

PIXELS

By

TIM HERLIHY

Current Revisions by

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To be directed by  
CHRIS COLUMBUS

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"Don't think of this like a comedy, think of it like a world wide vfx giant summer tentpole that just happens to be funnier than the typical world wide giant summer tentpole."

-Steven L. Spielberg\*

\*- Not THAT Steven Spielberg , another one. This one repairs ladies' footwear in El Segundo and was just a big fan of the script and wanted to explain that to all of you before you read it.

1 EXT. SUBURBS, DELAWARE, SUMMER OF 1982 - DAY 1  
Our hero, SAM BRENNER, 13, rides his bike through the suburbs. \*  
Fast, crazed. CHEAP TRICK'S "SURRENDER" (BUDDAKAN VERSION)  
PLAYS AS CREDITS BEGIN.

2 EXT. HOUSE, SUBURBS - DAY 2  
As the song continues, WILL COOPER, age 13, is mowing his  
lawn. His cute LITTLE SISTER is on the sidewalk, operating  
a lemonade stand. Brenner arrives, SKIDS his bike to a stop.  
Cooper looks at him. Brenner smiles.

YOUNG BRENNER  
It's open.

Cooper abandons the lawn mower, grabs his bike and starts to  
pedal off with Brenner. Then he stops, runs back to the  
lemonade stand, and takes a big jar of coins.

LITTLE SISTER  
Hey!

3 EXT. MAIN STREET - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 3  
Brenner and Cooper pass a movie theater showing "Poltergeist"  
and pull their bikes into a parking lot. Each stares ahead in  
awe. CAMERA PANS around them, REVEALS what they're looking at:  
**THE ELECTRIC DREAMS ARCADE**. A BIG GRAND OPENING SIGN hangs  
from the roof.

4 INT. ARCADE - DAY 4  
It's like going into another world. All the classic games are  
lined up: **PAC MAN, DONKEY KONG, CENTIPEDE, SPACE INVADERS,**  
**GALAGA, Q-BERT, PAPERBOY, ASTEROIDS, BREAKOUT**. And they're  
all BRAND NEW. The guys enter. Cooper opens the mason jar,  
both guys grab a handful of quarters and they fan out.

Brenner waits in line for the holy grail: PAC MAN, watching  
OTHERS playing and losing. He studies their moves, the game's  
controls, taking in every success, every failure.

Cooper plays GALAGA. On screen we see him GETTING KILLED BY  
THE ALIEN/BUG INVADERS THREE TIMES REAL QUICK. He's terrible.

It's Brenner's turn on Pac Man. He steps up, puts in his  
quarter and starts to play. Cooper steps up, watching over  
his shoulder.

YOUNG COOPER  
Which one's the alien, Sam, the  
cheese wedge guy or the rainbow  
blobs?

\*

YOUNG BRENNER

Neither. Those blobs are ghosts,  
and the cheese wedge is Pac Man.  
He's a... I don't know what he is,  
but he seems like a good guy.

Cooper shakes his head, looks at the game Brenner's playing:  
CU of an 80's 8 Bit video screen as PACMAN RACES ACROSS IT.

YOUNG COOPER

Wow. How are you so good at this  
game? You've never even played it  
before.

YOUNG BRENNER

I don't know. There's a pattern to how  
they are moving. Watch...

He does. ON SCREEN the game seems to slow down. We see \* numbers  
and arrows superimposed over the action in Brenner's \* eyes. He  
knows exactly where the ghosts are going, when the \* bonus  
cherries are going to appear, etc. \*

YOUNG COOPER

I don't see it. But you sure do.

CHEAP TRICK'S SONG continues as CREDITS PLAY OVER:

- MONTAGE of Brenner playing: Centipede, Q-Bert, Galaga,  
Defender being played at a high level (intercut with other \*  
80s kids, janitors, etc. watching slack-jawed), high score \*  
after high score, crowds growing, "SAM" taking over the \*  
entire top ten scores.

- As a huge crowd has gathered around Brenner, Cooper plays  
"the Crane Game" by himself in a lonely corner. He deftly  
maneuvers the claw over an array of stuffed animals and  
rubber masks. Cooper lowers the claw over a Chewbacca mask.  
the claw grabs it, but it gets stuck. Will Cooper get it?

CUT TO Brenner playing ASTEROIDS, surrounded by a respectful \*  
crowd. He steps away from the machine. \*

YOUNG BRENNER

Sorry, folks, I gotta eat. \*

His guy "dies". The crowd applauds and pats him on the back \*  
as he walks over to Cooper - standing there in the Chewbacca \*  
mask. He hands Brenner a "Reggie" bar. \*

YOUNG COOPER

You can't stop playing, can you? \*  
You're like a video game addict. \*

YOUNG BRENNER

You don't understand, buddy. I suck  
at sports, I suck at school.

(MORE)

YOUNG BRENNER (CONT'D)  
Video games is the first thing I've  
ever been good at.

YOUNG COOPER  
You're not "good" at video games,  
Sam - you're the best.  
(hands him flyer)  
And it's time to show the world.

\*

Brenner reads the flyer - "WORLD VIDEO GAME CHAMPIONSHIPS".

5

INT. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS - NIGHT

5

The Super Bowl of video games. Hundreds of PEOPLE are there.  
NEWSCASTERS report. Cooper is massaging Brenner's fingers.

YOUNG BRENNER  
I can't believe I'm doing this,  
man. I wish you'd signed up too.

\*  
\*  
\*

YOUNG COOPER  
I stink at every game. Except for  
the crane-claw thing.

\*  
\*  
\*

YOUNG BRENNER  
You're good at everything else,  
Chewie: talking people into  
things... Making up stories...  
Brushing your hair just right...  
Looking like you're smarter than  
you really are...

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

YOUNG COOPER  
Yeah, what's that gonna get me?

\*  
\*

He trails off as he overhears someone nearby talking...

VOICE (O.C.)  
Hi... This is a pretty good  
party...Actually, I hate parties...

Brenner looks over to the next machine to see LUDLOW  
LAMONSOFF (8, glasses. Genius, no social skills). Ludlow is  
playing CASTLE QUEST (made-up 8 bit game) and talking under  
his breath to the LADY LISA character (we see her beautiful  
illustration on the side of the machine).

\*

YOUNG LUDLOW  
You too? That's so funny. My name's  
Ludlow by the way... Well nice to  
meet you, Lady Lisa... Really? I  
think you're pretty darn foxy  
yourself...

\*

He finally notices Brenner and Cooper staring at him and is  
embarrassed.

YOUNG BRENNER

You're the wonder kid, Ludlow  
Lamonsoff, right? Heard you're  
pretty good.

\*

YOUNG LUDLOW

Who told you that? The government?  
Cause they've been tracking me. I'm  
close to figuring out the secret of  
the Bermuda Triangle, and the  
"powers that be" aren't too happy  
about it.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

YOUNG COOPER

Wow. You don't have any friends, do  
you?

YOUNG LUDLOW

Just my mom.

He gestures toward his MOM, who is sitting on a stool in the  
corner, holding a bag lunch and a six-pack of Yoo-Hoo. She  
shrugs and waves.

\*

YOUNG BRENNER

Well, you can hang out with us too.

\*

They shake hands.

\*

There's a hubub at the front door: EDDIE PLANT has arrived.  
He's dressed in parachute pants, a Twisted Sister T-shirt and  
a rat tail, and is flanked by two hot 80's looking girls in  
leather pants (their t-shirts identify them as the CYBER  
GIRLZ).

\*

YOUNG EDDIE PLANT

What's up, geeks and goobers? They  
call me the Fire Blaster. Because  
my hands are blazing fast, and also  
I will blast and burn all my  
competitors' weak-ass moves.

\*

Eddie saunters over toward Ludlow.

YOUNG EDDIE PLANT (CONT'D)

You must be the local talent. If  
this was an ugly contest, I'd be in  
trouble.

YOUNG BRENNER

At least we didn't make up our own  
nicknames, Fire Blaster.

YOUNG EDDIE PLANT

*Who cares who came up with it? It's  
totally tubular!*

Brenner and Eddie glare at each other. An MC steps on stage.

M.C.

Welcome, gamers, to the First  
Annual Arcade World Championships.  
We have representatives here from  
the Guinness Book of World Records,  
as well as NASA, who will be  
videotaping tonight's competition  
to be included in a compilation of  
1982's news events and popular  
culture. That video tape will be  
placed in an orbiter that will be  
launched out into the solar system  
to search for proof of Extra-  
Terrestrial life.

(ET voice)

ET phone home!

People APPLAUD, IMPRESSED. Eddie Plant makes the "choke" sign  
at Brenner. Brenner shakes his head. Ludlow, nervous, looks  
like he is gonna piss himself as they head to the games.  
Cooper cheers them on.

It's like the OLYMPICS as they all step up to play, total  
seriousness. There are about a dozen competitors: mostly teen  
boys but a punk chick and some weird middle-aged men (one  
wearing a Karate Kid headband) mixed in. We see them move the  
controls, put their quarters in and pound the buttons in SLO  
MO as the judges watch all the contestants.

-Brenner plays BREAKOUT zen-cool as slo-mo Cooper cheers him  
on.

-Ludlow is sweating profusely playing GALAGA. His mother is  
next to him, holding up a Yoo-Hoo for him to sip from.

-Eddie is kissing one of the Cyber Girlz as he annihilates  
PAC MAN. He lowers his sunglasses over his eyes, then really  
starts kicking ass.

-ONSTAGE, the M.C. addresses the crowd dramatically.

M.C. (CONT'D)

Ladies and gentlemen, what an  
evening we've had here: six new US  
records set, three new *world*  
records set, and now, when the  
smoke clears, we have... a tie! 259  
points for your new Pac Man world  
champion... The Fire Blaster, Eddie  
Plant!

(applause)

And 259 points for your new Galaga  
and Centipede world champion...  
rookie sensation Sam Brenner!

(shocked applause)

Gentlemen, shall we break this tie?

(MORE)

M.C. (CONT'D)  
 Let's play--  
 (a beat)  
*Donkey Kong!!*

\*

Brenner and Eddie both smile confidently. They start walking toward the machines.

YOUNG BRENNER  
 Good luck, man.

YOUNG EDDIE PLANT  
 I don't need luck, nerd. Cause if I  
 lose right now, I go home knowing I  
 don't got what it takes; a nothing,  
 a failure, someone who looked  
 Destiny in the eye and blinked. And  
 the Fire Blaster never, ever  
 blinks.

\*

\*

Eddie stares unblinking at Brenner as they insert their quarters.

\*

They play furiously. The Cyber Girlz cheer on Eddie; Cooper, Ludlow and Ludlow's Mom cheer on Brenner. Brenner starts to pull ahead, Eddie's in deep trouble. But then Eddie lowers his sunglasses, gets serious and starts mounting an improbable comeback.

\*

\*

\*

\*

YOUNG COOPER  
 Finish him, Sam!

\*

But Eddie is suddenly racking up the points. We see BRENNER's POV: he's lost the pattern. He rubs his eyes; the focus is gone. ON SCREEN, through Brenner's eyes, the game is actually speeding up, the superimposed arrows and numbers getting scratched out and changing direction rapidly.

\*

\*

\*

\*

Eddie and Brenner are each down to their last guy, playing their hearts out, until we hear... the DONKEY KONG death sound. But who died? Eddie turns to Brenner.

YOUNG EDDIE PLANT  
 Congratulations - on being a loser!

Brenner steps back from the machine. Stunned.

WE PUSH IN on the look of utter disappointment and devastation on his face as he realizes he lost at the one thing he was great at, as Eddie rants on in the background.

EDDIE PLANT (O.C.)  
 YEAH!!! Fire Blaster is the WORLD  
 CHAMP!!! THE LOCAL YOKEL COULDN'T  
 HANDLE THE PRESSURE!!  
 (MORE)

EDDIE PLANT (O.C.) (CONT'D)  
HE CAN SUCK IT! And YOU CAN SUCK  
IT! AND YOU CAN SUCK IT!!!

DISSOLVE TO:

6

EXT. GEORGETOWN MANSION - DAY

6

\*

"SAM BRENNER". A NAMETAG. CAMERA PULLS BACK. It is PRESENT  
DAY. The nametag belongs to the actual ADULT BRENNER, pinned  
to his BRIGHTLY COLORED ORANGE JUMPSUIT, that identifies him  
as being in the NERD PATROL.

\*

He carries a clipboard and is miserable, depressed. He steps  
up to the front door of a GEORGETOWN MANSION and KNOCKS. A  
HANDSOME, YOUNGER FIT MAN, answers.

BRENNER  
(like he wants to die)  
Hello, I am a NERD from the Nerd  
Patrol here to deal with your  
audio/visual needs.

The Fit Man turns and walks inside, calling out.

FIT MAN  
The nerd's here!

Brenner sighs, he hates his life.

7

INT. GEORGETOWN MANSION - DAY

7

Brenner installs a 70 inch 4K Sony TV to the wall of a  
gigantic living room. As Brenner lifts the TV to mount it on  
the wall, he glances outside, through a large picture window.

\*

\*

BRENNER'S POV: The handsome home owner lies on a lounge  
chair, beside his GORGEOUS WIFE. They drink champagne,  
watching their TWO BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN relax on rafts,  
drinking smoothies, in their state of the art pool.

\*

\*

Brenner watches them, with a longing for a life he'll never  
know. His expression says it all: *Must be nice.*

THIRD CHILD (O.C.)  
Pretty sweet life, eh?

\*

\*

Brenner, startled, drops the TV, which smashes.

\*

Brenner sees another kid (7) standing nearby, in a polo  
shirt, looking smug, drinking a smoothie.

\*

\*

THIRD CHILD (CONT'D)  
Sucks to be you, nerd.

\*

\*

BRENNER  
Yeah it does. Got any tape?

\*

\*

8

INT. BAR, WASHINGTON DC - DAY

8

Still in uniform, Brenner sits across from COOPER also 45. He is dressed in a blue blazer and open collar shirt. They're eating lunch at a table near the bar.

\*

BRENNER

Look, Chewie, I don't know why I'm giving you romantic advice; you always did way better with chicks than I did.

COOPER

Not always. Remember that chick in Ft. Lauderdale? The redhead who was all over you?

BRENNER

That was my cousin. Moving on. If I were you, I'd take one hour a day where you shut down the phone, turn off the email, the ESPN, put down the Reggie bar and just devote your full attention to your wife.

\*

COOPER

I can't shut off my phone and email, man; I gotta be reachable 24/7. Not all of us work out of a van.

\*

BRENNER

Yeah, I get it, I have a crappy job. I'm a failure, I wear orange shorts, my wife left me for a busboy...

PRESIDENT COOPER

Don't give me some sob story, Brenner. You were meant for something more than *this*.

\*

\*

BRENNER

Why would you think that? I was never really good at anything.

\*

\*

\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

You were good at one thing. Best I ever saw.

\*

\*

\*

BRENNER

Second best. And playing old-timey videogames ain't a real lucrative career path nowadays.

\*

\*

\*

\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

Hang on, I gotta see this...

\*

Brenner turns. ON TV WE SEE CHRIS MATTHEWS on MSNBC.

CHRIS MATTHEWS (ON TV)  
The President's gaffe-filled summer continued today during an appearance at Joseph Knibb Elementary School to promote his new youth reading initiative. Here's what happened...

ON TV WE SEE Cooper in a classroom, reading to a class of FIRST-GRADERS who have gathered on the rug around him. Parents, teachers, etc. stand watching excitedly.

COOPER (ON TV)  
(dramatic)  
...But then, Mittens jumped up on to the table, and knocked over the whole bowl of soup! Mrs. Pickles gasped - gasped, and the whole room fell silent. "This is casta...  
(struggling with word)  
catsa... catatastrophic?..."

\*

LITTLE GIRL (SUNNY)  
Catastrophic!

COOPER (ON TV)  
(a little loud)  
I got it, thanks, sweetheart!

The Little Girl looks like she's about to cry.

ON TV, back to Chris Matthews.

CHRIS MATTHEWS  
Seems like if the President's approval ratings don't improve, the results of the next election could be... catsatatsastrophic.

Back in the bar, Brenner is laughing.

BRENNER  
You really should learn how to read.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
I was on three hours sleep!!

We pull back further and see that there are A TON OF SECRET SERVICE AGENTS there. People are peeking in the windows excitedly.

\*

\*

BRENNER  
Dude, I gotta get out of here; I got a 2 o'clock install. You getting this, or...

Cooper just stares at him, looking sheepish.

BRENNER (CONT'D)  
I'm getting this?!

PRESIDENT COOPER  
I forgot my wallet!

Brenner turns to the AGENTS, disgusted.

BRENNER  
Could one of you seven guys grab  
his wallet before he walks out the  
door next time?! Please? I'm broke,  
he's the President!

9	EXT. GUAM - SKY - NIGHT	9	*
	A CLOUDY night sky. Behind the clouds, we see the eerie image of a LARGE ALIEN CRAFT. We can't make out any details. Suddenly, A WIDE LIGHT PORTAL OPENS. We HEAR A CLICKING SOUND.		* * * *
	From out of the clouds, we see a cloud of BRIGHTLY-COLORED CUBES. They loop down from the stars and FORM A STREAM. In a TIGHT FORMATION.		* * *
	The cubes TURN and FLY DOWN A DIRT ROAD, their intense FORCE sends waves of POWERFUL WIND through the trees.		* *
	The cubes ZOOM PAST A SIGN THAT READS: ANDERSON AIR FORCE BASE. GUAM, USA.		* *

10	EXT. GEORGETOWN HOUSE - DAY	10
	A modest house. A door opens. A 13 YEAR OLD KID stands there.	

MATTY  
Are you the Nerd?

BRENNER  
No, I just like to wear this because  
I think I look awesome.  
(the kid just stares at him)  
Yeah, I'm the Nerd.

MATTY  
Isn't that kind of demeaning?

BRENNER  
Only if someone brings it up.

MATTY  
I won't bring it up then.

BRENNER  
Lovin' it.

11 INT. HOUSE - CONTINUING

11

Matty leads Brenner in. He looks around. It's a warm house.

BRENNER

So what am I installing?

MATTY

A new 85 inch SONY 4k 3D TV. Playstation  
4. 7.1 Surround sound speakers. Really,  
if you guys sell it, we bought it.

BRENNER

Wow, is it your birthday?

MATTY

My parents are getting a divorce.

BRENNER

Oh, that's like ten birthdays.

