

RUNNING MACHINE

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FADE IN.

EXT. VIDEO OF BARRY SANDERS

JAY (V.O.)

When I was a kid, Barry Sanders was the man. Without a doubt the greatest running back that ever ran the football. In his junior year in college Barry ran for an incredible 7.6 yards a carry. A total of 2600 yards - still a record today. Barry got drafted by a bad team, the Detroit Lions - one of the worst teams in the NFL. He still averaged 5 yards a carry and ran for over 15,000 yards. If Barry was on a good team what could he have done? In the history of the NFL nobody ran backwards more than Barry Sanders as he tried to break free on every play Even more amazing is that Barry Sanders was only 5'8 and weighed 200 pounds. I would watch his films over and over again, mesmerized.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD. TYPICAL NEW JERSEY TOWN - DAY.

Cold November Afternoon.

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

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

Gus is hiked the ball and looks to his right and flips the ball into the air.

Running Back JAY FRANKLIN 18, is a strong, lean and fast young man in tremendous physical condition; a perfect running machine. Jay bandaged hand grabs the floating ball in one hand and just barely breaks through the line of tacklers on his right.

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

JAY (V.O.)

Some people say, its only a game.
That gets me angry. It was not a
game to me. It was my life.

JAY (V.O.)

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

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

JAY (V.O)

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

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

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

JAY (V.O.)

I thought that I could never be hurt. If I got just a little bit of daylight.. I was gone. I could control my adrenaline and at the right moment just explode. I believed I could score every time I got the ball.

Jay advances towards the defensive line of the opposing team and then explodes through a hole that appears out of nowhere.

JAY (V.O.)

I believed I was invincible. I thought nobody could stop me. I understood all the angles. I knew when to stop and when to accelerate. Once I was in the backfield most of the time, it was a big gain. I did all this in high school. The peak of my life.

(Pause)

They called me a running machine.

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

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

JAY (V.O)

Blessed with speed and ability one day and then it's all gone. Just one play and its all over.

(Pause)

And now ..life is average.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD TYPICAL NEW JERSEY TOWN - DAY

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

Number 66 purposely shoves his shoulder into Jay's knee. Jay is writhing in pain after the tackle.

An official throws a flag near the play.

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

JAY (V.O.)
It all happened so fast. All gone.
Once abandon was gone it was over.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

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

JAY (V.O.)
I knew I would have to become an
ordinary person when I never felt
ordinary.
(Pause)
Until I found the perfect woman. I
knew the moment you met her that
she was everything.

INT. NEW YORK CITY DELI - NIGHT.

A young woman, 27, brunette, MARY DONOVAN about 5'2' waits in line at the deli. She is both beautiful and very cute.

Jay sees MARY for the first time as he stands behind her, she smiles at Jay.

JAY (V.O.)
So what do you do? How do you
survive all this? This is what I
did. This is my story.

INT. NEW YORK CITY TRAIN STATION.

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

Jay darts and weaves through the crowd.

JAY (V.O.)
 I hate my job, I have hated it for
 3 years. Its boring and the train
 and all that sitting all day is
 killing me. I think about what my
 life could have been like if I was
 in the NFL right now, a running
 back. I think about Mary a lot,
 especially when I am riding the
 train.

INT. NEW JERSEY TRANSIT TRAIN - DAY.

Present Day.

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

JAY (V.O.)
 Now I ride the train every day,
 from New Jersey to New York City.
 This job was all I could get. At
 least its something. But its sure
 not Football.

INT. NYC OFFICE BUILDING - DAY.

Present Day.

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

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

Jay's phone rings, a startling overly loud ring.

Jay lifts the phone.

JAY
 (Into phone)
 Jay Franklin.
 Hello, Rick.
 You're kidding.
 (Pause)
 Again?
 That's twice now.
 That's twice in 2 weeks already.
 (MORE)

JAY (CONT'D)

(Pause)

Is this a trend? Should I expect this all the time? Yes I am a software developer, not a baby sitter to these people. It just means I have to stay with Gus again.

(Pause)

Yes. OK. Let's work something out for the future. I don't want to do this every week.

(Pause)

OK.

Jay hangs up the phone and dials another number.

JAY (CONT'D)

(Into phone)

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

GUS (O.S.)

(Into phone)

You going to the VA again?

JAY

I am leaving at 3.

GUS (O.S.)

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

JAY

Thanks for taking me in again. Bye.

Jay hangs up the phone.

FADE OUT.

INT. ELEVATOR. NEW YORK CITY VA HOSPITAL. PRESENT DAY.

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

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY 10 YEARS AGO.

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

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

CHEERLEADER
You fly baby! You Fly!

Jay looks up and sees the ball dropping down from the blue sky and catches it with ease.

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

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

PRESENT DAY.

INT. ELEVATOR NEW YORK CITY VA HOSPITAL - DAY.

A veteran is sitting in a wheelchair in the elevator next to Jay. He is missing his left leg.

VETERAN
Hi.

JAY
Hello, how are you?

VETERAN
As good as can be expected.

Jay leaves the elevator and enters a lounge nearby.

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

JAY
Hey man!

DAVID
Hey! Again! You're a regular now.
How many weeks in a row?

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

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

JAY
Can't lie to you.

DAVID
Its time. Its been time. Life goes on.

JAY
The video set me back some.

DAVID
Saw it.

JAY
What did you think?

DAVID
Great memories. Something else.

JAY
Thanks.

DAVID
Who the hell put that out there?

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

DAVID
Don't know that guy.

JAY
We think he made a copy for himself and kept it all these years.

DAVID
How were you before that video?

JAY
Much better than now. At least that animal is still in prison.

DAVID
He is paying his dues. Like the rest of us.

JAY
Like the rest of us.

DAVID
I mean the rest of us in here! Not you! You have all your limbs. I am missing a fucking leg, remember?
(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

Stop feeling so fucking sorry for yourself all the time! You are a pain in my leg that I no longer have!

Jay is shocked by this attack.

Jay stands up, visibly shaken.

JAY

Sure thing. See you next week?

Jay leaves the lounge as David looks on angrily.

FADE OUT.

EXT. NYC STREET - NIGHT. LATER THAT DAY.

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

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

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

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

INT. NYC DELI - CONTINUOUS.

JAY enters the deli and quickly notices a very cute brunette woman in line, Mary Donovan, 27.

Jay quickly notices that several other men are looking at Mary. He smiles.

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

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

MARY

OH!

Jay not only juggles but catches the can in mid air.

JAY

Looks like I still have some
reflexes after all these years.
Here you are ma'am.

Jay hands Mary a can of creamed corn.

MARY

Ma'am? Are you kidding?

JAY

Young lady? Juggling. I didn't mean
ma'am like you're old, I mean,
ma'am like you're a woman, you
know.

Mary pauses looking at him and smiling.

MARY

I guess you can't juggle and think
at the same time?

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

Jay hands her the can of creamed corn. He is overwhelmed.

JAY

Creamed corn?

MARY

It's my favorite canned vegetable.

JAY

You have a favorite canned
vegetable? Never heard of that.

MARY

Yes. Don't you?

JAY

Doesn't everybody?

MARY

What is it?

JAY

What?

MARY

What is your favorite canned
vegetable?

JAY

Um. Peas?

Mary laughs and smiles and Jay.

MARY

Are you blushing?

JAY

I used to be in better shape.

MARY

You seem to be in good shape to me.
And funny maybe?

JAY

Awkward. (Pause) You live in New
York not just work here?

MARY

Right. Pretty close.

JAY

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

MARY

So sorry.

JAY

You get use to it. Like a hang
nail.

MARY

I walk to work. Not like a hang
nail.

They both smile.

JAY

Your name?

MARY

Mary.

JAY

Nice name Mary. It suits you.

MARY

How so?

JAY

You just look like a Mary. It fits
you.

MARY
I will take that as a compliment.

MARY (CONT'D)
So what is your name?

JAY
Jay.

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

MARY
Coffee? Locally?

JAY
Yes, Coffee. With me?

MARY
I really don't drink coffee.

JAY
So what do you drink, Mary?

MARY
Tea.

JAY
Maybe they have tea too?

MARY
Maybe.

JAY
Is that a yes?

MARY
It's a maybe.

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

MARY
Both.

Jay smiles. Unable to stop looking at her.

FADE OUT.

INT. NYC BAR - NIGHT

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

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

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

JILL THOMAS IS Bill's wife, they have been married for 2 years.

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

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

OLIVIA JACKSON, 30 is Dave's girlfriend.

Jay is sitting in the bar with his closest friends from high school.

Dave raises his beer glass high.

DAVE

To us and meeting like this every Friday, NEXT 50 years!. Assuming this hell hole bar is still here.

GUS

We will be 80 man.

DAVE

So?

GUS

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

Bill sips some beer from his glass.

JILL

Any new women prospects?

ROONEY

I masturbate.

Some laugh and they all stare.

ROONEY (CONT'D)

Its New York and dating is a fortune. All I need is a old copy of playboy, a flashlight and junk mail. Masturbation is free.

BILL

So you do it to save money?

JILL

Sorry I asked that question.

OLIVIA

This group is a mine field.

JAY

Now how about our tradition?
Griping about our boring jobs.

GUS

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

OLIVIA

What fish?

Dave looks at Jay.

DAVE

You know what fish.

JAY

Oh, that fish.

(Pause)

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

ROONEY

Are you kidding me?

JILL

You are STILL counting the damn
days?

JAY

So what?

GUS

Man, you need some professional
help.

(Pause)

She isn't worth it.

(MORE)

GUS (CONT'D)

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

Olivia glares angrily at Gus.

OLIVIA

You think Mary is a 15?

Gus looks away, blushing.

