

RB

Written by

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FADE IN.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY.

Cold November Afternoon.

A High School football game is underway, Some 10 years ago.

Quarterback GUS REYNOLDS, 18 is a chiseled young man and who looks like a great leader. Gus yells a play as steam comes out of his mouth in the cold air as he stands behind the center.

As the quarterback is hiked the ball, Gus fades back and then looks to his right and flips the ball into the air.

Running Back JAY FRANKLIN 18, is a strong, lean and fast young man in tremendous physical condition and a perfect a running machine. Jay sees the floating ball and breaks through the line of tacklers on the right.

Jay's right hand is bandaged and there is some leaking blood coming from the bandage as he darts to the right. Jay is dirty and battered but runs HARD and fast into the line of huge defensive linemen at top speed.

JAY (V.O.)

You really have to be insane to do what I did when I was 18 years-old.

Jay's dirty, bloody bandaged hand reaches out and grabs the football in mid air.

JAY (V.O.)

I used to run full speed into a line of guys who were 50 or 100 pounds heavier than me, with no fear.

Jay EXPLODES at top speed through the line with reckless abandon. Fantastic moves are made by instinct and they are super human in their speed and precision.

Jay stops on a dime to move to the left and right as tacklers miss him.

JAY (V.O.)

I just didn't care almost as if I knew that I could never be hurt and if I got just a little bit of daylight, I was gone.

Jay advances towards the middle of the field and accelerates at amazing speed towards the end zone and scores a 71 yard touchdown.

JAY (V.O.)

I thought I was invincible. I knew nobody could stop me. I did this through 3 years of high school.  
(Pause)  
And then they started calling me the Rocket.

The crowd goes crazy at the demonstration of amazing speed and power.

Jay quietly walks over to the official and hands him the ball, and is greeted by his teammates who hug him and leap in the air.

JAY (V.O.)

So what do you do, when you are blessed with great athletic skill, and then one day, it's all gone? All your dreams are gone. One bad shot to my right knee.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

A different game with a different team. An evil, sick jealous glare from number 66 a huge linebacker on the other team.

Number 66 purposely goes for Jay's knee and he is writhing in pain after the tackle, it was a vicious attempt to break Jay's knee.

An official throws a flag near the play.

A crowd of Jay's teammates gather and push number 66 aside.

JAY (V.O.)

It all happened so fast. All my dreams and ambitions were gone. I knew I would never be able to run with abandon. In one second it was over.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

A doctor points to an x-ray showing that Jay's knee is for the most part, beyond repair. Jay's football teammates are in the hospital room with him and some are crying, including Jay.

JAY (V.O.)

I knew I would have to become an ordinary person when I was never ordinary. Why was I ever able to run like this?

Then what do you do when you have found the perfect woman? When you know the moment you met her that she is everything and everybody else will always be second place?

INT. NEW JERSEY TRANSIT TRAIN - DAY.

Present Day.

Jay sits on the train with his head against the window as it vibrates against his head and he looks out the window at the passing houses and roads.

JAY (V.O.)

Now I ride the train every day, from New Jersey to New York City five days a week. The job was all I could get because of the bad economy and I said to myself, well at least its software development. At least its something. But its sure not Football.

INT. NEW YORK CITY TRAIN STATION.

Jay leaves the train and passes by crowds of typical unhappy New York and New Jersey commuters.

Jay darts and weaves through the crowd.

JAY (V.O.)

I hate my job, I have hated it for 3 years now. Its just plain boring and the train and all that sitting all day is killing me. I think about what my life could have been like if I was in the NFL right now, the top running back. I think about MARY a lot, especially when I am riding the train. I also think about Mary as my wife and how happy we could have been.

INT. NEW YORK CITY DELI - NIGHT.

A young brunette woman about 5'2' waits in line at the deli. She is perfect, cute and every man's type.

Jay meets MARY for the first time, Mary smiles at Jay.

JAY (V.O.)

So what do you do? How do you survive all this? Well this is what I did. This is my story.

INT. NYC OFFICE BUILDING - DAY.

Present Day.

Jay Franklin 29, is sitting in his very typical IT cubicle surrounded by papers and a large screen IBM PC.

Jay Looks at a poster of the NY Giants and a picture of his high school football team. The beginnings of a tear appear in Jay's eye as he looks at the picture.

JAY

(Whispers to himself)  
Those were the days.

Jay's phone rings.

Jay lifts the phone.

JAY (CONT'D)

(Into phone)  
Jay Franklin.  
Hello, Rick.  
You're kidding.  
(Pause)  
Again?  
That's twice now.  
That's twice in 2 weeks already.  
(Pause)  
Is this a trend? Should I expect this all the time? Yes I am a software developer, not a baby sitter to these people.  
It just means I have to stay with Gus again.  
(Pause)  
Yes. OK. Let's work something out for the future. I don't want to do this every week.  
(Pause)  
OK.

Jay hangs up the phone and dials another number.

JAY (CONT'D)

(Into phone)

Gus. You know what I am going to ask. By the time I get home it will be 1 am or worse and I will be dead for tomorrow. Yes, probably 10 PM again or later.

GUS (O.S.)

(into phone)

You going to the VA again?

JAY

Ya. I got some OT coming. I am leaving at 3.

GUS (O.S.)

OK. Let me know how that goes. See you at 10.

JAY

Bye.

Jay hangs up the phone.

FADE OUT.

INT. ELEVATOR. NEW YORK CITY VA HOSPITAL.

Jay is in an elevator standing next to some other VETERANS, thinking.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY.

Jay waits for a football and hears the kick from the other side of the field.

Jay looks to his right and sees a black cheerleader for the other team, who is looking right at him and smiling broadly.

CHEERLEADER

You fly baby! You Fly!

Jay looks up and sees the ball dropping down into his arms.

Jay runs for daylight at amazing speed as the cheerleader looks on, in awe.

CHEERLEADER (CONT'D)

Wow.

Jay comes out of his daydream from his days as a superstar and we see another tear form in his eye.

BACK TO PRESENT

INT. ELEVATOR NEW YORK CITY VA HOSPITAL - DAY.

A veteran is sitting in a wheelchair in the elevator next to Jay.

VETERAN

Hi.

JAY

Hello, how are you?

VETERAN

As good as can be expected.

Jay notices that the veteran has only one leg.

Jay leaves the elevator and enters a lounge nearby.

DAVID CASELLA is a veteran from Afghanistan. He is sitting at a table reading the paper.

JAY

Hey man!

DAVID

Hey! Again! Wow, you're now a regular. 5 weeks in a row, and all on Friday.

JAY

I got some OT at work so I thought I would leave early. Its a job that really, really sucks.

DAVID

Nice to see you again man. Still thinking about the NFL?

JAY

I can't lie to you man. Ya.

DAVID

You got to move on man.

JAY

I know, but that video. When it came out it set me back some.

DAVID

I saw it a few days ago, after you mentioned it last time.

JAY

What did you think?

DAVID

Great memories. I remember seeing you in person 10 years ago and that video. Well you were something else.

JAY

Thanks.

DAVID

Who the hell put that out there?

JAY

We think it was Harvey, our high school tech nerd. Nobody is sure.

DAVID

Harvey?

JAY

Who else. He made a copy for himself and kept it all these years.

DAVID

Probably right. So how were you before that video?

JAY

Much better than now. My leg and NFL ruined by a real scumbag. At least that asshole is still in prison and we hope for life.

DAVID

I know, I was there. At least he is in jail now, paying some dues. Like the rest of us.

JAY

Ya. Like the rest of us.

DAVID

I mean the rest of us in here! Not you! You have all your limbs. I am missing a fucking leg, remember? Stop feeling so fucking sorry for yourself all the time!

Jay is shocked by this attack. He blushes and is taken aback.  
Jay stands up, visibly shaken.

JAY

Sure thing. See you next week.

Jay leaves the lounge as David looks on.

FADE OUT

EXT. NYC STREET - NIGHT

Jay Franklin is walking through the streets of NYC, its a hot and bright summer night.

Jay walks through the crowd of people with a slight limp in his right leg.

Jay darts and weaves through the crowd showing amazing skill and speed, even despite his slight limp from his football injury.

Some onlookers notice Jay as he expertly moves through a huge crowd. Jay then turns and walks into a NYC Deli.

INT. NYC DELI - DAY

JAY enters the deli and quickly notices a very cute woman in line, her name is MARY DONOVAN, 27.

Several other men are also looking at her.

JAY stands back away, and tries to look at the store clerk and not at Mary.

Mary tries to juggle some cans and some fruit in her arms, and one of the cans starts to fall to the floor despite her efforts.

MARY

OH!

With remarkable speed and skill, Jay not only juggles but catches the can in mid air before it falls to the ground.

JAY  
 Wow, Oh!! Hey. Wow, that almost  
 fell. Looks like I still have some  
 reflexes after all these years.  
 Here you are ma'am.

Jay hands Mary a can of creamed corn.

MARY  
 Thanks, but ma'am? Are you kidding?

JAY  
 Um, young lady? Sorry, I wasn't  
 thinking and of course, I was also  
 juggling. I didn't mean ma'am like  
 you're old, I mean, ma'am like  
 you're a woman, you know.

MARY  
 Yes, I can see.

Mary pauses looking at him and smiling.

MARY (CONT'D)  
 I guess you can't juggle and think  
 at the same time, but thanks  
 anyway.

Mary holds out her tiny hand for the can of creamed corn.

Jay hands Mary the can of creamed corn.

JAY  
 Creamed corn?

MARY  
 It's my favorite canned vegetable.

JAY  
 Well, I think its important in  
 life. To have a  
 (Pause)  
 Favorite canned vegetable. I guess.

Mary laughs and smiles and Jay.

JAY (CONT'D)  
 Yes you do.

MARY  
 Are you blushing?

JAY

Blushing? I don't think so. I hope I am not winded just catching one can of creamed corn. I used to be in greater shape than that.

MARY

You seem to be in good shape to me. You not only have quick reflexes but you're funny too.

JAY

So you live in New York not just work right?

MARY

Right. Not too far from here.

JAY

I live in New Jersey and work here. Nightmare train ride every day.

MARY

So sorry.

JAY

You get use to it. Like a hang nail..

MARY

I walk to work. Not like a hang nail at all.

Mary Smiles at him.

Jay smiles back.

JAY

So what is your name anyway?

MARY

Mary.

JAY

Nice name Mary. It suits you.

MARY

How so?

JAY

Don't know. You just look like a Mary. It fits you.

MARY  
I will take that as a compliment.

JAY  
How I meant it.

MARY  
Thank you. So what is your name?

JAY  
My name is Jay.

JAY (CONT'D)  
Would you like to have some coffee,  
locally?

MARY  
Coffee?

JAY  
Yes, Coffee. With me?

MARY  
I really don't drink coffee.

JAY  
So what do you drink, Mary?

MARY  
Tea.

JAY  
Well we can check, I am not sure,  
but maybe they also have tea?

MARY  
Maybe.

JAY  
Is that a yes?

MARY  
It's a maybe.

JAY  
A maybe they have tea, or a maybe  
you will have tea, and coffee..  
With me?

MARY  
Both.

Jay smiles. Unable to stop looking at her.

FADE OUT.

INT. NYC BAR - NIGHT

It's 10 PM in a dark, typical NYC bar. Five guys, all in their late 20's and, close friends since high school.

STEVE FOREMAN, 29 is the comedian of the group and in fact a part time professional stand up comedian in NYC. Steve is 6'1, brown hair.

BILL THOMAS, 30 is the cerebral one and a lead salesman at a marketing firm. Bill is about 5'10, black hair, muscular and a bit overweight.

GUS REYNOLDS, 30 is the leader (formerly the quarterback) and works in IT. Gus is about 6'2, brown hair and athletic.

DAVE ALEXANDER, 29 and Jay Franklin also work in boring IT jobs.

DAVE CARSON, 30 works for an advertizing firm in New York City.

Dave raises his beer glass high.

DAVE

Hey guys. Here is to us and meeting like this every Friday, well maybe for the next 50 years. Assuming this hell hole bar is still here.

GUS

We will be 80, or almost 80.

DAVE

So?

GUS

Well at 80, I won't be in a bar drinking beer. I will be home, trying to find my teeth.

Bill sips some beer from his glass.

BILL

Thanks for that visual.

JAY

Well guys, how was work the past week?

(MORE)

JAY (CONT'D)

We always talk about this every Friday. It's tradition. Griping about our boring jobs.

GUS

Well let's not talk about that today, there are bigger fish to fry.

JAY

What fish?

DAVE

You know what fish.

JAY

Oh, that fish.

STEVE

That is a whale, no fish.

GUS

Who cares. Like I said, bigger fish.

JAY

Well its only been 3 months, almost 4, OK.. It's been 102 days.. 103 actually.

STEVE

Holy shit are you kidding me?

GUS

You are STILL counting the damn days?

JAY

Yes. I can't help it.

STEVE

Holy Shit.

GUS

Man, you need some professional help or drugs!

(Pause)

She isn't worth it. I mean, don't get me wrong, she was unbelievable, on a scale of 10 at least a 15, but this is going to kill you.

JAY

Well you guys saw her, you met Mary, you know that she was the one for me. My one in a billion. Nobody can ever compare to her.

Gus looks closely at Jay.

GUS

I don't know man. I guess you try and move on, work out, get drunk a few times.

STEVE

So what the hell are you going to do, just think about this woman for the rest of your life, and count the days? Please, are you ever going to move on?

Several of the guys look at Steve with stunned expressions.

Jay smiles back at Steve.

JAY

Well, I think I am cured.

GUS

But the problem is still there. She was incredible. The YOUTUBE video comes out and then its downhill.

JAY

She is not serious about that other guy. She just wants me to stay away. The video did not help us.

They all drink and toast.

Jay reflects and looks at his beer glass, he looks very depressed.

FADE OUT.

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - NIGHT.

Some Months earlier.

Mary and Jay are about to go into the play LION KING. It's a cold night, you can see their breath in the cold air.

Jay cannot take his eyes off of Mary.

MARY

So.

(Pause)

what are you thinking? You always seem so deep in thought every time we are together.

Jay looks at Mary with awe.

JAY

Really?

(Pause)

I didn't realize I did that. Do I do that all the time?

Mary laughs at him and looks up smiling.

MARY

You are

(Pause)

You are really in love with me aren't you?

JAY

Yes I guess. Is it that obvious?

MARY

You are so cute.

Mary Kisses Jay. Jay kisses her back.

JAY

Well you are pretty cute yourself tiny one.

Mary looks up at Jay.

MARY

So you played Football in high school?

JAY

Lots of Football Mary. I was the guy who ran the ball.

MARY

Good times for you Jay?

JAY

Like most things Mary.

(Long Pause).

Both good and bad. Good and bad.