MATTY

My Dad cheated on my Mom with his 18 year  
old pilates instructor. Her name is  
Sinnamon with an S. I shit you not; that is  
her name. I mean I should be dating an 18  
year old pilates instructor, not him.

\*

BRENNER

She'd break you in half, dude, but I  
get your larger point.

MATTY

Anyway my Mom kinda hates him right now  
for being a major d-bag asswipe, her words,  
not mine. She felt bad that I'm going  
through this so she sold his Porsche on  
Ebay to buy me all this-

VIOLET (O.S.)

Okay, Matty, we don't need to tell the  
nice installer man our whole life.

Brenner turns and sees VIOLET KELLY (LATE 30's) beautiful,  
smart, tough. Brenner sees her and then involuntarily utters:

\*

BRENNER

Whoa.

VIOLET

I'm sorry, whoa what?

BRENNER

(embarrassed now)

...No, just you...whoa.

VIOLET

Me, whoa? I don't know what that means.

BRENNER

...Yeah. Um, it's just when your son told me that your husband left you for an 18 year-old I kinda thought maybe you were one of those hot-when-we-met-in high-school, but then got-older-let-herself-go and now has like neck fuzz and a pot belly with cottage-cheese thighs. But that's clearly not what you look like. So more like whoa, I should have probably brushed my teeth before I left the house, or studio apartment, if we're getting real here.

\*

\*

MATTY

Do you have Tourettes?

BRENNER

Surprisingly no. Wish I did right now.

Violet laughs. There is definitely a connection. Matty notices.

BRENNER (CONT'D)

Okay, I guess I should start setting all this stuff up.

VIOLET

Alright, go get 'em.

\*

\*

Violet and Matty walk out. She turns and catches Brenner looking and he pretends he was looking at her light fixtures instead. She smiles to herself.

12

INT. GUAM MILITARY BASE - NIGHT

12

\*

Bustling, filled with military personnel. CAMERA PANS to A HANDSOME SAILOR, staring intently at a video monitor. AN

ARRAY OF COLORFUL SHAPES appear on the monitor, MOVING TOWARD the center of the screen. The HANDSOME SAILOR'S face falls, he SHOUTS to someone OFF CAMERA.

HANDSOME SAILOR

Captain Devereux! You need to see this--

\*

CAPTAIN DEVEREUX, a tough, middle aged hatchet of a man with a crewcut, walks up, stares over the sailor's shoulder. His eyes widen in shock.

\*

CAPTAIN DEVEREUX

We're under attack!

\*

13

INT. VIOLET AND MATTY'S HOUSE - LATER - DAY

13

Brenner is setting up the video game system. Matty is hanging out, watching him. Brenner notices him.

MATTY

So you a gamer?

BRENNER

Uh, I was when I was your age.

MATTY

Were you any good?

BRENNER

I was alright at some of the classic games.

MATTY

Classics? You mean like "Halo"?

BRENNER

No, the real classics: Pac-Man, Asteroids, Space Invaders. Games you played at an arcade, which was a building outside of your house. You'd go with your friends, there was great music playing, cute girls everywhere...

\*  
\*

MATTY

I like games where you shoot people, and their guts go flying everywhere, and occasionally you have to rip someone's spine out and then use it to beat someone else to death. It's probably genetic.

\*

BRENNER

Why? Your mom's a serial killer?

MATTY

No, she makes weapons for the military.

VIOLET (O.S.)

(overhears this)

Matty, what are you saying?...

MATTY

Nothing, Mom. Sorry I mean she works as a waitress at P.F. Changs at the mall.

(then mouths to Brenner)

No she doesn't.

BRENNER

(mouths back)

Really?

MATTY  
(whispers)  
She says she's gonna' make a Whore  
Destroyer Weapon to take out Sinnamon.

They laugh. Violet walks in.

\*

VIOLET  
What are you guys talking about?

\*

MATTY/BRENNER  
Video games.

Violet smiles. Then she gets a text, her face falls.

14 INT. GUAM AIRBASE - COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT 14

Chaos. SERVICEMEN RUN OUT to man their posts. They hear the noise. BEEP BOP. BEEP BOP BOOP. That familiar arcade game sound. FIGHTER PILOTS run down the tarmac towards their jets. EXPLOSIONS coupled with VIDEO GAME SOUNDS FILL THE AIR. ONE PILOT stops before getting in his plane, looks up at the air. BLURRY COLORFUL IMAGES are REFLECTED IN HIS HELMET.

FIGHTER PILOT  
*What the hell are those things?*

15 INT. GUAM COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT 15

LIGHTS FLICKER ON AND OFF in the command center. EXPLOSIONS ROCK the interior. A WALL IS BLOWN AWAY, sending people flying to the ground. The explosion is UNLIKE ANYTHING we've ever seen. The wall PIXELATES INTO A HUNDRED COLORFUL BLOCKS, leaving a HUGE OPENING, FILLED WITH SMOKY COLORFUL LIGHT.

The HANDSOME SAILOR get to his feet, runs outside.

16 EXT. GUAM COMMAND CENTER - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS 16

The SAILOR RUNS OUTSIDE, looks up to the sky. He is STUNNED by what he sees. He is suddenly BATHED IN LIGHT. He raises his PISTOL and begins firing upward.

Suddenly the pistol LEAVES HIS HAND and is PIXELLATED UPWARD, INTO THE LIGHT. This is followed by the SAILOR, whose body PIXELLATES. The PIXELS rise up... DISAPPEARING INTO THE LIGHT...

17 INT. VIOLET'S BEDROOM - DAY 17

Brenner knocks on the door and peaks his head in.

BRENNER  
Mrs. Kelly? Just wanted to let you know  
I'm all finished and I need you to sign  
the work order...  
(MORE)

\*

BRENNER (CONT'D)  
Feels weird calling you Mrs. because  
you're probably way younger than me, but  
contractually I have to.

He doesn't see anyone, but hears a faint crying.

VIOLET (O.S.)  
Okay.

Her voice echoes from the closet.

BRENNER  
Mrs. Kelly, are you in the closet? \*

VIOLET (FROM THE CLOSET)  
...Yes.

BRENNER  
Not judging, but what are you doing in  
there?

VIOLET (FROM THE CLOSET)  
Um, mostly crying. A little drinking.  
Probably equally crying and drinking.

BRENNER  
Something I do often also, but why  
in the closet? \*

VIOLET  
*I don't want Matty to see me.*

We then hear more sobbing sounds. Brenner isn't sure if he  
should leave or not. He sighs, and heads towards the closet.

BRENNER  
I'm gonna' open the door now, Mrs.  
Kelly. I'm coming in. \*

VIOLET  
(still crying)  
Okay. \*

18 INT. CLOSET - CONTINUING

18

He opens the door and sees her feet. He climbs in. Violet is  
sitting behind the clothes. Mascara drips down her cheeks.

BRENNER  
Are you alright?

VIOLET  
I'm sobbing on the floor of my closet,  
drinking chardonnay out of a sippy cup.  
*Does it look like I'm alright?* \*

BRENNER

I withdraw the question. Do you...  
want to talk about it?

VIOLET

No, yes, *I don't know.*

She reaches for him and cries on his shoulder. He awkwardly  
pats her on the back.

19

INT. WHITE HOUSE OVAL OFFICE - DAY

19

President Cooper is alone, reviewing a memo, when the FIRST  
LADY walks in, in sweats.

FIRST LADY

I'm going to Soul Cycle to work  
out, so I'll be back in like 45  
minutes, or an hour and a half if I  
do a double.

She starts to leave, but he holds her up.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Babe? So Saturday, I was supposed  
to have dinner with the King of  
Saudi Arabia to discuss a trade  
agreement, but I decided to cancel.

\*

FIRST LADY

You did?

PRESIDENT COOPER

Well, I made a reservation at this  
new place on Michigan Avenue, where  
you go and actually make a cake.  
You mix in the flour and eggs and  
whatever, then they bake it for  
you, but you get to frost it-  
vanilla, chocolate, butterscotch -  
then you can make a design with  
sprinkles and sparkles if you want.  
So I thought it could be fun if you  
and I-

FIRST LADY

Sarah's coming over Saturday. We're  
gonna see a movie.

PRESIDENT COOPER

A movie. Do you think possibly you  
could go to the movies with Sarah  
on Sunday?

FIRST LADY

She already got a babysitter.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
I see. Do you think maybe she could  
cancel the babysitter?

FIRST LADY  
I could ask.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
You could ask? Wow!

A JUNIOR AIDE runs in.

AIDE  
Mr. President, you need to see  
this.

He hands Cooper a piece of paper. The President's face goes  
white.

20 INT. VIOLET'S CLOSET - DAY

20

Violet & Brenner sit in her closet now sharing the bottle.

VIOLET  
I thought it was just a fling, a mid-  
life fling-thing, but now according to  
the text I got 20 minutes ago he's  
*marrying* her. My son's stepmom is gonna  
be named *Sinnamon*.  
(makes a disgusted face)  
This just isn't where I thought I'd  
be at this point in my life.

BRENNER  
Yeah, I'll drink to that.

\*

They toast with sippy cups.

VIOLET  
We were high school sweethearts. The  
perfect couple. He proposed in a  
waterfall. An effin waterfall. We had  
our problems, sure. But now I'm almost  
40 and getting a divorce and he's  
marrying an 18 year old named after a  
spice... and it's not even spelled  
correctly.

BRENNER  
I think you need to take a deep breath...  
and then go find him and Sinnabuns and  
set them on fire.

\*

\*

VIOLET  
(laugh/cries)  
Yes, I mean no. That would be fun though.

She stops crying. He wipes her tears away, they exchange a smile.

BRENNER  
You know... Maybe this is really all  
for the best.

VIOLET  
What do you mean?

BRENNER  
I mean... You got the worst part over  
with. You already married the wrong guy...

VIOLET  
True.

BRENNER  
Maybe it just means you're gonna' meet  
the right guy.

VIOLET  
Yeah.

Brenner looks at her, waits a beat, then LEANS IN FOR THE  
KISS. She quickly backs away.

VIOLET (CONT'D)  
Whoa... Are you trying to kiss me?

BRENNER  
Um... a little? \*

VIOLET  
*You're trying to kiss me in my closet?*

BRENNER  
I thought we were having a moment. \*

She gets up, exits the closet. Brenner follows, walking with  
her into the kitchen. \*

21 INT. VIOLET'S BEDROOM/STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS

21 \*

VIOLET  
We were, but- Look you seem like a nice  
man. But I just met you. And no offense, I  
don't think my rebound guy is a 210 pound  
dork who installs flatscreens for a living. \*

BRENNER  
First of all, 208. And wow. I  
didn't peg you as the snobby type. \*

VIOLET  
*Snob? Me? No, I'm not a snob!*

A22 INT. VIOLET'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

A22 \*

Violet makes two cups of Nespresso coffee, gives one to Brenner.

BRENNER

Okay, so if I was a billionaire and we were in the Mediterranean on my gigantic yacht and we were sipping Champagne and I went to kiss you, would you?

\*

Busted. Before she can answer Brenner's phone rings. He looks at it. It says "PRESIDENT CHEWIE" on the caller ID.

BRENNER (CONT'D)

Excuse me, Snobby. I have to take this!  
(answers the phone)  
Homeboy. What's up?

22 INT. OVAL OFFICE, WHITE HOUSE - SAME

22 \*

PRESIDENT COOPER

Can you get to the White House right now?

23 INT. VIOLET'S KITCHEN - SAME

23 \*

BRENNER

I'll be there in fifteen.

He hangs up and turns to Violet.

BRENNER (CONT'D)

While I'd love to stay and hear you lie about not wanting to make out with the

yacht guy, I have to go. Also I'm an amazing kisser. You had a chance to find out and you just lost it.

\*

As he exits the kitchen, HER PHONE NOW RINGS.

VIOLET

Hello?

24 EXT. GEORGETOWN STREET - DAY

24

Brenner is speeding along in his van, but has to stop for a red light. A car skids to a stop beside him. It's Violet. Brenner rolls down his window, calls to her.

BRENNER

Too late, sweetheart. You had your shot and you blew it.

VIOLET

I'm not following you.

BRENNER  
 Whatever you say, Stalky. It's  
 over. Deal with it.

\*

The light changes, and he peels out. 30, 40, 50 mph. Brenner looks in his rear-view and sees Violet is right on his tail.

BRENNER (CONT'D)  
 (to himself)  
 Wow, she went from zero to psycho  
 in 6.7 seconds...

25 EXT. PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE - DAY

25

We see Brenner's van racing through the mostly empty streets toward the White House. Violet's car is right behind. Then both put their blinkers on at the same time to head into...

26 EXT. WHITE HOUSE GATES - DAY - CONTINUOUS

26

Brenner pulls up to the guard shack and hands the GUARD his ID. He speaks softly and quickly.

BRENNER  
 Steve, there's a woman with mental  
 problems right behind me. You might  
 need to call for back-up or break out  
 the stun gun---

\*

\*

\*

Violet's car pulls up and the GUARD waves her through.

GUARD  
 Go right on in, Lt. Kelly!

\*

This leaves Brenner flummoxed.

27 INT. HALLWAY, WHITE HOUSE - DAY

27

Brenner and Violet walk quickly down a hallway in the West Wing. They notice what a HOTBED OF ACTIVITY THE WHITE HOUSE IS. Everyone is WORRIED, PANICKED. The PRESIDENT'S ASSISTANT (Jennifer) sees them approaching.

ASSISTANT  
 Lieutenant Kelly, you can go right  
 into the Situation Room.

\*

Violet turns to Brenner, cocky.

VIOLET  
 So, yeah, they need me in the Situation  
 Room. Have fun doing whatever you--

ASSISTANT  
 Mr. Brenner, the President is  
 waiting for you in the Oval Office.

Violet is stunned. Brenner's turn to be cocky.

BRENNER  
Somebody's more important...

Brenner moonwalks into the Oval Office.

\*

28

INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

28

Cooper leans against his desk, worried.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
You couldn't have at least changed?

BRENNER  
You told me to come right over! Chewie,  
what's going on? It's crazy out there.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
Our naval base in Guam was attacked  
tonight.

BRENNER  
Attacked by who?

PRESIDENT COOPER  
Not sure. That's why I asked you  
here.

Brenner, intrigued, goes to the desk. Cooper hits play. He  
SEES GRAINY, SHAKY FOOTAGE OF THE GUAM ATTACK. THE SHIPS AND  
THE BUGS. The distinctive sound. Brenner watches. AMAZED.

PRESIDENT COOPER (CONT'D)  
Is that sound familiar to you?

BRENNER  
Yeah, where do I know that from?...  
Hold it! Stop!  
(the footage freezes)  
Can you go in tighter?

\*  
\*

The footage zooms in a little. A strange ship comes into  
focus.

BRENNER (CONT'D)  
That can't be real...

\*

PRESIDENT COOPER  
So you're seeing the same thing I'm  
seeing?

\*  
\*

BRENNER  
Yeah, unless we're both having the  
same weird dream...

\*  
\*  
\*

The door opens, and the President's Assistant Jennifer walks in. \*

ASSISTANT

They're ready for you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Great. Now I gotta go explain this  
to the National Security Council.  
Watch it again, Sam. See if you can  
find anything that might help us. \*

29

INT. SITUATION ROOM, THE WHITE HOUSE - DAY

29

The President enters. The Joint Chiefs are there, as are the  
heads of the CIA, FBI and HOMELAND SECURITY. The most  
intimidating by far is five-star ADMIRAL PORTER. Violet is  
one of a group seated in chairs against the wall, taking  
notes. The PRESS SECRETARY walks beside Cooper as he makes  
his way to the head of the table. \*

PRESS SECRETARY

Mr. President, we told the press that it  
was an advanced weapons test that  
misfired. So there's no mass panic yet.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Good, then let's solve this thing  
before there is.

As Cooper sits, it seems like everyone starts talking at  
once.

DEFENSE SECRETARY

Mr. President, clearly Pakistan's  
drone technology has far surpassed  
ours--

CIA CHIEF

There's no way we could have missed  
that. This has Moscow's  
fingerprints all over it--

ADMIRAL PORTER

Nonsense! I suspect a North Korean  
black ops sideshow. \*

PRESIDENT COOPER

I have a theory. I think, based on  
analysis of the footage, that  
preliminary indications are that we  
were attacked by...

CIA CHIEF

By who, sir?

PRESIDENT COOPER  
(quietly)  
Galaga.

Suddenly, there's intimidated silence for a beat. Violet stops taking notes. Then...

ADMIRAL PORTER  
Well then let's blow Galaga to hell. Who's Galaga?

\*

JUNIOR AIDE  
Um, it's an old-timey video game 80s kinda folks like my dad used to play.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
And tell everybody what happens in this video game, Jared.

As the Junior Aide fumbles through an answer, the SECRETARY OF THE NAVY is talking a little too loud to the President's Assistant.

JUNIOR AIDE	DEFENSE SECRETARY
Well, it's like, alien ships swarm in a symmetrical manner and rain light bombs on, like, your guy--	Just turkey, plain turkey... Do they have chipotle mayo?... Is it fat free? Can I get it on the side then?

PRESIDENT COOPER  
Hold on a second: Jim, are *you really ordering a sandwich in the middle of a national security meeting?*

DEFENSE SECRETARY  
I'm sorry, Mr. President. Jennifer asked what we wanted. I figured we were gonna' be here for awhile--

PRESIDENT COOPER  
(to his Assistant)  
Just get us a bunch of turkey sandwiches, okay?!  
(sees Navy Sec's pleading)  
...with chipotle mayo...  
(more pleading face)  
...on the side.  
(sighs, then to CIA Chief)  
So someone is attacking us in the form of spaceships from a 1980s video game. The question is who?

Brenner watches the tape of the attack again. Then he sees something and pauses the footage. He studies it closely.

31 INT. SITUATION ROOM, THE WHITE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

31

VIOLET

Mr. President, there's no nation on  
earth that has the military  
technology to simply... pixelate  
entire buildings--

\*  
\*  
\*

ADMIRAL PORTER

Except North Korea!

\*

DEFENSE SECRETARY

Forget North Korea! I think we're looking  
at a cutting edge multinational enterprise -  
an NGO, a think tank, even a corporation.  
We're thinking North Korea when we should  
be thinking Google.

ADMIRAL PORTER

So we should blow up Google!

\*

BRENNER (O.S.)

Can someone take Grandpa's keys  
away before he drives us into a  
ditch?

\*  
\*  
\*

Everyone turns and looks at BRENNER standing there in his  
bright orange shorts.