JAY

You met her. My one in a billion. Nobody can ever compare to her.

Gus looks closely at Jay.

GUS

At least try and move on, work out, get drunk a few times. Something.

JAY

You know what? That worked. I am cured.

GUS

She was incredible.

OLIVIA

Incredible?

JAY

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

They all drink and toast.

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

FADE OUT.

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - NIGHT.

Some Months earlier.

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

Jay cannot take his eyes off of Mary. He looks distracted, deep in thought.

MARY

What are you thinking?

Jay looks at Mary with awe.

JAY

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

Mary laughs at him and looks up smiling.

MARY

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

Jay is overwhelmed. Unable to respond.

MARY (CONT'D)

You're cute.

Mary Kisses Jay. Jay kisses her back.

Mary looks up at Jay.

MARY (CONT'D)

I found out you played Football in high school?

JAY

I ran the ball.

MARY

(Pause)
What was it like?

Jay Tries to hide his emotions.

JAY

I thought no one could stop me.

MARY

Good days back then?

JAY

(Long Pause).
Good and bad.

FADE OUT:

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

Some 10 years earlier. A young Jay in a high school football game.

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

GUS

Option pass over the middle, but if that fails its Jay who is having the game of his life!

The players pat Jay on the back.

CUT TO.

The COACH running and waving to Gus from the sidelines.

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

COACH

Dutton, number 66. I think he is afraid of looking bad against our guy. There is a very small hole on the right side. Run 42 DIVE Right. 42 DIVE right!

Gus runs back to the huddle.

GUS

42 DIVE right guys. 42 DIVE right.

JAY

(Smiles).
42 Dive right?

GUS

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

CUT TO:

The coach on the sidelines watching the play intently.

He runs over to talk to his assistant.

COACH

He will break it.

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

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

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

Jay's team is now up 17 points.

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

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

CUT TO:

PRESENT DAY.

INT. MARY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT.

Mary is in her Manhattan apartment looking at videos on YOUTUBE of Jay Franklin's high school best moments.

Mary Chokes back her tears looking at the video.

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

Mary starts to sob uncontrollably while watching this video.

Mary calls Jay.

MARY

(Into phone)

Jay? It's me Mary.

JAY (O.S.)

You're voice. I know its you.

MARY

(Into phone)

Can we have dinner tomorrow night?

(MORE)

MARY (CONT'D)

I know we were going to have dinner
on Friday but I need to see you
sooner.

JAY (O.S.)

Something wrong?

MARY

(Into phone)
Just really need to see you.

JAY (O.S.)

You don't sound right.

MARY

(Into phone)
I just really love you.

JAY (O.S.)

You know I love you.

MARY

(Into phone)
Does your leg hurt?

JAY (O.S.)

No, why would you ask about my leg?

MARY

(Into phone)
I remember your leg thing.

JAY (O.S.)

Same place?

MARY

(Into phone)
Yes.

JAY (O.S.)

Mary I am worried, you don't
sound right to me.

MARY (CONT'D)

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

CUT TO:

INT. A NYC RESTAURANT - NIGHT.

Mary and Jay are at dinner.

Mary is visibly upset.

MARY

Your YOUTUBE video.

Jay looks very annoyed.

JAY

Who told you about that video?

MARY

I did a search on Google. I
couldn't believe what I was seeing.

Mary loses her composure.

JAY

Harvey put that together for the
pep rally before the Championship
game. Sorry you had to see that.

MARY

All the times you were hit so hard
and just kept going.

(Pause)

Didn't they hurt you?

JAY

It never hurt me when I got hit.
Wind knocked out a few times.
Look at me now. I sit in a cubicle.

MARY

Nothing wrong with sitting in a
cubicle.

JAY

My abandon was gone after the
injury.

MARY

Your friends were right. You were
something.

Mary starts to cry.

JAY

You know I can't stand it when you
cry.

MARY

There was a second video about you.
The Sinatra one. It was very
upsetting. I can't watch it again.

JAY

Harvey must have put that out in
the last few days. He is crazy.

MARY
I am so proud of you.

Jay wipes a tear away from Mary's eye.

JAY
Videos are coming down.

MARY
Why?

JAY
Because I peaked in High School.
And look at you. Its not worth it.

Jay looks into Mary's eyes.

MARY
We are happy, we are dating. We
will be OK.

Jay is barely able to handle his emotions.

JAY
We will be OK, I know it.

FADE OUT.

INT. NEW YORK CITY BAR - DAY

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

Rooney is very drunk.

ROONEY
This life sucks ... Definitely for
me! I mean look at me for Christ
sakes.
(Pause)
8 years in this hellhole of a bar?
The bugs have taken over the mens
room.

Gus pauses a long time while looking at Rooney.

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

BILL
He is not the type. Besides if he
didn't kill himself over losing his
football career, why her?

DAVE

Its her plus Football this time.
Loss of the fame and the money. Now
her.

BILL

His whole life. Its running into a
line at top speed not sitting on a
train or a cubicle.

DAVE

I called Jay the other night. He
kept drifting off, rambling.

BILL

Not good.

DAVE

Give it 2 more weeks we step in.
(Pause)
Mary is next, we have to ask her.

BILL

I thought things were going fine,
and then one day this guy is about
to off himself over her.

ROONEY

So, who goes?

GUS

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

ROONEY

This is serious stuff. I mean I am
a comedian, but I can be serious,
sometimes.

They all look at Rooney for a long while.

ROONEY (CONT'D)

OK. So I won't go.

GUS

Bill, you and I will go, two is
enough.

BILL

Just don't tell her why we want to
see her, even though she will
figure it out. She is cute, not
stupid.

GUS
Thursday night? I will be working
late that day.

BILL
OK.

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

GUS
We don't need any weed, but thanks.

BILL
Harvey. The videos.

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

ROONEY
Looking forward to seeing that guy
again. Despite the glare.

FADE OUT

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

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

GUS
I hope she is home.

BILL
She said she would be here.

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

BILL
Coffee unlike Weed is not the "cure
all" drug for every situation.

GUS
It is for me.

BILL
(Smiles).
Man stop drinking so much of that
shit.

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

MARY

Hello guys. Come in. I think?

Bill whispers to Gus.

BILL

God she is so cute.

Gus whispers to Bill.

GUS

Unbelievably cute.

MARY

Coffee?

GUS

Yes. I have no pulse.

GUS (CONT'D)

The train. My girlfriend. My job.
General hatred of working for other
people. More rambling you have
heard before.

BILL

I wish we all never left high
school. The high point of my life
was when I was 18.

MARY

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

BILL

Rooney should be in several mental
institutions at the same time.

MARY

Funny and crazy go together.

GUS

So. (Looks at Bill)

MARY

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

BILL

We have his back, all of us would lay down our lives for that guy. Maybe we are overstepping?

MARY

You're not overstepping. I cried all night, that second video. The dinner with my mom and dad was a disaster.

GUS

What happened?

MARY

My Dad wants the best for me, and thought that Jay was living for when was in high school.

GUS

Jay didn't tell us.

MARY

He actually said that I made him feel like he was in high school. He thinks he is a loser if he cant run.

BILL

Is this even fixable

MARY

Don't know.

BILL

Jay was the biggest College and NFL prospect maybe of all time. Then an average life?

(Long Pause)

I don't think you guys should give up.

MARY

I can't be responsible for rescuing a man who is living years in the past

BILL

This whole thing is killing him. We are all very worried.

Gus pauses loses his composure.

GUS
My God he loves you. I have never
seen love like this.

MARY
I'm sorry! I can't do this anymore.

Mary walks away losing her composure and then turns around
looking at Gus.

How is he? Is he really that bad?

GUS
He is still seeing the same
therapist. All he does is count the
days.

MARY
Count the days? What?

BILL
Jay counts the days in his head
since you and he are no longer
seeing each other.

MARY
Insane. That is just. God!

GUS
We are starting to get desperate.

Mary is visibly upset.

GUS (CONT'D)
We had to tell you, sorry you found
out this way.

MARY
Maybe you should get him more
professional help. Before he.

BILL
Kills himself?

GUS
Kills himself?

MARY
Yes. Before he kills himself.

BILL
We don't think he is quite there
yet.

Mary, in emotional agony.

MARY

I am trying to move on, why can't he?

GUS

He never gave up on a play. That's why.

MARY

That's what killed us.

BILL

So what about this other guy?

MARY

What other guy?

BILL

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

MARY

I told Jay this so he would forget about me. And I think I am crazy after all of this.

Gus is getting angry.

GUS

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

BILL

Do you still love Jay?

MARY

What?

BILL

You heard me. Do you still love Jay?

MARY

It's none of your business. Of course I do.

GUS

Is there anything we guys can do?

MARY

What is so wrong with being just Jay? That's all I ever wanted.

(MORE)

MARY (CONT'D)

All he talked about was being super human, about being a hero.

Mary loses her composure.

He was a hero just being a regular guy. Taking the train into New York. Day by day grind, like most everybody. (Pause) He was already my hero and he never even knew it!

Gus is visibly moved.

GUS

I think he just thought that to be worthy of you he had to be Jay from 10 years ago.

(Pause)

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

(Pauses a long time)

When you think about it.

Mary sighs, about to cry.

MARY

He just could never be just normal and be happy. He could never move on, from what he was.

GUS

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

Mary stands up and hugs both Gus and Bill, she tries to hold back her tears.

MARY

Bill?

BILL

Yes?

MARY

Is that your hand?

BILL

Sorry.

FADE OUT.

EXT. NYC APARTMENT COMPLEX - DAY.

All the guys except for Jay are in front of HARVEY MEYER's Manhattan apartment. Harvey is 30 and is a super star computer genius and the biggest fan Jay Franklin ever had.