FADE OUT:

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

Some years earlier. A young Jay in a high school football game.

The Jay's friends are in their senior year in high school playing for a chance at getting into the playoffs. They are talking in the huddle.

GUS

OK the option here is a pass over the middle, but if that fails I am going to flip it to Jay who is having the game of his life.

They all agree and pat Jay on the back.

CUT TO:

The COACH running and waving to Gus from the sidelines.

Gus calls a time out and walks over to the Coach.

COACH

Dutton, number 66. I think he is afraid of looking bad against our guy and that is leaving a very small hole on the right side. That's a big enough hole for Jay to blow through. Run 42 DIVE Right. 42 DIVE right!!

Gus runs back to the huddle.

GUS

42 DIVE right guys. 42 DIVE right.

JAY

(Smiles).  
42 Dive right?

GUS

Yeah. You heard me. 42 DIVE RIGHT.  
42 DIVE RIGHT!!! 42 DIVE  
RIGHT!!!!!!

CUT TO:

The coach on the sidelines watching the play intently.

He runs over to talk to his assistant.

COACH

Watch this. He is going to break  
this big time

The play starts. Jay stays back to block and then efficiently blocks an incoming linebacker and then fades to the right. Soon Jay is open and the quarterback flips the ball to him.

Jay makes some amazing moves to the sideline and then up the middle and down the field, passing everyone on the way. Jay then runs into a huge linebacker, number 66 - JEFFREY DUTTON, 18. Jeffrey is about 6'4 and a very strong big linebacker.

Jay's amazing moves make number 66 look ridiculous as he grabs for Jay and then just falls over futilely trying to reach him as Jay blows past him running another 30 yards and scores a touchdown.

Jay's team is now up 17 points, the game essentially over.

As the crowd goes crazy, Dutton throws his helmet in a demonstration of rage that is incredible. He is completely insane.

Jay's teammates rush to the field to congratulate him.

CUT TO:

PRESENT DAY.

INT. MARY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT.

Several weeks later.

Mary is in her Manhattan apartment looking at videos on YOUTUBE of Jay Franklin's incredible high school breakaway runs.

Mary Chokes back her tears looking at the video.

Mary watches a second much more emotional video. The video this time is accompanied by a Frank Sinatra song, "Here's to the winners".

Mary starts to sob uncontrollably while watching this video and then calls Jay.

MARY

(Into phone)  
Jay? It's me Mary.

JAY (O.S.)

Hi. Nice to hear from you tiny one.  
And I sure know its you. Your  
voice is so nice to hear. I love  
your voice.

MARY

(Into phone)  
Thank you Jay. Can we have dinner I  
mean like really soon, like  
tomorrow night? I know we were  
going to have dinner on Friday but  
I need to see you sooner.

JAY (O.S.)

Yes of course I can see you  
tomorrow. Is there anything wrong?  
You sound very upset about  
something.

MARY

(Into phone)  
No. No of course not. I just really  
need to see you.

JAY (O.S.)

I need to see you too. Mary you  
don't sound right. Are you sure  
there is nothing wrong?

MARY

(Into phone)  
No, I just. I just really love you.

JAY (O.S.)

I really love you too baby. You  
know I do.

MARY

(Into phone)  
Yes, yes I know you do. Does your  
leg hurt?

JAY (O.S)  
No, why would you ask about my leg?

MARY  
(Into phone)  
NO reason. Can talk about it at  
dinner?

JAY (O.S.)  
Yes of course we can.

MARY  
(Into phone)  
Our normal time, 7 PM.

JAY (O.S.)  
Same place?

MARY  
(Into phone)  
Yes.

JAY (O.S.)  
Mary I am worried, you don't sound  
right to me.

MARY  
(Into phone)  
I am OK. Don't worry.

CUT TO:

INT. A NYC RESTAURANT - NIGHT.

Mary and Jay are out to dinner.

Mary is upset and fidgeting and blushing.

MARY  
I saw your YOUTUBE video.

Jay looks very annoyed.

JAY  
Who told you about that video?

MARY  
I just did a search after a friend  
told me about how good you were in  
high school. I have never seen  
anybody run like that.

(MORE)

MARY (CONT'D)

The music seemed to match how you were running. I couldn't believe what I was seeing.

Mary loses her composure.

JAY

Harvey Meyer put that together for the pep rally before the Championship game. It was the highlight of my life, one big moment, when things were great for me.

MARY

All the times you were hit so hard and kept going, I just could not believe it.

(Pause)

Didn't they hurt you?

JAY

No it never hurt me when I got hit. Wind knocked out, yes. Hurt. No. I felt there was nothing I couldn't do. And now ten years later. I am average.

MARY

Oh not again! Please! You're not average. You're an amazing athlete and you still are!

JAY

As far as my knee, I could no longer cut and move like I did. After my knee was hurt, I wasn't the same. I was afraid of getting hurt again. Once you have fear like that, its over.

MARY

Well, they were right about one thing. You were something.

Mary starts to cry.

JAY

Mary. Mary why are you crying. You know I can't stand it when you cry.

MARY

There was a second video about you I saw. Have you seen that?

JAY

No. What second video?

MARY

It was some of the same runs you made on the last video but the music was different and some new stuff too. It was much shorter.

JAY

No, I have not seen that. We think its Harvey doing this. Harvey was that nerd in high school who made that video.

MARY

It made me cry Jay. I kept thinking about the pain in your knee. And your limp. It was the music Jay. That song. Winners song. Here's to the winners. It was so beautiful.

JAY

It hurts me to see you this way.

MARY

I couldn't watch it again. I got too upset. I was crying too much.

JAY

I think that is one video I don't want to see. Harvey must have put that out in the last few days.

MARY

It was like poetry the way you ran Jay. I am so proud of you.

Jay wipes a tear away from Mary's eye.

JAY

We have to get Harvey to take those 2 videos down. This is upsetting too many people, and now you.

MARY

Why Jay?

JAY

You know I can't talk about something this. It's too hard for me to talk about.

MARY

I can see it. You are in no way over this.

JAY

I need to feel like myself again. To feel like I felt in high school. You make me feel like I am in high school again.

MARY

This needing me to feel like you felt in high school is just too much for me.

JAY

I understand that, and please don't misunderstand what I mean.

MARY

Just take it easy. We are happy, we are dating. We will be OK, I promise.

Jay is barely able to handle his emotions.

JAY

Yes, I know we will be OK.

FADE OUT.

INT. NEW YORK CITY BAR - DAY

Steve, Dave and Bill are sitting at their traditional table.

Steve is very drunk.

STEVE

Mary was wrong in how she handled it, but what are you going to do. Life sucks for all of us and definitely for me! I mean look at me for Christ sakes.

(Pause)

Look at us, in this same bar for something like 8 years. We hang out in this hell hole for fun!

Gus pauses a long time while looking at Steve.

GUS

Thanks for the update. Now let's try and figure something out.

(MORE)

GUS (CONT'D)

I don't want this guy to off himself over a woman.

BILL

I don't think he is the type to do something like that. Besides if he didn't kill himself over losing his football career, why her?

DAVE

Because its one thing too many, that's why. It's not just Mary, its the career he never had, the injury and then this video at exactly the wrong time.

BILL

Maybe some kind of an intervention? Are we at that stage?

(Pause)

Here is a guy who was 100% all about running at top speed into a line of guys who wanted to knock his head off. It's not complicated why he is fucked up.

DAVE

Well, in this case its very warranted that we meet like this. This guy is barely hanging on at this point. I called him the other night

BILL

Why?

DAVE

Just to talk, shoot the breeze, to see how he is doing. He kept drifting off, like he was barely hearing a thing I was saying.

BILL

Which means of course, nothing.

DAVE

And I was talking about the New York Giants.

BILL

Oh. Well, that worries me. The Giants?

BILL (CONT'D)

Let's make a move here, make a decision. This guy has been part of our gang since we were 10. What do you guys want to do about this?

DAVE

I say give it another 2 weeks. After 2 weeks we will recommend that he gets more serious help.

(pause)

One of us. Or maybe more than one of us is going to have to pay a visit to Mary.

STEVE

Why?

DAVE

Because none of us really know what the hell happened here. I don't know what really happened. Do you?

BILL

Well, he never really talks about it. I thought things were going fine, and then one day this guy is about to off himself over her. We have to talk to her.

GUS

I am damn curious about what happened with these two.

STEVE

So, who goes?

GUS

Well Steve, I would say you, but you will make too many jokes.

STEVE

No I wouldn't. Not for something like this. This is serious stuff. I mean I am a comedian, but I can be serious, sometimes.

They all look at Steve for a long while.

STEVE (CONT'D)

OK. So I won't go.

GUS

I will go. Bill you want to come with me? We don't need anymore than two of us, we don't want to scare her off. I will just call her, she knows us.

BILL

I am sure she will agree to see us as long as you don't tell her the reason for the visit before we go there.

GUS

How about this Thursday night? I will be working late so I will be staying in Manhattan later anyway.

BILL

Thursday is OK for me.

STEVE

If you guys are low on "supplies", give me a ring.

GUS

Sure thing. And NO, we won't be bringing weed, OK?

BILL

We have to find out where Harvey Meyer is. The videos have to come down.

GUS

I will find out where he lives. We can all go visit this guy, even Steve.

STEVE

Looking forward to seeing that guy again.

FADE OUT

INT. MARY DONOVAN'S APARTMENT IN NYC - NIGHT.

Bill Rings Mary's doorbell, its about 8:00 PM.

GUS

I hope she is home.

BILL  
She said she would be here,  
remember?

GUS  
I hope she has coffee, I am a  
wreck.

BILL  
Me too. But here is some news.  
Coffee is not the "cure all" drug  
for every problem OK?

GUS  
It is for me.

BILL  
(Smiles).  
You have to stop drinking so much  
of that shit.

Mary answers the door wearing very casual cloths at the very  
moment Bill uses the "S" word.

MARY  
Hello guys. Come in. I think?

Bill whispers to Gus.

BILL  
God she is so cute.

Gus whispers to Bill.

GUS  
She's unbelievably cute.

MARY  
Something I should know about you  
guys? Can I get you guys some  
coffee?

GUS BILL  
Yes. Definitely have no pulse  
without coffee.

MARY  
Well, I guess you guys want some  
coffee?

GUS  
Just real tired. You know the  
train, the commute. My girlfriend.  
My job.

(MORE)

GUS (CONT'D)

General hatred of working for other people. Mary, you know how I love to ramble on about work but only the negative crap.

BILL

To be honest I wish we all never left high school. Hard to believe that the high water mark of your life is when your eighteen.

MARY

I remember those evenings where you guys would hang out with Jay and me and talk about how all your jobs suck. Except Steve of course, who likes what he does.

BILL

Steve is nuts. Crazy. Insane. Needs professional help. Should be in several mental institutions at the same time.

MARY

Yes. I remember. He is nuts. But very funny.

GUS

That he is. So.  
(Looks at Bill)

MARY

Well. I know why you guys are here. How is Jay?

BILL

You know that guy. He has emotions like a turtle. He knows we have his back, all of us would lay down our lives for that guy, but with this, maybe we are overstepping.

MARY

I don't think you're overstepping. But I won't tell him anything.

BILL

Thanks.

MARY

You guys saw the second video. I cried all night.

(MORE)

MARY (CONT'D)

And then there was this dinner with my mom and dad that was a disaster.

GUS

How so?

MARY

Let's just say that my Dad wants the best for me, and thought that Jay was living for when he was an athlete in high school.

GUS

I am surprised Jay didn't tell us about this.

MARY

Jay was using his love for me to get over his depression about losing his career in college and the NFL. It was too much for me.

BILL

Is Jay even aware that this is how you feel? Can this be fixed Mary?

MARY

He has to be aware. He just never got past it. The injury and what he had.

BILL

Jay was the biggest College and NFL prospect of all time. And then this video which was not his fault.

(pause)

I don't think you guys should give up.

MARY

Give up? This was going on for months! I can't be responsible for rescuing a man who is living years in the past when he was some kind of a superman in high school!

GUS

I think we have to kill Harvey. I mean why put that 2nd video out there when just one was bad enough?

BILL

I know you tried. This whole thing is killing him. We are all very worried.

Gus pauses with great emotion.

GUS

My God he loves you so much. I have never seen love like that before.

MARY

I'm sorry! I can't do this anymore.  
(pause)  
How is he? Is he really doing that bad? He is at least seeking help for this?

GUS

He is still seeing the same therapist, but I am not seeing any progress. All he does is count the days.

MARY

What do you mean, count the days?

BILL

Jay counts the days since you and he are no longer seeing each other.

MARY

Oh God. Is he insane?

GUS

That's why we are here. We are at a loss, and we are close to getting this guy committed.

Mary is visibly upset.

GUS (CONT'D)

Well, we had to tell you, and we both, well all of the guys, we had to know what happened.

MARY

Maybe you should get him more professional help. Maybe you should take the next step. Before he.

BILL  
Kills himself?

MARY  
Well I hope it isn't that bad. But  
yes. Before he kills himself.

BILL  
Well as a group, we don't think he  
is quite there yet.

MARY  
Well like I said I don't know what  
else to say or do here. I am trying  
to move on, why can't he?

GUS  
He never gave up on a play. The  
athlete he was is why he can't move  
on.

MARY  
I know that. It's all we talked  
about months. It's what killed us.

BILL  
So what about this other guy?

MARY  
What other guy?

BILL  
That other guy, that other guy that  
Jay said you were dating. And are  
you crazy?

MARY  
Well, I just told Jay this so he  
would leave me alone. So he would  
move on. And no I am not crazy,  
although I sure should be after all  
this.

Gus is getting angry.

GUS  
Mary!! He can never forget about  
you. You are it for him, the love  
of his life. Nobody forgets about  
the love of their life. Nobody!

BILL  
Do you still love Jay?

MARY

What?

BILL

You heard me. Do you still love Jay?

MARY

It's none of your business. But yes. Yes of course I do.

GUS

Is there anything he can do to get you guys back together?

MARY

Just be a normal guy. Just to accept not being a super human athlete anymore. What is so wrong with being just Jay? That's all I ever wanted. All he talked about was being super human, about being a hero.

(Pause)

He was a hero just being a regular hard working man who takes the stupid train into New York City day after day, hating his job but doing what he has to do to make a living! That's MY true hero! NOT some running back from years ago! He was already my hero and he never even knew it!

Gus is visibly moved by Mary's passionate speech.

GUS

He just thought that to be worthy of you he had to be the Jay when he was a running back and not a guy who sits in a cubicle all day.

(Pause)

It's the highest compliment he could ever give you.

(Pause)

When you think about it.

Mary sighs, about to cry.

MARY

He just could never be just normal.

GUS

Mary is it OK for us guys to keep in touch with you too? I mean we kind of love you too you know.

