

Dream In the Sky

By

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EXT. HILL. NIGHT.

A deserted abandoned hill. It overlooks the bright vibrant city of Los Angeles. Excess trash is scattered all over the ground.

17 year old KENT BOOKER sits on the top of an old beat up car. His eyes fully engrossed up at the stars. Hes a tall black kid with a smooth athletic build.

KENT (VO)

I don't know what is... Its like I'm looking for something. Something special. A dream, maybe. I can feel the ambition to find it running threw my veins. Almost like a pull of gravity. Its like all of those lights down there. When there on you see everything in front of you, and everything headed from behind. A story bright and clear. But when there off, nothing... There's a dark cloud blocking everything, and its rain just slowly deteriorating all hope and desire. Just me alone on this dark road somewhere looking up at the same sky wondering what? What could be? What can be? What it is that I'm looking for, may not a shinning star that answers all my prayers. But what ever it is, I know it'll make me happy. So I'm after it.

INT. KENT'S HOUSE. BATHROOM. DAY

Kent stands in front of the mirror washing his face.

The sound woman angrily yelling on the telephone from outside echos through out the bathroom.

Kent Grabs a towel, walks out into the living room drying himself.

SHAREE, Kent's mother a slim Woman in her 30's, stands in the middle of the hallway screaming into the telephone.

SHAREE

(yelling into the phone)

Fired! All that i put in!

(she listens)

No your not sorry!

(CONTINUED)

She clicks off the off the phone, throws it at Kent who catches it.

SHAREE (CONT'D)
(angrily)
Hang it up!

KENT
(annoyed)
You gonna take me or what mom?

SHAREE
(angry)
Call your brother.

She storms out of room in her angered state.

KENT
(muttering to himself)
See what I can depend on you for,
for now on.

INT. ZEEK'S CAR. DAY

ZEEK Kent's brother drives. Hes a muscular black guy in his late 20's. He looks all about business as he drives fastly down a residential street.

Kent sits in the back seat.

KENT
Mom got fired.

ZEEK
Had it coming. Cant keep her damn mouth closed for nothin. Wonder who gone pay the rent now... She still talking to that fool around the corner?

KENT
Every once in a while.

ZEEK
I'll fix that. You let me know if he stops by.

Zeek slows the car, turns into a side street.

KENT
Can I come stay with you? At least until she gets a new job.

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK

Ha, you think you can take me?

KENT

I want to.

ZEEK

You to young to know what you want.
You know what its like to live life
on the fast lane?

KENT

(puzzled)

What do you mean?

ZEEK

Good, just know its not for you. So
leave it.

Zeek pulls over on the side of the road, stares at his watch.

A cherry red low rider pulls up near Zeek's car. It stops on the side of it, inches away.

POWER an over weight black guy in his mid 30's rolls down his window.

ZEEK

(annoyed)

Your late.

POWER

(chuckling)

You to funny cuz. Ha you start
giving me the work youngin. Then we
can talk.

Power looks over at Kent who's attention is set out side the window.

POWER (CONT'D)

what's crakin lil man?

Kent ignores him.

POWER (CONT'D)

Ha, I see. Yongins these days, ice
cold. Just the way I like em.

ZEEK

(aggravated)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK (cont'd)
You give me what you came here for,
so you can go back to em alright.
Lets keep this moving.

Power picks up a bag on his passenger side, hands it over to Zeek.

ZEEK
(examining the bag)
Its all here?

POWER
You just worry about getting it to
where it needs to be.

Power drives off

ZEEK
(threateningly)
I don't ever want you talking to
him. I don't even want you to have
friends that deal with him. You
hear me?

KENT
Yeah.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. DAY.

A crowd, noisy gym, its filled with students shooting
around, trash talking, showing off there talents.

Kent sits on the floor with his camera filming. Taking
various shots of all the action.

MERCEN a slim tall black kid begins to shoot at a hoop near
Kent. He drains in a long jump shot.

MERCEN
(to kent)
I thought you were playing this
year?

KENT
I'm long done with that. Now I got
more time to do this. Plus, I'm
getting paid.

MERCEN
Cant argue with that.

Mercen leaps to basket and finishes with a nice lay in.

(CONTINUED)

MERCEN (CONT'D)

(excited)

You got that Mr camera man? All season long.

KENT

OK, I think I got a little room on this tape for that. Just a little. I'll catch you later alright.

Kent gets up with his camera walks over to MR. VERON a middle aged film teacher, who sits on the bleachers.

MR. VERON

I Need another half an hour when practice starts.

KENT

OK, Just gonna take a quick break.

MR. VERON

Don't get lost kent.

The Principle enters the gym threw the side door. Followed by COACH BOONE a healthy looking man in his 40's, speaks with a southern accent.

Coach Boone blows his whistle, all the students alerts to his attention.

COACH BOONE

(shouting)

Every one trying out, come on over.

All the students huddle around him.

Kent picks up a ball, swishes in a long jump shot, Coach Boone's eyes move from the crowd to to Kent who swishes in another long jump shot.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

(shouting; to kent)

Hey kid!

Kent turns to his direction.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

Can you take that shot agin?

Kent swishes in another long jump shot.

JAYCEN a tall skinny black kid emerges from the crowd.

(CONTINUED)

JAYCEN

Oh, don't mind him, Hes off in another world somewhere. But I got 20 and 10 written on my head band coach.

COACH BOONE

Save it for later.

(to kent)

Kid I think you belong over here, maybe we can work something out.

MR. VERON

Oh, don't mind him hes with me.

COACH BOONE

He'll only be a minute.

Kent looks over at Mr. veron with a look of sympathy as he joins the crowd.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

Well alright then. Lets see what you guys are made of.

INT. FILM CLASSROOM. DAY.

A well organized, well kept room, set up like a film set.

Mr. Veron enters the room with a look of disgust on his face.

Kent trails behind him.

MR. VERON

(disappointed)

What were you thinking? Were you thinking? I had high hopes for you.

Kent takes a seat on a desk.

KENT

He's giving me a spot on the team. I didn't even have to try out.

MR. VERON

How are you gonna make it as a film maker, when your minds being clouded by hoop dreams?

(CONTINUED)

KENT
I can do both.

MR. VERON
And how do you expect to do that?
I'm gonna need you full time.

KENT
I'm sorry.

EXT. TRACK. DAY.

The teams runs tiredly around the track, under the blazing the sun.

Coach Boone stands on the bleachers yelling as they begin to slack off.

JAYCEN
(exhausted)
It's to hot for this.

COACH BOONE
(shouting)
Complaining like a bunch of old ladies at a buffet, when find out there's no rice pudding. Get it in gear guys!

Kent stops to catch his breath.

RYAN a skinny white kid stops next to him.

RYAN
You gone keep going?

KENT
(exhausted)
I have to.

RYAN
You didn't even wona be on this damn team... I cant do this anymore, I'm outy, see you around the way.

Ryan walks off the track.

COACH BOONE
Look what we got here our first quitter. This is gonna be a fun day guys.

(CONTINUED)

Kent starts in Ryan's direction.

COACH BOONE
Hey you keep going.

Kent ponders for a second, looks up at the sky as he walks back on the track, then continues running.

INT. LOCKER ROOM. DAY.

The room is deserted except for Kent who sits on a bench putting on his shoes.

Coach Boone enters the locker room through the back door.

COACH BOONE
Tired?

KENT
A little, nothing I cant handle.

Coach Boone walks closer towards Kent

COACH BOONE
Guess I gota work you harder next time. You know I don't think you ever told me your name.

KENT
Kent Booker.

COACH BOONE
I think Ive seen you before. I just moved here. But Ive seen you play around the neighborhood. And I saw a couple tapes from some of your old your old games. You got a lot of potential kid. I see something in you that tells me your gonna go far. Well that you can go far.

KENT
If you say so.

COACH BOONE
(points to his head)
Its all in here. You learn it, contain it then go perform it out there on that court. Ive coached a lot of talented players back in my home state. Some even ended in up playing for some top schools. And

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE (cont'd)

I've had the ones that ended up in the land of nowhere. All the talent in the world, just don't know what to do with it.

(points to his head agin)

Like I said it's all in here. You learn and contain everything that I teach you, then you decide where you want to go with it. Now you seem like a person that wants something special. And if you work hard I'll make sure that you get it. But let me tell you one thing. That little stunt you tried to pull out there earlier, by walking off with your little friend, better not happen agin.

KENT

It went.

Kent picks up his book bag and walks to front door.

COACH BOONE

Oh, and one more thing.

Kent turns his attention.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

Don't think for one second I'm gonna go easy on you.

INT. JAYCEN'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT.

The room is filled with teens dancing, drinking and smoking.

Kent stands by the door, with a cup of beer in his hand, he takes tiny sips every now and then.

Ray an overweight white kid stands next to him, half drunk.

A girl on the opposite side of the room checks out Kent who avoids eye contact with her.

Ray begins to check out the girl

RAY

She got a nice frame. You gone holla at her.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

Ive seen better, plus I heard shes
burnt out anyway.

RAY

I don't discriminate homie, this
your last chance. So what you gone
do?

KENT

I pass.

RAY

Well aright then.

Ray walks toward the girl.

Kent walks out the front door, takes a seat on the steps.

Power's low rider pulls into the driveway, Power steps out
of the car and walks towards Kent.

POWER

Zeek's brother ay? Whats crackin
lil man.

Kent completely ignores him, doesn't even give him eye
contact.

POWER

(cocky)

You need some work? You ever slang
rocks before?

(no answer)

I understand lil man. But if you
ever get a change of heart, I'm
easy to find.

Power walks up the steps and into the house.

Kent looks up at the stars.

INT. BASKETBALL TEAM BUS. DAY.

Kent sits in the front row, sketching plays on a note book.

Mercen sits next to him, getting slightly annoyed by Jaycen
who sits behind him kicking his seat.

MERCEN

(annoyed)

You got one more time.

(CONTINUED)

The kicking continues.

Mercen turns around now aggravated

MERCEN
(aggravated)
You getting any satisfaction?

JAYCEN
Not enough.

Mercen turns back around, glances over at Kent's notebook.

MERCEN
(to kent)
What you coaching tonight?

KENT
Why not?

JAYCEN
You know he aint got nothin good on
that damn paper.

KENT
(defensive)
What you got?

JAYCEN
(cocky)
Oh, we wona go there. I'm thinkin
jump step, dribble, dribble
(imitating the shot)
fade away.

KENT
And what do you know, we lose.

MERCEN
Got that right.

JAYCEN
(defensive; to kent)
We'll see who's playing today bench
boy.

INT. GYM. GAME NIGHT. NIGHT

The stands are packed to capacity with people cheering on the home team as they score point after point on Kent's team. Who seems to fall more and more apart as the deficit gets larger.

(CONTINUED)

Kent sits on the sideline, starrng off from the game to the stands as though he looking for someone.

Coach Boone paces back and forth on the sideline, until he finally blows his whistle.

The team huddles around him on the sideline.

COACH BOONE

(annoyed)

Where getting man handle out there guys. Whats going on? Pressure, run in transition, get some stops. Now get back in there and cut this lead down.

The team runs back onto the floor, there spirits slightly lifted.

Kent looks at the coach in disappointment.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

You just wait your time. It'll come soon.

Kent's team begins to show sings of life as they battle back into the game, slowly chipping away at the score. Tension begins to rise as the score gets closer and time ticks away. The home team now leads by only a point, and the clock is in its final seconds.

Mercen leaps towards the basket and picks up a charge causing him to foul out of the game.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

(angry)

Damn it.

He blows his whistle, the team huddles around him.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

(intense)

Alright guys, this is our last play. Were bringing it up the court and taking it straight to hole, no fouling. Now get out there and lets win this.

MERCEN

(concerned)

Who's coming in for me?

Coach Boone looks over at Kent who's eyes are focused on the stands.

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE

Kent get out there.

Kent runs on the floor with the rest of his team. His team in bounds the ball.

Kent takes the ball up the court speeds past 2 guards, The game clock seconds flying away with every dribble. He glances over at the stands. Then turns his attention back to game now disappointed, misses a quick desperation shot.

The game buzzer sounds the crowd erupts in cheers and celebration.

Kent's team mates faces sink to the floor.

Coach Boone kicks a chair in his now furious state.

Kent walks with his head down avoiding eye contact with every one.

Mercen walks up to him pats him on the back.

MERCEN

Don't even sweat it.

INT. LOCKER ROOM. NIGHT.

The team changes back into there street cloths, the room is very quite as disappointment fills there faces.

Kent enters the locker room followed by Coach Boone who's yelling furiously.

COACH BOONE

(angry; to kent)

What kind of shot was that? You call that offense?

KENT

huh?

COACH BOONE

Yeah that's right I'm talking to you Booker! This isn't the NBA! Your not playing for no damn pat Riley! Until you prove to me that you can hit that shot, you take it to the hole!

(CONTINUED)

KENT
I'm sorry, it wont happen agin.

COACH BOONE
Oh it wont.

Coach Boone walks out of the locker room.

JAYCEN
Who won the game for us now.

KENT
(aggravated)
Shut it.

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT. NIGHT.

The lot is quite and deserted.

Mercen leans against brick wall smoking a cigarette.

Kent walks out of the gym through the back door, sees Mercen.

KENT
You headed home?

MERCEN
Nah, coach wants to go over some tape with me.

KENT
You know if you were out there, I would of passed you the ball.

MERCEN
Like I said, don't sweat it. Forget about coach. All he cares about is that score board lighting up.

KENT
All I want from him's just another shot.

MERCEN
Starting point guard?

KENT
Maybe.

(CONTINUED)

MERCEN

(smirking)

Ha, you telling me I gota guard my spot. But hey I'm open for the competition. I understand, Its that last year. Then shit, no more ball, no nothin. At least for me, Unless we win.

KENT

States?

MERCEN

Yeah states. We'd be set for life.

KENT

Sounds like somethin to work for, I'll catch you later alright.

MERCEN

Alright I'll see you.

Kent start walking away.

INT. KENT'S KITCHEN. NIGHT.

Sharee sits at the kitchen table in the darkness.

Kent walks in from back door.

SHAREE

(aggravated)

I'm getting sick and tired of you walking on in here this time of night.

Kent flicks on the light.

KENT

Coach brought us back to the school so we could shower.

SHAREE

(aggravated)

I'm sure he pick up a phone and let the parents know whats going on.

KENT

(defensive)

Well next time I'll let him know.

He opens refrigerator, takes out a bottle of soda.

(CONTINUED)

KENT (CONT'D)

We lost, since you didn't ask.

SHAREE

That's too bad, I hope that fed you.

She gets up from the table walks out of the kitchen.

EXT. ZEEK'S HOUSE. BACK YARD. DAY.

The yard is messy and very junky. Lawn chairs, weights, and trash is scattered every where.

Zeek sits at a fold up table paying cards with SHELDON and ACE, there 2 black guys in there late 20's, They both like that they have served time.