Gus is standing in front of Harvey's apartment, looking at his watch... waiting.

GUS

About time. Its been 20 minutes.

BILL

There is a rumor about traffic in New York, have you heard?

ROONEY

Are you sure this is Harvey's place? Its fucking upscale.

GUS

Turns out bald nerdy Harvey is rich. Some kind of a top .NET Developer.. Whatever the hell .NET is.

BILL

Its software development for the overworked and insane. Some guys I know.

Rooney rings the doorbell for Harvey's apartment and talks into the front door intercom.

HARVEY

Yes?

ROONEY

(Into speaker)

Harvey.

(Pause)

Do you remember the guys from high school? The championship team?

HARVEY

Yes.

ROONEY

(Into speaker)

Four of us are here to see you.

HARVEY
Is Jay there?

ROONEY
(Into speaker)

No.

HARVEY
Why not?

ROONEY
(Into speaker)
Because he's not here, that's why.

HARVEY
How do I know its you guys?

Rooney looks at Bill and Gus.

ROONEY
(Into speaker)
Ask us something.

HARVEY
What was the score at halftime of
the championship game.

ROONEY
(Into speaker)
17-0

HARVEY
OK, who scored the first touchdown?

BILL
(Into speaker)
Jay did Harvey.

HARVEY
How did he score.

BILL
(Into speaker)
How do you think? He ran the ball!

HARVEY
From where?

BILL
(Into speaker)
Harvey this is getting stupid, let
us up.

HARVEY
FROM WHERE! What yard line?

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

Turns to ask Dave.

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

Looks at Dave who is not sure.

HARVEY
Well?
BILL (CONT'D)
Wait man! Jesus Christ!

DAVE
(To Bill)
I think it was a 79 yard run.

BILL
Are you sure?

DAVE
No.

BILL
(Yells into the intercom)
It was from the 21 yard line. He
ran 79 yards Harvey. (Under his
breath) what a nutcase.

HARVEY
Are you sure?
BILL (CONT'D)
Yeah! Let us up for Christ
sakes. Are you insane or
something?

Harvey releases the apartment building's front door and then
Yells.

HARVEY
AND IT WAS 72 Yards, NOT 79!

ROONEY
(Into speaker)
Who cares!

INT. HARVEY MEYER'S APARTMENT - DAY.

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

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

Sitting in his huge chair facing them as they walk in, is a very bald 30 year old, Harvey Meyer.

ROONEY

What is your electric bill? They can see this apartment from space and probably your head from what I can see.

HARVEY

Still a funny guy?

ROONEY

I think so.

HARVEY

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

ROONEY

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

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

ROONEY (CONT'D)

Hey guys, I think this is actually to scale? What do you think?
Jupiter, the planet Earth?

HARVEY

(Pause)
Are you done?

ROONEY

Only for now. There is more coming.

HARVEY

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

ROONEY

So what it still works.

HARVEY
Opinions vary.

DAVE
Rooney, we are here for a higher
goal, remember?

HARVEY
Why the hell are you guys here
anyway?

DAVE
The YOUTUBE videos you put out.
What else?

HARVEY
I love Sinatra.

DAVE
You love Sinatra?

HARVEY
Something wrong with Sinatra?

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

HARVEY
No way.

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

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

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

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

HARVEY
You're fucking kidding me. She sees
what he did and is not impressed?
Is she a Tennis player or
something?

DAVE

He is living in the past. Your stupid videos made it worse.

HARVEY

Man! Try to do something good!

DAVE

Time to take them down!

HARVEY

Its been six months for Christ sakes! Now you come here?

ROONEY

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

HARVEY

People have to know what we all saw. What could have been. That's why I did it.

ROONEY

(Pause)
I remember what we saw. I was on the field blocking.

HARVEY

So I used YOUTUBE. So what.

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

HARVEY (CONT'D)

OK. Both videos are no longer on line.

(Long pause)
I hacked the Rahway prison computer. #66 gets out next week.

They all look at each other.

DAVE

We can't catch a break. Why?

BILL

Overcrowding most likely.

HARVEY

#66 is not over that play. He thinks Jay cost him a college scholarship and the NFL.

BILL
Speculating on this?
(Harvey nods)

One play or was it the gas
station he robbed after a stabbing
a guy?

ROONEY
(To Dave).
You think he could be planning
something when he gets out?

DAVE
(Angrily to Harvey)
You know this is all we need!

HARVEY
How is that?

DAVE
Why would you think that number 66
would not see the video in prison?

HARVEY
In prison? How could that happen?

DAVE
All this brain power and you do
something this stupid. All you need
is a bad cell phone today to see a
video on YOUTUBE for Christ Sakes.

HARVEY
(Pauses)
I wanted to honor our guy.

DAVE
This psycho probably killed some
guys in prison. And now he gets
out?

HARVEY
Alert the cops. Obvious solution.

DAVE
Right. Tell them some sick criminal
is pissed off about one play in a
football game 10 years ago?

HARVEY
We should alert them. I have hacked
into the Rahway prison and police
computer many times.

DAVE

I don't think this will do any good. None of this shit is sounding good.

GUS

Rich Doyle. He's a PI friend. I will call him.

HARVEY

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

Harvey hands Gus his business card.

ROONEY

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

HARVEY

Six. He gets out next Friday at 5 PM.

ROONEY

Can you imagine what a fucked up mess this guy is after 10 years in prison?

DAVE

Harvey, any chance anyone has cloned that video of your's and put it out there?

HARVEY

No, but I will check anyway.

DAVE

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

HARVEY

I know I am.

ROONEY

And the baldest. I hear you're some kind of a big time .NET Guy or something. Whatever that is.

HARVEY

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

ROONEY
5000 a month for this place? That's
my food bill for 2 years.

HARVEY
What's wrong with this place?

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

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

ROONEY
Who the hell needs a planetarium
anyway?

HARVEY
You should get some new jokes.

ROONEY
If it works it works.

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

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

BILL
You still carry around the same
marble from high school?

ROONEY
What? Is that weird?

Bill rolls his eyes.

ROONEY (CONT'D)
Those were some days. Man what an
athlete.

DAVE
42 DIVE RIGHT!! One lousy play and
then this whole thing started.

ROONEY
That was the play. What a play.
What a video.

HARVEY

It took me forever to get it right.
And now this.

BILL

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

FADE OUT.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - DAY.

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

Jay is blushing and slumped into his chair.

Jays teammates look on with pride.

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

JUMP CUT TO:

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

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

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

DUTTON

The party ends for superstar
tomorrow. I am going to break one
of those knees, doesn't matter
which one.

JIM

Nobody should be as lucky as this
guy.

They turn to exit the auditorium.

DUTTON

Look at what he got! Where is my
great day?

(MORE)

DUTTON (CONT'D)

I bust my ass out there, and nobody gives a shit. Where is my pep rally and video?

JUMP CUT TO:

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

PRINCIPAL

I have been the principal of this school for over 20 years. I have seen many athletes come and go. But this year something special has happened. Jay Franklin is quite simply, a running machine.

Pauses as the crowd cheers.

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

Harvey. Where is Harvey?

Spots Harvey in the crowd.

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

GREAT job with that video! As good as NFL films!

More applause.

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

The principal reads from a paper he is holding.

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

2,789 Yards in 12 games, 9 Yards a carry, all school and State records, and as you all just saw just some of the greatest breakaway runs we have ever seen. Congratulations on your (Pause) just incredible year. Jay come up here and say some words!

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

Jay stands at the podium overwhelmed.

JAY

I just want to thank my teammates,
without them I would never have
been able to do. What I have done
this year.

The crowd applauds and cheers.

Jay looks at his teammates in the crowd.

JAY (CONT'D)

People talk about when I get hit
and don't go down or when I go down
I just get back up.

(Pause)

It's all about getting up again.

(Pause)

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

Jay walks off the stage as the crowd explodes. .

Rooney looks at Jay and smiles with a big sarcastic grin.

ROONEY

Nice speech guy.

Jay rolls his eyes.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. HARVEY'S APARTMENT - DAY.

ROONEY

Public speaking. Definitely not
Jay's strongest suit.

HARVEY

What he said came from the heart.
That guy had more heart than
anyone.

GUS

So much heart and its all gone in
one play.

ROONEY

One horrible play.

FADE OUT.

EXT. THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME - DAY.

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

DAVE

Jay, 40 Yards away from a 200 yard game.

JAY

Number 66 over there has been on me the whole day. He's going for my knees.

(To his offensive line)
Keep that animal off of me. BLOCK!

They all break up and huddle and line up.

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

DUTTON

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

Aggressively beckoning Jay to fight him.

DUTTON (CONT'D)

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

JAY

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

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

DUTTON

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

JAY

I ain't afraid of nobody.

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

ROONEY

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

GUS

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

ROONEY

JOKE. That was a Joke? Ever hear about Jokes? However, if you were serious cough it up.

JAY

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

ROONEY

He's sure not talking about me.

Jay smiles.

GUS

OK, now that was funny.

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

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

DUTTON

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

DAVE

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

Jay nods.

They all clap and separate.

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

Dutton talks to the player next to him.

DUTTON

I am going to break this muthafucker.

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

The blow and ends Jay's career, because of the angle of the blow and the severity. Jay lays on the field in incredible pain, screaming.

Jay's teammates gather around closely.

Dutton looks on, with a very evil smile.

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

FADE OUT.

INT. A LOCAL HOSPITAL - DAY.

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

DOCTOR

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

JAY

It can't be that bad. It can't be.
No!!

Jay rolls around in bed realizing that his entire life will never be the same. Will never be what he hoped. .