ADMIRAL PORTER

Who is this person?!

\*

DEFENSE SECRETARY

(hopeful)

The sandwich guy?

A beat of silence, then...

\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

Uh, yeah. This is... my... old arcade  
game technical consulting advisor person,  
Sam Brenner. He works... in the tech  
sector.

\*  
\*

DEFENSE SECRETARY

So he's a systems expert?

\*

BRENNER

Sound systems, yes sir.

\*

JUNIOR AIDE

Caltech? MIT?

\*  
\*

BRENNER

Yes, I did go to MIT, but it was  
the Mississippi Institute of  
Technology.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

(MORE)

BRENNER (CONT'D)

You give me two beer cans, some  
duct tape and a nine-volt battery,  
I'll make you a working blow dryer.

\*  
\*  
\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

More to the current point, Mr.  
Brenner was the National Galaga  
Champion.

BRENNER

World.

PRESIDENT COOPER

World champion. He knows everything there is  
to know about this game.

(to Brenner)

So what did you and your orange  
shorts barge in here to say?

BRENNER

The Galaga that attacked us  
actually doesn't exist anymore.

\*

JUNIOR AIDE

You can download Galaga on your phone.

They all look at Brenner. He is in the Lion's Den now.

BRENNER

Not this version of Galaga, prom king.  
The Galaga that exists now, that you  
can download off the internet, came out  
in 1986.

\*  
\*

(points at the screen)

But *this* is from the original 1982  
arcade version. Those machines were  
recalled and reprogrammed because of  
glitches in the original code. You can  
tell by the way the giant space bugs  
swoop in.

\*  
\*

VIOLET

(watching)

Kind of ziggy-zaggy.

BRENNER

(mocking)

Whoa, "ziggy zaggy," is that the  
military term?

\*

Violet glares.

\*

VIOLET

So someone designed these 'space bugs'  
after an old out of print version of a  
video game from 30 years ago that no one  
today would know? But how? Why?

ADMIRAL PORTER

I'm sorry, is this a National Security Council meeting or a dorm room drug party? Our nation has been attacked by an unknown military force, and we must respond swiftly and decisively. If it got out to the press that we were pinning the blame on an old computer game, they wouldn't just mock you on the news, Mr. President: they'd impeach you! So I suggest the man in the orange shorts leave the room immediately, so those of us with long pants and government positions can discuss our options!

\*

\*

\*

All eyes turn to the President.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Uh, you're right. Brenner, thanks for coming down. Appreciate your help.

\*

\*

Violet mouths "bye".

Brenner nods and salutes the various people as he backs out.

BRENNER

Mr. President, Generals, Admirals, other guys in suits, Mr. Efron, Private Benjamin, honored to be of service.

He walks out, then pokes his head back in.

BRENNER (CONT'D)

Hey, the sandwich guy is waiting out here. (the Defense Secretary stands, excited) Just kidding, homie. Stay strong.

\*

The Defense Secretary is crestfallen. Brenner salutes once more and leaves.

A32 EXT. WHITE HOUSE GATE - NIGHT

A32

\*

Brenner drives, feeling stupid. He pulls out of the White House

\*

32 INT. BRENNER'S VAN - CONTINUOUS

32

\*

When a face appears from the back of the van. It's LUDLOW LAMONSOFF (38). Looking as odd as he did when he was a kid. He has glasses, and wears an old faded "Defender" T-shirt.

\*

LUDLOW  
Brenner.

Brenner screams and gives Ludlow a backhand punch in the face. Ludlow falls back, but then tumbles forward as Brenner slams on the brakes, almost driving off the road. Brenner grabs Ludlow by his shirt, then recognizes him...

BRENNER  
*Ludlow??*

LUDLOW  
Yes! Why did you hit me?!

BRENNER  
You scared me! I thought I was getting kidnapped! How did you get in my van?

LUDLOW  
(rubbing his nose)  
It was unlocked.

BRENNER  
Yeah. I figured it would be safe *in the White House parking lot.*

LUDLOW  
I need to show you something immediately.

Brenner then sees Ludlow is holding a cloth and a jar of something in his hand.

BRENNER  
*And what's that in your hand?!*

LUDLOW  
(caught, sheepish)  
Nothing.

BRENNER  
*Is that a bottle of chloroform? Were you gonna knock me out?*

LUDLOW  
*Only as a last resort!*

\*

\*

33

INT. LUDLOW'S APARTMENT - LATER - NIGHT

33

Brenner & Ludlow enter. It's a CONSPIRACY THEORIST'S PARADISE. There are a TON of OLD computers. A TV with the RABBIT EARS, NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS OF VARIOUS CONSPIRACY THINGS: JFK, MOON LANDING, BIGFOOT, AREA 51. AS WELL AS A **CREEPY NUMBER OF POSTERS/PICTURES OF THE CASTLE QUEST VID GAME HOTTIE LADY LISA.**

BRENNER

By the way, if she was real she'd be scared to be in this apartment right now.

LUDLOW

Actually, I think if she was real,  
it would play out a little  
differently...

\*

Brenner spots a thick spiral notebook with a drawing of Lady Lisa and Ludlow on their wedding day on the cover; it's titled "IF SHE WAS REAL..." It's a homemade flipbook depicting her as a bride and kissing Ludlow. As flip-book Ludlow begins removing his shirt, Brenner puts the book down.

BRENNER

So what's so important that you  
were ready to rooie me?

\*

LUDLOW

Okay, so did you hear about what happened to our military base in Guam?

BRENNER

Yeah, it got attacked.

LUDLOW

Attacked by Galaga!

BRENNER

How did you know that?

LUDLOW

I hacked into the government servers. I saw everything. Brenner, I think I know what's going on.

BRENNER

Oh no, here comes a theory.

LUDLOW

Look, I know I'm a bit of a conspiracy freak. It's cost me several promising online relationships, most of my savings and a month wasted looking for Walt Disney's head underneath an ice skating rink in Vermont. But sometimes the conspiracies are real. Remember when we were kids and were in the Video Game Championship?

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

(Brenner nods)

Remember how they put a tape of the event and all the games we played in that orbiter that they shot out into the universe looking for Extra Terrestrial life?

\*

BRENNER  
(ET voice)  
ET phone home.

LUDLOW  
Good memory. Well, I think that some  
extra-terrestrial life found that  
videotape and sent real versions of what  
they saw to attack us.

\*

\*

BRENNER  
How does the ghost of Elvis fit  
into this?

\*

LUDLOW  
Brenner, I spent the day on 4chan,  
looking for messages from the Aliens to  
prove my theory. But I came up blank. So  
I decided to take a break and watch the  
tape of a rerun of ONE TREE HILL that I  
recorded tonight on my VCR. I'm  
bingewatching to catch up.

Ludlow points to an 80's TV, with vintage VCR and an ANTENNA.

BRENNER  
And you don't have cable because...?

LUDLOW  
*Because the government spies on you through  
your cable boxes, Brenner! That's been proven!*

BRENNER  
Oh yeah, that's right, I forgot.  
Saw that on "60 Minutes of Crazy".

LUDLOW  
Anyway, I poured myself a bowl of sugar  
free Frosted Flakes and sat down to watch  
Sophia Bush and her sassy One Tree Hill  
friends' sexy shenanigans. But regardless  
of what my TV Guide says...  
(holds up TV Guide)  
*One Tree Hill* was not what was broadcast  
tonight over that UHF signal.

BRENNER  
So what was?

LUDLOW  
This.

Ludlow holds up a VHS tape.

CLOSE ON HIS HAND AS HE POPS IT INTO THE VCR

34 INT. MOTHERSHIP - VHS FOOTAGE 34 \*

ON SCREEN we see PRESIDENT REAGAN in the hull of a spaceship. It is taped on a grainy overdubbed VHS tape. The tape breaks up, glitches.

PRESIDENT REAGAN  
Inhabit- of Earth. We are a r- from the  
Planet (STATIC) ...We came to you in  
these familiar Earth forms to tell you  
we received your vessel and in it your  
hostile challenge-

On TV, Reagan now morphs into 80's era Michael Jackson.

80'S ERA MICHAEL JACKSON  
(STATIC STATIC) we accept your (STATIC)  
Compete (STATIC) ...Winner take all battles.  
Gather your bravest warriors to face our  
(STATIC) bravest warriors (MORE STATIC)-

On the tape: Michael Jackson now CHANGES into MR. T. \*

35 INT. MOTHERSHIP - VHS FOOTAGE 35 \*

MR. T

Winner takes the loser's planet (STATIC)  
You have already lost (STATIC) the first  
battle. And for our victory, we (STATIC)  
have taken a trophy. \*

ON TV, CAMERA PANS TO A CELL where the HANDSOME SAILOR is being held CAPTIVE.

HANDSOME SAILOR  
I'm okay, Mom! I love you! That's  
not the real Mr. T!

MR. T  
Out of respect (STATIC) for your ways  
(STATIC) we will follow the rules of  
the battles you showed us in your  
craft. (STATIC) Like those battles...  
you will get... *three lives*. (STATIC)  
You have two lives left, losing both  
(STATIC) will lead to total (STATIC)  
destruction of your planet. The next  
battle (STATIC) is in 15 hours, at  
coordinates twenty-seven (STATIC)  
twenty-four, seventy- (STATIC) -nine.

The message ends. Ludlow HITS STOP. Pull back to REVEAL we're in...

36

INT. WHITE HOUSE - OVAL OFFICE - NIGHT

36

Brenner, Cooper and Ludlow were watching this on a flatscreen.

PRESIDENT COOPER

What do they mean three lives?

LUDLOW

Like the old games, you know: one quarter, three lives, Mr. President.

\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

Lud... You gave me my first Playboy when we were 14. I think you can call me Chewie.

LUDLOW

(smiling)

Yes, sir, Mr. President Chewie, sir.

BRENNER

These moron aliens think the video game footage that NASA shot into space was a declaration of war.

LUDLOW

--And we've already lost the first battle! If we lose two more, they will completely destroy our planet.

PRESIDENT COOPER

So where do Mr. T and Michael Jackson fit in?

LUDLOW

The aliens must be shapeshifters! In that orbiter NASA also included movies, music and other current events of 1982, to tell other civilizations about us.

BRENNER

What are they gonna hit us with next? If I'm remembering right, there were at least a dozen games we played that night back in '82. *Breakout, Galaga, Asteroids, Pac Man, Dig-Dug, Donkey Kong--*

\*

\*

\*

LUDLOW

*Donkey Kong*. Not your finest hour, Sam.

\*

BRENNER

Shut up, Lud, or I'll have Chewie  
pass a law against eating Hot  
Pockets in your underwear.

LUDLOW

Unconstitutional! Look, assuming  
those numbers alien Mr. T gave us  
are latitude and longitude, the  
next attack will be somewhere in  
northern India, tonight. If you can  
get your NSA techs to clean up the  
signal, we can pinpoint the exact  
location, and maybe even what game  
they're going to play--

\*  
\*  
\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

Look: this is an interesting  
theory. But I can't authorize a  
military response based on this  
crazy Ronald Reagan/Mr. T video. It  
looks like something a couple of  
high school kids made.

LUDLOW

Well, you gotta at least warn the  
Indians that something might be  
coming--

PRESIDENT COOPER

I'm known as a buffoon right now as  
it is. I can't the risk, Ludlow. I  
just can't.

\*

Brenner and Ludlow exchange a look.

CUT TO:

37

EXT. TAJ MAHAL - DAWN

37

\*

An excited INDIAN GUY (early 20s) is with a beautiful INDIAN  
GIRL outside the Taj Mahal. He seems nervous. He takes his  
iPhone out, pushes some buttons, and a tinny INDIAN VERSION  
of *Spandau Ballet's* "TRUE" begins to play. He props it up to  
record himself.

He stands facing the Girl, speaks some Hindi, then drops to  
one knee. The Girl can't believe this is happening!

Behind them, we see... something. Flashing lights, something  
bright whizzing through frame too fast to see. The couple is  
oblivious. The Guy speaks some more heartfelt Hindi, getting  
emotional, then pulls a ring box out of his pocket.

\*

The Girl, finally noticing what's going on off-camera, starts  
screaming. The Guy thinks she's screaming about the ring box,  
nods cockily.

But then he sees what's going on and starts screaming, too.  
He grabs the camera, but never gets a clear shot of what's  
going on, just quick low-rez images of lights, smoke, himself  
and --

He LOWERS the camera. For a few moments, we see the  
DESTRUCTION of the TAJ MAHAL. Is it being TORN APART by the  
game... *BREAKOUT!*

A bright light APPEARS above the Indian Guy. The girl STEPS  
BACK. TERRIFIED. The boy LOOKS UP. He SCREAMS, as his face  
becomes PIXELATED and SEPARATES INTO TINY PIXELS. The pieces  
are LIFTED INTO THE AIR...

38

INT. DARPA - CORRIDOR - DAY

38

An elevator opens in an antiseptic hallway, revealing Cooper,  
Brenner and Ludlow. Brenner is giving Cooper a hard time.

BRENNER  
(doing impression)  
"I can't take that risk, Ludlow. I  
just can't."

PRESIDENT COOPER  
Aw shut up.

LUDLOW  
(Indian accent)  
"He knew what was coming, but did  
not help us? Why?"

PRESIDENT COOPER  
(threatening)  
Hot Pockets.

Violet (in a lab coat) comes down the hall to greet him.

VIOLET  
Morning, Mr. President, I--  
(sees Brenner and Ludlow)  
What's Johnny Surround Sound doing  
here? And this other... fella?

LUDLOW  
I'm Ludlow Lamonsoff! This is  
awesome! You smell nice!

PRESIDENT COOPER  
Mr. Lamonsoff and Mr. Brenner have  
agreed to share their video game  
expertise with you and your team.

VIOLET

With all due respect, Mr.  
President, having civilians with  
zero security clearance in this  
facility is--

PRESIDENT COOPER

These gentlemen have a better  
handle on what's going on right now  
than anyone in my entire  
administration. You should be  
welcoming them, not questioning  
their security clearance.

\*  
\*  
\*

VIOLET

Of course, Mr. President.  
Gentlemen, right this way.

\*

Brenner gives Violet a cocky look. She smirks back and leads  
them through the hallway, into a LARGER ROOM, where VARIOUS  
TECHNICIANS and SCIENTISTS construct and design prototypes  
for the latest military weapons.

PRESIDENT COOPER

So have we made progress,  
Lieutenant?

\*

VIOLET

Enormous progress, sir. We now  
believe those things that attacked  
us were made of energy, intelligent  
energy.

A cool mecha-animal dog comes bounding down the hall toward  
them. A SCIENTIST follows, taking notes.

SCIENTIST

Morning, Lieutenant.

\*

VIOLET

Good morning, Michael.

As the Scientist passes, Brenner and Ludlow see his backside:  
wires, machinery, electrodes: the Scientist is a ROBOT.  
Ludlow is ecstatic.

LUDLOW

(excited whisper)  
Michael's a robot!

BRENNER

Handle your high, Ludlow.

VIOLET

Think about it: we as a civilization have been harnessing light for a hundred years and in that time we've created electricity, lasers. Things that people a century ago couldn't begin to comprehend. But it's possible that this civilization has been doing it for *millions of years*. So there's no telling what they're capable of.

\*  
\*  
\*

BRENNER

Wow, are you a robot too?

Violet rolls her eyes. Ludlow pauses at a table where a group of SCIENTISTS work on VARIOUS HIGH TECH WEAPONS. Ludlow stares at all of the weapons, in awe.

LUDLOW

Whoa... Best day of my life...

Ludlow picks up an iPad-like remote control--

SCIENTIST

*Hey!! May I help--*

ALL OF A SUDDEN a small drone rises off the table into the air and begins shooting randomly. Everyone ducks for cover. A Scientist grabs the remote out of Ludlow's hands.

LUDLOW

My bad.

REVEAL Michael the Robot down on the other side of the room. He has a smoking hole in his back, revealing smoldering circuits and wires.

MICHAEL THE ROBOT

I'm okay. No permanent damage.  
(green gel dribbles out of  
his mouth)  
All good.

They continue walking.

VIOLET

I think maybe the extra-terrestrials took what they saw in the orbiter and re-created those same things out of light energy and then sent these light creatures back at us. That's why solid matter like bullets, missiles, won't harm them.

\*  
\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

Well, have you come up with anything that *will* harm them?

VIOLET

Maybe...

They walk up to a different table, where another Scientist (not a robot) is taking notes over a high tech cage, studying something inside: a single PIXEL.

VIOLET (CONT'D)

The cube we recovered in Guam has proven nearly impossible to analyze, but we've been able to reverse engineer some prototype weapons that seem to neutralize it. We're basically hitting it with super-charged light particles.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

LUDLOW

Light guns?

VIOLET

Light cannons, actually. These cubes are pretty feisty.

Violet sticks the eraser-end of a pencil into the cage and pokes the pixel. The pencil pixellates, and the original pixel rattles around the cage superfast; the Scientist struggles not to drop it.

BRENNER

That's awesome. Can you show us the whore destroyer now?

\*  
\*

VIOLET

You're so smart. Is that how you got into the Mississippi Institute of Technology?

\*  
\*  
\*

BRENNER

You know I wish I never went into that closet with you. Also, I deeply regret trying to kiss you.

Cooper and Ludlow turn and look at Violet and Brenner. Violet resumes walking; they follow.

VIOLET

Moving on. We've begun instructing the Navy SEAL task force on the use of the prototype weapons.

\*

They've finally reached a huge door at the end of the room.

VIOLET (CONT'D)

Maybe our new "expert advisors" would like to say a few words?

She hits a button, opening the door, revealing a hangar where a group of 50 TOUGH NAVY SEALS have gathered. They all turn to Brenner and Ludlow with hard stares.

39

INT. DARPA - HANGAR - DAY

39

Cooper, Violet, Brenner and Ludlow stand behind Admiral Porter.

\*

ADMIRAL PORTER

\*

Men, you've served this nation with distinction in combat zones in every nook and cranny of this god-forsaken world, defeating every enemy they've thrown at you. And now, you are going to face, and I can't believe I'm saying this, aliens from outer space.

The SEALS look at each other, roll their eyes.

Brenner spots Matty in the back of the crowd (with his bookbag), and nudges Violet.

BRENNER

What's his security clearance?

VIOLET

I couldn't get a babysitter.

BRENNER

That's why I had to bring *him*.

Brenner points to Ludlow, who's nervously rocking in his chair.