Kent sits on a weight bench catching his breath after an intense set. He wipes the sweat from his face with his shirt.

Zeek slaps a hand of cards down hard on the table.

ZEEK

(cocky)

Jack! I win again, now give me my money.

He grabs a bunch of crumbled singles from Sheldon's end of the table.

ACE

Cuz, I'm shuffling next time.

ZEEK

(defensive)

The hell you trying to say?

Sheldon glances over at Kent who's now doing push ups on the ground.

SHELDON

Don't he know how damn hot it is?

ZEEK

That's a worker for you. Watch and learn.

SHELDON

Never complain when that money flowin in.

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK
(defensive)
You tell me when that is.

KENT
(to zeek)
I need a spot.

ZEEK
Yall to two clowns work on gettin
your money back.

Zeek gets up from the table walks over to Kent.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
What we got here? you ready?

KENT
Yeah.

He lays down on the bench, pushes the bar off the bench and
does rep after rep, He struggles on the last one.

ZEEK
Push!

Zeek helps him put the bar back into place.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
You good?

Kent sit back up, nods his head.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
What happened with your game last
night?

KENT
We lost.

ZEEK
I was headed that way but,
something came up. You know how it
is.

KENT
(annoyed)
That's every time.

ZEEK
(defensive)
And every times just as important
as the last... You play at all?

(CONTINUED)

KENT

We probably would of won if I didn't. Coach gave a me a shot, and I messed up.

ZEEK

Well he need to give you another one.

KENT

Wish it worked that way.

ZEEK

Then you gota fight. If you don't get what you want in this world, You battle for it. And if still nothin, shit, just leave it alone.

KENT

I cant do that.

ZEEK

Oh you'll see how easy it is. You got all the answers now. I give you a couple years, shit a couple months you'll see.

Zeek rubs Kent's head and walks back over to the table.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. DAY.

The teams runs suicides tiredly.

Coach Boone stands on the sidelines yelling.

Jaycen walks tiredly up and down the bleachers with two dumbbells at his side.

Kent enters the gym threw the side door in street cloths.

COACH BOONE

Look at what the damn wind blew in.

KENT

I'm sorry, I got caught up in something.

COACH BOONE

You know I said that if you work with me, This wont be so bad. And there'd even be a prize at the end. But this, you showin up when you

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE (cont'd)
feel like it. I don't know Booker.
Jaycen come down and pass the
dumbbells over to Booker.

Jaycen walks slowly down the bleachers over to Kent, drops them at his feet and lets off a sigh of relief.

JAYCEN
I can feel my hands agin.

COACH BOONE
(to kent)
Get going.

Kent glares at him as he walks over to bleachers.

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT. NIGHT.

The court sits behind an auto the shop, the court is old beat up, run down, the paint on the black tops faded, patches of grass are scattered around the black top.

Kent practices intensely on his jump shot.

Mr. WILLIAMS stands in the doorway of his auto shop watching Kent as he practices, He's a black man in his 50's, slightly over weight.

Kent leaps to the basket, slams the ball in.

MR. WILLIAMS
(muttering)
Whoa.

He walks over to the court.

MR. WILLIAMS
With finishes like that you'll wake
up everyone in the neighborhood.

Kent turns to his attention startled.

KENT
(startled)
I'm sorry. I'll leave if you want
me to.

MR. WILLIAMS
No, No, Hell practice all night.
Unless you wona come inside.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

Sure.

INT. AUTO SHOP. NIGHT.

The shop is unorganized and very messy, tools and car parts lay in puddles of oil on the floor.

Kent walks across the floor, fully cautious of the puddle on the floor, takes a seat on a chair.

Mr. Williams walks out of his office, with a soda, hands it to Kent.

MR. WILLIAMS

So what brings you here this time of night?

KENT

Some extra practice.

MR. WILLIAMS

Oh yeah, whats your name by the way?

KENT

Kent Booker.

MR. WILLIAMS

I know you. You play with my boy mercen. And I saw your work at that film festival last summer. Now that was impressive.

KENT

Thanks.

MR. WILLIAMS

What do you know I'm looking at the master of all trades.

KENT

There both a work in a progress.

MR. WILLIAMS

Well you keep at it, and I'm sure great things are to come. You know I cant remember the last time I saw a kid playing over hear. How'd you find out about this place?

(CONTINUED)

KENT

My brother use to bring me hear all the time. Its the only safe place around this time of night.

MR. WILLIAMS

Damn little bastards broke my window the other week... But you know I sit here every night because I work nights nowadays, see I don't get a lot help in this place.

KENT

I could help out, I need a job anyway.

MR. WILLIAMS

You willing to work hard?

KENT

Always.

MR. WILLIAMS

Then my doors always open... But yeah I sit here and watch you every night. And I gota say, you've got something kid. Its pretty special to watch you out there. High light of my day at least. Keep giving me something to look forward to.

KENT

I wont let you down.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. DAY.

The team stands in the middle of the gym in a straight line.

Kent stands at head of the line with aggravated look on his face.

Coach Boone walks up and down the line.

COACH BOONE

We've got opponents today that are gonna pound on us like pit bulls. Inner city street thugs. Now I'm not gonna stand here and preach about how much of a terror these kids are. But what I am gonna say is that our game is not gonna change because it. Were gonna fight

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE (cont'd)
for every rebound every possession.
If I see so as much of a hint of
intimidation, don't bother coming
back here.

He stops in front of Kent.

COACH BOONE
You plan on letting them intimidate
you?

KENT
No.

COACH BOONE
(coldly)
Then you tell me what the hell is
wrong? If you need a shoulder to
cry on, your in the wrong place.

KENT
(annoyed)
Are you gonna play me tonight?

COACH BOONE
You think you deserve to play
tonight. Honestly. Hit those
bleachers and we'll if you get any
minutes.

Kent Glares at him as he walks to the bleachers.

INT. ZEEK'S CAR. DAY

Zeek drives.

Kent sits on the passenger side playing with his camera.

KENT
Where we going?

ZEEK
To visit an old friend... You talk
to your coach?

KENT
He wouldn't listen if I did.
Besides, we kind of got into it
practice today.

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK

You gotta man up Kent. I'm serious, you cant be a little bitch kitten in pit bull world. You'll get tore up every time. And the whole damn world will watch and laugh while it happens.

KENT

He made me look stupid in front of every one.

ZEEK

And that because you let him. Now from what your tellin me. It anit all right with this homie. But that doesn't mean you give the chance to run all over you. The moment someone try's that with me. Its problem solved. Ima handle mine. You to young to understand that now but you will, soon.

EXT. CEMETERY. DAY.

A quite empty old cemetery, The grass is yellow, The tombstones are worn away.

Zeek walks across the cemetery followed by Kent, He stops in front of a old worn tombstone.

Kent leans against a cross, looks at watch bored and annoyed.

KENT

(annoyed)

You brought me hear, for this?

A moment as Zeek stares at the grave.

ZEEK

Good old tony... He use to be one of my boys from back in the day. Man that boy was always happy, always smiling. He always use to walk with his head deep in the clouds. Had so many dreams and high hopes, always use to be the good one. Did what ever he was told. Got the best grades. Just a good cat, that didn't belong anywhere near a trouble maker like me... He use to

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK (cont'd)

box at that old gym around the corner from my old house. He sure knew he was the best, couldn't tell him nothin. Always said he was going pro. Knocked out everyone in the hood. It got to the point where he ran out of cats to fight. And The last time he stepped in the ring was the only time I wasn't there. Shit I'll never forget it. I had some beef with some homies around the corner. They rolled up at the fight... And... They shot him thinking he was me... You know I use to wake up every morning, and just wondered, Why? Why him instead of me. He had everything in the world going for him. What did I have but felony charges. And who know what, I woke up, took a deep breath, and realized the what this worlds all about. Good things for a selected few. And the rest of us, we just walk threw the motions just waitin to be picked off just like he was.

KENT

(defensively)

I'm not walking threw the motions.

ZEEK

(aggravated)

No you walk with your head in the clouds just like he did. And I'm telling to you raw and straight, it aint gonna get you anywhere. Remember that.

INT. GYM. GAME NIGHT. NIGHT

The crowd stands on there feet cheering loudly as they await tip off.

Kent sits anxiously on the bench.

Coach Boone scan over his play book.

The games tips off, FORWARD from the home team gets the ball, takes it aggressively down the court, dribbles it between Mercen's legs and banks in a shot.

(CONTINUED)

The home team contentious to score easily rallying the crowd up more and more with every basket.

Coach Boone paces the sideline with his head in his hands.

TOUGH GUARD from the home team, drives past Mercen slams the ball in.

Coach Boone now frustrated blows his whistle, the team huddles around him.

COACH BOONE

(frustrated)

Guys what are we doing here? Were letting them take it straight to us every time. I told you don't let these kids intimidate you. Now go back out there and fight for every possession.

KENT

Coach I can fix this, I see what there trying to do.

COACH BOONE

No you get nice and compty just where you are.

Kent watches angrily as the team runs back out on the floor.

TOUGH GUARD drives to basket for a strong slam.

Mercen Leaps in front of him banging against his body in mid air.

TOUGH GUARD tumbles to the floor. He quickly bolts up off the floor furiously, lunges over to Mercen in his state of rage but team mates hold him back.

TOUGH GUARD

(angry)

Bitch we gone see you in the parking lot!

Coach Boone looks on disgusted with his team.

KENT

(annoyed)

Coach can I come in?

Coach Boone looks up at the big deficit on the scoreboard, then at MILLES and then Kent as though he's weighing his options.

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE
Milles get out there.

KENT
(aggravated)
Coach?

Kent glares at Milles furiously as he runs onto the floor.

KENT (CONT'D)
(angry)
Coach, how long are we gonna do
this?

Coach Boone ignores as him as he focuses on the game.

COACH BOONE
Jaycen! Pressure!

Kent's blood begins to boil as watches Milles out on the floor. He jumps up off the bench and runs over to Milles in his now furious state.

He tackles Milles to ground, Starts ripping Milles's jersey in full rage.

The home team looks on laughs and cheers at all the on going action.

KENT
(furious)
You cant take my spot! You Cant!

Mercen pulls Kent off of him.

Kent holds up the ripped up jersey.

KENT (CONT'D)
(angry)
Its mine! You got that Its mine!

Coach Boone watches on furiously, snaps his clip board in half, tosses it on the floor.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. NIGHT.

The entire team runs suicides.

Kent walks tiredly up and down the bleachers with two dumbbells at his side, still furious from the game.

Coach Boone paces up and down the sideline in attempt to calm himself.

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

(angry)

You guys wona lose, lose on your own time. Not in this gym, not in my jersey.

He turns to Kent he struggles up and down the bleachers.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

(angry)

And if you wona fight. TO let off some rage from whatever the hell is going on in your life. You can step to me anytime.

Suddenly hit by a thought he turns around scan the gym.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

Wheres Mercen?

(to kent)

Go find him. And hey, Come back.

INT. LOCKER ROOM. NIGHT.

TOUGH GUARD and FORWARD pound on Mercen furiously, kicking and punching him.

TOUGH GUARD

(angry)

You aint talkin that tough shit now huh?

Kent walks into locker room, see's Mercen getting beat up in the back.

KENT

(Startled)

What the hell?

TOUGH GUARD

(startled)

Shit lets bunk.

Tough guard and Forward take off out the back door.

Kent runs after them but they get away. He walks over to Mercen who's coughing up blood.

KENT

You alright?

(CONTINUED)

MERCEN

(coughing)

It aint nothin... they gone get
there's.

KENT

I'm gonna get you out of here.

INT. HOSPITAL. CORRIDOR. NIGHT.

The Corridors quite, and the mood is pretty calm
occasionally a nurse or a doctor walks by.

Kent sits on a bench out side of a room playing with his
camera.

An OLD WOMAN sits next to him crying, her face buried in her
arms.

Kent look over at her curiously, He turns his camera on and
points it toward her, he covers the light so the woman
doesn't notice shes being filmed.

An OVER WEIGHT DOCTOR walks out of a near by room to the old
lady. OVER weight doctor whispers in her ear.

The two slowly walk together down the hall way, the old
woman's crying gets more intense as they get further away.

Mr Williams walks out of a near by room followed by a NURSE.

Kent flicks off his camera, follows Mr. Williams down the
hallway.

NURSE

I'll call you tomorrow and let you
know how he's doing, OK.

MR. WILLIAMS

Alright.

NURSE

Have a nice night.

MR. WILLIAMS

I'll try if its possible.

The nurse walks away.

KENT

Is he gonna be okay?

(CONTINUED)

MR. WILLIAMS
Should be fine, They just wona
watch over him for a night.

He glances over at Kent's camera.

MR. WILLIAMS (CONT'D)
You better put that thing away
before someone see's it. If you
were here hurt you wouldn't wona
have someone filming you.

KENT
I'll never end up here.

MR. WILLIAMS
You never know Kent. You never
know. Not in this day and age.

INT. ZEEK'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. DAY.

Zeek sits on the couch watching an old cartoon, He laughs as
he watches it.

Kent enters the living room, takes a seat on a chair.

ZEEK
(laughing)
You see this shit?

Kent ignores the TV.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
This is the OG classics from when I
was little.

KENT
My friend got beat up last night
after the game.

ZEEK
That's life brother.

KENT
(annoyed)
What do you mean life?

ZEEK
People get beat up everyday around
here. What do you want me to do
about it?

(CONTINUED)

KENT
(annoyed)
He was a loyal friend does that
mean anything?

ZEEK
You know how many of my friends
that done been beat up, stabbed,
buried in the ground?

KENT
I could of been with him you know.

ZEEK
That's a whole other story brother.

Zeek's girlfriend TEA walks in the room dressed to impress,
her hair, makeup, cloths, everything's perfect.

Zeek stares her up and down.

ZEEK
Where the hell you going?

TEA
Out.

ZEEK
With what money?

She puts her hands on her hips, looks at him with in
disgust.

TEA
(annoyed)
The money you owe me.

ZEEK
I don't see you pushing any baby
carriages.

TEA
(disgusted)
You know what, I don't need this.

She walks out the front door.

ZEEK
Never get a girlfriend, stay as
single for as long as you can.

He continues watching the cartoon.

ZEEK (CONT'D)

Look at this, Imagine if life was like this. Think, you sure as hell wouldn't be sittin over there with that puss on your face. And id be swimming in the doe. You could learn something this Kent.

Kent gets up from the chair walks out of the living room aggravated.

EXT. PARK. NIGHT.

A dark and quite park, The swings creak steadily from the wind blowing against it.

Mr. Veron talks to a group of film students at a table.

Kent sits alone at a table, fiddling with his camera while, looking up at the sky quizzically.

MR. VERON

(to the film students)

Alright guys, go wait by the van.

He walks over to Kent.

MR. VERON (CONT'D)

Nothing like a man on his own mission.

Kent quickly turns on his camera starts filming to sky in attempt to hide the fact that he was slacking off.

MR. VERON (CONT'D)

No use in starting now it's time to go.

