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S H A G

screenplay by
Robin Swicord

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(213) 655-1114

1. EXT: CLATTERBUCK MANSION. DAY.

1.

A lovely white-columned mansion rises from a perfect lawn. Magnolia trees bloom, and birds sing. God is in His heaven. On a white-pebbled driveway sits a gleaming '59 Cadillac convertible with white tail fins and pink upholstery.

From inside the house comes a rich gospel voice, singing acapella:

FEMALE BLACK VOICE
"...Go down Moses, way down in
Egypt land..."

SUPERIMPOSE TITLE: "SHAG"

As soon as the title fades, at the bottom of the screen is superimposed:

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA
1963

2. INT: CLATTERBUCK MANSION

2.

A round-faced BLACK MAID sings in a profoundly beautiful voice, as she dusts a large flag-draped portrait of SENATOR BUFORD CLATTERBUCK.

BLACK MAID
"...tell ol' Pha-hay-hay-roah! To
let my people go! Go down,
Moses..."

Down the mahogany staircase comes tumbling a "ladybug" portable hairdryer and a curler bag spilling pink curlers. Scrambling after them is LUANNE CLATTERBUCK, 18, swearing mildly under her breath. She has skinny legs in madras Bermuda shorts, and black framed cat-eye glasses that cause her to look faintly like a forty-year old teenager.

LUANNE
...every damn thing has to happen
when you're in a damn hurry --

MRS. CLATTERBUCK (O.S.)
(Disapproving voice)
Why, Luanne.

Luanne jerks up, startled. In the elegant foyer is "The Steel Magnolia", MRS. CLATTERBUCK, 40, firmly girdled, plucked and coiffed like a Southern lady. MRS. CLATTERBUCK smiles tightly.

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
Dear, you are not wearing Bermuda shorts to Fort Sumter -- least of all to someone's house.

2.

LUANNE
We're all going to change in a gas station before we get there --

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
Senator Buford Clatterbuck's daughter is not undressing in a gasoline station, dear. Go upstairs and change.

As Luanne turns and stomps back up the stairs:

MRS. CLATTERBUCK (cont'd)
Nicely, please!

3. EXT: CLATTERBUCK MANSION - DAY

3.

The black maid puts Luanne's two white suitcases into the trunk of the Cadillac. Luanne is at the wheel, in her A-line skirt, impatiently receiving last minute instructions:

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
-- Be sure and thank Pudge's Cousin Peg for her hospitality, and be gracious, and remember who you are! And don't wear dark nail polish --

LUANNE
-- Yes ma'am -- yes ma'am --

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
-- And don't let any of the other girls drive my car, do you hear?

The Cadillac peels out. Mrs. Clatterbuck shouts after:

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
-- Don't stay up too late!

CUE MUSIC:

ROLL CREDITS, SUPERIMPOSED, as:

4. EXT: CARMICHAEL HOME - DAY.

4.

A HORN blows. PUDGE, 18, lugs a large suitcase and a "ladybug" portable hair dryer down the front steps. Pudge is slightly chubby, with an auburn "pixie" haircut framing a lively, open freckled face.

Her mother, MRS. CARMICHAEL, 39, pretty and petite, trots behind waving a grocery sack.

4.

MRS. CARMICHAEL
Pudge! Pudge! You forgot your
Metrecal!

Mrs. Carmichael opens the top of the sack for Pudge to see: ten cans of different flavors of Metrecal diet drink.

MRS. CARMICHAEL
Stay on your diet, dear. You
want to be able to fit into that
Maid of Honor dress!

Pudge grabs the sack resignedly --

PUDGE
Good bye, Mama!

Mrs. Carmichael puts her face out to be kissed, but Luanne accelerates; the Cadillac scratches off, nearly knocking Mrs. Carmichael aside.

5.

EXT: WEALTHY NEIGHBORHOOD. DAY

5.

CUE MUSIC:

The Cadillac whizzes through the wealthy neighborhood, with Luanne and Pudge in the front seat, elated: free!

LUANNE (O.S.)
What'd your mama say??

From Pudge's side of the convertible, CANS OF METRECAL, one by one, begin dropping behind the Cadillac and rolling down the street.

PUDGE (O.S.)
"Ah'm so thrilled you gulls are taking
an interest in your heritage! Now you
bring this jar of my pepper relish to
Luanne's Aunt Devote!"

A jar of homemade relish sails out of the car.

LUANNE (O.S.)
"Aunt Devote"???

Shrieks of hysteria, as the Cadillac speeds on.

PUDGE
(Worried)
Suppose your mama calls my mama?

LUANNE
She won't. She's going off campaigning
with Daddy, somewhere.

INT: MELAINA'S BEDROOM. DAY.

Outside, a horn honks continuously, as MELAINA, 18, a
starlet-pretty blonde (ala Sandra Dee) carefully draws on
liquid eyeliner. The walls of her room are papered with
magazine pictures of GEORGE MAHARIS, FRANKIE AVALON,
"DR. KILDARE".

Thunderous pounding on the door; an Old Testament VOICE booms
angrily:

REVEREND BULLER (O.S.)
Let me in, Melaina!

MELAINA
I'm not decent, Daddy.

She applies lipstick sensuously.

REVEREND BULLER (O.S.)
You git downstairs and tell those
girls to lay off the horn.
You're not going with them!

MELAINA
Yes, Sir.

Melaina lifts her blouse: she is wearing a polka-dot Bikini
under her clothes. She crams her make-up kit into her Bikini
top, and lifts the window sash.

7. EXT: BAPTIST CHURCH - DAY.

In toreador pants and a Peter Pan blouse, Melaina tears
across the church lawn. She clambers over Pudge --

MELAINA
Go go go go --!

REVEREND BULLER, 45, scurries out of the parish house.
Melaina kicks Luanne's leg aside and stomps on the gas.

MELAINA
Lay rubber!

The Cadillac skids out, leaving a peel of tire tracks.
Melaina looks back, laughing:

MELAINA
Damn Holy Roller.

With a flip of her hair, Melaina takes Pudge's cigarette pack
and expertly shakes one out.

MELAINA
Where's Carson?

INT: CARSON'S GIRLISH BEDROOM

8.

Canopy bed and rose-bud wallpaper. CARSON, 18, a vulnerable Southern beauty, stands on a chair in her lace wedding gown. Her mother, MRS. MCBRIDE, and a BLACK SEAMSTRESS pin the hem. Behind a shirred fabric screen, Carson's fiance, HARLEY RALSTON, 21, rants furiously.

HARLEY (O.S.)
I can't believe you're just up and
leaving me with the whole wedding!
Carson miserably twists a sizeable diamond engagement ring.

CARSON
Harley, it's only for three days!

MRS. MCBRIDE
Don't raise your arms.

Behind the screen, Harley sets his handsome jaw. Harley would be attractive in his button-down shirt and Bass Weejuns -- except for that poker he always has up his you-know-what.

HARLEY
You haven't even decided on your
bridal bouquet!

MRS. MCBRIDE
She's carrying mums.

CARSON
I am not, I hate mums! They remind
me of football games!

She weeps. MRS. MCBRIDE wearily hands Carson a Kleenex.

MRS. MCBRIDE
Harley, I wish you'd let her go
on her little outing so I can get
something done without all these
tears!

Carson tries to wipe her nose, but --

MRS. MCBRIDE
Don't raise your arms!

9.

EXT: MCBRIDES' HOME - DAY.

9.

Luanne, Pudge and Melaina watch from the Cadillac as Harley and Carson emerge, still arguing.

PUDGE
Uh oh. Harley's having a hissy.

Melaina turns on Luanne and Pudge:

MELAINA
Ya'll told!

LUANNE
We did not! -- shhhhh!

PUDGE
-- Unh-unh! Carson thinks we're going
to Fort Sumter!

They watch: Harley is weakening. He fastens a grip on
Carson, and applies his sedate kiss.

MELAINA
She's gonna lay a brick when she finds
out where we're taking her.
(Calls out:)
French him, Carson!

The girls shriek, and duck down, giggling. In whispers:

PUDGE
Can you imagine marrying anybody so
Dullsville? Kill me now.

MELAINA
Do ya'll think Carson and Harley
have premarital sex?

LUANNE
Melaina!! Gross.

PUDGE
Carson told me Harley doesn't see any
point in it. They're saving it for
their wedding night.

MELAINA
-- Then he'll spring it on her that
he doesn't have a tallywagger!

Pudge and Melaina giggle unkindly. As Harley escorts Carson
toward the car:

LUANNE
Shhhh! Ya'll don't talk ugly about
Harley in front of Carson!
(Piously)
Remember, we have to make this the
best weekend of her entire life.

Pudge clambers into the back of the convertible, to make room

for Carson. Chorus of sweet voices:

LUANNE & PUDGE & MELAINA
Hi, Harley!

Pudge shoves Carson's suitcase and "ladybug" hairdryer onto the floor, as Melaina pulls Carson into the front seat.
Chorus of sweet voices:

LUANNE & PUDGE & MELAINA
'Bye, Harley!

HARLEY
But --

The Cadillac zooms off, with Carson's door swinging shut.

CUE MUSIC:

10. EXT. STATE HIGHWAY - DAY.

ANGLE ON CADILLAC BARRELLING ALONG A STATE HIGHWAY

Fighting the breeze, Carson tries to tie a triangular "petal" scarf over her "angel flip" hair style --

-- but the scarf flies out of the convertible, and scuds along Highway 176, as the Cadillac disappears.

END CREDITS AND SONG.

CUT TO:

11. INT: CADILLAC/ EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

CLOSE-UP of Melaina taking a swig out of an upturned "Prell" bottle. She makes a face.

MELAINA
Uuch, what is this??

In the back seat, Pudge is sprawled reading TRUE DETECTIVE. Next to her, Carson sits like a lady, reading 'TEEN.

PUDGE
(Doesn't look up)
Coke and Kahlua. Different, huh?

MELAINA
(Offering it)
Carson?

CARSON
I promised Harley I wouldn't drink.

The other girls exchange a covert glance. Luanne brazenly takes the "Prell", and sips it as she drives.

Carson folds back the pages of her 'TEEN:

11.

CARSON

Okay, everybody --

(Reads aloud:)

"How Mature Are You?" Question: The night before the prom, your steady breaks his leg. Do you: A) Sit home with him watching TV, and let your new prom gown go to waste? or B) Drag him to the prom, broken leg and all, and then dance with his best friend all night?"

MELAINA

What does the best friend look like?

CARSON

Melaina.

LUANNE

A -- sit home with him and let the dress go to waste.

CARSON

(Checks reverse page)

Luanne is mature. Question number two: "You're absolutely wild about him and he finally asks you out. But once you get to the party, your dreamboat hands you an alcoholic beverage. Do you A) politely refuse and ask for a soft drink? Or B) --"

MELAINA

-- "Get knee-walkin' drunk and let him go to third base!"

LUANNE

Melaina, you would.

12. EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY.

12.

The Cadillac speeds by a road sign: SPEED LIMIT 75.

13. INT: CADILLAC - DAY.

13.

Pudge begins to read aloud from "True Detective":

PUDGE

"...On a lonely highway, the girls' headless corpses were found mutilated beyond recognition in a nearby swamp--"

But the others are squealing in disgust:

LUANNE
Uoooh, shut up!

13.

PUDGE
Looky, Carson, there's a picture--
Carson screams and burrows into the seat as Pudge tries to
show her the grisly page.

LUANNE
Pudge!

The magazine flies out of Pudge's hands and scatters down the
highway. Laughter.

14.

EXT: HIGHWAY - DAY.

14.

The Cadillac zooms by a BILLBOARD: a Southern redneck sheriff
pointing his finger, saying "OBEY THE LAW!"

15.

INT: CADILLAC - DAY.

15.

MELAINA
Carson, here's your fortune.

She leans over the seat back toward Carson, extending a
folded paper gizmo on thumbs and forefingers. She opens and
closes it, chanting:

MELAINA (cont'd)
Eeny meeny miney moe, catch a tiger
by the toe, if he hollers let him go,
eeny meeny miney moe!

CARSON
Oh...ummm...

PUDGE
Just pick one!

CARSON
"You will go parking and lose your
brassiere" -- oh Melaina! Married
people don't go parking.

PUDGE
Do me, do me --!

Melaina opens and closes the gizmo for Pudge: "Eeny, meeny,
miney, moe." Pudge chooses one immediately.

PUDGE
"You will marry Bullwinkle and have
three kids!"

Laughter and squeals.

16. EXT: HIGHWAY - DAY.

10

The Cadillac breezes along the two-lane blacktop, past a billboard: "GET THE U.S. OUT OF THE U.N.!", as OVER:

16.

PUDGE (O.S.)
Well, at least I won't be an
old-maid!
(Laughter)

LUANNE (O.S.)
If I'm not engaged by the time I'm
twenty, I'm gonna kill myself!

That emblem of the sleepy South, a roadside FIRECRACKER
STAND, blurs by. CUE MUSIC:

17. INT: CADILLAC / EXT: HIGHWAY - DAY.

17.

The Cadillac zooms past a HIGHWAY SIGN:

One arrow points right, to FORT SUMTER. One arrow points
straight ahead, to MYRTLE BEACH.

CARSON
Luanne! That was our turn off!

Luanne and Melaina exchange a quick, mischievous glance.

LUANNE
Oh, damn. Guess that means we have
to go to Myrtle Beach!

MELAINA
In that case --

-- Melaina rips off her blouse, revealing her polka-dot
bikini.

CARSON
Melaina!!

LUANNE
Grab the wheel!

Luanne wiggles out of her skirt, revealing madras Bermudas
underneath, as Melaina reaches over to steer.

CARSON
Luanne! Are ya'll going crazy?? Turn
this car around!

PUDGE
(Sing-song)
Looky what I found! --

She pulls Carson's girlish swim suit out of her suitcase. Squealing, Melaina and Pudge attack Carson, trying to undress her. Meanwhile, no one is steering. The Cadillac drifts into the next lane -- as a SEMI-TRUCK appears at the top of the next hill. Luanne screams:

17.

LUANNE

Jesus Christ Our Lord!!

-- and yanks the car back into the right lane. The truck careens narrowly by, blasting the horn. Melaina flips a Bird.

CARSON

What are ya'll doing??

MELAINA

We're going to Myrtle Beach and meet boys, what are you doin'?

PUDGE

(Yells exuberantly)

Turn on the radio!

CUE MUSIC:

Luanne steps on the gas, and the speedometer climbs to 90.

EXT. MAIN DRAG, MYRTLE BEACH - LATE DAY

18.

The Promised Land: motels, go-kart rides, rinky-dink bars, ferris wheels. Provocative billboards: "Miss Sun Fun Pageant, June 17 at the Pavilion". "House Of Horrors, 1 mile", etc.

The two-lane highway is clogged with CARS cruising the sights. Sunlight glints from the chrome of bumper-to-bumper traffic, and everywhere, the car RADIOS make a lively din.

LUANNE (O.S.)

I forgot it was Sun Fun Festival this weekend.

19. INT: CADILLAC / EXT: MYRTLE BEACH - DAY.

19.

Luanne and Pudge and Melaina stare hungrily at the amusements that glide by. Carson sulks in the back seat.

CARSON

I want to call Harley.

LUANNE

You're not calling Harley.

MELAINA (p. usly)
Carson, we only came here so you'd
have a good time.

12

19.

PUDGE
Luanne, drive us by the Pavilion!

CARSON
But I'm not allowed to go to Myrtle
Beach.

PUDGE
We won't tell on you.

Luanne self-consciously lights a "Swisher Sweet" miniature
cigar.

LUANNE
Shug, we're not in high-school any
more.

MELAINA
What a sweet potato!

Melaina is staring at a BLONDE ALONIS swaggering along in
swim trunks.

MELAINA
Don't you think he looks exactly like
Frankie Avalon??

They all stare, obviously. Pudge shrieks:

PUDGE
Eeeee! He saw us! --

-- and dives down in her seat.

MELAINA (O.S.)
Is that the Pavilion?

PUDGE
Where??

She pops up and whips around, staring back over
bumper-to-bumper traffic.

POV - THE PAVILION

It doesn't look like much: a wooden two-story building,
sitting a hundred yards from the water's edge. A faded sign
with huge block letters says: "SHAG CONTEST THIS WEEKEND."

PUDGE
(Hushed emotion)
That is so cool.

Melaina suddenly squeals:

MELAINA
Oh my god, look! The Surf & Sun
Motel!

19.

Luanne brakes. They all stare.

MELAINA (cont'd)
That's where Florence Jowers got
pregnant last year.

They look with horror and respect at a small, nondescript
motel settled among other motels along the highway.
Temptation seems to lurk behind the scarlet neon "Vacancy"
sign.

CARSON
(Tiny voice)
It's not too late to go to Port
Sumter.

PUDGE
Honestly, Carson, you're not gonna
get pregnant!

LUANNE
(Loftily)
We can conduct ourselves as ladies no
matter where we are.

With a loud mufflerless RUMBLE, a beat-up black HEARSE with
flame decals glides up on the shoulder of the road, alongside
the Cadillac. BUZZ, a good-looking young man with an
engaging smile, holds out a cold Budweiser.

BUZZ
(Sexy drawl)
Hi, where ya'll from?

LUANNE
None of your bees wax!

With a burst of horsepower, the Cadillac leaves the Hearse
behind, with all the girls squealing their delight and
dismay:

PUDGE
"None of your beeswax!", that's so
queer!

MELAINA
(Overlapping)
Luanne, he was cute!

LUANNE
He was uncouth!

MELAINA
He was adorable!
(Stands up, yells back:)
Ya'll come on!

19.