ADMIRAL PORTER

\*

Now these aliens, probably for their own sick amusement, are going to attack us in the form of "video games". So, to help us develop defense strategies and counter-tactics, the President has brought in - and I *really* can't believe I'm saying this - these two civilian "arcaders," who we are now required to listen to for 120 seconds.

Admiral Porter stalks off. Brenner and Ludlow (extremely nervous) step forward, to a silent reaction (except for Matty, who smiles excitedly).

\*

LUDLOW

(whispers to Brenner)

I think I'm gonna puke.

\*

BRENNER

Just be confident. Act the part. We know how to do this stuff. They don't.

Ludlow nods, taking this to heart. They now stand in front of the surly SEALS.

BRENNER (CONT'D)

Thank you for that warm introduction, Admiral. My name is Sam Brenner. And this is-

\*  
\*

Ludlow shoves Brenner out of the way.

LUDLOW

YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE! Looks to me, Brenner, like *SOMEONE* FORGOT TO SEND US THE BEST OF THE BEST and instead dropped off a bunch of... *incontinent adult-diaper-wearing... candyass... cries-themselves-to-sleep-women-baby... man-people!*

\*

BRENNER

(sotto)

Too confident...

LUDLOW

From now on, *maggots*, you little... *girl maggots*, ---whatever the name for the female form of maggots is! From now on when you poop, WHEN YOU *POOP YOUR PANTS* YOU'RE GONNA BE THINKING OF ME! So TAKE YOUR TAMPONS OUT OF YOUR LADYBUSINESS AND LISTEN THE EFF UP!

\*

(yells in one Seal's face, spittle flying)

Do you feel me, sailor?! DO YOU FEEL MEEEEEEEE?!?!

The SEAL is about to kill him. Matty is trying hard not to laugh. Brenner steps in.

BRENNER

Ludlow, I think you're gonna feel his fist in the back of your skull if you don't take two steps back.

\*  
\*  
\*

Ludlow takes two steps back, trembling. Brenner addresses the troops.

\*

BRENNER (CONT'D)

Look, I know it must seem weird that two buffoons like us would be giving advice to you badassess, who put your lives on the line day to protect us.

\*  
\*  
\* every  
\*

(MORE)

BRENNER (CONT'D)

But we spent our childhoods training our prefrontal cortex to perform extremely complex motor feats with hand eye coordination unique to a very specific cognitive acuity, which is meaningless in all other areas of life, but suddenly might come in handy for saving the planet.

(quick look to Admiral Porter, whispers)

I learned a lot of big words at those dorm room drug parties.

(back to troops)

So we hope you guys can get past us being civilian morons and let us show you a few moves in whatever time we have.

\*

\*

\*

Then...

LUDLOW

*DO YOU LADIES UNDERSTAND THAT?!*

BRENNER

Lud, let it go.

LUDLOW

You got it, buddy.

Ludlow nods. CUT TO:

40 A FAST PACED TRAINING MONTAGE/WEAPON BUILDING MONTAGE. 40

MUSIC: DRAMATIC

-Rows and rows of VINTAGE ARCADE machines have been set up. A different NAVY SEAL stands over the controls of each video game, as Ludlow and Brenner pace behind the SEALS stopping every now and then to give a piece of advice. Brenner STOPS at one machine... *CENTIPEDE*. He gives specific directions to the Navy Seal, who is trying to grasp it.

\*

\*

\*

Ludlow steps in to dramatically demonstrate a specific move ("keeping the wrist loose"); the SEAL stares at him angrily.

41 -A blueprint is on a table. Violet refers to it as she 41  
barks orders to UNDERLINGS, who are making some pretty high-  
tech shit. \*

\*

42 -Brenner is playing Asteroids, and the game is being 42  
displayed on a giant screen. The SEALS are sitting watching,  
taking notes. It's crazy how good Brenner is; Matty is  
watching with new-found respect.

43 -Cooper is at the "make a cake" store with the KING OF 43  
SAUDI ARABIA doing the frosting as they discuss a free-trade  
agreement.

\*

Jennifer the Assistant runs in.

\*

ASSISTANT

Mr. President, we just received a message on the UHF signal from the "Where's the Beef?" lady! The next battle is on at sundown tomorrow: 51/30/29 latitude, 0/9/42 longitude.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Where the hell is that?

44 EXT. LONDON - DUSK - ESTABLISHING 44 \*

Establishing shot of London, England.

45 EXT. HYDE PARK, LONDON/INT. TROOP CARRIER - NIGHT 45 \*

HUMVEES roll down the road toward the park. Brenner and

Ludlow sit in the back, face to face with the SEALS. Ludlow smiles at the SEALS; they don't smile back.

46 EXT. HYDE PARK - NIGHT 46

They stop in a big open field, and disembark from the Humvees. A curious SOCCER PLAYER walks over to Ludlow.

SOCCER PLAYER

What's all this then, mate?

LUDLOW

We're Americans! These navy guys have gotten permission from your government to prepare for an extraterrestrial invasion which we believe will occur here in the next two hours.

\*

The Soccer Player just stares at Ludlow. Then a British SAS OFFICER traveling with our guys chimes in.

SAS OFFICER

We're shooting a beer commercial.

SOCCER PLAYER

Right then.

As he jogs off to rejoin his game...

BRENNER

Why'd you lie to him? Shouldn't we be clearing the area?

SAS OFFICER

Trying not to cause a total-panic situation, Yank.

(to Ludlow)

(MORE)

SAS OFFICER (CONT'D)  
And I don't want to hear another  
word out of you.

Ludlow looks cowed. But his mood instantly changes when  
Violet opens the back of one of the Humvees, revealing...

LUDLOW  
And then there were... light  
cannons.

High tech, sleek, insanely cool.

47 EXT. 10 DOWNING STREET - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING 47

Establishing shot of the Prime Minister's residence.

48 INT. 10 DOWNING STREET - NIGHT 48

The President sits with the BRITISH PRIME MINISTER and some  
aides and advisors, watching footage of Hyde Park on several  
monitors.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
Mr. Prime Minister, I can't thank  
you enough for your cooperation on  
this.

PRIME MINISTER  
Of course, Will. The Commonwealth  
is at your disposal. I trust we'll  
duff up these jiggery pokers  
straight away, and resume the  
profoundly ordinary summer of gloom  
we were heretofore luxuriating in.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

PRESIDENT COOPER  
I know, right?

After a beat, he turns to the Junior Aide and whispers.

PRESIDENT COOPER (CONT'D)  
(confused)  
No idea what he just said.

JUNIOR AIDE  
Your response made sense, sir.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
That's why they call me "da prez".

49 EXT. HYDE PARK - NIGHT 49

The SEALS are taking the light cannons out of the Humvees.  
Violet seems nervous.

VIOLET

Easy with those! We don't have any backups!

Admiral Porter strides over.

ADMIRAL PORTER

These ray guns gonna work, Kelly?

VIOLET

We had no way to field test them, sir. But most of our computer models showed a resonable degree of effectiveness.

ADMIRAL PORTER

*Reasonable degree?! You're sending my men into battle with untested ordinance?!*

VIOLET

I had two days! To do things never done before on this planet!

ADMIRAL PORTER

Remember who you're speaking to, Lieutenant!

The gruff SAS Officer calls out.

SAS OFFICER

Anybody who doesn't need to be here should follow me to the support area, now.

(to Brenner and Ludlow)

That means you geezers. Move it.

Brenner and Ludlow start walking away, kind of bummed. Brenner sees Violet is shook up.

BRENNER

Hey, Lieutenant: it's gonna work.

50 INT. 10 DOWNING STREET - NIGHT

50

Cooper, the PM and their aides are watching Fox News with SHEP SMITH on one of the monitors.

SHEP SMITH

Our military was attacked. And what does the President do? His specialty - nothing!

MEGYN KELLY chimes in.

MEGYN KELLY  
That's not true, Shep - he made a  
cake with King Abdul!

\*  
\*

Footage of Cooper happily making the cake.

PRIME MINISTER  
Turn that off. Apologies, Will.

\*

PRESIDENT COOPER  
They always seem to catch us doing  
goofy stuff, eh, Nigel?

\*

PRIME MINISTER  
Rarely *that* goofy, but I do  
understand the sentiment.

\*  
\*

PRESIDENT COOPER  
(fake smiles, then into  
speakerphone)  
Anything, Lt. Kelly?

\*

51 EXT. HYDE PARK - NIGHT

51

VIOLET (INTO HER WALKIE-TALKIE)  
Eerily quiet, Mr. President--

\*

It is quiet, except for a rhythmic groaning noise coming from  
the walkie-talkie. It almost sounds like... sipping. BACK TO:

52 INT. 10 DOWNING STREET - NIGHT

52

The Defense Secretary is nervously sipping tea in the corner.  
He notices the President and everyone else staring at him.

DEFENSE SECRETARY  
It's very hot.

53 EXT. HYDE PARK - NIGHT

53

The park is pretty crowded. Brenner squeezes between two  
metal barriers and walks over to the SAS Officer

BRENNER  
Hey, dude, I just thought of  
something I should tell the SEALS  
about the pattern if it's Space  
Invaders--

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

SAS OFFICER  
Please return to the support area.

BRENNER  
I'm just trying to--

SAS OFFICER  
(grabs Brenner's shirt)  
If we need you, we know where to  
find you.

\*  
\*

Brenner turns and walks back behind the barrier.

Suddenly, there is THUNDER. LOUD THUNDER. CLOUDS have started to materialize out of the peaceful sky. Above the clouds we see LIGHTS. It's very *magical*. And terrifying.

At the nearby soccer game, someone takes a shot on goal, and another player deflects the ball sky-high with his head. But then the ball doesn't come down. Then they see why:

A **SPACESHIP, MOSTLY HIDDEN BY CLOUDS HEADS TOWARDS THEM.**  
Brenner and the others **all MARVEL at it.**

THE SHIP'S PORTAL OPENS. Then THINGS START TO FALL FROM THE CLOUDS. They look like GIANT MUSHROOMS. Everyone braces for impact, then the giant mushrooms stop mid air. They start to HOVER and FORM A PATTERN IN THE SKY.

BRENNER  
It's Centipede.

The SEALS "hooo-rah" and sprint off to their attack positions. Brenner yells instructions from the other side of the fence.

BRENNER (CONT'D)  
Remember what we talked about! Kill each centipede from the head down! If you hit it in the middle it will break in two.

LUDLOW  
Then you have two snakethings. Hit it again, four snakethings. We do not want four snake-things!

\*

The cocky Seals ignore them and take aim at the night sky.

And then **THEY COME**. GIANT CENTIPEDES just like from the old arcade game come to life. THE CENTIPEDES NOW EVOLVE FROM the 8 BIT look to more realistic creatures. They are TERRIFYING.

LUDLOW (CONT'D)  
Oh God. Oh God. This is really real.

The GIANT CENTIPEDES SLITHER DOWN FROM THE SKY, THROUGH THE MUSHROOMS. EACH HAS A DIFFERENT PERSONALITY. One CACKLES. Another has A GIANT MOUTH FULL OF TEETH, constantly CHOMPING at the air. Another GROWLS AND SCREAMS. Yet another HISSSES.

Also unlike the game that existed on a solely Two Dimensional Plane, this is REAL LIFE and THREE DIMENSIONAL. The creatures attack from all ANGLES.

The Seals start SHOOTING UPWARDS. THE LIGHT CANNONS EMIT LASER BLASTS THAT RESEMBLE THE GAME.

One of SEALS' beams HIT A CENTIPEDE'S HEAD. IT PIXELLATES! A cheer goes up.

54 INT. 10 DOWNING STREET - NIGHT 54

Everyone cheers. Cooper pumps his fist, psyched.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
The light cannons work!

55 EXT. HYDE PARK- NIGHT 55

Violet looks back at Brenner and smiles gratefully. As he smiles back, he mutters to himself.

BRENNER  
G-d she's hot...

Then a SEAL fires up at a Centipede and hits it in the middle. IT SPLITS IN HALF.

BRENNER (CONT'D)  
NO, NO!!! DIDN'T WE JUST SAY DON'T SPLIT THEM IN HALF?! JUST AIM FOR THE HEAD!!...

The Seals are NOT USED to these things: the weapons or the prey. They FIRE UP at them. But KEEP MISSING.

SEAL  
*THE MUSHROOM-THINGS. They're in the way!*

BRENNER  
SHOOT THE MUSHROOMS! It's just like the game. If they get down to the ground it's gonna get really bad, really quick.

The Seals FIRE UP at the mushrooms and centipedes. They hit a mushroom which now sends a CENTIPEDE STRAIGHT DOWN TOWARDS A SEAL. He doesn't see it.

VIOLET  
*SGT. DUFF!! 12 O'CLOCK!*

TOO LATE. THE CENTIPEDE CHOMPS UP SGT. DUFF AND scurries quickly off into the bushes.

56 INT. 10 DOWNING STREET - NIGHT 56

The whole room watches in shock.

57

EXT. HYDE PARK - NIGHT

57

LUDLOW

Nooooooooo! It ate the Sarge! The  
centipede ate the Sarge!

\*

The remaining Seals continue to SHOOT SKYWARD. They are all  
freaked out by what just happened. Another CENTIPEDE STREAKS  
BACK AND FORTH ACROSS THE SKY DOWN TOWARDS THEM LIKE A  
VICIOUS FLYING SHARK. The Big Seal shoots at it. But it's TOO  
FAST. He KEEPS MISSING.

BRENNER

No, shoot right... Now left! Look, you  
can't just fire at where they are,  
they're too fast. You have to watch the  
patterns, anticipate where they're going  
to be and shoot there!

BIG SEAL

*I DON'T KNOW THE PATTERNS!*

It's moving fast down towards them, CLOSER AND CLOSER. It's  
SCARY MOUTH BITING AWAY. Finally Brenner can't stand it. He  
leaps over the barrier, shoves the SAS Officer to the ground  
and sprints toward the SEAL.

\*

VIOLET

Brenner! No!

Brenner grabs the light cannon from the Seal and STARTS  
FIRING AT THE CENTIPEDE. BLAST BLAST BLAST!

Piece by piece Brenner BLASTS it, just like in the game. And  
as it dies we see it RETROGRADE BACK FROM REAL-LOOKING  
CENTIPEDE TO THE LOWER RESOLUTION 8 BIT ONE FROM THE GAME,  
FINALLY TO PIXELS OF ENERGY THAT DISSIPATE INTO THE AIR. The  
dissipated pixels BRUSH PAST Brenner's face.

BIG SEAL

Nice shooting, civilian.

BRENNER

I'm not just a civilian. I'm a  
nerd.

He looks at Ludlow and makes a decision.

BRENNER (CONT'D)

Ludlow, grab a light cannon and get  
over here!

\*

\*

LUDLOW

Me?! No! NO! I LOOK DELICIOUS, HE'LL EAT  
ME TOO!!

BRENNER  
These guys don't know this game! We  
were born to do this!

The SEALS look to Violet. Violet talks into the walkie-talkie.

VIOLET  
Mr. President?

A beat of silence, then...

PRESIDENT COOPER (O.S.)  
(quietly)  
Let the nerds take over.

VIOLET  
What was that, sir?

PRESIDENT COOPER (O.S.)  
LET THE NERDS TAKE OVER!!!

A SEAL hands his light cannon to Ludlow. Ludlow looks at Brenner, terrified. Then...

BRENNER  
Lud... hit the start button.

LUDLOW  
(takes a deep breath)  
What am I worried about? I'm the  
Wonder Kid.

The two of them turn skyward and start blasting away. THEY  
BOTH KICK ASS.

A SCREAMING CENTIPEDE FLIES DIAGONALLY DOWN FOR LUDLOW.  
LUDLOW BLASTS IT. IT BREAKS IN TWO RIGHT BEFORE it hits him.  
The two pieces HIT THE GROUND and SLITHER AWAY. But LUDLOW  
quickly nails them both with a cool spin move.

A HOPPING SPIDER APPEARS, AND BEGINS HOPPING SUPER-FAST  
TOWARD ADMIRAL PORTER. ADMIRAL PORTER, TERRIFIED, LETS OUT A  
HIGH-PITCHED SCREAM.

BRENNER TAKES AIM (THE GUN BARREL TILTING UP AND DOWN AS HE  
TRACKS THE HOPS). HE FIRES AND NAILS THE SPIDER IN THE NICK  
OF TIME. THE SPIDER EXPLODES INTO A SHOWER OF PIXELS IN THE  
ADMIRAL'S FACE.

BRENNER  
You're welcome, homeboy!

58 INT. 10 DOWNING STREET - NIGHT

58

Everyone watches this.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
YEAH, BOYS! Shock and awe! High  
score, bitches!

\*

He turns, sees everyone staring at him.

PRIME MINISTER  
You heard the president. Cheer them  
on!

Everyone in the room starts cheering raucously.

\*

59 EXT. HYDE PARK - NIGHT

59

BRENNER  
Only one left!! Daddy's got ya...

Brenner points to the REMAINING CENTIPEDE. But it breaks  
right quick, MOVING **TOWARDS THE CITY!** Brenner FOLLOWS it OUT  
of the park, as Ludlow, consumed with blood-lust, continues  
shooting crazily into the sky.

\*

\*

\*

60 EXT. PARK LANE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

60

The Centipede RUNS OUT into the street. PEDESTRIANS freak  
out, RUNNING AWAY.

Brenner runs out in hot pursuit.

The Centipede RUNS TO AN APARTMENT BUILDING and BURSTS  
through the FRONT DOORS, MOVING INSIDE.

61 INT. LONDON APARTMENT BUILDING - STAIRWELL - NIGHT

61

The Centipede dashes UP THE STAIRS. Brenner CHARGES AFTER IT.  
The Centipede CRASHES through the FIFTH FLOOR door, into the  
hallway.

62 INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

62

An OLD WOMAN is exercising along with a "BUNS OF STEEL", an  
English workout TV show. THE CENTIPEDE BUSTS THROUGH THE DOOR  
and PASSES the TV. The woman doesn't notice, obsessed with  
her workout. The Centipede TURNS BACK and STOPS beside the  
woman. The creature is mesmerized by the TV show, by the  
music... The Centipede MIMICS the movements of the workout,  
beginning to exercise along with her...

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

Brenner RUNS INSIDE, takes aim at the Centipede.

\*

BRENNER  
*Why are you here? What do you  
want?!*

\*

The Centipede turns TOWARD THE WINDOW. Brenner FIRES, MISSES  
the Centipede and BLOWS APART THE TV.

