the team?

DEBRA
You are.

(CONTINUED)

JOE
 (Disappointed)
 Great.

DEBRA
 It's that or Dillon and I are leaving.
 I'm sick and tired of you gambling
 away what little money we had. You
 either stop and take this job or...

JOE
 OK, ok I get the picture...

DEBRA
 Oh, and one more thing... You're
 taking them to Candlestick Park in
 California for the nationals.

Joe shakes his head in disbelief.

FADE TO:

INT. MINI VAN -- DAY

Debra and Dillon are driving to the baseball field as Debra
 tries to explain what is going on with the coach to Dillon.

DILLON
 So coach Reynolds had a heart attack?

DEBRA
 Yes but I'm sure he'll be alright...
 He's going to have to take it easy
 for awhile.

DILLON
 Is he going to come back and coach
 the team?

DEBRA
 The doctor said he was finished with
 coaching.

DILLON
 (upset)
 Great, that's just great.

DEBRA
 Well look at the bright side.

DILLON
 There's a bright side?

DEBRA
 Your dad is going to be your new
 coach.

(CONTINUED)

DILLON
Really?... After what he did?

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD -- DAY

Debra and Dillon locate Joe at one of the diamonds practicing.

DEBRA
I didn't think you would show up.

JOE
I've been here for a couple of hours practicing.

DEBRA
You better not blow this.

Debra kisses Dillon on the cheek and walks towards the bleachers.

Joe signals for all the kids to gather around.

JOE
OK gather around.

FLANNERY
What's going on?

JOE
As you all may know, coach Jenkins is no longer going to be your coach.

Much disappointment flows across the kids.

TYRONE
Dude, now what? You gonna coach us?

JOE
Yes. I'm going to get you guys ready for the nationals.

ABHEEK
Do we have too?

JOE
This is a great opportunity for you guys... Let's get out and practice.

The team of misfits take their respective places on the field. Jose takes to the catcher's position, Dillon is on the pitching mound, Tyrone takes up first base.

Kadmeil is at second with Maylin, biting her fingernails, playing shortstop and Flannery on third. Haruki, with the

(CONTINUED)

leg brace, Abheek, still wearing his head gear, and Emilio are in the outfield.

Joe is looking over the team shaking his head as he mumbles to himself.

JOE (CONT'D)

(mumbling)

God help us.

(yells)

OK let's see what you got.

MONTAGE - JOE AND THE TEAM PRACTICE

MUSIC - WALKING ON SUNSHINE

Joe smacks a ball with the bat out to second as Kadmeil watches it zip past him.

Abheek and Emilio collide into each other trying to chase after the ball.

Emilio finally gets to his feet and finds the ball, throws it back into Maylin. She steps out of the way letting it pass instead of trying to catch it.

The ball bounces as Dillon runs up and grabs it.

Dillon gives the ball a nice toss and Joe smacks it to first. Tyrone catches the ball then drops it out of his mit. Picks it up and over shoots it to Jose.

Jose tries to jump up but cannot get all himself off the ground. Joe just shakes his head. Jose stumbles while trying to locate the ball. He falls down then holds up the ball.

He gets up and throws it back to Dillon.

Dillon pitches another to Joe. He hits it to third. The ball bounces once and Flannery catches it.

She launches it hard straight at Jose. It burns into his glove. Jose jumps up and yanks off his glove shaking his hand.

Jose tosses the ball back to Dillon. He pitches and Joe drives one out to center field.

Abheek stand in one spot and holds his glove in the air as the ball sails past. He cannot look up as the head gear wont allow him to.

Haruki hobbles behind Abheek and gets the ball as it continues to roll. He gives it a good toss to Kadmeil. It hits Kadmeil in the chest as it passes his mit.

(CONTINUED)

Joe tosses an easy underhand to Maylin. She sidesteps closing her eyes revealing she is afraid of the ball.

Joe tries again and she stands there holding her glove open.

The ball lands in her glove and bounces up hitting her in the nose. It starts bleeding. She starts crying and runs away throwing her glove on the ground.

Dillon throws a fast ball to Joe. He is not paying attention as he watches Maylin. The ball hits Joe in the groin sending him to the ground.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD -- LATER

Joe sits on the bench with Maylin. She has toilet paper stuffed in both nostrils. Joe has an ice pack between his legs.

JOE

It doesn't look that bad. You should be ok once the swelling goes down...

Joe picks up a glove and holds it open to show Maylin how to catch. He tries to explain the principals of holding the glove and watching the ball, she isn't getting it.

FADE TO:

INT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- EVENING

Joe enters into the kitchen where Debra is putting away some groceries.

DEBRA

How did practice go?

JOE

We're in trouble...

DEBRA

A Letter came for you from the baseball commission. I put it on your desk.

Joe heads towards the den area.

He sits down at the desk and opens the letter. It has a check with it. The letter explains about the trip to California and that this check should be enough to cover the plane tickets and expenses.

Joe looks excited.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOG RACE TRACK -- AFTERNOON

Joe comes strutting into the ticket area like a Rooster in the hen house all high and mighty. He gets in line for the cashier.

Six people are in front of him. He looks at his cell phone checking the time. One by one each of the six people place their bets until it is Joe's turn.

CASHIER

Next.

Joe pulls a large wad of cash from his pocket.

JOE

I want to place all this on Shadow
to win in the next race.

The cashier starts counting it out.

The cashier rings up the cash register and pulls out the ticket handing it to Joe.

EXT. DOG RACE TRACK -- MOMENTS LATER

Joe is sitting in the front row as the race starts. The dogs come running around the track. Shadow is out in the lead by a full body length.

Shadow looks like he is starting to pull away when another dog shoots up along side, almost from nowhere. Shadow and the other dog are now even as they run down the final stretch. Shadow pulls a little ahead then the other dog pulls ahead.

Back and forth they trade the lead until they are at the finish. All the dogs cross the finish line but nobody can tell who won.

The announcer calls a photo finish and everybody must wait until the picture is developed.

Joe is looking really nervous as he paces back and forth watching the monitors.

Then the announcers calls the race, Rocky is the winner by a nose. Several people jump up and holler hooray as Joe collapses into a nearby seat. He covers his face and sobs in his hands.

FADE TO:

INT. CAFE -- DAY

Joe and Fred are sitting in the same cafe in the same booth that they were sitting at before. Patrons are scattered about filling up a few of the other tables.

(CONTINUED)

Joe is sipping a cup of coffee while Fred eats a hot dog and sucks on a coke.

Fred can see that Joe is really upset about something. Joe stares at his cup silently.

FRED
Now what did you do?

JOE
Lost all the baseball money.

FRED
You idiot... How did you do that?

JOE
Dog track... I was sure this would be the big payoff.

FRED
That's what you said about the baseball game and you lost that...

JOE
You gotta help me.

FRED
Leave me outta this. This is all you... I warned you to stop, now you're gonna pay the price.
(pause)
You didn't even try did you?

JOE
For a few days.

Fred continues eating and drinking. He shakes his head at Joe.

FRED
You're such an ass... That wasn't your money... I can't believe you really stooped that low.

Waitress comes over to fill up Joe's coffee. Joe looks very troubled.

CUT TO:

INT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- DAY

Joe enters into the bedroom as Debra is zipping up a suitcase. Joe looks at the suitcase then at Debra.

JOE
Are you going somewhere?

(CONTINUED)

DEBRA

(upset)

No. You are.

JOE

Oh.

DEBRA

Yea, oh... How could you Joe? You were so great when we were young... Don't you remember when we were in collage? How you said you would always take care of us? How you built up the software company and we had everything we wanted?

(pause)

How we felt about each other? Where's that Joe, the Joe I fell in love with, the Joe that I felt safe with, the Joe that was a husband, a father and a friend?

(pause)

You're not the man I fell in love with-

JOE

But... Let me explain.

DEBRA

(agitated)

OK, explain how you blew your son off and forgot to pick him up from school because you were too busy gambling...

(very upset)

Or explain how you lost all the rent money betting against your own son and his team... Explain how you stole the baseball money and lost it at the dog track. Well? Go on explain it!

JOE

Well... uh it's like this-

DEBRA

That's just what I thought. Your tearing me apart. Now leave.

(she starts crying)

Joe picks up the bag and walks down the stairs to the front door followed by Debra.

He steps out onto the porch and looks back into the house. Dillon watches from the hallway. Joe pauses for a minute.

(CONTINUED)

JOE

Hey Dillon-

DEBRA

Just stop Joe, you've hurt us enough,
now get out.

Debra slams the door.

CUT TO:

INT. JENKINS RESIDENCE -- EVENING

Joe and Fred are in the LIVING ROOM. Fred hands Joe a stack of bedding as he is sitting on the couch.

Joe sets the bedding on the end of the couch and then opens his suitcase.

Laying on top of his clothes is a baseball card of Joe when he was playing professionally.

Joe picks it up and stares intently at the card. A tear forms in his eye.

JOE

Man, I messed up big time. I've
really hit bottom.

FRED

Joe, I tried to tell you...

JOE

(sorrowful)

Look at me now, I'm living on your
couch... homeless, no job, gambled
away what money I had and then gambled
away money I didn't have... I can't
even take the kids to the
championship.

FRED

Well, I have an idea but you may not
like it.

JOE

What's that, I'll do anything.

FRED

We have this client that needs an RV
delivered to California.

JOE

I'll do it.

(CONTINUED)

FRED

I'll have to check with my boss and see if they have found anyone yet. These jobs usually pay pretty good since it's for advertising.

JOE

Advertising? What kind of advertising?

FRED

One of those portable billboards, you know, all you have to do is drive it to a medical convention and park it in the lot so everybody can see it.

JOE

Sounds good to me. What's the ad say?

FADE TO:

INT. JENKINS RESIDENCE -- DAY

Joe is folding up the bedding and stacking neatly in the corner with his suitcases. He is dressed and ready for a new day when his cell phone rings.

JOE

(into phone)
Hello.

DILLON (V.O.)

Hi dad, I know I shouldn't be calling you.

JOE

It's ok Dillon, you can call me whenever you want... What's up?

DILLON (V.O.)

Well, are you still going to coach the team and take us to California?

JOE

Yes Dillon, don't worry I'm still your coach and we are going. We're just not flying, but we are going.

DILLON (V.O.)

OK

JOE

I'll see you at practice.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD -- DAY

Joe and the team of misfits are practicing. There has been no improvement in their playing abilities.

Dillon pitches to Joe as he knocks the ball around so each of the kids can have a chance at catching.

JOE

OK listen up. Whoever catches the ball, I want you to throw it to first base.

Joe tries this strategy with the team. They fumble a lot dropping the ball, missing catches and eventually they get it thrown to first.

After several attempts, Joe calls the team to gather around.