LUANNE
Melaina, sit down!

Carson pulls Melaina down.

LUANNE (cont'd)
I've been coming to Myrtle Beach
since I was a little bitty girl,
and we just don't date these
local boys!

MELAINA
Well, I'm not stuck having to marry
the son of some ol' plantation owner,
Luanne! I can have fun!

LUANNE
(Pointedly)
I think you're forgetting whose
weekend this is.

Everyone slips a glance at Carson, who at that moment has
spotted something. She sits bolt upright.

CARSON
Fabian!

POV: BILLBOARD. A Bathing Beauty poses behind a beach ball.
Next to her: a photograph of FABIAN's face. "SEE FABIAN AT
THE 1963 MISS SUN FUN PAGEANT, JUNE 17".

MELAINA (O.S.)
They can't mean the real Fabian.

CARSON
It's him, that's Fabian! Ya'll think
he's really gonna be at that pageant?

PUDGE
He's a greaser. God, I thought you
were over him.

MELAINA
How can you like him and Harley
Ralston at the same time??

PUDGE
He can't even sing. Did you see
"Love In A Goldfish Bowl"? Make me
puke!

Carson begins to buckle.

CARSON
Well, I am mostly over him.

19.

LUANNE
Ya'll! It's okay if Carson likes
Fabian!

She gives them a fierce look. Immediately, Melaina and Pudge begin to fawn:

MELAINA
He's got a great personality!

PUDGE
Yeah, didn't he buy his mother a car,
or something?

Behind them, once again, comes the sound of a loud mufflerless RUMBLE. The Hearse pulls up, this time on Luanne's side, and BUZZ leans out of the window, shaking up that Budweiser.

BUZZ
You forgot your beer --!

Buzz lets the beer can spray, dowsing Luanne thoroughly. The girls scream as the Hearse roars off, leaving the Cadillac behind in a cloud of blue smoke.

MELAINA
Get 'em!

Melaina stomps on Luanne's foot on the gas pedal. Luanne grapples with the wheel as the Cadillac fishtails forward.

LUANNE
Melaina!

She brings the car to a halt, and turns indignantly.

LUANNE
Ya'll, act like you've got some
upbringing! I mean it!
Everybody in this entire town
knows the Senator! If anything
gets back to my daddy, we'll be
on restriction till we're old and
gray!

(Self-righteously)
We can have a good time, but we
cannot be wild.

Primly, Luanne starts the car again.

20. EXT: BEACH HOUSE - DAY.

16

20.

The girls have gathered on the front porch with all their luggage and "lady bug" portable hair dryers. Luanne is blundering around in the flower bed, looking for something.

LUANNE

...I know Mama keeps it in a coffee can somewhere around here...

MELAINA

Let's just break in.

LUANNE

Melaina Buller, you are not running the show!

She finds the key and tramps onto the porch huffily.

LUANNE

There are gonna be some rules around here. For one thing --

She opens the front door, and flips on the lights.

21.

INT: BEACH HOUSE - DAY

21.

A BEAUTIFUL LIVING ROOM FILLED WITH WHITE RATTAN FURNITURE

The room is utterly spotless, like a room in a magazine.

LUANNE (cont'd)

-- I don't want anybody sitting on the furniture. If you have to sit down, sit on the floor.

The girls go inside, awed, looking around at the perfect room. Over the fireplace hangs a huge stuffed BLUE MARLIN with staring glass eyes. On the stair landing is yet another oil portrait of Senator Buford Clatterbuck.

LUANNE

Also, don't anybody use the telephone.

She indicates that zenith of luxury, a white Princess phone.

MELAINA

Oh, c'mon, Luanne --

LUANNE

The house is supposed to be empty!
If we run up that phone bill and
Daddy sees somebody was here --!

CARSON

But what about calling Harley?

EVERYONE ELSE
You're not calling Harley!

21.

LUANNE
 And furthermore -- Daddy's bourbon is
 strictly off-limits.

She firmly closes the white liquor cabinet's door, locks it
 with its ornate key, and places the key under a sterling nut
 bowl.

LUANNE (cont'd)
 Other than that --
 (Her best hostess smile:)
 Make yourselves at home.

CUE MUSIC:

22.

INT. THE MASTER BEDROOM/ THE MASTER BATH - NIGHT

22.

The scene of industrious primping: everyone prepares for a
 night out. Pudge, her hair in tight pin curls, has looped a
 belt around a door knob, and is "shagging" with abandon.
 Luanne vigorously rats Carson's hair, as Melaina dries her
 nails with a hair dryer hose, and reads from 'TEEN.

MELAINA
 "...5:30, give your hair a fresh
 set. He's worth the extra trouble."
 How does she know? "After your bath,
 apply a cloud-like spray of his
 favorite cologne, and don't forget
 your deodorant." I can't believe she
 put that in here. "6:30, apply
 make-up -- base, rouge, powder, then
 eye make-up and lipstick --"

LUANNE
 What does she say about eye liner,
 does she do that little tail-y thing
 at the end?

CARSON
 I think eyeliner looks trashy.

MELAINA
 I wear eyeliner.

CARSON
 Well, I like the way it looks on some
 people.

PUDGE
 So what does that add up to, she
 spends two and a half hours getting
 ready to go out??

MELAINA

I reckon that's how she got to be Miss Universe. She's not even that pretty.

(Holds up page)

Don't ya'll think she looks like Mary Pat Montgomery?

LUANNE

(Disgust)

Uuoooooh.

PUDGE

Mary Pat Montgomery was the one who told me about boners.

Everyone squeals. (Luanne: "Gross!!")

PUDGE (cont'd)

It isn't a bone at all, it's a muscle. This cousin of hers dated a Clemson Tiger who sprained his in a game, and she had to massage it every night when it got hard because he was in so much pain.

MELAINA

Mary Pat told you that??

LUANNE

Huh! And she always acts so innocent!

She has finished ratting Carson's hair -- Carson now looks like Bride Of Frankenstein.

LUANNE

What do ya'll think: French Twist or Bubble Flip?

PUDGE

Bubble Flip's better for shagging.

CARSON

I'm not going to dance.

(Twisting her diamond)

It wouldn't be right.

Melaina grabs the hairbrush, and takes over Carson's bouffant:

MELAINA

You're gonna dance.

LUANNE
Honey, this is your weekend. Just
forget about that ol' wedding, and let
us spoil you!

22.

On cue, Melaina begins to fawn:

MELAINA
Don't ya'll think Carson is prettier
than Connie Francis?

Pudge, admiring one of Carson's high heels:

PUDGE
I will never get over how tiny your
feet are, Carson -- what do you wear,
a four and a half?

Unexpectedly, Carson's lower lip begins to tremble.

LUANNE
Harley is certainly a very lucky boy
-- Sugar --! What's wrong??

Carson crumples, weeping. Pudge grabs a stuffed toy from
Carson's suitcase and makes the toy rabbit "dance":

PUDGE
Looky looky looky, it's Binky!

LUANNE
Ohhhh sugar! Tell Luanne what's wrong!

CARSON
(Sobbing)
I love ya'll so much, and ya'll're
going off to college and everything
and - and you're gonna forget
meeee! I know I shouldn't be jealous
but I aaaaaaaam!

MELAINA
She's wrecking her face.

Luanne dabs at Carson's mascara --

LUANNE
Carson, I swear on the Bible, I'll
write you every week from college and
so will Pudge --
(Who nods vigorously)
-- and so will Melaina.

Calmly, Melaina holds Carson's clothes against herself, as
she admires herself in the mirror.

MELAINA
I'm not going to college.

CARSON
(Tearfully)
Do ya'll think I'm doing the right thing?

Dead pause. Then --

EVERYONE ELSE
Of course we do! Yes, of course! Harley's great! etc.

-- with Luanne adding, with transparent insincerity:

LUANNE
Harley is a lovely person from a wealthy and respected family, and I know you're going to be very happy.

MELAINA
(Deadpan)
And if you're not, there's always divorce.

Luanne and Pudge scream, horrified:

LUANNE & PUDGE
Melaina!!!

CUT TO:

CUE MUSIC:

23. EXT. MAIN DRAG, MYRTLE BEACH - NIGHT.

Neon reflections glisten thrillingly on the Cadillac's polished white finish, as the convertible speeds toward the Pavilion.

24. INT: CADILLAC - NIGHT

CLOSE ON CARSON'S FACE AND HAIR - UNDISTURBED BY WIND

Carson's face is composed. The most perfect Bubble Flip imaginable floats like a gentle blonde planet, above Carson's pretty shoulders. Each golden strand is lacquered into place. Not a hair quivers under her fluttering petal scarf.

PUDGE (O.S.)
Carson, you look exactly like Jackie Kennedy.

Melaina examines her eyeliner in the rear-view mirror:

MELAINA

I think JFK is a sweet potato.

Carson gazes out at The Strip gliding by:

-5.

EXT: MAIN DRAG, MYRTLE BEACH - NIGHT.

A collage of excitements: "SEE FABIAN'S PERSONAL APPEARANCE!"
"SHAG CONTEST - PAVILION!"

PUDGE (O.S.)

Uuoooh, Melaina, he's an old man!

A gaudy NEON SIGN tips a naked girl out of a martini glass.

MELAINA (O.S.)

I don't care. I'd have an affair
with him outside of marriage.

PUDGE & LUANNE (O.S.)

Melaina!

Magically, INTO FRAME slides the familiar old Hearse,
soundlessly passing on the right shoulder. Buzz is at the
wheel, grinning, handsome. Carson's eyes follow, as:

LUANNE (O.S.)

He's The President, Melaina, that's
sacrilegious!

The girls hear a familiar mufflerless RUMBLE -- and ahead,
Buzz's battered Hearse makes a U-turn and approaches in the
opposite lane.

LUANNE

Oh no...

Buzz waves coyly. He says something to his passenger, CHIP,
a shy-looking boy with a sandy crewcut. With an easy motion,
Chip lobs into the air --

-- a CONDOM extended enormously with water. It lands splat!
on the trunk of the Cadillac. Various squeals: "Uoooh, it's
a Thing!" etc. The Hearse glides away.

LUANNE

I can't believe the jerks in this
town!

Carson turns around, and looks back.

Buzz is leaning out of the window, staring back at her, with
that direct, dangerous smile. I see you. Carson's heart
skips a beat. She turns around, unsettled.

26.

EXT: THE PAVILION - NIGHT

22

26.

Flashing light bulbs spell out "Pavilion" on the side of the large, ricket building on the main drag. The night Atlantic is a dark void on the other side of the Pavilion, only occasionally catching glints of the bright lights. MUSIC blares from the dance club, and COUPLES "shag" outdoors on the second-floor balcony.

27.

INT: THE PAVILION - NIGHT

27.

YOUNG PEOPLE jam the room, drinking beer and shagging wildly on the polished wooden floor. This is Planet of The Teenagers, and at its spinning axis is the colorful JUKEBOX thumping out a sexy beach music beat.

PUDGE

I'm really here. I can't believe
I'm really here.

MELAINA

Get control.

PUDGE

Please, God, somebody ask me to dance.

Shagging COUPLES fill a dance floor that extends from a long semi-circular bar on one side of the room, to an open deck on the other. TEENAGERS make-out in every corner.

Under a banner that says "SHAG CONTEST SUNDAY - WIN A PRIZE", Pudge, Luanne (in pearls), Melaina and Carson sip their beers and eye the competition.

MELAINA

God, look at those boho hairdos,
where are they from??

Two Local Girls, NADINE and SUETTE, do the Chicken Scratch in a dance line near the table. They wear outdated ponytail bouffants.

PUDGE

I wish my cousin Duke was here. We'd
show these hicks how to shag.

(Gasps)

Cool it, cool it! Here comes
somebody.

As a GOOD-LOOKING YOUNG MAN approaches their table --

MELAINA

Pudge! If he asks you to dance, the
first time say "No." You don't want
him thinking you're desperate.

YOUNG MAN
Would any of ya'll like to dance?

The girls exchange glances with Melaina.

PUDGE
(Forcing herself)
No thank you.

MELAINA
I'd love to!

She jumps up and takes the YOUNG MAN's arm. To the astounded girls, she adds:

MELAINA
The exception proves the rule.

-- and shimmies away into the dance crowd.

Luanne is suddenly yanked to her feet by THE CREEP, a weird-looking boy wearing Roy Orbison sunglasses and highwater-pants belted halfway up his chest.

THE CREEP
Hey Baby! Let's Twist!

He moves with loose, silly gyrations, advancing on the alarmed Luanne. They disappear into the dance crowd.

CARSON AND PUDGE - ALONE AT THE TABLE

Carson plays with her engagement ring. Pudge watches the dance floor, moving her feet, frustrated.

PUDGE
How come girls can't ask boys to dance??

Suddenly, Buzz and Chip show up. Buzz closes in:

BUZZ
Buy you a beer?

CARSON
(Chilly)
I have one, thank you.

Buzz whips a straw out of his shirt pocket, sucks up the contents of her glass, and signals the bar:

BUZZ
Bartender! Four bevos!

His crew-cut friend, Chip, sits down apologetically by Pudge.

CHIP
Nice night.

PUDGE
(Instantly agreeing)
Oh yeah, real nice.
(Pause. Hinting:)
You don't happen to shag, do you?

CHIP
Naw.

Pudge settles back, crushed. Buzz drapes himself in front of Carson. She conspicuously flashes her diamond.

BUZZ
I'm Buzz Ravenel. Let's dance.

CARSON
I'm sorry, I'm engaged.

BUZZ
I'm sorry you're engaged, too.
(Pulling her to her feet)
C'mon, this is a great song.

CARSON
Wait --! Dance with my girlfriend first.

Buzz good-naturedly extends his hand to Pudge -- who knocks over her chair as she drags Buzz onto the dance floor.

PUDGE AND BUZZ ON THE DANCE FLOOR

Pudge is quite a good dancer -- in fact, she shags rings around Buzz, throwing him through difficult shag movements that Buzz can barely follow.

A local girl, NADINE of the turquoise eye-shadow, narrowly checks out Pudge, following her with the poisonous stare of a rival. Pudge notices her, and as she and Buzz swirl by, Pudge remarks:

PUDGE
Get yer eyes full.

Nadine yells after Pudge:

NADINE
Fat Ass!

ANGLE ON LUANNE AND THE CREEP

The Creep has maneuvered Luanne into a corner, and is trying to kiss her. Between her ineffectual blows, Luanne gasps:

LUANNE

In...(whack!) the name of decency...
(whack!) I beg you...to s op!

27.

ANOTHER PART OF THE DANCE FLOOR

Out on the deck, bongos bop and hands clap. In the midst of a throng of cheering MALES, Melaina shimmies under the limbo stick. Her pelvis thrusts upward, breasts brushing the broomstick that redneck stud BIG BOB grips in his sweaty hands. Some OVER-HEATED MALE bellows, a la Soupy Sales:

OVER-HEATED MALE

"Oblaaaaayyy-o!"

A chorus of MALE VOICES shouts approval --

MALE VOICES

Go go go go go --

Big Bob is mesmerized. He keeps that rod rigid, as Melaina limbos lower, her breasts quivering, her thighs straining her tight toreador pants --

The other Local Girl, SUETTE of the beauty pageant looks, deftly knocks Melaina's foot out from under; and Melaina sprawls on her back.

MALE CHORUS

(Disappointed)

Awwwwwww.....

Melaina gets up, furious. Suetie places a proprietary hand on Big Bob's shoulder. Melaina saunters past Big Bob, and gives him a deep, smoldering stare. Suetie mouths:

SUETTE

Bitch.

ANGLE ON BUZZ, CARSON, PUDGE, CHIP

A SLOW DANCE TUNE begins. Buzz gathers Carson sexily to his chest, as he pulls her onto the dance floor. Alone at the table, Pudge and Chip exchange awkward smiles: they aren't going to slow dance.

CHIP

You know any elephant jokes?

PUDGE

(Sharply)

Is that a remark?

Chip looks stunned. Pudge realizes she has made a mistake.

PUDGE
 Sorry -- I-I guess I'm sensitive
 about my weight.

27.

CHIP
 What weight?

28. INT. PAVILION/ LADIES' ROOM - NIGHT

28.

Inside a grafitti-scribbled cubicle, Melaina squats on a toilet seat, writing on the wall in Tawny Coral lipstick.

The SOUND of the bathroom door opening. Melaina peeks through the crack.

POV - NADINE AND SUETTE PRIMING AT THE MIRROR

SUETTE
 ...I swear, Big Bob goes ape over any
 little out-of-town slut that throws
 herself at him!

NADINE
 Yeah, she danced real good till she
 landed flat on her butt!

The Local Girls shriek with cruel laughter: "Did you see
 her??" Inside the stall, Melaina's expression narrows.

NADINE
 Just wait till you win Miss Sun Fun
 tomorrow. Big Bob'll about die when
 you waltz off with Fabian!

The Local Girls squeal insanely at the very idea.

SUETTE
 (False modesty)
 Oh Nadine, you really think I can win
 Miss Sun Fun?

Melaina sashays confidently out of the toilet cubicle --

MELAINA
 I got news. You're gonna lose.

She pushes through the swinging exit door before the startled
 Local Girls have time to react.

29. INT: PAVILION/ DANCE FLOOR - NIGHT

29.

BUZZ AND CARSON

The MUSIC is "beach beat" -- but Buzz slow-dances, nuzzling,

disturbing Carson's perfect bouffant. Seductively:

29.

BUZZ

You ever drive out to Weewaw Point?

CARSON

"Weewaw Point"?? You're out of your mind if you think I'm going parking with you! I don't even know you!

BUZZ

I don't know you either, but I don't consider that an impediment.