He takes a seat next to him looks up at the sky.

MR. VERON (CONT'D)

This would be the perfect night shot.

KENT

I know.

MR. VERON

I use to get criticism all the time for using them.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

Why?

MR. VERON

Brings the mood down a bit. Its a beautiful world out there and people wona see it with bright light shinning down on it.

KENT

Its not always so bright though.

MR. VERON

I know... You know I had a lot of high hopes for you Kent. I always wanted you to pick up where I left off.

KENT

Told you I was sorry... He promised me a lot of things.

MR. VERON

Like what?

KENT

(defensive)

A future maybe. Last time I checked you weren't giving those out.

MR. VERON

A true teenager, got all the answers. You know you had a good shot at one though, you still do.

KENT

(curious)

How?

MR. VERON

If your willing to work hard, and put everything else on the side. I can get you into one of the top film making programs around.

KENT

What do I have to do?

MR. VERON

You put something together, in the coming weeks, something good. And I'll see what I can do.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

You mean it?

MR. VERON

I give you my word.

EXT. TRACK. DAY.

The track is empty except for Kent who runs intensely under the blazing sun.

Zeek and Ace sit on the bleachers smoking a joint back and forth. Zeek stares at Kent clueless as he runs.

ZEEK

I don't understand what it is with him. Not for nothin. Shit just kills me.

ACE

What ever it is pass it my way.

ZEEK

Like Toni all over agin. He works harder than anybody I know. Anybody, and the shits not gonna get him nothin and that what kills me.

ACE

True, You right.

ZEEK

Ive seen him practice all day without sleep, then start on something else. One day I asked him, what are trying to do? What hell are you after? All he said was that its a dream and wanted me to be with him ever step of the way.

ACE

That's deep.

ZEEK

I cant even look out for myself good enough, to even expect to be hear the next day.

ACE

Tune his ass up.

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK

You tune yourself up home boy. And
make my drop offs money startin run
dry. To fast.

Kent stops at the finish line to catch his breath, He looks
at the sun, then continues running.

Zeek shakes his head clueless.

INT. JAYCEN'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT.

Hip hop music blaers from the speakers, the room is filled
with teens dancing.

Kent walks in threw the front door, Walks to the back corner
of the room.

Milles, Jaycen and Ray sit on chairs against the wall. Ray
drinks cup after cup of beer, he's clearly drunk.

RAY

Whats up big k?

Kent takes a seat on a chair.

KENT

Nothing, I'm cooling.

Jaycen glances at ray as he downs another cup.

JAYCEN

What the hell you trying to do?

RAY

Get off me. I know what I'm doing.

JAYCEN

Somebody must be driving you home.

RAY

That's why I got my boy big k.

KENT

You about to have yourself in
minute if you down another cup.

Jaycen turns his attention over to Milles who's plays with a
basketball.

(CONTINUED)

JAYCEN

(cocky)

You play that damn so much but the closest you ever get to court is the bench.

MILLES

Talk all you want, I aint bitin

RAY

Bite on this.

He pours a cup of beer down on Milles's sneakers.

Milles bolts up from his chair furiously, Kent quickly gets up and holds him back.

KENT

We not gonna do this, Keep the hostility at low.

JAYCEN

What the hell you doin? You was beating his ass in the middle of the court a week ago.

KENT

(defensive)

You want me to turn to you? I don't think so.

Kent lets Milles go walks away.

EXT. JAYCEN'S HOUSE. DRIVEWAY. NIGHT.

Kent's sits on top of car filming the action going on in the house.

Milles leans against a truck on the opposite side of kent dribbling a basketball.

MILLES

You waitin on them.

KENT

I gota drive em home.

MILLES

You they guardian or somethin?

(CONTINUED)

KENT

Somethin like that. He gets pissy drunk so I drive em home so he wakes up the next morning.

MILLES

Ha, the whole world could use someone like you. And I mean use literally, no offense.

KENT

Guess so... You know, I'm sorry about what happened during the game.

MILLES

Don't even sweat it. You dream about this. I'm just here.

KENT

Please, they dream about this. The coach, them. I don't know what I dream about. I'm trying to figure that out more and more everyday.

MILLES

I see you all around the town that thing, that's not what you want.

KENT

Don't know where it'll bring me you know.

Kent places the camera down pointed in Milles direction.

MILLES

Sky the limit you know that. All the shit you take for granted could fall out tomorrow you know. Then that shot will be gone.

KENT

Not if you don't let it.

MILLES

There aint shit in this world that you can control. Not even yourself. You know I was all county quarter back.

KENT

(curious)

All County, when was this?

(CONTINUED)

MILLES

Yup, just last year. Funny how shit happens so fast. Had all the colleges everywhere sending me letters, wanting me to play ball for em. Everything was going just the way me and my father dreamed it would.

KENT

What happened then? Why you here?

MILLES

I started getting sick, real sick. I thought it was nothing until my game started suffering. My doctor said I had leukemia.

KENT

(shocked)

What? How are you doing this then?

MILLES

You ever get that feeling? Like a crazy high, that beat?

KENT

I know.

MILLES

That's why I do it, even if I cant QB anymore, and all my dreams went down the tube. That's what keeps me fighting. I'll never let my spirit die.

Jaycen helps a drunk stumbling Ray out the front door and over to his car. He lets him go in front of Kent who catches him from falling.

JAYCEN

Hes all yours.

INT. KENT'S KITCHEN. DAY.

Kent sits at the kitchen table eating a bowl of cereal.

Sharee pours him a cup of milk.

SHAREE

You better hurry up, before you get marked late.

(CONTINUED)

KENT
I'll be there on time.

SHAREE
Ten minutes?

KENT
I'll run.

SHAREE
I'm telling you Kent. There better not be one late of that report card. I don't know one college who's gonna except someone who's late.

KENT
(sarcastic)
Really.

SHAREE
You don't make the rules Kent.

KENT
Were not even on that anymore. How long are we gonna do this mom?

SHAREE
(defensive)
Do what?

KENT
College is what you want mom.
That's your dream.

SHAREE
(defensive)
And its the only way your gonna make it out of here.

KENT
(annoyed)
That's what you think mom. That's all you know, books, grades, That's not what I want.

SHAREE
(defensive)
What do you want be like be like your brother. You see where not having an education has him right.

(CONTINUED)

KENT
(Muttering)
Where are you right now?

SHAREE
(Angry)
What? I work damn hard to keep this
roof over our heads and you know
that!

Kent gets up from the table grabs his coat and book bag from
the other end of the table.

KENT
Look mom, I'm not gonna do this
right now.

SHAREE
(aggravated)
Well you better know one thing. If
your gonna be under this roof, your
gonna go to school. And if not, you
can go head off to live with your
brother. And you two can end up in
jail together.

KENT
At least he doesn't dictate my life
for me.

SHAREE
Wait and see. I guarantee it.

KENT
Look mom, I'll catch you later.

Kent Walks out the back door.

INT. FILM CLASS ROOM. DAY.

The room quite and empty except for Mr. Veron who sits at
his desk grading papers.

Kent walks in over to Mr. Veron holding his camera.

KENT
Hey, I got something for you.

He takes a tape out his camera, Hands it to him.

(CONTINUED)

MR. VERON

Done already, you still have a few more days. You need em?

KENT

No, I finished it up last night. Don't wona prolong this any longer. And the suspense is killing me so whats up?

MR. VERON

I knew you had it in you. Imagine if you could pull one of these off, every week.

KENT

I wish I could but I need long term. So whats up with the program?

MR. VERON

Kent your my most gifted student. If we worked together, that would definitely guarantee you something in the end.

KENT

(annoyed)

I'm not looking for another hope right now. Now you promised me something.

Mr. Veron looks sympathetically into Kent's eyes.

MR. VERON

Look Kent... there isn't a program but please work with me. We could accomplish great things together.

Kent's facial expression completely shifts into disappointment.

KENT

(disappointed)

What do you mean there no program? You said you could make it happen, I put a lot into this.

MR. VERON

Which is why you should join me Kent. If you want something out of this you gota work with me.

(CONTINUED)

Kent's disappointment shift over to anger and rage as his blood begins to boil.

KENT
(angry)
I don't wona join you!

Kent grabs the tape from him and slams it on the floor.

KENT (CONT'D)
(threateningly)
You watch who your playing with.

He angrily storms out of the room.

EXT. PARKING LOT. DAY.

Dark clouds cover the sun as rain drops began to pour from the sky.

Kent sits on the ground soaking under the rain. His face filled with a mix of sadness and anger. He wipes the water from his face. Stomps his feet on the ground in anger.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL. FRONT YARD. DAY.

The basketball team a boards the team bus one by one.

Coach boone stands on the front lawn scanning over his play book.

Kent walks towards the bus.

Coach Boone sees Kent, lowers his play book.

COACH BOONE
Haven't see you in a while.

KENT
Ive been busy.

COACH BOONE
We've been busy to, not winning any games either. You know you asked me before, how long are we gonna do this. That's a million doller question kiddo. How long are we gonna do this?

KENT

I'm sorry.

COACH BOONE

I am to. See you around.

He walks on to the bus.

Kent rubs forehead in frustration as he watches the bus drive away.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD. DAY

Light fragments peak the threw holes in the cloudy sky.

Kent lays on the ground filming a group of teens playing tackle football.

Zeek and Ace sit on top of a car.

ACE

I'm trying to get this apartment in East LA by the end of the month.

ZEEK

Have fun landing that.

ACE

As long as I'm straight out here, shouldn't be a problem.

ZEEK

Its a cold world out here. I'm finding that shit to be true even more everyday. I took Kent to see tony with me the other day. Everything was the same, same spot, same dead vines growing on it. The same 40 I left from the last time.

ACE

You keep dealing with that sucka power, You gone be right with him.

ZEEK

My work with him's gonna be done real soon. I got a big pay day comin. All I need is a look out.

Ace's reads a text on his phone.

(CONTINUED)

ACE

Duty calls, see you around the
away.

ZEEK

Alright.

Ace walks away.

Kent gets up with his camera. Walks over to Zeek, leans
against the car.

KENT

You ever feel like giving up on
something. When in your mind you
know how important it is.

ZEEK

Depends on what it is.

KENT

What if, I don't know, Its
everything?

ZEEK

Kent what hell are you talkin
about? You don't have a clue in the
world. You to young to be talkin
all this shit.

KENT

(defensive)

To young to care?

ZEEK

Hell, if times ticking, moneys
fading, shit, id let go to.

KENT

I just feel like I'm after
something, but there always
something in the way.

Zeek shoots him a cocky grin.

ZEEK

Like what?

KENT

I would tell you everything, If I
thought you were going say
something to support me.

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK

(Defensive)

And what the hell is that supposed to mean?

KENT

You know, everything that you say to me I'm against, and other than that. You just wouldn't understand.

ZEEK

I don't understand what hell you driving yourself in a grave for. its all for nothing.

A moment

KENT

You ever want something more? A big crib, hot car?

ZEEK

Of course that's what its all about.

KENT

I want all those things, I think, But I just wona be happy.

ZEEK

I sure would like to know how you plan on getting those things. Cuz you sure as hell going about it the wrong way. And please believe I'm gonna show you how. And you don't have a choice neither.

INT. AUTO SHOP. NIGHT.

Kent sweeps the floor.

Mr. Williams walks out of his office over to Kent.

MR. WILLIAMS

I called your mother said you were staying late. She wasn't to happy.

KENT

She's never happy about anything.

(CONTINUED)

MR. WILLIAMS

You know I don't see a sign of joy
in you to often.

KENT

(defensive)

Something wrong with me?

MR. WILLIAMS

Oh no nothing personal. Just
rambling my mouth a bit.

KENT

(defensive)

But you said what you said.

MR. WILLIAMS

Well I'm just saying. You got your
whole life to hurt you know. Your
living in the dream years right
now. No bills no responsibilities,
nothin.

KENT

You know I'm like everybody else.
some things just don't please me
like the average kid.

MR. WILLIAMS

I can respect that, a young work
horse, just know the futures in
your hands boy.

KENT

I like it that way.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. DAY.

The gyms empty except for Coach Boone who stands on a ladder
tying a basketball net to the hoop.

Kent walks in the gym threw the side door. He immediately
turns his attention to Coach Boone.

KENT

Need a extra hand?

Coach Boone shoots him a puzzled stare.

COACH BOONE

You play for this team?

(CONTINUED)

KENT

I'm sorry. I just had a lot of things that I needed to work out.

COACH BOONE

Ive been hearing that same excuse since the day I met you. Whats gonna happen when its to late to be sorry? When all the time is up? And you'll never get time back. When its gone its gone. Now you can sit back and bullshit the rest of this school year, and I bet you you'll never have it this easy for you agin. And you know what the million doller bet is?

He climbs down the ladder.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

The million doller bet.

He takes out his wallet starts throwing singles on the floor.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

Money out my wallet, here your always looking for hand out. You think the world owes you something. But I bet that you will never get another opportunity like this agin for as long as you live. This year is your shot at a future. Now I may be a dumb hick from a small town in Missouri. But I know what goes on around here. The drugs the violence, If you don't take advantage of this, that's where your probably headed. You can have all the dreams in the world. But if you don't protect them and work towards them, and walk around life with a chip on your shoulder feeling sorry. Then guess what?

He knocks down the ladder.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

There you have it.

KENT

(defensive)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KENT (cont'd)

What do you want from me? I tried and look where I'm standing right now.

COACH BOONE

That says a whole hell of a lot about what your doing. I smell the obvious in the air right now.

KENT

I'm willing to do what ever it takes coach. But where is it going to get me.

COACH BOONE

I gave you the answer to that question day one.

KENT

Then I guess we'll have to see.

EXT. PARKING LOT. DAY.

School has just ended, The lots full of kids talking in groups around there cars.

Mercen stands in front of his car working diligently on his car engine.

Kent stands next to him dribbling a basketball.

MERCEN

This thing's almost fried, I don't think there's anything I can do.

KENT

Your dad has enough of them.

MERCEN

My dad doesn't give me jack. Tape?

Kent grabs the electric tape off the hood and hands it to him.

Jaycen Walks over to Mercen's Car with a group of friends Chuckling about Mercen's fixing his beat up car.

JAYCEN

(cocky)

Oh boy, big baller over here. Cali's finest, got the hood all up and everything.

(CONTINUED)

Mercen slams the hood down, now aggravated he turns his attention to Jaycen.

MERCEN

At least I got a ride.

JAYCEN

You call that a ride, shit looks like a 40 ounce with 4 wheels on it to me.

Jaycen and the group laugh hysterically as they walk towards the school.

MERCEN

I'm gonna whoop his ass one of these days.

KENT

You let me know when... So what happened at the game last night?

MERCEN

Nothing new or unexpected. What else is new.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. NIGHT.

The team practices drills poorly, they blow easy plays, miss easy shots.

Coach Boone Stands on the sideline yelling at every mistake.

Kent sits on the bleachers with an annoyed look on his face.

