

**LAN:
LET THE GAMES BEGIN**

by

Leonard Pothier

and

Jeff Long

(Based on Actual Events)

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN/DINING ROOM - DAY

This Kitchen is attached to a Dining Room, although the Dining room consists only of a basic table and a few chairs. The Kitchen has an over sized-Fridge, an oven that looks almost new, although not quite, a Microwave that looks as if it was the only source of heat in the entire Apartment, and only a few cabinets.

22-year-old JEFFREY LONG is standing in front of the microwave eating out of a bowl, at first glance we may recognize what he is eating as some kind of noodles, but as the camera stays on the shot longer, it appears to be more of a mix of Lipton Noodles and Kraft Dinner, with a few things we can't quite recognize. Jeff is 5'5, white-skinned, but dressed like a gangster, complete with massively baggy pants, a 'wife beater' tanktop shirt, a metal silver cross hanging from his neck, an earring, and a couple different kinds of cheap vending machine rings on a couple different fingers.

21-year-old LEONARD POTHIER is standing at an open fridge looking in at the semi-stocked shelves; most of what is available would not be considered edible to the majority of the civilized world. Len is much taller than Jeff at 6'3, and wears thick glasses and a black T-Shirt with the phrase '*Dammit Jim I'm A Sysadmin not a Babysitter*' written on it. '*Dammit Jim*' is printed in oh-so-spacey metallic silver, and there is also a cartoon version of the Star Trek: The Original Series Enterprise whooshing around for dramatic effect.

Jeff looks up with a weird look on his face; obviously this latest mixture hasn't quite worked out.

JEFF

God damn it!

Len pulls his head out of the Fridge partially and looks over at Jeff who has put his spoon into the bowl.

LEN

What is it?

JEFF

This damned Microwave; it never works.

LEN

(Sarcasm abounds)

Really? It couldn't be that you used water instead of milk in your little mix there?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

Well maybe...but the Microwave still doesn't work! It never works for me. Besides, there was no milk left, so I had to use something in place of it.

Jeff is taking his bowl over to the garbage and is about to dump it when their other roommate, 22-year-old CURTIS COATES walks in. Curtis is 5'8, chubby, and has a potbelly from drinking a bit too many beers. Also, his clothes are way too tight for his bulging chubbiness. Overall, not a great sight.

Jeff raises his head slightly in a greeting gesture when Curtis enters.

JEFF (CONT'D)

(to Curtis)

Sup, G?

Len meanwhile, has resumed searching the fridge for food.

LEN

(in regards to Jeff's comment about no milk)

Yes, I've just noticed the milk situation. What happened to all our food anyway? We just went shopping a few days ago.

CURTIS

Yeah, sorry about that. Had a few friends over yesterday.

Jeff is about to pour his failed mixture into the garbage when Curtis sees what he is doing. He practically breathes down Jeff's neck as he looks directly over his shoulder.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Hey, wait a sec man, what'cha got there?

Jeff looks up and back at Curtis, who is eying the bowl of food as if it was the Holy Grail and he was the Pope.

JEFF

Umm, just a mixture I did up. Didn't work out as well as I thought it would.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CURTIS

Well giver' here man, you know I
love your mixtures.

JEFF

Yeah, but I don't think you'll like
this one.

CURTIS

Come on. Stop holding out on me,
man.

Jeff looks to Len and they both shrug. Jeff takes it away from the garbage and lets the lid close. He hands the bowl to Curtis who begins to eat it without even changing the spoon.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

(mouth full; little bits
of food falling from his
mouth)

Damn man, I knew you were holding
out on me; This is great!

Curtis turns and leaves with the bowl still in his hands. Len and Jeff are left just standing there, looking dumbfounded.

QUE OPENING
CREDITS AS;

INT. ARCHERON HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

...the song '*This is me in Grade 9*' by Barenaked Ladies plays low in the background.

Superimposed on the screen is the caption;

ARCHERON HIGH SCHOOL, 2001

Both sides of the student-packed hall are covered with lockers, with students of varying ages at the lockers, as well as walking through the hallway. Somehow a smaller, younger version of Jeff, with a book bag on one shoulder and wearing a bright red sweater, works his way through the crowd; most of the people are larger than him by a fair amount. He moves towards the camera as the camera moves in on him until we are close enough to see just him from the chest up. His face is *much* younger looking than previously seen.

As he walks by an intersection, the camera pulls back a bit to include MARK ABBOTT, who has joined him from the other hallway.

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Mark is a pudgy kid with messy blond hair, thick wire-rimmed glasses (*much* thicker than Len's), jeans with the bottoms rolled up, and on his shoulder is a bookbag that looks like it has been dragged on the ground behind a car for a few kilometers, and patched up accordingly. Mark is wearing a rather large goofy smile, unfortunately Jeff's smile has disappeared and been replaced by a look of annoyance. Mark begins in without realizing how annoying he is, or perhaps he doesn't care. His voice is high pitched, pre-puberty, and nasally.

MARK

Hey Jeff!

JEFF

(exacerbated)

Hi Mark.

MARK

Where were you this morning? Len mentioned something about hurting you when you get here.

JEFF

Why?

MARK

I don't know, he just said it out of the blue while I was telling him about this *neato* computer I built this weekend.

JEFF

(realization dawns)

Ahhh.

We pull back further as a much younger Len closes his locker and rushes to join the two. Jeff notices the glare he is receiving as does Mark. Len is wearing glasses, but not nearly as thick as Mark's, a plain gray T-shirt, light blue jeans, and his book bag is on both shoulder straps.

LEN

(extremely hostile towards
Jeff)

So, where were you earlier?

Mark senses that it may be best to get while the getting is good.

MARK

Well, I...Umm...have to go to class. See you guys later.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Mark takes his chance and turns around, leaving the two to walk alone. Well, as alone as they can be in a crowded hall.

JEFF

I slept in and missed the bus, so my dad gave me a ride down on his way to work...So, Mark built a new computer over the weekend?

LEN

Unfortunately, yes.
(slowly; fuming)
Because you...were not here...he cornered me and told me *all* about it...

JEFF

(sarcasm abounds)
Yeah, he mentioned that you made some threat of violence or another towards me. Like *you* could ever take *me*.

LEN

I've knocked you on your ass before.

Tired of this reminder, Jeff speaks slightly louder than he means to.

JEFF

I was standing on ICE!

Several people that are near give the two an odd look before returning to their own business. The two meet up with a younger Curtis, although he appears pretty much the same as his older self, with the exception of the large puffy black jacket he is wearing. Curtis jumps right in with bugging Jeff.

CURTIS

So Jeff, Allison get your Pizza Pop yet?

JEFF

No, so shut up. I told her I didn't have one today.

Just as he says this, a locker door closes right behind them and the voice of the occupier of that locker is heard calling out to them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ALLISON

(o.s.)

Jeff...Jeffrey, stop right there! I heard that!

The group stops when they hear the voice.

JEFF

Oh shit...

(turns to Curtis; pissed off)

I'm going to kill you, Curtis.

CURTIS

Last I heard, you couldn't even beat Len.

Curtis smiles smugly and Len laughs.

JEFF

Fuck you both.

ALLISON

(o.s.)

Jeff, hand it over.

Jeff finally turns. After a beat the others follow and we see ALLISON LUK. She is the same height as Jeff, thin, wearing a tight red tanktop, and has her dyed-blond hair tied back into a ponytail.

She walks over to the group and stands in front of Jeff, holding her hand out. Jeff and her have a short staring contest before Jeff relents. Swinging his backpack off, he pulls out a Pizza Pop and hands it over to Allison, sighing heavily.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Superimposed on the screen is the caption;

2007

The 21-year-old Len is sitting on the couch watching the movie '*Free Enterprise*' when Curtis walks in and sits down beside him. After a few seconds of watching to figure out what it is, he turns to Len.

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CONTINUED:

CURTIS

What the fuck is this, man? Some kind of Trekkie religious experience?

Len is obviously annoyed by this interruption during what is quite possibly the best ever William Shatner Film *not* entitled '*Star Trek*'. He decides heavy sarcasm is the best way to deal with non-believers.

LEN

Yes Curtis...all Trekkies are required to watch at least one hour of Trek-related material everyday.

CURTIS

(laughing; Thinking Len is serious)

Ahh, interesting. Wouldn't you be more into it though if you had some weird clay crap on your forehead? What race has that again?

Len finally turns to glare at Curtis with a look so evil it could vaporize three cubic meters of Tritanium, *which as all of us good Trekkies know, requires a complete discharge of a Type 1 Phaser all at once.*

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Oh right, that's all of them, isn't it?

Len continues his glare until he gets an idea, and then his glare turns into a quick smile and he jumps up.

LEN

Great idea! I'll be right back.

Len rushes out of the room, almost knocking Jeff over, who is now entering. Jeff catches himself against a wall and straightens himself back up, and then walks over to the couch and sits down where Len was. He watches the movie for a second before realizing what it is.

JEFF

Wicked! Free Enterprise! I love this movie.

CURTIS

Shit man, not you too. I hate Trekkies.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF

What are you talking about? I'm not a Trekkie. I don't like Star Trek too much, but this movie rocks so much, I mean just look at...

(Instantly turns attention back to the TV)

Oh, have they past the school fight already? That part rocked.

CURTIS

Man, y'all have got to get out more. Go to some Keggers. Pick up some chicks... Come on, we still need to pick up our passes to get into the party tonight.

Curtis gets up and waits for Jeff who is still just starrng at the TV, which is now at the Mexican restaurant scene of the movie, when the waitress first shows up. Jeff looks to be in a Coma as he stares at the waitress, and if one looks hard enough they may just see drool starting to form; he is totally oblivious to the fact that he is on a couch in his apartment, much less that Curtis is talking to him.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Hello?...You there?...God Damn Trekkies.

Curtis leaves and a second later Len re-enters with Klingon Forehead ridges, a cheesy looking goatee, and a Bat'Leth. He takes this very seriously. He sits down and after a few seconds, Jeff looks over, expecting to find Curtis.

JEFF

Hey Curtis, we should pick up...

Jeff lets out a rather loud screech when he comes face to face with the Klingon-Len, who just sits as if nothing is wrong. After calming down and catching his breath, he continues.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Where the fuck is Curtis?

LEN

Oh he just left. So what did I miss?

The two go back to watching the movie, not caring about the rest of the world.

INT. COMPUTER STORE - DAY

Along the back wall of the store front area are two doors, one on each side, in between them is a counter surrounded by walls with an enclave area looking into the front. Along the right hand side is another counter with display shelves with the same along the left. At the very front of the right side is a desk and on the left is the entry.

Standing behind the back counter is Mark Abbott, who hasn't changed much from Grade 9. He is working at the counter, fixing a computer up that is refusing to cooperate. A chime noise sounds as Curtis enters through the front of the store and Mark looks up at him, and then back down at his machine.

MARK

(still with the nasally
pre-puberty-like voice)

Hey Curtis, what do you need today?

Curtis ignores him as he looks at the various displays, finally walking over and leaning on the counter, looking at the machine Mark is working on.

CURTIS

You going to the LAN party tonight?

Mark talks without looking up or shifting his work on the Machine from Hell.

MARK

(hesitant)

Um...I'm the one setting it up...

CURTIS

Oh, even better. Is there any chance I can bring in a few friends? We have stuff that'll keep those gamer bitches up for days.

Mark replies with an obvious dislike of Curtis and his 'friends'.

MARK

I don't think so. We will be just fine without your *assistance*. Now are you just here to sell drugs to my costumers, or is there something you actually need?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CURTIS

Well actually, yeah. I got to thinking, and well it seems my old Duron 1.8 won't be up to the challenge.

MARK

It should do fine. I know that Len is planning on bringing his 1.3 Duron. Besides, you sell off that Duron of yours, and I do believe Len will kill you before you can put the money in the bank.

CURTIS

Yeah, he is weird that way...But anyways man, do you want a sale or not?

MARK

Alright, what are you looking for?

Mark slides a price list encased in a plastic shield type of thing. Curtis briefly looks it over before returning to Mark.

CURTIS

Well, I wanna try out something with an Athlon, NVIDIA setup. So whatcha got?

Mark looks up at this comment like someone had just told the Pope that Jesus was married to a guy before he died.

MARK

You're joking right?

Curtis, not knowing that Mark is an Intel fan boy, continues on, undaunted.

CURTIS

No, why? What's wrong with Athlon and NVIDIA?

Mark roles his eyes at this latest comment.

MARK

Luser.

INT. APARTMENT - JEFF'S ROOM - DAY

Jeff's room is a medium-sized room containing a TV, computer, and desk.

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Instead of a bed, there is a half-sunk inflatable mattress, and instead of dressers there are two suitcases wide open with messy piles of clothes inside both. In the corner is the closet which is slightly opened, inside we can see a huge pile of DVD and VHS movies piled along the inside back wall. Along the room walls are movie posters of mostly horror and action films but a few comedies around as well.

Jeff, wearing a winter toque over his head despite the fact that he's indoors and wearing a wife-beater, is sitting at his computer with MSN open on one side of the screen and the DOS game 'Alleycat' on the other. Len walks up and stands in the doorway, looking in at Jeff. Jeff's computer speakers are playing 'Hate Me Now' by DMX, Tupac, and Nas.

LEN

Jeff, when are you gonna get a bed and dresser? We've been in this place for a year now.

Jeff turns to look at Len.

JEFF

Why would I waste money on that stuff for? My mattress and suitcases work fine.

LEN

I would hardly say your mattress works fine. It sinks to the floor every night and you have to blow-it back up again every morning.

JEFF

Nothing a patch won't fix once I find the hole.

Jeff turns back to the computer and after a moment of silence, Jeff's eyes widen and Len speaks again.

LEN

You know, I don't think that computer will handle the party.

Jeff is too focused on his own problem to really listen.

JEFF

I can't believe it!

Len doesn't realize that Jeff is referring to something completely different.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LEN

Well you should have seen it coming; that thing is ancient. I mean you're playing a DOS game for crying out loud. Hell, it even has problems playing the original Doom.

JEFF

It's impossible!

LEN

Look man, it's not that bad. We'll just head into work and get you a new one. It won't take too long, it'll just take some money.

JEFF

She blocked me! She frickin' blocked me!

Len realizes that Jeff is talking about something completely different.

LEN

Say what now?

JEFF

We talked all night and she blocked me!

LEN

Ok, I'm so not getting this...

JEFF

Maybe it was an accident, yeah that's it.

LEN

Hello? Anyone there?

JEFF

No, that can't be it. She had to put my name on her block list and click Ok.

Len, deciding he has had enough of this mystery, walks further into the room and looks over Jeff's shoulder at the computer. Jeff, not realizing that Len had walked into his room, senses the presence of someone right behind him, and turns his head, ending up face to face with Len, letting out another classic yelp sound.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

JEFF (CONT'D)

Jesus G Dawg, stop doing that.

Len rolls his eyes.

LEN

So who blocked you this time, and how old was she? Please tell me she was at least 17 this time.

JEFF

This girl I met online a week ago. We hadn't gotten around to talking about her age yet, but her picture looked like she wasn't too much younger than me.

LEN

Uh huh, so basically she was too young then. Not telling you her age...you guessing it by the picture...we both know how bad you are at guessing ages.

JEFF

Well it doesn't matter now. She blocked me, man. How can anyone do that? I mean it's me! Maybe it's because I'm such a bad boy.

At that exact second, his music changes from the Eminem song it was playing to '*When a Man Loves a Woman*' by Micheal Bolton. Len just looks down at Jeff with a 'WTF' look on his face. He then looks at the screen and sees that Jeff's Personal Message on MSN has changed to the song title.

LEN

What song were you listening to before that stupid rap crap?

JEFF

Butterfly Kisses by Michael Bolton. Why?

Len points out the MSN personal message to Jeff.

LEN

Perhaps that can solve your little mystery?

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CONTINUED: (4)

Jeff looks at the screen where Len is indicating. After seeing it, his head flops down to the desk, slamming his forehead on the edge. He remains in this position.

JEFF

That fuckin' no talent ass-clown.

LEN

Well, at least you learned *that* much finally.

Len turns and starts to leave. As he is going, he talks over his shoulder.

LEN (CONT'D)

Let's go man. You want to get a new computer in time for the LAN party tonight, don't you?

After a few seconds, Jeff raises his head and turns around.

JEFF

But Battlestar Galactic comes on soon...

LEN

Frak that. You have it all on DVD anyway.

Len has made it to the front door and has begun putting his shoes on. Jeff follows him out into the porch.

JEFF

Yeah, but it's not the same as watching them on TV with millions of other viewers.

LEN

Are you serious?

JEFF

That way, we can all share in the joy of the show together.

Len looks Jeff over, eyeing his wife-beater, toque, and excessive *blingage* - his three different chains and necklaces, his two rings, and his earring. Jeff is finally making his way to the door as Len pulls on a Dale Earnhardt Jr. jacket.

LEN

You're gay, aren't you?

EXT. APARTMENT FRONT ENTRY - DAY

Looking in at the front entry as the two walk outside.

JEFF

So how are we getting there?

Len pulls out a pair of sunglasses and slips them on.

LEN

The 'Vette, of course.

The camera turns as they pass, revealing a hot brand new red Corvette on the other side of the parking lot. The chorus from '*Life Is A Highway*' by Tom Cochrane booms loudly over the B.G., as we move to a slow-mo collage of various shots of the exterior of the car: Its shining red paint job, its sparkling crystal clean hubcaps, it's retractable top, and its hot black leather seats. The slow-mo ends as the two walk over to it and we follow them. Once they reach it, the song quickly ends as they go past it and we see a mild-condition 1986 red Chevette two door that has seen better days, but isn't quite out of the running yet. They climb in and Jeff gives Len a worried look as;

JEFF

And you call *me* gay...

INT. CHEVETTE - PARKING LOT - DAY

Camera is in the backseat looking forward as they get in. The seats have a brown shag cover and the whole car is heated pretty well.

LEN

Hey, man, don't knock the 'Vette.

Once they are both in and buckled up, Len starts the car up and pulls out. As they leave the parking lot, Len squeals the tires just for good measure.

EXT. ACHERON CITY - DAY - AERIAL SHOT

We look down at Archeron City below. We see Len's car driving through the heavy traffic.

INT. CHEVETTE - DAY - RESUME

Same as before.

LEN

We have to talk about Curtis.

(CONTINUED)

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Jeff's eyes go wide and he begins talking with heavy emphasis, agreeing with Len's statement.

JEFF

I *know*!

LEN

Last month he paid his rent in loose change. All three *hundred* bucks of it.

JEFF

Yeah, and he never shuts up during movies when we go to the theater. Can you believe that?

LEN

Ok, I think the rent thing is a bit more important...

JEFF

Oh, I thought we were just stating things about him that we didn't like. He better keep his mouth shut at the theater though, cause did you know that there is a...

Len has seen all the '*Firefly*' episodes, and knows many of the Great Joss Whedon's quotes so he knows where this is going and he finishes the sentence with Jeff.

LEN & JEFF

...special level of Hell reserved for child molesters and people who talk at the theater.

LEN

(mocking smile)

Yes Jeff, but don't you qualify for the first category though?

Jeff has heard this line a million times and is getting a wee bit tired of hearing it, so he gets overly defensive in his position.

JEFF

For the last friggin' time, I didn't know she was 14! And *she* was the one with a huge crush on *me*.

LEN

Uh Huh. I'm sure...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF

So how's Rhianna doing?

LEN

Ok, so back to Curtis then?

JEFF

(smugly)

Sounds good.

LEN

So what are we going to do about the rent thing? Obviously we need to confront him, but any ideas on what to actually do?

JEFF

Well, since he has to give his share to you before you give it all to the landlord, just refuse to accept it unless it's in bills.

LEN

Oh yeah, that's real smart there, Einstein. Let's allow him to stay living with us for free! He'll just never give us bills. The only reason I even agreed to let him live with us to begin with, was cause he was a good source for a third of the rent. We may as well kick him out if we aren't going to accept money from him.

JEFF

Then why don't we do that?

LEN

Because then me and you will either have to pay more every month, or go through the trouble of finding a new roommate.

JEFF

But you just said...

LEN

(cutting him off)

Forget your idea already! We aren't doing it! It's a shitty idea!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

JEFF

So what's *your* great idea then?

Len is silent for a minute. After a bit, he points ahead.

LEN

Hey look, we're there!

INT. COMPUTER STORE - DAY

Picking up with Curtis and Mark standing at the till, Mark is glaring at Curtis and the counter is covered in loose change; most of it of the nickel and dime variety although there is a large amount of pennies involved as well, and a few quarters. Not so many loonies or toonies (1 and 2 Dollar coins for you Americans.)

CURTIS

Is this enough?

MARK

Come on Curtis, you're joking, right?

CURTIS

What?

MARK

No way. Go to the bank and deposit this, I'm not wasting my time counting it.

Just then Len and Jeff walk in. Mark looks relieved and Curtis barely notices the two.

JEFF

(whispering)

Shit, Curtis is here.

LEN

(whispering)

He hasn't noticed us yet. Maybe we can just ignore him and he won't notice we're here?

JEFF

(whispering)

And you call *my* plans shitty? Let's just get on with this so we can get back before Battlestar Galactica starts.

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CONTINUED:

LEN

Hey Mark, we need to get a new computer for Jeff; Upgrade him and get him off of that Intel shit.

Mark's response is an even colder glare than he gave Curtis over the change issue, as he is in love with Intel.

MARK

(coldly)

You know where everything is.

LEN

Well we were just looking for a pre-built right now. Don't have the time to build one ourselves.

MARK

Alright, come with me. Ryan moved some stuff around since you last worked.

Mark and Len go off into the back to see what is available, leaving Jeff and Curtis alone at the counter. They are both silent for a minute.

JEFF

So...Curtis...what are you doing down here?

CURTIS

Trying to buy a new computer.

JEFF

Ahh cool.

(beat)

Going Intel, I hope.

CURTIS

It doesn't really matter to me.

Interrupting this semi-awkward discussion, is yelling from the back.

MARK

(o.s.)

AMD is shit! Intel is the original, man!

LEN

(o.s.)

Oh, you so don't know anything!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LEN (CONT'D)

AMD outperforms anything Intel has
on the market!

MARK

(o.s.)