To her amazement, Buzz cordially flicks his hand across her breast, several times, in a brushing motion.

BUZZ

Y' had a little something on your little thing there.

PUDGE AND CHIP AT THE TABLE

CHIP

You're a great dancer. You ever been in a shag contest?

Pudge is moving her feet, even as they sit:

PUDGE

Sure. Me and my cousin Duke.

(Pause)

You sure you can't dance?

CHIP

Naw.

(Humbly:)

Not as well as Buzz, anyway.

PUDGE

I don't think he's so cute.

CHIP

(Surprised)

You don't?

Just then, the MUSIC STOPS and the lights come on in The Pavilion. Bewildered grumbles, and then a unison gasp of FEMALE VOICES:

GIRLS

"FABIAN!"

Horrendous SQUEALING ensues. In one herd-like movement, the crowd stampedes to a corner of the room. VOICES shriek: "Where is he?" "Where's Fabian?"

The Creep is trampled by SHRIEKING GIRLS. Luanne is ripped away from him. FLASHBULBS pop around Luanne, disorienting her. The Overheated Male screams close by:

OVERHEATED MALE

Cool it! COOL IT! It's not him!

Luanne reels, deafened. Melaina fights her way out of the throng of HYSTERICAL GIRLS. The wave shifts, and Melaina is thrown against something solid -- Big Bob.

Big Bob gives her that dumb, sexy smile, and pulls out a key ring bearing a Corvette symbol.

BUZZ AND CARSON AND PUDGE AND CHIP

PUDGE

Turn on the music! --

CARSON

...did somebody say Fabian is here??

BUZZ

-- Cool it, this only happens about twice a night. We're leaving. Chip, grab four bevos, any four bevos, we're making like a tree.

As Chip hastily selects half-full beers from neighboring tables:

CARSON

(To Buzz)

I'm not going anywhere with you!

BUZZ

Don't play hard to get, you might miss something --!

-- Buzz yanks her toward the door.

ANGLE ON LUANNE

Still disoriented, Luanne arranges her pearls, and looks across the room:

POV - MELAINA AND BIG BOB LEAVING TOGETHER

Big Bob quickly shunts Melaina out the door.

30. EXT: PAVILION / PARKING AREA - NIGHT

Luanne runs out, looking around wildly. Where's Melaina?? Across the lot, the Hearse pulls out, rumbling and hacking -- with Chip and Buzz and Pudge and Carson inside. Luanne runs after the Hearse --

LUANNE
Wait! Wait! --

30.

-- but The Hearse is gone. Luanne helplessly calls:

LUANNE
Ya'll, we have to stick together!!

From the other direction comes a black T-roof '63 CORVETTE with purple lettering on its phallic hood: "PASSION PIT". To Luanne's horror, Melaina is standing in the passenger seat, triumphantly waving her petal scarf over Big Bob's head.

LUANNE
(Screams)
Melaina Buller, where do you think
you're going??

The Vette roars past her -- and past Nadine and Suetie, who have rushed out, infuriated, to watch Melaina make off with Big Bob. The Vette deftly merges onto The Strip.

NADINE
Let's catch 'em!

CUE MUSIC:

With electrifying rebel yells, Nadine and Suetie hop into a scarlet Mustang with a jacked tail, and scratch off after the Vette.

Luanne breaks into a panicked run for the Cadillac.

31. EXT: MYRTLE BEACH - NIGHT.

31.

ANGLE ON THE MAIN DRAG

The Vette, the Mustang, and the Cadillac barrel along, narrowly passing slower traffic. PEOPLE cheer as the three cars whip by in fast succession.

32. INT: CORVETTE - NIGHT.

32.

Big Bob slides smarmy glances at Melaina. She is laughing, turned around in her seat to watch the Mustang's pursuit.

MELAINA
This is the most fun.

33. INT: MUSTANG - NIGHT.

33.

Nadine drives crazily. She doesn't care what she hits. With calm fury, Suetie removes cans of shaving cream from the glove compartment, and an economy-size jar of Vaseline.

34. INT: CADILLAC - NIGHT. 30
34.
Terrified, Luanne steers with one hand. With the other, she tries to hold down her petticoats, which balloon up immodestly as she speeds along.

35. EXT: MYRTLE BEACH - NIGHT. 35.
The THREE CARS zooming along The Strip:
The Vette makes an abrupt left turn, and heads away from the festive lights of the main drag. The Mustang whips after it, and the Cadillac follows, red tail lights disappearing down the lonely road.

36. EXT: A DARKER ROAD / INT: CORVETTE - NIGHT. 36.
Big Bob suavely hands Melaina a bottle in a paper sack. Melaina gives him a flirtatious smile: why not? She takes a deep swallow, then licks her lips. Big Bob is excited.

BIG BOB
Girl, you make me think!

Melaina laughs, and throws her head back like a movie star. Big Bob drives faster.

37. EXT: A DARKER ROAD - NIGHT. 37.
The Vette is gradually outrunning the Mustang.

38. INT: MUSTANG - NIGHT. 38.
NADINE
(Sneers)
They're going to Weewaw Point.

SUETTE
Good.

She is furiously, methodically removing Kleenexes from a box, one by one. Nadine squints into the rear view mirror at the Cadillac's headlights.

NADINE
Who is that twerp behind us?

39. INT:/EXT: CADILLAC - NIGHT. 39.
Luanne has stuffed her skirts between her thighs, and is driving with a white-knuckled grip on the steering wheel. That Mustang is her only link to the kidnapped Melaina. The speedometer climbs to 95.

INT:/EXT: MUSTANG - NIGHT. 40.
Nadine's foot jams down the gas pedal. The Mustang picks up

its tail and just burns along the road.

41. INT: CADILLAC - NIGHT.

41.

Luanne can't believe her eyes. She is being left behind by both Mustang and Vette. She jams her foot down on the gas pedal.

42. INT:/EXT: MUSTANG - NIGHT.

42.

Nadine glances in her rear view mirror at the Cadillac --

NADINE

Bye Bye Birdie.

Nadine abruptly brakes, slides, and hangs a left turn down a dirt road. The Mustang's tail lights jounce a few times, raising a skirt of dust, and then the car disappears.

43. EXT:/INT: CADILLAC - NIGHT.

43.

At top speed, Luanne stands on the brake pedal, and desperately hauls on the steering wheel. "SCREEEEEEEECH!" the tires wail. Luanne closes her eyes in prayer. .

44. EXT. DARK ROAD/ INT: CORVETTE - NIGHT.

44.

The Vette speeds into unfamiliar darkness. Silence. Melaina glances back uneasily: they are completely alone. Big Bob tips the liquor to his mouth and chugs it as he drives.

MELAINA

(Politely)

What school do you go to?

By reply, Big Bob tosses the bottle behind his seat, and reaches over with his big hand to begin kneading her crotch.

45. EXT: MYRTLE BEACH AMUSEMENT PARK - NIGHT

45.

LAUGHTER and SCREAMING: amusement rides spin and tumble in a carnival of neon and noise. Buzz escorts Carson through the gate of "The Octopus", a vile-looking ride.

CARSON

This isn't scary, is it?

BUZZ

Naw, you'll be fine.

Buzz puts his arm around her waist. Carson daintily removes it, and gives him a schoolmarm look. Buzz puts his arm around her hips. Carson shoves him away.

CARSON

Are you going to behave??

45.

BUZZ

Sorry, sorry -- I'm sorry! I
won't touch you again.

Carson primly steps into the ride, and folds her hands in her lap. Buzz sits beside her, and makes a point of folding his arms just as primly.

Carson slides him a look. Is this a trick? The ride starts. They slowly rise --

-- their seat lifting, lifting --

-- and then suddenly, they are jerked OUT OF FRAME. Their seat whips around and The Octopus yanks them up and down-- Carson screams and throws herself at Buzz, her leg flung across his body, shrieking her terror: "Auuuuuuuuuuuuuu...!"

46.

INT: SCARY HOUSE - NIGHT.

46.

Chip and Pudge ride along easily, past hokey day-glo nightmares: BLUEBEARD devouring his WIFE, a grotesque MERMAID stabbing a SAILOR etc. A phony "SOUNDTRACK" of shrieks and sepulchral laughter rattles spookily.

Unaffected, Chip drinks a Coke in a bottle, Pudge sips an orange slushie in a cup. Chatting:

PUDGE

French Horn.

CHIP

Clarinet.

PUDGE

Clarinet, really? I hated Band.

47.

EXT: AMUSEMENT PARK / "THE OCTOPUS" RIDE - NIGHT.

47.

Carson and Buzz drop INTO FRAME. Carson is standing on the seat, screaming in abject terror: "Auuuuuuuuuuuuuu...--" They drop OUT OF FRAME.

48.

INT: SCARY HOUSE - NIGHT.

48.

A hairy TARANTULA springs from nowhere, as:

CHIP

...Dja'll have that kind of ceiling,
in the Band Room, that white kind of
ceiling --

PUDGE

-- with little holes in it --

CHIP

-- yeah, one time I threw a tuning
fork up there and it stuck right over
Mr. Tripp's head --

48.

PUDGE

Way out --

49. EXT: AMUSEMENT PARK/ OCTOPUS RIDE - NIGHT

49.

Carson and Buzz drop INTO FRAME. Carson, hysterical, is
trying to climb over the front of their seat -- in mid-air.
They drop OUT OF FRAME.

50. INT: SCARY HOUSE - NIGHT.

50.

A bloody FRANKENSTEIN swings out of a hidden door, as:

CHIP

You wanna make a "suicide"?

PUDGE

Love to.

She holds out her orange slushie. Chip pours in a good
amount of Coca-Cola. Then Pudge tips her cup into his Coke
bottle, and carefully pours in a good amount of orange
slushie.

EXT: AMUSEMENT PARK / OCTOPUS RIDE - NIGHT.

51.

Carson and Buzz drop INTO FRAME. Carson, still screaming, is
scrambling over the back. They drop OUT OF FRAME.

52. INT: SCARY HOUSE - NIGHT.

52.

A sheet of "cobwebs" drags overhead. Chip peers under his
Coke bottle, at words embossed in the glass bottom:

CHIP

-- "Wilmington, Delaware."

PUDGE

Wow. One time I got "Hartford,
Connecticut." You ever been up
North?

CHIP

Naw.

(To impress her)
Buzz is going to Yale.

PUDGE

What's that?

CHIP
It's a college.

52.

PUDGE
(Doubtfully)
Where at?

53. EXT: AMUSEMENT PARK/ OCTOPUS RIDE - NIGHT.

53.

Buzz and Carson drop INTO VIEW again. Buzz is laughing. Carson is on her knees, sobbing, her face buried in his lap. Buzz pats her head:

BUZZ
This is the most fun.

54. EXT: WEEWAW POINT - NIGHT.

54.

Big Bob's Vette is parked on a lonely dune overlooking the ocean. Inside the Vette, two figures wrestle.

55. INT:/ EXT: CORVETTE - NIGHT.

55.

Big Bob has Melaina pinned against the passenger door, trying to undress her -- but Melaina grips his ear.

MELAINA
(Clenched teeth)
I..am..a..Christian!

BIG BOB
C'mon, honey...ow! No, you don't, you little bitch --!

MELAINA
I swear I think you're really nice -- but it's against my religion!

Suddenly, the passenger door springs open. Nadine and Svette haul Melaina out of the car.

Melaina looks in horror directly into the nozzle of an aerosol can of shaving cream.

MELAINA
No!

CUE MUSIC:

Svette crams the aerosol can down the front of Melaina's blouse, and squirts shaving cream into her brassiere. Melaina yells to Big Bob:

MELAINA
Help me!

Nadine thoroughly lathers Melaina's head with Vaseline --

BIG BOB

Ya'll don't git that crap all
over my car!

55.

He yanks the door closed, and starts rolling up the window.
Svette flings herself on the Vette, yelling at him:

SUETTE

You boho son of a bitch!

Big Bob scratches off. Svette kicks at his tail light.
Melaina is drowning in gobs of Vaseline and shaving cream:

NADINE

Greaser! Greaser!

MELAINA

I'm gonna kill you --!

Nadine shoves a bottle of bourbon into Melaina's mouth,
forcing Melaina to swallow. Svette pastes wads of Kleenex on
Melaina's Vaseline-smearred head: "tar and feathers" --

SUETTE

(With grim pleasure)

This is the most fun.

EXT: A HAMBURGER JOINT - NIGHT.

56.

A drive-in diner, "THE PARK N BLOW". Middle-aged CARHOPS in
orange and pink uniforms attend to cars full of TEENAGERS.

From an outside door marked "Ladies", Carson emerges, looking
fragile and pale. With dignity, she walks to The Hearse,
parked nearby. In the front seat, Chip and Pudge signal
her: Go around to the back.

57.

INT:/ EXT: THE HEARSE - NIGHT.

57.

Carson climbs in the back doors. Buzz is re-enacting a scene
from "The Hustler" for Chip and Pudge -- who are in the front
seat, listening raptly as they devour hamburgers.

BUZZ

...So Fast Eddie goes in the bar, he
looks -- there's the same girl. It's
eight o'clock in the morning, she's
got a glass in her fist --

Pudge notices that Carson is unusually pale and quiet.

PUDGE

Carson, shug, are you okay?

CARSON
(Subdued)
I'm fine.

Buzz hands her a hamburger, and continues:

BUZZ
This girl is very cool. She's got a
quality, you know, like she's better
than him. They shoot the
breeze...she says:
(Husky female voice)
"I'm the emancipated type. Real
emancipated". Newman says, "I'll get
us a bottle, let's you and me go back
to your room."

Chip and Pudge have stopped chewing -- they don't want to
miss a word.

BUZZ
She says, "No." He says, "Fifth of
Scotch? She says:
(Husky female voice:)
"What do you want me to do -- just
step out in the alley?"

Carson rolls her eyes, disgusted. Buzz ignores her:

BUZZ (cont'd)
They get the bottle, they're at
the door. She says, "Why me?" --
Oh, I forgot to say she has a
limp! You don't see it till she
stands up in the bar --

PUDGE
She has a limp?

BUZZ
-- But like I say, she's got this
quality, this sex quality, and the
limp doesn't matter.

Carson gives an offended sigh. Buzz goes on:

BUZZ
So Newman just starts making-out with
her, he's practically humping her
against the door --

Buzz starts to act this out with Carson, who shoves him away,
outraged --

BUZZ
-- she pushes him off!

BUZZ (cont'd)
 (Husky female voice:)
 "You're too hungry!" Newman
 takes the bottle...puts it under
 her arm...and just walks away.

57.

Chip and Pudge release their breath at the same moment. The Hearse is charged with the subject of sex.

CHIP
 (Nervously, to Pudge)
 You want some more fries?

PUDGE
 I'll come with you.

Chip and Pudge scramble out of The Hearse. Buzz watches Carson pick the sesame seeds off her hamburger bun.

BUZZ
 I gather you didn't like "The Hustler."

CARSON
 (Pointedly)
 In Spartanburg, we aren't allowed to see those kind of picture shows.

(Silence.

BUZZ
 Look, I'm sorry I made you go on that ride. I didn't think you'd throw up --

CARSON
 I accept your apology.

BUZZ
 (Pause)
 And I'm sorry I got fresh with you. I mean it. You must be fed up with guys falling all over you.
 (Intensely:)
 You're so pretty.

Carson begins to play with her engagement ring. Buzz has an unnerving gaze -- in his own words, a "sex quality".

CARSON
 Actually -- I-I've never really dated anyone except Harley.
 (Apologetically:)
 My fiance.

Buzz doesn't say anything. Carson feels compelled to talk.

CARSON (cont'd)
I guess I'm just not used to...Harley
is, um, very...level-headed.

57.

BUZZ
Well, that's important.

Is he just being diplomatic? Carson decides to give him the benefit of the doubt, and smiles.

CARSON
Yes, I'm a very lucky girl.

Feeling a little better, she takes a small bite of her hamburger.

BUZZ
In my opinion, marriage is just a
legal form of prostitution.
(Carson chokes)
Which means your mother and my mother
are whores.

SCENE #58 - DELETED

59. INT: CADILLAC / EXT: DARK ROAD - NIGHT

59.

Luanne drives very slowly, peering through the windshield as she shines a flashlight along the overgrown roadside. Crickets, bullfrogs. Faintly, a weepy voice singing:

FAINT VOICE (O.S.)
"...What a friend we have in Jesus/
All our sins and griefs to bear/
What a privilege to carry/
Everything to God in prayer..."
(Hiccup)
"Have we trials and temptations...
Is there trouble anywhere?..."

LUANNE
Melaina??

60. EXT: DITCH - NIGHT

60.

In the flashlight's beam, Melaina is lying drunk and weeping in the ditch; she is naked and filthy with Vaseline and Kleenex and shaving cream. When the light hits her, she struggles to sit up:

MELAINA
Daddy?

CLOSE ON PUDGE'S FINGERS, DROPPING A DIME INTO A SLOT

61.

The jukebox lights up. CUE MUSIC:

EXT: "THE PARK N BLOW" DINER - NIGHT

61.

Pudge pulls Chip onto a small, paved dance area in front of the jukebox, as he protests:

CHIP

I'm really not any good --

PUDGE

Just try it --

CHIP

Everybody's looking at me --

PUDGE

What's wrong with that?

CHIP

You're so much better than me.

PUDGE

Chip Guillyard, if you don't shag with me, I'm gonna ask somebody else!

They face off, hands on hips. Suddenly Chip swings her into the opening movements of The Shag. One...and two...and three -- he lands on her foot.

CHIP

See -- ?

PUDGE

Just dance.

She pulls him into next movement.

