INT. SCHOOL CAFÉ—DAY

Five high school freshman, GREG, a ginger, DYLAN, a short curly haired boy with glasses, NOAH, a tall lanky Jewish kid, DARIUS, a half black, half Asian kid with glasses, and DICK, some random kid, sit at a lunch table, with a lead ball in the center.

GREG
I’d probably throw in five.

DYLAN
All right, five from me, Lucius and Greg (points to each on respectively). Plus Noah will throw in ten.

NOAH
Why ten from me?

DYLAN
Noah, you’re really contributing to a stereotype right now.

NOAH
I’m in for five.

DYLAN
Okay, whatever, that’s twenty bucks Dick.

DICK
Okay, I’ll do it.

Dick picks up lead ball and swallows it. The other four smile and cheer. DICK drinks some water.

DICK
I got to us the bathroom

Dick gets up and goes to the bathroom, leaving the other.

DYLAN
Damn...Damn... that was not worth five bucks.

(CONTINUED)
GREG
I want my five bucks back.

DARIUS
Is he all right?

DYLAN
I dunno, Noah, you’re the genius, is he going to come out of this alive.

NOAH
I thought we should have lubed it.

DYLAN
We don’t have lube, Noah, retard.

NOAH
It dosen’t have to be lube, it could have been butter or something.

DYLAN
Well you should have said...

Dylan is interrupted by the sound of an ambulance. The four get up and look out the window to see Dick being wheeled out in a gurney. The four stand, mouths agape.

END TEASER

INT. GREG’S MOM’S MINIVAN- LATER

GREG and his mom are in the front, DARIUS and DYLAN are in the back and NOAH is in the boot. GREG is embarrassed, head in hands.

DARIUS
I’m just saying there must be some damage to that area.

DYLAN
Ya, but that dosen’t mean he can’t have sex, he’s just has a slightly deformed penis

NOAH
No, when Obi-Wan left him there everything from the waste down pretty much got third-degree burns.

(CONTINUED)
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DARIUS
Damn, that sucks for Vader.

DYLAN
Ya, I bet he could have any bitch he wanted.

DARIUS
Oh ya, second hand man to the emperor, every girl probably wanted him.

DYLAN
I’d probably fuck him. Just to say I did. Come on, you guys wouldn’t fuck Darth Vader just to say you did, I mean if he could.

NOAH
No!

DARIUS
I dunno, I’d probably give him a handjob, or at least let him give me a handjob.

GREG
We’re here! (turning around)

DYLAN
All right, great

The four file out of the car. GREG gives his mom a kiss before leaving.

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING LOT- RIGHT AFTER MINIVAN SCENE

DYLAN
Okay, Noah, you got the flowers?

NOAH
Right here. (waves flowers)

DYLAN
Good, and I got the twenty, let’s just get this stuff to him and get out, hopefully he don’t get us in trouble.
INT. HOSPITAL- LATER

Dylan kneels at the bedside of Dick, who looks in pain, the others behind him. There is a big black nurse in the room.

DYLAN
Hey, buddy, how you doing?

Dick says nothing a gives a stone cold face to Dylan.

DYLAN
Brought you some flowers and the money.

NURSE
He can’t talk, baby, that lead ball banged up his throat pretty good. I dunno who put him up to this but I would smack the shit out of him right now. Poor baby.

The gang looks at each other with fear as the nurse steps out. GREG steps forward.

GREG
All right Dick, what’s it going to take to put this all in the past?

DICK puts up a pad and pen and writes, then shows them the pad with $1000 written on it. The gang looks at each other in shock.

NOAH
Dick, our lives aren’t worth that much collectively.

DYLAN
Dick, you’re being a real dick right now.

DICK picks up the pad and pen again and writes a new number of $1500 and dollars and shows the Big four. They respond with woah’s and aww’s.

DYLAN
Woah, group meeting.

The big four step aside and huddle up so they can whisper.

GREG
Aww, we can’t come up with that money. I’m going to get suspended and no college is going to...

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Dylan slaps Greg.

DYLANN
Chill the fuck out

GREG
Why’d you call him a dick

DYLANN
I didn’t know he was so sensitive

GREG
First you guys scare the shit out of my Mom, now I’m going to get suspended...


DYLANN
You’re doing it again

NOAH
Guys, let’s just accept the price know, we’ll figure it out later.