If you want an AMD, build it
yourself! I'm tired of supporting
that trash!

Mark storms out of the back room and goes back to the cash
register.

JEFF

What was that about?

MARK

Len. He's refusing to allow an
Intel Processor into your
apartment.

Len now appears from the back room, equally pissed off. He
walks up to Mark and looks down right into his eyes. Mark
tries his best to even the height by standing on his toes,
but isn't able to rise enough.

LEN

That's all you Intel guys do, isn't
it? Use illegal methods to beat
competition, and then walk away
when you're beat.

Making the foolish mistake of Interrupting a Fan Boy
argument;

JEFF

Hey guys, I don't really care, as
long as it'll run MSN, play my DOS
games, and the games at the LAN
party.

This last remark throws Mark off for a second. He forgets his
argument and looks at Jeff with an odd look.

MARK

Dude... you still play DOS games?

Len senses an opportunity, and like all good Fan Boys, takes
it.

LEN

Yeah, it's about all Intel is good
for.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Mark turns right back to Len and the argument resumes.

MARK

Hey, you need to wake up and realize that AMD is dead!

LEN

Just like Microsoft?

MARK

Hey now, Microsoft is the biggest software company out there! It's the best thing that's happened to computers since sliced bread.

Curtis senses something isn't quite right and jumps in, failing to learn from Jeff's previous example.

CURTIS

Umm Mark...

Mark knows he has slipped, but like any Intel Fan Boy, he is unwilling to argue the issue on its merits.

MARK

Shut up.

Wanting to end the dispute so he can get home hopefully before Battlestar Galactica starts;

JEFF

Ok, how about we just get me a computer that can handle the party then? I don't care what model it is or anything.

Taking this opportunity to end the argument as well, Mark gets back to the sale.

MARK

I got a unit in back, \$400 Pentium 4, Windows 2000, 128 megs Video, 512 Ram.

JEFF

Sounds good to me.

Len is angry at Jeff for siding against him, but relents to the fact that sometimes the ignorant end up leading the blind.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

LEN

Fine, but if you have a problem with it don't come asking me for help.

CURTIS

Um, what about *my* computer?

MARK

Curtis for the last time... *GO TO THE BANK!*

INT. APARTMENT - JEFF'S ROOM - DAY

In the same shape it was last time, except now his old P.O.S. computer is sitting on the floor while he works on setting up his new computer. Jeff is finishing connecting the cords and sits in his chair as he powers the new computer on.

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

Len has moved onto checking out the cupboards for remaining food after Curtis has had his friends over. After finding no signs of hope, he calls out to Jeff.

LEN

Hey man, this fucking sucks.

Jeff as per usual, is oblivious to other people's problems.

JEFF

(o.s.)

I know! I can't believe I let you make me miss Battlestar Galactica!

LEN

That wasn't what I meant.

Jeff responds to Len with his usual sarcastic defense style.

JEFF

(o.s.)

Oh, did you miss Andromeda? Now *that* would be a tragedy...

LEN

Ok first, it *would* be a tragedy. Secondly, I'm referring to the food situation here. We should have grabbed some while we were out.

Jeff steps out of his room and into the hall.

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CONTINUED:

JEFF

Why not go now? I already missed
Battlestar Galactica...

LEN

Ok, for the last time, you have the
DVDs! Stop bitching!

INT. SOBEYS - DAY

Jeff and Len are walking down the aisles of a grocery store, their cart partly filled already. *'Over My Head'* by Sum 41 is playing quietly over the speakers in the store. During the entire scene, everything that Jeff puts into the cart, Len, who is behind him, takes it out to look over, and half of the stuff he puts back on the shelf without Jeff noticing.

LEN

Curtis should be here with us. He
eats all our food but never helps
pay for it.

JEFF

We should get chains and a padlock
for the fridge, and only me and you
keep the keys.

LEN

Screw that. If we do that, I'm
keeping the keys.

JEFF

What!?

LEN

Let's face it, you eat as much as
Curtis does, only difference is you
at least help pay for it. By the
time we're out of food again, I've
hardly had anything.

JEFF

Oh that is such a bullshit
statement, Mr. I-have-10-meals-a-
day.

LEN

Are we still talking about you?
Because that is so much more you
then me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

Yeah, what... Hey, why is the cart not getting full? We've been filling it up with all kinds of stuff.

(starts digging through the cart)

Like...hey! Where's the bottle of purple ketchup I put in here? Or the green licorice? And the Super Deluxe Gator Burgers! Where the *fuck* are my Gator burgers, Len?

Len's response is hesitant, not really sure anyone would be so stupid as to truly believe this.

LEN

Um, I don't know... Maybe there's a hole in the cart...

Jeff starts to bend down to look, but Len, stunned for a second at Jeff actually falling for it, quickly stops him.

LEN (CONT'D)

Allow me.

Len bends down and we can clearly see that there is no hole in the cart. He stands back up.

LEN (CONT'D)

Yeah, there's a decent sized hole in the bottom that we must have not seen when we got it. We'll just have to be careful.

Jeff looks back behind them, the way they had just come from. He is skeptical about the idea.

JEFF

But none of our stuff is on the floor back there.

Len looks back.

LEN

I guess one of the Grocery Clerks must have thought they were just knocked over or something and put them back on the shelves.

To Jeff this now makes complete sense.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF

That bastard. Must have been Darcy.
I knew that little shit has had it
out for me ever since he started
working here.

They start walking again, turning the corner and heading down another aisle. Part of this section is lined with dozens of different kinds of bug-killing items. Jeff stops and starts reading the labels on them, putting a few in the cart as they go along.

LEN

What are you getting those for?

JEFF

Have you not noticed the ant
infestation in front of the
apartment?

LEN

Dude... they're *ants*...I don't
particularly notice things that
small that don't get in my way.

JEFF

There's gotta be a massive hive
someplace around. I'm gonna find it
and deal with it.

LEN

Why not just get Curtis to do it?
It's not like he does anything
else.

JEFF

Yeah, like he would actually do it.
He'd probably take the ant killing
stuff and use it in his drugs.

LEN

Good point.

INT. SOBEYS - LATER - DAY

Jeff and Len are going through the checkout, the cashier ringing their groceries through.

JEFF

(to the cashier)
Hey Nikki, you know when I work
next?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NIKKI

I don't even know when *I* work next.
I heard the new schedule is out
though.

JEFF

Wicked.

He leaves Len at the register while he goes and heads for
Costumer Service.

NIKKI

Get me one too.

Jeff reaches Costumer Service. The Supervisor is busy with a
costumer, so he reaches into the area and onto a ledge. He
opens up a bright neon orange folder and removes two
schedules from it, returning to Nikki's till.

JEFF

Here you go.

Jeff hands her the schedule and then looks over his copy.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Shit!

LEN

What is it?

JEFF

I work at 8 tomorrow morning! Shit!
I'm pretty sure I fucking booked it
off! I guess I can't stay up too
late at the party tonight. I'll
need you to give me a ride home
probably at around 1:00.

LEN

We'll see.

The sounds of someone being trained on till reaches their
ears and Jeff turns to look around. He sees a new cashier
being trained, a few tills down.

JEFF

Hey, who's the new chick?

NIKKI

Oh, that's Kaylea. She's a good
friend of mine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF

I should go say hello.

NIKKI

Jeff, don't. She's only 14.

JEFF

What? So I can't say hi?

NIKKI

Not to her, no. I know where your
Hi's lead.

LEN

Yeah, straight to Jeff getting shot
down.

Nikki bursts out laughing.

NIKKI

I like your friend.

JEFF

I've said it before and I'll say it
again. Fuck you both.

LEN

Well as long as he doesn't ask her
about the weather, she'll be fine.

NIKKI

I don't get it.

LEN

That seems to be his pick-up line,
as bad as it may be.

JEFF

It's called making conversation.
Jeez.

Nikki scans the dozens of bug killing items through and puts
them in a bag.

NIKKI

Waging a little war, are ya?

Jeff keeps his eyes on Kaylea for a few more seconds before
turning back to Nikki.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

JEFF
Yeah. Ant hive. Tomorrow after
work,
(dramatically)
I'm going to the front lines!

Len rolls his eyes.

NIKKI
And how much fun is that going to
be for you?

JEFF
(excitedly)
It depends on if I can find my old
toy army helmet and binoculars!

Nikki and Len both lower their heads in shame. Len raises his
first and notices that Jeff is suddenly gone.

LEN
Um, Jeff?

Nikki raises her head at this and looks around.

NIKKI
Oh no.

LEN
What?

Nikki points and Len turns to see Jeff chatting with Kaylea.

JEFF
So, what do you think of this
weather we've been having?

INT. APARTMENT - JEFF'S ROOM - DAY

Jeff has the computer running, although it has frozen up
while he was attempting to load 'Doom'.

JEFF
Hey Len, can you give me a hand
here? I was trying to play Doom
and the computer froze.

Len has arrived outside the door and is leaning against the
frame looking in and drinking a small carton of chocolate
milk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEN
I already told you, you're on your
own.

JEFF
Oh come on, dawg! Just this one
thing?

LEN
Alright, just hit Control-Alt-
Delete.

Jeff carries out the instructions without thought.

JEFF
Ok, what next?

Len has a smile on his face as he continues.

LEN
Look for 'Explorer', once you find
it, select it and push 'End Task'.

Pleased to have found out the answer, Jeff continues on.

JEFF
Gotcha. Thanks.

The frozen game suddenly closes and Len turns to leave. The
computer screen suddenly goes to black.

INT. APARTMENT - HALLWAY - DAY

The camera is at Len's face level as he walks out to the
living room. The kitchen is in view, and there are empty
grocery bags littering the table. Suddenly we hear Jeff from
his room.

JEFF
(o.s.)
ARGH!

Len begins to chuckle until the camera suddenly dips forward
slightly then raises back up as if something had hit it. We
see a stuffed camouflage-colored dinosaur, modeled after a
Raptor from 'Jurassic Park' fall to the ground in front of
the camera.

We turn around just as Jeff slams his door shut, an angry
scowl on his face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEN
What the fuck was that for?

JEFF
(o.s.)
Making my computer crash!

LEN
Fine then, say goodbye to your
dinosaur.

The door suddenly opens again and Jeff peeks out.

JEFF
What? Wait a minute. We can talk
this through!

LEN
Hey, *you're* the one who threw the
stuffed animal.

JEFF
Oh come on, man! It was just a
joke, you know, haha? Now can I
please have Mr. Claw back?

Len picks up the dinosaur and walks into his room taking it
with him.

INT. ROYAL BANK - DAY

Curtis is standing in a line-up inside a bank. The line-up is
very long, but thankfully for him he's next in line. He's
holding a thick bulging pouch in his hands.

TELLER
Next!

Curtis doesn't move at first, but within a second realizes
that that's him and walks towards the next available teller
booth.

TELLER (CONT'D)
How may I help you today, sir?

CURTIS
I need this all changed into bills
please.

Curtis opens the pouch and dumps its contents - hundreds of
dollars in loose change - onto the booth. The teller
nervously chuckles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TELLER

What bank did you just rob?

Curtis laughs back, joking around.

CURTIS

The Bank of Montreal, actually.

When the teller continues to nervously laugh, Curtis decides to also continue on.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

I'm the Loose Change bandit and
this place is next!

As the teller continues to chuckle nervously, the camera swings around so we can see the other side of the booth and we see her quickly pushing a hidden button under her desk. Curtis just continues to laugh and smile back at her.

CUT TO:

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Len furiously storms down the stairs of the police station, Curtis rushing behind him as he puts his proper shirt on, holding his jacket under his arms.

CURTIS

Thanks so much for bailing me out,
man. Who knew that bankers didn't
have a sense of humor?

Len doesn't turn around or say anything back, but we can see the look on his face and if looks could kill, the entire block would be destroyed.

EXT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

The door to Jeff's room opens and Jeff walks out, putting on his jean jacket while Curtis is sitting in front of the T.V., drinking from a flask, his black jacket already on.

JEFF

Where's Len?

CURTIS

He's putting the computers in the
car.

JEFF

Shouldn't we be helping him?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CURTIS

Yeah, I told him I'd be right down.

JEFF

Ok, so he *just* left then?

CURTIS

Nah man, I told him that fifteen minutes ago.

Jeff and Curtis snicker. Suddenly the phone rings. Jeff looks back at the receiver on the wall, but the phone is not on it. It continues to ring as Jeff rushes through the apartment, looking for it. He searches on the counters, by the T.V., around the couch, and in the porch.

JEFF

Curtis, do you know where the phone is?

CURTIS

(shrugging)

Nah.

Jeff continues to search, following the source of the ringing right into Curtis' room.

INT. APARTMENT - CURTIS' ROOM - EVENING

The room is so messy and piled with so much garbage, that the hurricane that hit new Orleans couldn't have done more damage. He finds the cordless phone on Curtis' unmade bed. Just as he picks it up to talk, the answering machine cuts in.

LEN

(recording)

Hi, you've reached the home of Len Pothier, Curtis Coates, and Jeffrey Long...

JEFF

(recording)

Jeff! Only my mom calls me Jeffrey, and only when she's mad.

LEN

(recording)

Will you shut up and let me talk?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF
(recording)
Jeff! The name's Jeff!

LEN
(recording)
Fine, and Jeff Long.

JEFF
(recording)
Thank you.

LEN
(recording; sighing)
We're not around right now, but
leave a message and we'll get back
to you later.

BEEP.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Curtis hears Jeff's voice and the following conversation projected throughout the entire apartment due to the answering machine being on.

JEFF
(v.o.)
Hello?

GIRL
(v.o.)
Hey.

Curtis smiles and puts the TV on mute as he turns around to stare at the answering machine. He sips some more from his flask.

INT. APARTMENT - CURTIS' ROOM - EVENING

Jeff paces back and forth as he talks on the phone.

JEFF
(nervous)
Danielle, heeey.

DANIELLE
(v.o.)
What's up?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

Not too much.

DANIELLE

(v.o.)

Good, cause I need to tell you something.

(pause)

I'm still in love with you.

INT. APARTMENT - MAIN ROOM - EVENING

Curtis tries not to laugh as he reaches his hand into a nearby bowl and pulls out a handful of stale popcorn.

INT. APARTMENT - CURTIS' ROOM - EVENING

Jeff goes as silent as his eyes are wide at the moment.

DANIELLE

(v.o.)

And I know that if we just move in together, we can make it work this time. I've been looking at apartments for us the last couple days, and I think there's this really good one down on Torbay Road and...

Jeff is visibly shaking in fear, sweat forming on his head. He cuts her off.

JEFF

Um, actually, heh, that's very sweet of you and all, but, um, I'm going away for a while.

DANIELLE

(v.o.; sad)

Ohhh, where to?

Jeff thinks for a second and then blurts out;

JEFF

Africa!

DANIELLE

(v.o.; not buying it)

Africa?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

(making it up as he goes
along)

Yes...Yes, Africa. You see, me and
my friends...Len and Curtis...and
Mark...we're all going for a couple
months.

DANIELLE

(v.o.; back to being sad)

Oh, I'll miss you, my little Jeffy-
Weffy.

(Jeff cringes)

When are you leaving? I hope I can
see you before you leave.

JEFF

(without pause)

Tonight.

DANIELLE

(v.o.)

So I can't see you before you
leave? Oh, now I'm sad.

JEFF

Yeah, so I've gotta go pack and
stuff, so take care, and I'll see
you when I get back...In two
months.... No, wait, three...
Sorry, yeah, three months...
Actually I think we're planning on
staying there until around
Halloween...But I'll call you when
I get back. Bye!

And with that, Jeff hangs up before Danielle can say anything
else.

JEFF (CONT'D)

(to himself)

What a psycho...

He quickly throws the phone back down on the bed, as if he
just touched acid, and a cold shiver travels up his spine.
Turning, he leaves the room.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Curtis is smiling at Jeff when he enters. Before anyone can
say anything, Len walks in from the hall, out of breath.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEN

Curtis, you asshole. You were supposed to be helping.

CURTIS

Sorry, something came up.

LEN

Like what? Another bank robbery?

Curtis looks back at Jeff, a huge smile on his face.

CURTIS

Jeff is going to Africa.

LEN

What!?

JEFF

Curtis, you asshole.

(turns to Len)

Long story. Short version - Not going to Africa. Unless you run into my ex, Danielle. Then you and Curtis are also gone to Africa.

LEN

But if I run into her, won't she know I'm not gone?

JEFF

Then don't run into her! God, talk about lack of common sense.

Len shakes his head.

LEN

Anyway, let's get going. The party starts soon.

Jeff is the first to leave. After he walks out the door, Len turns to Curtis.

LEN (CONT'D)

Answering Machine picked up first again?

CURTIS

Yep.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LEN

So the entire thing is still on the machine?

CURTIS

Yep.

LEN

Sweet. Remind me to tape it off later.

Curtis and Len chuckle as they too, leave.

EXT. PARTY HALL - EVENING

Len's car pulls into the parking lot and stops in front of the steps leading up into the long narrow building. There are a scattered few other cars in the parking lot, but not many.

LEN

Anybody know what time it is?

JEFF AND CURTIS

Tool Time!

Len turns and glares at both of them.

LEN

You two *really* need to stop doing that.

CURTIS

It's 7:06.

LEN

Good. We've got plenty of time to set up before the party starts. Come on, we'll scope out the inside and then come back out for our gear.

The three open their doors, step out, close their doors, and head up the steps of the building.

INT. PARTY HALL - EVENING

They enter into a giant room; the entire building is just one gigantic empty room. Although currently there are dozens and dozens of long tables set up, so far there are only four other computers being set up on them by four other people.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARK

(o.s.)

Guys! You made it!

They turn and see Mark approaching them, cheerful.

MARK (CONT'D)

Tickets, please.

Len and Jeff hand Mark their tickets, but Curtis is having trouble finding his.

LEN

What was the point of buying tickets anyway, if its only people you know that are gonna be here?

MARK

Well someone needs to pay to rent out this place.

Curtis is still searching for his. He checks his pockets on his jacket, his inside pockets in his jacket, and his jeans pockets, all with no luck.

CURTIS

Just a minute, I know I have it here some place. I didn't waste 10 bucks on a ticket just to loose it.

The others are waiting impatiently for him, Mark sighing heavily, frustrated. Finally Curtis finds it crumpled up in his back pants pocket.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Here ya go, Sparky.

Mark looks at it, disgustingly, as not only is it crumpled up but it also has some gum stuck to it.

JEFF

Hey Mark, Where'd you find this place?

MARK

My dad often rents it out for business meetings and gatherings and things like that.

LEN

So where can we set up?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARK

Wherever you guys want. That's my computer over there. I just finished building it last week, Intel Pentium Extreme, I've got it running at 3.8 right now but I'm waiting on my liquid cooling to arrive. Four 74 gigabyte Raptor drives at 10,00 rpm each, set up in a RAID 0 array, 4 gigs of PC26400 ram and a Radeon X1900 with 512MB GDDR3.

Mark points to his computer across the room, which currently sits by itself. Len remains unimpressed while Curtis and Jeff are staring off into space not understanding a word having been said.

LEN

Alright thanks.

Mark walks away to look after some other things.

LEN (CONT'D)

So guys, we're gonna set up over there.

Len points in the direct *opposite* direction from Mark's computer, across the room.

INT. PARTY HALL - LATER - EVENING

A couple dozen people occupy the room now, and Len, Jeff, and Curtis are finishing setting up. Len of course, is doing most of the work, even with Jeff and Curtis' computers.

JEFF

Hey, there's Karson, Dane, and Robbie from work. I had no idea that they knew Mark.

KARSON, A shorter, rounder kid with glasses, ROBBIE, a short brown kid, and DANE, a tall blonde-haired kid, walk over to Jeff.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Hey, what are you guys doing here?

Robbie points across the room to Mark.

ROBBIE

That guy invited us.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

Where do you know Mark from?

KARSON

My dad is in business with his dad so we've met a couple times and one day started talking about computers and it just went from there.

JEFF

I went to school with him.
(looks around; to Robbie)
Your sister not here tonight?

ROBBIE

Nah, Sonm's got Lacrosse to coach tonight.

Len leans over.

LEN

Another 14 year old you're in love with?

JEFF

(defensively)
No! No, I'm not in love with her. And she's not 14. She's 18...I think...Maybe 17, but definitely older than 15...I'm pretty sure.

KARSON

Well we've gotta go finish setting up. Good luck.

Just as they leave, Dane turns back with a smile on his face.

DANE

Bye Heffrey.

Jeff rolls his eyes.

LEN

What was that?

JEFF

This girl at work misspelled my name on MSN, and apparently I'm the one that's made fun of for it, even though she's the one that can't spell.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Len chuckles and Mark walks back over. When he reaches them, he eyes Len's computer with a glare that could kill.

MARK

So Len, that's your weapon of choice? It looks like it should be processing garbage.

LEN

Don't you think you should consider what you say, given your own computer? Besides I prefer buying a quality product instead of just buying the logo.

MARK

Your right, I didn't mean to say it should be processing garbage... what I really meant was it should be processed *as* garbage.

Len gets a look in his eye that tells everyone to stand back while he kicks Mark's ass. Mark realizes how much danger he has put his life in.

MARK (CONT'D)

Plus Intel is so much more than a logo...

LEN

I'm sorry, your right, that logo stands for years of price gouging, over heating, under performing products, outright lies, and oh so much more.

MARK

Ya well... Intel is still better... Besides, we will have a perfect opportunity to prove who has the better equipment tonight.

LEN

See now I hate Intel as much as the next AMD fan but that's no reason to blame your crappy gaming skills on them. Besides, my Duron 1.3 will hold its own, you just watch your temperature gage as it rises.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Jeff looks over at the canteen and eyes the beautiful barmaid behind the counter. He decides this is a good time as any to interrupt Mark and Len.

JEFF

Hey Mark, who's the hot chick you got dealing out the energy drinks? I'd love to deal something out to her, if ya know what I mean.

Mark turns on Jeff with even more disdain than he had just given Len.

MARK

(growling)
My sister.

Jeff nervously chuckles.

JEFF

Well at least she's older than 18, in my defense.

MARK

(still angry)
She's 16.

JEFF

Really?
(squints eyes)
I swear, she looks over 18.

CURTIS

Well I'm going to go get something to drink.

JEFF

Me too.