62. INT. THE HEARSE

62.

Carson and Buzz are yelling angrily:

CARSON

You don't act like anybody I ever met!

BUZZ

Well, you act like every single girl I ever met! Stuck up, tight ass, conventional --!

CARSON

Don't you swear in front of me! Maybe I don't believe in practicing "free love", so what?? Who does??

BUZZ
I do!

62.

CARSON
 Well, you're just trying to be different! Nobody raised you to believe things like that!

BUZZ
 Why do you have to believe things the way you were raised??

CARSON
 (Pause)
 I don't think we should talk anymore.

BUZZ
 Fine.

He bends her back and kisses her full on the mouth.

63. EXT: "PARK N BLOW" DINER - NIGHT

63.

CHIP AND PUDGE, DANCING

PUDGE
 (Happily)
 You know what, Chip? --

Chip swings her out smoothly, and pulls her back:

PUDGE (cont'd)
 -- You're full of shit.

Chip grins sheepishly. The CAMERA pulls back: the JUKEBOX jukes, and other TEENAGERS shag, too. A CARHOP neatly dodges Chip and Pudge as they execute an enthusiastic spin.

64. INT: THE HEARSE - NIGHT.

64.

Carson struggles out from under an enveloping kiss.

CARSON
 I can't be doing this, Buzz, I'm getting married in three weeks!

BUZZ
 (Persuasively)
 You're right. We'll go half 'n' half
 -- I'll kiss you but you don't kiss me back. Okay?

Buzz kisses her deeply. Carson stays rigid, her eyes wide open. She tries to hold still, she's really trying -- By the fourth kiss, Buzz and Carson slide OUT OF FRAME.

65. EXT: "PARK N BLOW" DINER -- NIGHT

65.

Chip and Pudge shag happily. Chip isn't the smoothest dancer, but he is thrilled to be dancing with Pudge. The music rocks to a thumping beat --

-- and all around them, everywhere, on cars tops and table tops, inside the diner and out, TEENAGERS and CARHOPS shag like crazy. Pudge exhales happily:

PUDGE

This is the most fun.

66. INT: BEACH HOUSE - LUANNE'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

66.

Melaina blubbers in a tub full of bubbles, as Luanne briskly administers a shampoo of Comet cleanser and paint thinner:

MELAINA

...Left me like a dog on the highway!

LUANNE

You know better than to go off with white trash like Big Bob! --

MELAINA

I'm gonna show those girls!--!
Oh! Will you look at my nails?
(Tearfully)
What is Fabian going to say?

LUANNE

Fabian?

MELAINA

He's judging the Miss Sun Fun Pageant tomorrow.

Luanne looks at her in disbelief, and then dunks Melaina's soapy head to rinse it.

67. INT: BEACH HOUSE, MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

67.

Lights out. Her hair in tight pin curls, Pudge crawls sleepily into the glamorous king-sized bed, where Carson lies in a state of galvanized libido. After a moment:

CARSON

(Tiny whisper)

Pudge? Do you think I'm bad?

PUDGE

(Yawns)

'Course not.

Long pause. Carson peeks over at Pudge. Her eyes are closed.

67.

CARSON
Do you think Melaina's a virgin?

PUDGE
...Mmm-hm.

CARSON
She makes out with a lot of boys.

Another sleepy pause.

PUDGE
... 'S probably a good idea to make
out with a few boys...
(Slowly falling asleep)
I mean... You wanna be able to
compare... so's you can marry the one
who kisses you best.

Carson looks alarmed. After a long moment:

CARSON
Do you think kissing is that important?
(Silence)
Pudge?

Pudge's breathing drifts into peaceful slumber. Beside her, Carson has never been more awake.

68. INT. BEACH HOUSE - LUANNE'S BEDROOM - DAWN

68.

Luanne sleeps in a "panda bear" curler cap, her face covered with ghastly white cream.

CARSON (O.S.)
(Whisper)
...Harley, don't be mad about Myrtle
Beach -- they had a change in plans--

In the other bed, Melaina dreams, her angelic blonde beauty restored without hair rollers or night cream.

CARSON (O.S.)
(Whisper)
...Do I? Well, I feel sort of funny,
Harley, that's why I called...

69. INT: BEACH HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - DAWN.

69.

Carson is hunched over the forbidden white princess phone in her baby doll pajamas.

CARSON
...I'm not drunk, I only had half a
beer. A beer and a half...

69.

70. INT: HARLEY'S HALLWAY, SPARTANBURG - DAWN

70.

Harley clutches an expensive monogrammed robe around him, as he crouches whispering into the hall phone, only a few carpeted steps from his parents' bedroom.

HARLEY
(Incensed)
...well, you tell them to carry you
back home right this minute!

71. INT: BEACH HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - DAWN

71.

CARSON
...I don't know, I just feel so
confused...they were all acting so
crazy...

72. INT: HARLEY'S HALLWAY - DAWN

72.

HARLEY
...what boy? What car?...Where was
Luanne all this time?

INT: BEACH HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - DAWN

73.

CARSON
...we all just ate some hamburgers,
Harley, nothing happened! I don't
even know why I called --!

74. INT: HARLEY'S HALLWAY - DAWN

74.

HARLEY
Shhhh!

He listens. From behind his parents' closed door come the sounds of -- lovemaking?? Harley stares bug-eyed at their door. His parents are doing It.

75. INT: BEACH HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - DAWN

75.

CARSON
Harley, what is love?

76. INT: HARLEY'S HALLWAY - DAWN

76.

The phone receiver crackles.

HARLEY
Shhhhhh!

He stares at his parents' door, paralyzed with horror.
Muffled groans of animal passion??

76.

77. INT: BEACH HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - DAWN

77.

CARSON

Harley?...I just wanted to let you
 know I was okay. I love you. 'Bye.

78. INT: HARLEY'S HALLWAY - DAWN

78.

Harley hears the disconnecting click, and shouts into the
 phone:

HARLEY

Don't hang up!

Abrupt silence from his parents' room. Stricken, Harley
 scurries down the hall, tripping over the sash of his robe.

79. EXT: BEACH HOUSE - DAY

79.

A sparkling new summer day. Seagulls wheel, daisies bloom,
 dew glistens on the Cadillac parked out front.

Into this pristine morning comes the hacking rumble of the
 Hearse. With an exhausted whine, the Hearse eases to a halt
 in front of the beach house.

80. INT: BEACH HOUSE/ LUANNE'S BATHROOM - DAY

80.

Still in hair rollers, Luanne dabs Maybelline mascara on her
 lashes, then puts on her cateye glasses to inspect her work.
 She removes her glasses, and dabs a little on --

From downstairs, the loud sound of "DIXIE" suddenly blasts
 from the hifi. What the hell -- ?? Luanne rushes out.

81. INT: LIVING ROOM/STAIRCASE - DAY

81.

In the living room, Melaina skitters around in her polka-dot
 bikini, flapping a Confederate flag beach towel over her
 head. "DIXIE" booms from Senator Clatterbuck's hi-fi
 console.

Melaina whirls, leaps -- it is some kind of free-form dance,
 sincerely felt, but unfortunately reminiscent of burlesque.

She notices Luanne bellowing at her from the stairs: "Turn
 that off!" Melaina lifts the hi-fi needle. Slightly winded:

MELAINA

I'm practicing my talent for the Miss
 Sun Fun pageant.

(Big smile)

I think I'm gonna win.

82. INT: KITCHEN - DAY.

Pudge, still in pin curls, her face dotted with zit medicine, adds a teaspoon of sugar to her bowl of Trix cereal. She tastes it, and adds another teaspoon. She tastes it, then picks up the sugar bowl and scoops out a lot rapidly -- She glances up. My god. Chip's face peers in the kitchen window. Pudge dives for the floor.

Chip knocks timidly: Is anybody home? Hunkered down behind the kitchen table, Pudge yanks bobby pins out of her hair. Tight curls spring up individually. Panicked, Pudge claws at her hair to brush it. She licks her fingers, rubs at the zit medicine. How dare he come over before breakfast??

She throws open the kitchen door, feigning delighted surprise.

PUDGE

Chip!

Chip holds up a stack of 45s: shagging records.

CHIP

(Shyly)

Hope I'm not too early.

PUDGE

Why, no, no --!

83. INT: MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

Carson snoozes all by herself in the king-size bed.

A FEATHERED FISHING LURE enters THE FRAME, and gently strokes Carson's nose. She burrows into her pillow. The FEATHER caresses her ear. Carson cracks an eyelid:

POV - BUZZ

wearing a scuzzy old hat covered with bright fishing lures. Carson screams, and pulls the covers over her head.

CARSON

Get out! Get out!

BUZZ

Don't you want to go fishing?

Carson eases the covers down as far as her nose. Buzz is holding a rod and reel.

CARSON

Buzz, girls do not go fishing! Now, will you please leave my bedroom??

82.

83.

BUZZ
But I already got permission to use
somebody's dock.

83.

He slips a hand under the bottom of the covers to tickle
her. She yanks up her feet.

CARSON
Huh! Like I'd really go off
fishing with you, Buzz Ravenel.

BUZZ
It's fun.

He grins. Carson steels herself against his charm.

CARSON
Look. I hope you know what happened
last night will never happen again.

BUZZ
I'm glad you said something first.
Because I completely agree. I think
we should just be friends.

Carson blinks. What? No struggle? Buzz smiles slyly.

4. INT: LIVING ROOM - DAY.

84.

CLOSE ON LUANNE, STILL IN HAIR ROLLERS

Her face quivers. Her lips tremble. She moans. Deep, fake
Southern accent:

LUANNE
"Yankees in Tara?? Well, I won't
think about it now -- I'll think
about it tomorrow. I'm starving,
Pork! What're we gonna feed those
sick folks, and the child? Oh,
what're we gonna do without money, or
anything??"

She sobs; continues bravely:

LUANNE (Cont'd)
"You needn't worry, Pa. Katie
Scarlett is here."

Luanne rises, sharply turns her head, bites her lip. Tears
fill her eyes. This is the performance of the century.
Stiffly, Luanne walks a few steps, and then falls to her
knees, and "digs" in the carpet.

Melaina watches dumbly. Luanne finds a "radish" and takes a
bite. She retches. Slowly she rises, proudly:

LUANNE (cont'd)

"As God is my witness!...As God is my witness!...they're not going to lick me! I'm going to live through this, and when it's over, I'll never be hungry again! If I have to lie, or steal, or cheat, or kill! As God is my witness, I'll never be hungry again!"

84.

The performance is over. Luanne wipes her eyes, shudders.

MELAINA

(Awed)

You are so good.

85.

INT: KITCHEN - DAY.

85.

Chip holds up the taut end of a man's skinny tie --

CHIP

Like this?

A phonograph needle drops onto a spinning 45 -- "UP ON THE ROOF". Pudge sits cross-legged on the kitchen table:

PUDGE

(With the music)

One - two - three- four!

-- and Chip begins to shag, holding onto the man's tie knotted around the kitchen door knob. Pudge spoons cereal into her mouth, calling out instructions:

PUDGE

One two three four, kick back-3-4!

86.

INT: LIVING ROOM - DAY.

86.

Melaina bites a balled up sock, and turns her anguished face upward. Shrilly:

MELAINA

"As God is my witness! As God is my witness!... --

Luanne mouths the speech with her, watching her pupil intently.

MELAINA (cont'd)

"-- They're not about to lick me! I'm gonna lie and steal and cheat and KILL! I'll never be hungry --"

She stops as Luanne begins to shriek:

LUANNE

Melaina, Melaina --! This is a very famous speech. I did it for Maid of Cotton! Carson did it for Junior Miss --! If you don't get the words right, the judges are gonna know!

86.

MELAINA

I think I'm better off with modern ballet --

LUANNE

Modern ballet is trashy-looking!

Melaina flings herself petulantly onto the sofa.

LUANNE

The couch the couch --!

Melaina pops back up, annoyed.

87. EXT: RICKETY DOCK - DAY.

87.

Buzz whistles as he sets out his tackle at the end of the dilapidated dock. Carson looks around warily. Buzz would pick an isolated spot.

BUZZ

You might want a different sinker on that rod.

He goes on preparing his own line. Carson is puzzled, even miffed, at his new manner.

CARSON

I don't really feel like fishing.

Buzz plops a dead fish at her feet, and sticks in a knife.

BUZZ

Then you get to cut bait.

88. INT: KITCHEN - DAY.

88.

"UP ON THE ROOF!" -- Chip and Pudge practice a "belly roll": hands linked, arms raised in a "bridge", they spin around, rolling off each other, getting better every time.

PUDGE

(Inspired)

Chip! You and me ought to go on American Bandstand!

CHIP

I think you have to be Italian.

89. INT: LUANNE'S BEDROOM - DAY.

89.

Melaina looks at herself in the closet mirror. She fills her bikini admirably. Luanne frets:

LUANNE

What would Scarlett O'Hara think of you doing "As God Is My Witness" in a polka-dot bikini??

(Waves a costume at her)

Now, you wear my mama's hoop skirt!

Melaina tosses her hair, arches her chest higher.

MELAINA

I know how to win this thing.

Luanne is shocked at such raw ambition.

LUANNE

Why, Melaina! It is bad manners to think about winning!

MELAINA

(Turning on her)

Look, I'm not going to college, like some people -- and I'm sure as hell not marrying a damn Ralston -- and I ain't gonna die in a parish house in Spartanburg, South Carolina, thank you!

Luanne is quite taken back. Melaina continues, intensely:

MELAINA (cont'd)

I'm as pretty as any of those girls in Hollywood, Luanne. This is my chance. Fabian is gonna discover me tonight -- and it ain't gonna be in your mama's hoop skirt!

Hurt, blinking silence. Then:

LUANNE

Would you at least consider wearing my one-piece bathing suit?

90. EXT: RICKETY DOCK - DAY

90.

BUZZ

Bait!

With utter distaste, Carson hands him a hunk of bait fish.

CARSON

...I don't know why you'd want to go to school up north.

90.

BUZZ

Couldn't turn down a full scholarship.

CARSON

You got a full-scholarship to Yale??
Why, that's great! My cousin Grady
Earl McBride went to Auburn like
that!

(Pause)

I didn't think you were big enough
for football.

Buzz hauls in his line. Wryly:

BUZZ

I don't play football. Bait.

Scene #91 - DELETED

92.

INT: LUANNE'S BEDROOM - DAY

92.

CLOSE ON A HAND STUFFING KLEENEX INTO MELAINA'S BIKINI TOP

PUDGE (O.S.)

Hey! Come on to the beach!

Luanne jumps guiltily -- she is trying on Melaina's polka-dot bikini, stuffing tissue paper into the top. She calls back:

LUANNE

Ya'll go on without me!

Luanne looks at herself forlornly in the mirror, then tries a bright, false smile.

93.

EXT: RICKETY DOCK - DAY.

93.

CARSON

...Then, when he gets done at Carolina,
Harley's going right into tobacco.

(Self-conscious laugh)

I guess it's kind of expected by his family.
I mean, "Ralston", you just naturally think,
"Tobacco."

(Quickly:)

But he loves it, he really does. He's
already got some ideas about improving
filter tips.

(Pause)

How about you? What're your plans?

BUZZ

I dunno. Figure I'll bum around Italy or somewheres...Look at statues, pick up women...

93.

CARSON

(Jealous)

That's a lofty aspiration.

BUZZ

It's a damn sight better than manufacturing cigarettes for your daddy.

CARSON

Huh! At least Harley is doing something with his life!

BUZZ

Harley is a trained seal. And I don't care how rich he is, I don't think you're going to marry him.

CARSON

(Astounded)

You are the rudest person I have ever met.

BUZZ

That's probably true.

He squints up at the sun. Hot day. He peels off his shirt, and reaches into the little cooler for a beer. Carson peeks at his tan body.

BUZZ

Bevo?

CARSON

I don't drink in the middle of the day.

BUZZ

Well! You've got a lot of rules, don't you, Carson?

Buzz chugs his beer, his head tipped back, displaying a strong masculine line from chin to waist. Carson stares and then guiltily looks away.

CARSON

Would you kindly put your shirt back on?

Buzz pretends to think it over, and grins.

BUZZ

No.

EXT: THE BEACH - DAY

The beach is crammed with TEENAGERS. A dozen RADIOS juke. Down by the water, a "chicken fight" goes on: GIRLS in bikinis sit astride their BOYFRIENDS' shoulders, and tussle with each other in mid-air.

Pudge and Chip are flaked out on beach towels. Chip reads aloud from 'TEEN magazine:

CHIP

"...Is The Twist dangerous? This reader writes: 'I threw out my hip doing The Twist, and was in the hospital. My parents have banned The Twist forever.'"

PUDGE

What a dufus.

Something slips out of the back of the 'TEEN. Chip unfolds the worn piece of notebook paper. He reads:

CHIP

"Are You Experienced?"

(Pudge's eyes blink open)

"Have you ever been naked with a boy in a swimming pool?"

PUDGE

(Bolts up)

Don't read that!

CHIP

"Have you ever petted in a car? Front seat or back?" What is this?

PUDGE

It's just a joke, don't read it!

CHIP

"Have you ever kissed for more than 20 minutes without stopping?"

Pudge is weak with embarrassment. Chip, curiously:

CHIP

Have you?

CUT TO:

EXT: RICKETY DOCK - DAY

The day is a scorcher. Buzz applies suntan lotion to his face and arms. He tosses Carson the tube.

BUZZ

Spread a little on my back, okay?

95.

Carson, outraged, stares at him: Me, touch your skin??

BUZZ

Carson, have I laid a finger on you today?

CARSON

(Almost disappointed)

No.