Coach Boone blows his whistle aggravated after seeing enough mistakes. The team huddles around him.

COACH BOONE

(annoyed)

Guys, what are we doing? We've run this threw a hundred times and you still cant get it right. I'm beginning to think some of you have given up already. Yeah we've lost a few games, But this season is far from over. And if you turn away now all this would be for nothing. All the blood and sweat you laid out on this floor, all for nothing. I came here for a state championship and I'm not settle ling for anything

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE (cont'd)
less. And if you wona stay on this team I expect the same attitude. I want you here everyday giving me a hundred percent. Now with that we've had an individual who's taken it upon him self to show when he pleases to. Both physically and mentally. But yet he feels his efforts have earned him something.

MERCEN
Every one deserves another shot though. If not, then we all mind as well put this team in the wraps.

COACH BOONE
Fair, couldn't be more true. I respect that attitude. Come on over Booker.

Kent lets off sigh of relief like a weight has just been lifted off his shoulder, he walks over to the team.

COACH BOONE
And its not just Booker I see it on all your faces. I don't owe you guys anything but a good coaching effort. You want something you have to earn it. Now with that I came here for a state ring and I'm not leaving until the jobs done.

EXT. PARKING LOT. NIGHT.

Kent and Mercen walk threw the deserted parking light.

MERCEN
You think we got a chance?

KENT
What?

MERCEN
States.

KENT
I not sure, I'm not much of a believer with this team.

(CONTINUED)

MERCEN

Yeah and that's why were in the position we are right now. No ones has hope.

Zeek's car speeds into the parking lot.

KENT

(to himself)
Whats this about?

Zeek rolls down his window. His face is filled with rage, And his eyes are bright red as though hes been crying.

ZEEK

(Angry)
Get in!

Kent with a big look of concern runs over to the car.

MERCEN

(shouting; to kent)
Maybe you get it from him, I'm sure he has a lot of hope!

KENT

(shouting; to kent)
Hes all I got!

Kent gets in the back seat of the car.

Zeek steps his foot hard on the gas and speeds out of the parking lot. His eyes are filled with complete rage as he drives recklessly down the street.

KENT

(concerned)
Whats going on?

ZEEK

What do you care? You got your own little search going on. Life's good for you.

KENT

Of course I care, now tell me.

ZEEK

(Angry)
...They killed him. They really killed him.

(CONTINUED)

KENT
(concerned)
Huh? Who killed who?

ZEEK
(Angry)
That nigga smiled in my face, Right
in front my eyes and knew he was
gonna do it.

He hits the steering wheel in his angered state.

KENT
(Concerned)
Zeek what are you talking about?

Zeek ignores him as he steps his foot harder on the gas pedal driving even more recklessly down the road, He approaches an on coming truck head on. He quickly turns his car missing it by an inch.

KENT
(Frightened)
Zeek!

The truck driver honks his horn rapidly as it drives away.

Zeek pulls into an abandoned bridge overlooking a river, road work signs are every where. He stops the car. His eyes began to fill with tears as he reflects on thoughts.

KENT
(concerned)
Please tell me what happened Zeek.

A moment.

ZEEK
(sad)
They killed ace. Shot em in cold
blood. Knew this shit was gonna
happen.

KENT
Shit,man I'm sorry to hear that.
You know I'm here for you Zeek.

ZEEK
I know all about it.

He wipes the tears from his eyes, as he begins to come back to his rage filled senses. He begins to search rapidly threw the glove compartment. Until finally he comes across a black handgun. He stares at it as obsessively.

(CONTINUED)

KENT
(frightened)
What are you gonna do with that?

ZEEK
The only way to solve problems
these days. Your gonna have to walk
home from here.

KENT
(frightened)
Where are you going with that Zeek?

ZEEK
Where you don't need to be. Now get
out.

KENT
(worried)
I wona go with you.

ZEEK
(aggressive)
Get out kent.

KENT
(worried)
What if something happens to you?

ZEEK
(angry)
Get out!

KENT
(worried)
I cant lose you Zeek.

ZEEK
(angry)
I said get out! What don't you get!
I don't need you!

He picks up Kent's camera and throws it out the window.

Kent's eyes began to fill with tears.

KENT
(Angry)
What would do I do? I cant lose
you!

Zeek points the gun upward, BOOM!! The shot echo's threw out
the bridge.

(CONTINUED)

Kent sits frozen in place completely horrified.

ZEEK
(emotionless)
I said get out.

Kent slowly gets out of the car horrified.

Zeek throws a basketball out the window, speeds away.

KENT
(crying out)
I need you!

Kent picks up the basketball throws it under the bridge in his now angry state, Tears fall uncontrollably from his eyes as he looks down at the river.

INT. LOCKER ROOM. NIGHT.

Teammates sit around the locker room putting on there gear and anxiously awaiting tip off of the game.

Kent sits on a bench putting on his sneakers.

Coach Boone walks in blows his whistle, the team huddles in a circle around him.

Kent walks to back open back door of the locker room, scans the parking looking for some one but finds nothing.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. HOME GAME NIGHT. NIGHT.

The game is under way, The fans sit quietly and stunned as they witness a blow out in the making.

The visiting team pounds on Kent's team heavily grabbing every rebound and pile ling on the points.

Kent sits on the sideline watching the game angrily.

Coach Boone stares nervously at his play book. Not being able stand another opposing score he blows his whistle, T

he team huddles around him.

COACH BOONE
(aggravated)
Guys what the hell are you doing?
Are we going to show up tonight or
what? Or are we just gonna hand
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE (cont'd)
them this game? Because that what
it looks like.

KENT
Coach put me in.

COACH BOONE
(angry)
You think you deserve that.

KENT
Since day one. I'm here for a
reason coach. This isn't what I
came here to do.

COACH BOONE
That attitude isn't going to get
you anywhere and especially not on
my team. Now I'm gonna put you in
there right now only because we've
got nothing going for us right now.
But don't get use to it.

KENT
(enthusiastic)
Yes.

He clenches his fist with aggression and satisfaction.

MILLES
Go make it happen. Here's
your shot.

COACH BOONE
Milles take a seat. Kent your in.

Kent runs onto the floor with the rest of the starters.

Ray picks up a steal, passes the ball to Kent.

Kent speeds down the court, takes a second to view a few
holes in the defense, passes the ball to Mercen who lays it
in easily.

The crowd begins to slowly come alive as Kent makes another
assist to Ray who knocks in a wide open three.

Kent continues to make play after play erasing the score
deficit.

The crowd roars wildly after every basket as Kent's team
takes the lead.

(CONTINUED)

Kent speeds down the court with a ball tosses it up to Mercen who slams it in hard.

The game buzzer sounds.

The crowd raises to there feet applauding the victory and Kent's great performance.

Mercen runs up to Kent in full joy from the victory. Pats him on the back.

MERCEN

(excited)

You had this in you all along?

KENT

I guess so.

INT. PIZZA RESTAURANT. NIGHT.

A local low scale pizza parlor, A WAITRESS periodically tends to a group of guys in the bar section.

The basketball team sits at big table, Eating and chatting cheerfully about the game.

Kent sits away from them on a bar stool, Fully engrossed on a laker game on the TV.

Coach Boone walks up to him takes a seat next to him.

Waitress quickly walks away from the bar to tend to them.

WAITRESS

How may I serve you tonight?

COACH BOONE

Two cokes would be good.

Waitress heads off to prepare the sodas.

KENT

I think they got a shot at the western conference finals this year.

COACH BOONE

Cant disagree with you on that one. But hard work and a little extra dedication. They'll go further than that.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

(annoyed)

Hard work and dedication. You know I run a hundred suicides a day. I practice every night even after we have practice. Then I study, to keep up with my grades so my mom will be happy. Then I deal with anyone else who wants to bring there issues over to me. Oh and of course, then theirs you, and this team.

Coach boone claps his hand with a look of sarcasm.

COACH BOONE

Bravo, I think I should put together a violin ceremony, just for you. Because Kent Booker's life is so hard that he thinks the world owes him something. That attitude isn't going to get you anywhere. This is a cold world. And if you think its going to pay you back for hardships then your headed for trouble.

The waitress brings them there drinks.

KENT

(defensive)

And I guess your here to save me right?

COACH BOONE

Maybe so. You know my mother died was I was fifteen. Hit me like a rock. My father worked day and night in a Cole mine, so I had look after my three sisters. And on top of that. I kept up with my school work. All my friends thought it was a waste of time, but at the same time I knew I didn't want to work in a coal mine. Now I didn't get into college because I deserved it. I got it because of what I put into it. Now none of this may sound like dream success story. But I'm just letting you know your not gonna get anything in this world that you don't earn. Now with that performance tonight. I think you've

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE (cont'd)
earned your self a spot in the
starting line up.

KENT
Really? Or is this just another one
of your games.

COACH BOONE
You earned it. Now All you gota do
is bring it home.

He takes a state championship ring out his shirt pocket,
hands it to Kent who stares it intrigued by it.

KENT
I guess this what its all about.

COACH BOONE
You get one of these and its sky's
the limit for you. Top schools in
the country, NBA scouts, you name
it. Just clear that head of yours
and act like a champion.

EXT. STREET. NIGHT.

Kent walks slowly down an empty dark deserted street.

Loud cheering can be heard from a boxing gym across the
street.

Kent's attention gravitates to the noise. He walks across
the street over to the front door way of the gym.

Hundreds of people stand around the ring cheering on a
intense fight.

A tall boxer hits his opponent with s super hard right hook
to the temple. The opponent falls the ground lifelessly.

The judge rings the bell.

The crowd roars estasticly.

ANNOUNCER
(ecstatic)
Its over! Its over!

Tall boxer holds up his championship belt.

INT. KENT'S HOUSE. BATHROOM. NIGHT.

Kent stands in front of the mirror studying his reflection.

KENT
(to himself)
Who am I... I'm a champion.

Sharee walks by the bathroom shaking her head disgustedly after just listening to Kent who sees her reflection in the mirror.

KENT
(defensively)
At least I'm good at something. And
I'm gonna be about something.

Sharee turns around and barges in his bathroom angrily.

SHAREE
(angry)
Your gonna be about something? Then
you tell what this is!

She throws his report card at him.

SHAREE (CONT'D)
(angry)
You tell me what your gonna be
about with grades like that! I'm
starting to see nothing more in you
then what I raised ten years ago!

KENT
(angry)
I told you, I don't care about what
you want for me. Its my life let me
live it.

She grabs him by the shirt looks into hos eyes threateningly.

SHAREE
Your gonna do what your told.

She lets him go. Walks out of the bathroom.

KENT
(muttering)
Well see. You watch.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. HOME GAME NIGHT. NIGHT.

The game is underway.

Kent's team led by kent puts a pounding of the opposing team.

The crowd cheers wildly as Kent converts play after play pile ling points on the score board.

INT. LOCKER ROOM. NIGHT.

The basketball team huddles in a circle. Kent stands in the middle, they cheer a pre game warm up chant in sync together loudly.

ENTIRE TEAM
(chanting)
Lets go! Lets go!

KENT
(shouting)
What are we!

ENTIRE TEAM
(chanting)
Champions!

KENT
(shouting)
What are gonna do tonight!

ENTIRE TEAM
(chanting)
Win!

KENT
(shouting)
Now lets go do this!

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. HOME GAME NIGHT. NIGHT.

Kent's team scores basket after basket easily firing up the crowd.

The game buzzer sounds.

The crowd gives Kent's team a standing ovation.

Coach Boone give kent a thumbs up.

EXT. PARKING LOT. NIGHT.

The lot is empty except for the basketball team, who sprays up Coach Boone's pick up truck with whip cream in celebration of another win.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY. DAY.

A crowded noisy hallway, the bell has just rung so its filled with kids chatting and heading off to there next class.

Posters of the basketball team fill the walls.

Kent walks down the hallway reading a magazine.

Mercen runs up to him estaticly waving a news paper in his hand.

MERCEN

(excited)

You see that? You see this? Front cover. 10 and 3 baby. Who's going all the way this year?

KENT

I know, I know. No one but us. But take a look at this.

He shows the magazine to Mercen.

MERCEN

(reading out loud)

Kobe flies behind the back board in mid air, and feeds the ball to Gasol who slams it in.

KENT

I know I can do that.

Mercen shoots him a awkward stare.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. HOME GAME NIGHT. NIGHT.

Kent's teams blows out the opposing team handily.

The crowd raves every minute of it.

Kent takes the ball down the court. He leaps behind the back board in mid air, extends his arm forward towards the basket, passes the ball to Mercen who leaps towards the basket and slams it in.

(CONTINUED)

The crowd get off there seats cheering wildly.

THE CROWD
(cheering)
Booker! Booker! Booker!

Kent cheeses uncontrollably from the cheers.

Coach Boone raises his state ring in the air.

COACH BOONE
(shouting)
Bring it home, Bring it home!

INT. ZEEK'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT.

The room is filled with local street friends from there 20's to 30's drinking and dancing.

Kent paces in back end of the room, Hes in the middle of an intense street boxing fight with gloves against TALL TEEN.

Dozens of people watch the fight shouting and cheering after every blow.

Zeek stands a few feet behind Kent waving a handful of money in the air as he watches the fight intensely.

Kent Hits Tall teen with hard right hook to the side of the face. Tall teen stumbles back a few steps.

The crowd cheers wildly, Moneys thrown on the floor in Zeek's direction.

ZEEK
(shouting)
Come on, just how I taught you!

He turns around to the crowd.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
Yall gone have to fork up some more paper. Cuz I'm going all to the bank with my brother. Doing a buck fifty on the freeway.

Kent hits Tall teen with a set of quick jabs.

Tall teen pushes Kent away, causing him to lose his guard for a second, Then he hits him with a huge uppercut to the jaw.

Kent falls flat on his back.

(CONTINUED)

The crowd screams out like a pack of hyenas.

Zeek steps in front of Kent.

ZEEK (CONT'D)

Alright that's it, fights over.
Yall go find something else to do.

The crowd boos.

Kent slowly gets up his feet, holding his jaw in extreme pain.

TALL TEEN

(angry, to zeek)

I aint with that homie, It aint
over! I say round two.

ZEEK

(angry)

I got your round two.

Zeek punches him hard in the temple, causing Tall teen to fall down instantly. He leaps on top of him, punching him in the face in full rage repeatedly.

The music is turned off, as the entire living room now watches the brutal beating.

Power enters the room from the kitchen accompanied by a group of tough looking gang members. He holds a large duffel bag in his hand. His attention instantly gravitates to Zeek who's now kicking Tall teen in the stomach. He burst out laughing at the site.

Zeek quickly turn his attention over to him at the first sound of his laugh.

POWER

Whats up cuz? Beatin up on the
youngins now huh?

ZEEK

(defensive)

What do you want?

POWER

Business season brother. Streets is
hungry people gota eat.

He drops the bag at Zeek's feet.

(CONTINUED)

POWER
Handle that for me.

ZEEK
(aggravated)
I said I was done.