Curtis and Jeff start to head towards the bar, but Mark stops Jeff by grabbing his arm.

MARK

Actually Jeff, I'll get you one, My treat... for being such a nice guy to me in high school.

Jeff leans into Len, whispering.

JEFF

I was?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Len shrugs.

MARK

In the meantime though, I want you to go look and see how full the parking lot is and tell me.

JEFF

Ok, done deal.

Jeff takes off. Mark turns back to Len.

MARK

Keep him away from my sister.

LEN

What's in it for me?

MARK

An extra day off from work, with pay?

LEN

Deal. I want it in writing though.

MARK

What!?! You don't trust me?

LEN

No.

MARK

(disappointed)

I'll have it for you in a minute.

Just as Mark turns to go get Jeff his drink, he hears his name get shouted out and turns around, seeing two people enter the building. One is very short with long blonde hair and the other is average size, skinny, and wears glasses.

MARK (CONT'D)

Chad! Marcel! I'm so glad you guys could make it!

Marcel laughs very dorkily

MARCEL

We're going to own these newbs...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

CHAD

What game's first? I need to know so I know what computer I'm going to set up first.

MARK

I was thinking maybe Raceway Madness 2: Top Stakes Special Edition.

MARCEL

Sweet! I roxors at that game!

Len, standing nearby as he tries to set up the computers, overhears this convo and rolls his eyes embarrassingly.

CHAD

Dude, shut up. Talking like that doesn't make you k-o-o-l.

MARCEL

Oh, sorry. You're so right.

CHAD

Come on, let's go get the computers.

Chad, followed by Marcel, leaves the building again and as soon as they do, Jeff walks back in.

JEFF

There are six cars out there, and another three just pulled up.

MARK

Alright, thanks Jeff.

Jeff looks at Mark's hands.

JEFF

So where's my drink, dude?

MARK

Sorry, I got sidetracked.

JEFF

No worries, I'll just get it myself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

MARK

No! No, just go back to Len and help him set up. I'll get it for you.

JEFF

Alright, thanks man. You're pretty cool. I don't give a shit what Len and Curtis say.

As Jeff walks away, Mark turns and sighs with relief. But that's when he sees Curtis leaning over the counter of the canteen and something he says causes Mark's sister to laugh. Mark's face goes beat red with anger.

CUT TO:

INT. GAMING HALL

We see a computer with fingers on the keyboard, but the shot takes up the entire screen. On the computer screen we can see the game camera zooming down to a street where two cars are sitting next to each other, engines' vibrating. The actual camera filming the scene slowly zooms in on the shot until the images on the computer screen fill our entire screen and everything changes from computer graphics and becomes live-action.

Two cars - a red Diablo Lamborghini and a black McLaren - sit on the road, side-by-side, engines humming, as they wait for the single red streetlight above to turn green.

Marcel waits nervously inside his Diablo, turning on his own stereo and removing a disc marked 'Race Mix' from a CD holder, putting it in his CD player. '*I Need Speed*' by Capone blasts through his car. He bobs his head to the music as he starts his car up, revving the engine constantly to match Curtis' engine-ripping ear-pounding revving.

The road that lies ahead quickly becomes the highway and leads up a mountain, with a railing along the side that is closest to the cliffs, which lead down into a forest far below. After that, the road disappears around a curving turn.

Curtis sits inside his McLaren, smoking a cigarette. He glances at Marcel and sneers, causing Marcel to gulp.

INT. DIABLO - NIGHT

MARCEL

Mark, are you sure about this?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Mark's voice comes in loud and clear inside Marcel's car, thanks to a headset that looks exactly like a headset MIC for a computer, complete with a cord that disappears into the dashboard of the car.

MARK

(v.o.)

Yes, I'm sure. You even said it yourself; you're great at this game.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis sits, eying the road, wearing a similar headset.

JEFF

(v.o.)

Len, we are so screwed.

LEN

(v.o.)

Well I figure as long as we give Curtis this game, then that'll make him happy and we can always get back whatever points he loses in this game, when we play SpaceBuild, Meat-Eaters, and School Wars.

CURTIS

Um guys, you do know I can hear you, right?

The radio is silent for a minute.

LEN

(v.o.)

Jeff, switch to channel three.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

White words appear on the screen:

READY

They disappear and then are soon replaced by:

SET

They disappear and they too, are replaced by:

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GO

The streetlight turns green and the two cars speed forward, tires screeching as they pick up speed, going faster and faster, and are going over the speed limit within a few seconds and staying pretty much neck-in-neck.

The Diablo swerves sideways, ramming into the side of Curtis' McLaren, knocking it into the railing just as he is going around the curve. This forces Curtis to slow down immensely as a few sparks fly. When he pulls away from the dent railing, we can see the side of his car is now scratched up pretty good.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

CURTIS

Damn it!

Curtis floors it and tries to catch up as quickly as possible.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The McLaren races down the highway with the Diablo right ahead of it. Suddenly Marcel's Diablo slams into a van and spins around out of control, banging against the side of the mountain as it screeches to a stop, now facing the wrong way. The van, angrily honking its horn, topples onto its side, slight smoke drifting up from it. Curtis zooms past Marcel.

INT. DIABLO - NIGHT

Marcel talks into his radio headset.

MARCEL

Maaaark! I thought these roads were clear!

MARK

(v.o.)

I set the traffic level to low, but I didn't turn it off completely.

Marcel screeches with frustration like a little girl and turns the wheel, turning his car around.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Curtis' McLaren zooms down the road on the other side of the mountain, traveling downhill on a winding stretch.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

As he pulls around the corner, he drifts his car for several long seconds until he is on a straight-away and he straightens himself out. He continues racing straight-on and it isn't long until he reaches the bottom of the mountain and drives through a very small town, next to a sandy beach with palm trees at varying intervals along the side of the road.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis looks in his rearview mirror and sees Marcel's lights behind him, but still only half-way down the mountain. He smiles, confident in himself.

That's when his police scanner lights up, first with one red light blinking on, then two, and within a couple seconds all five are lit up.

POLICE VOICE

Dispatch, I am patrolling through
Shark Inlet, over.

EXT. SHARK INLET - NIGHT

The McLaren slows down, with Curtis looking for a side road to turn off onto. Suddenly we hear sirens close by and it's only a matter of seconds until we also see the flashing lights on the side of a building on a corner just ahead of Curtis.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

CURTIS

Shiiiiit

He immediately slams on the brakes and turns his car around in a complete 180, flooring the gas again.

POLICE VOICE

This is Unit 23. I have sighted a
black McLaren. He's going over One-
Sixty! This fool is going to get
himself killed if he doesn't slow
down.

EXT. SHARK INLET - NIGHT

'Rawkfish' by Thousand Foot Krutch begins to play as the McLaren turns in a quick screeching 180-spin and begins to gather speed as it leaves back the way it had just come from, just as three cop cars barrel out onto the main road.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Marcel's Diablo races down the mountainside, but the McLaren comes into view and zooms right by, heading the opposite way.

INT. DIABLO - NIGHT

Marcel looks back as the McLaren zooms off behind him.

MARCEL

What the...

His eyes go wide as his police scanner suddenly lights up and he sees the three cops zooming in his direction.

MARCEL (CONT'D)

MARK! I thought you turned the cops off!

MARK

(v.o.)

Why would I? I love the cops.

MARCEL

Because you aren't the one racing!

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

A few seconds before Marcel slams right into the first cop car, he swerves out of the way at the exact same time that the cop does, both cars swerving in the opposite directions. The cop car slams directly into the railing, while still going full speed, and flips itself over and onto its hood.

Marcel stops short of going into a ditch thanks to Marcel's quick breaking. The front tires had started to go down, but an easy reverse fixes that.

INT. DIABLO - NIGHT

Marcel checks and sees that the other two cops have gone after Curtis, and laughs.

MARCEL

I'm winning this shit now.

And so with a quick re-adjusting he is back on track, racing down the road in the right direction.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

We see the Diablo race off in the right direction again, regaining its previous speed.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis looks in his rear view mirror and sees that Marcel is continuing with the race.

JEFF

(v.o.)

Curtis, what the fuck are you doing!? He's going to win! You're going the wrong way!

CURTIS

(gritting teeth)

Just shut up and let me drive.

He slams on the breaks and turns the wheel.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Don't worry. There ain't no way this dweeb's gonna beat my ass.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The McLaren screeches around in a 180 once again, so Curtis is now facing the right way, with the two cops heading straight for him. He slams on the pedal and goes flying down the road. He drives right in between the two cops, scrapping both sides of his car on theirs. After he has passed them, the cop cars turn around as soon as they can and continue the chase, but by this time, Curtis has gained quite a lot of distance on them.

Curtis zooms through the small coastal village of Shark Inlet yet again, zooming under the giant twin stone Shark statues, with no further problems this time, although Marcel's Diablo is so far ahead that the back lights from it are barely visible in the distance. Just after the small town, Curtis comes across a grassy area on the side of the road, filled with a long sloped hill heading down, cut off by a few wooden pens filled with various livestock. Ahead, the road turns down and eventually twists around the bottom of the hill.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis looks in his rear view mirror and sees the cops gaining, so as soon as he sees a break in a couple of the livestock pens, he unexpectedly slams the steering wheel as hard as he can and at the last second roars off the road.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

When the McLaren screeches off the road, it starts trudging up grass and dirt as it races down the hill. The car is bouncing up and down roughly as it travels down the slope, winding left and right here and there to avoid upcoming holding pens.

The cop cars try to follow, but get overwhelmed by trying to avoid all the pens and one of them ends up ramming right through a pen, sending wooden debris flying and animals running. The cop car loses control once it slams through the other end of the pen and goes flying in the air off a small bump in the ground, flipping, and landing upside down. The last cop car isn't far behind and slams directly into the wreckage of the first car, flipping high into the air and crashing upside down, and rolls a bit.

Curtis screeches back out onto the highway at the bottom of the hill, directly in front of Marcel, having shaved a lot of time off by taking the 'shortcut'.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis cheers loudly when he sees the position he is now in and the ground he gained.

POLICE VOICE

We are breaking off pursuit of the McLaren, over.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The two cars speed down the highway, the Diablo only a split second behind the McLaren. As the two cars continue to race down the road, Marcel's Diablo speeds up ever so slightly and bumps the back of Curtis's McLaren, making him swerve a little bit, but not enough to slow him down as he easily regains control and keeps his speed the same.

Curtis hits a small decline in the road, but before his back tires ever hit it, his front tires hit the incline as his car speeds out of the over-sized ditch. This causes him to go slightly airborne, with Marcel right on his tail.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The Diablo hits the back of the McLaren forcefully while in the air, which causes the McLaren to tumble to the ground and upon landing, flip a few times as it rolls across the road, coming to a stop upside down on the side of the road. The Diablo lands safe and sound and continues on down the road.

INT. DIABLO - NIGHT

Marcel laughs a dorky laugh where his top jaw goes slightly further out than his bottom jaw and a slight amount of drool comes from the corner of his mouth.

MARCEL

Learn to drive, newb!

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis is hanging upside down and slams his hands against the steering wheel.

CURTIS

Fuck!

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Curtis' McLaren blinks and disappears from view. A second later, it re-appears on the road, right-side up, and continues blinking for several more seconds while Curtis slowly accelerates.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Marcel swerves his Diablo in and out of a small rush of traffic, a tunnel entrance behind him. He's almost out when he plows directly into a transport truck and flips high into the air, continuing to flip over and over as he flies through the air. Marcel screams and continues doing so until he slams into the road, aiming straight down, and then topples over, upside down. Like with Curtis, after a second of blinking, he re-appears, right-side up, back on the road, all the traffic behind him.

As Marcel begins to accelerate, he sees the McLaren speed out of the tunnel behind him. '*Click Click Boom*' by Saliva starts playing as the McLaren continues gaining ground and comes into perfect view, gaining the distance between it and the Diablo. It honks its horn a few times.

INT. DIABLO - NIGHT

Marcel glances in his rear view mirror and sees Curtis driving the approaching car.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARCEL

Mark!

MARK

(v.o.)

Stop blaming everything on me!

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

A wide smile fills Curtis' face.

CURTIS

Merry Christmas, motherfucker!

He laughs insanely.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The McLaren slams into the back of the Diablo, jerking it a bit. Curtis swerves his car over a bit and the front of the McLaren just passes the back of the Diablo, but the two cars maintain this position for a few seconds.

As they continue driving on, they approach a blind hill. When they reach it, the McLaren is slightly further then it had been a few seconds before, but still its front is only half-way up the distance of the Diablo. Towards the middle of the hill however, headlights appear at the top and a loud honking noise alerts them to oncoming traffic.

Marcel slams on his breaks, tires screeching, rubber burning, and he maneuvers his car to just narrowly miss the oncoming car, and slide in behind Curtis's McLaren. Curtis however, having been on the right side of the road, had no trouble and continues going top speed, having gained a lot of air at the top of the hill, and landing safely on the ground on the other side, with nothing more then a slight bounce.

Marcel speeds up, reaches the top of the hill, and then continues gaining speed as he zooms down it. The McLaren, ahead of him, swerves out of the way to pass a couple slower-moving traffic cars, and Marcel follows suit when he reaches the same traffic. Before long, the two racers are alone on the highway once again, and while the McLaren keeps the lead, the Diablo is slowly catching up to it, as its acceleration is slightly faster then that of the McLaren's.

Curtis drifts around a corner and the road travels between two high rock walls, with twists and turns all over the place.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

While Curtis constantly drifts the McLaren around each curve, Marcel just drives regularly, which actually causes him to lose some ground, as he seems to have trouble keeping the car under control. Quite often, the Diablo bangs into and scrapes the sides of the rock walls, slowing Marcel down a little bit more each time.

Curtis is in the lead, and he approaches the end of the canyon, but notices the instant drop-off at the end. There is however, a knocked-over sign in the middle of the road, warning about the drop-off, with an arrow pointing down a much narrower, single-lane detour.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis's eyes widen and he slams on the breaks.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

As the McLaren drastically slows to a crouch, the Diablo shoots past it without slowing down, and it shoots over the drop-off.

INT. DIABLO - NIGHT

Marcel screams and his eyes are wide as his car flies through the air, over the cliff. His car begins to tilt downwards.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The Diablo tilts downwards as it flies through the air, and once it starts to tilt, the rest comes with pure momentum as it flips, and then flips again, and flips a third time, each time gaining more speed in the flipping. Miraculously, it lands on the desert ground below, up-right.

INT. DIABLO - NIGHT

Marcel is shaken up and his glasses are half-hanging from his face. He is shivering in fear, but when he sees that he landed up-right, cheers loudly, and straightens his glasses, slamming on the gas pedal once again.

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

The Diablo roars off across the open desert, looking for the road, kicking up dirt behind it.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Curtis reverses the McLaren, backing up until he reaches the detour road, changes gears, and then turns off down it, flooring the gas pedal once more.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He enters a small narrow tunnel made out of the stone walls (the walls arch over to form the roof), and is through that in no time, and when he exits from the other side, he is back out on the open two lane road, with no walls anywhere around him, just open desert.

The McLaren roars down the highway, alone, for some time, until Marcel's Diablo screeches out onto the road from the desert, tracking loose dirt onto the road, and turns his car just in time, so the two cars hit each other, side-by-side, and then both quickly pull away from the other. They race down the road, staying neck-in-neck once again for quite a bit.

The Diablo pulls ahead slightly just as the two cars near an area with only two trees. The Diablo continues to slowly gain more ground as they get nearer and nearer to the spot.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis flips a small compartment open next to his seat, where the cup holders and such would normally be, but is replaced by a black rectangular box. Inside this box are the controls for the NOS system. Curtis reaches down, turns a couple valves, and then pushes a button the side of his steering wheel, instantly gaining almost double the amount of speed in a matter of seconds.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Just seconds before they reach the two-tree area, Curtis's McLaren bursts forward, sped up by the NOS, however, at the last possible second, Marcel swerves his Diablo over and the very front of it nicks the very back of Curtis' McLaren, forcing it to spin wildly out of control and slamming into one of the trees off to the side of the road. The Diablo speeds onwards.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis pushes some buttons on his dashboard and tries to reverse, but only bursts forward and slams into the tree once again. He pushes another button, but this time nothing happens when he steps on the gas pedal.

CURTIS

What the fuck is the control to
fucking reverse again! I can't
remember it!

JEFF

(v.o.; yelling; impatient)
That one right there, you dumb ass!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF (CONT'D)

You just fucking used it a couple
minutes ago! HURRY!

Curtis pushes another button and this time successfully
reverses away from the tree.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The McLaren backs up and straightens out, and begins driving
forward again, quickly getting back on the road.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis' police scanner comes alive again, but this time,
nothing lights up.

POLICE VOICE

We have a speeding Lamborghini on
the straightaway, approaching
Bluestone Ridge. Request the use of
a spike strip.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

'*Shapeshifter*' by Celldweller feat. Styles Of Beyond plays.
Marcel's Diablo zooms down the highway, nearing a mountainous
incline.

INT. DIABLO - NIGHT

Unlike Curtis' car, Marcel's police scanner light section is
completely lit up. He sees a group of police cars heading
down the mountain, towards him. As soon as he passes a lone
rock near the side of the road, he notices a cop car hiding
behind it.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The Diablo runs right over a glistening spike strip, blowing
out its tires, causing sparks to fly as its metal wheels
scrape against the road and it comes to a stop on the side of
the road.

INT. DIABLO - NIGHT

Marcel punches his steering wheel.

MARCEL

Nooo!

DISPATCH VOICE

Permission granted, Unit 34.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

POLICE VOICE
Spike strip deployed at the bottom
of Bluestone Ridge.

Marcel rolls his eyes.

MARCEL
NOW you tell me!

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

We see a group of cop cars surrounding the Diablo with a cop standing next to the car.

COP
You are under arrest!

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The McLaren speeds down the road with a lone cop behind him.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis pushes the NOS button and again gains an immense burst of speed, leaving the cop car behind. His police scanner's lights begin to blink out, one by one.

POLICE VOICE
The McLaren is going too fast. I'm
giving up the chase.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The cop car turns around and drives away back the way it has just come from.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis laughs, but before his police scanner lights can fully all go out, they begin blinking back on again.

CURTIS
Huh?

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

A group of cop cars turn the corner, lights flashing and sirens blaring, and almost ram right into Curtis, but they all scatter, allowing Curtis to zoom right through the middle of the group. Two of the cars break away, screech around, and give chase to Curtis while the others continue on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

As the McLaren is able to continue on, full-speed, and the cops have to regain their speed, the McLaren is far ahead of them and reaches a fork-in-the-road, heading off down one of the paths without even hesitating on which one to take. Curtis races down the winding open road, passing a traffic car, and continuing on.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

Curtis sees flashing lights ahead of him, on the side of the road, at the bottom of a mountain's incline.

CURTIS

Shit! They're everywhere!

POLICE VOICE

Dispatch, this is Unit 12,
requesting permission to lay a
roadblock.

DISPATCH VOICE

Permission granted, Unit 12.

EXT, HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The McLaren zooms on by the one remaining cop car, which is stopped on the side of the road, Marcel's Diablo stopped in front of it. Curtis reaches the incline and flies on up, only slowing down a tad. The other two cops are in close pursuit.

At the top of the incline, Curtis drives the McLaren around a corner that winds around the white rocks of the current mountain, and pulls it into a drift. After the turn, he straightens out and zooms towards a tunnel in the mountainside ahead.

INT. MCLAREN - NIGHT

As he nears the tunnel, Curtis notices something in the shadows. He turns the high beams on and lights up a looming roadblock with a group of cop cars in waiting, behind it, blocking the tunnel entrance. His eyes widen in fear.

POLICE VOICE

Roadblock deployed, inside the
Bluestone Tunnel.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The McLaren, with no room to turn around, screeches to a stop, smoke rising from the burning rubber, and then instantly starts reversing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

One of the pursuing cops, not noticing the roadblock himself, and not expecting the McLaren to suddenly stop on such short notice, continues on, full-speed, and slams right into the heavy bricks of the roadblock. The second cop car slams into the back of the McLaren, jerking Curtis around violently inside of it, and slamming him forward slightly, banging the front of the McLaren against the roadblock as well. The McLaren is stuck between the roadblock and a cop car.

Suddenly a cop appears beside Curtis' car.

COP

Do you have any idea how fast you were going back there?

CURTIS

Gee Officer, no, I didn't notice the landscape zooming by me.

COP

I'm going to have to bring you in.

We zoom away, and as we do, the live-action begins to change to computer graphics, and we pull out from the computer screen.

INT. PARTY HALL - EVENING

Curtis throws his headset off in anger as we finish zooming out.

CURTIS

Shit!

LEN

Relax Curtis. You lasted longer. We still won.

CURTIS

No, not that. I just spelt my fucking drink on me!

Len laughs as Curtis starts dabbing at the growing wet spot on his pants with a napkin. Jeff looks over at Mark and sees that he's busy filling out the various game settings for the next game. He taps Len on the shoulder, who turns around to face him.

JEFF

Hey, I'm gonna sit the first round of this game out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEN

What? Why?

JEFF

I'm gonna do an energy drink run.

CURTIS

Oh, pick me up another Orbitz. I just spelt this fucker all over my lap.

Curtis reaches into his pocket and takes a few seconds to count out three dollars worth in quarters, nickels, and dimes, and plants them in Jeff's hand.

LEN

Jeff, can't you wait for when we take a break or something? I don't want an extra bot on the team in your place for this game. Bots get us killed.

Jeff glances at Mark again and sees that he's totally emerged in his computer.

JEFF

Sorry Len, I'm thirsty. Want anything?

LEN

Well if you're going, I could do with a couple Bawls.

JEFF

Yeah, you can. Fuckin' pussy.

LEN

Just shut up and get me my drinks.

Jeff stands up and walks across the room towards the canteen counter at the other end. He passes by Karson.

JEFF

Hey Karson, you want anything?

KARSON

Sure, I'll take a Root Beer.

Jeff passes by Mark next.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF

Hey Mark, I'm gone to hit on your hot underage sister.

Mark waves his hand irritably, not paying the least bit of attention to Jeff while he starts the game. Jeff shrugs, smiles, and approaches the canteen counter.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Hey Miranda.

MIRANDA

Hey...Jeff, right?

JEFF

Yeah.