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

GUS

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

Rooney stops in his tracks when he sees the faces of the doctor and Jay distraught..

ROONEY

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

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

JAY

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

DAVE

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

Rooney fights hard to not cry.

Jay's friend gather around the hospital bed.

FADE OUT.

EXT. RAHWAY STATE PRISON - DAY.

Present Day.

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

DUTTON

I get out of here in 2 months. I lost College and the NFL because of video boy.

JIM

I remember those days man. You me and the Judge.

DUTTON

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

JIM

What plans?

DUTTON (CONT'D)

Franklin. Got a score to settle Nobody cared about me and I was the best.

(Pause)

I was the best linebacker in the State and nobody gave me my due because of him.

JIM

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

DUTTON

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

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

DUTTON (CONT'D)
See this bitch here in the
background?

JIM
She is something. What are you
going to do?

Dutton looks at Jim with a very evil smile.

DUTTON
You'll see. In about 2 months when
I get out of here.
(Pause)
A date in HELL.

JIM
You sure got me curious.

DUTTON
I challenged that wimp to fight.
Franklin disrespected me in front
of my team. Time to pay.

Another prison inmate comes up behind Dutton and Jim.

INMATE
Hey, you guys got some cigs?

JIM
No man. What do I look like a WaWa?

INMATE #1
Just asking man. No need to get in
a mood.

DUTTON
A mood. Who the fuck are you
talking to? We are walking here,
conducting business, show some
respect.

INMATE
What's that you say?

DUTTON (CONT'D)
So you're deaf and ugly and
stupid too?

The inmate gets nose to nose with Dutton.

INMATE
Care to make this interesting?

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

JIM
Hey guys, its just
cigarettes.

DUTTON (CONT'D)
Shut up man.

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

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

JIM
Remind me to never get on your bad
side.

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

JIM
No problem.

Jim and Dutton put their heads to the ground.

FADE OUT.

INT. A NYC RESTAURANT - NIGHT.

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

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

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

MARY
Dapper?

JAY
Yes. Coming from you, its very
cute.

MARY

You think everything I say is cute.

JAY

Yes I do. You are cute.

Jay laughs looking at Mary's cute tiny hands.

MARY

What are you laughing at?

JAY

(Blushes)

It's your hands Mary.

MARY

What about them?

JAY

Nothing.

MARY

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

JAY

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

MARY

Really?

JAY (CONT'D)

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

MARY

Cute?

JAY

Yes.

MARY

Tiny?

JAY

Yes.

Mary leans over and kisses Jay.

JAY (CONT'D)

Mary you are so delicate so perfect
for me.

MARY

Delicate, a new word to love?

JAY

It's perfect for you.

(Pause)

As far as this place? I don't like it. It's too noisy and dark. Let's not come here again.

MARY

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

JAY

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

MARY

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

JAY

That is kind of a long walk from here.

MARY

So is my apartment.

JAY (CONT'D)

Your apartment?

MARY

Yes, my apartment.

JAY

Are we at that stage after 4 dates?

MARY

What do you think?

JAY

Wow.

MARY

(Smiles).

Jay do you love me?

JAY

My God

(Pause)

What a question.

I can't even keep my composure around you. I say stupid things all the time.

Of course I do.

(MORE)

JAY (CONT'D)
(Hesitantly)
Do you love me?

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

JAY
I knew it, first second I saw you.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MARY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT.

Jay and Mary make love for the first time at her apartment.

INT. MARYS APARTMENT - DAY.

The next morning.

It's a bright stunning Sunday morning. The sun shines through
the windows - the only light in the room.

MARY
Good Morning.

JAY
Good Morning to you. You were
perfect last night.

MARY
Feel the same about you.

Jay leans over and kisses Mary and holds her hands.

Mary smiles and hugs Jay.

MARY (CONT'D)
Just how you were able to run like
that. What you did. I had to force
myself to stop watching.

Jay looks away from Mary.

JAY
When I worked out.. Not all the
time. But sometimes if I didn't
faint or cough up blood, it wasn't
a work out.
(MORE)

JAY (CONT'D)

I was willing to do whatever it took to be the best of all time. Its all I cared about. That has never gone away.

Mary looks at him mortified.

MARY

That is just so insane.

JAY

I was insane when I was eighteen. I wanted to be a running machine. I didn't care what it took, or if I died. I had to be the best the fastest. I was willing to go there, and risk everything.

MARY

For someone so young, only 18. That doesn't sound normal.

JAY

The problem is being normal now. I am not good at average.

Mary notices Jays right knee for the first time and the huge scar.

MARY

There is nothing wrong with being normal.

Jay notices Mary staring at his scar.

JAY

Its eight inches in case you were wondering.

MARY

Did it hurt?

JAY

It still hurts sometimes. Cheap doctor, we were poor. Probably not the best job, unfortunately.

MARY

Sorry, Jay.

Mary reaches out and touches Jay's battered knee.

JAY

Once I lost my abandon. It was all over. Now I ride the bus.

Mary Kisses him while rubbing his leg and knee.

JAY (CONT'D)

Every time I am with you, a bad thing goes away.

(Pause)

When I am with you, I am in high school again.

MARY

What is wrong with who you are now?

JAY

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

(Pause)

Someone so perfect, with average guy.

MARY

That... messes, things up in my head.

JAY

It's how I feel.

MARY

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

JAY

I am still the guy in high school in my head.

MARY

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

JAY

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

MARY

You're living in the past, its going to kill us.

JAY

I don't think you understand me.

Mary stands up, upset.

MARY
Forget high school. Forget that
video. I want to live now OK?

Jay stands looking at Mary.

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

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

FADE OUT.

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

Mary and Jay stand in front of her parents house before
ringing the doorbell.

MARY
Don't be intimidated by my father.
He is not only a huge football fan,
but like you, he loves the Giants!

Jay fidgets standing at the front door with Mary. Mary
adjusts Jay's collar.

JAY
I am nervous.

MARY
You will be fine! I think my Dad
might have seen your video too!

JAY
Really?

MARY
Yes, really!

JAY
That may not be a good thing.

Mary rings the doorbell. JOHN DONOVAN 55 and NADINE DONOVAN,
53 open the door. They are both beaming.

NADINE
Mary!

Nadine hugs Mary.

Nadine then hugs Jay.

NADINE (CONT'D)
So nice to finally meet you.

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

JOHN
Hello.

John Holds out his hand awkwardly

They shake hands.

JAY
Nice to meet you sir.

JOHN
Hey, no need for the sir.

JAY
OK. Dad maybe?

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

JAY
OK, no problem, thanks John.

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

MARY
I haven't had that in a while. Who
can afford Salmon and live in New
York at the same time.

Nadine and John Laugh.

JAY
(To Mary) Salmon?

MARY
Yes, that's my favorite fish.

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

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

JAY
Creamed corn?

JOHN
(To Mary)
Something about creamed corn?

MARY
Nothing important.

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

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

NADINE
We wish you were still living here
dear, you know that.

MARY
New York City was calling my name!

JOHN
I don't like you living there
sweetie. That place is a dangerous
hell hole.

MARY
New York a hell hole?

JAY
I work there, take the train there.
Some areas are a bad. Like all
cities.

MARY
Lets not debate this again. We
already know I am staying.

They all sit down and John lifts his wine glass.

JOHN
To a great evening and great
salmon. My little baby back home.
Where she belongs.
(MORE)

JOHN (CONT'D)

And her new boyfriend Jay. A
fellow Giant fan, I hear.

They all clink glasses.

JOHN (CONT'D)

So Jay. I have to admit, that I
saw the video... both videos. I
impressed. Not just about what you
did and the kind of athlete you
were, but also the technical
achievement that video is from a
high school technical staff?
Unbelievable, really.

JAY

The guy who did that video
originally, I think is the person
who put it on YOUTUBE. We don't
know for sure yet, but its probably
him. He is a genius with computers
and film.

NADINE

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

JAY

Memories of how things were.
(Pause)
Its been difficult.

MARY

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

JOHN

There are 2 videos out there. I
remember when Sinatra sang that
second one. One of his best.

JAY

Reminded me of what could
have been.

MARY

It made me cry.

NADINE

An amazingly talented young man.

JAY

Thank you.

JOHN

Four hundred thousand hits. Many people know what you did. Gayle Sayers comes to mind, but what you did was better. Barry Sanders was also similar to your style.

JAY

Barry. That is a compliment.

NADINE

You're in IT? Software development?

JAY

I did find something to do after the knee injury. It's not the NFL.
(Pause)
I majored in computer science.

JOHN

All athletes need something to fall back on. The knee is just not meant to get into some positions.

JAY

The odds are against you from the start.

JOHN

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

JAY

For sure. Amazing games.

JOHN

9-7, going on the road like that again? No way.

NADINE

As we say around this house very frequently. Miracles do happen.

MARY

Miracles do happen.

Mary looks at Jay and smiles.

JAY

Mary. Can you pass the creamed corn?

Mary laughs and hands Jay the bowl of creamed corn.

NADINE

There is something going on here?

JOHN

Yes. Something going on. Some
inside joke.

Mary and Jay smile at each other.

MARY

It's our thing. It's a private
thing between us.

NADINE

Maybe one day we will find out.

JOHN

(To Jay)
You are in IT?

JAY

Right after college, about 6 years
now.

JOHN

Manhattan?

JAY

Yes. Train, New Jersey. 8 AM.

JOHN

You don't seem too thrilled.

JAY

None of us guys are too thrilled
with our jobs right now.

JOHN

Us guys?

JAY

Teammates from high school.

JOHN

So why are you guys all sour on
your jobs?

JAY

Not sour.

JOHN

What would you say?

NADINE

John. Don't press too much OK?

JOHN

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

JAY

Yes its important.