\*

\*

OLD WOMAN

*ME TELLY!*

\*  
\*  
\*

The Centipede LEAPS THROUGH THE WINDOW. *CRASH!!!*

63

EXT. STREET BELOW- NIGHT

63

A CROWD of people are gathered outside, seeing the CENTIPEDE BURST OUT THE WINDOW, FLYING DOWN TOWARD THEM. They TURN to RUN OFF. Except for a LITTLE BOY. He stares, in shock, at the flying centipede. It's HEADING RIGHT DOWN TOWARDS HIM.

Time slows down. Brenner, pissed off, appears at the window and TAKES AIM. THE CENTIPEDE OPENS ITS MOUTH. ONLY A FEW FEET FROM THE BOY.

In SLO MO BRENNER FIRES! *BLAST BLAST BLAST!* The tail end is hit and disappears again and again, the Centipede getting shorter and shorter til it's just the head, opening it's mouth to eat the boy... THE LAST BLAST HITS IT. The centipede DE-RESES AND PIXELATES INTO NOTHING.

The Little Boy smiles at him.

LITTLE BOY

Who are you, Mister?

BRENNER

Son, I'm just a guy who's good at old videogames.

64

INT. BRITISH PUB - LATER - NIGHT

64

The Guys, Violet, the SAS Officer and the Seals are in the PACKED BRITISH PUB WITH A TON of Brits. The mood is celebratory. Ludlow stands on top of a table, raises his glass...

\*

LUDLOW

*DRINKS ARE ON THE U.S. GOVERNMENT!*

The packed bar SCREAMS AND TOASTS.

LUDLOW (CONT'D)

*...WHICH IS COVERING UP THE TRUTH  
ABOUT THE ANCIENT PYRAMID UNDER  
HOOVER DAM!*

The packed bar IS CONFUSED.

Brenner raises a glass to the guys and the Seals.

BRENNER

To Sgt. Duff, who gave his life for our freedom.

As they all drink to him, Brenner turns to see Violet smiling at him.

VIOLET

You're a good man, Brenner. Sorry I was so rough on you.

BRENNER

I appreciate that. And in exchange for your apology, I am getting you drunk! I'm just letting you know in advance. Which is the gentlemanly thing to do because as far as you know I'm a gentleman.

VIOLET

You can try. But *just so you know* I was the tequila shot record holder in my class at West Point. So it ain't gonna be easy.

They clink shot glasses. Violet downs hers, Brenner throws his over his shoulder.

BRENNER

That's one...

Violet laughs.

The doors to the bar fly open and SECRET SERVICE COME IN followed by the President. The PATRONS ALL CHEER HIM.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Where are my gamers at?

Cooper kneels between Brenner and Ludlow, and puts his arms around them.

PRESIDENT COOPER (CONT'D)

Looks like all that time you wasted when we were kids is finally paying off.

The now-drunken SAS Officer stands and holds up a pitcher. \*

SAS OFFICER \*

Sir? Might I pour you a frosty? \*

PRESIDENT COOPER

Hey: I am the President of the United States, and a President can't be seen drinking during a time of crisis... \*

(loosens his tie)

So nobody look! \*

Cooper grabs the entire pitcher. The crowd CHEERS. As Cooper raises it to his lips...

Every TV in the pub crackles to life. We see a bit of ONE TREE HILL. IT BREAKS UP. 80'S BORN IN THE USA era BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN comes on screen.

65 INT. MOTHERSHIP - VHS FOOTAGE 65 \*

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN  
Congratulations. You have (STATIC)  
won this battle. (STATIC) Please  
accept one of our warriors as a  
trophy of your victory.

66 INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT 66 \*

The Old Woman who we met before is sitting on the couch in her trashed apartment eating biscuits. \*

A BEAM OF LIGHT suddenly shines in the window. Pixels swoop in and form into the DOG from the game DUCK HUNT. It hops on the couch and snuggles against her. The Old Woman pets it. \*

OLD WOMAN  
Well aren't you a cute one? Give us  
a kiss, luv... \*

The Duck Hunt Dog licks her face. \*

67 INT. BRITISH PUB - NIGHT 67

Everyone stares silently at Springsteen on the TVs.

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN (ON TV)  
The next challenge will not be (STATIC)  
as easy. The details will be sent via  
this (STATIC) signal shortly. Remember,  
we are still leading two battles to one.  
(STATIC) one more loss for you will mean  
(STATIC) the annihilation of your world. \*

Springsteen goes into a windmill move on his guitar, then the TV screens fade back to black. The celebratory mood has instantly turned funereal. \*

PRESIDENT COOPER  
Alright, you heard The Boss. Let's get back to  
work. We gotta get you guys ready for the next  
battle.

LUDLOW  
Us?

BRENNER  
No, we're not the guys, Chew. We just  
stepped in to stop it from going wrong.  
Today was a fluke.

PRESIDENT COOPER

A fluke? You guys single-handedly  
repelled an alien attack! The world  
needs you right now.

\*  
\*

Cooper looks at Brenner very seriously.

PRESIDENT COOPER (CONT'D)

Remember when I told you that you  
were meant for something more in  
life? This is it, buddy.

VIOLET

He's right, Brenner. I hate to  
admit it, but you're the best.

\*  
\*

BRENNER

Not at every game...

The meaning of this sinks in.

LUDLOW

Oh please God no.

BRENNER

I don't want to see him either. But we  
might need him.

\*

68 INT. PENITENTIARY - DAY

68

Cooper, Brenner and Violet are led into the prison by the  
WARDEN. Violet now opens up the vet file on EDDIE PLANT.

VIOLET

Eddie Plant: Married and divorced four  
times, declared bankruptcy in 1991 and  
2004. In 2005, he was caught hacking the  
cell phone companies and adding one of  
those fees you see on your bill every  
month but have no idea what it is, made  
about 50 million before he was convicted  
and sentenced to twenty years in prison.  
This guy a good friend of yours?

BRENNER

As I remember, we pretty much hate each  
other.

\*

69 INT. HOLDING ROOM, JAIL - DAY

69

The Warden leads Brenner and Violet into a room. Adult EDDIE  
PLANT is here. He wears a goatee, a mullet and a few tattoos.  
When Brenner walks in, Eddie acts mock-terrified.

EDDIE PLANT

Warden, get me outta here! It's that mean centipede killer! I hope he don't zap me with his space gun!

BRENNER

Hello, Eddie.

EDDIE PLANT

S'up, Second Place. And your sidekick, he really made something of hisself.

(before he can say thanks)

I didn't know you could have an approval rating that "catatastrophic". I think the warden in here is more popular than you.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Alright, here's the deal... In exchange for you helping us, I will personally talk to the parole board about reducing your sentence.

EDDIE PLANT

(sits back smugly)

Pass.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Pass?

EDDIE PLANT

That deal doesn't work for Eddie Plant. If you want the Fire Blaster's help, he has some demands.

VIOLET

Who's the Fire Blaster?

\*

EDDIE PLANT

Me! That's my nickname!

BRENNER

Oh right, the one you made up.

EDDIE PLANT

Who cares who came up with it?! It's totally tubular! Look I've been watching the news. I know what's going on out there. And I further know that he despises my white ass-

\*

\*

BRENNER

Nooooooyes.

EDDIE PLANT

So you wouldn't be here unless you really  
really needed my help. Which gets me back to my  
original point: I have some demands. \*

PRESIDENT COOPER

(annoyed)

Like what?

Eddie sits back and pulls out a handwritten list of demands.

EDDIE PLANT

I want an island.

BRENNER

*Oh g-d.*

EDDIE PLANT

There are 18,617 named islands that are  
part of the United States and its  
territories! Not to mention all the  
countless unnamed ones. \*

PRESIDENT COOPER

You're not getting an island.

EDDIE PLANT

Then I want a full pardon. I want to get  
out of here for good. And after I do I want  
to pay no more taxes like forever. Like if  
technology improves and I live forever I  
want to pay no taxes, *for-ev-er!* Not even  
sales tax, if I buy some for instance gum,  
I want a card that says I saved the world  
and I don't have to pay no shitballs taxes  
on gum. I want one of those Stealth Attack  
Helicopters that they fly over the Super  
Bowl-- at my disposal at all times to fly  
my white ass around. If the world is still  
here I don't want to have to deal with  
traffic anymore. And lastly I want you to  
set up a rendezvous with me, Taylor Swift  
and Jamie Lee Curtis in the Lincoln  
Bedroom. \*

Cooper stands and walks out. Brenner goes after him.

BRENNER

Chewie!

Cooper stops, and he and Brenner speak with quiet intensity  
in the doorway, out of earshot.

PRESIDENT COOPER

I can't do this, Sam. \*

BRENNER

We can't do it without him.

PRESIDENT COOPER

He's going to mess this up. He's going to screw us over.

They look back at Eddie, who's blowing kisses at Violet.

BRENNER

He's no day at the beach. But I think a lot of this is just a front. We're giving him the chance to be a hero. Even assholes like him want to be a hero.

PRESIDENT COOPER

I don't know, man...

BRENNER

You gotta trust me.

Cooper thinks for a beat, then walks back to the table.

PRESIDENT COOPER

1) You're not getting a helicopter or any sort of flying or driving vehicle. 2) I think the Federal Government can *probably* do without *your* income taxes and be okay. But sales tax you're on your own. And 3) IF you help us beat these things... I think we can get you out of here.

EDDIE PLANT

...And the Swift/Lee Curtis sandwich?

\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

Pick one of them.

(disgusted)

We'll see if we can set up... a *coffee*.

\*

EDDIE PLANT

Jamie Lee Curtis. And we are closed.

\*

Eddie smiles and puts out his cuffed hand to shake Coopers. Violet's phone rings. She answers, nods, then hangs up.

VIOLET

It's happening tonight.

\*

BRENNER AND COOPER

Where?

\*

\*

VIOLET

New York City.

\*

\*

CUT TO Eddie Plant, holding his crotch.

EDDIE PLANT  
FUHGEDDABOUTIT!!!

70 EXT. MANHATTAN - DAY - ESTABLISHING 70 \*

The greatest city in the world.

71 EXT. NEW YORK CITY - STAGING AREA - DAY 71 \*

A military trucks pulls up, and Violet, Brenner, Eddie (with  
sunglasses on his head) and Ludlow hop out. They get cheers. \*

Ludlow can't believe it. \*

The guys are wearing DARK BLUE "ARCADER" SUITS. Eddie has a  
GPS BRACELET on his ankle.

EDDIE PLANT  
Hello Big Apple, the cavalry has  
arrived!

The POLICE COMMISSIONER walks over.

POLICE COMMISSIONER  
Thanks for coming. We saw how you  
guys handled the Centipede, and hope  
you can do the same for us. \*

BRENNER  
I hope so too. So what are we  
dealing with? \*

The Commissioner calls over a ROOKIE COP. He is draped in a  
blanket, shaken up. \*

POLICE COMMISSIONER  
Rookie! Tell 'em what you saw. \*

The Rookie Cop comes over, his eyes saucers of fear. \*

ROOKIE COP  
It... it came out of the clouds.  
And then it started attacking.  
Devouring everything in it's path.  
It was awful! It was like a scene  
out of a monster movie, you know?  
Except this time the monster was  
real... \*

BRENNER  
Alright. And who was this monster? \*

ROOKIE COP  
P-p-p-pac Man! \*

The Arcaders all laugh. \*



EDDIE PLANT  
I made your game my bitch!

PROF. IWATANI  
What is... "beetch"?

BRENNER  
Don't worry about that, Professor.  
Welcome aboard. Let's get to work. \*

The guys go to their cars. Brenner, nervous but trying not to show it, struggles with strapping himself in. Violet sees.

VIOLET  
Here, I'll help you.

She helps strap him in.

VIOLET (CONT'D)  
Assuming they follow the rules of the game like they did with Centipede, if you guys hit Pacman three times with this energy field, we win.

BRENNER  
Ludlow was right: you do smell nice.

They look at each other.

VIOLET  
Good luck.

She walks off. Brenner smiles and starts the Ghostcooper. \*

73 EXT. BROOKLYN BRIDGE - LATER - DUSK

73 \*

There's a traffic jam of people trying to get out of the \* city. POLICE HELICOPTERS circle overhead. The four Mini \* Coopers RACE across the bridge, being led by a heavy POLICE \* ESCORT. \*

74 EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - LATER - NIGHT

74 \*

The guys drive the four Ghostcoopers with licence plates that say INKY, BLINKY, PINKY AND CLYDE down the street. They speak to each other on comms.

LUDLOW  
Why am I Pinky? \*

BRENNER  
At least you're not Blinky. How can you be a badass driving Blinky? \*

EDDIE PLANT  
I love being Clyde. Clyde's cool.  
Clyde's for real.

\*  
\*  
\*

PROF. IWATANI  
Enough jibber-jabber! It does not  
matter which ghost you are!  
(to himself, delighted)  
As long as I'm Inky...

\*

75 EXT. MANHATTAN - STAGING AREA - NIGHT

75

We see Violet at a command center.

VIOLET (INTO THE COMMS)  
Gentlemen, I'll be sending Pac Man's  
current coordinates to each of your car's  
GPS'. Failure is not an option.

\*  
\*  
\*

76 EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS - NIGHT

76

The Ghostcoopers roll into the city. We see PEOPLE FLEEING.  
DESTRUCTION. It's like a scene out of a Godzilla movie.

We hear the FAMILIAR SOUND OF PACMAN MOVING, EATING, but now  
on a grander scale. They HEAD towards the noise. It's getting  
LOUDER AND LOUDER.

They round the corner and see **THE PACMAN**. He is like a giant  
yellow, three dimensional version of the one from the game.  
CROWDS OF PEOPLE flee from him. The slower ones are DEVoured  
by Pacman, along with abandoned cars, motorcycles...

EDDIE PLANT  
Look at the size of that thing! It looks  
like Barry Bonds' head!

\*

BRENNER  
I can't believe Pac-Man's a bad guy.

\*

Prof. Iwatani is near tears, stunned by what he sees.

\*

PROF. IWATANI  
Pac-Man is not bad! I created him  
to bring joy to all the people of  
the world! They have brainwashed  
him! Deep down, he is gentle, kind,  
someone you could tell your  
troubles to, or grab a hamburger  
with... You'll see!

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Prof. Iwatani gets out of the car and APPROACHES Pac-Man.

\*

BRENNER  
*Professor Iwatani! What are you  
doing?!...*

\*  
\*  
\*

PROF. IWATANI

I will talk to him. He is my son.

Prof. Iwatani approaches Pac-Man, who studies him suspiciously.

PROF. IWATANI (CONT'D)

Hello, my sweet little boy. Look how big you have grown! I am proud of you. But these destructive things you are doing, they are wrong. I am your father...

Prof. Iwatani gives him a warm smile, REACHES OUT TO TOUCH PAC-MAN...

PROF. IWATANI (CONT'D)

And I know you are a good boy--

Pac-Man OPENS HIS MOUTH and CHOMPS OFF Prof. Iwatani's hand. He SCREAMS, as the top of his wrist PIXELATES AWAY.

PROF. IWATANI (CONT'D)

Aaaaaah! Kill this stupid beeeeetch!!

Prof. Iwatani turns and RUNS AWAY, DISAPPEARING DOWN the street, among the crowd.

BRENNER

That was some crazy Pinocchio shiz-nit right there.

Pacman GLARES at Brenner. They stare at each other for a moment. Then Pacman QUICKLY TURNS and starts heading in the OPPOSITE DIRECTION.

EDDIE PLANT

Alright losers, three on one, let's hit it!

THE THREE REMAINING GHOST-COOPERS HAUL ASS and TAKE OFF AFTER PACMAN.

77 EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - NIGHT

77

CAMERA follows behind Pacman as he FLIES DOWN the street. He eats a COMMUTER BUS. Just like the game he TURNS ON A DIME, FLYING down another street. The GHOSTCOOPERS chase after.

78 INT. GEORGETOWN MANSION - DAY

78

The Handsome Homeowner from the beginning of the movie, his gorgeous wife and their three kids are watching the Pac-Man attack on their taped up TV (it looks kind of like an OJ style car chase). A headshot of Brenner appears.

THIRD CHILD  
Hey, that's the nerd who broke our  
TV!

79 INT. GHOSTCOOPERS/VARIOUS - NIGHT

79

BRENNER  
He's faster than I remember.

Brenner SHIFTS into high gear and FLOORS IT. The three Ghostcoopers are nipping at its heels, but Pacman is STILL FASTER.

EDDIE PLANT  
Pac Man's always been faster than the ghosts. We're gonna have to outmaneuver his ass. Wonder Fro - you and Brenner break off. I'll stay with Big Yellow.

\*

In their cars, Brenner and Ludlow TURN OFF in a different direction. Eddie is in HOT PURSUIT.

WE SEE Eddie lower his sunglasses.

\*

80 INT. MANHATTAN - STAGING AREA - NIGHT

80

Violet looks at the SATELLITE FOOTAGE AND MAPS OF THE STREETS. We see Eddie's car CHASING after Pacman on the screen, while Ludlow and Brenner's cars move into position to flank him. With THE GRID OF THE CITY AND HIM EATING THE SMALL CARS IN HIS PATH IT REALLY DOES LOOK LIKE THE GAME.

VIOLET  
Alright, you need to start thinking about how to trap him--

ON THE SCREEN, WE SEE THE ORANGE SHAPE REPRESENTING EDDIE'S CAR MOVE CLEAR ACROSS THE GRID INSTANTANEOUSLY.

\*

VIOLET (CONT'D)  
Huh? Eddie, how did you do that so fast?

EDDIE PLANT  
Cause I'm the champ, sugar buns! Ludlow, turn right at the next intersection; Brenner, turn left and then he's cheese.

\*

81 EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS/VARIOUS - NIGHT

81

Pacman continues CHOMPING his way through traffic. Eddie is now zooming toward him.

Pac Man tries to double back, but BRENNER AND LUDLOW'S CARS ARE THERE!

BRENNER

Nope.

LUDLOW

Sorry.

Eddie SLAMS INTO THE BACK OF PACMAN! WE HEAR THE NOISE FROM THE GAME WHEN A GHOST KILLS PACMAN.

Pacman SCREAMS. He lets out a BIG ROAR that rocks the city.

BRENNER

*ONE DOWN!*

82 INT. MANHATTAN - STAGING AREA - NIGHT

82

VIOLET

*TWO TO GO!*

Violet looks at the satellite footage.

VIOLET (CONT'D)

Okay, Iwatani Son Number 2 just re-generated four streets away, now heading northbound. So turn east at the next intersection.