POWER
(threateningly)
OK, so when the streets start
starving. I'll tell to knock on
this door huh? You want that, The
whole blocks looking for you
anyway.

Zeek stares furiously into his eyes.

ZEEK
(threateningly)
Get out of here. And take your bag
with you.

POWER
Your telling me no? Shit don't get
beside yourself homie. lets look at
the bigger picture right now.

He point to gang members.

POWER
Not only do they not get an
invitation to your little slumber
joint over here. But you aint
filling the pockets neither. What
do think there intentions are right
now. Handle business doggie.

Power walks out of the living room followed by the gang
members.

Zeek kicks the big out of frustration.

EXT. ZEEK'S HOUSE. BACK YARD. NIGHT.

Kent sits on a weight bench nursing his jaw with an ice
pack.

Zeek sits on the steps smoking a cigarette.

KENT
You know Ive never lost a fight
before. I got spaced out thinking
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KENT (cont'd)
about everything. Home, the team,
you.

ZEEK
What the hell you thinking about
me for? My life isn't right at all.
Even if I'm here tomorrow, who
knows if I'll still be hear the
next day.

KENT
...That night-

ZEEK
Don't even go there.

KENT
I cant help it. I would given
anything in the world to be with
you. To save you.

ZEEK
I cant even save myself. What hell
you think you can do?

KENT
Just don't know what id do with out
you. Your all that Ive got in this
world, besides a head of dreams.

ZEEK
Dreams of gettin rich, that's all
that matters.

KENT
That's you zeek.

ZEEK
(defensive)
People that go chasing dreams never
end up anywhere but in a world no
where. They spend they whole life
fightin a losing battle. Until they
get knocked down so many times they
don't get back up.

KENT
(aggravated)
You want me to just roll over and
die then? I want something out of
life.

ZEEK

And you'll never get it the the way
your chasing after it. Now I'm not
gonna tell you what to do. Cuz I'm
not our crazy ass mother. But in
this screwed up world we live this
hell we call life. And in life
theirs those who understand it and
play to there position. And then
theirs the ones who walk around the
clouds all day fighting for
something they aint never gonna
get.

KENT

(annoyed)

That crazy talk means nothing zeek.

ZEEK

I know first hand.

KENT

(aggravated)

From tony right?

ZEEK

(defensive)

You witness half shit that Ive seen
and been through. You think you can
sit here tell me what life is like?
You don't got a damn clue.

KENT

(aggravated)

My eyes don't see the same things
as you anymore.

ZEEK

Yeah, well there gonna meet real
soon. Staring right off at the fast
lane and big money... I got a big
pay day coming soon. And all I need
is one more man.

KENT

I cant be a part of that.

ZEEK

We'll see.

EXT. STREET BASKETBALL COURT. DAY.

The court outlooks a busy shopping area, full of people heading in and out of stores.

Kent and Mercen take turns shooting hoops.

MERCEN
Tomorrows the night.

KENT
(confident)
We're winning.

Mercen misses a wild shot, quickly retrieves the ball and lays it in.

MERCEN
Came so fast, And it can to fast.

KENT
(confident)
We're winning.

Mercen misses another shot in his jittery state.

MERCEN
Were d all this come from? I
thought you said we didn't have a
chance.

KENT
What else do I got to loose,
besides theirs to much at stake.

There eyes suddenly gravitate to a brand new low rider pulling up on the side of the court.

Jaycen steps out of it with a cocky look on his face as he notices there fixed on the car.

KENT
Someones putting in work.

MERCEN
Got that right.

JAYCEN
Don't stare to hard, the daytons
might blind you.

(CONTINUED)

MERCEN

The crack game must be treating you
real good homeboy.

Jaycen ignores him, walks over to a man standing on the
corner.

MERCEN

What a waste its not even worth it.
If only it was that easy, we'd all
be driving around in hot rides.

KENT

I'm gonna have one of those cars.
It might take a while but after
what ever has to happen, happens.
My life will be made.

Kent swishes in a long jump shot.

MERCEN

I'm right there with you Kent, like
a tag along. Who knows, we might
both end up in the hills someday.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. NIGHT.

The teams tiredly runs suicides up and down the court.

Kent stops to catch his breath, panting for air.

Coach boone looks at him concerned.

COACH BOONE

Kent. I don't usually do this but
go take the night off. Were gonna
need those legs fresh for our big
day tomorrow.

EXT. PARKING LOT. NIGHT.

Kent walks out of the gym onto the the deserted parking lot.

On the other end of the lot, Ryan hovers over a car
aggressively trying to break the lock open with a long
stick. He constantly checks over his over his shoulder
in paranoia.

RYAN

(anxiously)
Come on, come on.

(CONTINUED)

The car alarm sounds off.

Ryan immediately runs off down the parking lot. He runs into Kent who's heading in his direction, trips over his feet and falls flat onto the pavement. He flicks out of a pocket frightened for his life.

RYAN
(frightened)
Get back, get back! I don't want
any problems.

KENT
Who said there was gonna be any.

RYAN
(puzzled)
Huh?

He quints his eyes realizes that kent standing over him, lets off a sigh of relief.

RYAN
(exhaling)
Man don't do that me. I smoke to
much weed, My nerves are bad. Shit,
I though I was about to get my
brains splattered all over the
floor.

Kent helps him up off the ground.

KENT
If it was my ride, I would of.

RYAN
(frustrated)
Damn, I almost had it to.

KENT
And damn you almost got arrested.
That things got low jack written
all over it.

Ryan's eyes move over to a pick up truck.

KENT (CONT'D)
Don't even think about it. That's
coaches car.

RYAN
I hate that bitch, should slash his
tires.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

But you know if you really want something. Something fire.

Kent walks over to Jaycen's brand new shinning low rider.

KENT (CONT'D)

I would snatch this one.

Ryan stops in front of it memorized by the car.

RYAN

(ecstatic)

You gotta be slingin some serious rocks to get one of these.

He rubs his hand across the hood.

KENT

This is Jaycen's ride.

RYAN

I hate that bitch to.

He takes the knife cuts a huge hole across material hood of the car, leaving a wide opening. He climbs in and hot wires the car.

KENT

Alright while I'll see you around then.

He starts walking away.

Ryan beeps the horn.

RYAN

You wona go for a ride?

EXT. GROCERY STORE. PARKING LOT. NIGHT

Kent and Ryan exit the store eating bags of chips and drinking sodas. Ryan stops at the car lights a cigarette.

Kent hops in the car from over the top.

RYAN

You know your one the quietest dudes I ever met.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

I'm always thinkin. You walk in my life for a day and you'll see what there is to chat about.

RYAN

Everybody got problems.

KENT

And they all come in different sizes to... we got a big tomorrow.

RYAN

(sarcastic)

Yay for the team.

KENT

You never mentioned why you quit.

RYAN

I got more important things in my life. And focused on the prize right now. I'm gonna have one these whips for every day of the week, a big crib. Everything man.

KENT

What do you do?

Ryan tosses the cigarette, starts tapping on the car. He starts beat boxing in sync with the tapping.

KENT

(satisfied)

OK.

RYAN

(smirking)

That was hot right? should of recorded that one.

KENT

So you make beats?

RYAN

Its not just a beat homie. Only if that's all you see it as. I call it art work.

KENT

What are you aiming at?

Ryan points to the sky.

(CONTINUED)

RYAN

Straight threw the roof man, Its no joke with me. I'm focused, and hungry.

KENT

I get that feeling.

RYAN

Its hard man, and half the time its seems pointless. But its what I live for. Ive been getting the run around with music shit for a few years now. But that's just a little peak into my life. Like I said we all got problems. Just gotta keep your head up.

He hops in over the top onto the drivers seat.

RYAN

Now lets ride.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. DAY.

Kent and Mercen go over last minute drills with Coach Boone.

Jaycen storms into gym the his face filled with rage, he heads over to Mercen. Punches him hard in the face.

Mercen falls onto the floor.

JAYCEN

(furious)

Bitch!

Jaycen kicks him repeatedly until Kent and Coach boone yank him away from him.

JAYCEN

(furious)

I swear if I don't get it back I'm gonna smoke you!

COACH BOONE

(angry)

What the hell is going on?

JAYCEN

(furious)

He jacked my ride!

(CONTINUED)

MERCEN

(angry)

I didn't take nothin!

COACH BOONE

(aggravated)

Guys we can cry about his later!
we've got business to take care of
tonight!

JAYCEN

(furious)

Forget about the game, forget about
this team!

He storms over to the door, stops and turns around.

JAYCEN (CONT'D)

(threateningly; to mercen)

And if I see you on the streets its
a wrap homeboy, trust.

He walks out the back door, slams it behind him.

COACH BOONE

(angry)

Damn it!

Kent helps Mercen up off the ground.

KENT

You alright?

MERCEN

Yeah I'm good. He hits like bitch
anyway.

COACH BOONE

Soldiers walking out on me right
before battle. What else is gonna
fall threw the roof?

His eyes move to Kent.

COACH BOONE (CONT'D)

You got three hours to learn how to
be the best damn forward in the
state.

INT. SOUL FOOD RESTAURANT. NIGHT.

A typical mom and pap soul food restaurant. YOUNG WAITRESS takes orders from table to table.

Kent and Zeek sit at a table by front window.

Young waitress Hands each of them a tray of food.

YOUNG WAITRESS
You need anything else give me a call.

KENT
Why'd you spend all this money on this food? I cant stay long.

ZEEK
Just eat what ever.

A moment. As they dig into to there plates.

Zeek's phone rings, he answers it.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
(into the phone)
Whats happening?

He listens, as Kent begins to look on curiously.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
(aggravated; into the phone)
What? What type of shit is this?

He listens.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
(into the phone)
At the soul food joint, hurry up.

He hangs up the phone. Lets off a sigh of frustration.

ZEEK
(angry)
Shit!

All eyes are now on Zeek in his frustrated state.

KENT
(concerned)
Whats going on?

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK
(aggravated)
Something came up.

Head lights shine on the restaurant from a pull a car pulling into the drive way.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
Lets go.

Kent and Zeek walk out of the store into the parking lot.

Sheldon rolls down the window of the car.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
(aggravated)
You planned this shit real good.

SHELDON
We don't even got the time, so drop it.

Young waitress walks out of the restaurant holding the bill.

YOUNG WAITRESS
Think you forgot something.

Zeek ignores her. Turns his attention to Kent.

ZEEK
Kent get in the car.

KENT
(aggravated)
You know Ive got somewhere to be.

ZEEK
(threateningly)
I said get in the car.

YOUNG WAITRESS
(annoyed)
I'm calling the cops.

She walks back into the restaurant.

Kent lets off a sigh of frustration as he gets in the back seat.

Zeek quickly hops in the front seat.

KENT
(aggravated)
I got a game Zeek.

ZEEK
Don't wona hear it, The games are
over wit, your with me now.

EXT. STREET. NIGHT.

The street is dark except for a dim street light, And a faint light from a corner store across the street.

Sheldon's car sits parked on the corner of the street.

Kent and Zeek leans against it, Zeek stares at the store intensely.

Kent looks away, his face full of frustration.

Sheldon opens the trunk of the car.

A Scared teen sits inside it curled up in a ball tremble ling in fear. His hands and his mouth are tapped.

SHELDON
I got our key right here.

Zeek walks over to trunk. Stares at Scared teen suspiciously.

ZEEK
(annoyed)
Sheldon this little niggard aint
watching over no hundred grand.

SHELDON
(aggravated)
I wouldn't have you going threw
this if it wasn't legit.

Kent hits in the car in frustration, walks over to trunk.

KENT
(aggravated)
Why am I here?

ZEEK
(annoyed)
Turn your head.

Kent ignores as him he stares angrily into his eyes.

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK (CONT'D)
(threateningly)
Do it.

Kent walks to the other side of the car frustrated.

Zeek grabs Scared teen by the shirt collar, stares into his terrified eyes.

ZEEK
I do not trust this Sheldon. Not at all.

He lets the Scared teen boy go.

SHELDON
I gave you my word now lets do this before its to late.

ZEEK
Kent go see if theirs anybody in the store.

KENT
(aggravated)
So this is what you had in mind for me?

ZEEK
(angry)
Go!

Kent glares at him, then walks across the street into the store.

CASHIER stands behind the register reading a magazine.

Kent scans the front of the store to see no one around. He walks to the back looks around to find no one there either. He walks back to front of the store.

Cashier looks at Kent quizitively.

CASHIER
Wait a minute, Your that kid, the star point guard.

Kent looks out the window at Sheldon who stands directly in front of it awaiting a signal.

CASHIER (CONT'D)
I went to one of your games last week. Where'd you learn to play like that?

(CONTINUED)

A tears trickles from Kent's eye as he nods his head at Sheldon.

CASHIER (CONT'D)
(puzzled)
Huh?

Sheldon bolts into the store with a back handgun, he points it at Cashier who trembles in fear.

SHELDON
(shouting)
Move!

He forces the gun against his face.

SHELDON
(threateningly)
Get in the back.

He pushes Cashier forward forcing him to lead him to the back.

Zeek walks into the store holding Scarred teen by the collar.

ZEEK
(to kent)
Stay right here.

He walks to the side of the store, with Scared teen at his side.

BAM! The sound of a door slamming shut echos threw out the store.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
(shouting)
Hurry it up back there!

Kent buries his head in his arms in attempt to block out of all the chaos.

Zeek knocks over racks of cupcakes and potato chips until he comes across a safe in the wall.

ZEEK (CONT'D)
(threateningly; to scared teen)
Open it.

BANG, BANG, two shots ring threw out threw out the store.

Kent jumps up with a look of horror in his eyes.

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK (CONT'D)
(shouting)
Go keep look out by the car!

Kent walks out of the store to the car. He gets in. Covers his ears with his fingers.

A car pulls up on the side of the store.

Two street thugs step out of the car. They walk into the store.

Kent frantically bangs his hand on the door at the sight of them entering the store.

KENT
(Screaming)
Zeek!

Intense gun fire erupts from inside the store.

Kent who's eyes are filled with tears ducks down in his seat more frightened then ever.

The guns shot end. And the the store goes completely silent.

Zeek runs out of the store. Carrying a large bag. He quickly climbs into the drivers seat.

Kent jumps up back on to his seat and lets off a huge sigh of relief but still terrified.

Sheldon slowly craws out of the store on all fours bleeding all over the ground.

Zeek stares at him sympathetically but an emotionless rush over takes him.

ZEEK
(to himself)
Sorry.

He starts the engine.

KENT
(concerned)
You cant just leave him.

Zeek ignores him and speeds away.

ZEEK
(cocky)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ZEEK (cont'd)
Woo, that's how you do it baby. You saw that?... I didn't do nothing wrong, nothing.

Zeek unzips the bag with his free hand and holds up a stack of money possessed by the sight of it.

ZEEK
(excited)
You see this! This is what its all about! Forget about family, love, Dreams! Aint nothin in the world better this baby!