JOE (CONT'D)

OK everyone gather around... We're going to drive to California and we're leaving on Monday.

The kids look surprised at the news.

TYRONE

What? Drive?

ABHEEK

That's like over two thousand miles.

FLANNERY

Yea that'll take all week.

HARUKI

Are you sure you can drive that far?

ABHEEK

All of us stuffed in a car for a week? That doesn't sound like any fun to me.

They discuss this news amongst themselves.

KADMEIL

Common guys this could be fun, think of all the places we'll go through.

JOSE

What about meals?

EMILIO

And a toilet?

(CONTINUED)

JOE

This is the good part, we're going
in a new motorhome.

EMILIO

With a toilet?

JOSE

And a kitchen?

FLANNERY

Where're we gonna sleep?

JOE

The RV sleeps eight and we can stay
at the motels on the way. Maybe one
night we can camp out.

HARUKI

Camp out? I don't know about camping
out.

DILLON

It'll be OK Haruki, we've camped out
a lot before.

JOE

We need everyone here at six A M to
be ready. Now on Saturday's practice
bring the permission slips with you.

The whole team shows confusion but finally they agree that
it would be an exciting trip.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD -- MORNING

The team has collected in the Parking lot with their parents,
waiting for Joe and the RV to arrive. They have their
suitcases, back packs and sleeping bags in a large pile.

They are standing around talking when a large canary yellow
motorhome comes cruising into the lot, with an advertisement
on both sides.

The parents look rather surprised at the spectacle as the
kids stare intently, puzzled and bewildered trying to decipher
what the ad is talking about.

JOSE

Is it model rockets?

KADMEIL

Must be.

(CONTINUED)

ABHEEK

I think it's for a rocket fuel.

Joe stops by the group. Dillon opens the door.

DILLON

Hey, you guys ready to go?

KADMEIL

Are you serious? We're going in this?

FLANNERY

It's embarrassing.

DILLON

Nobody will see ya, get in.

They reluctantly pick up the baggage and start throwing it inside the RV. Some of the parents help by handing the bags to Joe.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

As the team climbs aboard they stuff the bags in various places and locate seating for themselves. Everyone is looking around as they settle in.

JOE

Everyone ready?

The team lets Joe know they are ready to roll.

JOE (CONT'D)

Hold on then. We're off.

CUT TO:

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD -- CONTINUOUS

The RV drives off down the road and finds the freeway. They work their way into the traffic and cruise along.

HARUKI (O.S.)

I have to pee!

JOE (O.S.)

Bathrooms in the back!

CUT TO:

INT. ST. LOUIS RESTAURANT -- DAY

The team is sitting at a large round table eating different kinds of food. Most of them are almost finished.

(CONTINUED)

Some of the kids start to throw food around at each other.

Tyrone starts to choke and cough. He spits his mouthful of food out on the table as he grabs for his throat. Gasping for each breath they come harder and harder.

Maylin, sitting next to Joe, sees that Tyrone is having problems, she tugs on Joe's sleeve and tries to get his attention.

JOE
What is it, Maylin?

She points excitedly at Tyrone, never saying a word. Joe springs into action. He jumps up and grabs Tyrone.

JOE (CONT'D)
What's wrong Tyrone? Are you choking on something.

TYRONE
(choking)
Food allergies.

Joe grabs a glass of milk from Flannery and gives it to Tyrone. He tries to drink some but spits most of it out as he is trying to breath.

HARUKI
Call 9-1-1!

All the kids are in a state of panic as the waitress calls for an ambulance.

CUT TO:

INT. ST. LOUIS RESTAURANT -- MOMENTS LATER

The paramedics arrive with a gurney. Tyrone is laying on the floor next to where he was sitting. They put the oxygen mask on Tyrone and stick an I-V in his arm, then they place him on the gurney.

PARAMEDIC
You can meet us at Saint Mary's Hospital. It's on Maple and tenth.

JOE
Is he going to be alright?

PARAMEDIC
Yea, we just need to take him to the hospital and have him checked out.

(CONTINUED)

The rest of the team makes a bee line for the door as the paramedics wheel Tyrone out to the waiting ambulance.

CUT TO:

INT. ST. LOUIS HOSPITAL -- LATER

The team is sitting in the waiting area. The nurse brings Tyrone out in a wheelchair. His face is swollen up beyond recognition.

He is so swollen his head looks like a basketball. He can hardly talk, and his eyes are almost shut, just little slits.

ABHEEK

(to Tyrone)
You look horrible.

TYRONE

(trying to speak)
Thanks, so do you.

The team looks him over.

NURSE

He had a reaction to something he ate. You should have him tested soon as you can.

JOE

I'll let his parents know. Thanks.

The team all gather around Tyrone. The nurse pushes him towards the exit.

FADE TO:

INT. RV -- DAY

The RV is bouncing along a winding country road. The team is looking rather peaked as they sway back and forth. They are starting to complain amongst themselves that they are feeling nauseas.

Emilio gets up holding his stomach and walks up to Joe. Joe is concentrating on the bends and turns in the road as Emilio approaches.

EMILIO

Coach, I don't feel very good.

JOE

What's the matter?

EMILIO

I think I'm going to...

(CONTINUED)

At that moment Emilio pukes in Joe's lap.

JOE

Oh gawd, what the heck!

Joe fights back the urge to vomit himself. Emilio turns towards the rest of the team and pukes again, spraying everywhere.

This starts a chain reaction as everybody else joins in puking repeatedly. Joe starts puking in his lap as he tries to drive on down the road.

CUT TO:

EXT. MISSOURI RIVER -- LATER

The RV pulls into the parking area along side the Missouri river. Everyone piles out covered in barf.

They go over towards a hose spigot that is in the grass area and start washing themselves off. This quickly turns into a water fight. Some of them locate cups and start filling them with water.

They chase each other around throwing water and getting squirted with the hose. Eventually they get cleaned up.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- LATER

All the teammates are inside the RV dressed in clean cloths. They have a large trash bag they have finished stuffing in the rags and paper towels from cleaning up the mess.

CUT TO:

INT. JENKINS RESIDENCE -- CONTINUOUS

Barbara is making dinner as Debra and Fred are sitting at the kitchen table sipping on a glass of wine.

FRED

Must be nice to get a little alone time.

The table is set and Barbara takes the pan of ribs from the oven.

DEBRA

Yea, I do miss them though. I hope Joe is taking good care of the kids... I just worry that he can't cope with it.

She places the ribs on a platter and sets it on the table.

(CONTINUED)

FRED

Well Joe can Handle it I'm sure.
You just need to let him figure it
out.

Barbara places a salad on the table and sits down across
from Fred.

BARBARA

Well everything is gonna work out.
See Fred got Joe the job to deliver
the motorhome and even get paid for
it, and the baseball commission won't
know Joe lost all the money.

DEBRA

(confused)
What? Joe lost the money?

FRED

Barbara!

DEBRA

No, I want to hear this.

Fred and Barbara start eating the ribs as Debra quizzes for
more.

DEBRA (CONT'D)

Go on, spill it.

BARBARA

I thought you knew, why else would
he drive nine unruly kids across the
country in a yellow motor home,
complete with erectile dysfunction
advertising?

DEBRA

(to Fred)
He said you asked him to.

FRED

That's not exactly how it happened.

DEBRA

I'm listening.

They continue to eat their dinner and sip wine.

FRED

I offered him the job since he gambled
all the money away at the dog track.

Debra calmly wipes her mouth with her napkin and stands up.

(CONTINUED)

DEBRA

Will you excuse me please, I have to
go make a phone call.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- MOMENTS LATER

Joe has the RV running. The kids are bouncing around, jumping on the seats and the bed. Being very unruly when Joe's cell phone rings.

JOE

(to cell phone)
Hello.

DEBRA (O.S.)

Hi... I just had dinner with Fred
and Barbara.

Joe is having trouble hearing with all the noise the kids are making.

JOE

Hold on a minute while I go outside.

Joe gets up from the driver's seat and exits the RV.

CUT TO:

EXT. MISSOURI RIVER -- CONTINUOUS

He steps out closing the door and walks a few steps away.

JOE

OK, so how are you?

DEBRA (O.S.)

Pissed.

JOE

Was dinner that bad?

DEBRA (O.S.)

No. It was the dinner conversation.

Joe starts to get a little nervous.

JOE

How so?

DEBRA (O.S.)

They had some interesting things to
say about that RV your driving and
why.

(CONTINUED)

JOE

It's like I said, Fred needed this delivered to California and I said I would do it.

DEBRA (O.S.)

Why?

JOE

What do you mean why?

The RV is swaying back and forth as the kids are definitely having a good time. You can hear the noise across the park as they are hollering and carrying on.

DEBRA (O.S.)

I want you to tell me the truth. What's the real reason you offered to drive nine kids across the country in that billboard?

JOE

We needed the money?

DEBRA (O.S.)

And why do we need the money?

JOE

OK, I lost the money.

DEBRA (O.S.)

How could you be so stupid?

JOE

I thought it was a sure thing.

DEBRA (O.S.)

Here's a sure thing for you... I'm leaving and going to my sister's... You lied, Joe. How could you?

JOE

I didn't lie. I promised I would stop and I have.

DEBRA

You promised me you were done gambling.

JOE

That was after I lost the baseball money... I'm trying to make it up.

DEBRA

That's it, I've had enough...

(CONTINUED)

Just then Joe sees the motor home bounce over the curb and head straight for the river.

JOE

Oh crap, I gotta go!

DEBRA

What's wrong?

Joe takes off in a full run after the RV.

JOE

It's the kids! I'll call you later.

As he is running he stuffs the phone into his pocket and chases the RV as it picks up speed for the river. Joe tries to grab the ladder on the back but it's just out of his reach.

Joe is loosing ground when the RV seems to lunge up and into the river. As it drops into the river the RV lands on top of an aluminum fishing boat tied up. The boat disappears beneath the RV.

Joe dives with all his might and catches the bottom of the ladder as the RV is floating out across the river. He pulls himself up and climbs up the ladder onto the roof.

The engine is still running and the RV is in gear as the rear wheels propel the RV farther out into the river nearly missing two fishermen in a boat.

FISHERMAN

Will ya look at that, we can't even go fishing without being interrupted by a commercial.

Joe crawls along the roof and down to the driver window. He leans over and knocks on it. Jose is sitting in the driver seat in a panic steering. Jose opens the window. Joe crawls into the seat and drives the RV towards the other bank.

CUT TO:

EXT. MISSOURI RIVER -- MOMENTS LATER

As the RV reaches the opposite shore, Joe steps on the accelerator pedal and drives up onto the bank. When the RV reaches dry land it bounces and spits the aluminum fishing boat out from underneath.

As they drive away Joe holds a fish out the window and drops it on the ground by some fishermen standing in the parking lot.