83 INT. GHOSTCOOPERS - VARIOUS - NIGHT

83

Brenner, Ludlow and Eddie are back in pursuit of Pacman.

84 INT. MANHATTAN - STAGING AREA - NIGHT

84

VIOLET

Okay... Brenner stay straight.  
Ludlow go left. Fireblaster right.

85 EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS/VARIOUS - NIGHT

85

The three Ghost-Coopers ROLL DOWN various streets. Brenner is HOT on Pacman's tail. Pacman TURNS A CORNER. ALL THREE CARS CLOSE IN.

LUDLOW

WE GOT HIM! HE HAS NOWHERE TO GO!

All of them smile. Then Brenner sees something and their FACES FALL.

BRENNER

Oh dip.

86 INT. MANHATTAN - STAGING AREA - CONTINUOUS

86

VIOLET

Oh dip what? *Oh dip what?!*

87 EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - CONTINUOUS

87

We see Pacman and the Three Ghostcoopers on three sides of him. Then on the fourth side we see...A GIANT POWER PILL!

PACMAN EATS IT. He STARTS TO GLOW AND SHAKE.

SCREAMING LUDLOW VEERS RIGHT. BRENNER SHIFTS INTO REVERSE AND FLOORS IT. POWERED UP PACMAN HEADS AFTER HIM.

88 EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - CONTINUOUS

88

Brenner still flooring it in reverse as Pacman chases him with a vengeance like the *T-Rex in Jurassic Park*.

VIOLET (OVER COMMS)  
What's happening?!

BRENNER  
A power pill! *He's got ten seconds*  
where he can eat us.

\*

Brenner then makes a HARD TURN. He looks and Pacman is GONE.

89 EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS/VARIOUS - CONTINUOUS

89

Ludlow stops. Looks around. He doesn't see him anywhere. He is breathing heavily, hyper-ventilating. Then in his REAR VIEW WE SEE PACMAN QUICKLY COMING TOWARDS HIM FROM BEHIND.

Ludlow HITS the gas. Pacman CHASES HIM, he's FASTER than Ludlow and QUICKLY CATCHES UP to the Ghost-Cooper. Pacman opens his mouth and... BITES OFF THE BACK HATCH of Ludlow's car. Leaving a GAPING HOLE. LUDLOW, EYES WIDE, SCREAMS!

Freaked out Ludlow FLOORS THE GAS. But Pacman is still CHASING HIM, STILL CHOMPING.

Pacman TAKES ANOTHER BITE and gobbles up the ENTIRE REAR SECTION of the car. Ludlow is literally driving on TWO WHEELS. His seat the only thing separating him from Pacman, who is still in HOT PURSUIT. Only a FEW INCHES from gobbling up Ludlow. He tries to jump, but his seatbelt is JAMMED! He emits a girlish scream, keeps pulling on his seat belt.

About to be Pac-food, Ludlow HITS THE BRAKES, causing the car to SPIN around, facing Pacman, whose mouth OPENS WIDE...

THE SEATBELT FINALLY BREAKS FREE AND LUDLOW LEAPS OUT OF THE OPEN BACK OF HIS VEHICLE RIGHT AS PACMAN EATS IT!

Again we hear the DEAFENING GHOST-EATING SOUND. Then Pacman's power boost finally runs out.

Ludlow lies on the ground, defenseless without his GhostCooper. PACMAN NOW STARTS COMING AFTER LUDLOW.

\*

Ludlow takes off RUNNING down the street as Pacman CHASES HIM.

LUDLOW  
Don't do this! You've been  
brainwashed! You're a good boy!

\*  
\*  
\*

Pacman is about to EAT LUDLOW WHEN EDDIE'S GHOSTCOOPER BLASTS INTO HIM FROM THE SIDE. PACMAN SCREAMS AGAIN. DIES.

EDDIE PLANT  
You just got fireblasted, sucker!

Ludlow sighs, then PASSES OUT on the ground.

90 INT. MANHATTAN - STAGING AREA - NIGHT 90

Violet looks at the command map, confused.

VIOLET  
How the hell did he get over there  
so fast?

91 EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS - NIGHT 91

BRENNER  
Nice work, Eddie. One more and it's  
happy hour.

\*  
\*

EDDIE PLANT  
Cake.

They spot Pac Man moving away at the far end of a long avenue. They shift their GhostCoopers into high gear and speed after him side by side. But then Eddie really floors it and zooms ahead. \*

EDDIE PLANT (CONT'D)  
YOU DON'T MESS WITH THE  
FIREBLASTER!

\*  
\*  
\*

Eddie, doing about 120, gets really close when Pac-Man suddenly turns left. Eddie, going too fast, can't negotiate the turn and continues on straight - right into New York Harbor.

A92 EXT. NEW YORK HARBOR/INT. EDDIE'S GHOSTCOOPER - NIGHT A92 \*

EDDIE PLANT  
The Fireblaster can't swim!

\*  
\*

92 INT. MANHATTAN - STAGING AREA - NIGHT 92 \*

VIOLET  
We're sending a boat! Brenner, it's  
on you. There are *three other power*  
*pills* still out there. So stay  
alert.

93 INT. BLINKY (BRENNER'S CAR) - NIGHT 93

Brenner stops in the middle of the street. Breathing heavy, feeling the pressure. Maybe feeling like getting out of there. Then...

BRENNER  
I got this. If I don't, the world  
ends. No big deal.

Brenner shifts into HIGH GEAR and heads after Pacman.

94 EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS - NIGHT 94

As Brenner chases Pacman through the streets we see the sidewalks lined with NEW YORKERS CHEERING HIM ON. Brenner sees this and it really impacts him. He can't help but smile.

VIOLET (O.S.)  
Brenner, he's leading you directly towards  
one of the power pills. Get out of there!

Up ahead Brenner sees the POWER PILL. Pacman HEADS FOR IT.

Brenner SLAMS on the brakes. He is about to throw it in reverse and get out of there. But then he STOPS. Gets another idea. He TURNS THE CAR AROUND and then just SITS THERE.

95 INT. MANHATTAN - STAGING AREA - NIGHT 95

They all watch, nervous, on the monitor as Pacman eats the pill. And Brenner is just sitting there. NOT MOVING.

VIOLET  
What the hell is he doing? \*

96 EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - CONTINUOUS 96

Powered up Pacman TURNS TOWARD Brenner, who still WAITS.

BRENNER  
One, two... \*

VIOLET (OVER THE COMMS)  
Dammit, Brenner, I have a son who I would  
like to see grow up. GET OUT OF THERE!!!

Pacman HEADS for Brenner, who THROWS IT IN GEAR and TAKES OFF. BACKWARDS. Pacman is RACING TOWARD HIM. Brenner REVERSES INTO A PARKING GARAGE and KEEPS COUNTING. \*

BRENNER  
You'll see your boy grow up...  
Four, five... \*

97 INT. PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT 97 \*

Brenner DRIVES IN REVERSE, as Pacman chases him UP the ramp of the garage, sending debris and pixelated RUBBLE everywhere. \*

98 INT. BLINKY (BRENNER'S CAR) - NIGHT 98 \*

Brenner KEEPS COUNTING. Sweat rolls down his face.

BRENNER

*...Seven, eight...* \*

Pacman is GAINING by the second. And Brenner is NOT DIVING OUT. \*

99 INT. MANHATTAN - STAGING AREA - NIGHT 99

VIOLET

BRENNER GET OUT, *IT'S GOING TO EAT YOU!*

100 INT. BLINKY (BRENNER'S CAR) - CONTINUOUS 100

Brenner looks back, sees that he's reached the TOP OF THE GARAGE. Heading backwards toward a GUARD RAIL. SEVERAL STORIES in the air. He CAN'T STOP IN TIME. \*

BRENNER \*

*...Nine...* \*

101 EXT. PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT 101 \*

Brenner's car CRASHES through the guard rail, flying through the air, between the rooftops of TWO BUILDINGS. Pac-Man SAILS OUT behind him, OPENS his mouth, about to EAT Brenner's Mini-Cooper... \*

BRENNER \*

Ten. \*

And with that THE MINI-COOPER TURNS BLUE. PAC-MAN CAN'T STOP. HE CHOMPS DOWN ON BRENNER'S CAR, exactly as the same moment as POWERED UP PACMAN'S POWER RUNS OUT. \*

Pacman DISSOLVES, SCREAMS. BOOOO-OOP! We hear the noises as Pacman DIES. IT'S HIS THIRD DEATH! We hear the game over/victory noise. THE GUYS WIN! \*

Brenner's car SLAMS down onto the opposite rooftop, SPINS to a stop and DRIVES OUT of the garage. \*

102 INT. MANHATTAN - STAGING AREA - NIGHT 102

The Command Center erupts in CHEERS.

103 INT. MATTY'S DAD'S HOUSE - NIGHT 103 \*

Matty is watching this on TV with his DAD and SINNAMON.

MATTY'S DAD

That guy's gotta lot of balls to  
pull a maneuver like that. That was

pretty phenomenal. \*

MATTY

Yeah. His name's Sam Brenner. He  
installed our new home theater.  
Mom's in love with him. \*

Matty's Dad immediately looks jealous. Sinnamon looks mad  
that he's jealous.

104 INT. WHITE HOUSE - LIVING QUARTERS - NIGHT 104 \*

Cooper and his wife watch this happily on TV.

PRESIDENT COOPER

That's our second win. We're all  
tied up, baby!

FIRST LADY

That's so great. Can Sarah's family  
come with us to the Vineyard this  
summer?

PRESIDENT COOPER

Huh? Sure. I guess. What?

105 EXT. MANHATTAN STREETS - NIGHT 105

Brenner gets out of the Cooper and sees the people of New York  
cheering. A JEEP pulls up, and a wet Eddie Plant in a robe  
gets out. \*

EDDIE PLANT

You're pretty good, Brenner. Not as  
good as me, but pretty good.

They shake hands.

As Brenner and Eddie are being mobbed by well-wishers, Ludlow  
emerges from the crowd with something hidden under a blanket.

LUDLOW

I think I found our "trophy".

He lifts the blanket so the other guys can see - it's a  
fidgety, grumbling, 3 feet tall Q-BERT. He's pretty cute.

BRENNER

Holy crap, it's Q-Bert!

EDDIE PLANT  
Can I kill it?

Q-Bert makes an extra-sad face.

BRENNER  
No! Leave him alone. Maybe later, I  
don't know. Hide that thing! I want  
to play with that later...

\*  
\*

Ludlow pulls the blanket down over Q-Bert as the appreciative crowd closes in on them.

FADE TO

106 A flatscreen TV. NEWS REPORT in progress. 106

NEWS REPORTER  
After yesterday's victory over Pac-  
Man in New York, the Arcaders spent  
  
the day practicing for their final  
battle...

\*  
\*

107 CHANNEL CHANGES to a different NEWS SHOW. 107

ANCHOR  
A large spacecraft has been  
detected near Jupiter - and it's  
heading toward Earth. There is  
speculation that the aliens are  
coming to watch the final game in  
person, or in alien, I guess...

108 CHANNEL CHANGES to Shep and Megyn. 108

SHEP SMITH  
The space ship is expected to  
arrive here in three days...

\*

MEGYN KELLY  
...and what the aliens will find is  
a President whose approval ratings  
have skyrocketed.

\*

109 CHANNEL CHANGES to Cooper addressing a news conference. 109

PRESIDENT COOPER  
I would urge everyone to carry on  
business as usual. I have every  
confidence in the Arcaders to meet  
the final challenge...

A REPORTER calls out from the crowd.

REPORTER  
Thank you for saving us, Mr.  
President!

The rest of the reporters break into applause. Cooper smiles.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Don't thank me; it's the Arcaders who have brought us here to the brink of victory. Sam Brenner has assembled an unbeatable team, and we owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

\*

REPORTER

We understand you're throwing a soiree in their honor this evening.

\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

We are, but don't worry; they'll have their Arcader suits on under their tuxes, ready to go at a moment's notice--

110 INT. ADMIRAL PORTER'S OFFICE - NIGHT

110

\*

TV CLICKS OFF. CAMERA PULLS BACK, we are inside Admiral PORTER'S MILITARY OFFICE. He has been watching the TV. He stares off, deep in thought, TROUBLED.

\*

\*

\*

111 INT. DARPA - LAB & REC AREA - DAY

111

\*

We are in the same huge room where Ludlow addressed the SEALS. It has been transformed into the ARCADERS HQ: there are Humvees, light cannons, scary looking tech, along with loads of arcade games, a gym area and small "hang out" area, where Matty is playing WARWORLD with Brenner.

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

BRENNER

There's no rhyme or reason to these new games. They're just coming out from everywhere all at once.

MATTY

If someone programmed it, there's a pattern, you just need to find it. In the meantime just shoot the Demon Soldier's spine out of his back.

BRENNER

So violent. You sure you should be seeing this?

MATTY

Yeah, my Mom lets me play these games all the time.

BRENNER

Not you. Him.

REVEAL Q-BERT, seated on the couch next to Matty, watching the screen, shell shocked.

\*  
\*

MATTY

He does look a little freaked out.

BRENNER

What's he doing out of his cage anyway? What if they're tricking us, and he's actually a bad guy?

MATTY

Come on, Brenner. You think that cutie pie could actually be a bad guy?

\*  
\*

Q-Bert makes his eyes big and saucery, and makes a cute squeaky noise.

BRENNER

Maybe you should take him on the trampoline for a few minutes? He's been sitting here all morning.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

Q-BERT

(excited)

*Trampoline! Trampoline!*

MATTY

We'll do that while you go ask my Mom to the ball tomorrow night.

He gestures toward the other side of the huge room, where Violet is in work clothes, fine tuning a scary looking giant DIG DUG PUMP pumping up a pixel to giant size. Michael the Robot is helping her.

\*  
\*

BRENNER

She looks pretty busy working on that Dig-Dug pump...

\*  
\*

MATTY

Believe me, she's going. She tried on five dresses this morning. She's dying to celebrate.

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

BRENNER

I don't know what we're celebrating. We haven't won yet.

(a beat)

Did your mom say she wanted me to ask her?

\*  
\*  
  
\*

MATTY

No. But if you don't ask her, you know Eddie will...

He gestures toward another part of the huge room, where Eddie and Ludlow are playing "Space Invaders" side-by-side. Eddie is yelling at the machine.

\*

EDDIE PLANT  
NOBODY INVADES MY SPACE, BABY!  
NOBODY!

LUDLOW  
You're hurting my ears! Stop  
yelling!

\*

\*

\*

BRENNER  
Whatever. What if I'm not attracted  
to your mother?

Matty gives him an are-you-kidding look. So does Q-Bert.

BRENNER (CONT'D)  
Alright, alright.

Matty and Q-Bert run off to an area in the far corner of the room, where a small workout area (including a trampoline) has been set up. Both climb on and begin jumping up and down. Brenner takes a deep breath and walks over to Violet, who's tightening a bolt.

A112 INT. DARPA - LAB AREA - CONTINUOUS

A112

\*

BRENNER

VIOLET

Hi.

Hi.

BRENNER (CONT'D)  
Yeah... So...

VIOLET  
So...

MICHAEL THE ROBOT  
So...

Brenner and Violet look at him.

MICHAEL THE ROBOT (CONT'D)  
Um, I'm gonna go charge up.

Michael leaves.

BRENNER  
So this thing tomorrow night, I feel kind  
of obligated to make an appearance, and I  
was thinking, if you were gonna be there  
too, then when you get there, we could, you  
know, hang out together.

\*

VIOLET  
Like a date?

BRENNER  
No, nothing like that, just...  
yeah, that. A date.

In the BG, we see Matty jumping on the trampoline to propel Q-Bert to crazy heights, where he does flip after flip.

VIOLET  
(teasing)  
Um... I don't know. You did say that I  
was "snobby", and had "mental problems".

BRENNER  
Well, let's face it, you do, but  
I'm willing to overlook that.

In the background, Q-Bert bounces so high his head gets caught in the ceiling. He makes his funny "game over" sound.

112

INT. HOTEL BALLROOM - NIGHT

112

A huge gala. A swing band plays a jaunty tune. But then the band stops, mid-song, and quickly begins playing "Hail to the Chief". The President has arrived.

He is accompanied by Brenner and the First Lady; all are enthusiastically applauded.

BRENNER  
I wish they played my theme song  
every time I walked into a party.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
That would be cool, but most  
orchestras don't know "The Safety  
Dance".  
(points)  
Glad to see Ludlow and his mom made  
it.

\*  
\*

CUT TO Ludlow and HIS MOM at the buffet table. She's sneaking chicken tenders into her purse.

LUDLOW  
Mom, everyone can see you doing  
that!

\*  
\*

LUDLOW'S MOM  
Oh, come on, Luddie. What's the  
difference if we eat them now or  
later? Put some tartar sauce in  
your pocket.

BACK TO BRENNER, COOPER and the FIRST LADY.

FIRST LADY

I'm dying to meet Sam's new love  
interest. Is she pretty, Will?

\*  
\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

Uh, define "pretty". I mean, you're  
pretty, extremely pretty, and  
she's, I mean, in a sense,  
certainly for a military--  
(looks up, sees something)  
She's a ten.

What he sees is Violet walking in, in her full dress uniform.  
She looks amazing. She's holding hand with Matty, who's in a  
tux.

MATTY

Q-Bert!

Matty sees Q-Bert, also in a tux (with a bandage on his  
head), getting down on the dance floor, and runs to play with  
him. Brenner walks over to Violet, and salutes.

VIOLET

Hi. You look nice.

BRENNER

Thanks. I know we're on duty, and  
could get the call at any time, but  
Chewie says I'm allowed have half a  
beer. Want to split one with me?

VIOLET

Lead the way.

As Brenner and Violet walk off, we see Eddie Plant walk in  
with JAMIE LEE CURTIS. A burly SECRET SERVICE AGENT stands  
between them.

\*

EDDIE PLANT

Well looky here, a big party to  
thank me for saving the world! And  
you get to stand next to me all  
night. How does that feel?

JAMIE LEE CURTIS

Real special, Eddie.  
(to Secret Service Agent)  
They said they'd give me an island  
if I did this.

\*

CUT TO PROFESSOR IWATANI dancing with Jennifer the Assistant,  
"raising the roof" with one hand missing.

\*  
\*

113 INT. HOTEL BALLROOM - LATER - NIGHT

113 \*

Brenner and Violet are on the outskirts of the party, sharing a beer.

BRENNER

So what's this Sinnamon look like?