KENT
(disgusted)
Let me out.

Zeek abruptly stops the car.

ZEEK
Hurry up.

KENT
(disgusted)
I'm not hesitating this time.

Kent gets out and slams the door.

Zeek speeds away.

Kent looks up at the sky with tears in his eyes.

KENT
Why?

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. NIGHT.

The gym is deserted, cups, soda cans and popcorn are scattered all over the floor from an earlier game.

Kent enters the gym threw the side door. He flops onto the bleachers, exhausted, upset and stressed. He looks up at the score board to see that his team had won by five points.

INT. RYAN'S CAR. NIGHT.

Ryan drives, Kent sits on the passenger side emotionally exhausted.

Ryan pulls onto a side street. Flashing lights from police cars can be seen from a distance. He looks on quizzically and drives nearer.

Cops and detectives are everywhere.

RYAN
(curious)
What the hell is going on?

Zeek leans over a cop car in handcuffs.

Kent who's eyes began to fill with tears and sinks in his seat at the sight.

RYAN
That's your brother.

KENT
Keep driving, please.

EXT. ABANDONED BRIDGE. DAY.

Ryan sits on top of his car smoking a cigarette.

Kent leans on the rail looking down at the water.

RYAN
...You really cared about him
didn't you?

KENT
One of the only people.

RYAN
I don't care about a whole lot
either. Just my future.

KENT
I wish that's all I could care
about it. And just let everything
else in the way go. Now I've got no
one, nothing, and I don't want to do
anything at all.

(CONTINUED)

RYAN

...I never liked my father a whole lot. He was never there. But one thing that he said that meant something to me. Was that, if you lose someone you care about. You do what ever it was that would make that person happy.

KENT

He'd be happy with me doing nothing.

INT. KENT'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. DAY.

Kent walks in the living room threw front door. He hears Sharee screaming on the phone in the kitchen. He walks over to the kitchen, he stops at the entrance to listen.

SHAREE

(screaming; into the phone)
Who the hell do you think you are calling my house from jail!
(she listens)
I don't care who you wona talk to!

Kent builds up the courage and walks into the kitchen.

SHAREE

(yelling; to kent)
Hear, say a few words to your loser brother!

She hands him the phone.

KENT

(into the phone)
Hey?

ZEEK (VO)

(from phone)
Two weeks and ill-

Sharee snatches the phone from him.

SHAREE

(screaming; into phone)
Happy now! Bye!

She hangs up the phone.

(CONTINUED)

KENT
(aggravated)
What you do that for?

SHAREE
(angry)
I do not want you talking to him
you hear me. I don't know when he's
getting out. if he even does. But I
don't want you around him.

KENT
He's my brother, and your son.

SHAREE
(angry)
I didn't raise that. So he's dead
to me as far as I'm concerned.

KENT
(aggravated)
So what, you want me to do the
same? Just cut him out of my life?

SHAREE
What ever it takes.

KENT
I'm not doing that.

SHAREE
(screaming)
Then get out!

KENT
Maybe I should.

He storms angrily out of the kitchen.

INT. PRISON VISITING ROOM. NIGHT.

The rooms dark and empty in this now late hour of the night.

Kent sits at a table in the back of the room in the dark.

Zeek is aggressively brought into the room by two guards in
shackles.

ZEEK
(aggravated)
My lawyer said she wasn't gonna see
me until tomorrow.

(CONTINUED)

GUARD #1

Lawyer? You dirty piece of crap.
You don't have a lawyer.

ZEEK

(defensive)

We'll see tomorrow.

GUARD# 1 chuckles. The guards let him go in the middle of the room.

ZEEK

(aggravated)

Aint nothing funny. Now what the hell am I in here for?

Zeek looks around the dark room, to see no one but black.

ZEEK

Yall really wona play some bullshit wit a nigga.

GUARD #1

The kid in the back dumb ass.

He flicks on the light.

Zeek rolls his eyes in frustration at the sight of Kent. He walks slowly to the back table, takes a seat.

ZEEK

(frustrated)

What the hell you doing here?

KENT

I had to.

ZEEK

(frustrated)

If your mother finds out you here. She's only gonna make shit worse for me.

KENT

What happened?

ZEEK

Damn fagot ass bitch Sheldon dropped a dime on me. Should of layed him out when I had the chance. But guess what, they aint found nothing. When I got out of here everything's made for me.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

I couldn't stop thinking about you.

ZEEK

Please, don't start that shit, Its wake up time Kent.

KENT

(aggravated)

You think its so easy? Just to loose you. I'm not in good place right now. There aren't any dreams, I cant see anything. I need you.

ZEEK

(frustrated)

Don't fall out on me Kent. My soldiers are gone, Teas probably messing that damn blow agin.

KENT

(saddened)

When you get out.

He turns his head, fighting back tears.

KENT (CONT'D)

(crying)

Hes gonna kill you.

ZEEK

Did he come up to you?

KENT

(annoyed)

What difference does it make.

ZEEK

Stay away from him Kent.

(aggravated)

And please for the last time, dead this crying shit.

KENT

(frustrated)

I'm dead out here.

ZEEK

(angry)

You think I'm alive in here. I want my money. And for these cops and people like you to leave me the hell alone. I raised you better then be some little bitch.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

(angry)

What do you want me to be? A killer like you?

ZEEK

(threateningly)

You watch it. I'll dead you out to boy. You know what, I'm taking my money and I'm gettin the hell out of here.

KENT

(furious)

That's all you care about! That piece of shit money! What about me? I'm dead out here because of you!

GUARD #1

(shouting)

Hey settle down!

Zeek's eyes are full of emotionless rage as they focus on Kent.

KENT

You told me so many things. You told me to just end it all, to let everything go.

(crying out in rage)

Told me to give up on all my dreams!

He flips the table over in his now furious vengeful state, tears fall uncontrollably from his eyes.

Guard #1 runs up to Kent, grabs him from behind, Kent fights desperately to break free.

KENT

(screaming)

I hate you!

Guard #2 grabs Zeek aggressively.

ZEEK

(angry)

What the hell you trying to do! You think you about something? You aint about shit! And aint gone be shit! Bitch ass!

(CONTINUED)

KENT

(furious)

I gonna do everything you said I
couldn't do! You'll see me head
straight to the top! While you
spend the rest of your life in
here! Just wait!

Guard #2 muscles Zeek out of the room.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASS ROOM. DAY.

MR. HILL a middle aged history teacher stands in front of
the class room writing on the chalk board.

The class Bordy takes notes as he writes.

Kent sits in back of the room his eyes focused out side
window.

MR. HILL

OK that's enough for today. Well
finish up tomorrow. But we got a
couple minutes. So graduations
right around the corner. Who wants
to share what they'll be doing
after June twenty first?

No one raises there hand.

MR. HILL (CONT'D)

No one has a clue... What about you
Ryan?

RYAN

I'm gonna be drivin down the street
on twenty fours.

MR. HILL

Not the answer I was really looking
for but okay. You've got dreams I
see. What about you Mercen?

MERCEN

I think I wona head off to college.

Ryan chuckles.

MERCEN (CONT'D)

(defensive)

What do you want to do white boy?
Dance around in rap videos.

(CONTINUED)

RYAN

(defensive)

Sure as hell aint gonna sittin my
white ass in no class room. Book
boy.

MR. HILL

OK guys, tone it down a bit.

The bell rings, The class room quickly empties.

Kent drops a book on the floor as he he heads out. He Picks
it up.

MR. HILL

What about you kent?

KENT

You don't wona know.

INT. WEIGHT ROOM. NIGHT.

A untidy and messy room, rusty weights are scattered all
over the floor.

Mercen spots Kent as he benches a heavy load of weight. He
racks the bar in place at the end of the last rep.

Kent sits up catches his breath with a look of confusion on
his face.

KENT

I don't see it. I cut the biggest
problem out of my life and I still
don't see it.

MERCEN

You don't wona see it.

KENT

I do, I just got that feeling. You
know that theirs more to this
ending. You get me?

MERCEN

You keep thinking like that and
you'll get what your looking for.
Alright I'm done for the night.

KENT

I'm with you, tomorrow man, cant
take the suspense.

(CONTINUED)

MERCEN

Me neither.

He walks out of the weight room.

EXT. PARKING LOT. NIGHT.

Kent and Mercen walk threwh the parking lot, Kent looks up at the stars as he walks.

MERCEN

Six hours of sleep, then its the big day. You know I was serious when I said I wanted to head off to college. Just as soon as I get my head clear. No more drinking, smoking, partying.

KENT

Have fun with that.

MERCEN

Wish I could.

KENT

Hold up, look up at the sky.

MERCEN

(puzzled)

huh?

Kent points at the stars.

Mercen looks up.

MERCEN

What kent, what are you trying to say?

KENT

You don't see it do you. Just look at em.

MERCEN

They just stars Kent.

KENT

surrounded by black.

MERCEN

Where you trying to go with this?

(CONTINUED)

KENT

This is life, the world right over our heads.

Mercen looks at Kent puzzled.

MERCEN

Your losing me.

KENT

All these stars are the people that made it. You know, Hollywood, big paper chasers. And everything in between are the people that fell short. The stars, yeah we see them shining bright just like turning on a TV. Aint that something. You know my place is right up there with em.

Ray's car pulls into the driveway stops in front of them. He rolls down the window.

RAY

Camillo's throwing a party, I heard theirs mad bangin shorties up in there. You tryin to show?

MERCEN

You serious?

RAY

Come get in.

Mercen glances over at Kent, then turns back to Ray.

MERCEN

I don't know man, tomorrows the big day.

Ryan pulls up on the side of Ray's car.

Ray holds up a bottle of alcohol to Mercen who lights up at the sight of it.

MERCEN

OK I'm in.

Mercen gets in the car.

MERCEN

Kent you commin?

(CONTINUED)

KENT

No I'm good. Need to keep my head clear.

MERCEN

(shouting)

We aint winning state tomorrow
Kent. Its the day after.

Ray drives off.

RYAN

I wouldn't of went either.

KENT

I thought he quit.

EXT. RYAN'S HOUSE. NIGHT.

Kent and Ryan exit the house threw the front door.

RYAN

You need a ride?

KENT

Nah, I'll walk this one out myself
alone across the valley. Besides I
got a lot to think about.

Kent slaps his hand.

RYAN

Alright man, I'll see you tomorrow.

Kent turns around and starts walking away.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Wait up. One minute.

He tosses Kent a CD.

Kent catches it and examines it.

RYAN (CONT'D)

It's the one Ive been telling you
about.

KENT

What I got people giving me there
demos now.

(CONTINUED)

RYAN

I put my heart into it. You understand that right?

KENT

A little bit. I'll catch you later.

RYAN

See you.

EXT. HIGHWAY. NIGHT.

A noisy busy high way, cars speed on by.

Kent walks on the side of the road, with headphones on bobbing his head to a Cd.

FLASH BACK

INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASS ROOM. DAY.

Mr. Hill stands by his desk, The bell has just rung everyone has left except for kent who stands in the door way.

KENT

Do you really wona know? Because you'll never understand.

MR. HILL

I'm curious.

KENT

There's nothing for me after that date, and honestly. I cant say that I want anything either. Nothing at all.

MR. HILL

I don't understand you Kent. Not at all. I mean your at the top of my class. And I see you in that gym everyday practicing even after official practice has ended. Now I don't know If that's what you wona do. But seeing you do that and the way you go about it. Tells me you have something. You've got what it takes to do what ever it is you want to do. There more to this Kent, much more. And you definitely have what takes to get it. And I

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MR. HILL (cont'd)
talk to you this way, how I
wouldn't talk to anyone else.
Because you've got something a
little more than them Kent. And its
a shame you don't see it.

BACK TO

EXT. HIGHWAY. NIGHT.

Kent walks down the highway listening to a Cd.

MR. HILL (VO)
It's the ultimate escape. That's
the beauty of dreams. We as human
beings walk in search of this
bright light that tells and gives
everything. Whatever it is that
were striving for. We decide what
that light holds. Whether its love,
happiness... Sorrow, even dreams.
It could be anything. And when you
find it, It'll change your life
forever. The question is When?... I
guess time can only tell.

KENT (VO)
What happens when it goes away?
When someone takes it from you?

MR. HILL (VO)
It'll never leave you if you hold
onto it.

Mercen drives wildly down the road, weaving through lanes,
Hes clearly drunk.

Ray sits on the passenger side drunk as well.

Kent starts walking across a clear traffic lane, His
attention fully engrossed on the Cd.

Mercen loses control of the wheel then speeds onto the
opposite lane with oncoming traffic.

A large truck nears Mercen's car. The truck driver see's
Mercen's car speeding towards it head first. The truck
driver quickly tries to avoid the collision by swerving onto
the next lane nearing Kent who's walking straight ahead of
the trucks new direction.

(CONTINUED)

Kent's sees headlights at his feet as the truck nears closer. He quickly turns his head to truck, Frantically he tries to leap to his side, But its to late.

The truck smacks right into Kent Who flies off flies off the side of the truck in mid air. His body crashes threw the windshield of Mercen's moving car.

Now uncontroll of the wheel Mercen's car smacks into the side of the truck. Mercen's flips over, crashes against a power line.

The truck driver regains control of the truck, Then stops it on the side of the road.

The power line tips off over onto the side of the road.

The truck driver slowly steps out of the truck petrified. He walks slowly to Mercen's totaled car, stops at the sight of it completely horrified.

TRUCK DRIVER
(horrified)
Oh, my... God.

INT. HOSPITAL. CORRIDOR. NIGHT.

A crowed noisy corridor. Patients are being escorted down the corridor in all directions, doctors and nurses run around like mad men tending to them.

Kent lays on a stretcher unconscious, His face is badly bruised. His shirt is soaked in blood. His stretcher's being rushed down the hall way by two nurses.

Sharee trails after the stretcher terrified for her sons life.

NURSE #1
(to sharee)
Mam you cant go beyond this point
he's headed to the ER. He needs
surgery.

SHAREE
(yelling)
Hes my son!

Nurse #1 nods at a near by security guard.

The guard stops Sharee in her tracks, She desperately try's to break free of his hold crying hysterically.

(CONTINUED)

SHAREE
(screaming)
I use to work here!

INT. HOSPITAL. ROOM. DAY.

Kent lies awake on his bed completely stiff, he looks as though hes had a rough nights sleep and is in a world of pain.

A YOUNG NURSE Brings him a glass of water.

KENT
(in pain)
Can you, open the blinds?

YOUNG NURSE
Sure.

Young nurse walks over the window and opens the blinds, She examines Kent as he stares off out side the window.

YOUNG NURSE
You know your very lucky.

KENT
(in pain)
Do you. Do you see me right now?

He starts coughing then groans in pain.

YOUNG NURSE
Calm yourself. Drink the water. I'm gonna let your mother in right now by the way.

The nurse walks out the room.

Moments later Sharee walks in over to Kent. She looks like an emotional wreck. She lets off to sigh of relief at sight of Kent's open eyes. But tears quickly follow as she looks at Kent's painful miserable state.