CUT TO:

EXT. LINCOLN MOTEL -- EVENING

The RV pulls into the motel parking lot in Lincoln Nebraska. Joe looks for a spot large enough to park.

Joe goes into the office to register.

INT. LINCOLN MOTEL -- LATER

The girls have one room and all the boys are in another with Joe. Seven kids are jumping and carrying on when the night MANAGER knocks on the door.

MANAGER

I'm getting complaints about the noise, you guys need to quiet down.

JOE

Oh ah yea I'm sorry about that, we'll keep it down.

Manager leaves only to return

LATER

To ask again to be quiet.

MANAGER

You guys are going to have to be quiet or I'll have to ask you to leave.

JOE

Sorry sir, it's just hard to deal with nine little kids.

MANAGER

I have a roll of duct tape if you need to use it.

EXT. LINCOLN MOTEL -- LATER

The kids all decide to go swimming in the motel pool. They are splashing around and having a good time when Haruki finds a bottle of laundry soap next to the fence. He dumps it into the pool filter equipment and suds start forming in the pool.

Before long you cannot see the pool water due to the suds overflowing. The kids are jumping in the suds and having a great time when the manager shows up and has a fit.

He starts yelling and jumping around, all the kids take off running back to the room. He's really upset as he stands there and stares at the mess.

(CONTINUED)

MANAGER

Now who's gonna clean this up?

FADE TO:

INT. RV -- DAY

Joe and the kids are back out on the WYOMING FREEWAY driving along. All the kids are downing cans of "Red Bull" energy drinks. They are screaming and yelling and bouncing on the sofa.

Joe is getting agitated by all the noise and commotion.

JOE

Hey, can you guys settle down a bit?

DILLON

Dad, I think they need to stop and get something to eat.

EXT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

Joe exits the freeway and pulls into a truck stop. He pulls up to the diesel island and turns off the RV. All the kids pile out with Joe. They all head off towards the store while Joe fills up the fuel tanks.

Truckers are staring at the big yellow RV and the advertisement painted on the sides.

TRUCKER 1

That's just not right.

TRUCKER 2

What's that?

TRUCKER 1

Having all those kids in that RV with that kind of stuff all over it.

TRUCKER 2

Maybe you should ask the guy if he has any samples for you.

TRUCKER 1

What? No man. Don't you find it strange that this guy is driving this thing with all those little kids? Maybe he's one of those perverts.

All the kids come out of the store with little bags of snacks and climb in to the RV. Joe finishes up and gets in. Starts up the engine and drives out towards the freeway on ramp.

(CONTINUED)

Jose comes out of the store and sees them disappearing down the road. He is standing with a large bag of junk food in one hand and an icecream cone in the other.

The two truckers give him a once over. Jose looks at them and back down the road. Now the RV is completely out of sight.

JOSE

They left me.

TRUCKER 2

Where're they going?

JOSE

California.

TRUCKER 1

Come on we can catch them.

Jose and the two truckers head over to a GREEN SEMI-TRUCK and they all climb in. They start it up and pull out onto the road aimed towards the freeway.

CUT TO:

INT. SEMI-TRUCK -- MOMENTS LATER

The truckers are on the freeway. Trucker 2 is talking on the CB RADIO to other truckers trying to locate the RV.

TRUCKER 2

Breaker breaker 1-9er this is
jakebreak, any one got their ears
on?

TRUCKER 3 (O.S.)

This is gear jammer we copy, over.

TRUCKER 2

We're looking for someone up the
road that can spot a big yellow RV,
they're headed west on the I-70,
over.

TRUCKER 3 (O.S.)

Yea we saw that thing. Does it have
a crazy ad on the side?

TRUCKER 2

Roger that.

JOSE

It's for model rocket fuel.

Both truckers start laughing.

(CONTINUED)

TRUCKER 1

I don't think that's what it's about.

Jose looks confused.

TRUCKER 2

(to the radio)

Where did you see that at, over.

TRUCKER 3 (O.S.)

He's up around the Pike turn off,
over.

TRUCKER 2

Thanks.

TRUCKER 4 (O.S.)

Hey there jakebreak, I can see'm in
my rear view. You want me to slow
them down for ya?

TRUCKER 2

Yea we got to catch them, he lost a
kid.

CUT TO:

EXT. WYOMING FREEWAY -- MOMENTS LATER

A large RED SEMI-TRUCK slows down in front of the RV. A
BLUE SEMI-TRUCK is passing the RV on the left.

When Joe gets up behind the semi in front of him, the second
one blocks him in, They hold Joe there as the two truckers
with Jose pulls up behind Joe.

TRUCKER 4 (O.S.)

He's not going any where now.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

Joe looks at the speed odometer. Fifty miles per hour. The
speed limit sign says sixty five. He looks in his mirror
and sees the truck behind him flashing his lights.

Joe get nervous as he looks for a way out. The team notices
that they are boxed in with the big trucks.

DILLON

What do they want dad?

JOE

I don't know but I don't like this.

(CONTINUED)

TYRONE

Did you make them mad or something?
Hey dude, they're awfully close to
us.

The blue semi pulls ahead as the green semi changes lanes to the left. Joe starts to slow and a YELLOW SEMI is suddenly behind him.

Joe looks at the drivers as the green semi pulls along side of him. He nervously tries to watch the road and glances at the truckers. He has no where to go but stay with all the trucks.

All the kids are getting really worried when one of them sees Jose stick his head out of the semi-truck window.

FLANNERY

Look! That kid looks just like Jose!

ABHEEK

That is Jose.

Tyrone opens the window and yells to Jose.

TYRONE

Hey Jose! What are you doing over
there dude?

Joe looks and sees it's Jose. A calmness passes over them. Joe looks embarrassed. The trucker signals for him to pull off at the next stop.

CUT TO:

EXT. WYOMING FREEWAY -- LATER

The RV and the green semi are stopped along the off ramp. Joe gets out as Jose runs up to him. The two truckers get out to talk with Joe.

TRUCKER 1

You forgot one. How many you got in
there?

JOE

Nine total if I didn't forget anybody
else.

TRUCKER 2

Well maybe you should count noses
before you drive off.

TRUCKER 1

Nine kids and you're driving them to
California? Good luck with that.

(CONTINUED)

JOE

Hey thanks you guys that was really kind of you to do that.

Joe leaves and walks back into the RV with Jose. The two truckers watch as they get in.

TRUCKER 2

Poor guy, that's why I'm a trucker.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- DAY

The RV is rolling along the freeway outside of Laramie, Wyoming. Jose is in the bathroom looking at the toilet.

The water is circling around and around almost overflowing. Things are floating around in the water as it starts to spill over the sides of the bowl.

Jose opens the bathroom door and yells to Joe.

JOSE

Joe! The toilet is flooding over!

JOE

Oh great. That's just great.

Joe yells back to Jose.

JOE (CONT'D)

Don't touch it. I'll pull over at the next camp ground and we can check it out.

Jose exits and closes the door as the water and muck splashes all over the floor in the bathroom.

CUT TO:

EXT. LARAMIE RV PARK -- LATER

The RV pulls up along side the sign that reads "Septic Dump". He stops and gets out, walking around the RV, Joe is looking for the clean-out access.

He walks around three times while the kids are watching him out the windows.

ABHEEK

What're you doing Joe?

JOE

I'm looking for the clean out.

(CONTINUED)

ABHEEK

Maybe it's under the bathroom.

JOE

Of course, where else would it be.

Joe looks around and tries to figure out where the bathroom is. He makes a guess and opens up the door under the RV exposing the sewer clean out hook up. A sign confirms his suspicions.

ABHEEK

Did you find it Joe?

JOE

Yea got it.

Joe is reading the directions on the label. Pulls out the hose and hooks one end to the RV all the while reading the directions. He mumbles out loud as he reads the steps.

JOE (CONT'D)

That looks easy enough.

Joe turns and discovers that the other end isn't long enough to reach the septic tank lid. He gives a little tug but comes up six feet short.

Disgusted, Joe gets in and starts the RV, backing it up about five feet, he then comes out and pulls the valve open underneath.

Joe walks over to the other end and pulls it towards the lid. Still short by a foot. This doesn't stop Joe this time as he pulls harder trying to stretch the hose.

He tugs harder as the hose gets closer. He slips and falls on his butt never letting go of the hose.

Joe gets situated with the lid between his legs as he is sitting pulling the hose towards him, he faces the RV.

He continues pulling and gets the end to reach the opening in the lid. Pulling rather hard he opens the valve on the end.

A large bulge develops in the hose at the RV end and moves slowly along the overly stretched hose. The bulge continues to grow larger and larger as it moves down towards the end.

Joe focuses on the large bulge, fear is written all over his face.

(CONTINUED)

FARTING sounds are coming out of the hose as some nasty looking waste products start to drip ahead of the really big bulge.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

Haruki opens the bathroom door and looks at the toilet. He sees it is still full to the brim.

Kadmeil stands behind him looking over his shoulder.

KADMEIL

Looks plugged.

HARUKI

I don't think Joe opened the valve in here. My dad always opens one under the cabinet first then goes out.

KADMEIL

Open it up then.

Haruki opens the cabinet under the sink and spies the red valve in the closed position.

HARUKI

See, what did I tell you? It's still closed.

The sign next to the Handle says "Jet clean-out"

KADMEIL

What's that mean?

Haruki grabs the Handle and switches it to the open position.

HARUKI

I don't know. My dad's RV doesn't have a sign.

At that moment they hear a rumble and the sound like a small jet engine revving up. Then a loud "swoosh" as the pump kicks in.

CUT TO:

EXT. LARAMIE RV PARK -- CONTINUOUS

Joe, still sitting watching the bulge coming at him, hears the commotion as the pump revs up.

With fear strewn across his face, Joe mouths the word "OH S-H-I-T" just as the hose explodes followed by a solid blast of all the nastiness contained in the sewer holding tank.

(CONTINUED)

A blast hits Joe so hard it drives him backwards twenty feet across the parking lot, while still sitting and holding onto the end of the hose that broke off.

All the kids look out the windows to see what just happened. Dozens of families have gathered watching as Joe sits and continues to be blasted by the raunchy sewage.

The blast slows and starts dropping off pressure, eventually it stops leaving Joe coated like a chocolate bunny on Easter morning.

All the onlookers turn with an awe and oos as Joe's cell phone rings. Joe pulls out the phone and answers it.

JOE

I'll have to call you back.

He hangs up and just sits there, dripping.

CUT TO:

EXT. LARAMIE RV PARK -- LATER

Joe is standing in the RV wash bay as Dillon sprays him down.

TYRONE

That's bad dude.

The rest of the kids watch as a man brings over some clean clothes and offers them for Joe.