VIOLET

What do you mean? She's a husband-stealing yoga teacher. She's hot!

BRENNER

Not *that* hot though, right? Girls like that, who go with older guys, always have one thing wrong with them, like big nostrils or a huge forehead or something.

VIOLET

No, Sinnamon is pretty much perfect... except her eyes are too far apart. She kind of looks like a flounder.

BRENNER

Boom, there it is. Tonight, he's gonna be looking into those eyes, thinking, "What happened? I used to look into the most gorgeous eyes in the world, now I'm stuck with Goggle-Eyes McGee."

VIOLET

Did you just say I had gorgeous eyes?

BRENNER

*While* insulting the other chick.

VIOLET

Oh, you're good.

113pt BACK NEAR THE DANCE FLOOR, Cooper is watching his wife 113pt \*

dance with Ludlow (eyes closed, head resting on her shoulder), when Ludlow's Mom walks over. \*

LUDLOW'S MOM

I don't mean to bother you, Mr. President, but I wanted to say how proud I am of you.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Mrs. Lamonsoff, you can call me Will, you've known me since I was 12.

LUDLOW'S MOM

Thank you, President Will of America, sir. See? You haven't changed. \*

(MORE)

LUDLOW'S MOM (CONT'D)

You're still the same good boy you always were. When they say that nonsense on the news, about how you make bad decisions and you're maybe a little slow and a coward and too unattractive for such a pretty wife, I just say, "I'd like to see you do better, Mr. News Man." You gonna finish that shrimp?

\*

On the cocktail plate Cooper is holding, among several discarded shrimp tails, is one shrimp with a bite taken out. Cooper hands it to Ludlow's Mom.

113pt2 AT THE BAR, Eddie is chatting up Jamie Lee Curtis, the 113pt2 Secret Service Agent hovering nearby.

\*

EDDIE PLANT

People talk about Brenner this and Brenner that, but make no mistake: the Fire Blaster's the leader of this crew--

JAMIE LEE CURTIS

Who's the Fire Blaster again?

\*

EDDIE PLANT

Me, Jamie Lee! You know, Fire Blaster's been in prison for 8 years. Haven't been with a woman since '05. You're in for a real treat tonight.

\*

JAMIE LEE CURTIS

You're not going to touch me.

\*

EDDIE PLANT

Alright.

(to himself)

Shoulda gone with Swift. At least I woulda got a song written about what a tool I is.

\*

\*

\*

113pt3 BACK TO BRENNER AND VIOLET

113pt3

VIOLET

So can I ask you a question? And I promise this has nothing to do with my *alleged* snobbiness... But I've seen what you're capable of these past few weeks. So how come you're setting up people's home entertainment systems for a living?

BRENNER

I don't know. I never really was great at anything except video games, and it turned out I wasn't even the best at that...

\*

\*

\*

\*

QUICK CUT TO Eddie, dancing sexy to impress Jamie Lee Curtis. \*

VIOLET \*

So you don't think you're good at  
anything unless you're the best in  
the world at it? \*

BRENNER \*

No, I just... I had my shot, I blew  
it and now I am who I am, and I'm  
comfortable with that. \*

VIOLET \*

That sounds like a cop-out. I had the  
worst acne in the lower 48 states when I  
was 15, and I didn't curl up in a ball  
and cry. \*

BRENNER

Oh no, am I about to learn a lesson?

VIOLET

Sorry, no. I just think you have a  
lot of talents you don't give  
yourself credit for. My son says  
you're the only cool adult he's  
ever met. \*

BRENNER

You and your boy were talking about me?  
I like that.

VIOLET

Oh yeah, I've been asking around  
about you. I also spoke to the  
President...

BRENNER

Uh-oh. What did he say?

VIOLET

That you're a great guy. And a  
loyal friend. And a lightweight  
drinker. But I already knew all  
that. \*

BRENNER

Did he also tell you about my  
reputation as a really good kisser? \*

VIOLET

Amazing kisser is what you said to  
me in the closet. But no, that he  
didn't mention. I guess if I hadn't  
snobbishly shut you down, I'd know  
for sure by now. \*

BRENNER

Well here comes your last chance to  
find out...

\*  
\*  
\*

113pt4 And with that Brenner moves in for a kiss. But he's 113pt4

interrupted by sound of tinkling glasses. The President has  
an announcement.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Ladies and gentlemen, I am proud to  
introduce a special message to the  
Arcaders from the students of PS  
159 in New York City!

Large TV screens surrounding the party flicker to life. They  
display images of smiling SCHOOLKIDS, dressed in mini-Arcader  
outfits.

\*  
\*

SCHOOLKIDS

New York was in trouble,  
Pac Man caused a ruckus,  
But the Arcaders saved us,  
Cause they're bad mother--

But the images flicker and distort into 80's era DARYL HALL  
and JOHN OATES.

DARYL HALL (ON TV)

People of earth: you have violated  
the rules of warfare. Because of  
this, you forfeit and your planet  
is now (STATIC) ours.

PRESIDENT COOPER

"Violated the rules?" What the hell  
does that mean?

Eddie nervously gulps his drink.

JOHN OATES (ON THE TV)

In twelve hours, we will commence  
with the all-out destruction of  
Earth. After that, we will sing  
this about your precious planet...

\*

DARYL HALL (ON THE TV)

She's go-o-o-o-o-o-o-one!

The TV's go dark. People begin murmuring, upset. Admiral  
PORTER turns on Brenner, accusatory.

\*

ADMIRAL PORTER

What did you do?

\*

BRENNER

I didn't do anything. I don't know what they're talking about. I thought we obeyed every rule--

ADMIRAL PORTER

You thought wrong, civilian! We wasted our one chance on you, a hi-fi repairman! You were given every available resource, and still you fumbled!

BRENNER

But I--

ADMIRAL PORTER

But nothing! You heard Hall and Oates: you blew it! I've seen your file: you've never accomplished a damn thing in your life! And your streak continues!

PRESIDENT COOPER

That's enough, Admiral. We tried something, it didn't work. Now we have to prepare for an invasion...

LUDLOW'S MOM

Let's ask Jamie Lee! She knows how to deal with aliens!

JAMIE LEE CURTIS

There's only one thing we can do...

As Jamie Lee grabs a bottle of Jim Beam off the bar, and starts chugging, Eddie is quietly backing away.

Cooper, Violet, Admiral Porter and others huddle together to discuss the invasion.

PRESIDENT COOPER

How many light cannons do we currently have?

ADMIRAL PORTER

I think we need to forget the light sabers and the Vulcan death grips and focus on a conventional military response.

VIOLET

We know that won't work.

ADMIRAL PORTER

No, Lieutenant, nothing you've done has worked.

(MORE)

ADMIRAL PORTER (CONT'D)  
Sometimes I wonder if you're not  
working for the Martians yourself.

VIOLET  
Drop dead, Porter.

ADMIRAL PORTER  
Consider yourself relieved of your  
command!  
(turns to Cooper)  
Mr. President, we need to prepare  
our entire nuclear arsenal...

\*

\*

114

EXT. BALL - NIGHT

114

Outside the ballroom, there is a large brick terrace. Eddie  
quietly exits the party and creeps across the terrace \* until...  
\*

MATTY  
Going someplace, Fireblaster?

\*

\*

Matty is sitting on a stone bench.

\*

EDDIE PLANT  
Uh, yeah. Jamie Lee is all over my  
jock, but it's kind of turning me  
off - you know, needy actresses -  
so I just thought I'd--

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

MATTY  
Up/up/left/down/up/right. The Pac  
Man cheat code for super speed.

\*

\*

\*

EDDIE PLANT  
I don't know what you're talking  
about, kid.

\*

\*

\*

Matty puts on sunglasses. Eddie's sunglasses.

\*

MATTY  
A cop fished these out of the East  
River the night you fell in, and  
gave them to me to return to you. I  
was going to give them back to you  
today, but then I saw some  
interesting things written on the  
inside of the lenses.  
(dramatically takes off  
glasses)  
You're a cheater.

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

\*

BRENNER (O.C.)  
Who's a cheater?

\*

\*

We see that the doors to the party are open, and Brenner,  
Ludlow, Violet and Iwatani are standing there.

\*

\*

Eddie walks back toward them as he speaks, getting emotional. \*

EDDIE PLANT \*

Okay, it was me... I used cheat  
codes back in the day to help me  
dominate. So I figured, why not use  
'em when we fought Pac-Man in New  
York - and it worked! I zipped  
across half the city in no time! \*

LUDLOW \*

It didn't work. Cause now we're all  
gonna die. \*

EDDIE PLANT \*

I didn't know! I wanted to win!  
(points to Iwakani)  
*Why'd you have to make the game so  
hard? Why?!* \*

SUDDENLY - THOUSANDS OF LIGHTS FLICKER ON - THE GIGANTIC  
ALIEN SHIP IS HOVERING DIRECTLY ABOVE. \*

A PORTAL OPENS, AND A BEAM OF LIGHT FALLS ON

MATTY. FEAR FILLS HIS EYES AS HE BEGINS RISING IN THE AIR.  
Brenner runs toward him, too late to help.

VIOLET \*

*MATTY!!!*

115 INT. VIOLET'S HOUSE - NIGHT

115 \*

Brenner, Ludlow, Violet and Q-Bert sit, miserable, in the  
kitchen, drinking coffee.

VIOLET

I can't believe they took a kid as  
a trophy. Sick bastards.

BRENNER

Look, there's gotta be something we  
can do.

LUDLOW

Maybe the mothership has some  
vulnerability, like the Death  
Star...

VIOLET

Matty's on that ship.

LUDLOW

That cheating loser Eddie should be  
here helping us. \*

BRENNER

He crawled into a hole somewhere,  
Lud; we'll never see him again.  
Chewie won't take my calls. Violet  
got the boot. We're on our own.

\*  
\*  
\*

There's a quiet, miserable beat. Then...

Q-BERT

This feels like my planet. No fun,  
no laughter. Only war.

BRENNER

I think I lived on that planet  
during my first marriage.

VIOLET

(realizing)

Wait a second: Q-Bert is from  
there! He knows all their secrets!

Q-BERT

We were once a happy planet. Before we  
were attacked.

VIOLET

Who attacked you?

Q-BERT

The Varellian Armada.

LUDLOW

The Varellian Armada. That sounds  
so cool, so sci-fi.

BRENNER

Ludlow: focus.

(to Q-bert)

So you were happy, then you got  
invaded, so now you just attack  
random planets for fun?

Q-BERT

We attack when other planet threatens us.

BRENNER

But we didn't threaten you. It was  
just footage of games.

Q-BERT

They do not understand "games". All they  
know is war.

VIOLET

So why don't you tell them, Q-Bert? Stop  
them?

116 EXT. WASHINGTON DC STREET - DAY

116

WIDE SHOT - The MOTHERSHIP comes out of the clouds. We SEE IT FULLY FOR THE FIRST TIME. It's the ship from GALAGA.

The PORTAL OPENS. ARCADE CHARACTERS COME TO LIFE, POUR OUT. It's an ALL STAR VERSION OF VARIOUS ARCADE GAMES FROM THE EIGHTIES. But this time they aren't here to play games, but to BRING ABOUT OUR DESTRUCTION. JOUST characters surround the Washington Monument and start to destroy it.

PAN DOWN to see Brenner, Ludlow, Violet and Q-Bert on the street. MOVING FAST. They are all in Arcader suits, but without weapons. They seem intimidated (especially Ludlow), but are running toward the mothership (as the few people still around run the other way).

Everywhere around them, cars are OVERTURNED, CRASHED and PIXELATED. SECTIONS of the street EXPLODE behind them.

LUDLOW

Are you sure we need to do this? I mean, maybe we can just find another planet to live on. I heard there's a secret city on Mars where rich people are gonna live when there's a nuclear war. They have greenhouses there, and zero-gravity gyms, and free HBO...

Suddenly, they STOP. Seeing SOMETHING AHEAD. A FROGGER. LEAPING TOWARD THEM.

THEY RUN THE OTHER WAY, BUT THE FROGGER IS TOO FAST.

LUDLOW (CONT'D)

This is it!

Just when they're about to be pounced on, a crane scoop \* descends from the sky. It scoops up the Frogger in its jaws, \* and lifts it in the air, suspending it so it can do no harm. \*

Brenner, Ludlow and Violet eyeball the crane, following the steel cable to the arm to the cab, where a man in a suit and a Chewbacca mask opens the door and emerges.

He takes off the mask. It's COOPER.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Nobody's better at the crane game than me!

BRENNER

Chewie, what are you doing? What's with the disguise?

PRESIDENT COOPER

I knew you guys were our only hope,  
but nobody agreed with me. They  
were trying to bring me down to  
some underground bunker. So I "went  
rogue".

(gestures toward a van)

And I brought gifts.

\*

CUT TO the van. Back doors are open, and inside are A STACK  
OF LIGHT CANNONS.

\*

\*

117 INT. ALLEY - TWO MINUTES LATER

117

They're pulling the light cannons out of the van. Brenner  
grabs a cannon, Ludlow grabs two.

\*

\*

BRENNER

Lud, I think you should stay here  
on the ground. These people need  
protection, too.

\*

\*

\*

LUDLOW

Oh g-d, thank you for not making me  
go up on the spaceship... I mean,  
cool.

\*

PRESIDENT COOPER

So the rest of us go get Matty and  
destroy the what again...

VIOLET

Zorex.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Sounds like a word Ludlow made up.

LUDLOW

So sci-fi...

BRENNER

(turns to Ludlow)

Save as many people as possible.  
We'll see you on the other side.

Ludlow hugs Brenner hard.

LUDLOW

Live long. Laugh much. Love often.

BRENNER

Use deodorant.

Ludlow can't help but smile. He takes off shooting.

VIOLET

Brenner, can I get a light cannon?

\*

He hands one to her. She instantly and expertly nails three  
ASTEROIDS that were heading straight for them.

\*

VIOLET (CONT'D)  
(off guys impressed looks)  
What, I didn't go to arcades  
growing up? Our target is this way.  
Let's go.

Violet TAKES OFF. Cooper cocks an eyebrow at Brenner.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
(re: Violet)  
That was pretty hawt. How you doing  
with that?

BRENNER  
Not bad. I think if I save the kid,  
I'm in.

\*

118 EXT. STREET, DC - DAY

118

Ludlow is jogging down the street, screaming like a madman,  
blasting BERZERK robots and DIG-DUG dragons (coming out of the  
ground).

He then comes upon a bus full of KIDS trying to get out of the  
city. It's SURROUNDED by A GROUP OF BIDDY BANDITS (NINJA-LIKE  
characters from LADY LISA). The Bandits CLIMB the bus, trying to  
get inside.

\*

LUDLOW  
Get away from those kids now! ...Please.

It's Ludlow so it doesn't sound *that badass*. Also he added  
please. The Bandits turn. Ludlow BLASTS THEM. They DE-RES.  
The CHILDREN CHEER from inside the bus. Ludlow waves, then  
does a weapon-firing celebration shuffle, prompting another  
cheer from the kids. Then he sees... stepping out from BEHIND  
THE BUS. It's LADY LISA. Ludlow's JAW DROPS. SMASH CUT TO:

119 INT. VIDEO GAME CHAMPIONSHIP, THE 80'S - FLASHBACK

119

\*

WE SEE YOUNG LUDLOW talking to the LADY LISA on the side of  
the video game cabinet.

\*

\*

YOUNG LUDLOW  
Lady Lisa, I'll love you til the  
end of time.

120 **CUT BACK TO THE PRESENT:** EXT. WASHINGTON DC STREET - DAY 120

\*

Ludlow stares, as she moves toward him. With each step, she  
becomes MORE REAL, until she is NO LONGER CGI. But totally  
FLESH and BLOOD. Ludlow LOWERS his weapon. Smitten.

LUDLOW

I spent most of my formative years trying to figure out a way to make you come to life all *Weird Science* style. I used every birthday wish, every shooting star, every 11:11 on the clock. I prayed for this.

She GROWLS AND PULLS OUT HER SWORD.

LUDLOW (CONT'D)

...but without a sword!

SHE CHARGES AT HIM AS LUDLOW SCREAMS.

121 EXT. WASHINGTON DC - STREETS - DAY

121

Brenner, Cooper, Violet and Q-bert are moving in the direction that everybody else is fleeing from. In the

BACKGROUND WE HEAR EXPLOSIONS AND VIDEO GAME SOUNDS and see CLOUDS OF PIXELATED SMOKE.

They round the corner and see..

122 THE MASSIVE MOTHERSHIP, HOVERING almost directly above them.

122

\*

Suddenly, with a deafening rattle, the portal OPENS. The BEAM SHOOTS OUT. Violet is grimly determined, but Brenner and Cooper exchange TERRIFIED glances.

Brenner sticks his arm into the beam. It depixelates, and the cubes fly up toward the mothership. The one-armed Brenner winks at Violet, then steps all the way in, instantly depixelating. Violet follows. Cooper looks at Q-Bert, terrified.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Shoulda gone to the bunker!

\*

But then braces himself and steps into it. Q-Bert, laughing to himself, does an impersonation.

Q-BERT

Shoulda gone to the bunkerrrrrrr!

Q-Bert steps nose-first into the beam.

123 INT. MOTHERSHIP - CONTINUING - DAY

123

Brenner, Cooper, Violet and Q-Bert RE-PIXELATE (Q-Bert nose first) and slowly OPEN their eyes and see that they're still alive.

The inside of the ship resembles A HUGE WAREHOUSE. It's SMOKY, DARK. In front of them they see A METAL BARREL. It says OIL. All of a sudden it lights up, a FIRE init.

This now illuminates METAL RAMPS AND SCAFFOLDING that go way up. They look around, wondering what this is.

BRENNER

Where are we? Q-bert, what is this place?

Q-BERT

This is... *neeeewww!*

Suddenly, THEY HEAR A DEAFENING POUNDING FROM ABOVE.

COOPER

*What the hell is that?!*

The POUNDING CONTINUES FROM ABOVE AND IT'S GETTING LOUDER, CLOSER, FASTER.

WE SEE TWO GIANT FEET, STOMPING on the top platform. Suddenly, the scaffolding SHIFTS, as if hit by a massive earthquake. It RE-ARRANGES into the DIAGONAL VERSION of the game. \*

Brenner looks up. At the top of the scaffolding, peering over the edge, stepping out of the shadows, is a giant character: \*

BRENNER

Donkey Kong.

**DONKEY KONG is big and come to life. He pounds his chest.** \*

PRESIDENT COOPER

It had to be Donkey Kong...