Mary stands up and hugs both Gus and Bill.

MARY

I love you guys too.

FADE OUT.

INT. NYC APARTMENT COMPLEX - DAY.

All the guys except for Jay are in front of HARVEY MEYER's Manhattan apartment. Harvey is 29 and is a super star computer genius and the biggest fan Jay Franklin ever had.

GUS

Well, nice to see all you guys can make it.

STEVE

Are you sure this is Harvey's place? It looks rather upscale.

GUS

Yes I am sure. And Harvey has made some money for himself. He is some kind of a top .NET Developer according to his linked in profile. Whatever the hell .NET is.

BILL

We got some guys in my department who do that all day. They are all stressed out and mostly insane.

STEVE

Steve rings the doorbell for Harvey's apartment.

HARVEY

Yes?

STEVE

Harvey.  
(Pause)  
Do you remember the guys from high school? The championship team?

HARVEY

Yes.

STEVE  
Well, four of us are here to see  
you.

HARVEY  
Is Jay there?

STEVE  
No.

HARVEY  
Why not?

STEVE  
Because he's not here, that's why.

HARVEY  
How do I know its you guys?

Steve looks at Bill and Gus.

STEVE  
Ask us something.

HARVEY  
What was the score at halftime of  
the championship game

STEVE  
17-0

HARVEY  
OK, who scored the first touchdown?

BILL  
Jay did Harvey.

HARVEY  
How did he score.

BILL  
How do you think? He ran the ball  
in.

HARVEY  
From where?

BILL  
Harvey this is getting stupid, let  
us up.

HARVEY  
FROM WHERE! What yard line?

BILL  
(Annoyed. Looks at Steve)  
I don't know this one.

Turns to ask Dave.

BILL (CONT'D)  
How long was that run?

Looks at Dave who is not sure.

HARVEY  
Well?

BILL  
Wait man! Jesus Christ!

DAVE  
I think it was a 79 yard run.

BILL  
Are you sure?

DAVE  
No.

BILL  
It was from the 21 yard line. He  
ran 79 yards Harvey.

HARVEY  
Are you sure?

BILL  
Yeah! Let us up for Christ sakes.  
Are you insane or something?

Harvey releases the apartment building's front door.

STEVE  
Man. The CIA has LESS security.  
What a nut case this guy still is.

The 4 guys walk up 3 flights of stairs and arrive at a very upscale NYC apartment.

The door is open as they walk inside and they see Harvey in his living room surrounded by 3 large desktop computers, 2 laptop's and about 5 other computer screens, discarded coffee cups and computer books.

Sitting in his huge chair facing them as they walk in, is a very bald 29 year old, HARVEY MEYER.

INT. HARVEY MEYER'S APARTMENT - DAY.

STEVE

What is your electric bill? They can see this apartment from space and probably your head from what I can see. And by the way, where the hell are my sunglasses?

HARVEY

Still a funny guy?

STEVE

I think so.

HARVEY

I saw your act. You're not that funny.

STEVE

Well as Patrick Swayze said in "Road House". "Opinions vary". Are you trying to start your own solar system?

Takes a marble out of his shirt pocket and places it next to Harvey's very bald head.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Hey guys, I think this is actually to scale? What do you think?

HARVEY

(Pause)  
Are you done?

STEVE

Only for now. There is more coming.

HARVEY

I can't wait for the next brilliant zinger! And you did this stupid joke with the marble years ago.

STEVE

So what it still works.

HARVEY

Opinions vary.

DAVE

Steve, we are here for a higher goal, remember?

HARVEY

Why the hell are you guys here anyway?

DAVE

It's that fucking YOUTUBE video, or should I say TWO YOUTUBE videos you put out on the internet for unknown reasons.

HARVEY

What can I say. I love Sinatra.

DAVE

You love Sinatra?

HARVEY

Yes. I love Sinatra, but that is not the only reason why I put out those videos.

BILL

Jay was bouncing back pretty good for a few years, before you pulled this stupid stunt. You put him back about 8 years!

HARVEY

What? No way.

BILL

He is a mess Harvey. And thanks from all of us.

HARVEY

So what is wrong with him anyway, and why didn't he come?

BILL

Let's just say, we all have his back.

DAVE

And he's fucked up too.

STEVE

He lost his girl because of these videos you put out.

HARVEY

What? That makes no sense. She should be amazed at what this guy did, whoever she is.

DAVE

He is living in the past, of what could have been. Can't you see how that would fuck a guy up?

HARVEY

Well you know I would do nothing to hurt that guy. I am his biggest fan. I love that guy. You know that.

DAVE

We know. I think its time you TOOK DOWN those 2 videos. They have done enough damage!

HARVEY

You should have told me sooner! Its Been six months for Christ sakes!

STEVE

So what the hell made you put those videos out there after all these years?

HARVEY

People have to know what we all saw, and almost nobody knows. That's why I did it.

STEVE

(Pause)  
If you remember I was on the field blocking for this guy.

HARVEY

Yea, I remember. But most people don't know anything about Jay Franklin. I had to let the world know what we saw.

DAVE

Well for now, the history lesson is over.

Harvey starts typing very fast on his most impressive looking and most expensive laptop.

HARVEY

Both videos are no longer on line.

BILL

Why did you make the second one anyway. That was the killer.

HARVEY

It was the perfect song for all those just amazing highlights and who he is now. I should have done the Sinatra video for the pep rally. There would not have been a dry eye in the house. But now we all have a bigger fish to fry out there.

DAVE

Oh great, we have another fish.

HARVEY

I hacked the Rahway prison computer. #66 passed his release parole meeting, he gets out next week.

DAVE

Oh Jesus Christ. We can't catch a break.

BILL

That's not good news, and just when Jay is about as fucked up as he has ever been.

HARVEY

It doesn't end there. I checked around, and a friend of a friend told me that Dutton is no way near over that play. He saw the video again in prison according to this same guy and that set him off worse than ever. Also he thinks Jay cost him a college scholarship.

BILL

This nightmare of bad news never ends does it? That guy is a psychopath. He thinks Jay cost him his scholarship to college? Not the fact that he targeted Jay's knee on purpose.

STEVE

(To Dave).  
You think he could be planning something?

DAVE

I sure hope not, but with our recent luck!

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

(Angrily to Harvey)

You know this is all we need! And your stupid videos made the whole thing worse!

HARVEY

How is that?

DAVE

Well think about it Harvey. If all of us saw those 2 god damn videos and Jay saw it and Mary saw it, didn't you think that Dutton would see this thing in prison?

HARVEY

I didn't think that would happen. I didn't think they would be able to see an internet video in prison.

DAVE

You didn't think that would happen. All this brain power, and all these computers, and you do something this stupid. All you need is a bad cell phone today to see a video on YOUTUBE for Christ Sakes.

HARVEY

I said I was sorry! What can I tell you. I wanted to honor the guy, not make waves.

DAVE

This psycho probably killed some guys in prison and nobody found out. God knows what he could do to Jay or any of us once he gets out.

HARVEY

I can't believe they are letting him out so soon. The man robbed a bank and beat the crap out of his own lawyer.

(Pause)

No problem, we will just tell the police.

DAVE

Tell the police what? That we think that some sick criminal is pissed off about high school pep rally video from 10 years ago?

HARVEY

We should alert them. Let them know about this just in case. I will do it by computer. I have hacked into the Rahway prison AND police computer many times.

DAVE

OK you hack away. But I don't think this will do any good. Guys I don't like what I am hearing.

GUS

I agree. I have a friend who is a PI, his name is Rich Doyle. He owes me a favor. I will have him follow Dutton when he gets out. Right now, I think that is all we can do.

HARVEY

If your PI friend needs some computer support, here is my card.

Harvey hands Gus his business card.

STEVE

This whole thing is starting to get me nervous. In how many days exactly does he get out?

HARVEY

Six. He gets out next Friday at 5 PM.

STEVE

Can you imagine what a fucked up mess this guy is after 10 years in prison? He was a nutcase in high school and on the field.

DAVE

Let's try not to think about it. Harvey, any chance anyone has cloned that video of your's and put it out there?

HARVEY

No, but I will check anyway.

DAVE

Good.

HARVEY

Nice seeing you guys again. I really missed you guys and those days and those amazing games.

DAVE

You know Harvey. Of all of us, I think you are Jay's biggest fan.

HARVEY

I know I am.

STEVE

We hear you're some kind of a big time .NET Guy or something. Whatever that is.

HARVEY

I do OK. This apartment is 5K a month if that gives you any idea.

STEVE

You're kidding. 5000 a month for this place? And they call me a funny guy. That's my food bill for 2 years.

HARVEY

What's wrong with this place?

BILL

Once again guys, Priority. Let's keep things on the same page OK?

Steve places the marble next to Harvey's head again.

STEVE

Who the hell needs a planetarium anyway?

HARVEY

You should get some new jokes.

STEVE

If it works it works.

BILL

Yeah, I was there. You did that same marble planetarium joke 10 years ago.

STEVE

I got big laughs from that joke! And its the same marble by the way!

DAVE

Good thing the game was better than your jokes that day.

STEVE

Those were some days. Man what an athlete.

DAVE

42 DIVE RIGHT!! Coach saw what 66 was doing and called the exact right play. And then this whole thing started.

STEVE

That was the play. How can anyone live a normal life after what he did in high school. And what a video that was man.

HARVEY

Thanks. I spent many hours of my own time on that thing. It took me forever to get it right. I can't believe that a video could have caused all these problems.

BILL

More than just the video Harvey. It's that one play and one crazy bastard.

FADE OUT:

INT. HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - DAY.

A high school pep rally months before Jay's career ending injury. A film is being shown to the audience focusing on Jay Franklin's great runs. There is great music accompanying the video.

Jay is blushing and slumped into his chair.

Jays teammates look on with pride.

CAMERA PANS TO: 2 young men stand hidden in the back of the auditorium and they look very angry.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. THE BACK OF THE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - DAY.

Two members of the opposing High School team that Jay will be playing are present in the back of the auditorium. One of them is named JEFFREY DUTTON, 18, 6'4. The other is his friend JIM TURNER 18, 6'2. Both of them are very dangerous.

Dutton turns to talk to his friend Jim, who is standing next to him in the back of the auditorium.

DUTTON

I am going to get scumbag tomorrow. The party ends for superstar tomorrow. I am going to break one of those knees. This guy embarrassed me in front of my team. They lost respect for me after one fucking play. Tomorrow its payday for this guy.

JIM

Nobody should be as lucky as this guy.

They turn to exit the auditorium.

DUTTON

This guy is what eighteen? And look at what got? Where is my great day? I bust my ass out there, and nobody gives a shit and everybody kisses this guys ass. Where is my pep rally and video?

JUMP CUT TO:

The principal of the high school, a heavy set man in his late 50's goes on stage to make an announcement. The crowd is very quiet.

PRINCIPAL

I have been the principal of this school for over 20 years. I have seen many athletes come and go. But this year something special has happened. Jay Franklin, they say you have the NFL in your future. You should be in the NFL right now.

(MORE)

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

We all know that. Harvey. Where is Harvey.

The crowd starts to cheer.

The principal finds Harvey in the crowd.

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

(Pause)

GREAT job with that video! Just amazing. As good as NFL films has ever done.

The crowd applauds and cheers.

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

It makes you want to see that again right!

(Pause)

Jay, what a year you have had.

The crowd of students starts cheering again very loudly, and yelling Jay, Jay, Jay. This goes on for some time.

The principal reads from a paper he is holding.

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

2,789 Yards in 12 games, 9 Yards a carry, all school AND STATE records, and as you all just saw just some of the greatest breakaway runs we have ever seen. You are the reason why we are in the championship. Congratulations for your

(Pause)

Just incredible year. Jay come up here young man and say some words!

He slowly walks up the stairs to the stage as the audience goes crazy cheering for him and his great year of football.

Jay stands up blushing.

JAY

Thank you. I just want to thank my teammates, without whom I would never have been able to do ANY of what I have done this year.

The crowd applauds and cheer.

Looks at his teammates in the crowd.

JAY (CONT'D)

Love you guys. People talk about when I get hit and don't go down or when I go down I just get back up. They ask how I do that? It's all about getting up again. It's like life. I get up again.

(Pause)

And I just don't ever want to let you guys down.

Jay walks off the stage as the crowd explodes. .

Steve looks at Jay and smiles with a big sarcastic typical Steve Grin.

STEVE

Nice speech guy.

Jay rolls his eyes.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - DAY.

STEVE

Public speaking. Definitely not Jay's strongest suit.

HARVEY

He did OK. What he said came from the heart. That guy had more heart than anyone I have ever met in my life.

GUS

As we have said over the years, you are his biggest fan. And it was all gone in one play.

STEVE

Right from that one horrible day. That one horrible play.

FADE OUT.

EXT. THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME - DAY.

The scoreboard shows Jay's team ahead 28-7 with 5 minutes left in the game.

DAVE

Jay, I hear you're only about 40  
Yards away from 200.

JAY

Number 66 over there has been on me  
the whole day. He's Shooting for my  
knees.  
(To his offensive line)  
Keep that animal off of me.

They all break up and huddle and line up.

The play begins, and Jay runs into number 66 again, its a  
hard cheap hit, grabbing Jay's face mask.

DUTTON

You didn't like that asshole? Come  
on! Come on.

Aggressively beckoning Jay to fight him.

DUTTON (CONT'D)

Come on, don't you have balls man?  
Come on! FIGHT ME!

JAY

You're sick man. That's going to  
cost you 25 yards shit head.

Dutton attacks Jay but its broken up by the other players.

DUTTON

Hey golden boy! You're afraid of  
me aren't you! You're afraid of  
me! I will kill you! You're mine on  
the next play.

JAY

I ain't afraid of nobody.

The 2 boys are broken up. Jay is back in the huddle.

STEVE

The guy is a real animal. I hear  
he pulled a knife on a guy at  
school last year. What is his  
problem? Anybody got any XANEX?

GUS

Oh yeah, I got 2 pills in my  
fucking helmet?

STEVE

JOKE. That was a Joke? Ever hear about Jokes? Funny? Being Funny? However, if you have a XANEX cough it up.

JAY

One thing for sure is he doesn't like me. And what is this Golden Boy shit?

STEVE

Well, he's sure not talking about me.

Jay smiles.

GUS

OK, now that was funny.

On the next play Jay makes an amazing move and breaks down the field for 30 hard Yards, 5 more than he promised. They break and are back in the huddle for the next play.

Dutton is murderous. IN a state of fury, wants to kill Jay. They are back in the huddle.

DUTTON

I will kill you man!! I will kill you!!

DAVE

Use your moves your speed, stay clear of this guy. Let's get you 10 Yards on this play. Stay towards your right, he is weak laterally going to his left Jay.

JAY

I noticed that too. Thanks.