Emilio accepts them and thanks the man. As the man walks away he is shaking his head.

CUT TO:

EXT. WYOMING CAMP GROUNDS -- EVENING

Joe and the gang have stopped for the night. They are setting up camp with tents and sleeping bags as Joe attempts to build a fire.

Joe repeatedly tries to light the fire only to have it go out moments later. Tyrone steps up with a can of lighter fluid.

TYRONE

Hey Joe, let me show you how to start a fire.

He holds out his hand and Joe gives him a book of matches. Tyrone kneels down and sprays the lighter fluid all over the wood, sets the can down and strikes a match. He throws it in and a fireball rolls up. Instantly the fire is raging.

(CONTINUED)

JOE
Can you cook too?

TYRONE
Only hot dogs and marshmallows.

Joe pulls out the cooler and opens it up.

JOE
Is this enough? I think there's a
pan inside if you want beans.

TYRONE
Yea, hey Flannery, can you help me?

FLANNERY
Ok I'll get the beans going, you can
cook the hot dogs.

The rest of the kids join in getting the stuff needed for
dinner.

CUT TO:

EXT. WYOMING CAMP GROUNDS -- LATER

The kids are all sitting around eating their food, drinking
sodas and roasting marshmallows. They finish up and want to
go exploring.

ABHEEK
Joe, we're gonna look around some.

FLANNERY
Yea, can we? We'll be back before
dark.

All the kids decide it would be fun to explore a bit.

JOE
Ok but please don't get lost or in
any trouble, I'm already gonna catch
crap for what happened to Tyrone and
Jose.

DILLON
We'll be careful.

JOE
Sure, I'll clean up a little... I
wanted to make some calls anyway,
this'll give me a chance.

(CONTINUED)

All the kids leave Joe alone and take off on a little hike. Joe rummages around for a bit then sits down to call Fred on his cell phone.

CUT TO:

EXT. WYOMING CAMP GROUNDS -- LATER

Joe is sitting on a log talking on his phone to Fred when Kadmeil and Abheek come running back.

KADMEIL

Joe! Joe! Come quick, Haruki fell off the cliff!

JOE

(in phone)

Gotta go something's wrong. I'll call you later, Fred.

He hangs up the phone and jumps up.

ABHEEK

Grab a rope! Hurry come on!

Joe opens the storage lockers under the RV and starts looking for a rope. He finds one. Pulls it out and runs in the direction the two boys are signaling him towards.

CUT TO:

EXT. WYOMING CAMP GROUNDS -- MOMENTS LATER

The sun is setting over the mountains. Joe has reached the area all the kids are at.

Some are leaning over the rocky cliff trying to reach Haruki.

FLANNERY

Hurry, over here!

Haruki is tangled up in some tree branches sticking out of the rocks a few feet below.

His leg brace is the only thing keeping him stuck to the tree as he is hanging upside down. He's just out of Joe's reach.

HARUKI

Help! Help!

JOE

Hold on Haruki, I got a rope. Don't move or you might slip.

Joe ties a bowline loop in the rope and lowers it over the edge to Haruki.

(CONTINUED)

JOE (CONT'D)

Now slip your arms through that and
hang on, we'll pull you up.

Haruki gets it around him as his leg slips a little. Everyone gasps.

HARUKI

Ready!

At that moment he falls out of the tree and swings on the rope. Joe slips and the kids all grab on to the rope. Together they pull Haruki back up to safety.

Haruki grabs onto Joe tightly.

JOE

I got ya, you're alright now.

HARUKI

Thanks Joe.

They hug for a moment.

JOE

OK we better get back before it's to
dark to see.

They all head back to camp.

CUT TO:

EXT. WYOMING CAMP GROUNDS -- LATER

It's dark when the bunch arrives back at camp. The lights are on inside the RV. The campfire is still burning and illuminating the side of the RV.

Something is wrong. They stop and stare at the RV. Something or someone is inside.

They notice the camp site is a mess. The tents are knocked down and all their stuff is scattered about.

ABHEEK

(scared)

What is it Joe?

All the kids stand behind Joe, keeping an eye on the RV.

JOE

I'll go check it out, you guys stay
here.

What ever is in the RV is destroying it as you can hear things being ripped and crashing about. The RV is shaking around.

(CONTINUED)

Joe picks up a stick to use as a weapon and walks up to the door. He opens it and jumps in yelling.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

JOE

What're you doing in here!

A very large BEAR turns and looks Joe right in the face and roars loudly blowing his breath at Joe. The saliva from the bear splatters across Joe's face and hair.

Joe throws the tiny stick at the bear and jumps out of the RV slamming the door behind him.

CUT TO:

EXT. WYOMING CAMP GROUNDS -- CONTINUOUS

Joe stands with his back against the door as the bear slams against it.

Fear and terror streaks everyone's faces as the bear continues to pound at the door.

DILLON

(terrorized)

What is it?

ABHEEK

It looks bad.

TYRONE

Is it a monster?

JOE

It's the biggest bear I've ever seen.

JOSE

Now what? I don't want to be his dinner.

Joe is still holding the door shut but it doesn't look like it will last much longer as the bear continues to thrash about.

JOE

Everyone get up on the roof.

EMILIO

Can't bears climb?

JOE

Trees not ladders.

(CONTINUED)

All the kids climb up the ladder and take a place on the roof. When all the kids are up Joe jumps away from the door and runs around to the back as the bear knocks the door completely off the RV and onto the ground.

Joe jumps for the ladder and scampers up barely ahead of the bear. The bear tries to climb but rips the ladder off the RV roof. He can almost reach the top with his large paws.

He gives up and returns inside where he continues to destroy everything. The RV shakes and rocks back and forth as the kids, all worried, sit hanging on to whatever they can on the roof.

CUT TO:

EXT. WYOMING CAMP GROUNDS -- MORNING

The sun is shining over the Wyoming mountains as all the kids are huddled together on the roof of the RV. Everything is now quiet as Joe sits up slowly.

He looks around at the destruction of the campground. Tents and sleeping bags are shredded, the cooler is ripped to little pieces. The door to the RV is bowed and large claw marks have torn it apart.

Joe crawls along the top to the front and leans down to look in the windshield. He doesn't see any bear, but what he does see is everything inside is ripped apart.

The cabinets are torn off the walls, all the fabric is ripped from the seats, even the paneling on the walls is torn apart. Nothing has been left untouched.

JOE

I don't see our house guest. I think he left.

DILLON

Are you sure?

JOE

I don't see him and I can see everything inside. No bear.

Joe goes to climb down the ladder and falls off landing on top of the ladder already laying on the ground.

JOE (CONT'D)

(in pain)

That's gonna leave a bruise.

He painfully gets up and slowly looking around enters the RV.

(CONTINUED)

JOE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

All clear!

Joe exits and stands the ladder up so all the kids can get down.

ABHEEK

Let's get out of here fast.

EMILIO

Yea before he comes back for breakfast.

TYRONE

Don't have to tell me twice.

All the kids climb inside the RV.

CUT TO:

INT. WYOMING CAMP GROUNDS -- CONTINUOUS

Inside the RV the group stands amazed at the sight.

JOE

Find a spot and hold on.

Joe starts up the engine, the kids look for places to plant themselves as they drive out of the park.

CUT TO:

EXT. WYOMING CAMP GROUNDS -- CONTINUOUS

As they drive away they have left all the camping stuff scattered about. The ladder falls back to the ground but is still attached to the bumper of the RV. They drag it down the road and it flips off as they drive up onto the pavement.

CUT TO:

EXT. DINOSAUR PARK UTAH -- DAY

Joe and the kids stop for lunch at the Dinosaur Park restaurant. As they pull in it is a large area with many cars and campers scattered about.

A visitors center with information about the dinosaurs is located at one end of the complex.

The restaurant is located across the parking lot. Scattered about the area are several life size dinosaurs.

Joe parks near the T-Rex and everyone exits the RV looking around in astonishment. They spend some time looking at the displays before walking over to the visitors center.

(CONTINUED)

Pointing and discussing how it must have been to have one of those chasing you and you were lunch.

FLANNERY

Wow that thing is huge.

EMILIO

I bet he could swallow you with out even chewing.

ABHEEK

He sure has big teeth.

HARUKI

I don't think we could out run it.

KADMEIL

He'd step on you and squash you flat.

CUT TO:

INT. DINOSAUR PARK UTAH -- LATER

Inside the visitors center the kids look over the displays and read the information about the dinosaurs. They continue to discuss the information.

Joe gets a call on the cell phone.

JOE

(into phone)

Hello.

CUT TO:

INT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- DAY

Debra sits on the edge of the bed. Her suitcases in the middle. She zips the last one closed.

DEBRA

Hi Joe. I here you had some excitement last night.

JOE (O.S.)

Just a little, nothing serious.

DEBRA

Really, Dillon said one of the boys fell off the cliff.

JOE (O.S.)

It was just a little cliff and we got him back up.

DEBRA

And a giant bear attack you?

(CONTINUED)

JOE (O.S.)

No it was just a small black bear.
He got stuck in the RV when he was
looking for food. We just left the
door open for him and he left.

DEBRA

That's not the way Dillon made it
sound.

JOE (O.S.)

Oh you know how kids like to make
things bigger and more frightening
than they really are.

DEBRA

I'm going to my sisters for a few
days. She sent me a plane ticket...

JOE (O.S.)

Are you coming to the game Saturday?

DEBRA

I haven't decided. Dillon wants me
to come, but it all depends.

JOE (O.S.)

Depends?

DEBRA

Yea, I'm still really mad and upset
with you, I need some time to decide
what I'm going to do.

A taxi honks out front.

JOE (O.S.)

I understand but I'm trying.

The taxi honks again.

DEBRA

Tell Dillon I love him.

JOE (O.S.)

Please come to the game. If not for
me do it for Dillon.

DEBRA

I have to go now, I'll call you later.
Goodbye.

CUT TO:

INT. DINOSAUR PARK UTAH -- LATER

Inside the restaurant, the hostess seats them at a large table, gives them all menus and tells Joe the waitress will be right with them.

The kids are looking over the menus when the waitress approaches their table.

WAITRESS 2

Hello, what can I get for everybody today?

JOSE

I want the biggest dino-burger you got.

The waitress has a menu pad and starts writing.

TYRONE

I want a double rapture burger with fries.

JOE

You're sure you are not going to have another reaction are you?

FLANNERY

Chickenosaurus please.

WAITRESS 2

(to Maylin)

How about you?

Maylin points to an item on the menu.

WAITRESS 2 (CONT'D)

Ok the fish-o-sarous platter... Next?

She looks at Haruki.

HARUKI

Single dino-burger.

KADMEIL

T-Rex burger.

ABHEEK

Salad please.

Everyone looks at Abheek.

WAITRESS 2

That's all? No meat?