Buzz takes her hand, squeezes a dollop of lotion into her palm, and turns his back to her.

Carson defiantly begins rubbing the lotion into his skin. Charged silence. She is thinking: He is only making me do this to see if I will!

She keeps rubbing, then slows. When is she supposed to stop? What if he thinks I like it?

BUZZ

(Softly)

You've got a nice touch, Carson.

She blushes hard, and stops rubbing. Buzz turns his head to look at her.

CARSON

Why did you say I wasn't going to marry Harley?

BUZZ

(Hesitates)

I'm not gonna tell you.

CARSON

Why not??

BUZZ

Because you'll deny it.

They look at each other for a long moment.

CARSON

If you think I'd ever be interested in somebody like you, you're wrong.

BUZZ

So marry Harley.

EXT: THE BEACH - DAY

96.

Luanne carefully smooths a beach towel onto the sand. She

wears a prim floral beach jacket. Her hair is perfect. She looks around: The beach is full of happy teenagers, none of them looking at her. Many girls wear bikinis.

Courageously, Luanne removes her beach jacket. Underneath, she wears Melaina's polka-dot bikini, and pearls.

Instantly, The Creep materializes, in an Hawaiian swim suit and novelty hat with ball fringe. With a sex-starved leer:

THE CREEP

Hi, Luanne!

He begins a pelvic Polynesian dance, slapping the bongos he has strung around his neck. Luanne screams.

CUE MUSIC: "Itsy Bitsy Teeny Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Bikini"

Luanne runs down the beach, jumping over sprawled sunbathers, pursued ten yards behind by The Creep. Luanne dashes past:

CHIP (O.S.)

"...Nine...Have you ever French
kissed at a party with a boy you
didn't know?"

EXT: THE BEACH - DAY

Pudge is curled in a fetal position, a towel over her face.

CHIP

"Ten...have you ever been to second
base? On which number date?"

PUDGE

(Muffled)

No.

CHIP

NO?

PUDGE

No.

Chip looks at her for a moment: Should he believe her?

CHIP

Why not?

PUDGE

(Stiffly)

Boys don't think about me like that.

Chip peeks at the slight curve of Pudge's breast pressing over the top of her bathing suit. He gets his breath, then:

CHIP
 "Eleven...Have you ever said 'I love
 you' to a boy?..."

INT: BEACH HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - DAY

98.

Melaina, dowdily dressed in Luanne's one piece "sailor girl"
 swim suit with pleated skirt, grips her raw potato. Deep
 breaths, concentrating...suddenly screams:

MELAINA
 Aaaaaaaaaaauuuuuueeeek!

Real tears bloom in Melaina's eyes; a radiant smile --

MELAINA
 "I can't believe it! EEEEEEE!
 (Jumping up and down)
 "Oh, Fabian! You've made me the
 happiest girl in the world!"

The music swells -- "Here She Is, Miss America". Melaina
 mimes accepting two dozen long-stem roses, a diamond tiara:

MELAINA
 "A brand new wardrobe?? And a
 trip to Hollywood aboard one of
 Pan Am's spacious new jets??
 (Squealing, giggling)
 "Oh Fabian --
 (Seductive:)
 "How can I ever, ever thank you
 for choosing me?"

99.

EXT: THE BEACH - DAY

99.

Gasping, Luanne runs desperately past the oblivious Pudge and
 Chip. She looks back: The Creep is gaining on her, panting.
 He picks up a yard, then two yards -- oh no! Here comes the
 hand --! The Creep tags her swat! on her bikini bottom.

THE CREEP
 Cooties!

With a high giggling laugh, The Creep turns and runs the
 other way. Luanne stares after him, in shock.

100.

EXT: THE BEACH - DAY

100.

Pudge reads from the questionnaire. With a vengeance:

PUDGE
 "...Seventeen...Have you ever been
 frenched in the ear?"

Chip is burrowed under the towel. Pause.

CHIP

Yes.

100.

Pudge gives the towel an incredulous look.

PUDGE

"Eighteen...Have you ever frenched a girl in the ear?"

CHIP

(Pause)

Yes.

PUDGE

My god, who'd you do all this with??

CHIP

Nobody.

(Emerging, chagrined)

Debbie Gheesling. Look, she only went out with me 'cause she was hot for Buzz --

PUDGE

Huh --!

CHIP

-- It's true! She thought I'd tell Buzz she was fast.

PUDGE

Did you tell him?

CHIP

No.

They break up into laughter. The laughter subsides. They are looking at each other, aware.

CHIP

What's your real name?

PUDGE

(Blushes)

Pudge.

CHIP

Your real name.

PUDGE

-- No, it's horrible, it's so spazz!

CHIP

Tell me!

She dives under the towel, he pulls the towel off. Agonized:

PUDGE
"Caroline".

100.

CHIP
(Surprised)
That's pretty.

Pudge burrows under the towel again.

101. EXT: RICKETY DOCK - (LATE) DAY

101.

Carson struggles with her fishing line, snarled on the dock in a clump of seaweed. Buzz ignores her.

She rips at the fishing line -- damn! Blood wells brightly at the tip of her finger. She glares at Buzz, hating him. He smugly continues to fish.

She hacks at the seaweed with his fishing knife. In a moment, Buzz kneels beside her. Without a word, he takes the knife, cuts the line and begins tying on new tackle.

Buzz glances up. Carson is gazing at him, intense, vulnerable, sucking the tip of her finger. His heart turns over.

Voices overlapping from the next scene:

PUDGE'S VOICE (O.S.)
(Half-whisper)
...Are you ready?

Carson and Buzz look at each other, barely breathing.
Kiss me right now or I'm gonna die.

Slowly, Carson's finger comes out of her mouth, leaving a trace of blood on her lower lip --

CHIP'S VOICE (O.S.)
(Half-whisper)
I'm ready...

102. EXT: BEACH - (LATE) DAY

102.

CLOSE ON PUDGE'S FACE

PUDGE
"Number Twenty --"

She squinches her eyes shut in extreme embarrassment.

Instantly, SFX: over, A WHIZZING, VIBRANT HUM --

103. EXT: RICKETY DOCK - (LATE) DAY

CLOSE ON CARSON AND BUZZ

Carson and Buzz, moving in slowly for The Big Kiss --

PUDGE'S VOICE (O.S.)
(Half-whispered)

"-- Have you ever gone All The Way?"

SFX: whizzing, vibrant HUM, continuing --

Wedge in the boards, Buzz's reel is spinning out of control, its silver line streaking into the depths. Something enormous is on that line, headed for the deep blue sea --

104. EXT: THE BEACH - (LATE) DAY

CLOSE ON CHIP whose eyes are squinched tight, too.

CHIP'S VOICE
(Half-whispered)
...Not yet.

105. EXT: RICKETY DOCK - (LATE) DAY

CLOSE ON CARSON AND BUZZ

Lips touch. Buzz's fishing line plays out wildly, unattended, as Carson and Buzz kiss and kiss and kiss...

FADE TO:

106. INT: THE SUGAR SHACK - NIGHT

The place is jammed. A spotlit banner against the back wall says:

**"MISS SUN FUN PAGEANT TONIGHT!
WIN A DREAM DATE WITH FABIAN!"**

The dance floor is rocking. YOUNG PEOPLE mill and connect, glide apart. Beer bottles are opened, one after the other, the caps falling down like money behind the bar. A familiar VOICE calls to the bartender:

BUZZ (O.S.)
Four bevos!

Buzz elbows his way through the crowd, to Luanne and Carson. Luanne stares around at the scene in disbelief: a line of GIRLS in skimpy bikinis extends back from a platform marked "REGISTRATION".

103.

104.

105.

106.

LUANNE
What kind of beauty pageant would they
hold at night in a bar??

106.

BUZZ
(Dryly)
The kind of beauty pageant where first
prize is "A Night with Fabian".

LUANNE
Doesn't it seem kind of - trashy?

Buzz raises his bottle solemnly:

BUZZ
To trash.

ANGLE ON PUDGE AND CHIP, SHAGGING

Chip and Pudge dance, never taking their eyes from each other. Hands connect, slip away, connect again. Chip draws Pudge toward him into a low dip, swings her back to her feet. Pudge smiles shyly, thoroughly in love.

Nadine, the local girl, roughly shoves through:

NADINE
Break it up, Fat Ass.

She plows onto the dance floor, dragging her partner, Big Bob.

CHIP
Her name happens to be "Caroline"!

NADINE
Well, I call her Fat Ass -- Chicken Neck!

As Nadine and Big Bob begin to shag, Chip pulls Pudge close:

CHIP
Nadine Thibideaux, she's a hood.

Pudge sends Nadine dagger-eyes, and "hot dogs" a little, adding a twist-step as she ducks under Chip's arms.

Scene #107 - DELETED

107A ANGLE ON THE REGISTRATION LINE

107A

Melaina looks odd in Luanne's floral bathing suit cover-up. Carson and Luanne fuss over Melaina; painting her heels with baby shoe polish, applying mascara --

LUANNE

I think she's the cutest girl here,
don't you think so, Carson?

107A

CARSON

-- oh I do, Fabian is just going to
flake out!

Just then, Suetie slinks by, looking like an undiscovered
starlet. She wears a tiny Confederate Flag bikini and
earrings that dangle to her shoulders.

Luanne and Carson and Melaina stare at her. After Suetie has
waggled by --

MELAINA

Take me home, I've got to get my
bikini!

Melaina tears open her beach jacket, revealing Luanne's dumpy
"sailor girl" swimsuit.

LUANNE

No - no -- Melaina!

MELAINA

I look like a joke!

CARSON

You look gorgeous --!

Melaina strips off the floral top --

LUANNE

Melaina, listen to me --

MELAINA

I want my bikini!

LUANNE

-- You know what they told us in Maid
Of Cotton??

(Seizes Melaina firmly)

"This is not a parade of flesh! Others
may cheapen themselves, but you, Melaina --

(Dramatic, religious pause)

"-- You are a Flower Of The South."

Melaina's face as this sinks in.

CUE MUSIC: "BABY ELEPHANT WALK"

CLOSE ON THE PARADE OF BATHING BEAUTIES

108.

TWENTY nearly-identical BATHING BEAUTIES parade in a line:
hips swinging, shoulders moving, thighs flashing.

CLOSE ON SIDELINES

Surrounded by onlookers, Pudge cranes, looking for Melaina. Chip and Buzz confer quietly. Carson nudges Pudge, whispers:

108.

CARSON

Did he kiss you yet?

PUDGE

(Blushing)

It's not like that.

Pudge slips a longing look at Chip.

POV OF THE PLATFORM

Hips swinging, shoulders moving, thighs flashing...Everyone wears a molar-to-molar "beauty queen" smile, as they parade to "Baby Elephant Walk".

CARSON & LUANNE & PUDGE (O.S.)

There she is!

CLOSE ON MELAINA, ON PARADE

Melaina is easy to spot -- she is the only girl in a "sailor girl" swimsuit.

On her arm is a paper band: number "20". As the line circles, Melaina finds herself immediately ahead of number "1": Suette in her Confederate flag bikini. Hips swinging, shoulders slinking, thighs flashing, breasts rising --

ANOTHER ANGLE - PLATFORM

Melaina smiles desperately as she passes the judges:

GIRLS (O.S, whispering)

Where is he??...Is that Fabian??

JUDGE'S TABLE

Four MIDDLE-AGED MEN flank FABIAN -- who looks exactly like his photograph come to life: honey-blond and handsome. In this light however, Fabian seems a bit debauched. He smokes, French-inhaling his cigarette.

Behind Fabian stands his savvy-looking Italian MANAGER, in an iridescent orange dinner jacket with black lapels.

The Manager stares at someone in line behind Melaina:

The lovely Suette, in her skimpy Confederate bikini and fluttering false eyelashes. She delivers a photo-brilliant smile.

CLOSE ON SIDELINES

Luanne whispers to Carson and Pudge:

108.

LUANNE

These girls look like Harlots! --

CLOSE ON JUDGES' TABLE

The Manager nudges Fabian, and jerks his head at Suetta.

LUANNE (O.S.)

-- Fabian would never pick them.

Obediently, Fabian smiles at Suetta.

CLOSE ON MELAINA, IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Melaina takes a nervous breath:

MELAINA

I'm Melaina Buller, I'm eighteen,
and my talent is, um, "dramatic
interpretation".

The Manager eyes her without interest -- but Fabian gives her
a reassuring wink. Encouraged, Melaina begins:

MELAINA

"Yankees in Tara?? Well, I won't think
about it now..."

CLOSE ON SIDELINES

Luanne watches raptly, moving her lips in synch:

MELAINA (O.S., far away)

"...As God is my witness! As God is my
witness ..."

CLOSE ON MELAINA

MELAINA (cont'd)

"They're not gonna lick me! If I have
to lie, or cheat, or kill --!
As God is my witness, I'll never be
hungry again!"

As she bites into her raw potato, Melaina peeks:

POV OF FABIAN

Fabian is holding up a clear cigarette lighter, and
distractedly watching a tiny plastic goldfish float slowly
down through the lighter fluid.

ANGLE ON SIDELINES

Pudge and Carson and Luanne applaud wildly, jumping and shrieking. Pudge and Chip hug exuberantly, then fling themselves apart, embarrassed.

108.

Buzz lifts Carson, spinning around and around. Carson glances past his head:

CARSON
(Stricken)
Omigod Harley!

And indeed --

Harley Ralston is wandering through the crowd of madras shirts, lost and out of place in his jacket and tie.

CARSON
Quick quick let's go let's go -- it's
Harley!

LUANNE
(Oddly pleased)
Harley Ralston? What's he doing here?

CARSON
-- Before he sees us!

LUANNE
(Waves gaily)
Oh Harley!

CARSON
Are you nuts??
(Scrambles under Buzz, for shelter)
Hide me hide me hide me!

Harley spots Luanne and waves back. In rapid exchange:

CHIP
Who's that? --

PUDGE
Her fiance --

CHIP
Holy pajamas --

PUDGE & CHIP
-- RUN!

As Carson and Buzz vanish, Luanne shrieks after them:

LUANNE
Wait! What am I supposed to tell
Harley??

In that moment, Harley arrives. Luanne instantly turns Southern Belle, as sweet as marshmallow pie:

108.

LUANNE
Why, Harley Ralston! Whatever brings
you to Myrtle Beach?

ANGLE ON THE PLATFORM

SFX: loudly blaring "DIXIE"

The lovely Svette swirls by, leading with her chest, doing an "interpretive dance" in that bouncing Confederate bikini.

The music boons: Look away, look away -- but Fabian and the Manager don't. The Manager is riveted with lust.

Melaina stands at the rear of the stage, defeated. If looks could kill...

ANGLE ON THE SIDELINES

The girls huddle in rapid conference. Harley eyes Chip. Chip socks Harley in the shoulder, heartily.

CHIP
How 'bout those Gamecocks, fella? You
follow Carolina at all?

HARLEY
Where is Carson?
Scene #109 - DELETED

110.

ANGLE ON PLATFORM

110.

"Here She Is, Miss America...." In dream motion, Svette floats by, roses and tiara and Confederate flag bikini.

111. EXT. SUGAR SHACK PARKING LOT - NIGHT

111.

HARLEY
Did ya'll let Carson get
intoxicated??

Pudge and Chip are horsing around, shaking up beer bottles, trying to spray each other --

LUANNE
No! Harley. I swear on the Bible.

PUDGE
We don't believe in drinking!
(As her beer douses Harley:)
Oops!

She and Chip break up hysterically.

HARLEY

Then where is she?? Did she - did she go off with someone else?

111.

LUANNE & PUDGE & CHIP

Of course not! Don't be silly!
Carson?? etc.

Melaina strolls up, in a bitter funk.

MELAINA

Thanks for all your "help", Luanne! I couldn't have lost without you.

She plunks herself down on the fender of a sporty red Thunderbird parked next to the Cadillac. Instantly:

HARLEY

Don't sit on my car!

Melaina does a double-take at Harley.

MELAINA

What the hell are you doing here? Hey, where's Carson and Buzz?

As Luanne gags:

HARLEY

Who's Buzz??

LUANNE

Buzz?

(Merry laugh)

Buzz is - our maid! Ol' Buzzy!
Ol' black Buzzy! I guess Buzzy gave Carson a ride home on account of her headache.

(Expanding)

Yes, that's it! Carson had an awful headache, it was throbbing and pounding -- and I guess Melaina called Buzzy to carry Carson back to the house!

(With a desperate edge:)

Right, Melaina?

Melaina just looks at her balefully.

PUDGE

Right!

HARLEY

Okay - so let's go to the house.

LUANNE

(With demented enthusiasm)

No, I know! Let's all go down to Edisto's and eat some ice cream!

111.

Melaina watches a limousine with black windows glide up to the curb.

MELAINA

(Darkly)

There goes my dream date with Fabian.

POV - LIMOUSINE AT CURB

Fabian emerges from the Sugar Shack, and is quickly tucked into the Lincoln. A POLICEMAN controls a small crowd of SCREAMING GIRLS.

CLOSER ON SUETTE AND THE MANAGER, ON THE CURB

MELAINA (O.S.)

There she is. That little tramp.
Look -- he's already giving her a
Hollywood contract!

The Manager pushes a piece of paper at Suetta, overdressed in a fringed "twist" dress and tiara.

THE MANAGER

(Suave, grating)

...Baby, we have to ask you not to pick up a glass of anything. Not even water. Do you know what it would mean if my client was photographed with a broad has a drink in her hand?? Jesus.

(Pinches her cheek)

You're cute. So another thing - you can put your arm around him, but not below the waist. I know you're not that kinda girl, right?