JOHN

But you hate your job, correct?

JAY

No I don't hate it. Just the train.

JOHN

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

JAY

Yes I agree with you about money.

JOHN

What do you want to do, if not IT?

JAY

That dream has died.

JOHN

I would think so, after so many years son.

MARY

Can we change the subject?

NADINE

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

MARY

Jay and I saw a Broadway play the other day.

NADINE

Really? How nice. Which one?

MARY

The Lion King.

NADINE

Wow. How did you like it.

MARY

Well
(Pause)

JOHN

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

JAY

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

JOHN

I would say it is. It's been 10 years since God damn high school.

JAY

It doesn't stop me from doing my job.

JOHN

Which you say you hate. You're not over the NFL and what could have been, and a possible future with my little baby over there.

MARY

I am not a little baby.

John becomes emotional and angry very quickly.

JOHN

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

Mary is close to crying.

MARY

I'm sorry.

NADINE

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

JOHN

I don't want to talk about a damn Broadway Play. I want to talk about this young man, who is still living in the past. He is dating my little baby girl.

(MORE)

JOHN (CONT'D)

As the father of the potential bride, I don't think its too much to ask that the man she is dating, actually knows what year it is! You were a great Football player now you're average. Move on!

JAY

Should I leave? Would you like me to leave?

MARY

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

JOHN

I can't have my child marrying the wrong man.

MARY

Who said anything about marriage?

JAY

Mary? Yes
(Pause)

Who said anything about that yet?

NADINE

You guys are in love right?

JAY

Yes we are.

MARY

Yes.

JAY

Very much so.

MARY

Yes. Very much.

NADINE

John they are still both young, still trying to find their way.

JOHN

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

MARY

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

JOHN

What difference does that make?

MARY

It makes all the difference, things are harder now! The economy, college loans!

JOHN

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

John points to Mary. And stands up.

John looks at Mary.

JAY

Thanks for your advice. Sir.

NADINE

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

MARY

I didn't like it too much.

NADINE

Really? Too bad.

FADE OUT.

EXT. OUTSIDE MARY'S PARENTS HOUSE - NIGHT.

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

JAY

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

MARY

Only the video, I think he figured out the rest on his own.

JAY

Really. He must be a genius then.

MARY

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

JAY

What about your mom?

MARY

(Pause)

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

JAY

She told him. And I don't like your dad attacking me like that!

MARY

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

JAY

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

MARY

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

JAY

A trance?

MARY

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

JAY

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

MARY

Is it?

JAY

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

MARY

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

JAY

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

MARY

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

JAY

What do you mean, not OK?

MARY

Sometimes it seems like you are never going to move on from where you were from high school.

(Pause)

I think we are having our first fight.

Jay looks away.

MARY (CONT'D)

Is my dad right about you?

JAY

NO, he is not.

MARY

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

JAY

Don't be. We are fine.

MARY (CONT'D)

Maybe we should take a break for a while?

JAY

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

MARY

Just some time apart. Maybe it will help you.

JAY

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

MARY

I think you might need to see someone. You are depressed all the time.

JAY

I don't want to lose you over this.

MARY

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

JAY

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

MARY

This has nothing to do with my Dad.

JAY

I will see someone. I don't want a break.

MARY

OK Jay.

JAY (CONT'D)

OK.

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

INT. PAROLE HEARING ROOM - DAY.

Present day Parole hearing for Jeffrey Dutton.

There is a conference room table with 2 parole officers facing Dutton who is sitting in a wooden chair.

PAROLE OFFICER #1

Mr. Dutton. How are you?

DUTTON

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

PAROLE OFFICER #2

I see here that you got into about.
(Looks at the paper)
About 20 or so fights in the last 9
years or so.

DUTTON

You have to stand up in here. If
you don't, you're history.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

I can't argue with that.

PAROLE OFFICER #1

Do you feel you have paid your debt
to society?

DUTTON

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

PAROLE OFFICER #2

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

DUTTON

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

PAROLE OFFICER #2

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

DUTTON

Yea. My Dad has a welding job for
me.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

You put down on your application
Welding?

DUTTON

Yes.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

That is a solid profession.

PAROLE OFFICER #1

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

DUTTON

I got some friends on the outside.

PAROLE OFFICER #1

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

DUTTON

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

PAROLE OFFICER #1

We need that verified.

DUTTON

No problem.

PAROLE OFFICER #2

I think that's all for now.

Turns to his colleague and looks back at Dutton.

PAROLE OFFICER #2 (CONT'D)

Do you have anything additional?

PAROLE OFFICER #1

That's it. We will let you know what we decide. 3 days.

DUTTON

Thanks.

PAROLE OFFICER #1

You are dismissed.

Dutton leaves the room, smiling with an evil smile.

PAROLE OFFICER #1 (CONT'D)

(To Officer #2)

He almost killed his own lawyer. Committed armed robbery and broke a kids knee and now he is ready to hit the streets?

PAROLE OFFICER #2

Over Crowding. He has all his points.

(MORE)

PAROLE OFFICER #2 (CONT'D)

There is no proof he was not clean
in here. I'm sorry. He gets out,
its out of my hands.

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

FADE OUT

EXT. OUTSIDE RAHWAY STATE PRISON - DAY.

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

DOYLE

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

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

Dutton turns to notice a car pulling up. Its a former friend, ALEX DAWSON, 40 who is an older man and about as big as Dutton.

DUTTON

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

DAWSON

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

DUTTON

Shit, hot today. Glad to get out of
this stinking hell hole.

DAWSON

Where can I drop you off?

DUTTON

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

DAWSON

(Laughs).
Problems with your Dad?

DUTTON

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

DAWSON

I hear you and same here.

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

DOYLE

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

Doyle's cell phone rings.

DOYLE (CONT'D)

(Into Phone - hands free Bluetooth)
Yeah. Just got out. He looks like he is a dangerous nutcase just like we thought.

(Pause)

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

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

DUTTON

OK, you can stop here.

DAWSON

You got money for gas?

DUTTON

What?

DAWSON

Gas. You know gas.

DUTTON

You're kidding right?

DAWSON (CONT'D)

No. Money for gas?

DUTTON

I thought we were friends.

DAWSON

No man not really. 30 dollars?

DUTTON

30? 30 what?

DAWSON
30. 30 dollars. In cash.

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

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

DAWSON
Sounds good to me.

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

Dutton glares menacingly at the driver.

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

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

DOYLE
(Talks to himself)
How do you like that. Real tough
guy.

Doyle watches as Dutton goes into this fathers house.

Doyle calls Gus again.

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

Doyle hangs up his cell and drives off.

FADE OUT.

EXT. OUTSIDE DUTTON'S FATHERS HOUSE CONTINUOUS - DAY.

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

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

Doyle watches as Dutton hops into an old Buick Oldsmobile.

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

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

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

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

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

DUTTON
Jim.

JIM
Yeah.

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

JIM
Yeah?

DUTTON
Do something for me.

JIM
Yeah.

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

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

JIM

Man I just got out. Probation.

DUTTON

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

JIM

You're kidding right?

Dutton glares at Jim.

JIM (CONT'D)

OK man, OK.

DUTTON

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

JIM

Franklin?

DUTTON

Or his gang of idiots.

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

DUTTON (CONT'D)

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

Stands looking around, reflecting.

DUTTON (CONT'D)

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

FADE OUT.

EXT. FRONT OF NEW JERSEY HOUSE - DAY.

Gus, Bill, Dave and Rooney all congregate in front of Jays townhouse in New Jersey.

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

ROONEY

Is he even home for Christ sakes?

GUS

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

DAVE

Maybe we should look in the window.

GUS

Let's wait another few seconds.

Jay answers the door, looking horrible. He looks like he is about to die.

JAY

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

GUS

How? How are you doing?

Rooney looks at Gus and rolls his eyes.

ROONEY

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

DAVE

Man, you don't look good.

BILL

Can we come in please?

JAY

Yeah man, come in.

ROONEY

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

BILL
Perfect. Jokes now?

JAY
I am not doing well guys. I think I
am another Marcus Dupree.

BILL
(To Dave) Marcus Dupree?

DAVE
They called him the greatest
running back that never was. Back
in the 80s. He got hurt.

DAVE (CONT'D)
I can see. You're not doing well.
You don't look healthy.

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

DAVE (CONT'D)
So what happened. It's been 5 days
We heard you called in sick from
work?

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

BILL
Drop out for a while. Its OK.
You're having a tough time. We all
do. Do you have anti-depressant
drugs?

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

BILL
We think you need them.

ROONEY

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

JAY

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

DAVE

Have you even slept?

JAY

Not in about 5 days. Her tiny little hands. She has the nicest voice you know?. Have you heard her voice? I just love listening to her voice when she talks.

Dave looks at Jay with great empathy and emotion.

DAVE

You're falling off the edge.

JAY

I never thought that there could be a downside in meeting the most perfect woman in the world. There is no second for me. Only her.

BILL

We are pretty close to driving you to a mental institution.

GUS

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

JAY

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

BILL

What did you boss say about you calling in sick?

JAY

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

BILL

You quit?

JAY

Yes.

BILL
I hope you have money.

JAY (CONT'D)
I have money.

ROONEY
How much?

JAY
Enough.

BILL
Six months enough? That's what you
are going to need in this economy.

JAY
I have more than that.
(Pause)
I cant stop running in my head.
Better than I ever was, the moves
the speed, and acceleration. Nobody
can catch me.

ROONEY
Oh, man.

GUS
Therapy. The kind you get at
a hospital.

JAY
You mean a mental hospital?

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

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

JAY
Are you going to take that or do we
all go deaf?

Gus walks into the kitchen to take the phone call.