They all clap and separate.

Dutton is fuming. Looking at Jay. Wants to KILL HIM.

Dutton talks to the player next to him.

DUTTON

I am going to break this muthafucker.

The play breaks and Jay goes up the middle and then makes an amazing move to the left, Number 66 hits him on his left knee, a horrible dirty cheap shot trying to cripple him.

The blow and ends Jay's career, because of the angle of the blow and the severity. Jay lays on the field in incredible pain, screaming. Everybody in the crowd knows that this is a career ending blow.

His teammates gather around closely.

Dutton looks on, with a very evil smile.

Several of Jay's teammates jump on Dutton and a fight ensues.

FADE OUT.

INT. A LOCAL HOSPITAL - DAY.

Jay Franklin is surrounded by 2 nurses and an orthopedic surgeon.

DOCTOR

JAY, we looked at your x-ray. It's bad. All the tendons are ripped, and your knee needs the full surgery. It really doesn't look good for next year Jay. I am sorry.

JAY

You have to be kidding, it can't be that bad. It can't be. No!!

Jay crying louder from the pain.

Jay's 4 friends run into Jay's hospital room.

GUS

So whats the story, what's it looking like?

Gus stops in his tracks when he sees the faces of the doctor and Jay's distraught demeanor.

STEVE

Any chance, there could be good news in this room?

The doctor and 2 nurses leave the room, leaving Jay and his 4 close friends alone in the hospital room.

JAY

They say its not looking good. But I will prove them wrong. I am coming back from this, I can promise you.

DAVE

You bet you will. We are all behind you man. Like we always are. You will be better than ever. NFL man! NFL!

Steve fights hard to not cry.

Jay's friend gather around the hospital bed.

FADE OUT.

EXT. RAHWAY STATE PRISON - DAY.

Present Day.

Dutton and his friend Jim are out in the yard talking and walking through the yard.

DUTTON

Hey man. I get out of here in about 2 months, maybe even earlier if I am lucky. It was my first offense and you would think I would catch a break. I lost College and the NFL because of video boy too.

JIM

Yes I was there remember? You me and that judge.

DUTTON

Yeah I remember. I got plans when I get out of this hell hole.

JIM

Like what?

DUTTON

Franklin. Got a score to settle with video boy. It was all about him, and nobody cared about me and I as the best.

(Pause)

I was the best linebacker in the state and nobody gave me my due. They made videos about that guy.

JIM

I thought you busted him up pretty good in high school. Ain't that enough?

DUTTON

No it ain't enough. I want to really get this guy this time. Get him good. Where he lives.

JIM

What do you mean?

Dutton pulls out a picture from the newspaper from the grand opening a NYC restaurant. In the background is a picture of Jay an Mary in the background having dinner.

DUTTON

See this bitch here in the background? She is my answer. If that doesn't end this guy, nothing will.

JIM

Yes she is something. What are you going to do?

Dutton looks at Jim with a very evil smile.

DUTTON

You'll see. In about 2 months when I get out of here.

(Pause)

We have a date in hell man.

JIM

Wow. You sure got me curious.

DUTTON

Remember the game? The big game? I challenged that wimp to fight me, and he didn't have the balls. He will have no choice to fight me now. Franklin disrespected me in front of my team. I could be a super star in the NFL right now were it not for that video boy.

Another prison inmate comes up behind Dutton and Jim.

INMATE

Hey, you guys got some cigs?

JIM

No man. What do I look like a WaWa?

INMATE #1

Just asking man. No need to get in a mood.

DUTTON

A mood. Who the fuck are you talking to? Why don't you fuck off asshole. We are walking here, conducting business, show some respect.

INMATE

What's that you say?

DUTTON

So you're deaf and ugly and stupid too? I said fuck off asshole.

The inmate gets nose to nose with Dutton.

INMATE

Care to make this interesting?

DUTTON

Sure asshole, why not? I haven't kicked the living shit out of anyone in about a day in here.

JIM

Hey guys, its just cigarettes.

DUTTON

Shut up man.

Dutton very quickly and efficiently starts punching out the other inmate. Quick hard punches to his face and stomach and soon 2 of his friends come over and are soon destroyed by Dutton.

The LOUD sounds of sirens go off from the prison and all the men drop to the ground and cover their heads.

JIM

Remind me to never get on your bad side.

DUTTON

In the future keep your fucking mouth shut when I am conducting business.

JIM

No problem.

Jim and Dutton put their heads to the ground.

FADE OUT.

INT. A NYC RESTAURANT - NIGHT.

Mary and Jay are sitting at a table at the more private end of the restaurant.

MARY

So, you look rather dapper tonight on our 5th date.

JAY

Wow. This is the first time I have ever heard you use that word.

MARY

Dapper?

JAY

Yes. Coming from you, its very cute.

MARY

You think everything I say is cute.

JAY

Well. You have me there. I do.

Jay almost laughs looking at Mary's cute tiny hands.

MARY

What are you laughing at?

JAY

(Blushes)  
It's your hands Mary.

MARY

What about them?

JAY

Nothing.

MARY

You think they are cute? And tiny. You think my hands are tiny and cute, don't you?

JAY

Yes. They are very tiny and very cute. They make me want to protect you and take care of you.

MARY

Really?

JAY  
Yes, really. It's a nice word don't  
you think?

MARY  
Cute?

JAY  
Yes.

MARY  
Tiny?

JAY  
Yes.

MARY  
I like the way you say cute.

JAY  
That's very good news, because I  
say it a lot, and I can't stop  
saying it about you. Do I say it  
too often?

MARY  
(Smiles).  
Yes you do. But I love it anyway.

Mary leans over and kisses Jay.

JAY  
Mary you are so delicate so perfect  
for me.

MARY  
Delicate, now that is a new word.

JAY  
It's perfect for you.  
(Pause)  
As far as this place? I don't like  
it. It's too noisy and dark. Let's  
not come here again.

MARY  
I agree. I liked the last place we  
went to. Near 80th.

JAY  
Yes. I like that too. It was quiet  
and small and just right.

MARY

Don't you mean it was tiny and cute? We can still go there if you want?

JAY

Well that is kind of a long walk from here.

MARY

So is my apartment.

JAY

Your apartment?

MARY

Yes, my apartment.

JAY

Are we at that stage after 4 dates?

MARY

What do you think?

JAY

Wow.

MARY

(Smiles).  
Jay do you love me?

JAY

My God  
(Pause)  
What a question.  
I cant even keep my composure around you. I say stupid things all the time.  
Of course I do.  
(Hesitantly)  
Do you love me?

MARY

Yes. I know I do. I think I knew it when we first met.

JAY

The canned corn?

MARY

Yes. I hope our relationship is bigger than that can you almost dropped.

JAY  
God I sure hope so.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MARY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT.

Jay and Mary make love for the first time and the emotions are very powerful.

INT. MARYS APARTMENT - DAY.

The next morning.

It's a bright stunning Sunday morning. The sun shines through the windows and it brightens the room completely.

MARY  
Good Morning.

JAY  
Good Morning to you. You were very beautiful last night. Notice that I didn't say cute again.

MARY  
I am impressed Jay. Very.

JAY  
But you are very cute Mary and so beautiful.

Jay leans over and kisses Mary and holds her hands.

Mary smiles and hugs Jay.

MARY  
I always wanted to ask you. Just how you were able to run like that. What you did was so amazing.

Jay looks away from Mary.

JAY  
When I worked out. If I didn't faint or cough up blood, it wasn't really a work out. I was willing to do whatever it took to be the best and that included  
(Pause)  
Dying.

Mary looks at him horrified.

MARY

My God. That is just so insane.

JAY

I was insane when I was eighteen. I wanted to be a running machine. I didn't care what it took, or if I died. I had to be the best the fastest. I had to do what nobody else would be willing to do, to be the best. I was willing to go there, and risk everything, even my life.

MARY

I really don't think that is normal, especially for someone so young.

JAY

The problem is being so normal now. It's been so hard to give up something that was all I lived for and now be so average.

Notices Jays right knee for the first time and the huge scar on his knee.

MARY

There is nothing wrong with being average Jay  
(Pause)  
How long is that scar?

JAY

I think its something like twelve inches, maybe longer.

MARY

Twelve inches? That is really unbelievable.

JAY

Yes. That was some operation.

MARY

Did it hurt?

JAY

Yes it did. It still hurts sometimes. The doctor was not our first choice.

(MORE)

JAY (CONT'D)

He may have messed things up more than they already were.

(Pause).

I will never know for sure.

MARY

I'm so sorry Jay.

Mary reaches out and touches Jay's battered knee.

JAY

I thought for the longest time I could come back from this. But I lost the abandon I had.

Mary Kisses him while rubbing his leg and knee.

JAY (CONT'D)

Mary, I have to tell you something.

MARY

What?

JAY

I just feel that every time I am with you, every time we kiss and every time I see you, its takes away one bad thing from my life.

(Pause)

I feel that when I am with you, I can be what I was when I was in high school.

MARY

What is so wrong with who you are now Jay?

JAY

I don't think who I am now is good enough sometimes to be with you.

(Pause)

Someone so perfect.

MARY

Please don't say things like that. It makes me angry. It messes, things up in my head.

JAY

It's how I feel Mary.

MARY

I love the man I am with now. I never even met the superstar running back from high school.

JAY

I know. But the guy in high school is who I really am Mary.

MARY

Who you really are, is who you are right now. You are Jay Franklin. The man I love right now. What is wrong with now Jay.

JAY

I want you to know who I was when I was somebody.

MARY

Jay. This is crazy. Insane. You're living in the past.

JAY

I don't think you understand this.

MARY

No, I don't. I don't want to understand this. Forget high school and forget that video. Can we please just live for now? Just right now?

Jay stands looking at Mary.

JAY

Yes. Yes we can. Of course we can, sorry Mary. Sorry I upset you.

They embrace. Mary is no longer able to hold back her tears and just sobs in his arms.

FADE OUT.

EXT. MARY'S PARENTS HOUSE IN SPRING LAKE NEW JERSEY - DAY.

Mary and Jay stand in front of her parents house before ringing the doorbell. When the door opens, JOHN DONOVAN 55 and NADINE DONOVAN 50, stand in the doorway.

MARY

Now Jay. Please don't be intimidated by my father OK?  
(MORE)

MARY (CONT'D)

And besides he is not only a huge football fan, but just like you, he loves the Giants!

JAY

OK, but I have to admit I am nervous.

MARY

Well don't be nervous! You will be fine! I think my Dad might have seen your video too!

JAY

Really?

MARY

Yes, really!

JAY

Mary that may not be a good thing.

The door opens. Mary's parents stand at the entrance, NADINE DONOVAN 53, and JOHN DONOVAN 55.

They are both beaming.

NADINE

Hello Mary!

Nadine hugs Mary.

Nadine then hugs Jay.

NADINE (CONT'D)

So nice to finally meet you.

JAY

You too. I have heard many nice things about you too, both of you.

JOHN

Hello.

John holds out his hand.

Jay shakes John's hand.

JAY

Nice to meet you sir.

JOHN

Hey, no need for the sir.

JAY  
OK. Dad maybe?

JOHN  
No, not that either. Just call me  
John.

JAY  
OK, no problem, thanks John.

NADINE  
Well come in! We have dinner in the  
oven, its almost ready. It's  
salmon Mary, your favorite!

MARY  
Oh great mom. I haven't had that in  
a while.

JAY  
(To Mary) Salmon?

MARY  
Yes, that's my favorite fish.

NADINE  
Yes, and that's not all. We have a  
nice beet salad, some stuffing, and  
creamed corn!

Jay looks at Mary and they both smile at each other.

JAY  
Creamed corn?

JOHN  
(To Mary)  
Something significant about creamed  
corn?

MARY  
No. Nothing important Daddy.

NADINE  
Well, why don't we sit down, dinner  
is just about ready. I am looking  
forward to talking to you both.  
It's been too long between visits  
Mary.

MARY  
Mom, I was here last week. What do  
you mean?

NADINE

Well, we wish you were still living here Mary, you know that.

MARY

Well mom, New York City beckoned me at a young age.

JOHN

Well, I still don't like it that you are living there sweetie. That place is a hell hole.

MARY

Oh daddy, its NYC not a hell hole.

JAY

Well, I work there, take the train there. Some areas are a hell hole. Sorry to say.

MARY

Well, I love it there. And I am in a safe part of the city too!

They all sit down and John lifts his wine glass.

JOHN

Well. Heres to a great evening, outstanding salmon. My little baby back home. Where she belongs! And her new boyfriend Jay Franklin. A fellow Giant fan, I hear.

They all clink glasses.

JOHN (CONT'D)

So Jay. I have to admit, that I saw the video, actually both videos. And I am more than impressed, stunned actually. Not just about what you did, and the kind of athlete you were, but also, the technical achievement that video is from a high school technical staff? I was much more than impressed.

JAY

Thank you sir. I mean John. It was a long time ago. The guy who did that video originally, I think is the person who put it on YOUTUBE.

(MORE)

JAY (CONT'D)

We don't know for sure yet, but its probably him. There is no doubt he is a genius. Both with computers and with film.

NADINE

How did it make you feel to see that video again, after all those years?

JAY

Well the memories of how things were for me physically were a little hard for me to get past. To be honest its been rather upsetting and difficult lately.

MARY

He's getting better about it. It's been about a month now and we talked about it and he is much better.

JOHN

There are 2 videos out there.

MARY

Yes. I saw that other one too.

JOHN

That is one very emotional song. I remember when Sinatra sang that many years ago. Just about one of his best, and Sinatra was the best.

JAY

Actually that was the one that I had the most problem with.

MARY

Me too. It made me cry.

NADINE

You were an amazingly talented young man Jay.

JAY

Thank you ma'am.

JOHN

The good thing is, because of that video and the about 900 thousand hits so far, that many people now know what you did in high school.

(MORE)

JOHN (CONT'D)

Gayle Sayers comes to mind, but what you did was better. Barry Sanders was also somewhat similar to your style but you were better at breaking tackles and taking huge hits and breaking through them.

JAY

Thank you John.

NADINE

I understand that you're in IT? Software development?

JAY

Rather boring in comparison, but I did find something to do after the knee injury after a high school course I got interested in software. It's not the NFL. (Pause) But its.

(Pause)

I majored in computer science.

JOHN

All athletes need something to fall back on in case something goes wrong. Injuries are just one part of that. The knee is just not meant to take some of the hits and get into the positions that it does.

JAY

The odds are against you from the start.

JOHN

They sure are. Just like the odds were against the Giants in 2008 and 2012.

JAY

I still can't believe that 2nd one. New England. Again. Never would have guessed that could happen twice. The whole thing was like a mirror image of the first time in 2008 all the way through the playoffs.

JOHN

I never thought they would do that again, never in a million years.