(awkward pause)

So...What do ya think of this weather we've been having?

Miranda chuckles, but doesn't say anything back regarding his question.

MIRANDA

So what game are you boys playing now?

JEFF

School Wars.

MIRANDA

I've seen Mark play that game before. Is it any good?

JEFF

Only like, one of the best games ever!

Miranda smiles at Jeff's enthusiasm, and Jeff's face lights up when he sees that she's smiling at him.

MIRANDA

So what can I get for ya?

JEFF

How about an arrow for Cupid, cause I think he just found his next match.

Miranda bursts out laughing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

MIRANDA

Mark was right. You're such a dork!

Jeff frowns, looking hurt.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

Awww, don't be sad. It's a cute kind of dork.

Jeff smiles again.

JEFF

(Overly masculine voice)

Uhh, get me a couple Root Beers, an Orbitz, and two Bawls.

Miranda bursts out laughing again and has to support herself against the counter to stop from loosing her balance. Jeff frowns again, face turning red.

JEFF (CONT'D)

You know what I mean!

(quietly, grinding teeth)

Damn you Len, Damn you...

Miranda gets Jeff his drinks and Jeff gives her the money. Deciding he's already made a big enough fool of himself, Jeff heads on back to his seat without saying another word to Miranda, frowning the entire time. He slams Karson's Root Beer down next to his computer, and then continues on to his own seat, giving Curtis his Orbitz, Len his Bawls, and keeping the second Root Beer for himself. He loads up the game on his computer and as we zoom in on the screen, the pixilated figures and landscape becomes live-action.

EXT. SKATING ARENAS - DAY - CLOUDY

The words 'Spectating' flash across the very bottom of the screen.

The sky is covered in dark clouds. Explosions and gunfire fill the empty spaces around the two massive domed buildings, which used to be the skating arenas. A grenade explodes right next to Len, sending him flying through the air, and '-65' appears above his head in blue letters, which is replaced by a red '15%' which stays above his head, right under his name, which is also there in red lettering.

Len gets back to his feet just as a person with the name 'Chad' in yellow letters runs in front of him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

We can tell by looking at the battle around, that everyone who has their name in red letters, like Len, is on one team, while the people with names in yellow letters, like Chad, are on another team. Everyone's health is also listed in red, with rising blue numbers appearing and disappearing all over the screen, showing how much damage is done to someone when they are hurt. Chad's health is at 5%.

Len raises his assault rifle and fires, but it clicks noisily, signifying that it's empty. Len puts it away and pulls out a thick hunting knife. He runs after Chad, sneaking up behind him as bullets whiz all around, pelting the ground around their feet. Len jumps and attaches himself to Chad's back, raising the knife and running it across his throat, blood spraying outwards in a grisly display. Chad's body falls and then disappears from the screen. Len picks up Chad's fallen ammo and uses it to reload his assault rifle. He turns around and begins firing it at any near-by enemies, subtracting their health by varying amounts.

Len grunts repeatedly as his body starts jerking around and each new negative number that appears to show how much damage is being done, is quickly replaced by a new number. Len turns around and throws a grenade, sending his enemy, who happens to be Marcel, flying back, however he doesn't kill him. Len throws another one, which hits Marcel right in the face, and that one makes his body disappear.

Suddenly a timer appears in the middle of the screen, counting down from 10.

While it counts down, Len quickly looks around for someone else to kill. He sees Mark's name appear on a nearby soldier, in yellow letters, and he raises his gun to fire at the unsuspecting enemy, but just as he goes to fire, the countdown reaches 0 and the screen pauses as a score table comes up, with the title:

DEATHMATCH LEVEL: TWIN ARENA'S

located at the top. Filling the rest of the screen are two columns, naming everyone from one team in one column and everyone from the other team in the other column, and then the amount of frags that each person got, with the overall frag number for the team itself displayed at the top, next to the team names, which are Wainwright High School and Blessed Sacrament. The Wainwright High School team lost by a simple two points. At the very bottom of the screen are the words:

ASSAULT LEVEL: WAINWRIGHT
TOWN...LOADING

The screen goes to black, but only for a second.

EXT. WALLACE POND - DAY

Everyone from the team marked 'Wainwright High School' spawns in a large grassy area, with a small pond in the middle and a few bridges throughout, right next to a yellow school bus, with a cannon raised up from where the engine would normally be. The people on this team are Len, Jeff, Curtis, Dane, Robbie, and Karson, along with a small group of BOTS. We hear the sounds of all the guns being loaded as the group begins to spread out, the Bots going further than anyone else to automatically secure the area.

JEFF

What's the plan?

LEN

This is an Assault level, which means we have an objective to do, and we need to accomplish it before the other team does.

ROBBIE

What's the objective for this level?

JEFF

Just press Escape to get it.

Suddenly the screen is filled with a folder opening, revealing an official military report. By reading this, we discover that the objective is for them to locate the hidden weapon's locker and secure the area for five minutes. The screen shrinks back into nothing, giving us the previous scene.

ROBBIE

That sounds easy.

LEN

You've never played this level before, have you?

ROBBIE

Well, no...

Curtis lets out a loud bellow of laughter.

CURTIS

Fucking newb.

Robbie glares at him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ROBBIE
Ok, *Marcel*.

Curtis glares back. Dane points to an old man fishing in the pond.

DANE
Who the heck is that?

Len sighs with frustration.

LEN
(to himself)
Of course Mark would put all the damn newbies on my team.
(to Dane)
He's an avatar. He doesn't do anything but add to the scenery. Also, don't shoot any of the avatars, or we get a point taken away.

KARSON
Alright, well let's get moving. I don't want to just stand around here.

LEN
Yes, let's move out. Robbie...

Len notices that Robbie and Dane still appear slightly confused.

LEN (CONT'D)
Robbie, Dane, just fire at anything that moves that's not one of us.

The team begins to jog through the park.

JEFF
I haven't played this level in forever. Anybody remember where the weapon's locker is?

LEN
Yeah, it's in Beven's Nature Area.

Jeff groans.

JEFF
Ohhh, *now* I remember. I'm really not going to like this level.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Len laughs.

LEN
Getting flashbacks from when we
played it last?

JEFF
Shut up, that wasn't funny.
(turns to Curtis)
And if you even *think* about team-
killing me again, I swear to
fucking Christ...

Curtis joins in on the laughing. The Wainwright High School Team reaches the end of the park and rush around a fence and out into a street with houses on either side of the road, and parked vehicles, some of them overturned and/or on fire and smoking. Giant craters riddle the street. In the middle of the street, a rocket launcher lays by itself, with a pack of two missiles next to it.

LEN
Dibs on the rocket launcher.

Just as Len reaches it, Curtis rushes past him and gets it first, without even realizing it as he continues on down the street.

LEN (CONT'D)
Ah! Bah! Ah!
(growling)
Curtis!

They only walk part-way down the street when an explosion happens nearby, slightly damaging a couple of the members. Everyone starts looking around, and naturally, it's the Bots that open fire first. At first the human members of the team can't tell what the Bots are firing at.

JEFF
Up there!

He points and everyone sees that there is a group of Blessed Sacrament members holed up in one of the few houses that is accessible.

LEN
Those damn Blessies.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Everyone raises their guns and fires up into the windows, but we quickly see that there are members at all the windows, not just the one, and it's not until the death of two of the Bots, and a few damage points on most everyone later, that anybody even notices this. Robbie's body falls down and vanishes.

Curtis' assault rifle runs out of ammo and the rocket launcher automatically comes up. Curtis had simply been holding down the fire button however, so he doesn't realize until after he accidentally fires a rocket point blank range into Jeff's back, killing Jeff and majorly damaging himself, that he realizes that he has a rocket launcher selected.

JEFF

(v.o.; high-pitch squeal)

CURTIS!!!

CURTIS

What the hell? When did I get a rocket launcher?

A sniper shot to the head though takes care of him further and the launcher falls to the ground as his body disappears. Len quickly maneuvers so he picks up the rocket launcher and fires its last shot through a window, fragging the entire room of enemies. The rocket launcher disappears and his assault rifle re-appears, which he continues firing. By this point, a couple of the Bots that had been killed earlier have made their way back to the spot and joined back in on the battle.

One of the Bots are snipered in the head, being killed instantly, and Dane is snipered next, but only in the chest so he doesn't die. Robbie returns from having re-spawned, and also joins back in on the fight. Karson rushes away, back behind the row of houses behind them, the sounds of battle growing distant. He locates a sniper gun with three boxes of ammo by a tree and retrieves them. He runs back, but stops at the edge of the houses, so he's only peeking out from around the corner. He raises the sniper rifle and looks through the scope, moving it up and down the length of the house across the street. He moves it all the way up and locates the enemy sniper on the roof, which happens to be Mark. Karson takes aim and fires, getting double-points for a head shot.

LEN

Jeff, Curtis, where are you two?

JEFF

(v.o.)

We re-spawned in some building.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

LEN

And you're still there!?

CURTIS

(v.o.)

It's a...um...supply building.

LEN

Get your asses over here before we
all die!

JEFF

(v.o.)

On the way.

Len continues firing and sees an avatar walking his dog down the street. He smiles and runs towards them and then stops when he gets in front of them, where he resumes firing. A rocket heads his way and he jumps out of the way as it explodes where he had just been. He takes some damage, but not a lot, however the rocket took out the two avatars, which means that the opposite team just had two points removed.

Robbie dodges around the ammo being rained down and reaches the entrance to the building, ordering two of the Bots to follow him. He opens the door, but is met with a double-barreled shotgun blast to the face, which brings him down to near-death, the Bots open fire and take care of Robbie's attacker, and the trio move into the building. Marcel, holding a knife, crawls towards them and stands up as he reaches them, jamming the knife into Robbie's gut, fragging him. The two Bots open fire, just as Marcel switches to a double-barreled shotgun, and while he is eventually killed, he isn't before he takes out one of the Bots. The final Bot is dead soon after, as it is ambushed by everyone else in the building.

However, by that point Len and Dane have also entered, with Karson remaining outside, to sniper at any enemies he sees either in the building, or approaching the building, trying to return there after having been fragged and re-spawning.

Len leads Dane and a Bot through the building, taking out any resistance, one-by-one. Within a minute the building is cleared.

KARSON

(v.o.)

All's clear out here.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

LEN

Roger. Same with in here. Now let's hurry. The others can regroup with us on the way to Beven's.

As they start heading back out of the building, a metal exoskeleton suit spawns on the floor and Dane touches it, and it suddenly appears on his body. Also, a double-barreled shotgun spawns and Len picks it up, going around and gathering ammo from all the dropped shotguns.

LEN (CONT'D)

Ok, even though we lost a lot of time here, so did they, so hopefully they're not any closer to the objective than we are. Just in case, Karson, I want you to take a Bot and go on ahead. And Jeff and Curtis, where the frak are you guys?

JEFF

(v.o.)

Hang on! I'm busy with something!
I'll be there soon!

Len heavily sighs with frustration as he exits out of the house and gets back outside. By this point, everyone except Karson and the Bot he took with him, and the mysteriously disappeared Curtis and Jeff, are all together in one group, and they continue on down the street.

They change streets and take a shortcut through a backyard, travel along a dirt road, and emerge back out onto another street, this one with stores lining the sides, and a giant clock tower in the middle of a 4-way intersection. Robbie points.

ROBBIE

Look, there's a building we can enter.

Len looks over and sure enough, among the stores that are unenterable, the entrance to a motel is clear of any door.

LEN

Alright, let's search it for any ammo or items, but quickly.

As they start to cross the street, Len suddenly stops.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

LEN (CONT'D)
Nobody move!

Everyone stops, except for a stupid Bot that continues on for one step too far before stopping, and trips a field of land mines. There's a massive explosion, in which the Bot is killed and the screen shakes, but nobody else is even damaged as they stopped far enough away.

LEN (CONT'D)
Ok, let's continue.

They reach the building and pile in. Two of the Bots selfishly pick up every single bit of ammo lining the walls, however Len manages to get a couple clips for his assault rifle, and one box of ammo for his shotgun by the roaring fireplace, and Robbie picks up some health. Dane gets nothing.

LEN (CONT'D)
Ok, let's cle...

He stops when he hears a loud burp.

LEN (CONT'D)
What was that?

Everyone stands around, not knowing themselves. They hear the burp again and Len raises his gun and cautiously follows it.

LEN (CONT'D)
Everyone stay here. If it's some kind of ambush, I don't want all of us caught in it.

And so he slowly walks off down the hall, doors on both sides of him, following the burping noise. He hears a crash and takes off running, rounding a corner and slowing down. A loud burp is heard and Len turns to the closest door and kicks it in, raising his shotgun up.

Curtis is sitting in a chair at a table, three cases of beer on the table. One of them is completely empty and the other is half-empty. There's a broken bottle on the floor.

LEN (CONT'D)
Curtis!

When Curtis talks throughout this scene, he slurs and is very drunk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

CURTIS

Oh, hi lenny-lenny-lenny-len!

LEN

What the *HELL* are you doing!?

CURTIS

Me and Jeff spawned in this building and I found this here room. I only thought you could get drunk by drinking beers with a certain cheat code.

LEN

Yes, that is the only way so how...

(trails off; pause)

Mark, that bastard. He exploited your weakness... Where's Jeff?

Curtis points in the general direction of one of the walls, but his hand keeps moving from side to side. Len sighs and goes back out into the hall, but before he can go into the next room, Karson suddenly materializes out of thin air before him as he re-spawns, causing Len to scream. Karson looks around and notices Len is there.

KARSON

Oh hello. So yeah...they have people near there.

LEN

The others are in the lobby. Get them and start heading over there. Who knows how much time we have left to get there.

Karson heads off down the hall and Len continues on into the next room. It is the main room for the housekeepers, as it's filled with giant laundry machines, a desk, various cleaning supplies, and sheets folded up on shelves. Jeff is leaning against the counter, seemingly flirting with a young-looking female housekeeper avatar.

JEFF

Come on baby, stop being shy and say something already. I know I may be strikingly handsome in a rugged way, but I'm sure you're not speechless cause of that.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

Len sighs, once again, and blasts his shotgun. The female avatar crumples to the floor with a scream, and the close-ranged shot hurts Jeff for a small amount of damage. Jeff quickly raises his gun as he whips around, but lowers it when he sees Len.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Oh Len...Hi.

LEN

I don't even want to know. Just come on.

Jeff follows Len out into the hall and Len stops by Curtis' room again.

LEN (CONT'D)

Sorry Curtis, but this is the only way to sober you up.

Len fires and Curtis' health drops drastically, however he instantly sobers up.

CURTIS

Hey! What the fuck was...

He's cut off by being fragged and he disappears. Len turns and sees Jeff pointing his gun in the room.

LEN

You know, the one shot was all he needed to be sober again.

JEFF

Rat bastard team-fragged me. Again.

LEN

Fair enough. Come on.

And so the two go out and reach the lobby just as the others are beginning to head outside. When everyone is outside and they start rushing down the street, a jeep screeches around the corner, filled with Blessies. Among them is Mark, Marcel, and Chad. They fire at the Wainwright High School team, bullets whizzing this way and that.

The Wainwright High School team backs up as they fire, and two of the Bots go down, and the others are all majorly injured. By this point the jeep is upon them and it runs over Karson, fragging him under its wheels.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (9)

Jeff gets a good shot off and brings Marcel down to very low health, in which a shotgun blast from Len finishes him off. Dane, still in his new armor, raises an arm and a group of pencil-sized missiles shoot out and home in on the people in the jeep, injuring some and killing most. A rocket launcher shot finishes off the jeep, exploding it in a giant fireball and finishing off everyone in it.

LEN (CONT'D)

Who was that? Who has a rocket launcher?

Curtis walks around the corner, holding the joyful weapon.

CURTIS

I spawned just over there, and there was this nice little toy just waiting for me to pick her up.

In the background, Jeff quickly steps behind one of the Bots, out of Curtis' path of fire.

ROBBIE

Are we close to the area?

LEN

Yeah, not far from here. Come on.

And so the team continues on, crossing over onto another street, cutting through a large field with a playground in the middle, finding a recently-spawned Marcel just wandering by himself, quickly dispatching of him, and then out onto a much larger street. Just ahead of them is the edge of a forest with a walking trail going through it and a sign saying '*Beven's Nature Area*'.

LEN (CONT'D)

There it is.

They enter the thick forest by way of the walking trail, dead twigs snapping under their feet. They leave the path and continue on through the actual forest, but stop instantly when shots ring out and one of the Bots are killed. The other Bots immediately turn around and fire in one direction, the human players following suit.

A very high-pitched animal-like scream is heard and everyone except the Bots from both teams stop firing. The Bots take care of themselves, and soon there are no Bots left. The human players from both teams, start looking around frantically.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (10)

LEN (CONT'D)

Mark, please tell me you turned the third team off.

MARK

I thought I did, but there was those few seconds that Jeff distracted me when I was setting it all up.

LEN

Mark, please please *please* tell me that the third team is just another team of Blessies or Wainright High Schoolers.

MARK

I never operate like that. I prefer variety.

DANE

What's going on? Why is everyone so scared?

JEFF

You truly are a dumbass, Dane.

CURTIS

Fuck this, I'm out of here.

Curtis turns and starts running back the way they had come from.

LEN

Curtis, freeze!

But its too late. A small creature leaps from high up in one of the trees and lands on Curtis' back, knocking him to the ground. This creature resembles a small child, but it has no socks or shoes on and its toe nails are long and sharp. It also has long and sharp fingernails. When it opens its mouth to scream again, it shows its razor sharp teeth.

CHAD

Elementary Student!

They fire at it, but with lightning speed, it drags Curtis across the ground and away into the brush.

CURTIS

(v.o.)

Shit, I'm out! That damn E.S.!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (11)

Two more E.S.' jump out of the trees and land on the ground in front of everybody, hissing. A half dozen more walk out from the forest and join the other two, all of them hissing and snarling noisily.

MARK

Everyone fall back.

Both teams, now working as one, start backing up. One of the E.S.' raises its hands and fires its sharp finger nails like bullets, fragging Marcel. Everybody opens fire, the E.S.' returning the fire. During the ensuing chaos, Jeff turns to run, but an E.S. jumps out at him from a bush. He fires at it while its in the air and splatters its insides all over the nearest tree. Len whips around and fires at a trio of E.S.' rushing out from another angle. Together, with Chad, they take care of that group, but not without taking damage themselves.

Robbie's knocked to the ground by an E.S. that reaches him, and is fragged when it impales its clawed hand into him. An entire group of E.S.' swarm Dane and his body is ripped to shreds. A trio of grenades takes care of that group of E.S.'s, and Len retrieves the fallen EXO Suit.

Jeff looks up and sees groups of E.S.' jumping from tree-to-tree, all around them, and more constantly rushing them from almost all sides.

JEFF

Len, I'm gonna go for the Weapon's Locker while everyone else is busy here.

LEN

Go for it!

Len switches to an Energy Gun, which fires lightning-like streaks out. He uses that and fries an E.S. to a crisp. As Jeff runs off away from the area, the entire screen starts to shake and up out of the ground comes a giant mutated human. It is a Teacher, complete with a body that seems to be on steroids, bald head, and red beard. His 'hands' are giant insect-like pincers, and he has curved horns on his head. A badge on his shirt says 'GROSKY', and a long pointed tail swishes behind him. Mr. Grosky lets out a loud deafening roar.

While the recently-returned Bots, Chad, and Karson works on holding back the E.S.', Len and Mark attack the giant Mr. Grosky.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (12)

One clawed hand swipes down, sending Mark flying and slamming into a tree, half his remaining life being taken away. Len avoided it by ducking. Len fires a lightning blast, switches guns to a shotgun, and fires again. Mark returns, lobbing grenades, one after the other, having them explode on Mr. Grosky.

Mr. Grosky opens his mouth and a smaller head, a skeletal demon-like head on a very long neck exits and bites Mark's head off. The demon head goes back inside Mr. Grosky's mouth as it closes. Len jumps out of the way of a slamming tail and continues to run backwards in a giant circle as Mr. Grosky chases him, screen shaking with each thunderous step. The only reason Len is able to stay out of the teacher's reach, is because of the super-speed that the EXO Suit gives him.

Karson, Chad, and the Bots are doing decently well against the E.S.', although two of the Bots have been fragged and Karson is near-death.

EXT. BEVEN'S NATURE AREA - DAY

Jeff rushes through the forest alone. Something runs out in front of him and he almost fires, but stops. It's Dane.

JEFF

Dane, I almost shot you!

Dane laughs, but stops when an E.S. leaps out of the foliage and lands right next to him. Dane fires a pistol at it, but a pistol hardly does anything to it. It bites him, taking some damage from him, and then fires its nails at him, taking more damage away. Jeff fires repeatedly at the creature and kills it. He throws a shotgun onto the ground in front of Dane, and Dane picks it up.

DANE

Thanks Heffrey.

Jeff glares at him coldly.

JEFF

Come on.

They rush through the forest and emerge back out onto the walking trail, only this time much deeper into the forest. An E.S. runs across the path in front of them, going from one side of the foliage to the other. Jeff and Dane fire into the foliage, but stop and quickly continue on.

DANE

I don't think we got it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Suddenly it jumps out onto the trail in front of them again, and looks at them. They both fire at it, sending it flying back and killing it, however they hear screeching and soon dozens of them start rushing them from the forest.

JEFF

Run!

Jeff and Dane split up, Dane continuing on the path while Jeff runs off into the forest. He fires at a couple E.S.' in front of him, and kills one before passing them, getting scratched by the other as it leaps at him while he runs by. He accidentally falls down into a deep ditch that he doesn't see. When he lands in it, he quickly stands back up and looks up. At first he sees nothing, but then he sees an E.S. jump over the pit and land on the other side. A few seconds later it jumped back, and then started running around the edge of the pit, looking for a safe way down to him.

Jeff points up with his gun and fires, but screams a very high-pitch scream when the dozens of other E.S.' that had been following him all appear on the edge of the pit and jump down towards him.

EXT. BEVEN'S NATURE AREA - DAY

Dane looks around, but sees that all the E.S.' had went after Jeff. He walks off the path and through the forest entering a large clearing, and right in the middle of the clearing is the Weapons Locker, which has a very large section under and around it, shaded a tint of red. As soon as Dane steps into the red section, it turns green and a counter appears.