ABHEEK

No just salad. Thank you.

(CONTINUED)

WAITRESS 2

OK, and for you young man?

Addressing Emilio.

EMILIO

Let's see... I'll have the rapture...
no wait, the T-Rex... no... I want
the Pterodactyl burger.

WAITRESS 2

You're sure now, you don't want to
change your mind again?

EMILIO

No, I'm sure.

Joe and Dillon order dino-burgers and onion rings and sodas
for everyone.

CUT TO:

EXT. DINOSAUR PARK UTAH -- LATER

Everyone is finished eating and exit out the restaurant.
They return to the big yellow RV missing the door and get
in.

CUT TO:

INT. RV - DINOSAUR PARK UTAH -- CONTINUOUS

Inside the RV the kids start picking up their cloths that
are scattered about. As some hold them up it's easy to see
the bear has done a real number on many of them.

They stuff what they can into their suitcases and backpacks
as Joe gets the RV started up.

CUT TO:

EXT. DINOSAUR PARK UTAH -- CONTINUOUS

Joe tries to get the big RV turned around. In the process
he backs up and hits the giant T-Rex knocking it lose on the
foundation.

He puts the RV in forward and pulls ahead. The T-Rex wobbles
and starts rocking forward and back. Joe drives forward
slowly towards the exit as the T-Rex is leaning.

He falls over crashing into the top of the RV. His large
teeth punch into the roof just missing Joe.

Joe jumps, startled he stomps on the accelerator. The RV
lunges forward as the T-Rex peels the roof open like a can
of sardines.

(CONTINUED)

All the kids scream as Joe tries to get away. He drives out of the parking lot, tearing most of the roof completely from the RV. Only about two feet is left to flap in the wind as the RV hurries down the road.

The T-Rex snaps back into place with his large teeth still hooked into the metal roof.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEVADA FREEWAY -- LATER

A view from above we find the RV cruising along with the small piece of metal roof flapping in the wind behind them.

All the kids are sitting inside with the remnants of the bear attack scattered about.

CUT TO:

INT. NEVADA FREEWAY -- CONTINUOUS

As the kids sit around the RV in various seats, some are playing with portable game players or their mp3 players while a couple of them are texting on their cell phones. Dillon is texting.

HARUKI

Who you texting, Dillon?

DILLON

I've been texting my mom and letting her know what's going on.

Jose places a bowl into the microwave and leaves the spoon in it. He punches in the time and hits start.

HARUKI

Is she still mad at your dad?

DILLON

Yea, she was so pissed that she went to visit my aunt.

HARUKI

Your dad doesn't seem to be such a bad guy... After all he did save my life.

DILLON

You're lucky you had that leg brace on.

HARUKI

I hated this thing and it's the reason I got stuck in the tree.

(CONTINUED)

Sparks start popping inside the microwave until a fire explodes the door open.

FLANNERY

FIRE!

Jose's eyes get really big as the cabinets above the microwave burst into flames.

JOSE

Joe! The RV is on fire!

Joe looks around just as the flames burst out on the rear area.

Just then sparks start snapping from under the dashboard at the fuse box.

The kids all move away from the fire in the kitchen area as Joe looks for a place to pull over.

He quickly pulls off the freeway at the first ramp. They stop at the bottom and everyone jumps out.

JOE

Is everybody out?

Joe starts counting kids. All are present.

TYRONE

We're all here.

JOE

Move back away from the RV.

Joe leads them to safety several yards away. Then Joe dashes back inside and takes the fire extinguisher from the wall and puts out the fires.

CUT TO:

EXT. NEVADA FREEWAY -- EVENING

The fire is now out. The exterior of the RV is unharmed as all the advertising is still in tact. Joe enters the RV.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

Only a few small smoke clouds are rising out of the ashes. Metal frames where seats were previously shredded by the bear, now blackened from the fire.

A fine white powder covers the interior from the fire extinguisher.

(CONTINUED)

Ashes piled across the floor were once the cabinets and other items of the interior. What didn't burn melted.

Joe climbs into the drivers seat. The sound of something singeing on the hot metal is heard as he sits down.

JOE

OK, looks like it's all out. Come on in and lets see if we can get this thing started.

The kids climb inside and hunt for a place to sit. As they settle down more scorching sounds ring out, followed by the ouch's and yelps of the kids.

The dashboard is completely melted along with all the plastic from the steering wheel.

Joe tries the key. Miraculously the engine starts up. He grabs the metal stump of the gear shifter and puts the transmission in drive.

Everything is still very hot as he tries to hold on to the wheel.

They drive up the ramp and back onto the freeway. Joe gets up to cruising speed following with the other traffic.

As they speed along the freeway, all the fine ash from the fire blows around the RV covering the kids. It doesn't take long for all to be coated in soot.

FADE TO:

EXT. RENO -- NIGHT

The RV pulls into the casino parking lot.

Dillon is sitting in the front right seat. He looks over the signs and all the bright lights.

DILLON

Dad, I don't think this is a good idea.

JOE

What's that?

DILLON

Isn't this a casino?

JOE

Yea, so?

DILLON

Well, you know, gambling.

(CONTINUED)

JOE
Don't worry Dillon.

Joe finds a place to park.

DILLON
Moms not going to like this.

JOE
I'm over that... Wait here.

Joe goes inside to get rooms for them.

CUT TO:

EXT. RENO -- LATER

Joe returns with a handful of room keys. The kids pile out of the RV carrying what is left of their baggage.

Their backs have the scorched imprint of the metal seats displaying they were still hot when occupied.

They walk across the parking lot and in through the rear door of the hotel.

CUT TO:

INT. RENO HOTEL -- LATER

Inside their rooms, the kids get cleaned up.

JOE
When everyone is ready we can go down to the restaurant. They have a smorgasbord where you can get anything you want.

TYRONE
I'm for that dude.

ABHEEK
And twenty different kinds of salad. I read it on the brochure.

EMILIO
Do they have different types of food?

JOE
Yea I'm sure they have anything you want. Are we ready?

HARUKI
Yea we're ready when you are?

JOE
I'll go see if the girls are ready.

(CONTINUED)

Joe goes next door and checks on the girls as all the boys file out into the hallway. The girls come out and join them as they march to the restaurant.

CUT TO:

INT. RENO RESTAURANT -- LATER

The restaurant is a large room with many tables scattered about. Several lines of food serving tables are aligned at one end.

Many of the tables have patrons seated as many more are up wondering around gathering food from the serving tables.

Joe and the kids have made themselves at home by running around trying samples from all the different foods.

Their table is piled high with plates when the busboy stops by to clean it off.

Joe is at the desert bar when he is approached by MR. WINSLOW, a tall man wearing a blue suit.

MR. WINSLOW

Joe? Is that you?

JOE

Mr. Winslow, how are you?

MR. WINSLOW

Great. Did you try the fish?

JOE

No, not yet... What are you doing here? You on vacation?

MR. WINSLOW

No I'm here with a bunch of people from work. We're having a convention of sorts... Man I haven't seen you for a long time... What have you been up to? Still designing software?

Mr. Winslow places some desert on his plate.

JOE

No I haven't done any designing for awhile... I'm taking the kids to a baseball game in San Francisco.

MR. WINSLOW

Flying?

JOE

It's a long story, we're actually driving.

(CONTINUED)

MR. WINSLOW

Where're you living now? Do you still live in Louisville?

JOE

Yea we got a little place there still.

MR. WINSLOW

And you drove from there to here with all those kids?

JOE

It's been an enlightening experience.

MR. WINSLOW

You know, I was just saying to Davis the other day, I wondered what you were doing. Sure liked some of your ideas... Here's my card.

(hands Joe a card)

I want you to call me next week.

Joe takes the card and stuffs it in his pocket. They shake hands and Mr. Winslow walks to find his seat.

Joe finishes placing desert on his plate and returns to his seat. The gang finishes up their food. Accompanied by yawns they decide they've had enough and head off to bed.

CUT TO:

INT. RENO HOTEL -- LATER

Joe is laying in bed having a difficult time sleeping. He gets up and looks around the room at the kids. They all are deep in sleep.

Joe gets dressed and quietly leaves the room. Dillon looks up and sees his dad leave. He sends a text to his mom then lays back down.

CUT TO:

INT. RENO CASINO -- MOMENTS LATER

Joe is walking through the casino looking at all the gambling tables. He walks past a row of slots and stops to watch some of the people plug coins in the machines.

He continues walking past the roulette table glancing as a man wins a few thousand dollars.

He stops at the blackjack table and watches. Mr. Winslow is sitting there and waves for Joe to sit down next to him. Joe hesitates a moment then plops down in the vacant seat.

(CONTINUED)

MR. WINSLOW

Can't sleep?

JOE

I got something I wanted to bounce
off you.

MR. WINSLOW

You gonna place a bet?

Mr. Winslow hands Joe a few chips as Joe starts telling him his idea. Joe plays with the chips in his hand as he watches the game.

FADE TO:

EXT. RENO HOTEL -- MORNING

All the kids are leaving the restaurant and walking out to the RV. The sun is shining brightly.

CUT TO:

EXT. RENO HOTEL -- CONTINUOUS

The sad yellow RV sits off by it's self. The roof missing except for the two feet sticking out behind. The RV is scorched and blackened except for the advertising that's starting to show the journey.

The kids take to the inside as Joe gets a rag and some window cleaner out from one of the underneath storage lockers.

He attempts to clean the outside windshield. All the dirt and grime is on the inside.

Joe gets in.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

The kids are in their seats chatting away about what an adventure it has been so far.

Joe makes an effort to clean the windshield but only succeeds in making swirly smears. He gets a clean spot going in front of what used to be a steering wheel, when the glass falls forward and shatters on the parking lot in front.

Joe gets in his seat with only bare blackened springs and says a little prayer as he starts the engine. The RV coughs and spits then fires up. Joe shifts the gear selector and they drive out of the parking lot.

CUT TO:

EXT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

The RV drives down the road with the roof flapping behind it making an awful noise. Black ash bellows out from the top as the RV picks up speed.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- LATER

Joe is wearing his sunglasses and his face is covered in splattered bugs. He spits a large bug out of his mouth as more continue to plaster him.

CUT TO:

EXT. RV -- LATER

The sky has filled with dark rain clouds. Thunder can occasionally be heard as flashes of lightning zap the skies.

Moments later a cloud burst and the rain pounds down on the RV with no roof.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- MOMENTS LATER

In what seems like only seconds, everyone is drenched. It is raining so hard Joe cannot see.

The kids are huddled up in the seats as it continues to rain profusely.

HARUKI

Joe my brace is starting to rust!

Tyrone's big afro hair is flat as the water runs off it.

TYRONE

Hey Bro, my dew is gonna frizz.