(MORE)

JOHN (CONT'D)

And once again they were 9-7, going on the road like that? No way.

NADINE

Well as we say around this house very frequently. Miracles do happen.

MARY

Miracles do happen.

Mary looks at Jay and smiles.

JAY

Mary. Can you pass the creamed corn?

Mary laughs and hands Jay the bowl of creamed corn.

NADINE

There is something going on with creamed corn here?

JOHN

Yes. Something going on. Some inside joke.

Mary and Jay smile at each other.

MARY

It's nothing important mom.

JOHN

But the curiosity is killing us.

JAY

It's just that when we first met.

MARY

NO, Jay. Don't tell them. It's our thing. It's a private thing between us.

JAY

Yes, yes its private. Sorry guys.

MARY

Yes sorry.

NADINE

Well, maybe one day we will find out.

MARY

Maybe.

JOHN

So Jay, you are in IT as we said earlier?

JAY

Yes, I am, Right after college, about 6 years now.

JOHN

Manhattan?

JAY

Yes. Train from New Jersey.

JOHN

You don't seem too thrilled.

JAY

It's a job. It's a living. None of us guys are too thrilled with our jobs right now.

JOHN

Us guys?

JAY

My friends, teammates from high school.

MARY

Yes, Jay is still great friends with his teammates in high school, 4 other very good friends.

JOHN

So why are you guys all sour on your jobs?

JAY

Well I wouldn't say sour sir. I mean John.

JOHN

What would you say?

NADINE

John. Don't press too much OK?

JOHN

I am not pressing, but this is important.

(MORE)

JOHN (CONT'D)

What is he doing for a living the future? Making a living? Kind of important don't you think?

JAY

Yes its important.

JOHN

But you hate your job, correct?

JAY

No I don't hate it I do hate the train ride every day however.

JOHN

Well that's life. You have to get there every day. There and back, the harsh reality of life and so is money, that's for damn sure.

JAY

Yes I agree with you about money.

JOHN

What do you want to do, if not IT?

JAY

Well, that dream has died John.

JOHN

I would think so, after so many years son.

MARY

Can we change the subject?

NADINE

Yes, let's change the subject. Have more creamed corn John.

MARY

Jay and I saw a Broadway play the other day.

NADINE

Really? How nice. Which one?

MARY

The Lion king.

NADINE

Wow. How did you like it.

MARY

Well  
(Pause)

JOHN

You're not thinking about the NFL  
still are you? And what you missed  
out on?

JAY

Yes, I am. Yes I am thinking about  
that. Is that a problem?

JOHN

I would say it is. Yes. It's been  
a long time since God damn high  
school.

JAY

It doesn't stop me from doing my  
job.

JOHN

Which you say you hate. It sure  
sounds like you have not gotten  
over this and are not thinking  
about the future, and a possible  
future with my little baby over  
there.

MARY

I am not a little baby.

John becomes emotional and angry very quickly.

JOHN

You are and always will be my  
little baby young lady! And that  
is NEVER going to change! Don't you  
ever forget that! You're my little  
baby girl. Don't ever tell me that  
you are not my little baby.

Mary is close to crying.

MARY

I'm sorry.

NADINE

I thought we were about to talk  
about the Lion King John.

JOHN

I don't want to talk about a Broadway Play. I want to talk about this young man, this kid here, who is still living in the past. And is dating my little baby here. And as the father of the potential bride, I don't think its too much to ask that the man she is dating, actually knows what year it is! Your video was incredible, amazing. I have never seen anything like it before. You were badly injured, and now you're a software guy in New York City! And that's IT! Reality!

JAY

Should I leave? Would you like me to leave?

MARY

No! This has gone far enough! Daddy why did you have to bring this up and ruin everything and on our first meeting! Jesus. Can you ever be nice!

JOHN

This is too important baby. I can't have my child marrying the wrong man.

MARY

Who said anything about marriage?

JAY

Mary? Yes  
(Pause)  
Who said anything about that yet?

NADINE

You guys are in love right?

JAY, MARY

Yes yes we are.

JAY

Very much so.

MARY

Yes. Very much.

NADINE

Well that is all that is really important right now. John they are still both young, still trying to find their way.

JOHN

They are both almost 30, when I was 30 I already had my own business!

MARY

Oh again, with the 30 and own business already. It's not the Eighties now OK?

JOHN

What difference does that make?

MARY

It makes all the difference, things are harder now! The economy, college loans! Yes, how about college loans, they didn't have that in your day daddy.

JOHN

He has to get his head glued on straight. I won't approve of this relationship until that happens. Find something you love doing, just make sure its not football for Christ Sakes. I also wish you made it to the NFL or college, but you didn't. Learn to MOVE ON. Or, give up on her.

John looks at Mary.

JAY

Thanks for your advice. Sir.

NADINE

Now can we get back to talking about the Lion King?

MARY

I didn't like it too much.

NADINE

OH, well, OK then. That's actually too bad.

FADE OUT.

EXT. OUTSIDE MARY'S PARENTS HOUSE - NIGHT.

Jay and Mary are walking along the beach later that evening.

JAY

Well, that sure as hell did not go well. Have you been talking to your father about all my issues lately?

MARY

No. Only the video, I think he figured out the rest on his own.

JAY

Really. He must be a genius then.

MARY

He is very smart and NO I didn't tell him about any of this.

JAY

What about your mom?

MARY

(pause)  
Maybe I did say some things to my mom in confidence.

JAY

Well, obviously that is what happened Mary. And I don't like your dad attacking me like that.

MARY

I'm sorry, but that is the way he is. I am always his little baby all the time. Did you listen to what my Dad said tonight?

JAY

Yes, but what does that have to do with anything?

MARY

Some of things he was saying, kind of make sense don't they? You are still thinking about your days as a running back. It's like you go into a trance sometimes. Just about every time there is music playing, you seem to go somewhere, like you're not even here.

JAY

What? A trance?

MARY

Yes! You don't even know you're doing it! What are you thinking about now Jay? I know you're not thinking about us or our future, or your job are you?

JAY

Mary, I know I have problems. But trust me, I know what he was saying and my head is screwed on straight. Despite what he said in there.

MARY

Is it?

JAY

I just wish you knew me then. What I could do then. I was lighting fast and nobody could catch me.

MARY

You see. You just did it again. Sometimes I don't know that you are!

JAY

Well by now, after 3 months of being together, you should know that I am OK. Mostly OK.

MARY

Some days you are OK, and then, you're not OK.

JAY

What do you mean, not OK?

MARY

Sometimes it seems like you are never going to move on from where you were from high school Jay. I think we are having our first fight.

JAY

I think so too.

MARY

Is my dad right about you?

JAY  
NO, he is not.

MARY  
I am worried about you. I am  
worried about us.

JAY  
Well don't be. We are fine.

MARY  
Maybe we should take a break for a  
while?

JAY  
What do you mean? What do you mean  
by break?

MARY  
Just some time apart. Maybe it  
will help you.

JAY  
How in the hell is not being with  
you going to help me?  
I have been telling you over and  
over again that I am FINE, and you  
won't listen to me, and now you  
want a break? It's like I am  
talking to myself here.

MARY  
I think you might need to see  
someone Jay. A therapist. I don't  
think you are OK. You are  
depressed all the time and the  
video has made you worse.

JAY  
Mary. I am OK, and I will be OK. I  
don't want to lose you over this.

MARY  
You will lose me if you don't get  
help.

JAY  
Your Dad has this much control over  
you? He says something at dinner  
and you go off the deep end?

MARY  
This has nothing to do with my Dad.  
You know that.

JAY

I will see someone. But I don't want to break up. I don't want a break.

MARY

OK. OK Jay.

JAY

OK.

Jay hugs Mary, and they both cry in each others arms.

INT. PAROLE HEARING ROOM - DAY.

Present day Parole hearing for Jeffrey Dutton.

PAROLE OFFICER #1

Mr. Dutton. How are you?

DUTTON

OK. I feel OK. I feel I did my time like a man.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

I read here that you got into about. Well about 20 or so fights in the last 9 years or so.

DUTTON

It's prison. You either fight or die. You have to stand up in here. If you don't, you're history.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

Well. I can't really argue with that.

PAROLE OFFICER #1

Do you feel you have paid your debt to society?

DUTTON

Definitely. I was a crazy kid back 10 many years ago. I should have gotten only 5 years, so I have paid double here.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

Well you did attack your lawyer and cursed out the judge. And this football incident didn't help your case.

DUTTON

This place has changed me. Turned me into a decent man. I am ready to get back to real life again.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

Do you have a profession? Something you can do once you get out of here?

DUTTON

Yea. My Dad has a welding job for me.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

You put down on your application Welding?

DUTTON

Yes.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

Well that is a solid profession.

PAROLE OFFICER #1

Do you have any money saved? Where will you stay when/if you get out of here next week?

DUTTON

I got some friends on the outside.

PAROLE OFFICER #1

Friends? Do you definitely have a place to go to, once you leave here? Why not your dad?

DUTTON

No man. Not with my dad. I got a friend who will take me in.

PAROLE OFFICER #1

We would like to have that verified.

DUTTON

OK. That's no problem.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

I think that's all for now.

Turns to his colleague and looks back at Dutton.

PAROLE OFFICER #2 (CONT'D)  
Do you have anything additional?

PAROLE OFFICER #1  
NO, I think that's it for now. We  
will let you know what we decide.  
We will make our decision in 3  
days.

DUTTON  
OK. Thanks.

PAROLE OFFICER #1  
OK. You are dismissed.

Dutton leaves the room, smiling with a rather evil smile.

PAROLE OFFICER #1 (CONT'D)  
You know, this guy almost killed  
his own lawyer. Committed armed  
robbery and broke a kids knee and  
now he is ready to hit the streets?

PAROLE OFFICER #2  
Over Crowding. He has all his  
points. There is no proof he didn't  
do his time without incident in  
here, so there we go again. I'm  
sorry, but he gets out, its out of  
my hands. Again!

Parole Officer #2 stamps APPROVED on Dutton's Parole Sheet.

FADE OUT

EXT. OUTSIDE RAHWAY STATE PRISON - DAY.

Private investigator RICH DOYLE, 29 sits in his car on sunny hot Friday afternoon, a good distance from the entrance of Rahway State prison. He looks at this watch, his cell phone and his note-pad and a picture of Jeffrey Dutton

DOYLE  
(Talking to himself)  
Man, its hot today. Jesus Christ.  
When the hell is this guy getting  
out of this place. It's hours past  
the release.

Doyle looks at his watch and then observes Dutton leaving the entrance of the prison and then starts to take many pictures.

Dutton turns to notice a car pulling up.

DUTTON

OK, now we are talking. Hey man.  
Thanks for being on time.

FRIEND IN CAR

No problem. Anything for you. You  
can throw your bag in the back.

DUTTON

Hey thanks again. Shit, it sure is  
hot today. So glad to get out of  
this stinking hell hole.

FRIEND IN CAR

You sure are man. Congratulations!  
Where can I drop you off?

DUTTON

My dads house. Let's hope he is  
not home.

FRIEND IN CAR

(Laughs).  
Problems with your Dad?

DUTTON

No, no more than usual. He is an  
asshole, as is everybody in my  
family.

FRIEND IN CAR

I hear you and same here.

DOYLE follows them at a good distance. He writes down the  
license plate and takes many more pictures of the car in  
front of him.

DOYLE

I hope this isn't too long. I have  
another appointment.

Doyle's cell phone rings.

DOYLE (CONT'D)

(Into Phone)  
Yeah. Yes, he just got out. He  
looks like he is a dangerous  
nutcase just like we thought.

(Pause)

Worse than we thought.

(MORE)

DOYLE (CONT'D)

My web site, log on to your account tonight after 10 PM, I will upload all the pictures. Yeah Gus. Bye.

Doyle follows them expertly to see where Dutton and his friend drive to and takes many more pictures.

DUTTON

OK, you can stop here.

FRIEND IN CAR

You got money for gas?

DUTTON

What?

FRIEND IN CAR

Gas. You know gas.

DUTTON

You're kidding right?

FRIEND IN CAR

No. Money for gas?

DUTTON

I thought we were friends.

FRIEND IN CAR

No man not really. 30 dollars?

DUTTON

30? 30 what?

FRIEND IN CAR

30. 30 dollars. In cash.

DUTTON

How about I give you fucking 10 dollars and I don't kick your ass for the rest?

Looks up at Dutton who is standing outside of his car window.

FRIEND IN CAR

Sounds good to me.

DUTTON

You want the 10? Come up out of the car and take it!!

Dutton glares menacingly at the driver.

The driver looks up at Dutton for a long time, and then drives off. Dutton smiles as he drives away.

Doyle watches at a good distance and using a device in his car he can hear most of the conversation.

DOYLE  
(To himself)  
Well, how do you like that. Real tough guy.

Doyle watches as Dutton goes into this fathers house.

DOYLE (CONT'D)  
Gus. Yea. He's at his fathers house. I actually thought he was going to kill his driver about a minute ago.  
(Pause)  
Stop griping all the time, your driving me crazy!

Doyle hangs up his cell and drives off.

FADE OUT

INT. NEAR TRENTON NEW JERSEY - DAY.

Doyle waits in his car far away from Dutton's fathers house.

DOYLE  
(Into recorder)  
10 AM. No sign as yet. Very hot day. Suspect is in sight. 10:03 am.

Doyle watches as Dutton hops into an old Buick Olsmobile.

Doyle takes more pictures as Dutton gets into the car and drives off, tires screeching.

DOYLE (CONT'D)  
(into recorder)  
Suspect is heading down Route 1 South towards Trenton. He is speeding, going at least 70.

Doyle follows Dutton for 20 miles as he stops and picks up Dutton's friend from prison and high school football teammate, Jim Turner.

DOYLE (CONT'D)  
Suspect has picked up a passenger.  
Friend is about 6'0' brown hair,  
and heavily tattooed like suspect.

Doyle watches as the two men exit the car and arrive at a very old and abandoned warehouse in Trenton New Jersey. One of the seedier sections of Trenton.

DUTTON  
Jim.

JIM  
Yeah.

DUTTON  
Don't look.  
(Pause)  
Some asshole is tailing us in a  
black SUV.

JIM  
Yeah.

DUTTON  
Do something for me.

JIM  
Yeah.

DUTTON  
Find out who he is and then kill  
this guy. I want him dead by this  
Friday. Here is the plate number.

Dutton hands Jim a piece of paper with the licence plate number.

JIM  
Man I just got out. Probation.

DUTTON  
Either take care of this guy back  
there or I kill you.

JIM  
He's gone by Friday.

DUTTON  
Now that's what I like to hear. I  
want to know who he is and why he  
is following me before you kill  
him. But I think I know already.

JIM  
Franklin?

DUTTON  
Ya, and his gang.