BILL
We will stay here over the weekend
and work on this together. I could
care less if my wife complains.
Maybe quitting that job was half
the problem.

ROONEY
Wife issues?

BILL (CONT'D)
Shut up.

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

GUS

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

(Pause)

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

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

ROONEY

Powerball?

GUS

It's Doyle.

ROONEY

Who the hell is Doyle?

GUS

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

ROONEY

Doyle. Oh that Doyle.

GUS

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

DAVE

OH shit.

JAY

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

BILL

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

JAY

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

GUS

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

JAY

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

GUS

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

JAY

Harvey? You talked with Harvey?

GUS

Dutton is crazy. He saw the videos.

JAY

That lowlife saw those videos in prison?

GUS

Yes.

JAY

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

ROONEY

We were worried about you.

BILL

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

JAY

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

GUS

Sure seems that way.

JAY

You think Dutton had him killed.

GUS

Odds are high. Or he did it himself.

JAY

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

BILL

We were worried about you and even Mary.

JAY

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

Jay walks around trying to take a deep breath.

GUS

We don't know for sure its Dutton. This just happened maybe 5 hours ago. Doyle could have been into anything.

JAY

What if this piece of sick garbage is going after Mary?

BILL

Lets not panic and jump to conclusions. Stay calm.

JAY

He could be going after her! How the hell do you know? He wants to fight me, he wants to settle the score!

BILL

Let's all drive there right now and talk to the police. Where did this happen?

GUS

Rich lived in Flemington. The Flemington police called me.

JAY

I want to know what the hell is going on right now.

ROONEY

(To Jay)
Call Mary. Go to her parents in Spring Lake.

JAY

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

BILL

She is going to wonder what is going on.

GUS

Just say you are just calling to say hello.

JAY

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

GUS

He's right. Do it. Call her.

BILL

What's her phone number.

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

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

BILL (CONT'D)

Nobody is answering. She is not picking up.

JAY

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

BILL

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

GUS

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

JAY

Now what?

GUS

Doyle told me Dutton and this other scum-bag were checking out some warehouse in Trenton. Drug hangout?

JAY
The good news just keeps coming.

FADE OUT.

EXT. OUTSIDE DOYLE'S APARTMENT - DAY.

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

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

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

Joe is distraught.

GUS
Hey man. How are you doing?

JOE
How do you think? I am messed up. I had to identify him. I could barely recognize his face. I have never seen so much blood.

Joe is shaking.

GUS
Who do you think did this?

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

GUS
Why do you say that?

JOE
What the hell kind of a business do you think Rich and I had anyway? We do bullshit divorce crap. He was shot 10 times for God Sakes.

GUS
How did Dutton find out?

JOE
Rich sucked at tailing people. He thought he was good but he sucked at it.

ROONEY

This is getting way over our heads
guys.

JAY

Its been over our heads since that
one play.

Police officer TIM JAMES walks over to the guys.

TIM

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

GUS

Can we talk to the detective in
charge? I was friends with the
victim.

TIM

What is your name?

GUS

Gus Reynolds sir.

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Are you Gus?

GUS

Yes.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

What do you know about this?

GUS

I hired Rich to tail this guy who
just got out of Rahway.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Why?

GUS

We were afraid of what he might be
up to.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Like what?

GUS
We don't know.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
Who is this guy?

GUS
Jeffrey Dutton.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
I know that lowlife. I was one of
the arresting officers 10 years
ago. He is out already?
(Looks at Jay). You Jay Franklin?

JAY
Yes, why?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
I remember you from 10 years ago.
I saw you play. You were amazing.

They shake hands.

JAY
Thanks.

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

JAY
Yes.

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

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
Revenge for what?

JAY
One play.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
One play?

JAY
One play when I made him look bad.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
You're kidding.

JAY
I wish I was.

ROONEY
And there are videos.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
What videos?

GUS
There was a video where Dutton
looked bad and missed a tackle on
Jay.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
You guys come with us back to the
station. This is a brutal fucking
murder.

FADE OUT

**INT. FLEMINGTON NEW JERSEY POLICE HEADQUARTERS CONFERENCE
ROOM - CONTINUOUS.**

GUS
Doyle followed him twice. After
leaving Rahway and the next day.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
What time exactly.

GUS
He was going to write me a
surveillance report. Its on his web
site.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
My guys are looking at his computer
right now. What else?

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
Maybe we got more info on that on
the computer.

Portenza calls out to his partner WARREN DAVIS 33.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA (CONT'D)
Hey Al, any updated on that hard
drive yet?

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
Keep looking.

WARREN
Working on it.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
So you guys have anything else to
add?

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
What about these videos?

ROONEY
Harvey Meyer put the videos out.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
We got Harvey coming in.

ROONEY
This YOUTUBE thing started a whole
bunch of crap.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
One play again?

ROONEY
That's it.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
There are 2 videos?

ROONEY

Yes. Harvey took them down days ago.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

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

BILL

Harvey's computer.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

OK. You guys stay here. Break room is over there.

The detective points to the break room and leaves the conference room.

JAY

Now what?

BILL

We wait. What else is there?

JAY

What if this animal has Mary?

BILL (CONT'D)

What if this whole thing is nothing. What if someone else killed Rich Doyle?

JAY

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

BILL

We all love Mary, you know that. Not like you, but we love her.

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

HARVEY

Hey guys. What the hell is going on?

GUS

Someone killed Doyle.

HARVEY

Doyle who?

GUS

Nobody pays attention in this group! He is that PI I told you about.

(MORE)

GUS (CONT'D)

He was found dead this morning in his apartment. Beaten and shot 10 times.

HARVEY

Holy Shit. You guys think Dutton did it?

GUS

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

HARVEY

Unbelievable!

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

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

HARVEY

Yes.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Why did you do that?

HARVEY

I had them, and it was the 10 year anniversary, I wanted to share them with the world.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Did you ask Jay's permission?

HARVEY

No. They are my property anyway.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

You know something about hacking into Rahway State Prison?

HARVEY

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Why?

HARVEY

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
I agree with you. We let scum like
this out of prison because of
overcrowding.

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
10 minutes.

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

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

JAY
This is a nightmare.

GUS
This could be nothing.

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

Gus and Jay start to drink coffee.

GUS
I never should have asked Doyle to
tail that guy.

JAY
You should have told me.

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

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

Gus's cell phone rings.

GUS

(Into Phone)
Hello? Yes, this is him. Who is
this? Who is this? I can't hear
you? Who is this?

DUTTON (O.S.)

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

GUS

(Into Phone)
What? What the hell are you talking
about.

DUTTON (O.S.)

Number 66. You forget about high
school?

GUS

(Into Phone)
Dutton?

DUTTON (O.S.)

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

GUS

What do you want.

DUTTON (O.S.)

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

JAY

Who is that? What is going on?

GUS

(Into Phone)
What the fuck do you want asshole?

DUTTON (O.S.)

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

Gus very reluctantly hands the cell phone over to Jay.

JAY

(Into Phone)
Who the hell is this?

DUTTON (O.S.)
It's number 66. Let's see if you're
smarter than your asshole friend.

JAY
(Into Phone)
What do you want?

DUTTON (O.S.)
I want to finish what never
started. Our fight. The
championship game. I want my
revenge.

JAY
(Into Phone)
All these years and you're still
thinking about a fight during a
football game?

DUTTON (O.S.)
Mor that just a fight. My life
pretty boy. Got someone here for
you superstar.

JAY
What?

MARY (O.S.)
Jay. It's me.

JAY
Oh my God. Are you OK?

MARY (O.S.)
Yes I am OK.

JAY
If he even touches you I will kill
him!

MARY (O.S.)
I am OK Jay, but scared.

JAY
(Into Phone)
I am so sorry.

DUTTON (O.S.)
OK that's enough chatter. Write
down my cell number and drive south
from where you are now 20 minutes.
Then you call me. If the cops
follow you, she is dead.
(MORE)

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

If your asshole friends come with you or follow you, she is dead. When you call me in 20 minutes I will tell you the next check point. You don't call me in 20 minutes, she is dead.

Dutton tells Jay his cell phone number.

JAY

(Into Phone)

Don't hurt her. This is between you and me. Just you and me. She didn't do anything to you.

DUTTON (O.S.)

You do what I tell you, and follow instructions and she lives. You don't, and as you know today, I got no problems killing. Today I settle the score for all times. My life has been over since you embarrassed me in front of my fans. Pay day is today asshole.

JAY

(Into Phone)

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

They both hang up the phone.

GUS

So what is going on. What does he want?

JAY

He wants me, and he has Mary?

GUS

Did he admit he killed Rich Doyle?

JAY

Yes.

GUS

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

JAY

To settle the score between us.

GUS

How the hell are you doing to do that?

JAY

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

GUS

You are going to fight this sick criminal who has been working out for 10 years in prison and you have been sitting in a cubicle all that time writing code? You can't fight this guy.

JAY

If I don't, he will kill her. And if you guys follow he is going to kill her. I have to do this, I have no choice.

GUS

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

JAY

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

GUS

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

JAY

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

GUS

That sure sounds like a stupid plan. By the time we all find you and Mary you will probably both be dead!

JAY

No. There is no changing my mind.

(Pause)

I am doing this.

GUS

He is going to KILL YOU!

JAY

Gus, without her, I am dead anyway.

I have no reason to be alive
anymore. Not without her.

GUS

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

JAY (CONT'D)

Tell them I felt sick and
went home.

GUS

They aren't going to buy that.

JAY

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

GUS

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

JAY

I have to do this. I see no other
way.

GUS

Just do one thing for me.

JAY

What?

GUS

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

JAY

How could I forget that?

GUS

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

JAY
I will try OK? .