Kadmeil cant see out his glasses due to it raining so hard. He tries to clean them and put them back on with no success.

ABHEEK

We already had a shower today. This is ridicules.

Dillon is in the front seat next to Joe.

DILLON

Dad we need to find a place to stop.

(CONTINUED)

JOE

I think your right, this isn't going to quit very soon.

(pause)

Check in the glove box for a map and let's see where we are. Maybe we can find some place to wait this out.

Dillon opens the glove box and pulls out a scorched map. As he opens it up it becomes soaked and falls apart.

DILLON

So much for that idea.

As the RV continues Joe glances out the side window and sees a sign with a picture of a donut on it.

JOE

Maybe we can find that donut shop... I'll pull off at the next exit.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE DONUT HOLE -- LATER

The rain is still pounding down as the RV pulls into the parking lot.

Near the donut shop is a monument of a twenty foot donut, with white icing and rainbow sprinkles on it. It reads "The Donut Hole".

Joe parks the RV near the building. All the occupants run to the donut shop splashing in the puddles on the way.

CUT TO:

INT. THE DONUT HOLE -- CONTINUOUS

Joe and nine drowned rats line up at the counter. The shop is empty except for the EMPLOYEE behind the counter. A young girl wearing an apron waits on them.

EMPLOYEE

What can I get for you guys?

JOE

Give me two dozen assorted and hot cocoa for everyone.

She loads up a box with donuts and gives them to Joe. Then she starts filling up cups with hot cocoa.

Joe gets the donuts. Everyone gets a cup of hot cocoa and finds a seat. They eat donuts and watch it rain.

(CONTINUED)

Joe's cell phone rings. He sees it's Debra calling.

JOE (CONT'D)

Hello.

CUT TO:

INT. GROCERY STORE -- CONTINUOUS

Debra and her sister are walking around pushing a shopping cart. Her sister is looking at items on the shelves and placing random things in the cart while Debra is on the cell phone.

DEBRA

Where are you?

JOE (O.S.)

We got rained out so we stopped for donuts. Still raining... The RV's roof has a small leak too.

DEBRA

Did you gamble in Reno last night? Dillon says you left the room late and were gone for a long time.

JOE (O.S.)

As tempting as it was, I never gambled, but I did run into Mr. Winslow from Yahoo! at the casino.

Debra and her sister continue to walk around the store.

DEBRA

Really? You never gambled?

JOE (O.S.)

Yea, really... Mr. Winslow even gave me chips and I gave them back. We talked about an idea that Fred has.

DEBRA

Well what did he say?

JOE (O.S.)

I'll tell you all about it at the game... You're coming aren't you?

DEBRA

I have my ticket already so I'll see you in San Francisco tomorrow... Tell Dillon I love him.

CUT TO:

INT. THE DONUT HOLE -- CONTINUOUS

JOE

Thank you, I will, bye.

Joe hangs up and finishes his food. The sun starts shining as the rain stops.

FLANNERY

Hey, looks like the sun is coming out.

ABHEEK

Good, now maybe we can warm up.

TYRONE

Sure wish I had some dry clothes.

EMILIO

We could hang our wet things out to dry in the sun.

JOE

OK gang lets finish up, we're supposed to register today so lets get going.

They clean up their mess and go out the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE DONUT HOLE -- CONTINUOUS

The gang marches back to the RV. They watch as the rain water empties out. They climb in and take their seats.

DILLON

What else could go wrong?

JOE

Don't ask... You could jinx us.

They climb in. Joe starts the RV and backs up.

Upon leaving Joe drives too close to the guy-wires that are tied to the giant donut sign. They pull ahead and hook the bumper onto the wire and drive out of the parking breaking them lose.

As the wires recoil, the donut lunges and shakes off the monument base rolling after them.

Joe drives down the road.

CUT TO:

EXT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

ON THE HIGHWAY

The donut races down the street bouncing as it chases after the RV. It hits the RV with a bang bouncing into the air.

INSIDE THE RV

The kids see the giant donut falling directly above them as they are screaming for Joe to stop.

It lands straight into the open top smashing into the floor, bending the RV. Joe is fighting the RV as it swerves all over the road.

OUTSIDE THE RV

The RV is noticeably bent in the middle as it is swerving.

INSIDE THE RV

Joe shakes his head and checks to see if everyone is alright.

JOE

Are you guys alright?

Joe glances around. All the kids are packed against the sides staring at the big donut. Nobody moves as Joe keeps driving.

JOE (CONT'D)

(mumbling to himself)

I don't believe this, Freds gonna
have a fit.

OUTSIDE THE RV

Joe drives along and passes a sign directing them to the freeway on ramp. Joe makes the turn and enters on the freeway.

Just as he gets up to speed an overpass is spotted in the distance. As the RV makes its way under, the donut hits the overpass breaking a large chunk off the donut.

As the RV passes out the other side, the broken chunk resembles a bite taken from the top of the donut.

CUT TO:

EXT. RV -- AFTERNOON

CALIFORNIA FREEWAY

(CONTINUED)

Joe is being chased by the California Highway Patrol. He looks in the rear view mirror and has to take a double look as the window is hard to see out of.

Joe pulls the RV over to the side of the road as the police car pulls up behind him.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- CONTINUOUS

As the officer approaches the driver's side window, Joe slides it open, looking down at the officer Joe clears his throat.

JOE
Was I speeding, officer?

The officer stands and stares at Joe for what seems like an eternity.

OFFICER 1
License and registration please.

JOE
This isn't what it looks like,
officer.

Joe pulls his wallet from his hip pocket and digs his driver's license out. Hands it to the officer.

He opens up the glove box and looks for the registration. He pulls a scorched paper from the glove box and hands that to the officer.

The officer tries to read the paper as it deteriorates in his hands.

OFFICER 1
You have no idea what it looks like
from my point of view... Wait here.

The officer returns to his patrol car.

CUT TO:

INT. PATROL CAR -- CONTINUOUS

He gets on the radio.

OFFICER 1
Two six eight to control...

CONTROL (O.S.)
(woman's voice)
Go ahead two six eight.

Looking over Joe's driver's license.

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER 1

I'm going to need a wrecker and the
transport van to mile marker one
twelve...

A second patrol car emerges behind the officer. An officer
walks up along side the first patrol car laughing almost
hysterically.

OFFICER 2

Need any help?

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION -- LATER

Joe and the nine kids are lead into a jail cell. There are
some ruff and tuff characters in the holding cell already.
The JAILER closes the door and locks it.

JOE

Hey what about my phone call?

JAILER

Phone's on the wall.
(pointing to the pay
phone)

The kids locate a bench and sit down. Joe looks out between
the bars as he holds on to them.

Haruki is sitting next to a large tattooed INMATE with anger
issues. The inmate is sitting with his large arms folded.

Haruki looks over all the tattoos on the mans arms. They
continue up to his neck and some on his face.

The inmate glares at Haruki and growls at him.

HARUKI

Did those hurt?

INMATE

Pain is for weaklings.

HARUKI

You obviously are harboring some
deep emotional pain.

INMATE

(confused)
What?
(boldly)
I don't feel pain, I inflict pain.

HARUKI

You must miss your mommy.

(CONTINUED)

INMATE

Uh? What's that got to do with anything?

(pause)

You miss your mommy?

HARUKI

Well if you didn't miss her you wouldn't need that mom tattoo on your arm.

Haruki points to the red heart tattoo with the word "MOM" across it.

HARUKI (CONT'D)

See, that shows that you miss her... Where is she?

INMATE

(softened)

Yea I love my mom, she's probably at home.

HARUKI

When did you see her last?

INMATE

It's been awhile.

HARUKI

You must of done some bad things since you're in here. I bet your mom is going to be really mad at you...

INMATE

Don't you ever do anything bad or you'll wind up like me.

HARUKI

It gives me a headache to think about that stuff. I'm just a kid. I don't need that kind of trouble... Does she know your here?

INMATE

No.

HARUKI

I can call her for you when we get out if you want.

Tears start to form in the big tough inmates eyes. He sniffs a little.

INMATE

Really? You would do that?

(CONTINUED)

Joe is standing by the pay phone as a BIKER is chatting away on the phone.

BIKER
 (looks at Joe)
 Hold on,
 (to Joe)
 What do you want?

JOE
 To use the phone.

BIKER
 When I'm finished.

JOE
 Could you please hurry? I don't
 have much time.

BIKER
 All you got is time...
 (into phone)
 Just come and get me out.

He hangs up the phone and bumps into Joe as he walks away.

Joe picks up the receiver on the pay phone and dials a number. It rings a couple of times.

FRED (O.S.)
 Hello.

JOE
 Hey Fred it's Joe.

FRED (O.S.)
 Now what?

JOE
 Well I got a little problem.

FRED (O.S.)
 You're not gambling again are you?

JOE
 No... Listen, we ran into a little
 trouble with the RV, can you help
 us?

FRED (O.S.)
 Sure, what's up?

JOE
 We got arrested and we need to post
 bail so we can get to the game.

(CONTINUED)

FRED (O.S.)
 What? Arrested, for what?

JOE
 It's a long story, just call the
 sergeant and see what it'll take to
 get us out, OK?

FRED
 Alright where are you?

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION -- LATER

Joe is waiting in the jail cell with all the kids. Haruki
 is giving the big bad inmate a big hug as he sobs gently.

The jailer returns and opens the door.

JAILER
 Joe, you and the kids are free to
 go.

Joe jumps up and waves for the kids to go.

JOE
 Come on let's go.

TYRONE
 You don't have to tell me twice dude.

All the kids make a mad dash for the door. Haruki stands up
 and looks at the inmate.

HARUKI
 Don't worry it'll be alright. I'll
 call your mom and explain things to
 her.

INMATE
 (wiping tears)
 Thanks little buddy. Good luck at
 the game.

Haruki hurries out the door. The jailer leads them out to
 the front.

CUT TO:

EXT. POLICE STATION -- CONTINUOUS

Joe and all the kids are standing next to the RV with the
 policeman that stopped them earlier.

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER 1

You must have some really important friends.

JOE

(confused)

Why?

OFFICER 1

We're to give you an escort to the ball park. As it turns out that drug company has taken care of everything, including a years supply of pills.

JOE

Wow, didn't think that would happen. Fred is a great friend.

OFFICER 1

Just follow me.

Joe and the kids get loaded into the RV. The officer leads them out of the parking lot with the lights and siren on. A second police car joins them.

CUT TO:

INT. RV -- LATER

Dillon looks at the time on his phone.

DILLON

Dad, we're never going to make it.

JOE

We'll make it, just hold on.

As they race towards Candlestick Park, they are met with traffic jams and road construction that adds to the resistance of getting there on time.

MONTAGE - RACE TO CANDLESTICK PARK

-- They speed down the freeway into San Francisco.