SHAREE
(crying)
Baby.

She hugs him tightly, Then quickly lets him go after he begins to groan in pain.

(CONTINUED)

SHAREE (CONT'D)

The doctors said they didn't know
if you were gonna make it. I'm so
happy your okay. Thank you Jesus.

KENT

(in pain)

No, I'm, I'm not... I'm not okay
mom.

SHAREE

(crying)

Please baby, don't worry
everything's gonna be fine.

KENT

(in pain)

The doctor, He mentioned something.
About my friends.

SHAREE

(crying)

Honey. They didn't make it.

INT. FUNERAL. CHURCH. DAY.

The church is full to capacity with family and friends of
Ray who's casket sits in the front of the church under a sea
of flowers. The mood is dark and gloomy as the family takes
turns giving there last good byes.

Kent sits in the back of the church in a wheel chair next to
Sharee. His face is bitter as he looks on angrily.

SHAREE

Come on, Lets go give our
condolences.

KENT

(angry)

He killed my friend. Almost killed
me. Matter of of fact I think he
did.

He turns his chair around and wheels him self out of the
back door of the church.

Jaycen leans against a rail smoking a cigarette.

Kent stops his chair at edge of a set of steep stairs.

(CONTINUED)

JAYCEN

You not getting that thing down
them steps.

Kent turns himself to Jaycen.

KENT

What are you here for?

JAYCEN

Same reason you are? Damn its shame
you know. With everything that was
comin and all. Aint this a bitch.

KENT

(defensive)

Just leave it.

JAYCEN

True, I aint gota live with it.

KENT

(defensive)

You don't know nothing.

JAYCEN

(aggravated)

Then forget you then. Watch out for
them steps crippled boy.

Kent glares at him furiously as he walks in the church. Kent slowly turns the chair back around, stares from bottom of the steps to his knees. He takes a deep breath lifts his head up and attempts to stand up.

KENT

(groaning in pain)

Argh!

He raise six inches from his chair. His back gives out and he flops back down on the chair aching in pain. A tear trickles from his eye in his now every upset state.

INT. DOCTORS OFFICE. DAY.

Kent sits up on an examination table.

YOUNG DOCTOR stands in front him taking notes on a clip board.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG DOCTOR

Well Ive got some news and some bad news.

KENT

Whats the bad news?

YOUNG DOCTOR

Lets see. Well the good news is that you want be needing the wheel chair anymore.

He picks up an x-ray and examines it thoroughly.

KENT

How long will it be before I can play agin?

YOUNG DOCTOR

That would be the least of my worries right now.

KENT

(defensive)

Well its the most of mine. So when?

Young doctor puts the x- ray down.

YOUNG DOCTOR

Your young kid, Just remember that. You've got your whole life ahead of you.

He moves behind Kent and lifts up the back of Kent's shirt.

Kent's back is completely covered in bandages.

Young Doctor checks to make sure there tight and secure.

KENT

It hurts so bad, when the pain starts it doesn't go away.

YOUNG DOCTOR

Your spines pretty severe. How often do you get theses pains?

KENT

Usually at night. Medicine can fix it though right? And I can still play?

Young doctor takes a moment to exhale.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG DOCTOR

Kent this is a serious injury. We had to surgically pull glass fragments from your spine.

KENT

(concerned)

What does that mean? I can still play right?

YOUNG DOCTOR

Kent you playing basketball agin is out of the question. Were more than likely gonna have to perform another surgery. You may not be able to walk agin.

KENT

(defensive)

What do you mean? I can walk.

Kent stands up.

KENT

See I'm fine.

He starts jumping up and down. He gets a sharp pain in his back.

Young doctor quickly grabs him to stop him from collapsing on the floor.

KENT

(angry)

Leave me, I'm fine!

Young doctor helps Kent back onto the examining table.

YOUNG DOCTOR

(aggravated)

Kent just let it go. For gods sake be glad that your alive.

KENT

(angry)

That's easy for you to say.

He regains his strength, gets up and angrily storms out of the office.

EXT. HOSPITAL. DAY (RAINING)

The sun is covered with dark clouds, rain pours rapidly from the sky.

Kent storms out of the doctors office, His eyes are filled with tears.

Sharee runs up to him and hugs him tightly.

KENT
(crying)
Mom, I'm dead.

SHAREE
(sympathetically)
Don't say that.

KENT
(crying)
It should of been me instead of
Mercen. He would of pushed threw. I
cant do it.

SHAREE
Baby just calm down, please for me.

INT. KENT'S LIVING ROOM. NIGHT.

Potato chip bags and soda cans are scattered all over the floor. The room looks a complete mess.

Kent lays on the couch wrapped in a blanket. His face full of misery.

Ryan walks in the living room from the kitchen.

RYAN
You alright?

KENT
(miserable)
Cant you tell?

RYAN
You need anything? Or is it all
over the floor?

KENT
(defensive)
It wouldn't be there if my legs had
life in them.

(CONTINUED)

RYAN

Maybe it wouldn't be so bad if you didn't mope around all day. You could least try to make something good out of it.

KENT

(annoyed)

What? You cant even step to me on this one so don't try. You got everything in the world going on for you.

RYAN

(aggravated)

You tell me whats working out for me?

KENT

(angry)

Whats working out for me! I cant feel my back. I feel like shit!

RYAN

(aggravated)

What so that's something new?

KENT

(angry)

What kind of shit is that? I had dreams, That aren't gonna happen now.

RYAN

If you had dreams to start with. They'd never fade. You'd keep keep em alive by fighting and believing. Even through the worse times. Even when you have that piece of shit nobody telling you aint gonna be nothin... I got rejected this morning by another label. You got no clue how that makes me feel. But you know what? I'm a fighter to the end. I'll die before I give in. I don't care If I get rejected by a hundred labels. I'll take my dreams with me to my grave.

KENT

(aggravated)

It's worth dieing for huh? I gave everything I had for them. Left

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KENT (cont'd)
everything on the line even when
people stood in the way. Look what
I get back. So have fun walking
threw your hard disappointing life.

RYAN
Your hopeless. Your the only person
I ever met that I though Id never
say that to.

He grabs his coat walks over to the door.

KENT
(angry)
What another studio session?

RYAN
A trip back up to the clouds.

He walks out the front door.

Kent throws a soda can at the wall in his now furious state.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM. DAY.

Kent sits alone in the gym at the top of the bleachers
reading a news paper.

Coach Boone enters the gym. He sees Kent and walks slowly
over to him. He claps his hands as he moves closer.

Kent lowers the news paper.

COACH BOONE
No matter how hard the battle my
soldiers always make it back to the
home base. And you, well you were
head general of em all... You know
it was my dream that you'd bring us
home that state ring. So I broke
you down when ever I got the
chance. To make you a monster,
unstoppable. Why'd you let me Kent?

KENT
I'm still trying to find out the
answer to that. Everybody has there
turn on Kent Booker. Maybe I got
sucker written across my
forehead... The doctor said that I
cant play anymore you believe that?

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE

I forfeited that game that would of gotten us into states Can you believe that? I never quit a damn thing in my whole life.

KENT

I quit to, On everything. Its all over for me.

COACH BOONE

(intensely)

You cant afford to quit. You got to much life in the damn body. Now I don't know what the hell it is your going threw. But I'm not gonna give in. Forget about doctors I can look in your eyes and tell you've still got it.

KENT

Coach I'm done.

COACH BOONE

You bring me an x-ray.

He walks out of the gym.

Kent's looks around the empty gym. His eyes are suddenly drawn to a film school advertisement on the wall. He rips it down and reads it thoroughly.

INT. FILM CLASS ROOM. DAY.

Mr. Veron sits at his desk fixing a camera.

Kent walks into the room holding an advertisement.

MR. VERON

(surprised)

Kent?

Kent hands him the advertisement.

KENT

Look I need you to tell me everything that you know about getting into this place.

Mr. Veron scans over the paper.

(CONTINUED)

MR. VERON

What? It cost a hundred to get into this place. Not even to mention the skills it takes.

KENT

Just help me, please.

INT. RYAN'S CAR. DAY.

Ryan drives, Kent sits on the passenger side starring off out the window.

KENT

What happens if today's not your day agin.

RYAN

You know I'll keep going.

KENT

...I thought about what you said the other night. It's just that I don't know what to do or how to think. It's the first time I'm alone on this path and nothings in the way. I'm just scared of where it's gonna take me.

Ryan pulls in front of a building.

RYAN

Just do it man. No matter what it is or how hard it is. Just do it. Like no one else will. People respect that.

A moment.

KENT

You waiting to be late?

RYAN

Got that feeling right now.

His fingers shake nervously on the steering wheel.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Shit I hate feeling like this.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

Just do it, like on one else will.

RYAN

Your right.

He opens the door, they both exit the car.

RYAN (CONT'D)

I'll catch you later than.

KENT

Alright, I'm happy for you. I really am.

RYAN

Thanks. Here goes nothing, wish me luck.

Ryan walks inside the building.

Kent's smile slowly fades into a frown as anger and jealousy takes him over. He kicks a rock in his angered state.

INT. AUTO SHOP. NIGHT.

Kent sits at a table polishing car parks.

Mr. Williams works diligently on fixing an engine.

KENT

You own this place right?

MR. WILLIAMS

Twelve years.

KENT

Could you invest in something, like a loan?

MR. WILLIAMS

I don't even have the money to fix the locks on this place. Whats this about?

KENT

I was just thinking about something. This dream that I had.

Tears begin to fall from his eyes as a rush of emotion takes him over.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

(crying)

Its funny cuz, I always ended up doing other things then what I wanted. Then people. Man people they stood in the way. I guess its my fault cuz I let it happen.

Mr. Williams stops what he's doing and turns to Kent who quickly turns away to hide to hide his tears.

MR. WILLIAMS

(concerned)

Kent if you hurt, You cant fight it.

Kent blocks his face with his arms.

KENT

(defensive)

Who said I was? You don't have a clue.

MR. WILLIAMS

I lost my son Kent, trust me I know.

Kent gets up and walks toward the back door.

MR. WILLIAMS (CONT'D)

Where are you going? Because the answers not out there.

KENT

I'm going back to what I thought made me happy.

INT. WEIGHT ROOM. NIGHT.

The room is empty except for Kent who squats with a bar loaded with weight on the back of his neck. His face is almost brick red as he struggles with the weight and extreme pain from his back.

KENT

(groaning in pain)

Argh!

Coach Boone runs into the room and immediately turns his attention to Kent.

(CONTINUED)

COACH BOONE
(yelling)
What the hell are you doing?

KENT
(in pain)
Why do you care?

He continues squatting.

COACH BOONE
(yelling)
Put it down!

KENT
(in pain)
I cant.

COACH BOONE
(yelling)
Damn it I said stop!

Kent's knees suddenly gives out as he attempts another rep. The bar falls onto the floor. Kent lays down on his back throbbing in pain.

COACH BOONE
(furious)
What the hell do you do it for
because I sure as hell wona know?!

KENT
(in pain)
Why do you want me to stop now?

COACH BOONE
I spoke to your doctor. I want you
to tell me what this is for. Why?

KENT
(in pain)
I got nothing, nothing going for me
right now.

He slowly tries to stand up, He groans in pain with every movement.

COACH BOONE
(aggravated)
You never had anything. Except what
I wanted you to have. What
everybody wanted you to have. If
you want something, you gota want
it for yourself.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

(angry)

I use to feel it, right above my
head, Now its not there anymore.
And You, You promised me to much.

Kent's face fills with rage as walks slowly towards him
nearly stumbling with every step.

COACH BOONE

You have to put it there.

KENT

(angry)

How am I supposed to do that? You
promised me the world!

Kent swings at him with all his might. He misses and falls
on the floor.

COACH BOONE

I'm sorry.

He walks out of the room.

KENT

(screaming)

I hate you!

INT. CHURCH. NIGHT.

The church is empty except for Kent who sits in the middle
of a bench, He closes his eyes.

KENT

I know we don't speak a whole lot.
But please I'm begging you. Make
all this go away, please.

The light goes out in the room.

KENT (CONT'D)

Please.

Power emerges from the side entrance. He flicks back on the
lights.

POWER

Change of heart yet?

Kent quickly turns his attention to him startled.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

What do you want?

POWER

What do you want black man? What ever it is you sure as hell aint gonna get it from this place I can tell you that.

EXT. CHURCH. PARKING LOT. NIGHT (RAINING)

Kent stands next to Power by his car with a look of hopelessness.

Power opens the trunk and takes out a large bag.

POWER

All the joy in the world. That's what you want right?

Kent looks up at the rainy sky.

POWER (CONT'D)

No, Its not up there. As long as your straight with me. You aint gota hope for nothin. Everything in this world is yours.

Kent looks nervously at the bag.

Power pats him on the shoulder.

KENT

I cant do this. I'm not like him, I'm not like you.

POWER

(defensive)

You breath the same air nigga, and that green smells all in it.

He turns around to get into the car.

Kent throws the bag bag at him then bolts away at full speed.

Power pulls out a handgun and points it at him, He ponders a thought then lowers the gun.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL. CAFETERIA. DAY.

A crowded and noisy room. Dozens of students stand on line waiting for their food to be served.

Kent sits alone at a small table eating.

Ryan walks up to the table with a huge cheesy bright smile on his face. He waves a piece of paper around in his hand.

RYAN
(ecstatic)
I got signed!

KENT
Huh?

RYAN
(ecstatic)
I got signed Kent. Last night they called me, and I got signed.

He hands Kent the piece of paper.

KENT
(reading the paper)
Ruling your kings empire music group.
(surprised)
Shit, you really did it.

He forces a fake smile and gives him a high five.

RYAN
(happy)
I still can't believe it man. I really can't. But I told you, I told you. You do it better than them in a way that won't do it.

KENT
Yeah I know. Now we just gotta work on me, ha let's see how that turns out. But I'm happy as hell for Ryan. I really am.

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT. DAY.

Kent practices on his jump shot cautiously trying not to do too much to aggravate his bad back.

He misses a three then runs up to get the rebound and tries to lay the ball in the basket. He gets a sudden sharp pain in his spine. He passes out instantly. His body falls lifelessly to the ground.

INT. MR. WILLIAMS OFFICE. DAY.

Kent lays on a cot asleep.

Mr. Williams searches threw a draw until he comes across a set of keys.

Kent suddenly wakes up from the noise. He sits up slowly on the cot in pain.

MR. WILLIAMS
Rise and shine.

KENT
(tired)
How long have I been here?

MR. WILLIAMS
Not to long. You wona go on a road trip?

KENT
(tired)
Do I have a choice?

MR. WILLIAMS
Not really. Just know its really important.

KENT
(sarcastically)
Yay, I like those.

EXT. GRASSY FIELD. DAY.

Nothing but grass and dirt can be see for more than a mile ahead.

Kent and Mr. Williams walk tiredly under the blazing sun across the plain. Mr. Williams constantly glances over at a bag that he caries in his hand.