EXT. BEVEN'S NATURE AREA - DAY

Now everyone has joined in on the attacking of Mr. Grosky.

KARSON

Anybody else find it odd that all
the Elementary Students just rushed
off?

He dodges a tail swipe, only to get stomped on by a clawed foot.

KARSON (CONT'D)

(v.o.)

Damn!

EXT. BEVEN'S NATURE AREA - WEAPON'S LOCKER LOCATION - DAY

Dane is standing inside the green sector, looking outwards as the counter counts down. His eyes suddenly go wide when his entire vision is filled with rushing E.S.'s, heading his way from every direction.

DANE

Oh shit...

EXT. BEVEN'S NATURE AREA - DAY

The others are dwindling while they fight the Grosky monster.

DANE

(v.o.)

Shit! I was almost there!

MARK

Ok, everyone in favor of calling it a tied game and quitting, say I.

Everybody says I.

DANE

(v.o.)

Yeah, cause with the Elementary selected, it's impossible to hold that area.

MARK

Ok.

Mark suddenly stops moving. Mr. Grosky roars and picks Mark up, biting into him and ripping his body in half.

MARK (CONT'D)

(v.o.)

Hey! That wasn't fair!

MARCEL

Man, this suxxored.

Suddenly the game pauses and as we zoom out, the live-action becomes pixilated again and we are treated to the main menu screen.

INT. GAMING BUILDING - NIGHT

We continue to zoom out until we see Len sitting at his computer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEN

Ok Mark, for the next game, please pay attention to the settings that you're setting up.

MARK

Yeah, sorry about that everyone. The next game is going to be Meat-Eaters though, so there's not really any huge settings that'll interfere with that.

Curtis starts laughing.

CURTIS

Man, I can't believe I team-fragged you again, man! Hahaha.

Jeff just glares at him and takes the top off his pop and dumps it all over Curtis' crotch area. Curtis leaps up, shouting, and starts dabbing at it.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Dude, you suck!

Curtis runs off to the bathroom. Jeff and Len laugh and high-five each other. Mark stands up from his spot.

MARK

Ok everyone, before the next game starts I have an announcement to make.

Everyone in the room hushes up.

MARK (CONT'D)

I received word today that the Sixth International World LAN Tournament is going to be held here in Archeron City this year!

(room cheers)

I have flyers for it printed off which you can each pick up on your way out tonight. So get a team ready, practice, compete, and possibly win the grand prize of \$3,000 as well as an interview with only the best magazine ever, PC Gamer, and an interview on G4 Tech TV!

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARK (CONT'D)

Now if those weren't incentive enough to compete, the winning team will also get a trophy and be in the World LAN Tournament Hall of Fame forever!

The room cheers again and goes into a talking frenzy as everyone discusses this.

Mark (CONT'D)

Now, let's continue on with this party.

Mark returns to his seat and loads up the next game.

EXT. APARTMENT PARKING LOT - EARLY MORNING

It's early morning and the sun is beginning to rise in the distance when the Chevette returns to the apartment building packed with the three of them; Curtis is in the back, with Len and Jeff riding up front. They step out and Len goes around to open the trunk.

INT. CHEVETTE TRUNK

Looking down at all of the computer equipment, as the conversation goes on, they remove the various pieces.

JEFF

Can you believe it? A real tournament right here.

CURTIS

Hey, we should get a team together. We could so kick ass, I mean did you see when Len blew Marcel away at the beginning of that one SpaceBuild level? That was fucking amazing.

LEN

That's actually not a bad idea. We'll need to practice though, Jeff has a lot to learn about not hitting on the female avatars.

JEFF

Hey man, it could have been an actual chick. It's hard to tell the difference sometimes.

By now all of the computer towers are out of the trunk and the three of them move to take them up to their apartment.

INT. APARTMENT

The three of them are bringing the rest of their computer equipment into their own separate rooms.

JEFF

Well Curtis needs to learn how *not* to team-frag.

CURTIS

Yeah, well certain people need to learn how to not be a little whinny bitch.

LEN

Ok guys, that's enough. You both got a lot of learning to do before the tournament.

JEFF

Us?

CURTIS

Yeah, what about you?

LEN

I'm perfect.

Len holds his head up high as he reaches his room and closes his door behind him.

INT. APARTMENT - JEFF'S ROOM - DAY

A ringing noise wakes Jeff up, who opens his eyes groggily. His hand reaches around the edge of his deflated mattress until it closes around the phone laying on the floor. He lifts it up to his head and turns it on.

JEFF

Hello?

His eyes instantly shoot open and look at his computer to see the time. It is 11:00 AM.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Oh shit, I am SO sorry. I'll be there as soon as I can. I'm so so so sorry.

Jeff turns the phone off and instantly jumps out of bed. He throws open his door and runs down the hall to the bathroom, passing Curtis.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CURTIS

Hey man, my car's outta fuel. Can I borrow your bike for the day?

JEFF

No Curtis, I'm late for work. I need it, so you can't.

But the last half of that sentence is muffled as Jeff had reached the bathroom and ran in, closing the door behind him.

CURTIS

Was that a Can or a Can't?

As we can hear the shower turn on, Curtis reaches towards a dresser in the hall and grabs a bicycle helmet off it.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

I'll assume it was Can. He wouldn't mind me taking it.

As Curtis continues out into the porch, he passes Len who is eating a bowl of cereal. He watches Curtis take Jeff's bike from the closet.

LEN

Does Jeff know you're taking his bike?

CURTIS

Oh yeah, it's all cool. He said I can.

LEN

So are we all going to enter the LAN Tournament?

CURTIS

Totally. I'll sign us up when I'm out around today and we can start practicing tonight.

LEN

Alright, that sounds good. I'll stop in at work today and talk to Mark, see if he has any more info on it all.

CURTIS

Ok, we'll talk more about it all later. I've gotta jet. Got a deal to make it to.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Curtis puts the helmet on and carries the bike out the door. Len goes back to the paper and eating just as Jeff walks into the kitchen, in a hurried rush.

JEFF

Len, I'm extremely late for work.
Have you seen my bike anywhere?

EXT. HOUSING DEVELOPMENT - DAY

This area is filled with turned-up loose dirt and mounds of dirt and rocks, and lots of tractors and machinery, along with a dozen or so houses all in various stages of development.

Curtis is making a drug deal with another person, handing the person some money and in return getting a bag of weed. Jeff's bike is standing behind Curtis a ways, the kick-stand down. The person looks past Curtis at the bike.

PERSON

Hey man, that's a pretty rad bike.
Taken it off any sweet jumps?

CURTIS

No man, not yet. It's my friend's.

PERSON

Oh dude, we so have to take it off
a jump.

EXT. ACHERON CITY - DAY

The Chevette is driving down a street with Len driving and Jeff in the passenger seat. From outside looking in, we see Len from the chest up and he is wearing 'Too Cool for School' shades and a bad-ass looking racing jacket.

INT. CHEVETTE - DAY

From inside, we can see that below the window, Len is wearing stretched sweat pants with a couple holes in them and slippers on his feet. Jeff has a scowl on his face.

JEFF

I can't believe that son of a
bitch!

Jeff punches the dashboard.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEN

Hey no, don't take it out on my car. It didn't steal your bike.

Len pets the dashboard where Jeff punched it.

LEN (CONT'D)

(to the car)

It's ok, he didn't mean it.

JEFF

I said NO, yet he still takes it anyway. I'm going to kill him!

LEN

Not before he pays his share of the rent, you aren't.

JEFF

Hell, I'll pay his share if it means I can kill him.

They drive in silence for a minute until they see a person up ahead in the distance pushing a very trashed bike. The front tire is dented beyond belief, the handle bars are snapped in two, and the chain is dragging on the ground behind it.

LEN

Look on the bright side.

JEFF

What friggin' bright side? I slept in, I'm late for work, Curtis stole my bike and only way to get to work.

LEN

Just be glad that that's not your bike up there.

JEFF

Oh man, that thing is fucked right up. I mean, not even a shop will be able to fix that piece of shit up.

As they continue driving, they get nearer to the figure, who is wearing a black jacket. The bike is a dark blue color.

LEN

Hey, isn't your bike dark blue?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF
Yeah, it is...

LEN
And doesn't Curtis wear a black
jacket?

JEFF
(growling)
Yes, he does...

They pass by the figure and bike, which turns out to be Curtis and Jeff's bike. Jeff's face instantly goes red with anger to the point where we're pretty sure his head is about to literally explode.

JEFF (CONT'D)
(shouting at the top of
his lungs)
CURTIS!!!!

INT. COMPUTER STORE - DAY

Len walks into the store, with Mark working behind the counter, organizing some displays. There are a few customers scattered around the store. Len approaches the counter.

MARK
Len, what are you doing here so
early? You don't work until this
afternoon.

LEN
Had to give Jeff a ride to work and
decided to drop in on my way home
to talk about the LAN Tournament.

MARK
It's pretty sweet, huh? I'm so
excited about it, I hardly even
slept last night. The only problem
is I need people to start a team
with so I can enter.

LEN
Me, Jeff, and Curtis are entering
as a team.

MARK
Sweet deal. Hey, can I join your
team?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEN

Um...I don't think so, Mark.

MARK

What? Why?

LEN

Well...us three already work so well as a team, and we all live together so it makes training easier.

MARK

Easier!? With me on your team, you three won't even have to do any work. I'm *that* good. How much easier can it get then that!?

At this point in time, a customer walks up to the counter with a purchase and stands, waiting to be noticed by Mark.

LEN

Well on our team, we give everyone a fair shot. No one is any more important than anyone else.

MARK

Oh, that is such bullshit! You guys suck, pain and simple.

LEN

We didn't suck so much last night when we kicked your ASSES.

MARK

That's because I let Marcel and Chad play way too much. If I had been involved more, you would have went down faster then Captain Kirk if he ever got into a boxing match with Picard.

LEN

Oh, that is IT! How fucking dumb are you? Picard beating Kirk?! What fucking universe do you live in? There is no way in HELL that some old French guy could EVER beat the great Captain James T. Kirk!

MARK

Janeway could even beat Kirk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LEN

Wha! Bah! You are so not serious!

Mark leans over the counter and puts his face inches from Len's and glares him in the eyes.

MARK

I so am.

LEN

I should leap over that counter right now and show you what I think of your little shit opinion there.

The waiting customer sighs with frustration and slams his purchase on the counter, turns, and walks away. Len and Mark turn to look at him.

LEN (CONT'D)

What was *that* guy's problem?

Mark just shrugs.

INT. SOBEYS - STAFF LUNCH ROOM - DAY

Nikki and Karson walk into the staff lunch room, to see Jeff staring intently at the microwave. All three of them are wearing black pants and dark green shirts with the Sobeys emblem in small letters in the top left corner.

NIKKI

Um, Jeff? What are you doing?

JEFF

How the hell do ya get this damn thing to work?

Karson sighs and walks over, lightly pushing Jeff out of the way. He pushes the Power button, and then the Start button, and it turns on.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Oh, thanks. This one is really different then the one I got at home. At least I know how to use that one.

Nikki and Karson sit at the table while Jeff remains near the microwave.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF (CONT'D)

So was Launa angry when I showed up late this morning?

KARSON

Not really. I explained to her about last night and since this morning has been really dead so far, she didn't really mind.

JEFF

Thank God. I told my friends I had to leave by 1:00, but they wouldn't budge.

KARSON

Really? I don't remember seeing you asking to leave.

JEFF

Shut up. They knew beforehand that I had to leave.

NIKKI

What was going on last night?

KARSON

A LAN party.

Nikki scoffs.

NIKKI

Oh, one of those guy things, huh?

Jeff and Karson exchange glances.

KARSON

Guy thing?

JEFF

Yeah, computers aren't just a guy thing. I can name at least a dozen chicks that know more about computers than me.

NIKKI

Ok, don't call us chicks. It's derogatory. And we aren't as fascinated in them as you guys are. Do you ever see a female Dilbert comic? Or a female Drew Carrey? What about a female Bill Gates?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KARSON

Now *that* would be Hell on Earth.
Take the two most evil things and
combine them together?

Karson shivers.

JEFF

Actually there *was* a female in the
Dilbert comic. And I'm guessing
you've never seen the movie Office
Space. There were females who
worked there.

NIKKI

Whatever.

JEFF

No, not whatever. The point is...
(trails off)
Hey, the microwave should have
beeped by now.

Jeff turns around and sees that there's still 15 minutes
left.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Gah!

He quickly opens the door and what stares out at him is a
steaming pile of melted goo.

KARSON

How long did you put it on for!?

JEFF

I thought only twenty seconds.

NIKKI

Do you even know *how* to use a
microwave?

JEFF

Of course I do! They just don't
like me!

Jeff fumbles with the plate of goo as he takes it out,
slightly burning his fingers, and dumps it all into the
nearby garbage.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

JEFF (CONT'D)

Well this lunch break sucked. Catch you guys downstairs.

Jeff closes the microwave door, holds up his fingers in the sign of a cross towards it, and then walks out.

INT. SOBEYS - FRONT END - DAY

Jeff is standing at the end of one of the Tills, bagging some groceries while the cashier and costumer talk to each other.

FEMALE VOICE

Jeff? Jeff Long?

Jeff turns his head around to one side, but doesn't see anyone he recognizes, so looks on the other side. There's a blonde-haired girl that looks slightly familiar, going through the other till.

JEFF

Do I know...

Jeff trails off and his eyes go wide as realization dawns.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Allison!?

A 21-year-old Allison Luk smiles. Jeff instantly drops the groceries he had in his hands back on the till and walks over to Allison. They hug tightly and break apart.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Wow, it's been years! What have you been up to?

During the entire conversation, both the costumer and cashier at the Till that Jeff had been bagging for, are trying to catch his attention by waving arms and calling out his name, but he doesn't notice.

ALLISON

A lot actually. Just got back in town.

JEFF

We have to catch up! Are you free today?

ALLISON

Not today, but I am tomorrow.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

I get off work at seven tomorrow.

ALLISON

Seven sounds great. You a coffee person?

JEFF

Cappuccino, but it's all the same. We can meet at the Tim Horton's on Elizabeth Avenue if you want.

ALLISON

Sure, that sounds good. So around 7:30 tomorrow evening?

JEFF

Perfect.

They stare at each other for a minute. Allison seems to notice the people behind Jeff trying to catch his attention.

ALLISON

I think you're needed.

JEFF

Huh?

(Allison points and Jeff turns.)

Oh, yeah. I should get back to work. See you tomorrow evening!

Allison giggles.

ALLISON

Definitely.

Jeff returns back to his spot, happy as can be.

JEFF

(to costumer)

That was Allison Luk!

The costumer returns Jeff's smile with a very very upside down smile.

INT. COMPUTER STORE - DAY

Len is sitting on a stool behind the counter, flipping through a very large softcover book. Mark walks out from the back, putting his jacket on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARK

I'm heading out for lunch.

LEN

(without looking up)

Alright.

MARK

Hey, are you sure you don't want me
to join your...

LEN

(cutting him off; without
looking up)

Yes, I'm sure, now go.

Mark sighs heavily and storms out of the store. As Len flips the page, a customer walks up to the counter. Len closes the book, in which we can then see from the title that it is the Oh-so-hard-to-find and very rare '*Star Trek Encyclopedia*'. He slides it out of the way while the customer looks at the list in the plastic sleeve.

CUSTOMER

You got anything by Intel in stock?

The customer looks up and sees that Len is giving him a dirty look. If looks could kill, the entire street would have been destroyed.

CUSTOMER (CONT'D)

What? What's wrong with Intel?

EXT. LAN TOURNAMENT BUILDING - DAY

Curtis walks the destroyed bike up to a large gothic building. He tries to fit it into a bike rack, but the majorly-dented front tire causes a problem with that, so Curtis ends up just dropping the bike to the ground and continuing on into the building.

INT. LAN TOURNAMENT BUILDING - LOBBY - DAY

The building is constantly used for various large events, but as the LAN Tournament is the next one coming up, there are advertisements all over the place for it; posters on the walls and doors, Standing cardboard posters, ect. The front lobby is extremely clean and tidy, and very proper. Someone like The President of the United States may even feel uneasy with how proper and clean the lobby is. So you can imagine how someone like Curtis feels in such a building;

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

and you can imagine how the people in the building feel about Curtis with his muddy and ripped clothes and thick baggy black jacket. Curtis approaches the front desk, where three clerks are standing - two females and one male. The two females move off to pretend to do other work, leaving the surprised male to deal with Curtis.

CURTIS

Hi, I'd like to register my team for the LAN tournament.

MALE CLERK

Um, ok. Your name is?

CURTIS

Curtis Coates. But you can put down my nickname, Kamikaze KAZ. Everyone calls me that.

Curtis laughs dorkily. The male clerk looks at him with a weird look and the two female clerks, who are listening in as they pretend to do other work, try their hardest not to laugh.

MALE CLERK

And the name of your team is?

CURTIS

Well I wanted the Kamikazers, but I was out-voted 2-to-1 on Greapers.

MALE CLERK

Greapers? I don't get it.

CURTIS

Grim Reapers. Greapers.
 (noticing the chicks
 listening in)
 Yeah, I thought it was stupid too,
 but my team mates, who are total
 dorks by the way, not like me,
 liked it, so I was out-voted.

The male clerk doesn't even pretend to act like he cares.

MALE CLERK

Huh-uh. And how many members on the team overall?

CURTIS

Three of us.
 (again, notices the girls
 listening)
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CURTIS (CONT'D)

But I'm the only one that's really any good. That's why I'm in charge of the team.

MALE CLERK

Riiiiight...Well that'll be a thirty dollar registration fee.

CURTIS

What? Thirty bucks? Nobody told me about that. Fuck those bastards. I need to dig into my doobie funds for this. They are definitely paying my fat hairy ass back.

The two girls look at each other, disgusted. The Male clerk looks on, horrified, as Curtis dumps a handful of loose change onto the counter, and keeps digging around his pockets, bringing up more nickels, dimes, pennies, and a few quarters.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

As Jeff is walking home from work and approaches the apartment building, he stops in the parking lot and looks at an old rusted piece of shit 1990 Volvo with the licence plate number 'KAZ-636'.

JEFF

(to himself)

You wrecked my bike, Curtis...

Jeff cautiously looks around to make sure no one is watching.

INT. APARTMENT - DAY

'War' by Edwin Starr begins to play as we see the empty hallway. Suddenly Jeff's head, under a toy army helmet pops around the corner and he raises a pair of binoculars to his eyes, staring down the hallway.

JEFF

Coast is clear. Move out.

He twirls out from around the corner and runs up and across the hall into the bathroom, and disappears around that corner. In the quick few seconds we see him between corner-hiding, we see he is dressed in fake military clothes, complete with a camo backpack, toy gun strapped around his shoulder, and a grenade belt across his chest filled with Bug Spray, with another similar belt going around his waist, with a different kind of bug killing bottle filling it up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Jeff pokes his head back around the corner again and then runs out into the hall and runs out into the main room and as he enters the porch, he jumps and his body slams into the floor by the door, laying flat. He reaches up, slowly opens the door, and peers out. Seeing that the coast is clear, he military-crawls out into the hall, and then slowly stands up, closing the door behind him. He runs down the hall of the building and down the stairs, pointing his toy gun over the railing the entire way down.

Part way down, Jeff passes two other people who are heading up. As he passes them, he lowers the gun and walks normally as if he's just going outside for a stroll. They look at him weird as they pass by and as soon as they're behind him, he goes back to his military business.

When he gets to the bottom of the stairs, he opens up the toy gun and removes some of the tubes from his waist belt, pouring the gel-like liquid into the gun. Once he has half of his bottles put in, he closes the gun and peeks his head out the main door. He raises the binoculars again and spots all the ants moving around on the ground in front of the building.

With a war cry, Jeff throws the door open and rushes outside, spraying the gel ant-killing stuff from his gun, all over the ground, turning this way and that as he runs, spraying the ground at random. Once that gun is empty, Jeff lets go of it and takes out two canisters of bug spray, which he pops the tops off of, one in each hand, and begins spraying them all over the ground as well.

Jeff (CONT'D)

Die you ant heathens! Arrrrrrr!

Jeff stops spraying to look around for moving ants. He sees a couple and sprays them to oblivion. He starts looking around again, but something nicks his cheek. He reaches up and feels the spot. Something black flies by the corner of his eye and he whips around but doesn't see anything. He sees something black skim by the other side of his head, out of the corner of his other eye and he whips to face that way, but again, nothing. The song ends.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

Inside the building, the same two people that were going up the stairs earlier is now going down. Just as they reach the bottom, the door is flung open and Jeff runs inside screaming like a little girl, his army helmet no longer on his head.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

They can fucking fly! Did you know they can fly!? Run for your lives!

And without even stopping to catch his breath, Jeff runs on up the stairs. The two people turn to look at each other.

PERSON 1

You really need to find a new place to live. This must be that apartment building I read about in the newspaper last week, where they put up mental patients that are just getting out.

The other person just shrugs and they walk on outside. Our view stays inside the building. A second after the door closes all the way, we suddenly can hear the two people start screaming.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - EVENING

Len is coming home from work and is approaching the apartment. He opens the door and is met with stinging bug spray to the eyes. He drops his bag and screams as he rubs at his eyes.

LEN

What...the...fuck!?

JEFF

Oh shit, I'm so sorry. I thought you may have been *them*.

LEN

What are you on about?

JEFF

I waged my war against the ants, but it turns out they can fly. Did you know that they could fly?

LEN

Uh, yeah...But last I checked, they couldn't open doors, you fraking dumbass.

JEFF

Well I couldn't be too sure! They mutated and grew wings, so who knows what else they can do!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Len is still rubbing his eyes.

LEN
They didn't mutate! They could
always fly!

JEFF
Well then why didn't I know about
that?

LEN
Maybe cause you're an idiot?

The door opens again and Curtis walks in.

CURTIS
Alright, who spraypainted the
picture of a dick on my car?

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

All three are seated at their computers. Curtis' is out in the living room, while Len's and Jeff's are in their rooms. Each of them have headset MICs on.

LEN
Alright, I'm thinking we should
practice for a few hours every day,
various games, so that way we're
prepared for anything that might be
at the tournament. Tonight we'll
start with Halloween: Kill All
Zombies.