-- They speed through heavy traffic in town.

-- Road construction. They have to turn and go down a alley.

-- They weave through traffic at a busy intersection.

-- They get to the main entrance to Candlestick Park and find it closed.

-- The police cars guide the RV around to another entrance and they all enter just as a man is closing the gate.

(CONTINUED)

-- Joe jumps from the RV and runs as fast as he can to the sign in booth.

EXT. CANDLESTICK PARK -- DAY

Joe, out of breath and panting, knocks on the window of the booth. No one answers.

JOE
(knocking repeatedly)
Open up, we're here for the game
tomorrow.

Joe can hear someone rattling around inside.

JOE (CONT'D)
Come on, I can hear you in there.
Open up.

TELLER (O.S.)
Go away we're closed.

JOE
We just drove twenty five hundred
miles, open up.

The policeman catches up to Joe.

OFFICER 1
What's the problem Joe?

JOE
They said we're too late.

OFFICER 1
I'll take care of this.

He goes around to the side where the door is located and pounds on it.

OFFICER 1 (CONT'D)
This is the police!, open up!

The teller opens the door.

TELLER
What's the problem officer?

OFFICER 1
Official police business. Now sign
them up.

TELLER
Yes sir.

The teller steps back in the booth and opens the window.

(CONTINUED)

TELLER (CONT'D)

Name.

JOE
Kentucky Mudhens.

TELLER
We were expecting you this morning.
Thought you forfeited.

JOE
(to the officer)
Thank you officer.
(to the teller)
We ran into a little trouble but
we're here now.

The teller hands Joe some papers.

TELLER
Fill these out and sign here, here
and here.

He shows Joe all the places to sign.

JOE
Do you know where we can get a hotel?

TELLER
Your rooms are waiting at the Candle
Stick Hotel across the east parking
lot.

CUT TO:

EXT. CANDLESTICK PARK -- MORNING

Joe and the team are warming up. They are wearing torn and burnt uniforms. More like rags that should be discarded. It fits in with the misfits that they are.

The children have paired up in groups of two and are tossing the ball back and forth with great effort. They drop the ball more than they can catch.

The SHARKS' team starts filing in the opponents dugout as spectators fill the stands. They are neatly dressed in new looking uniforms, each one perfectly clean and pressed.

The Sharks stop and stare menacingly at the Mudhens, then several of them start laughing. They joke amongst themselves what a sorry looking bunch the Mudhens are. And how this is going to be an easy victory.

Joe signals for all the team to assemble in the Dugout. As they gather inside they take a seat on the bench.

(CONTINUED)

JOE

Ok, now look. It's not whether we win or lose, but how well we play... So let's remember it's more important to be good sportsmen and women, than winning and playing unfairly.

JOSE

They're gonna cream us.

ABHEEK

We don't stand a chance, look at them.

JOE

We made it this far, now let's play a good game.

The referee calls the game to start. Joe's team is first to bat.

EXT. CANDLESTICK PARK -- MOMENTS LATER

MONTAGE OF THE MUDHENS BATTING

-- Flannery gets three pitches and strikes out.

-- Kadmeil gets three pitches and strikes out.

-- Tyrone gets two strikes and then hits the ball. He makes it to first base.

-- Maylin takes a bat and stands at the batter's box watching three balls cross over the plate, she never swings.

-- The umpire calls the three outs and they change positions. The Mudhens are playing the field while the Sharks bat.

-- Dillon pitches and one after another the batters hit the ball and run the bases.

-- The score board reflects the fast runs as they add up. Two nothing, then four nothing and eight nothing.

BACK TO SCENE

Debra shows up and finds Joe at the dugout.

DEBRA

How are they doing?

JOE

Not worth a damn. I told you this was a bad idea.

DEBRA

Looks like they're having fun.

(CONTINUED)

JOE

That's embarrassment, not fun.

DEBRA

How many rus do we have?

JOE

None.

Dillon spies his mom and waves at her. She waves back. The game goes on as the Sharks continue to score with no outs.

When the score reaches twenty eight to zero the referee calls the game.

REFEREE

That's a game. Winners
(pointing)

Sharks... Tomorrow will be the second game at ten A M. See you all here.

The Mudhens walk back to the dugout with their heads hung low and disappointment written all over their faces.

ABHEEK

Man we suck, can't we just go home?

JOSE

I told ya we were going to get creamed.

HARUKI

Why did we even come? We can't play.

Some kids throw their gloves on the ground and sit on the bench. Putting their hands over their faces.

JOE

Ok guys, you played really good, look how much practice we got for tomorrow's game.

TYRONE

Are you nuts?

JOE

Now just calm down a little. We drove all the way out here, had all kinds of difficulties getting here-

DEBRA

Remind me to talk to you about that later.

Joe looks at Debra.

(CONTINUED)

JOE

Anyway, the point is... we didn't ford the river, thwart off a bear attack and a dinosaur-

EMILIO

And a giant donut.

DEBRA

What? A giant donut?

JOE

(to Debra)

I'll tell you about that later.

(to team)

And a giant donut, just to give up and go home now. We have another game, so let's go get some lunch. We can come back here and practice this afternoon... We saw how they played so lets use that and try to gain some confidence.

DILLON

(positive)

We can do this.

JOE

If we play and lose, we are winners for trying... But if we give up now we'll always be losers.

CUT TO:

EXT. CANDLESTICK PARK -- DAY

The team followed by Joe and Debra are walking across the parking lot on their way to lunch when Debra spies the yellow RV with the donut protruding from the top.

Debra stops and is appalled at the sight of the RV.

DEBRA

What in the world happened to that?

DILLON

I tried to tell you.

DEBRA

Joe! You said it was just a little leak and a little fire.

JOE

Now now. I didn't want to worry you. You know what a worry wart you can be.

(CONTINUED)

DEBRA

Joe, this is serious. Look at that thing.

Joe looks at the RV.

JOE

Yea that was pretty amazing.

HARUKI

The best part was getting arrested.

DEBRA

Arrested? You didn't say anything about getting arrested. Boy this just keeps getting better and better.

JOE

Oh that. That was nothing, just a little safety inspection.

HARUKI

Yea I met a new friend in jail... Am I gonna have a record? Wait until my mom hears I'm a convict.

They continue to walk towards the restaurant at the edge of the parking lot.

CUT TO:

EXT. CANDLESTICK PARK -- LATER

Joe and the kids are practicing. Joe hits the ball out to the kids and they each take a turn in chasing after it.

Maylin picks up the ball and throws an underhand fast ball back to Joe. It burns into Joe's hand.

JOE

Wholly crap, Maylin...

Shaking his hand.

JOE (CONT'D)

Can you do that again?

He tosses the ball back to Maylin.

She catches it then drops it on the ground. She picks it up and nervously holds it in her hand.

JOE (CONT'D)

Now do that again, just how you did last time.

(CONTINUED)

Maylin winds up another underhanded pitch and it burns over home plate.

JOE (CONT'D)
Where did you learn that?

She shrugs her shoulders not saying a word.

JOE (CONT'D)
Hey Tyrone come here and try to hit this pitch... Maylin stand at the pitcher mound and do that again, this time Tyrone is gonna hit it.

TYRONE
What? She can't pitch.

Tyrone grabs a bat and steps up to the plate.

Maylin gets ready, then shoots one right at Tyrone.

He swings after it passes the plate.

TYRONE (CONT'D)
Wow, that was fast. Why didn't you say you could pitch like that?

JOE
I got an idea for tomorrow's game, Maylin you're going to be the ringer for us. You just pitch like that and we might have a chance to strike some of them out.

The rest of the team watch as Maylin throws a couple more pitches and Tyrone tries to hit them.

JOE (CONT'D)
The rest of you line up, we're going to have batting practice now.

The kids all gather around the home plate. Joe starts telling them of his strategy for the game.

JOE (CONT'D)
OK this is what I want you to do...

They practice batting for awhile as each one takes a turn.

CUT TO:

EXT. CANDLESTICK PARK -- MORNING

Joe and all the team are at the baseball diamond. Debra is sitting in the stands as many spectators fill the seats.

(CONTINUED)

Mr. Winslow accompanied by three other men, take a seat in the bleachers.

The team is warming up when the Sharks enter the field. They start laughing at the Mudhens as they take to their dugout.

They chatter at the Mudhens and comment to each other they will be finished early again.

SHARK PLAYER 1

Hey we won't have to play the third game today, do you want to go fishing after this?

SHARK PLAYER 2

Sure this is going to be easy.

The referee calls for the game to start. This time the Sharks start hitting and the Mudhens take to the field. Maylin steps up to the pitchers mound quite insecure.

She is biting her nails as she looks at the batter. He takes a good look at Maylin and chuckles.

She gets a look of determination on her face.

Maylin stands and suddenly fires her underhand fast ball. "Swoosh" it shoots past the plate and burns into Jose's mit. The batter never moved.

UMPIRE

Strike one!

The batter looks surprised.

JOSE

Didn't see that coming did ya?

Jose throws the ball to Maylin easily. She fumbles a little but manages to keep hold.

She looks at the batter intently, then fires another. He swings late and Jose catches it.

UMPIRE

Strike two!

JOSE

You gonna let a girl strike you out?

The batter glares at Jose.

Maylin pitches another.

UMPIRE

Strike three!

(CONTINUED)

JOSE

Better go get your eyes checked!

Maylin continues to strike out the next two players. Jose keeps heckling the batters.

They trade positions and the Sharks take the field.

JOE

Great you guys. Keep up the good work. Now remember what we talked about. Let's get the easy runs and take the lead.

First up to bat is Jose. The pitcher throws and Jose leans a little towards the plate and gets hit on the arm.

UMPIRE

Take your base.

Jose walks to first as Kadmeil steps up. He gets in close to the plate. As the pitcher throws, Kadmeil leans and gets hit.

UMPIRE (CONT'D)

You can take first.

He walks to first and Jose takes second. Haruki steps up to the plate, still wearing his leg brace. He squats very low as the pitcher throws above his head.

UMPIRE (CONT'D)

Ball.

The catcher throws the ball back to the pitcher. He pitches again as Haruki is squatting very low.

UMPIRE (CONT'D)

Ball two.

The catcher throws the ball and again the pitcher tries to pitch low enough but can't.

UMPIRE (CONT'D)

Ball three.

A quick pitch and the Umpire calls it.

UMPIRE (CONT'D)

Ball four, take your base.

JOE

Emilio, your next.

Emilio grabs a bat and steps up to the plate.

(CONTINUED)

The pitcher throws and Emilio steps across the plate and bunts the ball.

He runs as fast as he can and makes it to first safely. Jose makes it home and slides in.

The bases are loaded, the score board shows one to nothing in favor of the Mudhens.