Jim and Dutton start looking around a very old and abandoned ware house probably abandoned for 50 years, formerly a brewery.

DUTTON (CONT'D)  
I think this will do fine. It's dark way off the main roads. Nobody here. I was here last when I was 9. This is the place.

Stands looking around, reflecting.

DUTTON (CONT'D)  
How fucked up is your life, when 10 years in prison is probably your upside. I got one thing left. One last fight.  
(Pause)  
Revenge.

FADE OUT.

INT. FRONT OF NEW JERSEY HOUSE - DAY.

Gus, Bill, Dave and Steve all congregate in front of Jays townhouse in South Brunswick New Jersey.

Gus Knocks lightly and then rings the doorbell. After no answer to 20 seconds, Gus rings again.

STEVE  
Is he even home for Christ sakes?

GUS  
Yes, I called his neighbor to double check. He has been home for hours.

DAVE  
Maybe we should look in the window.

GUS  
Let's wait another few seconds.

Jay answers the door, looking like hell, like he is about to die.

JAY

Why are you guys even here? For God  
sakes is there no peace for me in  
this miserable life.

GUS

How? How are you doing?

STEVE

Nobody has heard from you in days.  
I called you days ago, I sent e-  
mail.

DAVE

Man, you don't look good.

BILL

Can we come in please?

JAY

Yeah man, come in.

STEVE

You know Jay. I don't think your  
therapist is going to be up for  
therapist of the year.

BILL

Perfect. Jokes now Steve?

JAY

I am not doing well guys.

DAVE

I can see. You're not doing well.  
You don't look healthy.

Dave looks around as Jay's townhouse is a total mess.

DAVE (CONT'D)

So what happened. It's been 5 days  
since we heard from you. We heard  
you called in sick from work?  
What's going on?

JAY

It's Mary. I can't go to that job  
anymore. I can't do the train  
anymore its killing me. All I do  
is think of Mary all the way to  
that city and back again. I think I  
might be dying. I just look out the  
window  
(pause)

(MORE)

JAY (CONT'D)

on the train

(pause)

and think about her and I can't stop.

BILL

It's OK to drop off for a while. You're having a tough transition. It's not the end of the world. Do you have anti-depressant drugs?

JAY

No. We never got to that point. She is not that kind of a therapist.

BILL

We think you need them.

STEVE

Coffee is all you need. Do you have any? Just instant, nothing special.

JAY

Drank all the coffee. It's not helping me.

DAVE

Have you even slept?

JAY

Not really, not in about 5 days. I just keep thinking about Mary, and how cute she is. Her tiny hands, her voice. She has the nicest voice you know. Have you heard her voice? I just love listening to her voice when she talks.

Dave looks at Jay with great empathy and emotion.

DAVE

Oh my God in heaven. You are just falling off the edge aren't you?

BILL

You know, we are pretty close as a group here to driving you to a mental institution.

GUS

Is that what you want Jay? Do you want us to drive you somewhere?

JAY

NO. I am OK. I just need to sleep.

GUS

But you just said you can't. If you slept for 15 hours you would be fine again. I am sure of it. Jay, you can get past this.

BILL

What did you boss say about you calling in sick.

JAY

He is a moron and I quit 2 days ago. Working there was killing me.

BILL

You quit?

JAY

Yes.

BILL

I hope you have money.

JAY

I have money.

STEVE

How much?

JAY

Enough.

BILL

Six months enough? That's what you are going to need in this economy, at least 6 months of money at least.

JAY

I have more than that.

(Pause)

I am still running in my head. Better than I ever was, the moves the speed, and acceleration. Nobody can catch me.

BILL

Hang in there man. We are with you.

JAY

It's not the same. I had Mary. And who I was in high school.

DAVE

We have never seen you look like this. Were all worried.

GUS

Heavy therapy Jay. The kind you get at a hospital.

JAY

You mean a mental hospital.

GUS

I mean a place where you can finally get the help you need.

Gus's cell phone rings - loudly - over and over.

JAY

You going to take that or do we all go deaf?

Gus walks into the kitchen to take the phone call.

BILL

It's Friday, we will stay here over the weekend and work on this together and I could care less if my wife complains again about all this. Maybe quitting that job was half the problem.

DAVE

It's all Harvey's fault. If that asshole didn't put that video out, none of this shit would have happened.

Gus can be heard loudly talking on his cell phone in the other room.

GUS

WHAT! WHAT! What the hell are you telling me? What the HELL are you talking about! WHO? Who did this? OH MY GOD! When? Are the police on this? Where?

(Pause)

I don't believe it.

(MORE)

GUS (CONT'D)

I just don't believe it. I knew him  
from college!

Gus walks back into the living room with the guys. His face  
white and ashen.

STEVE

Congratulations on winning  
Publishers Clearing house!

GUS

It's Doyle.

STEVE

Who the hell is Doyle?

GUS

Doyle. You know. Fucking Doyle. Are  
you present on planet earth? DOYLE!  
The guy I hired!!

STEVE

Doyle. Oh that Doyle.

GUS

Yeah, He was found dead in his  
apartment. Somebody beat the shit  
out of him and then shot him, many  
times. His partner found him.

DAVE

OH shit.

JAY

Who the fuck is Doyle? What the  
hell is going on?

BILL

It's not important. Just a friend  
of Gus.

JAY

What? Bullshit! I can always tell  
when you guys lie to me!

GUS

Doyle is a guy I knew from college.  
He started his own PI firm. That's  
all.

JAY

NO more bullshit. There is more to  
this story than you're telling me.

GUS  
I hired him to follow Dutton when he got out. I didn't like some of the things Harvey was telling us.

JAY  
Harvey? You talked with Harvey?

GUS  
Yes.

JAY  
So what things is Harvey telling you about Dutton?

GUS  
That he is crazy, that he is more messed up than ever. He saw the videos.

JAY  
That lowlife saw those videos in prison?

GUS  
Yes..

JAY  
You guys know about all this? And you don't tell me about any of this shit.

STEVE  
We were worried about you.

BILL  
We went to see Harvey to get him to take those two damn videos down.

JAY  
And then you hire this Doyle guy to follow Dutton and he is dead now?

GUS  
Sure seems that way.

JAY  
You think Dutton had him killed.

GUS  
Those odds are very high. Or Dutton did it himself.

JAY

Well, maybe you shouldn't have hired this guy to follow that psychopath around then! DID YOU EVER THINK ABOUT THAT!!

GUS

We were worried about you and even Mary.

JAY

I can't breathe anymore. I just can't breathe.

Jay walks around trying to take a deep breath.

GUS

We don't know if it was Dutton. This just happened maybe 5 hours ago. It might not even be him, it could be anybody. Who knows what Doyle was into, it could be anything.

BILL

Let's just stay calm here. Not fly off the handle.

JAY

Mary. What if this piece of sick garbage is going after Mary, right now?

BILL

I said don't fly off the handle, and you fly off the handle. Thanks. Thanks for listening.

JAY

Well, how do you know? He could be going after her! How the hell do you know? He wants to fight me, he wants to settle the score! This guy is insane.

BILL

Nobody knows. Let's all drive there right now and talk to the police. Where did this happen?

GUS

Rich lived in Flemington. The Flemington police called me.

JAY

Let's go there. I want to know what the hell is going on right now.

STEVE

Call Mary Jay. Let her know to be careful. Go to her parents in Spring Lake.

JAY

Bill you call her. If I call her she might think something is up.

BILL

How do I ask her how she is, she is going to wonder what is going on.

GUS

Just say you are just calling to say hello, how is everything.

JAY

Forget all this. Bill, just tell her what happened and that she should go to her parents house.

GUS

He's right. Do it. Call her.

BILL

What's her phone number.

Jay gives Bill Mary's phone number from his cell phone.

Bill dials Mary's number. The phone rings and rings and there is no answer.

BILL (CONT'D)

Nobody is answering. She is not picking up.

JAY

This is a nightmare, I can't believe this is even happening.

BILL

All we can do now is keep calling her and get to Flemington.

GUS

Doyle's partner will be there we can talk to him. There is one more thing.

JAY

Now what?

GUS

Doyle told me that, the day after Dutton got out that he and this other scum-bag Jim somebody were checking out some warehouse in Trenton. A really old one, some former brewery.

JAY

What is that all about?

GUS

I don't know. He didn't tell me where it was. It just looked like they were staking it out for maybe some kind of a business probably a drug hangout.

JAY

Well I don't like the sound of this at all. Some warehouse somewhere in Trenton?

BILL

Guys, let's call the Flemington Police and if we can't get anybody to talk to us on the phone, let's go there in person.

FADE OUT

EXT. OUTSIDE DOYLE'S APARTMENT - DAY.

The guys arrive at Doyle's apartment, about an hour later.

Gus sees Doyle's partner talking with several police officers. Yellow police ribbons are all over the area.

Gus walks up to Gus's partner and friend, JOE RILEY, 30.

Joe is understandably distraught.

GUS

Hey man. How are you doing?

JOE

How do you think? I am messed up. We have been partners and friends for as long as I can remember. I had to identify him.

(MORE)

JOE (CONT'D)

I could barely recognize his face.  
I have never seen so much blood.

Joe is shaking.

GUS

Who do you think did this?

JOE

Who do I think? It's that mutant  
Dutton scum you put us on. Has to  
be.

GUS

Why do you say that?

JOE

What the hell kind of a business do  
you think Rich and I had anyway?  
We do bullshit divorce crap almost  
exclusively. Do you think we deal  
with murderers and scum like this  
guy? It's him. Believe me. He was  
shot 10 times for God Sakes.

GUS

How did Dutton find out about him.

JOE

To be honest Rich was never any  
good at tailing people. He was  
always too close. He thought he was  
good but he sucked at it.

STEVE

This is getting way over our heads  
guys.

JAY

It's been over our heads for many  
years. Ever since one play. One  
move with the wrong guy at the  
wrong time.

POLICE OFFICER #1

Hey, can you guys see that there is  
a police investigation going on  
here?

GUS

Can we talk to the detective in  
charge.

(MORE)

GUS (CONT'D)

I was friends with the victim and I hired him to tail a guy, and I think that maybe I can help with this.

POLICE OFFICER #1

OK, I will get him. What is your name?

GUS

Gus.

The lead detective is a large man in his 50's, very typical looking grizzled man. He walks over to Gus. His name is TONY PORTENZA, 58.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Are you Gus?

GUS

Yes.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

What do you know about this? You hired him to do something?

GUS

Yes. There is this guy who just got out of prison after almost 10 years. He is crazy, a real nutcase, and I hired Rich to tail him, and take pictures. We thought he could be up to something.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Take pictures, why?

GUS

We were afraid of what he might be up to. We wanted some piece of mind.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Like what kind of things would he do?

GUS

We don't know.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Who is this guy out of prison?

GUS

Jeffrey Dutton.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
I know that scum bag. I was one of  
the arresting officers 10 years  
ago. I was also in court when he  
almost killed his own lawyer.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA (CONT'D)  
(Looks at Jay).  
Hey are you Jay Franklin?

JAY  
Yes, why?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
I remember you from 10 years ago.  
I saw you play. You were amazing,  
never seen that before.

JAY  
Thanks.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
Dutton was the guy who wrecked your  
knee, right?

JAY  
Yes.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
Well, why would he still be pissed  
off at you? Does he want to go for  
the other knee?

JAY  
We heard some things about when  
Jeff was in prison. He still hates  
me, and he still wants revenge.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
Revenge for what?

JAY  
One play.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
One play?

JAY  
One play when I made him look bad.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
You're kidding.

JAY  
I wish I was.

STEVE  
And there are videos.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
What video?

STEVE  
A friend of ours put a video on  
YOUTUBE of this pep rally from our  
high school, and it kind of ignited  
all this all over again, for all of  
us, and we think number 66 too.

GUS  
We think it riled him up all over  
again and that play is in the  
video. The play where he looked  
bad, missed a tackle. He fell over  
trying to grab for Jay.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
OK, I want all you guys to come  
with us back to the station. This  
is a brutal murder, and we have to  
cover all the bases.

GUS  
OK.

FADE OUT

INT. FLEMINGTON NEW JERSEY POLICE HEADQUARTERS CONFERENCE  
ROOM - DAY.

GUS  
Doyle told me he followed him after  
he left prison and the first thing  
the following morning.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
What time exactly.

GUS  
I think he said 10. He was going to  
write me up some kind of a  
surveillance report. We have to  
look at his web site, he updates it  
all the time.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Don't worry about that, the guys are looking at his computer right now. So what else did Doyle tell you.

GUS

Doyle followed Dutton to a warehouse in Trenton. He didn't tell me where it was, he just said it was very old and probably a brewery.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Maybe we got more info on that on the computer.

Portenza calls out to his partner.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA (CONT'D)

Hey Al, any updated on that hard drive yet?

POLICE OFFICER #3

No, not yet. We are looking through that shit now. He's got a million documents on that laptop.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

OK, keep looking. Let me know.

POLICE OFFICER #3

OK. We are working on it.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

So you guys have anything else to add? You have said nothing so far.

STEVE

Other than the video. We weren't involved with this Doyle guy. Only Gus.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

OK, what about this video.

STEVE

It was on YOUTUBE. Harvey Meyer put it out there.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Yeah, we got Harvey coming in here too. He may be here already.

STEVE

This YOUTUBE thing started a whole bunch of crap, and it could be part of what is happening now with Dutton.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

How so?

STEVE

He's still holding a grudge from high school over this one play, and its on the video, actually both videos. Jay made him look very bad and he is still pissed even after he messed up Jay's knee.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

There are 2 of them?

STEVE

Yes. Harvey took them down days ago.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

OK. How can we get a hold of them now?

BILL

Harvey would have a copies.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

OK. You guys stay here. Have some coffee, we got donuts.

The detective leaves the conference room.

JAY

So now what?

BILL

We wait. What else can we do?

JAY

What if this animal has Mary?

BILL

What if this whole thing is nothing. What if someone else killed Rich Doyle. It's not going to help anyone going off the deep end.

JAY

It's different for you, you are not  
in love with her.

BILL

We all love Mary, you know that.  
Not like you, but we love her.  
Don't ever forget that.

Harvey Meyer walks into the conference room with a police  
officer.

HARVEY

Hey guys. I see you are all here.  
What the hell is going on?

GUS

Someone killed Doyle.

HARVEY

Doyle who?

GUS

Again, nobody pays attention in  
this group! He is that PI I told  
you about. He was found dead this  
morning in his apartment. Beaten  
and then shot like 10 times.

HARVEY

Holy Shit. You guys think Dutton  
did it?

GUS

It's possible. That's why we are  
all here.

HARVEY

Unbelievable!

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

So you are the guy who put those  
videos of Franklin on the internet?  
On YOUTUBE?