As the camera looks over Len's shoulder at the Loading screen on the computer, we zoom in on it, until the scene changes to what we see on the computer, only live-action.

A tombstone covers the screen, with a pumpkin on one side and a black cat on the other, with a short bit of text engraved on it, explaining that the story of the game involves a town of people turning into zombies on Halloween night, and its up to the player to get out of the town alive and get help. That disappears from the screen and character options start up. Each player chooses a character that oddly enough, closely resembles each of them, and then we're brought to the level choice screen, in which Len puts it on random.

EXT. TOWN - NIGHT

The town is in chaos. Buildings are on fire, vehicles are overturned, and close to a hundred or more people of all ages and genders, some in various costumes, some not, are zombies, who are all moving around, some walking, others running.

'*Fire Your Guns*' by ACDC is playing as the three players spawn into the game in the same area. At the end of the street is a jeep, resting right side-up.

LEN

Everyone, head for the jeep.

Jeff and Len both start heading down the street, firing their pistols at any nearby zombies. Most shots are headshots, which kill them instantly with a gory display of exploding brains and blood, but a few shots only hit their midsection, and therefor take a few shots to kill.

CURTIS

Hang on, these pistols suck. I see a Magnum over by the cop shop. I'll meet ya guys at the jeep in a few.

LEN

Curtis, no! Get in the damn jeep and we can drive over there.

CURTIS

Hang on! It'll only take a second.

Curtis dodges around lunging zombies and backs up, firing, when two Runners approach him. After getting rid of them, he continues on, but quickly gets surrounded by dozens of zombies, walking out and rushing out, from alleys and from around corners.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Shit.

He turns to run, but instead, gets blasted repeatedly by Jeff, which knocks him back a bit each time until he backs right up into the clutches of a zombie, which holds him in its grasp, biting into him and holding him there so all the other zombies can attack him and rip him apart.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

What the fuck, man!?

JEFF

You wrecked my bike, you asshole.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEN

Alright, knock it off you two. This is serious. There are dozens of people in this city that are better than us right now, and they're only going to get better. We need to get better than them. Stop fooling around.

Curtis re-spawns and dodges around zombies to catch up to the other two. Jeff turns around and points his gun at Curtis again.

CURTIS

Oh fuck you.

Jeff turns back around and continues running. Along the way, Jeff gets a single-barreled shotgun. They reach the jeep without much difficulty and get in. Len drives it, while Jeff and Curtis fire out at any nearby zombies. As Len drives down the street, he avoids the crashed vehicles but tries to run over as many of the zombies as he can without swerving off the road.

Suddenly a zombie rears back and then sprints forward, running right at the jeep. It leaps in the air and crashes through the window to the passenger side door, screeching and growling.

ZOMBIE

Brains!

LEN

Somebody shoot that fucking thing!

Jeff turns with the single barreled shotgun and aims it at the zombie. He fires, but misses though, as just as he fires, the jeep goes up some slanted debris, like a ramp. It lands with a crash soon afterwards and continues down the street.

Jeff fires again and blasts the zombie's brains out all over the inside of the truck.

LEN (CONT'D)

(Ernest-style)

Ewwwwwwww.

CURTIS

Hey you fucks, wait up!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Len looks back and sees that Curtis is no longer in the jeep and is running after it. Along the way, he picks up a curved sword.

LEN
What the hell happened to you?

CURTIS
fell out when we hit that ramp.

Len and Jeff heavily sigh and Len stops the jeep so Curtis can catch up. Just as Curtis reaches the jeep, a running zombiefied little girl with a butcher knife rushes up behind him.

LEN
Behind you, dumbass!

Curtis whips around and decapitates the zombie. The head rolls across the ground as Curtis continues to turn, returning back to facing the jeep. He jumps in. By the time the jeep starts back up, some zombies have reached it and started pounding on it, draining its health, but Len drives off, running some of them over and crushing them under his wheels.

They reach the edge of town and Len fights to control the jeep as it bounces over a dirt road.

JEFF
Can't you slow down a bit?

LEN
Oh, and let the zombies catch us?
Fuck that.

Len sees a trio of zombies pushing car wreckage out in front of him, just a little bit too late. The jeep slams into the wreckage and goes flying onto its side, crashing into the ground and skidding to a stop, automatically ejecting the players out of it as it explodes into a fireball. Len moans as he touches his bleeding head.

LEN (CONT'D)
Everyone still alive?

CURTIS
Yeah, but I'm really low on health
now.

JEFF
I...said...to...FUCKING SLOW DOWN!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LEN

They set a trap! They set a fucking trap! How can they do that, man? They're brain-dead!

ZOMBIES

Brains!

The three turn around and see the three zombies advancing on them and open fire on the zombies, Curtis changing his sword for his pistol, and Jeff using his shotgun. Within a few seconds, all three zombies are dead.

JEFF

Now what?

LEN

If I remember this level correctly, there should be a cabin in those woods over there, that has a hell of a lot of health and a couple weapons. We can heal and weapon up in there.

CURTIS

Sounds like a plan.

JEFF

Well we better hurry.

He points out all the zombies approaching them between the cabin and them. Len runs to a nearby assault rifle and picks it up.

LEN

Let's do this.

'*I Disappear*' by Metallica starts playing as the three of them lift their guns and start jogging towards the forest. Jeff blows the heads off of three nearby zombies, while Curtis kills one with his pistol and Len takes out a small handful.

They reach the forest and pick up their pace to a run as more zombies swarm around them from out of the trees, most of them running. Curtis blows the arm off of one, and then took out its head with his second shot. Jeff blasts one zombie's head, and then shoots another in the chest. He uses the gun as a bat to knock its head off when it reaches him. Len fires short, controlled bursts from his gun, taking some zombies down, while others are only hit in the chest or other parts of the body.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Jeff punches a zombie that gets too close, and then after it falls to the ground, he blows its brains out. He fires again and again, taking another two down. Curtis fires his last shot, taking a zombie down. Another one runs up to him and he puts away the empty gun and takes out his sword and decapitates the zombie, and then rams it through another's chest, pulling up, splitting it's top half, all the way to the top of the head, in half. Len just continues his firing.

JEFF

Man, I feel like we're in An Uwe Boll flick!

LEN

A! A Uwe Boll flick! Not An!

JEFF

Then someone should tell *him* that!

Jeff kills one zombie, and then half-turns and fires at another, also killing it. Len takes down any near zombies, and then takes out a knife from a pouch on his leg and throws it, embedding it into a zombie's head, digging deep into the brain. He raises his gun and fires some more at other zombies.

Jeff reaches the door to the cabin and tries to open the door, but its locked. He looks around for a.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Ah hell!

He raises his shotgun and blasts at the door, blowing it apart, and then rushing inside. Curtis chops up one last zombie and Len blows the brains out of a couple more zombies before they also reach the cabin and run inside as well.

LEN

Jeff, why the hell did you destroy the door?

JEFF

I couldn't find the keys.

LEN

They're in the friggin plant pot! Jes-us! Now we're stuck!

JEFF

What do you mean?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

LEN

The only way out, is through this door, which in about ten seconds, is gonna be swamped with zombies!

JEFF

Shit.

LEN

Alright, let's get as much guns, ammo, and health as we can before they swarm us and hopefully we can survive. Let's move!

They rush through the cabin, grabbing various weapons, ammo, and health, as the zombies' cries of 'Brains!' gets louder and louder. They meet back up in the main room, just as the front of the zombie horde reaches the door and steps into the cabin.

LEN (CONT'D)

Come on you apes, you wanna live forever? Kill them all!

They all open fire, shouting, and we quickly zoom in on them.

INT. TIM HORTONS - EVENING

We zoom out as we cut directly from the attacking zombie horde, to Jeff's meeting with Allison the following night. They're sitting across the table from each other, having just ordered some coffee's. 'Call and Answer' by Barenaked Ladies is playing low over the store speakers.

ALLISON

It's great seeing you again.

JEFF

Yeah, you too. It's been what? Three years? Four?

ALLISON

Something like that, yeah.

JEFF

So what have you been doing all this time?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALLISON

Well I moved away to Black Moose during high school, and I was living there until a couple months ago when I moved back home here.

JEFF

Why'd you come back?

Allison hesitates and obviously dodges around the answer.

ALLISON

I...I just needed to come home. But what about you? What have you been up to?

JEFF

I live with Len and Curtis now, if you remember them at all. I work at Sobeys full-time until I figure out what I want to go to college for. I actually used to be engaged to a girl named Katie, until she cheated on me.

ALLISON

Ohhh, I'm so sorry to hear that.

JEFF

Don't be. I'm over it.

Allison takes a sip from her coffee.

ALLISON

Hang on, I need some milk in this. They definitely didn't put any in.

She stands up, walks over to a straw bowl full of small milk packets and grabs a handful, as well as a fork, bringing them back to the table.

JEFF

What's the fork for?

ALLISON

I'm gonna show you something really neat, but you can't laugh cause it's kind of childish.

Jeff chuckles.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF

That's fine. It's not like I'm exactly the most mature person ever created either.

Allison takes the fork and pokes the ends through the top of the milk creamer. She lays the fork down and dumps the creamer upside down above her coffee and starts squeezing the small plastic cup. The milk squirts through the holes caused by the fork and into her coffee, resembling milk coming from a cow.

ALLISON

I call it 'milking the cow'.

Jeff starts chuckling. He takes one of the creamers and Allison hands him the fork, and he does the same thing to his creamer and adds it to his coffee.

ALLISON (CONT'D)

See, Isn't it fun?

They both laughed. They look up and their eyes meet.

JEFF

Remember back in high school, when I was your slave over that stupid bet I lost?

Allison starts laughing.

ALLISON

How could I forget? It was the best time of my life.

Jeff laughs back.

JEFF

Definitely wasn't mine. I'm not sure what I hated most. All the times you took my lunch from me, or when you made me take your clothes home and wash them for you.

ALLISON

Oh man, I was such a bitch to you, wasn't I?

JEFF

I don't hold it against you. It was your nature.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

They both laugh again, the end result being eye locking once more. They're silent for a minute.

JEFF (CONT'D)

I do have a confession to make though.

ALLISON

What's that?

JEFF

Back in high school, I, um...kind of..um...had a crush on you.

ALLISON

Aww, that's really sweet. Totally obvious, but still...sweet.

JEFF

You knew?

ALLISON

Honey, the entire school knew.

JEFF

Oh...

ALLISON

But hey, don't worry about it. That was a long time ago.

The song ends and '*Crash Into Me*' by the Dave Matthews Band starts.

JEFF

Actually...I think I might still like you...

(silence)

I mean, sure, it's been years, but you still look *really* good, and you have such a great personality.

(more silence)

Oh God, please don't tell me I just fucked everything up.

ALLISON

No, it's not that. I think you're really sweet, and you've definitely gotten a lot more attractive since high school, but...I have a son now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Now it was Jeff's turn to be silent.

ALLISON (CONT'D)
His name's Wesley and he's the
cutest little boy. He turns four
this year.

JEFF
...oh...Who...who's the father?

ALLISON
Just some guy. I just broke up with
an asshole. You don't know him and
I'm no longer with him, so it
doesn't matter.

JEFF
So...you're single then?
(Allison nods)
what's the problem then?

ALLISON
Um, I have a kid?

JEFF
So?

ALLISON
That doesn't scare you off?

JEFF
No, why would it?

ALLISON
No, it's just, normally whenever a
guy finds out I have a kid, it
scares them off.

JEFF
I'm not going to lie to you. I like
you a lot, and that's not going to
change just cause you have a kid.
Sure, I may not be a kid kinda
person, but I can grow to be, with
your help. I like you, and I want
to learn to like everything about
you, including your son.

ALLISON
That's...that's the sweetest thing
anyone's ever said to me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

JEFF

So...would you want to maybe...go
on a date sometime?

Allison looks down into her coffee for the longest time. So long that Jeff frowns, discouraged. But then she looks up and a smile goes across her face.

ALLISON

Definitely.

JEFF

Really?

Allison giggles and nods her head. Jeff jumps up.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Yes!

However, his knee hits the table and knocks his coffee over onto his lap. He now dances around while jumping up, the coffee burning his crotch area. Allison, laughing the entire time, moves with a napkin to help him clean it off.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Jeff walks in the door, a huge smile on his face, just as Curtis is putting on his headset MIC and Len is making a bowl of popcorn.

LEN

Oh sweet, you're just in time.
We're about to do some more
practice for the tournament.

JEFF

Actually, I think I'm gonna pass
tonight.

LEN

What? Why?

JEFF

I'm just gonna head off to bed I
think.

LEN

Why are you smiling like that?

With this, Curtis turns around in his chair to see for himself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

No reason.

CURTIS

I call bullshit.

JEFF

Ok, but you guys have to promise not to say anything about it.

LEN AND CURTIS

Ok, ok

JEFF

I'm now dating Allison Luk.

Curtis' and Len's mouths both drop open and both are silent. Even if one of them wanted to say anything, they were too shocked to speak. The bowl of popcorn drops from Len's hands and lands upside down on the floor. Len is still stuck in his shock pose and doesn't even notice.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Oh, and she has a kid. But I'm going to bed now, good night.

Len and Curtis stay in their shock poses long after Jeff disappears into his room for the night.

INT. COMPUTER STORE - DAY

Len and Jeff walk into the computer store, where Mark and another person are working. Jeff goes to look at a stack of games, while Len approaches the counter.

LEN

Hey, is the new schedule out yet?

MARK

(full of disdain)
Well well well, if it isn't two thirds of the Greapers.

LEN

Mark, for the last time, No, you're not going to be part of the team.

MARK

I have my own team now. And its only made up of the best of the best.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEN

Uh-huh...So the new schedule. Is it out yet?

MARK

Ryan, go into the back and get Len the Traitor here his new schedule.

Ryan goes off into the back.

LEN

Oh did you hear that Allison Luk's back in town?

MARK

Shit, really? That bitch was so mean to me.

Jeff walks over, holding a copy of the game '*Duck Quak'em 3D*' and lays it on the counter, taking out his wallet.

JEFF

Well maybe if you didn't write her love poems about how she's your 'Exotic Temple of Love' and you're her monk, ready to worhsip in her.

LEN

Yeah dude, that was kinda creepy.

Mark's face goes beat red with the embarrassing memory.

LEN (CONT'D)

Anyway, guess who she's dating now?

Mark looks back up and Jeff smiles.

MARK

Who?

LEN

Jeff here.

MARK

What!? No way!

JEFF

It's true. We've been going steady for a week now.

LEN

And get this; she has a son.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARK

Really!?

LEN

Me and Curtis are convinced it's
Jeff's.

JEFF

Oh my god, knock it off already.
It's not mine.

LEN

Are you sure? I mean, back in high
school you were her slave. Who
knows what kinda things you guys
did.

JEFF

We never did anything!

LEN

What about that time at that one
party right before she moved away?
I mean, if the kid's almost four
years old then she would have had
to get pregnant with him around
that time.

JEFF

I don't remember that, so it never
happened.

LEN

You only don't remember it cause
you two were so incredibly wasted.

Jeff sighs heavily, giving up as he pays for his game and
walks out of the store. Ryan returns with a copy of the
schedule for Len and hands it to him.

MARK

Anything else?

LEN

Nah, that was it. Jeff needed a
copy of Duck Quack'em as he's the
only one in the apartment that
doesn't have one and I don't think
he's yet used to having a good
enough computer that can download
the full version of the game.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

MARK

(chuckling)

You and your foolish attempts at preparing for the LAN Tournament. You're definitely going to loose against my team.

LEN

Alright then, Sparky. Have a good day.

Len turns and starts walking across the store. Mark calls out after him;

MARK

(deep mechanical voice)

Resistance is Futile!

Len

(without turning around)

Yeah, whatever.

And with that, he exits the store.

Montage scene:

'*You're the Best*' by Joe Esposito plays. The next several minutes is a montage of game-playing scenes. We see a mixture of in-game live-action footage, as well as out-of-game footage of the three of them sitting in their computer chairs, playing the games on the computer. The in-game footage is all from various games such as '*Duck Quak'em*', '*Call To Arms 2*', '*Speed Away: Bang and Crash Edition*', '*Unreal Combat*', '*Super Mary Sisters 4: Attack of the Undead Nuns*', and the nice old classic of '*Geese Tracker*', complete with an old-fashioned gaming gun. In each gaming scene, although kind of rough for the players at the beginning, we can visibly see them getting better over time.

For the out-of-game sitting-in-their-chairs shots, some of them take place during the day, others take place after it gets dark, and then more take place during the day, ect. Jeff even begins to grow a bit of facial hair from lack of shaving. All the scenes from both in-game and out-of-game are all interconnected and mixed up with no real order to them, to show that they're playing these games at every chance of free time they have and is not restricted to any one single time.

INT. APARTMENT - JEFF'S ROOM - EVENING

As the song fades out, we end the montage scene on a shot of Jeff at his computer, the sun in the process of going down. On the computer over Jeff's shoulder, we can see that they're playing a different level of School Wars than we saw earlier in the script.

JEFF

No, no, turn around Curtis, behind you! Fuck, just turn the fuck around and shoot that fucker before he gets our flag!

We hear Len sigh heavily as an alarm sounds from over the game.

LEN

(v.o.)

Thanks Curtis, now I have to turn around and get our flag back.

CURTIS

(v.o.)

I was under heavy attack! I can't kill everything at once!

The phone rings and Jeff answers it as it's right next to him. He continues playing the game while on the phone. We intercut between the scene of Jeff in his room, and a scene of Allison in her house.

JEFF

Hello?

ALLISON

Hey.

JEFF

Fuck.

ALLISON

Excuse me?

JEFF

No, not you. I'm playing a game and just got shot. So hey, what's up?

ALLISON

Nothing much. Bored. Wondering if you...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF
(cutting Allison off)
God damn it, I just fell on a
fucking spike.

LEN
(v.o.)
Get off the phone, Jeff. It's
distracting you.

ALLISON
You sound busy. I'll just call back
later.

Jeff swings around in his chair, so his back is facing the
computer screen.

JEFF
No, I'm all ears now.

During the conversation, in the background of Jeff's
computer, we can hear Len over the speakers saying things
like 'Jeff? Hello? You still there?' And the constant sounds
of Curtis messing something up and Len swearing at him.

ALLISON
No, I know how much this LAN
Tournament means to you guys, and I
don't want to take you away from
that.

JEFF
Phhff. It's only some stupid game.
You're more important.

Allison smiles, biting her lip.

ALLISON
Awww, you're so sweet.

JEFF
I know, I know. I hear that a lot.

The two laugh.

ALLISON
I was wondering if you wanted to go
to the movies or something. I
really want to see the new Spider-
Man movie and it's playing now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF

Wait, what? You like Spider-Man?

ALLISON

Yeah, and Batman, and the Fantastic Four, and Ninja Turtles, although the older comics are a hundred times better than the newer ones.

JEFF

Oh my god, marry me.

Allison laughs.

ALLISON

Slow down there, Tiger. You hit the jackpot but don't start spending it all in one place, if you know what I mean.

JEFF

Hell yeah, I'll go see the new Spider-Man movie with you. Give me about an hour and I'll be over there.

ALLISON

Why so long?

JEFF

I have to walk, remember? I don't have a car and my jerk of a roommate trashed my bike.

ALLISON

Nonsense. I'll come pick you up. Be ready in 15 minutes.

JEFF

Alright, see you then.

Jeff hangs up and exits from the game. He rushes out into the hall, up the hall, and into Len's room. Len turns to look at him.

LEN

It says you quit the game...

JEFF

Yeah, I did. Allison's picking me up in 15 minutes. We're going to see Spider-Man.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LEN

Oh come on, this is way more important than some dumb superhero movie.

JEFF

Some dumb superhero movie!? It's so much more than that.

LEN

Yeah, ok, tell me over the MIC when you get your ass back in the game.

JEFF

I'm sorry, I can't. I'll practice some more with you guys when I get back.

Len opens his mouth to object, but Jeff races from the room to get ready.

CURTIS

(v.o.)

Hey, where'd you go, Jeff? It says you quit.

LEN

(disdainful)

He's going with Allison to see his kid.

JEFF

(v.o.)

He's not my kid!

MONTAGE SCENE:

'A *Little Less Conversation*' by Elvis Presley plays during this montage scene. There are two sets of scenes being played interconnectedly during this montage of scenes. The first kind is of Jeff and Allison on various dates and spending time together. At the movies, out for supper, gone glow-bowling, which Jeff's light red colors on his clothes looks like neon pink during, dancing at a night club, although Jeff's 'dancing' more closely resembles a flailing dying chicken than any known dance style, cuddled up at Allison's place and watching the movie '*Bubba Ho-Tep*', Jeff and Allison playing with Wesley, taking Wesley out for walks, helping Allison, along with Wesley, shop for groceries at Sobeys.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The other series of montage scenes, which are randomly interconnected with the previous ones, are of Len, Jeff, and Curtis practicing for the LAN Tournament. At first, everything is fine, however as the scenes go on, Jeff is more and more involved in talking on the phone with Allison then playing the games, and soon enough, he is hardly even there to play the games most of the time, leaving Len and Curtis to practice by themselves.

INT. FRENCH REASTURANT - NIGHT

The montage scene, and music, ends on a scene of Jeff and Allison, both dressed in fancy clothes, which is a huge feat for Jeff, and they are sitting across from each other in an expensive French reasturant. Instead of a cup of coffee like they were used to, they're drinking from glasses of wine.

ALLISON

This place is pretty expensive. Are you sure you can afford it?

JEFF

Definitely. I had to use the last of my money to be able to though, but I did it.

He chuckles, but Allison doesn't.

ALLISON

I've told you before, you need to stop spending all your money on me. It makes me feel bad.

JEFF

But I don't mind. It's your birthday and you deserve the best.

ALLISON

But *I* mind. This is the last time, baby, ok?

Jeff nods.

ALLISON (CONT'D)

So, after going out for two months, what did you get me for my birthday?

JEFF

(smiles)
You'll see.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The waiter walks over with a tray of food and places it on the table. Allison looks at Jeff curiously as he takes the lid off the tray and the steaming hot plates of food are before them.

INT. FRENCH REASTURANT - LATER

The previous scene fades into a time lapse, where we see that its later, by the now-empty but messy plates of food.