DYLANN
Let’s do that. (turns to Dick).
When do we need it by?

Dick writes on the pad again, seven days. Greg takes a hit from his inhaler.

DYLANN
Damnit

INT. CLASSROOM—NEXT DAY

Class is about to end. Greg sits up at front. Darius comes up to talk to Greg.

DYLANN
How much money did you get

GREG
Ummm... $23 and 42 cents from my savings

DYLANN
You mean your piggy bank

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: 6.

GREG
Whatever Dyl, money is money. The point is that’s not a lot. How bout you?

DYLAN
I stole fifty bucks from my dad and Noah and Darius have seventy buck together so that’s what.. like $143

GREG
Ya

DYLAN
Damnit! A voice comes on the intercom.

INTERCOM VOICE
Attention students. I regret to inform you (chokes up a little bit)... that one of our dear students is currently suffering lead poising. Please visit Richard Friedlander when you get a chance, our thoughts and prayers go out for him.

GIRL #1
Oh my god, poor Dick! I heard some kids force fed him a lead ball

GIRL #2
 Fucking people.

GREG throws his head in his hands

GREG
We’re going to get expelled

DYLAN
Everyone’s going hate us too

GREG
Oh really Dylan, cause we were really climbing the social ladder before

DYLAN
Okay, look we can get this money, I have an idea, I’ll tell you in gym with Darius and Noah.
EXT. GYMNASIUM—NEXT PERIOD

The gang is sitting on the bleachers in their gym clothes talking over the plan.

DYLAN
Alright fellas, as you probably know we don’t even have a tenth of the money, but I have a plan that’s a little risky but has big reward

NOAH
Oh Christ, what is it?

DYLAN
Well, you know how pretty much everyone in school is worried sick about

DICK DARIUS, NOAH AND GREG
Ya

DYLAN
Well I figure we can use that to our advantage. (pauses) How bout a fundraiser?

NOAH
For Dick?

DYLAN
No, Noah, for Darth Vader’s genitals. Look were smarter than all these kids, lets just milk them like cows, its not like they’ve treated us with respect.

FLASHBACK—MONTAGE
DYLAN gets pegged with basketballs in gym class. Cut to NOAH doing homework and handing to kids in varsity jackets. Cut to GREG receiving a crude drawing of a ginger looking very similar to him. Cut to Darius just getting punched in the face for no reason.

BACK TO SCENE:

NOAH
You’re right, I fucking hate these people.

(CONTINUED)
DARIUS
I got punched for no reason last week and the teacher just laughed

Greg says nothing, the other three look towards him

DYLAN
What about you Greg? You in?

GREG
(shrugs shoulders) What the fuck

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY—NEXT DAY

The boys are passing out flyers, most people are taking them. A couple of girls walk up to the boys to talk to them about their cause.

GIRL# 1
Wow, you guys are really going all out for Dick, it’s really great of you.

DYLAN
Well, you know, he’s our friend and we just want to get him these new throat transplant as soon as possible

GIRL#2
God bless the man who donated his throat

NOAH
Ya, it restores my faith in humanity, you know when people get together like this.

GIRL#1
Well, good luck, give Dick our love.

DYLAN
Don’t forget the to get as many sponser as you can for the 5k.

The two girls walk away and the boys huddle up and talk

DARIUS
Jesus Christ these people are stupid, I mean a throat transplant that’s not a thing right Noah

(CONTINUED)
NOAH
No, of course not.

DYLAN
We’re doing great, I’m out of flyers

NOAH
Same

GREG
We’re going to hell

DYLAN
See Greg, this is a situation where everyone is being optimistic and you’re just raining on our parade. We’re going to make the money back and then some. The 5k is in three days and there’s no stopping this monster now.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL—THREE DAYS LATER

High school kids are walking on the track, the turf and around the track. The boys, except for Greg, are standing on a small platform. Dylan has a megaphone.

DYLAN
(speaking through megaphone)
okay everyone, welcome to the first annual "Fight for a Throat", we want everyone at the starting line in five minutes, make sure you handed in your entry fees.

Dylan puts down the megaphone and the boys walk over to the entry booth to see how much money Greg is making.

DYLAN
How we doing Greg.

GREG
Everyone has just about signed in, so that’s about 300 people at twenty bucks each that’s... $6000.