(Winks; hands her another sheet)

-- And in the event that you have a little something in the oven...

(Suetta looks shocked)

It's a paternity thing, absolutely routine. Hey, I know you're a nice kid. When this is over, you and me'll go out and celebrate.

ANGLE ON MELAINA AND THE OTHERS, WATCHING THE LIMOUSINE

MELAINA

(Inspired)

Luanne! You and Pudge quick run over and get Fabian to come back to the house with us!

PUDGE
Are you crazy?

111.

MELAINA
Tell him your daddy the Senator wants
to meet him -- quick, before that
slut gets in the car!

LUANNE
I'm not gonna do any such thing!

MELAINA
(Fiercely)
Luanne, dammit, you made me lose Miss
Sun Fun but I'm not gonna lose Fabian
too! You owe it to me and you better
get over there quick or we'll never
speak to you again!

CUT TO:

112. EXT: SUGAR SHACK/ INT: FABIAN'S LIMO - NIGHT
LUANNE, PUDGE AND CHIP FRAMED THROUGH A WINDOW SLOT
Behind them, a hundred SQUEALING GIRLS wave autograph books.

112.

LUANNE
(The perfect sycophant)
Hiiiiii...I am thrilled to meet you!
I'm Luanne Clatterbuck and my daddy,
Senator Buford S. Clatterbuck, asked
me to cordially invite you to drop in
for a cocktail with the family.
Right now.

Fabian peers out forlornly.

FABIAN
I can't, I'm supposed to do this
promotional thing.

Pudge shoves Luanne out of the way --

PUDGE
It's gonna be a great party! Everybody's
gonna be shagging --!

CHIP
Beach music!

FABIAN
My manager's like a priest, man, you
think I go to parties?
(Then:)
Are there, like, girls?

CHIP
Girls?? This is a Myrtle Beach! The
Grand Strand!

Luanne furiously shoves Chip away --

LUANNE
It's not a party, it's --

Chip shoulders Luanne --

CHIP
-- With a live band and everything!

FABIAN
Wild! --

CHIP
-- Wild!

PUDGE
(Persuasively)
Are you sure you can't come?

ANOTHER ANGLE ON THE LIMOUSINE

A POLICEMAN holds back the group of SCREAMING GIRLS --

THE MANAGER
May I present -- Fabian!

The Manager flings open Fabian's door. Double-take:

The back seat of the limousine is empty. A FLASHBULB pops.

CUT TO:

113. INT: BEACH HOUSE/MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT.

113.

Carson, her face ruined with crying, packs her suitcase on the king-sized bed. Slumped against the pillows, Buzz plays with something lacy. Silence. Carson sniffles.

She glances up. Buzz has draped her lacy brassiere over his head. Carson tries not to smile.

CARSON
May I have that, please?

As Carson reaches for it, Buzz catches her wrists --

BUZZ
Rassle you for it.

Melaina and Pudge burst into the room.

PUDGE
You two better high-tail it. Luanne
and Harley are on their way here, and
they're bringing -- Carson!
(Delighted gasp at the suitcase)
Ya'll aren't eloping?

CARSON
(Miserably)
I'm driving back to Spartanburg
tonight. With Harley.

Melaina, rapidly teasing her hair:

MELAINA
Puh-leeze. Harley is so square, he's
got corners. What's wrong with
Buzz? I think he's a sweet potato.

She flirts with Buzz. Carson glares at her. Chip's voice
sails up the stairs:

CHIP (O.S.)
They're here!

Melaina and Pudge rush to the window and peep out.

MELAINA
Carson! Tell me quick, what are some
Fabian things! You know, favorite
color, favorite perfume -- you know!

CARSON
Fabian's not down there??

PUDGE
-- Harley and Luanne've got 'im.

Downstairs, the front door opens, and Luanne's voice calls:

LUANNE
Oh, Daaaaaddy! We're here!

MELAINA
Pudge! Put on some records and get
him a drink!

-- and disappears into the bathroom. Pudge dashes for the
stairs. Carson and Buzz look at each other, as below, voices
murmur:

LUANNE (O.S.)
... been in the family for years...

CARSON

(Torn)

I'm sorry, Buzz. I can't bring myself to hurt a decent, God-fearing boy like Harley Ralston.

113.

On the stair landing, Harley's annoying, condescending voice:

HARLEY (O.S.)

Luanne, would your father object if I popped up and checked on my little Carson?

Carson freezes, blanches, and involuntarily bolts to the window. She struggles with the sash. Buzz throws open the window and shoves Carson through. He draws up his leg and is gone, just as Harley peeks his head around the door:

HARLEY

Sugar Pie?

114.

INT: LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

114.

Pudge and Chip perch on the towel-draped sofa, staring openly at Fabian. Fabian prowls the room, looking at objects as if he has never been in a private home. Luanne glides in with a silver tray:

LUANNE

The Senator regrets that he has been detained by a very, very important call from Washington. Lemonade?

Fabian gazes at the Blue Marlin mounted over the fireplace:

FABIAN

Nah. Scotch and water'd be fine.

(To no one in particular:)

Man, look at that fish. Look at the expression in his eyes. He knows it's over.

Luanne blinks uncertainly. Pudge shoots a look at the Senator's well-locked liquor cabinet. Luanne mouths covertly: No! Pudge gestures sharply: Get him a drink!

FABIAN

Man, I dig parties the most.

(Does a dance step)

When does the band get here?

115.

EXT: THE BACK LAWN - NIGHT

115.

Carson, giggling, races across the dark lawn, with Buzz right behind. At the end of the yard is a canal where the "S.S. Clatterbuck", a modest yacht, is moored.

Carson and Buzz come to a dead stop at the boat slip, and stand listening to the night. Crickets. The faint splash of water against the hull of the yacht. Hearts thump. They look at the boat, then at each other.

115.

116. INT: BEACH HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

116.

SFX: The hi-fi plays Elvis singing "Blue Hawaii"

Luanne and Pudge prevent Harley from using the phone:

HARLEY

-- I'm calling the police!

PUDGE

(Inspired lie)

She took the night bus back to Spartanburg!

(Off Harley's look:)

That's right! She missed you so bad, she jumped on the bus and went home.

Harley checks his watch, dismayed.

HARLEY

She went back to Spartanburg on the bus??

Across the room, by the hi-fi, Fabian studies the "Blue Hawaii" record sleeve. Aloud, to Chip:

FABIAN

Elvis is over. Look at that face. He's desperate.

HARLEY (Overheard)

...in the middle of the night, unescorted on a public bus??

Fabian slugs back his Scotch. Chip is a sympathetic listener.

FABIAN (cont'd)

I never get to do jackshit, man. This is like the first normal party I've been to.

(Gathers Chip in a headlock)

What I want to know, cool daddy, is -- where are the girls?

At that moment, Melaina swoops down the stairs like Loretta Young, wearing her bikini top, toreador pants, spike heels, heavy eyeshadow and a swath of fabric trailing behind from her pirate sash -- ingenue fatale.

MELAINA
Terribly sorry I'm late!

She swoops to the hifi. Mo-Town rhythms pound. Melaina undulates her pelvis and shakes her shoulders down low, as she slinks at the astonished Fabian.

116.

MELAINA
Does anyone feel like dancing?

117. INT: LIVING ROOM

The MUSIC is very loud: "WOOMA-WAY, A-WOOMA WAY...THE LION SLEEPS TONIGHT..."

117.

Pudge shags with Chip, her eyes shining with love.

CHIP
What would you say if I asked you a question?

PUDGE
(Coily)
What kind of question?

Chip blushes, gathers his nerve.

CHIP
Well...You want to go in that shag contest with me tomorrow?
(At Pudge's dead blank:)
I'm not good enough, right? That's okay, I didn't really want to -

PUDGE
No, no, no, it's not that!
(Blushing fiercely)
I just thought you were going to ask me - something else.

CHIP
Like what?

Harley dances with Luanne, who smiles "shyly" up at him:

LUANNE
I think Carson just got a case of the nerves. I'd be nervous too, if I was about to marry you.

Harley does a slight double-take, as if noticing her for the first time.

Melaina dances dreamily, her head on Fabian's shoulder.

FABIAN
Y' mind if I split?

Melaina lifts her head in disbelief.

117.

FABIAN

Like, I've seen bigger parties in a telephone booth. I dig action, baby, I dig it the most!

Melaina pulls Chip and Pudge aside, panicked:

MELAINA

We've got to get some people over here!
(To Chip)
Don't you have any friends?

Chip picks up the forbidden Princess phone.

117 A INT: THE CLATTERBUCK YACHT - NIGHT

117A

Intense, erotic silence. Carson and Buzz are on opposite berths -- but only inches apart. Buzz pours Carson a glass of bourbon, then lightly taps the bottle against her glass:

BUZZ

(Quoting "The Hustler")
"J.T.S. Brown. No ice. No glass."

He swigs straight from the bourbon bottle.

118. EXT. BEACH HOUSE - NIGHT

118.

MUSIC blares from the house. PAIRS OF HEADLIGHTS pull up, one after the other, as CARS arrive and park on the lawn.

119. INT. BEACH HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

119.

As Luanne and Harley dance past Fabian and Melaina --

LUANNE

I'm sure the Senator will be down any minute --

-- the front door flies open, and half-crazed YOUNG PEOPLE surge into the room, yelling:

HALF-CRAZED YOUNG PEOPLE

Pur - ple Je - sus!

Luanne screams, and runs directly at them, trying to slam the door. One Half-Crazy lifts Chip off the floor:

HALF-CRAZY

Chipper! You Tarzan!

Half-Crazy lets loose with a Johnny Weissmuller bellow:
"AAAAUUUUUAAAAUUUUUUAAAAGH!"

CUE MUSIC: "BE YOUNG, BE FOOLISH, BE HAPPY"

Luanne and Harley try to shove PEOPLE out the front door, even as more PEOPLE spill in through the kitchen door.

119.

LUANNE
Get out! Get out!

CLOSE ON A METAL WASH TUB

Half-Crazy-Tarzan empties into the tub: two gallons of grape juice, a bottle of vodka, a bottle of gin, a bottle of bourbon, two bottles of rum --

ANOTHER HALF-CRAZY KID
(Screaming)
Bring on the Purple Jesus!

Half-Crazed Kid submerges his head in the wash tub of grape juice & liquor.

-- Other Half-Crazed Young People are rolling back the white rugs and carrying the sofa out of the room, even as Melaina and Fabian dance wildly on the cushions --

-- People dance everywhere: on the stairs, on the dining table, hopping from chair to chair --

HALF-CRAZED YOUNG PERSON
It's a P.J. party!

-- Purple Jesus flows, a river of purple "Dixie Dynamite" sloshing into the Clatterbuck's good crystal, over the sides of the Clatterbuck's good china cups --

LUANNE
Get these animals out of here!!!

-- A can of beer sprays open, shooting foam on the portrait of Senator Clatterbuck, which drips down his smug expression --

Harley scurries about, rescuing fragile objects. Luanne is shrieking madly:

LUANNE
Take off your shoes! Take off your shoes!

A shoe comes sailing past her head, and knocks the mounted Blue Marlin off the wall.

Under a table, Fabian slides around on top of Melaina, big passionate Movieland kisses --

119

MELAINA
 -- I can't believe I'm making out
 with Fabian! --

119

Luanne and Harley scrub frantically at a Purple Jesus stain
 on the upholstery. Luanne glances up --

LUANNE
 Oh my Jesus lord! MELAINA!

Nadine and Suetie are climbing through the living room
 window. Suetie spots Fabian:

SUETTE
 Fabian! Here I am!

Melaina staggers up, tears over, and slams down the sash,
 trapping Nadine's hot pink high-heel. Nadine pounds on the
 glass:

NADINE
 Gimme my leg!

Luanne snatches off the pink high-heel, and hammers on
 Nadine's bare foot.

LUANNE
 OUT OUT OUT OUT --!

Nadine falls backward into the shrubbery. Luanne flings open
 the front door and throws the shoe hard --

--catching The Creep square in the forehead, on the
 doorstep. Luanne gasps:

LUANNE
 I'm sorry!

Melaina slams the door and locks it.
 Scene #120, 121 (now 117A) and 122-DELETED

123.

INT: KITCHEN - NIGHT

123.

At the kitchen table, Chip and Pudge sip P.J. through straws:

CHIP
 Buzz says you get drunk a lot faster
 if you use a staw. Straw.

Pudge giggles tipsily, waggling her straw between her teeth.

CHIP
 Hold still, hold still...

Chip clenches the end of his straw between his teeth,
 pointing the end at Pudge's straw. He slowly leans toward
 her, trying...to get...the ends of the straws...to touch --
 zap! They laugh hysterically.

PUDGE

Wait a minute, wait a minute --

123.

This time, when the straws meet again. Pudge blows air through her straw. Chip shrieks and cracks up.

PUDGE

Did I blow in your mouth??

CHIP

My turn, my turn --

He once again brings his straw to hers. He blows, trying to shoot Purple Jesus into her straw -- but sprays Pudge thoroughly in the face. Convulsive laughter.

PUDGE

Nice trick, what else can you do?

With perfect mimicry, Chip replies in Bullwinkle's voice:

CHIP

"Hey Rocky, wanna see me pull a rabbit out of a hat?"

Pudge blinks wide, and bursts into new laughter.

PUDGE

Do it again!

CHIP

Naw, naw...

(Bullwinkle's voice:)

"Hey Rocky, wanna see me pull a rabbit out of a hat?"

PUDGE

Who else do you do?? Augie Doggie?

CHIP

(Too modest)

That's it, just Bullwinkle --

PUDGE

Do it again.

124. INT: LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

124.

A FULLY-CRAZED YOUNG PERSON leaps up, fists raised, yelling:

FULLY-CRAZED Y.P.

Gator!

He dives into a puddle of Purple Jesus, and skims across the floor on his belly. Everyone begins to clap rhythmically. He moves his arms and legs like an alligator. Everyone pours

Purple Jesus on him as he flips through a series of acrobatics, rolling his eyes and flicking out his tongue.

124.

SOMEBODY ELSE
The dying cockroach!

SOMEBODY ELSE jumps into the circle, and flops onto his back, waving arms and legs. People throw Purple Jesus on him. Luanne breaks through the crowd.

LUANNE
Stop it! Stop it!

She skids on the P.J. and swings her arms, trying to save her balance. ANOTHER GUY yells:

ANOTHER GUY
Turkey Sandwich!

Somebody Else and Another Guy run at Luanne and crush her to the floor. Everyone cheers. Luanne fights her way up, and is doused with Purple Jesus.

Harley gallantly rushes over to help her up.

LUANNE
Aw, the hell with it...

She grabs a cup off the floor, dips it into the vat of Purple Jesus, and gulps it down.

125. EXT: BEACH HOUSE - NIGHT

125.

A ROLL OF TOILET PAPER sails over the roof of the house.

NADINE (O.S.)
Goddamn rich bitches!

Nadine expertly lobbs another streamer of white toilet paper into the Clatterbuck trees. In her bedraggled "twist" dress and tiara, Suetie drags the garden hose across the tissue-plastered lawn, sobbing:

SUETTE
They're gonna pay!

Long silvery arcs of water soak the toilet paper into snowy clumps over everything in sight.

Nadine halts, and stares at Harley's shiny, expensive red Thunderbird sportscar.

CUT TO:

INT: BEACH HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

126.

Harley and Luanne slow-dance tipsily. Harley squints at

Luanne's eyes, behind their black cat-eye frames, and makes a poetic discovery:

126.

HARLEY

Luanne. Your eyes are emerald green.

127.

INT: MASTER BATHROOM - NIGHT

127.

Fully-clothed and utterly smashed, Pudge and Chip soak in a bubble-bath of dish detergent. Chip rambles:

CHIP

Y'know...even if we don't win tomorrow...
I'm really glad I got to know you.

Pudge washes his sneakered-foot adoringly.

CHIP

...What's weird -- I was saying to Buzz - oh! Did you know I'm going off to West Point in a couple of days?

PUDGE

(Stunned)

No.

CHIP

(Proudly)

Yeah, I'm gonna be a Marine. I was telling Buzz - "I hope I fall in love this summer so I'll have someone to write to."

PUDGE

(Blooming)

Oh Chip --

CHIP

-- Only I just realized, I don't have to fall in love with anybody - I can write to you.

Pudge is crushed. Chip continues obliviously:

CHIP (cont'd)

It's better than writing to, like, a girl. Y'know? 'Cause I can just be myself. I don't have to be afraid of what you'll think of me.

He smiles, trustingly. Pudge tries to smile back.

128.

INT: LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

128.

Drunken Harley is lying on the floor as drunken Luanne stands over him, pouring a cup of Purple Jesus down his throat.

Harley suddenly thrusts his head under her skirt. Luanne crashes to the floor, laughing uncontrollably.

129. EXT: THE S.S. CLATTERBUCK - NIGHT

129.

Down at the dock, the "S.S. Clatterbuck" rocks hard in its mooring. The lamp-lit portholes are completely fogged.

130. INT: CABIN OF YACHT - NIGHT

130.

Buzz and Carson make-out heatedly on one of the berths. His shirt is off, her blouse is unbuttoned -- it is obvious where things are headed. Suddenly Carson struggles up.

CARSON

I can't!

(Buzz keeps undressing her)

Buzz, it's wrong!

Buzz stops, breathing hard, and just looks at her.

BUZZ

Well, I'm not gonna force you --

(Climbs off her)

-- even if you want me to.

CARSON

(Pleading, rational)

Buzz, I can't go around sleeping with every boy who likes me!

BUZZ

Why not??