GUS
Like Adrian. Win! Win!

Jay smiles a confident smile, and walks away.

FADE OUT.

INT DAY POLICE STATION.

Gus returns to the interrogation room.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
(To Gus)
So where is your friend Franklin?

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

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

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

The guys look at Gus.

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

GUS
No, other than he is very sick and
feels bad. That's all he said.

ROONEY
OK?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
You fucking guys can't just walk
out of here when you're being
questioned. I am in charge here.

FADE OUT.

EXT. JAY IN HIS CAR - DAY.

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

DUTTON
(Into the phone)
Yeah.

JAY
(Into the phone)
It's me.

DUTTON
(Into the phone)
Me who?

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

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

JAY
(Into the phone)
Fuck you.

DUTTON
(Into the phone)
Tough guy. That's good man. It's
going to really come in handy in a
few.

JAY
(Into the phone)
One thing you got right today.

DUTTON
(Into the phone)
After you drive another 20 minutes
on route 1, call me back.

JAY
(Into the phone)
20 minutes.

DUTTON (O.S.)
Bye pretty boy.

They both hang up.

FADE OUT.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

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

HARVEY

It is? Why?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

What are you a wise guy?

HARVEY

No sir.

ROONEY

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

Rooney smiles at Harvey.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

(To Harvey)

I will need all the data on your laptop. You're off the hook for now. Consider yourself lucky.

Harvey nods to the officer.

GUS

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

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

GUS

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

Let me be the cop OK?

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

ROONEY

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

GUS

I am fine, I am fine.

Portenza dials his forensic team.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

(Into phone)

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

Hangs up the phone.

GUS

Is that it?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

It should be. He found a stake out folder.

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

FORENSIC OFFICER

This is the stakeout report.

GUS

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

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

The detective starts to read the document.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA (CONT'D)

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

GUS

Can we go?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

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

GUS

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

No.

GUS

Jay is going there now.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

What?

GUS

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

ROONEY

Are you out of your mind?

BILL

Oh my God, he has Mary?

DAVE

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

HARVEY'

God, I don't believe this.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

(To Gus)

And you may be under arrest!

GUS

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

That was a fucking stupid thing to do. Did you ever consider that we know what we are doing here? You two fucking heros didn't think of that? Ever hear of a tracking device?

GUS

There was no talking to him he just had to go and settle the score. He loves the girl.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA

You stupid heros can go with us, but if you get in the way of this - or don't stay in the police car, I will shoot all FOUR of you!

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

DETECTIVE PORTENZA (CONT'D)

OK let's get moving.

FADE OUT.

EXT. JAY IN HIS CAR - DAY.

Heading south towards Trenton, Jay dials Dutton.

JAY

(Into phone)
Hello?

DUTTON (O.S.)

I said 20 minutes, its 19 minutes.

JAY

(Into phone)
So?

DUTTON (O.S.)

Next time follow instructions or I start cutting off tiny fingers.

JAY

(Into phone)
You hurt her and you are dead.

DUTTON (O.S.)

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

JAY

(Into phone)
Where to next you scumbag?

DUTTON (O.S.)

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

Jay Hangs up his cell phone.

FADE OUT.

INT. POLICE VAN - DAY.

Gus, Bill, Dave, Rooney and Harvey are riding in a police van, following detective Portenza and 2 Police cars.

Rooney is glaring at Gus.

ROONEY

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

GUS

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

ROONEY

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

GUS

That is what I told him. For better or worse, this guy still thinks and will always think like a super athlete. He still thinks he can do anything.

DAVE

Is Mary OK at least?

GUS

I heard her voice on the cell phone, she sounded as well as could be expected.

HARVEY

He has a Mohawk.

They all turn and look at Harvey.

GUS

What?

HARVEY

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

GUS

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

HARVEY

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

DAVE

(a long pause)
He has a Mohawk??

HARVEY

A whole hell of a lot of tatoos too.

DAVE

Tattoo and Mohawk combo. A prison inmate for 10 years. Who would have guessed. Thanks for the shocking news. We are all stunned.

BILL

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

GUS

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

FADE OUT.

EXT. TRENTON WAREHOUSE - DAY.

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

Jay is sweating profusely and walking slowly.

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

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

Jim laughs an evil laugh.

JAY
Yeah. I got balls. Where is Mary?

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

JAY
That's the end of the stupid
fucking questions asshole. Just
take me to where we are going and
shut the fuck up.

JIM
Nice! Ha! I like you man, you're a
tough guy. This ain't no Football
game. I like your girlfriend man.
Real cute.

JAY
Like I said scumbag, shut the fuck
up. (Whispers under his breath).
Stinking lowlife.

They both walk up the stairs of the old brewery.

One flight of stairs.

Huge holes are visible in the ceiling and walls.

Jay looks ahead and sees Dutton standing there; just waiting.

JAY (CONT'D)
Nice Mohawk. I think you finally
found your perfect look.

DUTTON
Thanks video pretty boy.

JAY
Still with this pretty boy crap.
You're still in high school aren't
you? In your head?

DUTTON
From what I hear, so are you. Hey,
I like your fucking limp man.

Jay stands there, stunned by his comment with a look of anger and hatred that is murderous.

JAY
Where is Mary?

Dutton turns to look for Jim.

DUTTON
Hey Jim, you can bring her out,
just put her over there, so she can
watch the show.

Jim drags out Mary. She is battered and terrified and dirty.

JAY
Mary. Are you OK baby?

Jay almost loses his composure.

MARY
Yes, I am OK. I am OK.

JAY
Are you sure. You look like you
have a cut.

MARY
It's OK, I am OK, I just bumped my
head. I sure don't like your
friends though.

Mary leans forward trying to reach Jay.

DUTTON
Hey no way, Jim hold her back, over
there. No hugging shit. This is a
show, a final showdown between
video boy and me.

MARY
What show, Jay what is he talking
about?

JAY
He wants us to fight me. 10 years
now. (To Dutton) Right moron?

DUTTON
Not just a fight, a fight to the
death. Murder and kidnapping
today. My life is over anyway. Just
one more thing left to do.

MARY

No! Jay you can't! He's insane. You can't do this!

JAY

(Pauses looking Dutton in the eye)
Don't worry.

MARY

Can't you just let us go! Please.
We won't tell! Please just let us go!

DUTTON

After all the trouble I went through with this little party?

MARY

I am begging you, just let us go.

DUTTON

Jim, this is pathetic, shut her up!

Jim puts tape over Mary's mouth.

JAY

You hurt her you're dead.

JIM

I am not hurting her, its just tape.

DUTTON

You done any fighting in the last 10 years? I sure have.

JAY

You here to talk or fight?

DUTTON

You could have fought me in the championship game and all this would never have happened, and you would be in the NFL right now! So would I.

JAY

I was just making a move, I made thousands of moves, you slipped and that was not my fault. How sick are you anyway?

DUTTON

You should have settled our score
in high school. And now I am going
to kill you, right in front of your
little bitch over there.

Mary makes muffled noises through the tape as she closes her
eyes.

JAY

Enough of this talking, its time
for this to happen.

DUTTON

Right, enough talk.

Dutton puts up his hands as they circle each other.

JAY

Got what you want now?

DUTTON

Oh yeah. I have been thinking about
this for years.

JAY

You are one sick head case.

DUTTON

Oh yeah pretty boy. Make me
angrier. You are stupider than I
thought.

Jay makes a quick left handed jab and catches Dutton on his
right cheek, then another quick jab to this forehead that
catches Dutton by surprise.

DUTTON (CONT'D)

Oh pretty boy got some stuff.

Dutton lunges and hits Jay on the top of his head and then
goes for his body, but Jay is too fast, but some damage was
done by the initial blow.

JAY

You think that hurt?

Jay hits Dutton again with another jab to the head.

**FLASHBACK - INT. GUS TELLING JAY TO GO TO THE BODY SOME HOURS
EARLIER.**

Jay goes to the body, and hits Dutton with 2 good body shots.

DUTTON

Dutton hits Jay with a good shot to the side of his head, drawing blood near his left eye, then Jay almost falls over while missing Dutton with a rather awkward right hook.

JAY

Umph.

Jay swings again, and misses Dutton, now aware that he is bleeding.

DUTTON

Oh shit man. You got blood already man!

MARY

Muffled screams. Muffled noises.

JAY

Misses with a jab, and uses his legs to crouch down unexpectedly and dodges a vicious right from Dutton and then hits him with 2 perfect shots to his mid section. Pop, Pop! The punches make a loud firm noise.

DUTTON

Umph. Umph. Hey, the body. Not as good as me though.

Dutton hits Jay with 2 hard shots to the body himself and then Jay almost falls over again. Jay uses his still very fast feet to dodge away and because of his speed, Dutton misses him with another attempted vicious shot to his head.

MARY

ahhhhh, ahhhh!!

DUTTON

Dutton now goes ALL OUT with some huge shots to Jay's head and misses each time. Jay is able to position himself underneath. He lands 2 punches and hits Dutton with just one good solid punch right in the center of his gut. POW!

Dutton Gets angry.

DUTTON (CONT'D)

Umph.

Jay hits Dutton with another good jab to the nose and then dodges Dutton with 2 great moves, very fast.

DUTTON (CONT'D)
Keep running from me man like a
faggot, you can't run all day can
you!

JAY
Shut the fuck up. FIGHT!

DUTTON
Dutton lunges at Jay, knocking him over as he lands and hits
his head on a 2-by-four near the floor. Jay is now bleeding
from the back of his head now as well as his eye. Jay uses
his legs and speed to get up quickly and surprises Dutton
with another great body shot. Pow!

JAY
Are you gay? Grabbing me?
Jay hits Dutton with another great jab to his face. Now
Dutton's nose is bleeding.