DYLAN
Shit.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

GREG
Oh my god, this got way out of hand.

NOAH
What are we going to do with all this money, do we give it back.

DYLAN
Everyone just relax, we should just be happy we can pay Dick back.

GREG
We’re going to the deepest part of hell.

DYLAN
We’ll see Dick there. (picks up megaphone) Okay everyone, let’s get to the starting line and do this for Dick!

GREG
Oh Christ

EXT. STARTING LINE- A COUPLE MINUTES LATER

All the students are pumped up and ready to run. The boys stand to the side with a starting flag, ready to set everyone to go.

DYLAN
On your marks...

RANDOM BOY#1
Wait you guys aren’t going to run?

DYLAN
Well, we’re the organizers so...

RANDOM BOY#2
No, you gotta do it for DICK.

Everybody in the background, shouts "ya" and "do it".

RANDOM BOY#1
We’re not going until you do it for DICK.

The boys look at each other anxiously and finally look down and set themselves at the starting line.

(CONTINUED)
Dylan
Ready, set, go!

Everyone starts to cheer, some go out sprinting but most keep as steady pace, including the boys.

EXT. RACE ON TRACK - A MINUTE LATER

The boys are running next to each other on the track.

Noah
I can’t feel my legs

Darius
Christ, it hasn’t even been a quarter mile yet.

Noah
I gotta... I gotta stop, my body is screaming for me to stop.

Dylan
Okay... Okay... let’s just slow down.

The boys slow down to essentially a walk.

Dylan
Okay, this is essentially a walk at this point.

Shot of Dick walking in from the distance with the vice principal. The boys catch sight of them and freeze up.

Dylan
Shit

Noah
Fuck

Darius
Damnit

Greg
This is it. It’s over.

The boys stop running and make their way towards Dick and the vice principal, knowing they’re the ones they came to talk to.

(CONTINUED)
DYLAN
Noah, what’s worse case scenario right here.

NOAH
Worst-case scenario, we get expelled for a holding a charity scam and giving Dick lead poisoning.

DYLAN
You know, at least we tried. In retrospect, the charity idea probably made things worse.

GREG
I hate you guys so much

DYLAN
Love you too Greggy

The boys finally meet Dick and the vice Principal. It is silent for a moment.

DARIUS
That was a quick recovery, Dick.

DICK
Fuck off.

MR. HANRATTY
Watch your mouth Dick. Now look boys, I know what you’re doing here and I just want you to know how sick and twisted this whole thing is. That being said, I want in.

NOAH
What? Mr. Hanratty Come on, don’t act dumb. I heard all about it, you boys raising money for a new throat for Dick. That’s the stupidest thing I’ve ever heard, your just trying to pay Dick back, he told me all about it.

DYLAN
So, what do you want from us. MR. Hanratty Just a cut that’s all I want, I’ve got some debts I had to pay off.
DARIUS
What kind of debts? Mr. Hanratty
That’s none of your business, just
pay back Dick, give me the rest and
we’ll forget about this whole
ting.

GREG
Wow, this changes my whole
perspective on you Mr. Hanratty.

MR. HANRATTY
Look, you little fuck, the state
dosen’t pay me enough no hand over
the bills.

DYLAN
All right, Christ, we made $5000,
$1500 to Dick and $3500 to you.

MR. HANRATTY
That’s what I like to hear boys,
drop that money off in my office
tomorrow in an envelope, not a cent
less than $3500, or else I well
personally beat escort you off this
campus and make sure you never come
back.

DYLAN
Okay, we got it.

MR. HANRATTY
Good, now go finish your race

The boys start to walk away.

DARIUS
This school is so goddamn weird.

INT. DYLAN’S HOUSE- THE NEXT DAY
The boys are sitting in front of a new giant flat screen TV.

NOAH
That worked out a lot better than I
thought it would.

GREG
Ya, looks like I can still go to
college.

(CONTINUED)
DARIUS
Still I lost a lot of my faith in humanity today.

DYLAN
Shrugs shoulders) I never really had any. At least we got a nice TV out of it.

NOAH
Ya, but why didn’t you just tell Mr. Hanratty that we made less, so we could of kept more of the money to ourselves.

DYLAN
Shut up Noah

FADE TO BLACK.