CARSON

Because! Suppose I go All The Way with you --

BUZZ

-- Sounds good to me --

CARSON

-- Well, you'll just go off to your Northern college and forget about me! Okay, so fine! I meet some other boy. Well, I'm not a virgin, it's obvious I'm not saving myself for marriage -- so I end up Doing It with him and then he doesn't marry me either -- I mean, this could go on forever! I have to draw the line somewhere.

Buzz looks around the romantically-lit cabin. Moonlight glimmers in the tiny windows. In the hush, moorings creak.

BUZZ

(Softly)

Carson, don't you know we'll remember
this for the rest of our lives?

130.

In a moment, Carson slips her arms around him again. As Buzz
begins tenderly to kiss her:

CARSON

...don't tell anybody, okay?

131. EXT: BACK LAWN - NIGHT

131.

MUSIC pours from the house. Luanne and Harley stagger out
the kitchen door and stop short. Snowy drifts of wet toilet
paper cover the house and trees and lawn.

Harley notices the yacht, lit up at the bottom of the yard.

HARLEY

Hey. You want to go for a little
cruise?

Luanne collapses to a sitting position on a chaise lounge.

LUANNE

I can't feel my teeth.

HARLEY

(Swaying)

Luanne, how come we never talked
to each other before?? I think
you're really --

(Hiccups)

-- Really cool.

He bends over to kiss her lips. Luanne puckers up, and falls
straight backward on the lounge chair, blacked out.

Harley looks at her regretfully. He reaches out a hand,
gently, and thoroughly feels her breast. Then he staggers to
the next chaise lounge, and collapses on it.

Innocent bird song...

132. EXT: FRONT BEACH HOUSE - DAWN

132.

Rosy sky. In the street, an old Buick full of black maids
pulls up. The local housekeeper, ELVIRA, 35 and bossy, hops
out of the passenger door.

As the Buick drives away, Elvira turns and stands stock
still, staring at the Clatterbuck house:

The lawn is completely blanketed with an eerie snowfall of soggy tissue wads. Birds twitter in trees festooned with rolls of toilet paper. The mounted Blue Marlin stands like a sentinel, up-ended, its head half-buried in the sand. There is something peaceful about --

132.

133.

EXT: BACK LAWN - DAWN

133.

ABRUPT CLOSE-UP ON LUANNE

LUANNE
(Screaming)
OH MY GAWWWWD! --

Luanne staggers out of her chaise lounge. Harley slumbers nearby on a lawn chair, his mouth unattractively open.

LUANNE
Harley! HARLEY!

Harley abruptly lands on his rump on the dewy ground, and jars awake.

LUANNE
(Hysterical whisper)
I think somebody's been here!

4.

INT: DINING ROOM/LIVING ROOM - DAWN

134.

Luanne and Harley stand at the kitchen door, peering into the dining room and living room.

The Clatterbuck house is strewn with bodies splashed with purple juice. Furniture is upended. Purple-stained clothing hangs from the chandelier. Purple Jesus is puddled on the hardwood floors. Flies buzz. Senator Clatterbuck's oil portrait hangs upside down on the stair landing.

There comes the sound of a key in the front door. Luanne and Harley, dazed, just stare.

Elvira opens the front door. Hands on her ample hips, she gazes at the wreckage. Long pause.

ELVIRA
I see.

LUANNE
(Nervous laugh)
Elvira, what are you doing here?

Elvira picks up a lost sneaker. Half a cup of Purple Jesus drains onto the floor.

ELVIRA

I come to open up the house for
the Senator. On account of him
and yo' mama gonna be here in
about, oh --

(Checks her watch)
-- four hours.

134.

135.

INT: KITCHEN - DAWN

135.

Inside the pantry closet, Melaina's face is mashed against
Fabian's, which is mashed against a dust pan on the floor of
the pantry. From the next room comes a shrill, incredulous
cry:

LUANNE (O.S.)

My parents are coming???

Melaina jerks awake, and pushes herself up, unaware that she
is using Fabian's face. He doesn't stir.

LUANNE (O.S.)

Get out! Get out!

Melaina crawls out of the pantry, eye-shadow smeared. On her
neck is a hickey the size of a carnation. Melaina pulls down
the toaster, looks at her reflection, and screams.

136.

INT: LIVING ROOM - DAWN

136.

Hung-over PARTYGOERS stagger around, looking for their
shoes. Elvira swats people with a broom:

ELVIRA

G'wan outa heah, you trash!

Luanne runs toward the stairs, yelling back at Elvira:

LUANNE

Elvira, when are they getting here??

ELVIRA

They 'rriving on the noon plane,
Miss Luanne, for the Sun Fun
Festival.

LUANNE

Oh my god --!

With new panic, Luanne dashes up the stairs, and does a take
at the Senator's upside-down portrait.

LUANNE

(Furious)

Who did this??

HARLEY
You did, Luanne.

136.

Luanne blinks once, and storms up the stairs:

LUANNE
Pudge! Come quick!

137. INT: MASTER BATHROOM - DAWN

137.

Pudge and Chip sleep fully-clothed in the chill water of the tub, like zoo animals cosily lumped at the bottom of a cage. Luanne throws open the bathroom door. In a calm, purely hysterical voice, Luanne announces:

LUANNE
I thought it might interest you to know that my parents are arriving any minute.

138. INT: LIVING ROOM - DAWN

138.

The front door bursts open: Fabian's irate Manager.

THE MANAGER
Awright, where is he??

Harley, trying to vacuum the drapes with a Hoover-upright, sees Elvira pass by and halts.

HARLEY
Oh! You! Are you - er -
(Can't quite recall)
Are you - "Fuzzy"?

Elvira glares at him.

ELVIRA
Shut yo' filthy mouth!

The Manager drags Fabian through the living room. Fabian is massively hungover, his eyes swollen shut --

FABIAN
...I'm blind...

Melaina hurries behind, holding a tea bag to her neck --

MELAINA
Wait - Fabian! Write down my phone number!

The Manager seizes Fabian's face and pulls open his lips:

THE MANAGER
See that? I got ten grand in that mouth. Gorgeous, huh? You should have teeth this good.

He yanks Fabian's head around to a profile:

138.

THE MANAGER (cont'd)
 You ever see a chin like that? It's
 like art, it's sculpture! Three
 grand. Singing lessons up the Panama
 Canal! Kid's got a wardrobe makes
 Liz Taylor look like a cleaning lady
 --! We're talking investment.

The Manager casts Fabian aside, and bears down on Melaina.

THE MANAGER
 So don't think I'm gonna let a little
 piece of Dixie ass parade in here and
 crap all over my dream --!

The Manager throws his jacket over Fabian's head, and shoves
 him out the front door. Oddly, Melaina looks impressed.

139.

INT: MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

139.

Luanne and Pudge and Chip frantically gather up clothes,
 "lady bug" hair dryers -- overlapping dialogue:

PUDGE
 -- No no no, we've gotta keep 'em
 away from the house! I know -- let's
 you and me pick 'em up at the plane --

LUANNE
 -- You and me are in Fort Sumter!

CHIP
 -- Whose is this?

He holds Binky up by its worn, floppy ear.

LUANNE
 Carson.
 (Halts)
 Omigod --. Carson.

140. INT: YACHT - DAY

140.

CARSON
 What am I going to tell Harley?

Carson is curled miserably under the sheet, sniffing.
 Buzz casually plays with an unused condom, making a "hat" on
 his finger.

BUZZ
 Tell him you're in love with me.

CARSON
He'll never believe that! Oh god, I wish Harley'd die, it'd be so much easier...That's terrible, I don't mean that.

140.

BUZZ
Tell him you're going to college.

CARSON
(Hopeful)
With you?

BUZZ
(Suddenly nervous)
Crazy -- girls don't go to Yale. But there's loads of women's colleges around there. See, that's how Yale gets around not letting any females in. All the girls from these other schools come over on weekends.
(Laughs)
I mean, they don't expect Yale men to go four years without sex.

CARSON
(Bewildered)
You want me to go all the way up there to a Yankee school just so I can come over every weekend and practice "free love" with you??

BUZZ
Well, not every weekend. I don't mean "go steady".

Carson shoves Buzz over the side of the berth.

141. EXT: BACK LAWN - DAY

141.

SOUND of a vacuum cleaner.

Harley toils in the yard, pushing an upright Hoover vacuum cleaner over the tissue-plastered grass. Extension cords snake back to the kitchen door.

Harley glances up from his exertions:

Down at the boat slip, the "S.S. Clatterbuck" rocks crazily. Muffled voices shout in anger.

INT: BEACH HOUSE/ LIVING ROOM - DAY

142.

Pudge tears into the room and skids on soap suds -- Elvira is scrubbing the floor.

PUDGE

I can't find 'em anywheres!

142.

Chip hangs the Blue Marlin over the fireplace, Luanne mops the ceiling --

CHIP

Better start calling motels.

LUANNE

Motels?? Oh my god! --

Melaina appears on the landing:

MELAINA

They're not in the attic!

At that moment, Harley walks in from the kitchen:

HARLEY

Luanne, I hope you know there's somebody down on your daddy's yacht.

Instantly, the girls exchange looks.

LUANNE

(Sweetly)

Thank you for reporting that, Harley.
Chip! Take Harley to the Senator's study and show him Daddy's collection of Confederate uniform buttons!

Luanne gives Harley a special squeeze, and pushes him toward the stairs --

LUANNE

There's one that's got some blood on it, go take a peep.

Then Luanne and Pudge and Melaina tear into:

143.

INT: KITCHEN - DAY

143.

-- where Carson hurries in the back door. She stops guiltily. Melaina, Pudge and Luanne stare at her with expectant horror.

PUDGE

(Hushed)

Did you go All The Way??

Carson briefly considers lying -- but the girls know. She nods. Pudge and Luanne and Melaina squeal in unison:

THE GIRLS

Oh you didn't! Are you sure??

LUANNE
You poor thing! Get her a chair.

143.

PUDGE
What was it like??

LUANNE
Don't you ask her that!

MELAINA
-- Did it hurt?

LUANNE
Melaina!

Luanne seats Carson; with deep "concern":

LUANNE
You must really love him.

CARSON
(Intense)
I hate him to death.

The girls gasp.

LUANNE
He attacked her!!

A moment of group hysteria, but Carson's voice cuts through:

CARSON
He didn't attack me, I let him.

Shocked pause, appalled stares.

CARSON (cont'd)
Ya'll, I'm wild. I've been wild all
along. I just didn't know it till
now.

PUDGE
Way out.

They look at Carson, profoundly impressed.

CARSON
Do ya'll think I should throw Harley
over?

PUDGE & LUANNE & MELAINA
Yes!

LUANNE
It's only fair to Harley.

Pudge and Melaina glance at Luanne suspiciously.

CARSON
It's liable to kill him.

LUANNE
He'll get over it. Pudge, run get Harley!

CARSON
But don't you think I better marry somebody?? I am way out of control!

MELAINA
So marry Buzz.

CARSON
I would not marry Buzz Ravenel if he were the last man in the free world!

BUZZ (O.S.)
Bevo?

They whip around. Beer in hand, Buzz hoists himself through the kitchen window, and stands up in the sink.

Scene #144 - DELETED

LUANNE
You rape artist!

Luanne swings a broom at Buzz, trying to force him back out the window --

BUZZ
I just want to talk to her --!

MELAINA
Hello, Harley.

Harley stands at the door, blank, stunned. Carson giggles.

CARSON
Hi.

HARLEY
(To Buzz)
Who are you?

Buzz steps nonchalantly down from the sink.

BUZZ
Buzz Ravenel.

He cordially extends his hand. Luanne grabs it, panicked.

LUANNE
This is Buzz! Buzz is -- ah --

145.

CARSON
He's Luanne's boyfriend!

LUANNE
(Furious)
He is not!

Buzz does an astonished take at Carson, seizes Luanne --

BUZZ
Oh Luanne. Don't deny our love!

-- and sucks Luanne into a deep kiss, shoving his hand under her blouse.

146. INT: LIVING ROOM - DAY

146.

CLOSE ON LUANNE, WEARING AN "AUNT JEMIMA" RAG ON HER HEAD

LUANNE
(Bellowing upstairs)
Melaina! Pudge! Ya'll get down here
with those suitcases! Right now!

147. INT: MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

147.

Melaina is yanking clothes out of Mrs. Clatterbuck's closet.
On the bed, Pudge sobs into a pillow.

MELAINA
If Luanne asks where I went, tell her
I'm on a man-hunt.

Pudge lifts her face, tragically.

PUDGE
What am I gonna do? I love him so much,
I feel sick! And he acts like - like
I'm his pen pal!

Melaina distractedly holds dresses against herself.

MELAINA
He spent the last 24 hours with you,
what do you want?

PUDGE
I want him to feel like I feel!

MELAINA
(Examining her hickey)
Does this look like a birthmark?

Elvira walks in, gathers up the laundry as:

PUDGE (cont'd)
I want him to take me in his arms and
crush me with passion! Remember in
"Forever Amber" when they were on the
balcony??

147.

Elvira stalks out, offended. Melaina steps into an elegant
black dress.

MELAINA
There's only one way to catch a boy
like Chip. Act like you can't stand
him.

148. INT: LIVING ROOM - DAY

148.

Luanne struggles to knot Chip's necktie, as she instructs:

LUANNE
-- And be nice! And above all, do not
bring them to this house until we have
left for Spartanburg!! --

CHIP
What about the shag contest?

LUANNE
-- Yes, yes! That's good! Take them to
the shag contest!

CHIP
No, no, I mean - me and Pudge are
supposed to go in this shag contest
together --

LUANNE
Don't be stupid, I'm taking Pudge back
to Spartanburg with me!

She speeds off after Buzz, who is headed for the kitchen.

CHIP
But what if they don't want to go
to the shag contest??

LUANNE
-- I don't care, you take 'em anyways!
(Screams at Buzz)
Stay out of there!

149. INT: DINING ROOM - DAY

149.

Luanne and Buzz wrestle, the mop handle gripped between
them. Buzz wrests the mop away, and throws it behind him.

BUZZ

I want you, Luanne.

149.

Buzz falls on her, humping her leg:

BUZZ

Doggy doggy doggy --!

Luanne screams, fending him off. At the dining room entrance, Elvira pauses to watch in disbelief.

150.

INT: KITCHEN - DAY

150.

At the sink, Carson and Harley argue heatedly:

HARLEY

-- Running off with these girls! Drinking, when I begged you not to! Dragging me all the way to Myrtle Beach --

CARSON

I didn't ask you to come to Myrtle Beach!

HARLEY

See? That's what I mean! You don't care a thing about me.

(Wounded)

You haven't even kissed me yet.

As he moves on her, Carson steels herself. Harley plants his uninspired smooch. Carson endures it rigidly.

BUZZ (O.C.)

Looks like fun.

They break. Buzz is sitting on the kitchen table.

BUZZ

Ya'll want to double date with me and Luanne sometime? You could use some pointers, Harley.

Luanne skids into the room, swinging her wet mop --

BUZZ

Like this --

Buzz kisses Carson hard on the mouth, and tears out the back door -- Luanne fast on his heels.

At the kitchen door, Elvira turns away, shaking her head.

151 INT: UPSTAIRS HALLWAY OUTSIDE MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

Chip, necktie neatly knotted, hair "wet-combed", taps on the door.

151

CHIP
Caroline?

152. INT: MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

Pudge freezes, as she blows up her inflatable crinoline. She wears a full skirt, heels, Tawny Coral lipstick, eyeshadow --

152.

PUDGE
It's him!

Melaina prevents her from rushing to the door.

MELAINA
Don't be a moron. He's only
knocked once.

Melaina is done to sophistication in Mrs. Clatterbuck's black cocktail dress. She restrains Pudge, as they listen:

CHIP (O.C.)
Caroline?... (Knock knock)... Caroline?
(Whining:)
Puh-udge.

Melaina squirts Pudge with Tabu, and shoves her at the door.

MELAINA
Be cruel.

153. INT: UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - DAY

153.

Pudge steps into the hall.

PUDGE
What do you want?

But Chip is taking in Pudge's unexpected beauty.

CHIP
Oh. Gosh.

From downstairs, Luanne's voice shrills:

LUANNE (O.C.)
Chip! Hurry it up!

CHIP
Um - oh. I guess you're going home, and
all...

He stops, flustered. Pudge just looks at him.

CHIP

I just wanted to say I'm sorry we didn't get to enter that shag contest. And I was thinking, um, maybe I'll come down from West Point sometime --

153.

PUDGE

I wouldn't shag with you if you were the last man in the free world.

She turns back into the bedroom, and shuts the door. Chip just stands there, the breath knocked out of him.

154. INT: MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

154.

Pudge slides down the closed door to the floor, as the color drains from her face.

MELAINA

Wait about five minutes, and then go offer him a chance to apologize.

155. INT: KITCHEN - DAY

155.

Carson twists her engagement ring, as Harley rants on:

HARLEY

Nobody wants to get married, okay? I don't especially feel like getting married either! But that's no reason to call off a wedding!

(Intensely)

My daddy's invited half the state.

Carson yanks open the fridge and helps herself to a beer.

HARLEY

Don't test me, Carson.

156. INT: LIVING ROOM - DAY

156.

Luanne marches through the living room, shouting orders.

LUANNE

Elvira, lock the back door!

(She stumbles over the Hoover)

Carson, put away the vacuum cleaner! --

(Bellows up the stairs again:)

Melaina! Get those suitcases down here, dammit!

Suitcases tumble down the stairs, narrowly missing Luanne as they crash below. Pudge hurries downstairs, loaded with "ladybug" dryers, calling nervously:

PUDGE
On Chi-ip! Chip?
(In a low voice, to Luanne:)
Where is he?