MR. WILLIAMS
Alright this is the spot.

They stop in front of a small flower patch.

(CONTINUED)

MR. WILLIAMS (CONT'D)
I use to bring Mercen here when he
was little. We use to do so much
together.

His expression turns to a state of sorrow. He takes another
glance at the bag then over at Kent. Tears began to slowly
trickle from his eyes.

MR. WILLIAMS
(saddened)
Kent I'm about to ask you to do the
hardest thing, that Ive ever asked
a man to before.

Mr. Williams takes a jar of ashes out of the bag.

Kent starts backing in complete horror at the sight of the
jar.

KENT
(frightened)
I cant.

MR. WILLIAMS
(serious)
Kent I need you to do this... The
other night. You told me about a
dream you had and I thought about
it and cried all night.

Tears began falling rapidly from his eyes.

MR. WILLIAMS (CONT'D)
(crying)
Now I may be a poor old man with
little much to provide. But I damn
sure guarantee, that I'll be there
for you every step of the way. I
want Mercen's dreams to live
through you. Your like a son to me
Kent. So please, ease this burden
off my back.

He hands Kent the jar.

MR. WILLIAMS (CONT'D)
(crying)
Thank you. I mean it from the
bottom of my heart.

He walks away.

(CONTINUED)

Kent studies the jar, He slowly takes the lid off and then he flings the ashes into the air. He sits down and watches the ashes blow around in the wind. Tears began to fall from his eyes as he now looks up at the bright beautiful sky.

KENT

If I don't have it in me right now
to do it for me. I promise I'll do
it for you. I swear, I'll fight.

He clenches his fist and raises it in the air.

INT. FILM CLASSROOM. DAY.

Mr. Veron sits at his desk grading papers.

Kent barges in the room up to his desk in a hurry.

KENT

(out of breath)
Mr. Veron?

MR. VERON

What?

KENT

A few weeks ago I gave you a tape.

MR. VERON

You mean the one you threw at me.

He searches threw his junky desk until he comes across the tape.

MR. VERON (CONT'D)

This?

KENT

Yeah.

He hands Kent the tape.

MR. VERON

What's this about?

KENT

I wona finish the film.

MR. VERON

Well then get moving.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

Thanks.

INT. KENT'S ROOM. DAY.

Kent opens his closet door and searches rapidly threw a pile of junk on the floor, finally after a few moments he comes across a camera.

EXT. STREET. DAY.

Kent rides around on his bike filming the neighborhood. He films houses, buildings, cars, and people.

He stops in the middle of the street and films the bright beautiful sky in all angles.

INT. RYAN'S LIVING ROOM. NIGHT.

The floor is flooded with teens dancing.

Ryan spins and mixes up his music in a DJ booth, pumping up the crowd.

Kent stands behind him filming all the action.

EXT. FOOT BALL FIELD. DAY.

The field is quite and empty except for Milles who throws sixty yard bomb passes across the field.

Kent stands on top of the bleachers filming him as he throws.

KENT

(shouting)

I need a good sky shot! Toss a couple over here! Really high though!

Milles throws long high pass over the bleachers.

Kent films the ball as it travels across the bright sky.

Milles catches him off guard and tosses a ball aimed directly at Kent's head.

The connects square with back Kent's head.

Milles laughs hysterically.

(CONTINUED)

KENT
(shouting)
Hey you cant assault the camera
man! That's a felony!

EXT. RYAN'S HOUSE. NIGHT.

Ryan sits on his porch studying Kent as he films the sky.

RYAN
Whats the point of doin that?

KENT
I love filming at night.

RYAN
Theirs nothing to see.

KENT
It ties the movie together. I
remember when I got my first
camera. I couldn't put it down for
a second. I always just wanted to
show the world the world threw a
camera lense. So people could see
how messed up it is sometimes.

RYAN
The worlds fine to me.

Kent puts down the camera.

KENT
That really easy to say, comeing
from a person who has everything in
the world going on for him.

RYAN
I earned what its gotten for me
though, every bit.

KENT
I know, I wona earn something to.
Even though I don't see anything in
front of me right now. But I feel
that its there you know, just
waiting for me. And this film
school, I think its everything Ive
been looking for. Its my shot to go
straight threw the ceiling. And the
only thing I got towards it is a
amazing movie and a dream.

(CONTINUED)

RYAN

And what makes you think that isn't good enough?

KENT

I don't know, I'm scared.

EXT. PARKING LOT. DAY.

Kent loads brown boxes in the back of Coach Boone's truck.

Coach Boone leans against it, dribbling a basketball.

Kent comes across a can of whip cream. He tosses it over to Coach Boone.

KENT

Who could forget about that night?

COACH BOONE

Didn't wash it off for a week. You were so full of life then.

KENT

I guess that was a rare a site for you... You know I'm trying to get into this film school. Everything about it seems right.

COACH BOONE

When did you decide this?

KENT

When I started caring again. And this time it's my dream. But of course it's another dark road ahead of me. I don't got the hundred grand it cost to get in. And I don't even know if they'll like my work, but it's worth the fight you know.

COACH BOONE

I guess it's my fault you're not on your way right now.

KENT

It's my fault.

COACH BOONE

You know you never seem to amaze me Kent. I think you just like getting knocked down.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

Just always seems to happen that way, but I really honestly don't know what you want from me.

COACH BOONE

Ive told you everything to do up to this point. Now its your turn to ruin yourself. You know I lied when I said that I graduated high school. I quit to work in the mines just like my old man. Gave up on all my dreams. And not a day goes by that I don't regret it. But sooner or later you gotta realize that some things aren't meant to happen.

KENT

If we don't have dreams, Then I guess we should all just roll over.

COACH BOONE

Your right, But I know your not going to get into that school. But I also know that you'll stop at nothing until you cant go anymore.

KENT

If this how your gonna walk out of my life, then I'm gonna regret that I ever met you.

COACH BOONE

I'm leaving you with harsh reality. I know its cold, its tough, but its real. It was a pleasure.

He gets in his truck.

INT. KENT'S ROOM. NIGHT.

Kent's sits at his computer typing.

KENT (VO)

Hi, My name is Kent Booker. I'm a high senior who has a passion for film making. I understand the requirements that it takes to get into this school. And my film making talent is definitely there. What I don't have is a four point o

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KENT (VO) (cont'd)
grade point average. A lot of money
or a ton of connections. But I'll
take a moment to tell you what I do
have. A film that is sure to blow
you away, and a dream. A dream to
shoot for the stars. I once read a
book about a man who had a dream.
Someone turned it into a reality
and that man changed the world for
generations to come. If someone
helped turn my dream into reality,
I promise I'll impact the life of
any one who view's my work. And who
knows? Maybe I'll even change the
world.

EXT. POST OFFICE DAY. NIGHT

The street is dark and deserted.

Kent walks up to a mail drop box holding a small box. He
kisses the box and hold it up to the sky.

KENT

Please.

He drops the Box in the drop. His eyes gravitate to a dollar
bill on the ground then picks it up.

KENT

(staring at the dollar)

But of course life doesn't give you
shit with out this.

INT. ZEEK'S HOUSE. LIVING ROOM. NIGHT.

The rooms dark and quite as Kent slowly moves around it. He
picks up a picture of him and Zeek off the table then puts
it down.

INT. ZEEK'S HOUSE. BASEMENT. NIGHT.

Kent walks nervously down the stairs into the dark base
ment. He holds two candles.

He puts a candle down on a box. Looks around the basement.
His eyes stop at the sight of a familiar bag on top of a
washing machine.

(CONTINUED)

He walks slowly over to the bag and opens it. His eyes light up as they stare intensely at piles and piles of money.

KENT
(amazed)
Oh my god.

Zeek emerges from the darkness in the door way of the basement. He moves silently down the steps being careful not to make a sound. He stops feet away from Kent who's fully engrossed in the bag of money.

Kent suddenly stops, his body shivers as he now feels Zeek's presence behind him. He slowly turns to Zeek's cold evil eyes.

ZEEK
(emotionless)
Give me the bag.

Kent ignores him as he stares deeply into his eyes.

ZEEK
(emotionless)
Give, me, the bag.

KENT
...I cant.

Zeek takes a gun out of his pocket and points it at Kent's face.

Kent stands completely unafraid.

KENT
(serious)
You gonna shoot me?

Zeek stares evilly into Kent's eyes

KENT
(angry)
Are you gonna shoot me?!

ZEEK
(threateningly)
Put it down.

Kent aggressively grabs the bag in his angry state.

KENT
(angry)
I'm better than you and I don't
need you pr your blood money.

(CONTINUED)

He quickly dumps the money the money out of the bag and drops the candle on top of it.

ZEEK
(yelling)
No!

The money lights up in flames. He pushes Kent to the side and desperately tries to put out the flames but he only makes them worse. His desperation turns to full blown rage as the money burns away.

He turns around to Kent who backs away in fear. He leaps on top of Kent tackle ling him to the ground. He punches him in the face repeatedly like a mad man.

Kent tries desperately to get him off off. Finally he builds up the strength and jolts to his side breaking free.

Zeek falls over on the floor Bumping into a box. A candle falls off of it onto his shirt. The shirt lights up in flames.

ZEEK
(yelling)
Shit!

He rips his now burning shirt off and races towards Kent who heads up the steps.

Kent runs into the living room and trips over a bag on the door landing on his side. He kicks a table into Zeek's legs as he races toward him.

Zeek falls onto the floor nursing his legs in pain

ZEEK
(in pain)
Argh!

Kent gets up and runs to the front door, He bumps into a man wearing a ski mask on his out. Kent pushes past him and runs outside.

Power sits in his car across the street, His eyes glued to the house.

Bang! Bang! two gun shot echos threw out the street from inside the house.

Kent takes off at full speed down the street.

INT. KENT'S KITCHEN. NIGHT.

Kent runs inside the house crying and panting for air.

Sharee runs to him from the hallway horrified at by his crying the sight of the blood on his face.

SHAREE
(worried)
Whats wrong? Whats wrong? What
happened to your face?

KENT
(crying)
He's gone mom, Hes gone.

Sharee hugs him tightly.

SHAREE
(sympathetically)
Its okay, I'm here for you.

INT. KENT'S KITCHEN. DAY.

Kent sits the kitchen table emotionally drained.

Sharee sits across from him studying his expressions.

SHAREE
Are you ready to talk to about it?

KENT
No.

SHAREE
Then please answer this question at
least. How come you didnt tell me
all of this was going on?

KENT
(agravated)
Look mom, I cant do this right now.

SHAREE
Well you let me know when you have
the answer.

Kent sits quite for a few moments as he tries to lighten his mood.

(CONTINUED)

KENT

My friend got a record deal this week. He was so happy. I would givin anything in the world to be happy with him. I guess that's the point of life. To be happy.

His eyes start tearing.

KENT (CONT'D)

I don't really like talking about the accident. But I have to. It was so cold, so much pain. But I kept feeling this warm touch against my face. Like somebody was trying to console me. That touch was part of everything that I'm looking for. As bad as that night was, I cant help but think in my heart that it was a blessing. I know it sounds crazy. but I didn't wake up until that night.

(crying)

Mom I know what I want. And I don't have much of a clue on how to get it. But Ive got to get it for myself. I'm not use to being on my own. So I know its gonna be hard. I'm gonna feel a lot of pain. I'm gonna bleed, I'm gonna cry. But at the same, in the long run. I know I'm gonna be happy.

SHAREE

(crying)

Okay baby.

KENT

I'm not letting anyone stand in the way this time, not even you.

He gets up from the table.

Sharee opes her arms for a hug.

KENT (CONT'D)

I cant, I need some air.

He walks out the front door and takes two letters out of the mailbox.

INT. GROCERY STORE. DAY.

Kent puts a container of milk on the register. An envelope falls out of his pocket but he doesn't realize it.

YOUNG CASHIER rings up the milk. He points the envelope on the floor.

YOUNG CASHIER
I think you dropped something.

Kent picks up the envelope, notices his names on it and stares at it quizitively.

KENT
Thanks.

EXT. GROCERY STORE. PARKING LOT. DAY.

Kent stands in the middle of the parking lot, reading a letter to himself.

KENT
(reading to himself)
Dear Booker, some dreams do come true, got a little bit of spending cash thought id help you out a bit. Shoot for the stars kid, Coach.

Kent instantly drops the grocery bag on the floor. And takes a another letter out of his pocket. He quickly rips it open and reads it.

KENT (CONT'D)
(reading to himself)
Dear Kent Booker. Your movie brilliant, moving and riveting. You have exceptional talents.

He quickly scans down the rest of the letter.

KENT (CONT'D)
(reading to himself)
Therefor you have been excepted. tuition paid in full by Micheal Boone.

Kent freezes in place after the reading the sentence. He examines the letter in disbelief. Tears began to fall from his eyes as he reads over the line repeatedly.

(CONTINUED)

KENT
(reading; ecstatic)
You've been excepted. You've been
excepted. You've been excepted!

Kent looks up at the sky with tears falling rapidly from his eyes.

KENT
(screaming out; at the sky)
Thank you!

He takes off out of the parking at full speed, He runs down street after street in full adrenalin pumping joy. He reaches his house.

Sharee sits on the front porch talking on the phone.

Kent runs up to her snatches the phone her and hands her the letter.

SHAREE
(angry)
Baby what hell? You trying to get
slapped?

KENT
(shouting)
Read!

He paces around in disbelief as she reads the letter.

SHAREE
(happy)
Oh thank you lord!

She drops the letter and hugs him tightly.

EXT. CEMETERY. DAY.

Kent stands in front Zeek's grave starring down on it intensely, he drops a flower on top of it.

KENT
I guess in your eyes I never made
it. But thanks for the venom. I owe
you big time for it.

EXT. RYAN'S HOUSE. STREET. DAY.

Ryan packs boxes in the back seat of his brand new mustang.

Kent leans against it, stroking his hands across the hood.

KENT

I guess this is it. The American dream. Your going off to be this time producer and I'm going back to School.

RYAN

You made it though, we both did.

KENT

Almost.

RYAN

You happy right?

KENT

Yeah, I am happy.

RYAN

Then there it is. That's what it's all about. You just cant let that stop you from fighting.

KENT

Look man, Thanks for everything.

He shakes his hand.

KENT (CONT'D)

I mean it.

RYAN

See you around the way. Right up there.

He points to the sky.

KENT

Sky high, I can do that, you watch all the way up to the stars.

He starts walking away then turns around.

KENT (CONT'D)

(shouting)

Bring me home a Grammy OK!

(CONTINUED)

RYAN
(shouting)
I will!

Kent continues walking away then turns back agin.

KENT
(shouting)
And don't forget about me in your
acceptance speech!

Kent looks up at the sky as he continues walking

KENT (VO)
I finally knew what it was. A dream
in the sky. So promising and
bright. And as long I felt it,
nothing in this world can stop me
from doing anything.

He jumps up in joy and raise his fist in the air.