HARVEY

Yes.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Why did you do that?

HARVEY

I don't know. I had them, and it was the 10 year anniversary, I wanted to share them with the world.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Did you ask Jay's permission?

HARVEY

No. They are my property anyway.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

You know something about hacking into Rahway State Prison I hear?

HARVEY

I had to keep track of that guy for a long time, ever since he was arrested for armed Robbery.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Why?

HARVEY

Because to be quite honest. He is Completely out of his damn mind sir. He is a threat to all of us.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

OK. Well that is one thing I agree with. Unfortunately we let people like this out of prison because of over crowding.

GUS

Can we take a break? We have been in here for well over an hour. You guys got coffee?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Yeah, we got a kitchen down the hall. 10 minutes.

GUS

OK. Jay, walk with me. Let's get some coffee.

Jay and gus exit the conference room and head down to get coffee. The other guys stand up and stretch and walk around the conference room.

Walking with Gus.

JAY  
This is a nightmare.

GUS  
Try and hang in there. This could  
be nothing.

JAY  
I think something is up, and I  
still can't reach Mary.

Gus and Jay start to drink coffee.

GUS  
Well I will be honest, I am getting  
worried too, I never should have  
asked Doyle to tail that guy.

JAY  
You should have told me.

GUS  
We couldn't reach you for 5 days.  
And let's face it, you have not  
been doing well for a long time, I  
didn't want to burden you with  
this.

JAY  
In the future, burden me please? I  
am stronger than you might think.

Gus's cell phone rings.

GUS  
Hello? Yes, this is him. Who is  
this? Who is this? I can't hear  
you? Who is this?

DUTTON  
You know who the fuck this is. It's  
number 66.

GUS  
What? What the hell are you talking  
about.

DUTTON  
Number 66. You forget already about  
high school?

GUS  
Dutton?

DUTTON

Yes. Ding Ding! I knew you weren't that stupid.

GUS

What do you want.

DUTTON

I want Franklin. On your cell phone. NOW. RIGHT NOW!

JAY

Who is that? What is going on?

GUS

Look man, he's been through enough. What do you want?

DUTTON

Man you are stupid. I just told you. Put Franklin on your fucking cell phone. Now.

Gus very reluctantly hands the cell phone over to Jay.

JAY

Who is this? Who the hell is this?

DUTTON

It's number 66. Let's see if you're smarter than your asshole friend.

JAY

What do you want?

DUTTON

I want to finish what never started. Our fight. The championship game. I want my time. I want my revenge.

JAY

All these years and you're still thinking about a fight during a football game? Your revenge for one play so long ago?

DUTTON

Got someone here for you superstar.

JAY

What?

MARY

Jay. It's me.

JAY

Mary. He has you? Are you OK?

MARY

Yes I am OK.

JAY

Are you sure, if he even touches you I will kill him!

MARY

I am OK Jay, but scared.

JAY

I know Mary. I am so sorry.

DUTTON

OK that's enough chatter. So here is what is going to happen. You write down my cell number and drive south from where you are now. After you drive south for 20 minutes you call me. I know where you are, I know every place you have been today. Right now you are in the Flemington police station. If the cops follow you, she is dead. If your asshole friends come with you or follow you, she is dead. When you call me in 20 minutes I will tell you the next check point. You don't call me in 20 minutes, she is dead.

Dutton tells Jay his cell phone number.

JAY

I am writing down your cell number. Don't hurt her. You said it right, this is between you and me. Just you and me. She didn't do anything to you.

DUTTON

Hey, no problems. You do what I tell you, and follow instructions and she lives. You don't, and as you know today, I got no problems killing. Today I settle the score for all times.

(MORE)

DUTTON (CONT'D)

My life has been over since you embarrassed me in front of my fans. It's pay day today.

JAY

Pay day for one play 10 years ago. You are insane.

They both hang up the phone.

GUS

So what is going on. What does he want?

JAY

He wants me, and he has Mary?

GUS

What? What? Holy shit. Did he admit he killed Rich Doyle?

JAY

Yes.

GUS

What do you mean he wants to meet you for what?

JAY

To settle the score between us.

GUS

Well how the hell are you doing to do that?

JAY

He wants to fight me. The fight he wanted in that one game where he went insane.

GUS

Well that's just great! You are going to fight this insane man who has been working out for 10 years pumping iron in a prison and you have been sitting in a cubicle all that time writing code? Jay, you can't fight this guy.

JAY

If I don't, he will kill Mary. He is going to kill her. And if you guys follow he is going to kill her.

(MORE)

JAY (CONT'D)

He knows where we are, he has guys following us all day. I have to do this, I have no choice.

GUS

He outweighs you by at least 25 pounds. He is going to beat you to death, right in front of Mary, is that what you want?

JAY

You forgot about who I am, my heart. I never gave up on a play. He thinks he can beat me, but he will be surprised.

GUS

I can't let you do this. I don't want to see you in a bloody lump on some fucking warehouse floor. And he's probably going to kill her anyway!

JAY

I can't take the risk of telling the police or having you guys follow. You know you can't stop me Gus. Now be a friend and don't make a big deal.

GUS

That sure sounds like a stupid plan. But there is no talking to you is there? By the time we all find you and Mary you will probably both be dead!

JAY

No. There is no changing my mind  
(pause)  
I am doing this.

GUS

He is going to KILL YOU!

JAY

Gus, without her, I am dead anyway. That's what I realized the last 5 days. I have no reason to be alive anymore without her.

GUS

What do I tell them? The guys, the cops?

JAY  
Tell them I felt sick and went home.

GUS  
They aren't going to buy that.

JAY  
I know, but you can handle this.  
For me Gus.

GUS  
For you. For you who wants to get beaten to death by some sick felon.

JAY  
Just do your best. That's what I am going to do.

GUS  
Just do one thing for me.

JAY  
What?

GUS  
(Pause)  
Remember Rocky 2 and Mickey telling him to go to the body? The body, the body, go to the body Rock?

JAY  
Yeah, I remember that. How could I forget that fight scene?

GUS  
GO TO THE BODY. Do that for me. Beat the shit out of this miserable bastard. Use your speed your legs that I know are still there. Go to the body, like Rocky. Do that for me, do it for all of us.

JAY  
I will, I will do my best.

GUS  
Do more than your best. Win!

Jay smiles the way he use to smile on the football field, before a big run, and just walks away.

FADE OUT.

INT DAY POLICE STATION.

Gus returns to the interrogation room.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

(To Gus)

So where is your friend Franklin?

GUS

He is sick. Not feeling well. He just went home.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Did he check in with the front desk? Who the hell told him he could leave? We are not done asking questions here.

GUS

He is really sick. Not himself. He has not been well for days now.

The guys look at Gus.

STEVE

Did he say anything? This doesn't sound right.

GUS

No, other than he is very sick and feels bad. That is all.

STEVE

OK. I guess.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

You fucking guys can't just walk out of here when you're being questioned. OK!!

FADE OUT.

EXT. JAY IN HIS CAR - DAY.

Jay makes the call to Dutton on his cell phone while heading south down the highway in his car.

DUTTON

(into the phone)

Yeah.

JAY  
(into the phone)  
It's me.

DUTTON  
(into the phone)  
Me who?

JAY  
(into the phone)  
Who the fuck do you think?

DUTTON  
(into the phone)  
Hard to tell man, you have such a  
faggoty sounding voice.

JAY  
(into the phone)  
Fuck you.

DUTTON  
(into the phone)  
Oh tough guy. That's good man.  
It's going to really come in handy  
in about an hour from now.

JAY  
(into the phone)  
Yeah. You said it.

DUTTON  
(into the phone)  
After you drive another 20 minutes  
on route 1 and then call me back.

JAY  
(into th phone)  
I will call you in 20 minutes.

DUTTON  
(into the phone)  
Bye pretty boy.

They both hang up.

FADE OUT.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
Harvey, as far as you hacking a New Jersey State Federal prison, do you know that is a federal offense?

HARVEY  
It is? Why?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
What are you a wise guy?

HARVEY  
No sir.

STEVE  
I can vouch for that, he is not a wise guy, that's for sure. He is a bald guy, not a smart guy.

Steve smiles at Harvey.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
I will need ALL the data you got on your computer. Harvey your off the hook only because of the current circumstances. Otherwise you would be in jail right now.

Harvey nods to the officer.

GUS  
Is there any progress on Doyle's laptop? Time is a wasting here.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
What is your problem? Do you know something you're not telling me?

GUS  
No, just want to know what is going on. Rich did mention a warehouse in Trenton they were staking out.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
I agree, and I will let you know. Let me be the cop OK?

Gus fidgeting and nervous and noticeably sweating as he sits down at the conference room table.

STEVE

Gus, are you OK? You're sweating like a New York City waiter.

GUS

I am fine, I am fine.

Portenza dials his forensic team.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

(into phone)

Hey, you have any info on that computer? OK, send me an electronic copy and walk it over. OK, yeah, right now. Do you think we are having a fucking party in here? NOW!!

Hangs up the phone.

GUS

Is that it?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

It should be. He found a stake out folder.

A forensic police officer enters the conference room and hands detective Portenza the report.

FORENSIC OFFICER

Tony here it is. We got a lot off that laptop.

GUS

Great what does it say. Give me the readers digest.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Hey do you need some Valium for Christ Sakes? Relax. Somebody make you cop in the last 10 minutes?

The detective starts to read the document.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA (CONT'D)

OK, here it is. He followed Dutton and this other felon Jim to this Trenton Warehouse, 3 days ago. And he has the address here at the bottom. It's our only lead.

GUS

Can we go?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

This is a police matter, you are not a police officer.

GUS

Can we just go with you, just to help if we can.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

No.

GUS

Jay is going there now.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

What?

GUS

Jay is going there right now, and Dutton has Mary.

STEVE

Are you out of your mind?

BILL

Oh my God, he has Mary?

DAVE

He has Mary, that miserable piece of garbage has Mary? This is one day I just do not believe.

HARVEY'

God, I don't believe this. I don't believe it.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

And you may be under arrest!

GUS

I couldn't tell you! He has us all staked out. If you followed he would have killed her.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Is that right. Well that was a fucking stupid thing to do. Did you ever consider that we know what we are doing here? You two fucking heros didn't think of that?

(MORE)

DETECTIVE PORTENZA (CONT'D)  
Ever hear of a tracking device?  
They actually work you know!

GUS  
No I guess we didn't. There was no  
talking to him he just had to go  
and settle the score, to save her.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
OK. You guys, you heros can go,  
but if you get in the way of this -  
or don't stay in the police car, I  
will shoot all FOUR of you!

STEVE  
Yeah, I got it.

HARVEY  
Clear, yes, I get the message.

Bill and Dave nod in agreement as they all leave the  
conference room.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
OK let's get moving on this.

FADE OUT

EXT. JAY IN HIS CAR - DAY.

Heading south towards Trenton, Jay dials Dutton.

JAY  
(into phone)  
Hello?

DUTTON  
(into phone)  
I said 20 minutes, its 19 minutes.

JAY  
(into phone)  
So?

DUTTON  
(into phone)  
Next time follow instructions or I  
start cutting off tiny fingers.

JAY  
(into phone)  
You hurt her and you are dead.

DUTTON

(into phone)  
Yeah, I heard that shit last time,  
but you ain't holding NO cards  
video superstar!

JAY

(into phone)  
Where to next you scumbag.

DUTTON

(into phone)  
When you see the exit for Davidson  
Road off of Route 1 then you are in  
Trenton, make the first right and  
go to the Wilderness parking lot  
and then call me again.

Jay Hangs up his cell phone.

FADE OUT

INT. POLICE VAN - DAY.

Gus, Bill, Dave, Steve and Harvey are riding in a police van,  
following detective Portenza and a good number of Flemington  
Police cars.

Steve is glaring at Gus, very angry.

STEVE

I can't believe you didn't tell us  
what was going on.

GUS

How the hell could I tell you, look  
at how you're reacting now. I had  
no opportunity anyway.

STEVE

That nutcase is going to kill Jay,  
you know that.

GUS

That is what I told him, he didn't  
want to listen. For better or  
worse, this guy still thinks and  
will always think like a super  
athlete who thinks there is nothing  
he can't do.

DAVE  
Is Mary OK at least?

GUS  
Yes, Jay talked to her, I heard her voice on the cell phone, she sounded as well as could be expected.

HARVEY  
He has a Mohawk.

They all turn and look at Harvey.

GUS  
What?

HARVEY  
It was in Doyles report, I hacked it from the police e-mail.

GUS  
You hacked the Flemington New Jersey Police e-mail server in 1 hour?

HARVEY  
No big deal, just some nohow, I know a shortcut, its the same deal as Rahway police and the prison. No sweat.

DAVE  
(a long pause)  
He has a Mohawk??

HARVEY  
Yeah, and a whole hell of a lot of tatoos too.

DAVE  
Tattoo and Mohawk combo. A prison inmate for 10 years. Who the hell would have guessed.

BILL  
What if we don't get there in time. Jay is going to get himself killed and Mary too. What were you thinking? .

GUS

There was no talking to him. He was doing to do what he was going to do.

HARVEY

I sure hope you are right about that. I am sure sick of tracking this scum bag that's for sure.

FADE OUT

EXT. TRENTON WAREHOUSE - DAY.

Jay arrives at the Trenton warehouse and carefully and slowly gets out of his car.

Jay is Sweating profusely and walking slowly.

Jay walks up to the front of the warehouse building looking for the entrance. He is greeted by Jim Turner, Dutton's lowlife stooge.

JIM

Hey man. Glad you can make it. Hey, you got some real balls. You got some real balls.

Jim laughs a very evil laugh.

JAY

Yeah. I got balls. Where is Mary?

JIM

She is upstairs, waiting for you man! Hey you still in some shape like ten years ago?

JAY

I am still in some shape. And that's the end of the stupid fucking questions asshole. Just take me to where we are going and shut the fuck up.

JIM

Nice! Ha! I like you man, you're a tough guy. Hey Jay, this ain't going to be running yeah know. This ain't no football game, no fancy videos hero boy! I like your girlfriend man. Real cute.

JAY

Like I said asshole, shut the fuck up.

They both walk up the stairs of the 100 year old brewery.

Huge holes are visible in the ceiling.

Jay looks ahead and sees Dutton standing there; just waiting.

JAY (CONT'D)

Nice Mohawk. I think you finally found your perfect look.

DUTTON

Thanks video pretty boy.

JAY

Still with this pretty boy crap. You're still in high school aren't you? In your head?

DUTTON

From what I hear, so are you. Hey, I like your fucking limp man.

Jay stands there, stunned by his comment with a look of anger and hatred that is murderous.

JAY

Where is Mary?

Dutton turns to look for Jim.

DUTTON

Hey Jim, you can bring her out, just put her over there, so she can watch the show.