JEFF

So how was it?

ALLISON

That was the best food I've ever had. And now I'm so stuffed.

DANIELLE

(v.o.)

Oh...My...God...Jeffrey Long, is that you?

Jeff's eyes instantly go large as he hears the voice. He turns in his seat to see Danielle approaching their table.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)

I didn't know you were back from Africa. When did you get back?

JEFF

Just the other day. I came back early.

DANIELLE

Funny, you don't have a tan or anything.

JEFF

Um...yeah...I wore a lot of suntan lotion...unfortunately it attracted a lot of lions, which is why I'm back.

DANIELLE

Ohhh, you poor baby. You should come over some time so I can hug you all night long and make you feel so much safer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

(sarcastically)

Yes. Yes, that would totally be the way to make me feel safe.

Allison is giving Danielle a dirty look. Danielle notices and looks Allison up and down, giving her a dirty look back.

DANIELLE

Who's the floozy?

Allison jumps out of her seat.

ALLISON

Excuse me!? floozy!?

DANIELLE

You must be his cousin. Cause I know that there is just no way that my Jeffy-Weffy would go after someone like you when he has all this.

Danielle motions to herself.

JEFF

Um, Danielle? You do know me and you broke up a long time ago, right?

DANIELLE

Yeah, but we're getting back together.

JEFF

We are?

DANIELLE

Yes, we are. We talked about moving in together, remember?

JEFF

Yeah, but I never actually said I would.

Danielle gives Jeff a dirty look.

DANIELLE

So what exactly are you saying?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF

Danielle, this is Allison. My girlfriend.

DANIELLE

You're what!? You never had any intention of moving in together, did you?

JEFF

Honestly? No. I'm sorry.

DANIELLE

You, Mr. Long, are a two-timing dream-wrecking, full of lies Man-Slut only out to ruin young girls dreams and break their hearts!

JEFF

Danielle, I...

DANIELLE

(cutting him off)

No! No more! Go back to Africa and get eaten by the lions like you deserve! Hm!

Danielle turns and storms away.

JEFF

(quietly)

What a psycho...

ALLISON

That was...interesting.

Jeff shrugs and turns back to Allison.

JEFF

Oh well, at least now she's out of my hair. Now, as they say, on with the show.

Jeff raises his hand and snaps his fingers.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Waiter!

Within seconds, the waiter is over at their table.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

JEFF (CONT'D)

(amazed)

Wow, I thought that only worked in
the movies...

WAITER

Oui, mousier?

JEFF

(whisper)

Can you bring the present on out
now?

The waiter nods, turns, and walks away. Allison gets even
more curious.

ALLISON

What on Earth did you get me?

Jeff just smiles and winks. The waiter brings a small box -
just big enough to fit, say, an engagement ring in - over to
the table and hands it to Allison.

WAITER

For you, mademoiselle.

Allison takes it and tries to stop from blushing, but is
unsuccessful. The waiter leaves while Allison unties the
small fancy box and carefully lifts the lid off to reveal...

...a globe keychain with a peace sign on it. Allison is
dumbfounded and confused, and even a bit disappointed, to say
the least.

ALLISON

Huh? A...a keychain?

JEFF

I don't have much money. Not enough
to get you anything really good
anyway, but you mean so much to me
and I wanted to show that to you
somehow. So while I don't have much
money, I still found a way to get
you two things for your Birthday:
Not only did I give you the World,
but I also gave you Peace on Earth.

Allison's demeanor instantly softens as she just melts. No
words can even come to her. Instead, tears flood her eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

JEFF (CONT'D)

Shit, you don't like it, do you?

ALLISON

That...that is the sweetest thing anyone's ever done for me. Jeff, you are so incredibly sweet to me, that I just can't stand it anymore. I've been hiding something from you that I need to tell you...

JEFF

Why you backstabbing two-timing cheating whore!

Jeff pushes his chair out and jumps to his feet, ready to storm off, attracting lots of other attention from other customers. Allison reaches out and grabs his arm, tears still coming from her eyes.

ALLISON

No, not that you big dummy. I haven't been cheating on you.

JEFF

Oh.
(embarrassed)
Hehe, my bad...

Jeff looks around nervously as he sits back down and Allison continues while everyone else goes back to their own businesses.

ALLISON

I have something to confess to you. My meeting you at Sobeys that one day...that wasn't an accident. Someone told me you worked there and I went there, with the intention of all this happening.

JEFF

(smiling; full of himself)
You just wanted a piece of the Jeff-Action from the start, huh?

ALLISON

No, you conceded moron, it's not that.

Jeff instantly stops smiling, but Allison chuckles slightly.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

ALLISON (CONT'D)

The reason I came back out here, the reason why me and my boyfriend back in Black Moose broke up, is cause we found out that Wesley wasn't his and he flipped right out. Before that, he started getting concerned that Wesley looked nothing like him and being the paranoid fuck that he is, he wanted to get a DNA test done. We did, and it turned out that Wesley isn't his.

JEFF

What are you saying?

ALLISON

Jeff, there was only one other person I was with around that time.

JEFF

No...

ALLISON

It was a drunken mistake, but it still happened.

JEFF

No, it didn't...

ALLISON

You were the only other person I was with at that time, Jeff.

(pause)

Wesley is your son.

Jeff is quiet as he stares off into space, in a state of shock.

ALLISON (CONT'D)

I understand if you're mad at me and I think I'll give you some space. Some time to think about things.

Allison stands up and kisses Jeff on the cheek.

ALLISON (CONT'D)

Thanks for the gift. I mean that.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

And then she walks away in a hurry. Jeff is still sitting there, staring off into space, having not so much as breathed since he was told.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Jeff walks into the apartment, shambling like a zombie, still in a state of shock. He hears a high-pitch sheik and slowly turns his head to see Marcel sitting in the living room, with his computer set up next to Curtis', the two of them playing a game. Len walks into the entryway to greet Jeff.

LEN
(smiling)
So how was seeing your son again?

Jeff slowly turns his head back to face Len.

JEFF
Turns out he really *is* my son...

Len is shocked.

LEN
What? Seriously?
(Jeff nods)
Damn man, that's not nearly as funny now that its actually true.

Jeff motions towards Marcel.

JEFF
What's *he* doing here?

Len shifts feet, visibly nervous.

LEN
Marcel, yes. Him. Here. Well you see...
(gulps)
Me and Curtis, well more of Curtis and I. Mostly Curtis. We decided that you're doing more harm then good to the Greapers. You haven't even practiced once in two weeks. So we...ahh...we kind of...um...replaced you.

Jeff slowly turns his head to look at Marcel again. After a minute, he turns back to look at Len again. He seems to snap out of his shocked daze.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

You have *got* to be shittin' me. You replaced *me* with *him*!?

CURTIS

A bad third player is better than a no third player.

JEFF

Oh shut your fat mouth, you dick-sucking tub of lard-ass.

Everyone in the room instantly goes silent and Curtis stops playing. However Marcel continues on as if nothing is happening and scores a point.

MARCEL

Whoo-hoo! Take that you filth! You Newb! You lusser! Ahh-Haa!

LEN

Jeff, calm down. Minimum team requirements is three players, and you pretty much quit the team. We had to replace you, and we had to do it with only a week left until the Tourny. We would have told you before, if you actually came home for more than five minutes at a time.

JEFF

Allison is my girlfriend! Wesley is my fucking son! Of course I've been spending time with them!

LEN

Jeff, I'm sorry. It's just the way things are if we want to win. Look, I'll give you a small share of the prize money.

JEFF

Oh fuck you and your fucking charity. I'm done with you fucks. I came home from a very stressful night, hoping to sit down with yu guys and relax by playing some games, but instead I'm told I'm kicked off the team!?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Jeff turns and storms out, slamming the door behind himself. Len and Curtis glance at each other and exchange looks.

CURTIS

I don't suck any dicks...

Len sighs heavily and walks back into his room. Marcel looks over at Curtis who looks back at him.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

What? I don't.

EXT. ACHERON CITY - STREETS - NIGHT

'*All my Friends*' by the Counting Crows plays as Jeff walks alone down the street at night, his hands in his pockets and a scowl on his face. It's a slight montage of Jeff walking around in various parts of the city. In one shot, he passes a group of three friends that are roughly seven years old, and all three share a striking resemblance to Len, Jeff, and Curtis.

YOUNG LEN-A-LIKE

Come on you guys, it's late and I wanna watch an episode of Star Trek from my DVD's before its time for bed.

The Young Curtis-a-like has his mouth full of candy, and he has chocolate stains around the edges of his mouth.

YOUNG CURTIS-A-LIKE

I don't know why you watch that crap for anyway. It's boring.

LEN-A-LIKE

Wah! Bah! Blasphemer! You're going to Hell!

JEFF-A-LIKE

A special level of Hell. One that's reserve for child molesters and people who talk at the movie theater.

LEN-A-LIKE

You do talk a lot at the movies, Kurt.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FATHER

(v.o.)

Leo, it's time to come in for the night. Say goodnight to your friends.

The father walks outside from the house and approaches the kids. Jeff watches the entire scene.

FATHER (CONT'D)

Your mother would kill me if I let you stay out too late.

LEO

Alright Daddy, I'm on my way in.

FATHER

Do you two need rides home?

The other two kids say no.

FATHER (CONT'D)

Alright, well have a good night. Leo can come back out to play tomorrow.

As Leo and his father head back inside, Leo looks up at him.

LEO

When is mommy coming home?

The father puts an arm around his son.

FATHER

She'll be back in two days, kiddo.

The door closes to the house, cutting Jeff's view of them off.

JEFF

Kiddo...

He turns and walks back off down the street.

INT. ALLISON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Allison answers the door in her PJ's, and Jeff is standing outside of it.

INT. ALLISON'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

We see Jeff on the living room floor, playing with Wesley. Allison is in the kitchen with her mom, making lunch. A caption comes up:

SUBTITLE:
ONE WEEK LATER...

ALLISON
Lunch will be ready in a minute you
two.

Jeff and Wesley both look up and Wesley's smile causes Jeff to smile too.

JEFF
Kick ass, huh, Kiddo?

ALLISON
Hey now, don't say words like that
around him. Don't want him being
tainted.

JEFF
Tainted? He's the son of me and
you. He was born tainted.

Jeff turns Wesley to look at him and holds him up, using his hands to move Wesley's hands and feet in punch and kick motions.

JEFF (CONT'D)
(baby-talk)
Isn't that right, Wesley? Yes, you
were born bad to the bone.

ALLISON
Oh my god, honey, please don't go
out and buy him a baby biker suit.
I don't want you turning my little
gentleman into a little devil.

Wesley giggles and Allison laughs. The phone rings and she goes to answer it while Jeff stands up, picking Wesley up into his arms.

JEFF
What'd you say we go wash up for
lunch, huh?
(Wesley frowns and slams
his hands in the air)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF (CONT'D)

Yeah, my thoughts too, but your
Grandma will skin both of us if we
don't do it.

Jeff goes off to wash both his and Wesley's hands, when
Allison walks back in the room.

ALLISON

That was that Hair Stylist school.

ALLISON'S MOM

Oh my God.

JEFF

What hair stylist school?

ALLISON

Back when I still lived in Black
Moose, I applied to a hair stylist
school. 90% of their students go on
to become the hair stylists for
tons of famous people all over the
world. They only accept the best.

ALLISON'S MOM

(getting excited)

And...?

ALLISON

I got in!

Allison and her mom both jump, hug, and scream in excitement
for several moments. Jeff winces at the screaming and covers
Wesley's ears.

ALLISON'S MOM

When do you leave?

ALLISON

The new semester starts in two
days. I know it's really short
notice, but Uncle Ron and Aunt
Aileen live there, so we should
give them a call and see if I can
stay with them.

ALLISON'S MOM

I'll go do that right now. Ohh, I'm
so happy for you.

Allison's mom goes off to use the phone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF

Wait, leave? Where is this school?

Allison's happiness slightly goes away.

ALLISON

It's in St. Wainluk.

JEFF

But...that's in another province
all together.

ALLISON

Ohh baby, I know. But you can come
too. Like sure, they're only
willing to pay for just me to go
there, but if we put our money
together, I'm sure we can scrounge
up enough for you to come too.

JEFF

No, we won't. Not enough to support
all three of us without either of
us having a job for awhile after we
get there.

ALLISON

(getting sad)

So what are you saying?

Jeff

I can't come with you yet. But I
will. I'll work a lot of overtime
and I'll save up and meet you down
there in a couple months.

ALLISON

Are you sure? I don't have to...

JEFF

(cutting her off)

Yes, you do have to go. This is a
great opportunity for you. We'll
only be separate for a couple
months.

Allison kisses Jeff and hugs him tightly.

ALLISON

Oh Jeff, I love you so much.

INT. SOBEYS - DAY

Jeff is bagging groceries at the end of a Till, all background noise and motions being nearly non-existent as he watches the clock tick by. He finishes his current order and rushes past Karson, who is bagging at Nikki's till, to the pay phone just as someone leaves it, and puts some money in, dialing a number.

ALLISON

(v.o.)
Hello?

JEFF

Hey honey, it's me.

ALLISON

(v.o.)
Where the hell are you? I have to leave in half an hour to catch my flight.

JEFF

I know, and I'm really sorry, but they need me to work some overtime. Only me and Karson are working right now for courtesy clerks. None of the 4:00 people came in, but someone's gonna be here in about half an hour to forty-five minutes, so you go on ahead and I'll catch a cab and meet ya at the airport.

ALLISON

(v.o.; disappointed; mad)
Alright, fine. See you then.

Before Jeff can even say goodbye, Allison hangs up the phone on him. Karson passes by with a stack of green baskets to put in the entry way and stops to talk to Jeff.

KARSON

Why did you wait until that person was off the payphone?

JEFF

My cell's outta minutes and I don't have any extra money to spend on more at the moment.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Jeff takes a load off Karson by grabbing half the giant stack of baskets before Karson falls over. They walk out into the entry way to put them away as they continue talking.

KARSON

So did you get her a going away present?

JEFF

Yeah. Since she's never been to the city before and doesn't know her way around or have any friends there, I bought her a map of the city and a stuffed dog toy, with a note basically saying 'Hey, I know you don't know your way around the city or have any friends there yet, so I decided to get you a map of St. Wainluk so you can find your way around, and here's a new friend so you won't be so lonely'.

Karson looks at Jeff, disgusted.

KARSON

Dude, that is so puke-inducing. What's your new nickname? Captain Sappy?

JEFF

(smiling)
Shut up.

The two turn and head back to continue bagging groceries at the tills.

INT. SOBEYS ENTRY - LATER

Jeff is sitting in a chair in the entryway, impatiently checking his watch and looking for a cab. Karson walks by, wearing his jacket, on his way out the door.

KARSON

Aren't you supposed to be at the airport by now?

JEFF

Yes! The friggin' cab is fucking twenty minutes late and I can't get a hold of Allison to tell her. She must have her cell turned off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KARSON

That's shitty, man. I'd give ya a ride, but I'm walking today. My car's in the shop.

JEFF

Yeah, that's alright.

KARSON

Alright, peace out, dawg.

Jeff and Karson knock knuckles and Karson walks out the doors.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

'*I'm With You*' by Avril Lavigne starts to play and continues through the next few scenes. Allison and Wesley are standing in the line-up to go through security. Allison keeps looking around, a painful and sad look on her face as she looks for any sign of Jeff. The line inches closer to the security gate.

EXT. SOBEYS - DAY

Jeff runs up to the cab as it pulls to a stop, throws open the door, and jumps in.

JEFF

The airport. As fast as you can possibly get there.

The taxi pulls out of the parking lot with the screeching of tires.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Allison and Wesley are in the process of going through security, getting their bags checked. The final call for the airplane is said over the intercom, and we know that's her flight by being able to see her ticket in her hands. She looks at her watch and then around once more, sadly.

EXT. ACHERON CITY - STREETS

The taxi is trying to rush through the slower-moving rush hour traffic, but with little luck. The airport is in the distance.

INT. TAXI - DAY

Inside the taxi, Jeff isn't doing a good job of sitting still. When he isn't practically bouncing in his seat, he's looking at his watch.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Allison and Wesley are now in the line-up to get onto the actual plane itself, getting ready to show their tickets. Allison has now given up all hope of Jeff arriving.

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

The taxi comes to a stop outside the airport and Jeff throws a handful of bills at the driver as he hops out.

JEFF

Keep the change.

Without even closing the door, Jeff runs into the airport, clutching the teddy dog in one hand and map in the other.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Jeff rushes through the crowded airport, shoving people out of the way as he jumps and runs through the crowd, making his way to the giant billboard, displaying the flights. He stops right below it and looks up, locating Allison's flight. It is at Gate 36 and he looks at the nearest gate, seeing that he is at 110. He sighs heavily and looks around like a madman until he sees a small transport slowly rolling nearby, like a golf cart.

Jeff rushes over and jumps on.

JEFF

Gate 36, and step on it.

As the driver slowly drives the cart down the busy airport, he says to Jeff:

DRIVER

I'm sorry, but according to the law, I'm not allowed to drive this cart faster than...

JEFF

It's an emergency!

Jeff shoves the driver off, who hits the floor hard, and Jeff takes over, stepping on the pedal.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The cart flies forward, speeding through the airport with Jeff honking its horn so people get out of the way. However, without knowing how to properly drive it, he somehow manages to shortly slam it head-on into the wall next to him, and he can't seem to back it up properly either without slamming into the wall again when he tries to continue on.

He jumps off it and continues running. He reaches the gate just as he runs out of breath and slows to a stop when he sees Allison and Wesley in the process of getting their ticket stamped and on their way onto the plane.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Allison!

She doesn't turn around, as she doesn't hear him through the glass separating him from the Gate room. Jeff bangs on the glass.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Allison! I'm here!

She still doesn't hear him and her ticket is finished being stamped and checked, and she starts walking onto the plane. Just as she's about to disappear around the corner, Wesley stops and turns around, staring directly at Jeff. This excites Jeff and he jumps up, cheering.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Wesley! Ah-ha! Wesley, Have a good trip! I'll miss you!

Wesley puts a hand up into the air and looks at Jeff sadly. Jeff puts his hand up on the glass and looks back at Wesley. Allison, without turning around, tugs on Wesley's hand to get him walking again, and Wesley slowly waves good-bye, which Jeff returns sadly, and then Allison and Wesley disappear around the corner and onto the plane. Jeff looks on sadly for another couple minutes, holding the dog and map in one hand at his side. The song fades out and ends during this.

He looks at his watch and then looks up in thought.

Jeff (CONT'D)

There just might still be enough time...

'1985' by Bowling for Soup starts playing as Jeff takes off running through the airport again. He runs back through the airport once again, passing by the crashed cart, and past the driver for it, who is shaking a fist and swearing at him as he runs by.

EXT. ACHERON CITY - STREETS - EVENING

Jeff is in another cab, speeding his way through the city, which now is closer to night and less traffic is out.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - EVENING

Jeff gives the driver some money and hops out, running across the parking lot and passing by both Len's and Curtis' cars as he throws open the door to the building and runs up the stairs.

INT. APARTMENT - EVENING

The song ends on a scene of Len and Curtis yelling and swearing at the same time at Marcel for being an idiot. All three are standing, facing each other.

LEN

(voice rising in pitch)

Marcel, the tournament is tomorrow morning and you still have not yet learned how...to...LISTEN! You need to STOP ignoring my orders and STOP doing your own thing. It ALWAYS fucks things up.

(voice cracking)

ALWAYS!

(normal angry voice)

And please, for the love of all that is Holy including William Shatner, STOP going for that god damn battle axe! It is fucking pointless and so far out of the way that its not even funny! Give up on it!

The door slams open and Jeff rushes in, completely out of breath. The three turn to look at him, shocked.

JEFF

(out of breath)

I...want back...on...the team...

Len smiles a huge smile and shoves Marcel out of the way. Marcel slams into the wall with a scream. Len smiles.

LEN

Totally done.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JEFF

I know it's very last minute, but I feel bad for leaving you guys, and I can use the winning money to move down to St. Wainluk and be with Allison and Wesley.

Curtis pats Jeff on the shoulder.

CURTIS

Good to have you back, man. I missed ya.

Jeff glares at him.

JEFF

You still owe me a new bike, you asshole.

Curtis stomps his foot.

CURTIS

Damn.

LEN

Ok, let's do this.
(smile fades)
So get your assess on your computers, now! We only have 10 more hours until the tourney. Move, move, move!

Jeff rushes into his room, followed by Len who rushes into his own room and Curtis rushes to his computer in the living room. Marcel leaves, rubbing his head and straightening his glasses from his encounter with the wall.

During the conversation and scene, we constantly cut back and forth from the three main characters at their computers.

LEN (CONT'D)

Alright, let's load up Call to Arms 2. It's a fairly new game, so I have a feeling we'll be playing it tomorrow.

The three of them slip the game into their CD drives and load the game up, however, just as it starts, the computer screens, along with the lights and everything else electrical, shuts off, leaving them all in darkness.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JEFF

Shit. Curtis, what did you do?

CURTIS

I farted...

JEFF

Jesus Christ, Curtis, I knew they were bad, but come on! I think shutting the power down is going a bit too far.

LEN

Knock it off. This is a serious problem. Whatever knocked the power out, better be fixed soon. If we can't get the power back on, we can't practice.

JEFF

Anyone have a flashlight?

A few seconds pass and a beam of light turns on right next to Jeff, lighting up Curtis' face unexpectedly, inches from Jeff's. Jeff yelps and grabs the light from a laughing Curtis.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Jackass.

Jeff, Curtis, and Len meet up in the hall, Jeff shining the flashlight around as they make their way to a window and look out. The entire block seems to be out.

LEN

Well at least its nice to know its not just us. Ok, any suggestions?

All three of them are silent. Suddenly Curtis snaps his fingers.

CURTIS

Oh! We can use the battery!

LEN

What battery?

CURTIS

The battery for the motor for the rubber boat at Jeff's cabin.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

JEFF

Why the fuck do you have my boat battery? That's been missing for a year! I've looked all over for it!

CURTIS

I thought it'd make a great table top to wrap my joints on.

Jeff gives Curtis a deadly look.

LEN

Ok, a couple problems with that. First, how the hell do we hook the computers up to it? Secondly, even if we did manage to hook them up, it would only be powerful enough to *maybe* power one computer.