DUTTON
Lunges at Jay again, now respecting Jay's speed and skill,
and hits Jay with a great body shot and then misses with a
huge overhand right!

JAY
Is that all you got? I see your
bleeding now too asshole!

DUTTON
Dutton lunges again, but Jay is able to step away and hit
Dutton with a passing right hook. Dutton then hits Jay with
another blow to his stomach. Pow!

JAY
Umph. Ahhhhh..

DUTTON
That hurt pretty boy?

JAY
You can't hurt me you fucking son
of a bitch.

DUTTON
You don't think so? You're bleeding
pretty boy?

JAY

So are you.

Hits Dutton with another jab. Then another and then another. They have no effect on Dutton.

MARY

Ahhhhhhhhhhhhh.

DUTTON

You hit like a girl man.

Jay ducks under another blow and then hits Dutton with 2 great jabs to the gut, pop, pop, and then goes into the gut more. Both jabs have their effect and as far as the follow up blows, they hit their mark.

JAY

That feel like a girl scum bag?

DUTTON

Yeah. Wimp.

Dutton lunges at Jay again and tackles him. Then grabs him and tries to hit Jay in the face. He misses both punches because of Jay's quickness. Jay gets up and hits Dutton again with a jab to the face and receives one back with a punch to his stomach.

JAY

Still trying to grab me huh? Like wrestling with men? Did that in prison a lot?

DUTTON

You may be fast, but you can't run forever.

JAY

Ain't nobody running shit head.

Dutton tries to hit Jay with a jab, and misses with an overhead right and then misses again with another jab.

Jay ducks down and then misses Dutton with a body shot. Jay then hits Dutton perfectly with a second shot to the gut. POW!!! The effect this time is very obvious.

DUTTON

Umph!!

JAY

That hurt? I hit like a girl remember?

DUTTON

You're going to die man, and I am
going to kill your bitch too.

Lunges again, and knocks Jay over with a tackle, they wrestle
on the ground but Jay's speed is telling.

MARY

Stop this now! Please!

DUTTON

Jim can't you shut that stupid
bitch up?

JIM

Hey you stop making so much noise
bitch!

Jim puts more tape on her mouth.

JAY

Both men wrestle and get in good shots to the face, as Jay's
still incredible speed and reflexes save him. Both men then
stand up and face each other again, both bleeding and
exhausted. Jay then goes to the body again, BIG TIME, POW,
POW, POW, POW, and surprises Dutton with telling BLOWS to the
gut. The last 2 are killer shots. POW, POW!!!!!!

DUTTON

Umph. aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaahhhhh,
ahhhhh!!!

JAY

Still hit like a girl?

DUTTON

Fuck you man.

Dutton hits Jay with a body shot of his own. A hard one. For
Jay adrenaline is taking over now and the heart he had as a
great running back. The heart of a lion.

Jay hits Dutton with 2 shots to the face, right at his nose,
increasing the bleeding.

Dutton lunges at Jay again, and lands on him as the roll on
the floor Dutton throws a punch at Jays head, but Jay fast as
ever, moves his head and Dutton hits the floor with his fist,
almost breaking his hand).

DUTTON (CONT'D)

Ahhhhhh!! FUCK!!! Ahhhhh!!!

JAY
Hurt your hand asshole?

Jay lands several more body shots as Dutton falls back and then falls over, holding his hand an rolling to the floor. Jay stands over him, waiting to see if he will stand.

DUTTON
Ahhhhhhh. You fuck. I will kill you!

JAY
Gonna be hard with only one hand shit head.

DUTTON
I should have killed you in high school!

JAY
You couldn't catch me in high school and you can't catch me now Too fast and too smart for you, stupid scum bag.

DUTTON
That's what you think.

JAY
Want to call this a night? Or do I have to kill you tough guy?

Dutton stands and lunges again. Still holding his hand. Jay then lands 3 more body shots perfectly and Dutton falls again in pain.

JIM
Hey, you want help man?

DUTTON
Stay away. I will kill this guy myself.

JAY
If I were you I would stay down.

JIM
Let me take him man. Let me shoot him.

DUTTON
Stay back!

Dutton stands up again and circles Jay and lands one good shot to Jay's head with his good right hand. Jay counters and goes to Dutton's body again, this time with more force than before. Dutton falls to the ground defeated.

JAY
If you don't call off your pet squirrel over there, I will kill you. And him too.

DUTTON
Ahhhhhhhh.....

Holds his hand and stomach area. Unable to move.

JAY
I think you may need to do more sit ups.

DUTTON
Fuck you.

JAY
Call off your pet squirrel.

DUTTON
Jim, stay back.

Suddenly the police break in. ALL pointing their guns and screaming LOUDLY!

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
HANDS UP. NOBODY MOVE! HANDS UP!
That means you too Franklin!
(to Jim)
You move and I will shoot you in the face.

JIM
No problem!

Jim puts his hands over his head. Shaking in terror.

Detective Portenza and yells at a police officer.

A police officer removes the tape from Mary's mouth and cuts off the rope from her hands.

Portenza points to Dutton.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
Cuff that piece of shit over there.

Portenza looks at Jay.

DETECTIVE PORTENZA (CONT'D)
Looks like I missed some kind of a
fight. Are you OK?

MARY
Jay, are you ok?

JAY
I am OK. Are you OK? Didn't you
see?

MARY
NO, I was hiding my eyes almost the
whole time. I hate violence. Do
you think I would love you more
just because you can fight?

JAY
Did you say that you love me? You
still love me?

Jay caresses her face, and brushes her hair from her eyes as
he kneels in front of Mary and looks her in the eyes.

MARY
You must know that.

JAY
Why did we break up?

MARY
You're still in a time machine.

JAY
Oh, that.

MARY (CONT'D)
Yes that.

Jay smiles at Mary with tears in his eyes.

MARY (CONT'D)
After this nightmare, do you know
what year it is?

JAY
I know that I love you.

MARY
I love you too. Football is only a
game. This is our life.

Mary caresses Jay's face with tears in her eyes.

GUS, Harvey, Dave, Rooney and dave ALL rush in.

ROONEY
Is everybody OK?
(to Dutton)
Aside from this piece of shit? Nice
Mohawk asshole!

Rooney looks at Dutton as he is in custody and is walked off in handcuffs along with Jim.

Gus looks at Jay, battered and bloodied after one hell of a fight.

GUS
(To Jay)
It looks like you took care of
business.

Jay turns and looks at Detective Portenza.

JAY
The end of the line for this
animal?

DETECTIVE PORTENZA
Kidnapping, Murder, assault. We
just may get the death penalty for
this pile of trash.

JAY
Its about time.

GUS
Jay as far as you taking care of
business here. I have to say I
didn't think you had it, not
against that guy.

BILL
Like they say, you should have seen
the other guy.

Bill glares at Dutton in handcuffs as he is taken away.

GUS
You go to the body?

Jay pauses, trying not to laugh or smile.

JAY
Like you wouldn't believe. All day
long.

GUS

You think about Rocky when you went to the body?

JAY

What do you think?

GUS

You visualize, the body Rock, go to the body, the body scene in Rocky with Mickey?

JAY

Are you insane?

GUS (CONT'D)

Yes I am in insane, but did you?

JAY

Are you crazy? My God.
(laughs)
You are crazy man.

GUS

Man I wish I was there to see that fight.

HARVEY

Jay do you have an IPHONE or something? Did you record this fight?

JAY

What?

HARVEY

If you recorded it I could get this on YOUTUBE in about 2 hours.

ROONEY

Is this your first ever attempt at humor El-Baldo?

HARVEY

It would be a great video.

ROONEY

Unbelievable and he's bald too.

MARY

It was horrible. Just horrible. I hate violence.

JAY

Mary, I thought you said you were holding your eyes.

MARY

I was, but I saw some of it. Too much of it.

JAY

Were you impressed?

Mary very cutely rolls her eyes.

MARY

Oh my God, you men.

Mary starts to walk away, but she is smiling.

MARY (CONT'D)

Honestly, what did I do to deserve this?

JAY

Mary? Were you? I mean just a little?

MARY

Oh my God, please grow up! For God Sakes.

Jay follows Mary as they all walk out of the warehouse.

JAY

Mary?

MARY

What now?

JAY

I love you.

Jay hugs and kisses Mary.

MARY

I love you too.

Mary cries in Jay's arms.

MARY (CONT'D)

I was very scared for you.

JAY

There is no way on earth I would let anything happen to you.

Jay and Mary embrace.

Rooney pauses looking at them, smiling.

ROONEY

All of you guys. My friends my whole life.

(Pause)

The worst scum any of us will ever know, has undone what would have been a horrible tragedy. These guys are back together again.

Rooney looks over at Jay and Mary.

ROONEY (CONT'D)

You guys belong together.

They all look at Rooney, amazed.

ROONEY (CONT'D)

So you guys want to drink? Any bars around here? I could really use a beer after a really good fight, that I didn't see.

JAY

Yes, we can go for a drink, but the cops probably want to talk to me first for about a year.

MARY

Yes, I think about a year sounds right.

(laughs)

GUS

That is for sure. We may never leave Flemington.

HARVEY

After kidnapping, murder, a fight to the death, how appropriate and after that we can all sit around and listen to Rooney's stupid jokes.

Harvey looks at Rooney.

ROONEY

You know your head actually lights up this warehouse El Baldo.

GUS

Actually that is not a bad idea, I
mean about the beer, not the
jokes.

They all walk out of the warehouse together.

THE END

FADE IN

The playing of the 2nd YOUTUBE video of Sinatra's "Here's to
the Winners" and Jay Franklin's most amazing runs.