JIM

OK.

Jim drags out Mary. She is battered and terrified and dirty.

JAY

Mary. Are you OK baby?

Jay almost loses his composure.

MARY

Yes, I am OK. I am OK.

JAY

Are you sure. You look like you have a cut Mary.

MARY

It's OK, I am OK, I just bumped my head. I sure don't like your friends though.

Mary leans forward trying to reach Jay.

DUTTON

Hey no way, Jim hold her back, over there. No hugging shit. This is a show, a final showdown between video boy and me.

MARY

What show, Jay what is he talking about?

JAY

He wants us to fight me Mary. He has for 10 years.

DUTTON

Not just a fight Mary, a fight to the death. Murder and kidnapping today. My life is over anyway. Just one more thing left to do.

MARY

No! Jay you can't! He's insane. You can't do this, Jay.

JAY

(Pauses looking Dutton in the eye)  
Don't worry.

MARY

ant you just let us go! Please, please. We won't tell you about where you are! Please just let us go!

DUTTON

Are you kidding me? After all the trouble I went through with this little party?

MARY

Please. I am begging you, just let us go. We won't tell I promise.

DUTTON  
Jim, this is pathetic, shut her up!

JIM  
OK, no problem.

Jim puts tape over Mary's mouth.

JAY  
You hurt her you're dead.

JIM  
Keep your shirt on, I am not hurting her, its just some tape.

DUTTON  
You ready man? You done any fighting in the last 10 years, because I sure have.

JAY  
You here to talk or fight?

Makes muffled noises, her mouth taped shut.

DUTTON  
I am here to settle the score. You wimped out of fighting me. You could have fought me in the championship game and all this would never have happened, and you would be in the NFL right now!

JAY  
I was just making a move, I made millions of moves, you slipped and that was not my fault. How sick are you anyway?

DUTTON  
You should have settled our score in high school. And now I am going to kill you, right in front of your little bitch over there.

Mary makes muffled noises through the tape as she closes her eyes, unable able to watch.

JAY  
Enough of this talking, its time for this to happen.

DUTTON  
Right, enough talk.

Dutton puts up his hands as they circle each other.

JAY  
Got what you want now?

DUTTON  
Oh yeah. I have been thinking about  
this for years.

JAY  
You are one sick head case.

DUTTON  
Oh yeah pretty boy. Make me  
angrier. You are stupider than I  
thought.

Jay makes a quick left handed jab and catches Dutton on his right cheek, then another quick jab to this forehead that catches Dutton by surprise.

DUTTON (CONT'D)  
Oh pretty boy got some stuff.

Dutton lunges and hits Jay on the top of his head and then goes for his body, but Jay is too fast, but some damage was done by the initial blow.

JAY  
You think that hurt?

Jay hits Dutton again with another jab to the head.

FLASHBACK - INT. GUS TELLING JAY TO GO TO THE BODY.

Jay goes to the body, and hits Dutton with 2 good body shots.

DUTTON  
Dutton hits Jay with a good shot to the side of his head, drawing blood near his left eye, then Jay almost falls over while missing Dutton with a rather awkward right hook.

JAY  
Umph.

Jay swings again, and misses Dutton again, now aware that he is bleeding.

DUTTON  
Oh shit man. You got blood already  
man! Ha ha.

MARY

Muffled screams. Muffled noises.

JAY

Misses with a jab, and uses his legs to crouch down unexpectedly and dodges a vicious right from Dutton and then hits him with 2 perfect shots to his mid section. Pop, Pop! The punches make a loud firm noise.

DUTTON

Umph. Umph. Hey, the body. You go to the body man. Not as good as me though.

Dutton hits Jay with 2 hard shots to the body himself and then Jay almost falls over again. Jay uses his still very fast feet to dodge away and because of his speed, Dutton misses him with another attempted vicious shot to his head.

MARY

ahhhhh, ahhh!!

DUTTON

Dutton now goes ALL OUT with some huge shots to Jay's head and misses each time. Jay is able to position himself underneath 2 punches and hits Dutton with just one good solid punch right in the center of his gut. POW!

Dutton Gets angry.

DUTTON (CONT'D)

Umph.

Jay hits Dutton with another good jab to the nose and then dodges Dutton with 2 great moves, very fast.

DUTTON (CONT'D)

Keep running from me man like a faggot, you can't run all day can you!

JAY

Shut the fuck up.

DUTTON

Dutton lunges at Jay, knocking him over as he lands and hits his head on a 2-by-four. Jay is now bleeding from the back of his head now as well as his eye. Jay uses his legs and speed to get up quickly and surprises Dutton with another great body shot. Pow!

JAY

Are you gay? Why you trying to grab me?

Jay hits Dutton with another great jab to his face. Now Dutton's nose is bleeding.

DUTTON

Lunges at Jay again, now respecting Jay's speed and skill, and hits Jay with a great body shot and then misses with a huge overhand right!

JAY

Is that all you got? I see your bleeding now too asshole!

DUTTON

Dutton lunges again, but Jay is able to step away and hit Dutton with a passing right hook. Dutton then hits Jay with another blow to his stomach. Pow!

JAY

Umph. Ahhhhh..

DUTTON

That hurt pretty boy?

JAY

You can't hurt me you fucking son of a bitch.

DUTTON

You don't think so? You're bleeding pretty boy?

JAY

So are you.

Hits Dutton with another jab. Then another and then another. They have no effect on Dutton.

MARY

Ahhhhhhhhhhhh.

DUTTON

You hit like a girl man.

Jay ducks under another blow and then hits Dutton with 2 great jabs to the gut, pop, pop, and then goes into the gut more. Both jabs have their effect and as far as the follow up blows, they hit their mark.

JAY  
That feel like a girl scum bag?

DUTTON  
Yeah. Wimp.

Dutton lunges at Jay again and tackles him. Then grabs him and tries to hit Jay in the face. He misses both punches because of Jay's quickness. Jay gets up and hits Dutton again with a jab to the face and receives one back with a punch to his stomach.

JAY  
Still trying to grab me huh? Like wrestling with men? Did that in prison a lot?

DUTTON  
You may be fast, but you can't run forever.

JAY  
Ain't nobody running you bag of shit.

Dutton tries to hit Jay with a jab, and misses with an overhead right and then misses again with another jab.

Jay ducks down and then misses Dutton with a body shot. Jay then hits Dutton perfectly with a second shot to the gut. POW!!! The effect this time is very obvious.

DUTTON  
Umph!!

JAY  
That hurt? Why? I hit like a girl remember?

DUTTON  
You're going to die man, and I am going to kill your bitch too.

Lunges again, and knocks Jay over with a tackle, they wrestle on the ground but Jay's speed is telling.

MARY  
Louder cries of anguish, aaaaa..

DUTTON  
Jim can't you shut that stupid bitch up?

JIM

Hey you stop making so much noise  
bitch!

Puts more tape on her mouth.

JAY

Both men wrestle and got in good shots to the face, as Jay's still incredible speed and reflexes save him. Both men then stand up and face each other again, both bleeding and exhausted. Jay then goes to the body again, BIG TIME, POW, POW, POW, POW, and surprises Dutton with telling BLOWS to the gut. The last 2 are killer shots. POW, POW!!!!

DUTTON

Umph. aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaahhhhh,  
ahhhhh!!!

JAY

Still hit like a girl?

DUTTON

Fuck you man.

Dutton hits Jay with a body shot of his own. A hard one. For Jay adrenaline is taking over now and the heart he had as a great running back. The heart of a lion.

Jay hits Dutton with 2 shots to the face, right at his nose, increasing the bleeding.

Dutton lunges at Jay again, and lands on him as the roll on the floor Dutton throws a punch at Jays head, but Jay fast as ever, moves his head and Dutton hits the floor with his fist, almost breaking his hand).

DUTTON (CONT'D)

Ahhhhhh!! FUCK!!! Ahhhhh!!!

JAY

Hurt your hand asshole?

Jay lands several more body shots as Dutton falls back and then falls over, holding his hand an rolling to the floor. Jay stands over him, waiting to see if he will stand.

DUTTON

Ahhhhhhh. You fuck. I will kill  
you!

JAY

Gonna be hard with only one hand  
shit head. Good luck with that.

DUTTON

I should have killed you in high school!

JAY

You couldn't catch me in high school and you can't catch me now either. Too fast and too smart for you too, scum bag.

DUTTON

That's what you think.

JAY

Want to call this a night? Or do I have to kill you tough guy?

Dutton stands and lunges again. Still holding his hand. Jay then lands 3 more body shots perfectly and Dutton falls again in pain.

JIM

Hey, you want help man?

DUTTON

Stay away. I will kill this guy myself.

JAY

Time to call it a night? OR do you want more? If I were you I would stay down.

JIM

Let me take him man. Let me shoot him.

DUTTON

Stay back man.

Dutton stands up again and circles Jay and lands one good shot to Jay's head with his good right hand. Jay counters and goes to Dutton's body again, this time with more force than before. Dutton falls to the ground defeated.

JAY

If you don't call off your pet squirrel over there, I will kill you. And him too.

DUTTON

Ahhhhhhh.....

Holds his hand and stomach area. Unable to move.

JAY  
I think you may need to do more sit ups.

DUTTON  
Fuck you.

JAY  
Call off your pet squirrel.

DUTTON  
Jim, stay back.

Suddenly the police break in. ALL pointing their guns and screaming LOUDLY!

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
HANDS UP. NOBODY MOVE! HANDS UP!  
That means you too Franklin!  
(to Jim)  
You move and I will shoot you in the face.

JIM  
No problem man!

Jim puts his hands over his head. Shaking in terror.

Detective Portenza and yells at a police officer.

A police officer removes the tape from Mary's mouth and cuts off the rope from her hands.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
Cuff that piece of shit over there.

Portenza looks at Jay.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA  
Looks like I missed some kind of a fight. Some kind of a fight. Are you OK?

MARY  
Jay, are you ok?

JAY  
Yes, I am fine. ARE YOU OK baby?  
Didn't you see?

MARY  
NO, I was hiding my eyes almost the whole time.

JAY  
Oh.

MARY  
I hate violence. Do you think I would love you more just because you can fight?

JAY  
Did you say that you love me? You still love me?

Jay caresses her face, and brushes her hair from her eyes as he kneels in front of Mary and looks her in the eyes.

MARY  
Yes I said that. You must know that.

JAY  
Well no, I didn't know that. If you love me then why did we break up?

MARY  
Because your living in a time machine Jay. A time machine where the rest of us are living for now and you aren't.

JAY  
Oh, that.

MARY  
Yes that.

JAY  
Yes that.

MARY  
After all this. After this nightmare, are you back in the present Jay? Do you know what year it is now?

JAY  
I know that I love you.

MARY  
I love you too.

GUS, Harvey, Dave, Steve and dave ALL rush in.

STEVE

Hey. Is everybody OK?  
(to Dutton)  
Aside from this piece of shit?

Steve looks at Dutton as he is in custody and is walked off in handcuffs along with Jim.

Gus looks at Jay, battered and bloodied after one hell of a fight.

GUS

So Jay. It looks like you took care of business.

Jay turns and looks at Detective Portenza.

JAY

Are we are past the let him out early because of prison overcrowding garbage?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Well, let's see. Kidnapping, Murder, assault? We just may get the death penalty for this pile of trash.

JAY

Well that's good to hear and finally some good news for a change.

GUS

Jay as far as you taking care of business here. I have to say I didn't think you had it, not against that guy. But I forgot about that Franklin heart and that speed.

BILL

Like they say, you should have seen the other guy. And we all just saw the other guy!

DAVE

Yeah I just saw him, and he looks like shit.

GUS

You go to the body?

JAY

Like you wouldn't believe. All day long.

GUS

You think about Rocky when you went to the body?

JAY

What do you think?

GUS

You visualize, the body Rock, go to the body, the body scene in Rocky with Mickey?

JAY

Are you insane?

GUS

Yes I am in insane, but did you?

JAY

Yes I did all that. Are you crazy?

My God

(laughs)

You are crazy man.

GUS

Man I wish I was there to see that fight.

HARVEY

Jay do you have an IPHONE or something? Did you record this fight?

JAY

What?

HARVEY

Well, if you recorded it I could get this on YOUTUBE in about 2 hours.

BILL

Is this your first ever attempt at humor?

HARVEY

No, I mean, it would be a great video.

STEVE

Unbelievable isn't it, and he's bald too. I would ordinarily tell you to go shave your head, but what would the point of that be?

MARY

It was horrible. Just horrible. I hate violence.

JAY

Mary, I thought you said you were holding your eyes.

MARY

I was, but I saw some of it. Too much of it.

JAY

Were you impressed by me?

Mary very cutely rolls her eyes.

MARY

Oh my God, you men.

Mary starts to walk away, but she is smiling.

MARY (CONT'D)

Honestly, I think I have seen it all now. What did I do to deserve this?

JAY

Mary? Were you? I mean just a little?

MARY

Oh my God, please grow up! For God Sakes.

Jay follows Mary as they all walk out of the warehouse.

JAY

Mary?

MARY

What now?

JAY

I love you.

Jay hugs and kisses Mary.

MARY

I love you too.

Mary cries in Jay's arms.

MARY (CONT'D)

I was very scared for you.

JAY

There is no way, no way on earth I would let anything happen to you. I just can't, I know I just can't live for another day without you.

MARY

I know Jay.

Jay and Mary embrace.

Steve pauses looking at them, enjoying this amazing once in a lifetime miracle moment in all their lives.

STEVE

You know I shouldn't say this. And I promise its not going to be a joke. But do you all of you guys, my great friends of my whole life  
(Pause)

See the irony of all this? The worst scum any of us will ever know, has undone what would have been a horrible tragedy, Mary and Jay are back together.

Steve looks over at Jay and Mary.

STEVE (CONT'D)

And this time I know its for good. You guys belong together. We all have always known it from the beginning. Thank God we are all alive and still friends after today.

They all look at Steve, amazed.

STEVE (CONT'D)

So you guys want to drink? So they got any bars around here? I could really use a beer after a really good fight, that I didn't see.

JAY

Yes, we can go for a drink, but the cops probably want to talk to me first --- for a year.

MARY

Yes, I think about a year sounds right.  
(laughs)

GUS

Yes, I know that too.

JAY

I could not agree more.  
(Kisses her).

HARVEY

Oh by all means, let's drink now. After kidnapping, murder, a fight to the death, how appropriate and after that we can all sit around and listen to Steve's very stupid jokes.

Harvey looks at Steve.

STEVE

Sounds great to me? Sounds like an event!

GUS

Actually that is not a bad idea, I mean about the beer, not the jokes.

They all walk out of the warehouse together.

**THE END**

The playing of the 2nd YOUTUBE video of "Here's to the Winners" and Jay Franklin's most amazing runs.