CURTIS

I'm sure we can hook other wires and wire extensions together to get a computer hooked up to it, and we only need one computer. We can just use split-screen mode and we'll have to settle for two people practicing at once instead of three. We'll just take turns.

Len seriously ponders this.

LEN

You know Curtis, sometimes you're a genius. A very very rare sometimes. Like only once in a lifetime when all the planets and moons are aligned properly

Curtis smiles, proud with himself. '*Tubthumping*' by Chumbawamba starts playing as we go to another montage scene of the three of them finding various wires and extensions to hook a computer up to the boat battery, trying some combo's that don't work before finding some that do. They finally get it all hooked up and Curtis flips the power button, and it comes on for a second before shutting off. The song fades out.

CURTIS

Shit.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

LEN

Well at least it was a shot. The computer is too new. It takes too much power to run. If only it was an older model, it just might have worked.

JEFF

So what do we do now?

Len looks at Jeff, a thought forming.

LEN

I have an idea.

JEFF

What is it?

LEN

We'll have to erase almost everything that's currently on there, and we'll have to go into the game options and turn the graphics and textures and all that crap down to the bare minimums, but it just might work.

JEFF AND CURTIS

What?

Len continues looking at Jeff.

LEN

Tell me young Padawan, do you still have your old Piece of shit computer?

The song starts back up from where it left off as they try to hook Jeff's old P.O.S computer from the beginning of the story to the boat battery, and they all cheer when it actually, to the surprise of everyone, works. We see several montage shots of them playing the game in split-screen mode, various combination of pairs at the computer, with Len barking orders over everyone's shoulders when he's not playing.

By the time the song ends, the first rays of morning light are up and everyone looks like they're about to fall asleep.

LEN (CONT'D)

Ok, time to get ready for the Tourny.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

JEFF

Are you serious? I'm about to fall asleep.

CURTIS

Yeah man, that was one brutal night.

LEN

Guys, it starts in an hour.

CURTIS

An hour? I don't think I can stay awake for another ten minutes.

LEN

Go for a hot shower. After me of course. And you guys can have a taste of my Bawls to wake yourselves up.

They both just look at him. After a minute, Len explains:

LEN (CONT'D)

The energy drinks that are in the fridge, you sick-minded perverts.

INT. LAN TOURNAMENT BUILDING - ENTRY

Len, Jeff, and Curtis are in the long line to sign-in. The people in front of them get checked in and head out of the line and through the huge double doors on the other side of the lobby. The three main characters walk up to the desk, as they are next in line.

LEN

Hi, we're signing in.

TELLER

Ok, and what's your team?

LEN

The Greapers.

TELLER

And the name of the person who registered it?

Len is about to talk, but Curtis puts up a hand to stop him.

CURTIS

That would be Kamikaze KAZ.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Jeff and Len look at Curtis as if he's insane as the teller searches the computer database.

CURTIS (CONT'D)
Everyone calls me that.

LEN
Dude, *nobody but yourself* has ever called you that.

TELLER
Ok, everyone give me your hands.

They do and she stamps the back of everyone's hands.

TELLER (CONT'D)
Just head on in through those giant doors over there and mingle and practice at the available terminals if there are any left, until your team is called.

The three head across the lobby while the teller goes on to the next group. They open the doors to enter and step through them. They stare on in amazement as the doors close behind them '*Raise a Little Hell*' by Trooper plays.

The room is GIGANTIC and completely full of bodies already. The lights are slightly dimmed, with some people wearing glow-in-the-dark neon bracelets, and almost everyone has some form of energy drink in their hands. There are computer terminals set up EVERYWHERE for practicing, with one GIANT circular tube on a raised platform in the middle of the room, which has computers all around it, which is where the actual tournament itself is being held. The host is speaking into a mike, relaying what's going on in the game, while the actual game footage is displayed on giant screens high up on the walls, with each player having their own giant screen linked to their computer so the other contestants can watch whoever they want to. At the far end of the room is a bar-like area, serving energy drinks.

Their mouths all drop open in huge smiles as they view the scene. Two really *really* attractive girls walk by right in front of them, in skimpy videogame-related clothes. Jeff and Curtis turn their heads to look at them as they walk by, but Len is still too mesmerized by the room itself that he doesn't even notice.

LEN
Now *this* is my kinda place.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CURTIS

There's some free terminals over there that we can go on.

They head on over to the area that Curtis pointed out and sit down.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Hey Jeff, aren't you going to go get us some drinks so you can hit on the chick behind the counter?

JEFF

Dude, I have a girlfriend and a son...

CURTIS

Yeah, so? Your point is?

JEFF

I really have no idea.

Jeff stands up with a huge smile and rushes over to the counter to get some drinks and to hit on the girl behind the counter.

LEN

This is so great, man. A room filled with thousands of people just like us. Finally, after all those years of high school, we're finally the cool crowd now.

CURTIS

Of course this is the cool crowd. I'm apart of it.

Len laughs.

LEN

Yeah, ok...

CURTIS

I bet I could make quite a bit of dough if I tried to sell some weed here. I wonder how many of these people are stoners.

LEN

Curtis, don't even think about it. I swear to God, if you get us kicked out, I'll kill you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

CURTIS
(laughing)
Relax, I was only joking.

LEN
Oh, ok.

Curtis turns his head and his smile instantly fades, showing us that he actually wasn't joking. Jeff returns empty-handed and soaked to the bone from head to toe.

CURTIS
What the hell happened to you?

LEN
And where's my drink?

JEFF
Apparently she didn't appreciate me hitting on her...

(pause)
Aaaannndddd neither did her really big, muscular tattooed chain-smoking boyfriend, who, unlike other big hulking machines, is apparently very much *NOT* user-friendly.

Len
Was his name Microsoft by chance?

Curtis laughs.

LEN (CONT'D)
So let get me get this straight:
you didn't get my drink?

JEFF
You can have it if you can get it out of my clothes.

LEN
I think I'll pass.

'*Boulevard of Broken Dreams*' by Green Day plays as we go into another montage of mixed scenes. One set of scenes involves Len, Jeff, and Curtis practicing over the LAN with a couple other random teams in the room, practicing with various games including Halloween: Kill All Zombies.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

The other kind of footage that we interconnect it with are various crowd shots of some people watching the tournament, others practicing, others just mingling and drinking, as well as various shots of people playing the actual tournament, their footage being shown on the big screens around the room, and the Host announcing upcoming teams and giving play-by-play commentary on the various games and matches.

The song and montage scenes end as the Host announces the winner of one match and the current two teams leave the tournament platform.

HOST

Now we have quite an interesting match coming up. It would appear by looking at these two names, that these teams were not picked at random, and that at least one, is the arch nemesis for the other.

RANDOM VOICE IN CROWD

Kirk and Khan! Kirk and Khan!

The Host laughs.

HOST

Unfortunately its nowhere near that epic, sorry. The team going by the name Greapers, come on up!

The crowd cheers and claps as Len, Jeff, and Curtis look at each other.

JEFF

Holy shit, that's us.

LEN

Alright guys, this is it. Game faces on.

The chorus of the previous song starts back up again as we go to a slo-mo shot of the trio as they stand up from their computer terminals, serious facial expressions on, as if they were warriors about to go into battle, and as they make their way towards the middle of the room and up onto the platform. They stand side-by-side next to the Host as the song and slow-mo ends.

HOST

And who is the team leader?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

Curtis goes to talk, but Len speaks up first, cutting him off.

LEN

I am.

HOST

And care to introduce us to your team?

The Host hands Len the microphone.

LEN

My name is Len Pothier. I'm the youngest of the team at 21, and I work at Chips and Bytes Computer store. Oh, and I'm single ladies.

The crowd is silent beyond a few chuckles.

LEN (CONT'D)

The fat dumbass on my left is Curtis Coates.

CURTIS

(shouting to the crowd)
Kamikaze KAZ, YEAH!

He raises his hand in a cheer, but the room just remains silent. Jeff and Len are looking at the floor, their eyes closed as they shake their heads.

LEN

The less said about him, the better it is for everyone. The other person here is my best friend, 22-year-old Jeffrey Long, and he...

JEFF

Jeff!

LEN

What?

JEFF

Jeff! Only my mom calls me Jeffrey. And only when she's mad!

LEN

Oh my god, you are so not doing this right now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

JEFF
The name's Jeff!

Len sighs heavily.

LEN
Jeff Long. And he works at Sobeys
and has a girlfriend and a son.

Jeff just glares at Len.

JEFF
You just *had* to bring that son
thing up, didn't you?

LEN
(smiling)
Totally.

The Host takes the microphone back from Len.

HOST
Alrighty then folks, there you have
it. The Greapers! Seemingly having
a bit of old-time horror legend
influence for their name. You three
can take your seats now.

Len, Jeff, and Curtis head on over to the giant terminal and
said at three computers next to each other.

HOST (CONT'D)
Now, the next team's name is such a
violation on our current team, that
there is no way that these teams
were picked at random. Ladies and
gentlemen, lets give it up for the
ruthless Greaper Killers!

The crowd cheers and claps again, with a few whistles, as
Mark, Chad, and Marcel make their way up to the platform.
Len, Jeff, and Curtis stare on in shock as their mouths drop
open.

CURTIS
Marcel! That traitorous bastard!

LEN
(glaring at the other
team)
Oh, it is so on.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

HOST

And who is the leader here?

Mark out and out grabs the microphone from the Host.

MARK

That would be me, sir. Mark Abbott.
I've been mastering video games
even before I could talk, and the
only thing I have to say is...

(turns to glare at Len;
speaks in a deep voice)

The Greapers are going down.

He shoves the microphone back to the Host as he, and the others on his team, go to take their seats.

HOST

Well then, there you have it folks,
our two current teams. The Greapers
vs The Greaper Killers. This
match's game will be a fairly new,
but well-known game by all.
Technicians, please load up A Call
to Arms 2 for our contestants.

The crowd erupts with cheering once again as the screens,
both the computer screens and the overhead giant screens,
turn on, the Call to Arms 2 loading screen being seen by all.

HOST (CONT'D)

For this match, like with all
previous matches, the players each
only have one life and once they
die, that's it, there is no
spawning back in. First team to
three flags, or last team standing,
is the winner.

(pause)

Let the games begin!

As the game loads up, Len whispers to Jeff and Curtis.

LEN

(whispering)

Ok, this should be easy. This is
our most practiced game, and
remember how much Marcel really
sucks at it, so just don't let your
guards down and this should be a
cakewalk. Curtis, go on ahead and
get their flag.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

LEN (CONT'D)

Jeff, since you haven't really practiced too much with us recently, just stay behind and guard our flag. There's a real good sniper spot on the ledge behind the jeep that's in our flag room. Just find the sniper gun a few feet outside our base and head on back there. I know Marcel's path. He's going to go for the battle axe, no matter what. I'll head over that way and cut him. This is going to be an easy game guys, so let's get it done and secure our place on the next step of the LAN ladder.

As the game finishes loading, we ZOOM IN on one of the computer screens until it fills our entire screen and morphs to live-action.

INT. BASE - EVENING - SNOWING

This level takes place in the early evening, with snow flakes falling onto the already snow-covered ground. Len, Jeff, and Curtis, dressed in WWII soldier gear, all spawn next to each other in the game. Their base is a castle, that judging by the burning German flags, we can guess that used to be a German base that was taken over by the Allied forces.

LEN

Ok, everyone, repeat back to me your jobs.

JEFF

Get sniper gun, go to sniper spot, sniper any incoming enemy forces.

CURTIS

Get the flag.

LEN

Alright, good. And I'm going to go head Marcel off and take that traitorous son of a bitch out of the game early on, and then Curtis, I'll come help you get the flag and cover you. Let's do this.

'I Want You Bad' by the Offspring plays as the three head outside and separate. Len and Curtis head off down one path and shortly after both picking up a machine gun and some ammo, as well as a bit of extra health for Curtis, they split up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Jeff immediately heads off down a separate path from them, which brings him around to the side of the castle, next to a chasm with a frozen lake at the bottom. He hugs the wall as he walks next to the chasm, reaching a cliff and grabbing the sniper gun, along with two packs of ammo, that are there. He turns to head back around into the base.

EXT. FOREST - EVENING - SNOWING

Curtis rushes through the forest which gun fire goes off and he ducks down behind a dead tree.

CURTIS

Guys, I just made first contact
with enemy soldiers.

He looks out from behind the tree and sees Chad and Mark dressed as Nazi's, scouting the forest, looking for him. Mark says something to Chad and continues on ahead while Chad keeps looking for Curtis.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Jeff, Sparky's headed your way.
Hardcastle is staying behind to
give me some trouble.

JEFF

(v.o.)

Roger. Got the sniper gun and I'm
in the bird's nest, waiting. Mark
won't know what hit him.

LEN

(v.o.)

Does Chad know where you are?

CURTIS

He knows the general area, but
that's it.

LEN

(v.o.)

Try to sneak on to their base. If
you have to, take Chad out. But the
flag is more important. Chad is
fairly good at this game and he
poses a threat if you get into a
fight with him.

Curtis peaks around the tree again and sees Chad with his back to him. He runs out from behind the tree and towards the Nazi base. Chad hears the running footsteps in the snow and turns around, chasing after Curtis, firing the entire way.

EXT. MOUNTAIN RANGE - EVENING - SNOWING

Len is running along the bottom of a mountain range. There is a cave up ahead and he slows down as he approaches it. He lowers his nightvision goggles and turns them on as he rounds the corner and heads into the cave.

INT. ALLIED BASE - EVENING - SNOWING

Jeff is perched on a ledge, overlooking the flag room. He's looking through his sniper scope at the entrance to the room below. Mark comes into view, but only for a split second before backing back out again. However that split second was enough to make Jeff have an itchy trigger finger and he fires, the bullet hitting the floor where Mark was a second before.

JEFF

Shit.

LEN

(v.o.)

What is it?

JEFF

I think Mark knows I'm here.

LEN

(v.o.)

Shit is right. Ok, wait a few seconds, see if he enters the room. If he doesn't, jump down and fight him head on. Be careful.

Jeff keeps looking through his sniper scope, but Mark never returns. He switches to his pistol as he stands up and jumps down from the ledge. As soon as he lands, he's shot repeatedly in the back and turns around just in time to get two shots fired off before Mark kills him. It turns out that Mark entered and was traveling underneath the very ledge that Jeff had been standing on, staying out of view of him.

EXT. FOREST - EVENING - SNOWING

Curtis is dodging this way and that, avoiding Chad's fire, but getting hit and grunting with each hit, every once in awhile. The Nazi submarine base, sticking out of a giant hole in the ice, lays dead ahead, right after a short snow-covered field between it and the forest.

Curtis jumps to avoid a shot just as 'The Enemy has your flag. Retrieve it!' Flashes at the top of the screen.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

As Curtis jumps to avoid getting shot, he jumps right over a rocket launcher laying on the ground. He turns around to grab it, firing his gun, hitting Chad a few times in the process, however Chad gets the rocket launcher first and fires point blank range, killing both of them.

INT. CAVE

LEN

What the fuck guys, did you both just die? Am I the only one left alive!? Alright, I'm heading back out in a minute to get our flag back, if anyone can even still hear me here.

Len rounds the corner and enters a room in the cave. A small light is shining down on a blank area.

LEN (CONT'D)

Where the fuck is the axe?

He turns around, only to be met with Marcel swinging the axe at him and decapitating him as Len screams a high-pitch scream similar to one of Jeff's.

INT. LAN TOURNAMENT ROOM

We fade back out from the screen until we're in the tournament room. Len is absolutely speechless. His mouth is opened, his eyes wide, and if one were to look close enough, they might even see slight tears in them.

JEFF

Well that sucked...

HOST

And the winners are the Greaper Killers! Wow, that has got to be the shortest match of the day so far folks! A true disappointment.

The Greaper Killers team converge next to the Host, as both them and the crowd cheer. Mark is so excited, that he's looking like a total moron as he cheers, and when he raises his arms, there are giant pit stains on his shirt under them. Marcel turns to face Len.

MARCEL

The battle axe isn't so useless now, is it?
(pause; filled with venom)
You newb.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Len is still staring at his screen, in a state of total shock that not even an electric charge could break him of. Jeff even looks really disappointed as now he can't possibly get the money to go see Allison anytime soon. Curtis looks indifferent though.

CURTIS

Hey, so anyone wanna go get some
MacDonalds?

Jeff and Len slowly turn their disappointed heads towards Curtis.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

What? What did I say?

Len's lip slightly curls into a snarl.

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN/DINING ROOM

Len and Jeff are in the kitchen area. Jeff is in the process of mixing some kind of noddles together with ravioli and leftover spaghetti. Len is sitting at the table, looking through the newspaper.

JEFF

Hey, isn't the new Star Trek movie
coming out this weekend?

LEN

Let me check.

While Len flips through the paper to the entertainment section, Jeff sticks the bowl of mush into the microwave and turns it on.

LEN (CONT'D)

Oh fuckin' A! It is! This almost
makes up for that humiliating
defeat at the tourney last month.

JEFF

Jesus, will you get over that
already?

LEN

It's all your fault anyway.

JEFF

(sarcastically)
Oh yes, cause you know, everything
is.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEN

Hey, you know me. I'm not one to argue.

JEFF

Shut up.

LEN

I'm serious though. If it wasn't for your constant skirt-chasing, you would have had more practice and would have done better.

JEFF

At least I chase skirts, not wear them.

LEN

Hey! I accidentally clicked the wrong option on that damned online quiz, alright?

JEFF

(smiling)

Sure, sure.

Jeff reaches into his pocket and pulls out a stack of bills.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Here's my share of the rent, by the way. Before I forget.

Len takes it and pockets it.

LEN

I dread asking Curtis for his share.

JEFF

Well I really wouldn't blame him for delaying it this month. You gave him quiet the black eye when you attacked him back at the tournament.

LEN

He's a moron and I couldn't take it anymore.

JEFF

It took four people to pull you off of him...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LEN
I *really* couldn't take it anymore?

JEFF
You're my idol.

They laugh but quiet down when Curtis walks in.

CURTIS
Rent is due today, isn't it?

LEN
Yeah, I'm going to run over to
their main office now after lunch.

Curtis opens up his wallet and, to Len and Jeff's amazement, takes out a thick wad of bills and lays them down on the table.

Then he continues digging through his wallet, counting out some loose change. He slaps them down on the table as well, and takes a piggy bank shaped like a joint out of his jacket pocket and lays that on the table as well. He takes the bills back into his hands and puts them in his wallet and walks off.

LEN (CONT'D)
Did he just do that on purpose? For
the eye thing?

JEFF
Honestly, I don't think he's that
smart.

LEN
That son of a bitch.

JEFF
I know how we can get him back
though.

LEN
How?

JEFF
We'll have to pay for his ticket
though.

Len is confused.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

JEFF (CONT'D)

Hey Curtis!

(after a few seconds,
curtis enters the room
again)

You want to go to the movies this
weekend?

CURTIS

What movie?

Jeff pauses, thinking. His eyes fall upon the DVD case for
'*Free Enterprise*' sitting on the coffee table in the living
room. He smiles.

JEFF

Beach Babe Bimbo Fiesta.

CURTIS

Oh sweet, that sounds just like my
kind of movie. I'll definitely go.

LEN

Hey, does anyone smell something
burning?

The other two sniff and suddenly Jeff's eyes go wide.

JEFF

Oh shit!

He runs over to the microwave and takes the bowl out, which
has a silver-rimmed edge to it, which is now burned, along
with the food in the bowl.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Why the hell doesn't this thing
ever work for me!?

INT. MOVIE THEATER - LOBBY

Len, Jeff, and Curtis are in the line-up to get their tickets
for the movie.

LEN

Hey Curtis, we'll pay for your
ticket if you want to go on over
and get us some food.

CURTIS

Oh sweet deal.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Curtis takes off, just as Len and Jeff get to the front of the line. Jeff hands Len some money.

LEN

Three adults for Star Trek please.

The ticket lady takes the money from him as she prints off the tickets and hands them to them.

TICKET LADY

Enjoy the movie.

LEN

Enjoy it!? Of course I'll enjoy it!
If it has the words Star Trek in
it, it can't not be enjoyable!
Hell, even Star Trek 5 I found
enjoyable on a completely different
level.

The ticket lady just rolls her eyes.

TICKET LADY

That's nice. Move along now.

Len and Jeff move out of the line. Jeff looks the ticket over.

JEFF

What theater room is it in?

LEN

I'm guessing that one.

He motions towards the amazingly long line-up. By far the longest line-up in the entire theater. Curtis meets up with them, holding a tray of pops and a giant bag of popcorn.

CURTIS

What line up is it?

(Jeff and Len point)

Oh wow, I'm surprised so many
people have heard of this. Hell,
I'm fairly into movies and I've
never even heard of Beach Babe
Bimbo Fiesta before. Must be some
kind of Indy movie that won some
awards or something for it to have
this kind of crowd.

They go to stand in the line-up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LEN

So did you guys hear from Mark?

JEFF

No, why?

LEN

They're enjoying their fifteen minutes of fame.

CURTIS

Did those numbnuts have their interview with PC Gamer yet?

LEN

Mark has five issues of it in plastic covering, with his team on the cover, posted all over the store. And he never shuts up about it.

JEFF

I still can't believe that they actually won the overall tournament.

CURTIS

Well if there was one thing that Mark would be an expert on, it would be how to be a no-life geek.

Len glares at him.

LEN

I wanted *us* to be the no-life geeks...

The theater employee who checks to make sure theater rooms are cleaned, walked out of the theater room, opening the door and allowing his fellow co-worker to start accepting tickets for the Star Trek movie. He walked right by the entire line of people waiting to get in, in order to move on to another theater room. His nametag reads 'Khan'. As he's in the process of passing the line, after he's passed three quarters of it, the entire line, including Len and Jeff, erupts with a loud shout.

LINE OF PEOPLE

KHHHHHHHAAAAAAAAAAN!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

We quickly zoom in on Curtis' shocked, worried face as the crowd cheers and laughs, and right before the camera hits it, we CUT TO BLACK.

In the blackness, we can hear Curtis.

CURTIS

(v.o.)

God damn Trekkies!

Roll credits as the song '*I've Got Friends in Low Places*' by Garth Brooks plays.