Tyrone is up next. The pitcher throws and Tyrone swings.

UMPIRE

Strike!

The catcher throws back to the pitcher while Tyrone takes a couple of practice swings. He steps back to the plate and gets ready.

The ball is pitched and Tyrone swings. He hits it between first and second base. He runs for first as the basemen both miss stopping the ball.

It bounces to right field as they run into each other falling down.

The team all yells in support of their team mates.

Kadmeil runs across home plate as Tyrone stops on first. Haruki makes it to third and Emilio stops on second.

Next up is Dillon. He swings a couple of practice swings and then steps up to the plate.

The ball is pitched and Dillon bunts it. He runs and makes it to first.

First baseman throws the ball to third as Emilio slides in safe.

Haruki is hobbling trying to make it home when third base throws to the catcher and he tags Haruki getting him out.

JOE

Don't worry Haruki, you did just fine.

Maylin strikes out. Flannery gets a hit and makes it to first safely as Emilio gets home.

Abheek Swings.

UMPIRE

Strike one.

He swings at the next pitch and gets a short hit. He runs awkwardly to first and gets put out.

(CONTINUED)

Score board shows three runs for the Mudhens, zero for the Sharks. Second inning and the Mudhens take the field.

JOE

Come on guys, remember team work.

The Mudhens are showing signs of improvement over yesterdays playing.

Some of the Sharks hit the ball and are put out on base plays. A Shark player hits a fly ball to center field where Abheek is standing.

Abheek raises his hands and tries to catch the ball. He misses the ball and gets hit in the headgear that he is wearing. The ball gets stuck between the framework.

ABHEEK

I got it!

He pulls the ball free and throws it to Kadmeil who tosses it back to Maylin.

MONTAGE - PLAYING BASEBALL

- Sharks batting. Some strike out.
- Sharks put out on base plays.
- Mudhens batting. Some strike out.
- Mudhens put out on base plays.
- Scoreboard Mudhens three, Sharks one, fourth inning.
- Sharks batting. Some strike out.
- One Shark player slides into home and is called safe.
- Shark players put out on base plays.
- Mudhens batting. Some strike out.
- Mudhens put out on base plays.
- Scoreboard Mudhens three, Sharks two, sixth inning.

EXT. CANDLESTICK PARK -- LATER

Joe and the team are in the dugout.

JOE

Well this is it. You kids have played your hearts out on this game and held them off.

(CONTINUED)

TYRONE

We owe it to you coach.

TEAM

Yea coach we couldn't have done it without you.

JOE

We're not out of the woods just yet, so don't get overly confident. They can still beat us... Maylin, how's the arm?

Maylin rubs her right arm a little and nods her head, signaling that she is good.

JOE (CONT'D)

This is the last of the game so let's keep them from scoring any runs.

KADMEIL

We can win this!

They take their places on the field and the game continues. Maylin pitches underhand fast balls one after another.

The first two Sharks strike out. The third gets a hit to first base and is put out. The game is over.

REFEREE

That's the game! Everyone let's gather around...

Both teams collect near the referee.

REFEREE (CONT'D)

Alright I think congratulations are in order for the Mudhens.

The teams line up and walk past each other shaking hands. Many compliment each other on a game well played.

REFEREE (CONT'D)

Well as you all know, we have to play the decision game. Let's all go to lunch and get ready. We'll meet back here at three o'clock for the final game.

The teams part and pick up their gear.

CUT TO:

EXT. CANDLESTICK PARK -- DAY

The teams reassemble in their designated areas as the fans take to the seats.

(CONTINUED)

Mr. Winslow and his friends are taking their seats along with the Inmate and his MOM.

Debra is seated in the front row waiting for the game to get underway.

The referee signals for the teams to gather around. As they come close he takes a coin from his pocket.

REFEREE

So far each team has had the chance to bat first. Both teams are one win. Since it is the Sharks home I will allow them to call the coin toss... Any questions?

Both sides agree to the terms. The referee flips the coin into the air.

REFEREE (CONT'D)

(looking at the sharks coach)

Call it.

SHARKS COACH

Heads.

The coin spins over and over in the air then lands in the dirt tails up.

REFEREE

Mudhens bat first, sharks take the field.

(loudly)

Lets play ball!

The teams get ready. Sharks take to the field as the Mudhens file into the dugout.

JOE

Gang, you have made me proud. If somebody would have told me last week we could have won any of this, I wouldn't have believed them... But you guys have shown me a great miracle. Now I really don't have a big speech or any wise words of wisdom for you. Just play ball and lets have fun.

The kids give a little cheer and line up. They take a seat on the bench as Tyrone goes out to bat.

Tyrone steps up to the plate. The ball is pitched. He hits it deep into center field.

(CONTINUED)

Tyrone runs for first while the ball is high in the air.
Center field catches the ball and Tyrone is out.

JOE (CONT'D)
Who's up next?

JOSE
I am, coach.

MONTAGE - PLAYING BASEBALL

-- Jose batting and getting out at first.
-- Maylin batting and walking to first.
-- Mudhens batting. Some strike out.
-- Mudhens put out on base plays.
-- Sharks batting. Some strike out.
-- Sharks put out on base plays.
-- Score board shows score zero to zero third inning.
-- Mudhens batting. Some strike out.
-- Mudhens put out on base plays.
-- Sharks batting. Some strike out.
-- Sharks put out on base plays.
-- Score board shows, score zero to zero, fifth inning.

EXT. CANDLESTICK PARK -- LATER

Joe and the gang are gathered in the dugout. The kids are sitting on the bench drinking water while Joe gives them a little direction.

JOE
This is the last inning and the Sharks are up. That means with the score zero to zero we need to hold them off and try to get an extra inning.

HARUKI
We can do that?

JOE
You play until somebody scores, that's the rule. Don't feel bad, we have come from a big lose to one win and now nobody has scored.

(CONTINUED)

KADMEIL

That is amazing.

JOE

Maylin, how's the arm? You doing okay?

Maylin nods yes.

JOE (CONT'D)

Alright let's get out there and win this.

The team takes their positions. Maylin strikes out the first batter. The second one gets a base hit to first.

The next batter gets a base hit and is put out on first as the other player makes second.

Maylin pitches.

UMPIRE

Strike one.

Jose throws the ball to Maylin. She catches it with confidence.

She pitches. The batter hits it to right field and Haruki catches it. The player on second makes it to third.

Maylin pitches. The batter hits the ball towards Maylin. She catches it on a bounce and throws the ball to first base.

The batter is out as the player on third slides to home scoring the only run.

A look at the scoreboard shows Sharks one, Mudhens zero, game over.

REFEREE

That's the game!

The teams line up to cheer each other. The Sharks give a cheer to the Mudhens as the Mudhens give a cheer to the Sharks.

They shake each other's hands and return to the dugouts to retrieve their belongings.

The crowd in the bleachers start filing out as some come down to the field to congratulate their teams.

Debra comes over and gives Dillon a hug.

DEBRA

You played really great today.

(CONTINUED)

DILLON

Thanks mom, I'm glad you came.

DEBRA

I wouldn't have missed it.

Mr. Winslow and his three companions walk up.

MR. WINSLOW

High Joe, that was some game you guys played.

JOE

Oh, thank you Mr. Winslow.

(to Debra)

This is Mr. Winslow.

They shake hands.

DEBRA

Nice to meet you.

MR. WINSLOW

Well Joe, the reason we're here, other than watching the game, is, the board liked your idea and would like you to proceed with the development.

JOE

Really? That's great.

MR. WINSLOW

Along with that,
(handing an envelope
to Joe)

This is a little advance to carry you over.

Joe opens the envelope and is speechless as he stares at the check. He gasps for a breath. Debra takes a look and is dumbfounded.

DEBRA

No more gambling.

JOE

I promise, thanks Mr. Winslow.

The referee comes over to Joe with another MAN carrying a large box.

REFEREE

This is Mr. Mantel with the eastern baseball commission.

(CONTINUED)

MR. MANTEL

Your team played admirably. We found you a new sponsor.

He sets the box down and opens it up. It is full of new uniforms. All the kids dig in pulling them out.

They hold them up and comment on how great they look.

MR. MANTEL (CONT'D)

Also I understand that you took this job as an emergency replacement for coach Reynolds.

JOE

Yes.

MR. MANTEL

We have a new coach, so when you get back, next week coach Jenkins will take over.

Maylin steps up to Mr. Mantel and clears her throat.

MAYLIN

Excuse me sir.

All eyes focus on Maylin with surprise.

EMILIO

You can speak?

MAYLIN

I think I speak on behalf of the whole team when I say, we don't want a new coach. The only way we'll continue to play baseball is if Joe is our coach.

TEAM

Yea, way to go Maylin.

Dillon gives his dad a big hug.

DILLON

What do you say dad? Will you coach us?

DEBRA

Yea Joe, what do you say?

JOE

Yea...

(looks at Dillon)

Yea I'd love to. And next year, we'll fly.

(CONTINUED)

Debra and Dillon give Joe a big hug.

DEBRA
Nice to have you back.
(kisses him on the
cheek)

FLANNERY
No more being chased by giant donuts.

MR. WINSLOW
Is that your RV out front?

JOE
That reminds me, can we get a ride
home?

MR. WINSLOW
(to the team)
How would you kids like to fly home
in a private jet?

The team is all excited and jumps up and down cheering.

FADE TO:

MONTAGE - PLAYING BASEBALL

-- scenes back home of the team practicing as Joe coaches
them.

-- The team now looking like a team instead of a bunch of
misfits.

-- Debra watches them playing.

CUT TO:

EXT. CARTER RESIDENCE -- DAY

Joe and Fred are sitting on the back patio drinking ice tea.
Joe has an envelope on the table.

JOE
I got a little something for you.

FRED
The money you owe me?

JOE
Better than that.

Joe hands Fred the envelope. He opens it and removes the
contents. Fred looks over the papers.

FRED
What's this?

(CONTINUED)

JOE
That's the deed to the duplex...
Your now the new slum lord.

Fred pulls a check from the envelope.

FRED
Are you paying me to take this place
off your hands?

JOE
Not exactly, I sold your idea, that's
your cut. The duplex is just a bonus.

FRED
This is a lot of money. I can retire
with this.

Debra and Barbara exit out the back door carrying trays of
food for a barbecue. Debra looks about six months pregnant.

JOE
We're going to need a bigger place.

CUT TO:

EXT. CARTER'S NEW RESIDENCE -- DAY

A big moving van is parked in front of a large house. A
sold sign placed across the Realtor sign in the yard.

The movers are carrying furniture and boxes inside the house.

Debra steps out on the porch holding a baby.

A new Mercedes pulls into the driveway. Joe and Dillon get
out and Dillon runs into the house.

Fade to Black:

The End.