VIOLET

Matty!

She's pointing to a cell way at the top, behind Donkey Kong. Matty, the Indian Kid and the Handsome Sailor are inside.

MATTY

Mom!

Donkey Kong starts TOSSING BARRELS down the ramps. There is no room for them to avoid them if they want to get to the top. THIS SHOULD LOOK JUST LIKE THE GAME COME TO LIFE.

PRESIDENT COOPER

I mean, it's just a *barrel!* How bad could it hurt?

With that ANOTHER BARREL comes SMASHING DOWN. IT LEAVES A GIANT DENT IN THE METAL GROUND AND THEN LANDS ON AND CRUSHES THE OIL BARREL TO NOTHING EXTINGUISHING THE FIRE.

Q-BERT

*Baaaaad.*

124 EXT. BACK ON THE GROUND - CONTINUOUS - DAY 124

Lady Lisa ATTACKS Ludlow with her sword. Ludlow, conflicted, grabs a DROPPED PIXEL SWORD from one of the bandits. He DEFLECTS Lady Lisa's many blows with the sword. \*

LUDLOW  
You don't have to do this, my love,  
I sense the good in you.

125 INT. SPACESHIP - DAY 125 \*

THE BARRELS ARE HEADING TOWARDS THEM from above FAST AND

FURIOUSLY. Violet attempts to shoot the barrel with her light cannon. It FAILS. \*

BRENNER  
Guns don't work in this game.  
There's only one thing we can do...  
*Jump!!!* \*

They JUMP the first barrel, and the second... but there are MORE and MORE BARRELS COMING. THEY DUCK UNDER SOME, JUMP OVER OTHERS.

They run to the ladder. Brenner watches a barrel roll over head on the ramp above.

BRENNER (CONT'D)  
Get up the ladder! *FAST!!*

Brenner is the first up the ladder. He runs to the NEXT \* LEVEL. He reaches up and GRABS THE HAMMER. But a BARREL is \* HEADED TOWARD HIM from overhead. \*

COOPER  
*Incoming!!* \*

Brenner tries to DUCK out of the way, but the flying barrel KNOCKS the hammer from his hands, sending it down into the bowels of the ship. Cooper, Violet and Q-Bert CLIMB the \* ladder to the next level. \*

VIOLET  
(emotional)  
I gotta get up to him! \*

They continue to DODGE and LEAP the oncoming barrels. Q-Bert FOLLOWS Brenner as he LEAPS over a rolling barrel. Q-Bert HOPS onto Brenner's back and goes to the next level. Brenner FOLLOWS. \*

Cooper LEAPS and ROLLS over another barrel. He CLIMBS the ladder to the next level. He LOOKS to his left, Q-Bert is \* about to be hit by an OVERHEAD BARREL... \*

PRESIDENT COOPER

Q-Bert! Look out!!!

Q-Bert LOOKS UP. A barrel is FLYING DOWN AT HIM. He has no time to move away and is... CRUSHED BY THE BARREL.

MATTY

Q-bert!!!!

Cooper RUNS BACK to Q-Bert. But he is FLATTENED. His eyes are ROLLED BACK. He appears to be... DEAD. Brenner calls back to Cooper. Brenner LOOKS DOWN at the fallen Q-Bert.

BRENNER

Chewie! Come on!

They don't have time to dwell. Cooper DASHES AWAY, leaving Q-Bert. Donkey Kong sees them and ROARS. He starts throwing MORE BARRELS.

Brenner GRABS another hammer. He starts POUNDING on the \* barrels. But THERE ARE TOO MANY. Suddenly a BARREL FALLS \* DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF HIM, almost KNOCKING Brenner to his \* death. Brenner panics.

BRENNER'S POV: he sees the same unpatterned chaos he saw when he lost the Donkey Kong championship in '82.

BRENNER (CONT'D)

There's too many. We're not gonna make it.

MATTY

(calling down)

Brenner! Remember: if someone programmed it, there's a pattern! You just need to find it!

Brenner looks up, counting barrels, mumbling to himself.

BRENNER

I can't see it...

MATTY

Eddie used cheat codes, right?

BRENNER

Yeah, so what?

MATTY

So he must have used them when he beat you at Donkey Kong back in '82. You know what that means?

BRENNER  
(dawning on him)  
I'm the Donkey Kong champion of the  
world...

MATTY  
And the Donkey Kong champion of the  
world sees the patterns!

Violet suddenly grabs his face and kisses him hard. Then...

VIOLET  
*Save him and you're in.*

Brenner gives a look to Cooper, who smiles.

Brenner starts WAILING ON THE BARRELS. He SLAMS DOWN the hammer  
on barrel after barrel, taking them all out, until the hammer  
DE-PIXELATES in his hands. He looks up at Donkey Kong,  
calculating... looks back to the others.

BRENNER  
Do exactly what I do!

Brenner LEADS Violet and Cooper forward. He CLIMBS UP to the  
next level.

A Barrel HEADS TOWARD Brenner. He LEAPS BACK, his feet  
precariously on the edge of the platform... He  
but regains his balance.

Brenner CLIMBS to the next level, followed by Cooper and  
Violet. Matty SHOUTS to them from the top level.

MATTY  
*Mom!! Q-Bert's not dead!*

They LOOK DOWN. Q-Bert, still flattened, has OPENED HIS EYES,  
and is LOOKING AROUND IN A PANIC. He puts his THUMB in his  
mouth, puffs out his cheeks and his body POPS BACK OUT TO  
NORMAL. He tries to RUN AWAY, but is:

SURROUNDED BY WALLS OF FIRE on both sides of him!

VIOLET  
No, I'm pretty sure he's dead,  
Matty.

MATTY  
Mooooooooom!

VIOLET  
Alright, fine!

Violet LEAPS DOWN TWO LEVELS, to Q-Bert. She GRABS him,  
Q-Bert up to the safety of the upper level.

He runs screaming then leaps into Cooper's arms, terrified. \*  
But now Violet is TRAPPED. The FIRE APPROACHES HER FROM BOTH \*  
SIDES! \*

She LEAPS UP to get away from the pixelated flames. She HANGS \*  
ON to the platform of the upper level. Her feet are INCHES \*  
AWAY from being touched by the flames. \*

Donkey Kong sees that Violet is in jeopardy, and he STARTS TO \*  
THROW BARRELS TOWARD HER! \*

Brenner RUNS FORWARD and DIVES beneath the stomping feet of \*  
Donkey Kong. He LEAPS DOWN to the lower level and GRABS A \*  
HAMMER. \*

Brenner SMASHES barrel after barrel, trying to rescue Violet. \*  
With the coast clear, for a moment, Brenner arrives at Violet \*  
and LOWERS the hammer to her. \*

BRENNER \*  
(smiling) \*  
Grab my mighty hammer! \*

VIOLET \*  
You loved saying that. \*

BRENNER \*  
Yes I did. \*

Violet GRABS the hammer and holds on as Brenner LIFTS HER TO \*  
SAFETY. \*

Brenner DESTROYS a few more barrels before turning and \* THROWING  
THE HAMMER up to the top level, toward Donkey Kong. \*

The spinning hammer HITS Donkey Kong. For a moment, Donkey \*  
Kong is stunned, a little hurt, suddenly weakened. \*

Cooper and Q-Bert CHEER. Brenner and Violet make it to the \*  
top level. Brenner, TOUGH, HARD, turns to Donkey Kong. \*

BRENNER (CONT'D) \*  
Game over. \*

Donkey Kong ROARS. Followed by a sad, DISAPPOINTED look on \*  
his face. We hear the MASSIVE SOUND OF VICTORY! And suddenly, \*  
Donkey Kong DE-PIXELATES, along with the rest of the set. \*  
CRUMBLING into the darkness below. \*

Matty and Violet embrace. The Sailor salutes Cooper, and then \*  
they embrace. Brenner is not sure what to do; the Indian \*  
Teenager extends his arms, and they hug. \*

INDIAN TEEN \*  
"Game over", that was a good one... \*

BRENNER  
Thanks, it was all I could come up  
with...

Cooper looks down at a shaken Q-Bert.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
You okay, buddy?

Q-BERT  
*I---need---a---driiiiink.*

BRENNER  
All right, Q-ball, take us to the  
Zorex!

They all turn, a LADDER APPEARS. Leading upward...

126 EXT. WASHINGTON DC STREET - DAY

126

Ludlow is still SWORDFIGHTING Lady Lisa. Finally he throws  
down his sword and DROPS TO HIS KNEES.

LUDLOW  
I won't fight you anymore. I know  
you have love in your heart and I  
know that I could make you happy.  
But if you need to kill me, then  
kill me. I'll die a happy man,  
knowing that I found true love.

He closes his eyes and waits. She stares at him. CONFUSED.  
Ludlow looks up at her. Their EYES MEET. Ludlow stands. She  
LOWERS her sword. Ludlow STEPS toward her, EMBRACES her, and  
they... KISS. It is a long, PASSIONATE kiss.

EDDIE PLANT (O.C.)  
And I couldn't even get a *handshake*  
offa Sigourney Weaver!

Ludlow LOOKS UP to see EDDIE PLANT standing there.

LUDLOW  
Didn't think we'd ever see you  
again.

EDDIE PLANT  
I caused this, I gotta help make it  
right.  
(a beat)  
Can a brother get a gun, please?

Ludlow tosses Eddie one of his light cannons. Eddie BLASTS  
two nearby OSTRICHs from JOUST who are chasing a lady with a  
stroller.

LUDLOW  
Guess you're not as big of a dick  
as we all thought.

EDDIE PLANT  
Yeah. Don't tell anybody. Gonna  
introduce me to your girlfriend?

LUDLOW  
(smiles at Lisa)  
*Fiancee'.*

\*

127 INT. MOTHERSHIP, ENERGY GENERATOR ROOM - DAY

127

The door opens. In the center is the **ZOREX**. It's the exact same shape and size of an OLD SCHOOL ARCADE GAME. Countless wires extend from the console, attached to energy devices in the walls and a POD which spits out the ENERGY CREATURES. It spits out A SMURF. He seems so excited to be alive. He takes a breath, then BLAST. Cooper shoots him. He de-res's. A look of anger on his face as he pixelates and his short life ends.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
When we were kids, did you ever  
think that someday we would  
*actually* be in a spaceship,  
shooting an actual laser gun while  
trying to save the world?

BRENNER/INDIAN TEEN/SAILOR  
Yes...Totally...Every day...

FAMILIAR KID'S VOICE  
Hey, Brenner.

Brenner turns, AIMS his gun. His jaw drops.

We see that the ALIENS'S FINAL GUISE IS **YOUNG BRENNER, YOUNG LUDLOW, YOUNG COOPER AND YOUNG EDDIE** from the film's opening.

ALIEN KID BRENNER  
We come to you in these forms out  
of respect for you and the other  
champions who have beaten us today.

BRENNER  
Stay back or we'll blow up this  
ship and all of you with it. I  
don't care if you're me.

ALIEN KID COOPER  
There will be no need for that,  
Sam. We admit you have won.

\*

ALIEN KID LUDLOW  
Because of your victory you can now  
destroy our planet.

The three all bow their heads in sadness.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
Wait, we don't want to destroy your planet. We never did.

ALIEN KID LUDLOW  
(confused)  
Then why did you send us that declaration of war, Chewie?

PRESIDENT COOPER  
*That wasn't a declaration of war!*  
They were just games. Games that we played for fun. We don't want to hurt anybody.

\*

The Aliens seem thrown by this. They don't understand.

LUDLOW (OVER THE WALKIE)  
*BRENNER! BRENNER!!!*

BRENNER  
Lud, a little busy right now.

LUDLOW (O.S.)  
Um, things aren't going so well down here, Sam!

\*

128 EXT. DC STREET - CONTINUOUS - DAY

128

Eddie, Ludlow and Lady Lisa are being CONFRONTED BY SEVERAL ARCADE GAME CREATURES coming down from the sky. Eddie fires back at them as he goes.

EDDIE PLANT  
*TELL HIM WHATEVER HE'S DOING TO  
HURRY THE EFF UP!*

129 INT. ENERGY ROOM, MOTHERSHIP - CONTINUOUS

129

(Intercutting with Eddie on DC Streets)

\*

ALIEN KID BRENNER  
So you *don't* want to destroy us?

PRESIDENT COOPER  
No. And we definitely don't want you to destroy us.  
(The Aliens take this in.)  
In fact I'd like to broker a peace between our two worlds so we can both live together in harmony.

Q-BERT  
(autotuned)  
*Harmonyyyyyyy...*

EDDIE PLANT  
*BRENNER, WE ARE ABOUT TO DIE  
 VIOLENTLY, STOP DICKING AROUND AND-*

ALIEN KID EDDIE  
 Calm down, Eddie!

EDDIE PLANT  
 Who was that? Was that me? That  
 sounded like me!

The three Alien kids laugh.

BRENNER  
 Hey guys... If we're doing this peace thing  
 do you think you could turn off the Zorex?

ALIEN KID BRENNER  
 Word up.

Alien Kid Brenner goes behind the Zorex and unplugs it.

130 EXT. DC STREET - CONTINUOUS - DAY 130

The ARCADE CREATURES CLOSE IN on our Guys and Lady Lisa, who  
 continue to fight. But it's a LOSING BATTLE. As the creatures  
 MOVE IN FOR THE KILL...

THEY BEGIN TO DE-RES. PIXELATE. And DISAPPEAR.

Ludlow turns, and Lady Lisa PIXELATES and DE-RESES before his  
 very eyes!

EDDIE PLANT  
 We won. NO MORE TAXES!

But Ludlow is CRUSHED.

LUDLOW  
*Lady Lisaaaaaaaaa!!*

131 EXT. WHITE HOUSE LAWN - DAY 131

A jumble of multi-colored pixels drops out of the mothership  
 onto the White House lawn. As they land, they re-pixelate  
 into Brenner, Cooper, Violet, Matty, Q-Bert, the Indian kid  
 and the Sailor. PEOPLE on the ground have gathered to cheer  
 them. The First Lady runs over to Cooper and embraces him.

FIRST LADY  
 I canceled with Sarah this weekend.  
 We can frost as many cakes as you  
 want.

Eddie walks over.

EDDIE PLANT  
I can't believe I did it! I mean,  
we did it! I mean, you did it!

BRENNER  
*Eddie?* Didn't think I'd ever see  
you again.

\*  
\*

EDDIE PLANT  
Look, I just wanted to say I'm  
sorry I cheated back when we were  
kids, and also for cheating again  
more recently. I don't have to go  
back to prison, do I?

PRESIDENT COOPER  
No. But you do have to admit to  
Brenner he's the best in the world.

EDDIE PLANT  
No!

He reconsiders, then turns to Brenner.

EDDIE PLANT (CONT'D)  
Brenner... you... you're the best.  
In the world.

BRENNER  
Suck it.

Brenner hugs him. Everyone looks happy - except for Ludlow.

PRESIDENT COOPER  
Ludlow, what's wrong buddy?

\*

LUDLOW  
You all got what you wanted.  
Brenner, you got the girl; Eddie  
got out of jail and me... For one  
moment I had the one thing I always  
wanted and now... she's gone.

Cooper, confused, turns to Eddie, who explains.

\*

EDDIE PLANT  
Lady Lisa. When you guys saved the  
world... You kinda' destroyed his.

BRENNER  
Sorry about that, Lud. But ya'  
know, we had to do what was best  
for the other 7 or so billion  
people out there.

Ludlow nods, sadly, notices Q-Bert.

\*

LUDLOW

So how come he's still alive?

VIOLET

Q-Bert's a trophy. I guess we get  
to keep trophies.

Ludlow nods. Dejected. Then Q-bert starts jumping up and down excitedly. He RE-PIXELATES INTO...

LADY LISA.

Ludlow runs and kisses her. Everybody is touched, except Brenner.

BRENNER

No one else is weirded out right now?

A group of PRESS PEOPLE run across the lawn toward them.

PRESS PERSON

Mr. President, are we out of danger?

PRESIDENT COOPER

Yes. In fact, I am pleased to announce  
that I have brokered a peace treaty with  
the Alien Invaders.

132 INT. MATTY'S DAD'S HOUSE - DAY

132 \*

PRESIDENT COOPER (ON THE TV)

This peace was due to and only due  
to the bravery of the Arcaders, who  
against all odds stepped up and  
saved us all.

133 INT. ADMIRAL PORTERS'S OFFICE - DAY

133 \*

Admiral Porter, unshaven and in sweats, sneers at the TV.

PRESIDENT COOPER (ON THE TV)

They faced the doubters and the  
naysayers, and came up big when we  
needed them most.

Admiral Porter flips the bird at the TV.

134 EXT. WHITE HOUSE LAWN - DAY

134 \*

Brenner, Eddie, Ludlow, Violet and Matty are watching Cooper  
finish his speech.

PRESIDENT COOPER

Sam Brenner, Ludlow Lamonsoff and  
Eddie Plant are American heroes.  
World heroes.

\*

.

The assembled press cheers. Violet turns to Brenner.

VIOLET  
"World hero?" I  
guess you're never  
gonna' finish  
installing my home  
theater system now.

BRENNER  
I might be able  
to fit you in a  
week from  
Tuesday.

VIOLET  
Can't you do it any  
sooner? I'll make it  
worth your while...

Violet and Brenner kiss. CAMERA CRANES BACK,  
as Cooper and all of them are congratulated by  
the celebratory crowd, swarming them, thanking  
them.

Eddie, standing off by himself, away from the  
others, a \* lonely moment... He turns, starts to  
exit. His phone BUZZES. \* Eddie glances to the text:

\*

*Hey, Hero. Meet me in the Lincoln  
Bedroom.*

\*

Eddie looks to the White  
House.

\*

135 INT. LINCOLN BEDROOM WINDOW - DAY

135

\*

Standing in a second floor window, dressed in a

negligee, lit \* by candlelight, is Jamie Lee  
Curtis. She gives a flirty wave, \* a sexy smile,  
to  
Eddie.

\*

136 EXT. WHITE HOUSE LAWN - DAY

136

\*

Eddie smiles, touched, a bit excited. He moves  
forward, \* toward the White House. A hand stops  
him in his tracks. Eddie \* looks  
up.

\*

It's TAYLOR SWIFT. Standing directly in front of him.  
\*

TAYLOR  
SWIFT

\*

Where do you think you're  
going?

\*

Taylor Swift plants a long, intense, passionate KISS  
on \* Eddie's  
lips.

\*

THE END