156.

LUANNE
I sent him to pick up my folks.
Pudge is stunned.

PUDGE
Is he coming back here?

LUANNE
Of course not. He's gone, Pudge. Get in the car.

Scene #157 - DELETED

157 A EXT: MYRTLE BEACH/ INT: HEARSE - DAY

157 A

The Hearse speeds through Myrtle Beach, careening under a banner: "SUN FUN FESTIVAL AT THE PAVILION". Pasteboard signs on the doors say: "DIXIE LIMO, INC." Tiny Confederate flags stream on either tail fin.

MRS. CLATTERBUCK (O.C.)
Buford, tell him to slow down!

INT: THE HEARSE

Chip drives, hell-bent, with SENATOR CLATTERBUCK, 60, wedged against the door and Mrs. Clatterbuck, The Steel Magnolia, crushed between them on the "hump". The car hits a bump, and Mrs. Clatterbuck screams. Chip looks crazed.

CHIP
Sir, let me ask you! My experience with girls is as soon as they know you're in love with them, they start treating you like a dirtball! Have you found that, Sir??

The Senator nods sagely. The oil portraits have been too kind. Senator Buford Clatterbuck would have been more at home behind a plow.

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK
Every time. Er - Son, did your supervisor give you the address?

CHIP
(Interrupts aggressively)
-- Sir! I am under the strictest command not to talk to you, Sir!

157A

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK
Er - Well, we'd like to go directly to --

157A

CHIP
(Overlapping, fierce)
-- My orders are to take you to the shag contest!

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK
(Overlapping)
-- the shag contest.

CHIP
(Double take)
The shag contest?

They swing wildly around a pothole. Mrs. Clatterbuck screams, presses her travelling corsage fastidiously to her nose.

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
Driver, what is that ghastly odor??

Chip pounds the steering wheel.

CHIP
I played it so cool this time! I
never let on I was crazy about her!

Mrs. Clatterbuck reaches across her husband for the rusty window crank --

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
It smells like an embalming room in
here! --

-- but the crank comes off in her hand. Chip rants:

CHIP
I talked about other girls, I went out
of my way to inform her that I
definitely was not in love with her!
(Fatalistically)
She knew. She looked into my mind and
she knew.

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
Buford, I'm going to faint.

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK
Did you attempt a - a familiarity?

CHIP
No Sir! I am a Southern gentleman, Sir,
recently accepted to West Point!

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK
(Pleased)
West Point? I'm West Point myself.

157A

CHIP
Really?? No kidding, Sir!

157A

They reach across Mrs. Clatterbuck to shake hands.

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK
I have a necktie just like that.

The Hearse rips through an intersection, past a stop sign.

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK
Watch out, Son!

Chip slams on the brakes. From the rear compartment, Buzz's enormous tarpaulin-wrapped DEAD FISH comes smashing forward into Mrs. Clatterbuck.

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
BUFORD!!

158. INT: BEACH HOUSE/ DOWNSTAIRS HALL - DAY

158.

Carson lugs the vacuum cleaner to the hall closet. She opens the door -- and is abruptly yanked inside.

INT. CLOSET - SEMI-DARK

Silence.

BUZZ
This is intimate.

CARSON
Let me out.

BUZZ
What are you doing with that guy? I'm insulted. He's completely wrong for you.

CARSON
(Dangerously)
You don't know me. You don't love me. And you sure as all-damn don't want to marry me. So why don't you just leave me the hell alone?

BUZZ
(Pause)
I don't think I can.

159. INT: LIVING ROOM - DAY

159.

Luanne slowly advances up the stairs, her face fixed in feral anger.

LUANNE
Take it off.

159.

On the landing, Melaina is poised in Mrs. Clatterbuck's little black dress. Around her passion-marked neck is a large pink chiffon bow. She looks gift-wrapped.

LUANNE
Take - it - off - RIGHT NOW!

Elvira crosses through with a mop and pail; and pauses:

On the stair landing Luanne claws at Melaina's little black dress, shrieking:

LUANNE
You take every stitch of it off your
body!

Elvira hurries on, shocked.

MELAINA (O.C.)
You see if I ever invite you out to
Hollywood!

160. INT: DOWNSTAIRS HALL - DAY

160

Carrying mop and pail, Elvira wearily opens the hall closet door.

POV - BUZZ AND CARSON

Carson and Buzz are lost in an embrace, kissing as if they will never stop.

Elvira shuts the hall closet door.

161. INT: KITCHEN - DAY

161.

Harley steps in the back door. Luanne takes aspirin at the sink.

HARLEY
Everything's in the car, Luanne.
I left your keys in the ignition.

LUANNE
(Beginning to cry)
Thank you, Harley. I wish everyone was
as considerate as you.
(He moves to her as she sobs:)
I thought it would be so sweet...
One last fling together, best friends...
those selfish little twerps!

HARLEY
You're a great person, Luanne. I wish
Carson was half as mature as you.

161.

He offers his handkerchief. She breaks into fresh sobs.

HARLEY
I keep saying to myself, "It'll be
different after we're married."
(Shakes his head, bewildered)
But what if it isn't?

Luanne takes off her cat-eye glasses, wipes her eyes, and
looks at Harley "deeply".

LUANNE
Follow your heart.

162. INT: DINING ROOM - DAY

162.

Still carrying mop and pail, Elvira approaches the
kitchen. She halts at the door.

Luanne and Harley are lost in an embrace, kissing as if they
will never stop.

They guiltily break. Elvira stands, hands on her hips.

ELVIRA
You-all are the horniest bunch of
white folks I ever seen.

From outside comes a LOUD HONKING, and the eight-cylinder
roar of the Clatterbuck Cadillac engine, starting up. Luanne
rushes to the back door --

LUANNE
No!

163. She and Harley rush out, in time to see --

EXT: BACK LAWN - DAY

163.

-- the Cadillac cutting a furrow across the side yard.
Melaina is at the wheel, pink chiffon scarf flying, with
Pudge beside her in the passenger seat. The Cadillac jounces
into the street, and zooms off.

LUANNE
You Judas!

Scene #164 (now 157A) - DELETED

165.

EXT: FRONT BEACH HOUSE - DAY

165.

Luanne and Harley and Carson and Buzz pile out of the front
door --

HARLEY
Don't worry, Luanne! My little T-Bird
can catch a Cadillac any day -- SON OF
A BITCH!

165.

POV - HARLEY'S LITTLE T-BIRD

The car has been mummified, entirely encased in toilet-paper
slathered with Vaseline. It looks like a paper-mache car.
Scene #166 - DELETED

Distant LIVE MUSIC SOUND, "beach music"...

167.

EXT: THE PAVILION - DAY

167.

BANNER: "SHAG CONTEST TODAY!"

Melaina and Pudge cruise into the parking area, in the
Cadillac. The parking lot is jammed, as far as the eye can
see. Melaina puts on the brake, and hops out of the
Cadillac.

MELAINA
Bye! I'll write you from California.

PUDGE
Good luck with Fabian!

MELAINA
"Fabian"??

She laughs. As she disappears, Pudge yells after her:

PUDGE
Hey! Where'm I supposed to park??

LIVE MUSIC, loudly

168. INT: THE PAVILION - DAY

168.

CLOSE ON "KING LOUIE AND THE NIGHTS"

Sweat glistens on KING LOUIE's dark, sexy face, as he and his
band of BLACK MUSICIANS bear down on that provocative "beach"
beat, doing their soul-powered rendition of a beach classic,
"Sixty Minute Man".

The Pavilion is crammed with sunburned TEENAGERS in swim
suits or shorts. In thrilled anticipation, TEENAGERS hang
over the balconies, watching the jammed dance floor.

ANGLE ON THE DANCE FLOOR

Line after line of YOUNG PEOPLE dance shoulder to shoulder,
their youthful faces slack with concentration. They move in
the effortless choreography of The Continental: two steps
right, one step back, and two steps left and one step
forward...

ANGLE ON THE PLATFORM OF DIGNITARIES

168.

The MAYOR is here, and a STATE REPRESENTATIVE too, and OTHER DIGNITARIES -- all fawning on their honored guests, Senator and Mrs. Clatterbuck.

Meanwhile, not far away, at the edge of the dance floor, obscured by the mill of the happy crowd:

ANGLE ON CHIP

Chip watches enviously on the sidelines, caught up in the music; lips moving, feet moving, shoulders dipping as he fakes The Continental's dip and turn.

AT THE FAR END OF THE DIGNITARIES' PLATFORM

Behind his dark glasses, Fabian looks dazed. He clutches a plaid ice-bag to his temple. Beside him, having her "Dream Date With Fabian", is Suette in her tiara and Confederate flag bikini. From shoulder to hipbone is a ribbon: "Miss Sun Fun 1963".

Suette spots Melaina before Fabian does:

POV - MELAINA APPROACHING

Melaina walks provocatively toward them, chic in her fashionable black dress, blonde French twist, the pink chiffon bow.

Suette braces herself in front of Fabian:

SUETTE

Just try it, sister!

MELAINA

Don't get your panties in a wad.

Fabian brightens at the sight of Melaina.

FABIAN

Hi, Melaina!

Melaina walks coolly past, wagging her fingers at him.

ANGLE ON THE MANAGER LEANING AGAINST THE BAR

Bored, The Manager chews ice and idly checks out a couple of girls. He does a double-take. Right beside him, Melaina gazes at him as she deliberately pulls out a cigarette. The Manager fumbles for his lighter. Melaina waits. The Manager lights her cigarette. Melaina french-inhales.

THE MANAGER

Where have I seen you before?

Melaina smiles mysteriously.

MELAINA
You don't remember?

ANGLE ON DANCE FLOOR

The music ends, and The Continental breaks up. Girls pair with boys; stray dancers move to the sidelines.

Over the P.A. SYSTEM:

MASTER OF CEREMONIES (O.C.)
Contestants, if you want to get in on the Sun Fun shagging, you must have a number. Please take a number by the door...

Nadine and Big Bob push past Chip:

NADINE
C'mon, they're starting...

Chip sadly watches the floor fill with COUPLES. He turns away --

PUDGE (O.S.)
"Hey Rocky. Wanna see me pull a rabbit out of a hat?"

Chip whirls.

Pudge grins. She is standing on the dance floor in her high-heels and inflated full skirt, with Number 23 pinned to her chest. She holds up an identical paper number.

ANGLE ON THE CLATTERBUCKS

Senator and Mrs. Clatterbuck chat with the OTHER DIGNITARIES. The Senator squints, and nudges his wife.

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK
Maude. Is that young man our driver?

Mrs. Clatterbuck squints.

POV - CHIP AND PUDGE ON THE DANCE FLOOR

Chip and Pudge kiss, in full embrace, oblivious to the other COUPLES around them who are paired up to shag.

Senator Clatterbuck and Mrs. Clatterbuck look at each other.

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
He certainly works fast.

CLOSE ON PUDGE AND CHIP, AS THE MUSIC BEGINS

Pudge and Chip smile love-beams at each other, transformed. They dance, stepping away from each other, fingers slipping apart, but eyes always connecting. Hands grasp again, tightly, and Chip draws Pudge back, close.

Scene #169 - DELETE

169A

EXT: MYRTLE BEACH / INT: THUNDERBIRD - DAY

169A

Toilet paper streamers fly from Harley's speeding T-bird. The windshield has been cleared of paper mache. Luanne leans out the passenger window:

LUANNE

They're probably on the O.D.
somewhere! Wait! The Pavilion,
turn, turn!

169B

EXT: PAVILION PARKING LOT/ INT: THUNDERBIRD - DAY

169B

Harley's T-Bird careens into the parking lot of the Pavilion.

170.

INT: THE PAVILION - DAY

170.

On the dance floor, JACK and ETTIE STROOS, 35, spin by, moving expertly. They are a perfect Ballroom Couple, with the look-alike appearance of the long-married.

Chip and Pudge swing past them. Pudge whispers:

PUDGE

Who are those old people?

CHIP

Jack and Ettie Stroos. They're famous. They're Varsity. They win every year.

PUDGE

Not this year.

She smiles mischievously.

ANGLE ON THE CLATTERBUCKS

Mrs. Clatterbuck has borrowed Senator Clatterbuck's glasses, to peer at the dance floor.

MRS. CLATTERBUCK

She does favor someone.

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK

I keep thinking of the Carmichael girl. Lamar and Emmie's daughter.

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
 You don't mean Luanne's little
 friend, Pudge?? Heavens no, Pudge is
fat. This girl is pretty.

Senator Clatterbuck taps ANOTHER DIGNITARY on the shoulder,
 and murmurs something. ANOTHER DIGNITARY hands him a
 clipboard.

Scene #171 - DELETE

172. ANGLE ON DANCE FLOOR

Jack and Ettie Stroos glide by again, smooth as oleo
 margarine. Chip executes a fancy move right in front of
 them. Pudge boogie-walks forward, grinning:

PUDGE
 Way to go, Varsity!

Abruptly, Pudge is knocked sideways by Nadine and Big Bob.

NADINE
 Move it, Fat Ass.

Chip recaptures Pudge protectively, without missing a step.

CHIP
 Go play in the traffic, Liver Lips.

Pudge and Chip shag fluidly, in perfect tandem: side-by-side,
 Rock the Baby, Lindy step...

Momentarily, Nadine and Big Bob falter. Chip and Pudge are
 really good.

ANGLE ON THE CLATTERBUCKS

Senator and Mrs. Clatterbuck peruse the borrowed clipboard:

MRS. CLATTERBUCK
 "23, Charles Guillyard and Caroline
 Carmichael." You were right,
 Buford. She must be a first cousin.
 I didn't know the Spartanburg Carmichaels
 had people in Myrtle Beach...

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK
 They make a fine-looking pair.

ANOTHER DIGNITARY hands Senator Clatterbuck a trophy.

ANOTHER DIGNITARY
 Excuse me, Senator. You'll be
 awarding this to Jack and Ettie Stroos --
 (Hands him a piece of paper)
 Couple Number 12.

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK
You've already chosen a winner??

172.

ANOTHER DIGNITARY
Well, yes, Senator. This couple
always wins.

ANGLE ON THE DANCE FLOOR

Jack and Ettie Stroos glide confidently past Chip and Pudge.
Ettie glances uneasily at Pudge, who slides under Chip's
legs, pops up, executes a lavish spin.

ETTIE
(To Jack)
I hate to see a girl trying to show
up a boy like that.

173. EXT: PAVILION PARKING LOT/ INT: THUNDERBIRD - DAY

173.

Harley's Vaseline-smeared T-bird cruises the parking lot.
Luanne leans out of the car, shielding her eyes from the
glinting chrome of hundreds of cars parked bumper to bumper:

LUANNE
Does anybody see the car??

In the jumpseat, Buzz and Carson are crammed together,
peering through the rear windshield.

LUANNE
Okay, I don't see it, they're not
here! Harley, keep driving, we'll try
The Pad -- SON OF A BITCH!

POV - THE CADILLAC

A few yards past the asphalt, the Cadillac has been parked
directly on the beach. The car is mired to the wheel wells
in sand.

174. INT: THE PAVILION - DAY

174.

COUPLES dance past the JUDGES, in a variety of shag styles:
from outlandish jitterbug gyrations, to small movements
confined to the knees.

The crowd applauds enthusiastically as Pudge and Chip swing
past the JUDGES. Next, Jack and Ettie Stroos shag by,
smiling graciously, as if they have already won. One of the
judges waves to Ettie, and she waves back.

ON THE SIDELINES

The Manager snaps a business card out of a leather case, saying to Melaina:

174.

THE MANAGER

...An associate of mine, he's putting together a kind of teen thing. Music, dancing -- calls it "Shindig"...

As they stroll past the dignitaries' table:

ANGLE ON MRS. CLATTERBUCK

THE MANAGER (O.C.)

I think you've got something, kid, it's like a Mona Lisa quality...

Mrs. Clatterbuck does a slight take:

From the rear, it seems that blonde girl is wearing a dress just like the one Mrs. Clatterbuck wore to the Governor's Inaugural Address.

175. EXT: PAVILION PARKING LOT - DAY

175.

Harley and Luanne rush pell-mell toward the Pavilion, with Buzz and Carson close behind. In mid-flight, Harley halts, stricken. I'm holding hands with Luanne!

Harley flings aside Luanne's hand, and grabs Carson. Luanne guiltily grabs Buzz's hand. They resume their dash toward The Pavilion.

ANGLE ON THE PAVILION'S OPEN DOOR

Luanne brakes at the door, and then flattens herself against the wall, hyperventilating.

LUANNE

Ohmigod. Ohmigod. Ohmigod.

Harley and Carson arrive --

LUANNE

Don't go in there! My parents. Ohmigod. My parents are right there. We have to think of a lie.

As Buzz ambles up, Luanne grabs him --

LUANNE

Buzz! Go in and find Melaina, get the car keys!

But Carson peers in:

175.

CARSON
Hey, look at Pudge.

176. INT: PAVILION - DAY

176.

Pudge whirls under Chip's arm, heels flashing, legs merging as she and Chip kick out in tandem -- these kids are hot!

All along the sidelines, TEENAGERS applaud. Only two couples remain, in the finals: Chip and Pudge, and Jack & Ettie Stroos. On the platform, JUDGES and DIGNITARIES stand, raising their hands as they applaud.

ANGLE ON JACK AND ETTIE STROOS

Jack and Ettie Stroos swirl INTO FRAME: theirs is precision dancing, born of familiarity; Jack shags flamboyantly, and Mrs. Stroos anchors him with a smaller-than-life imitation, every movement perfectly timed.

ANGLE ON PUDGE AND CHIP

Pudge and Chip swirl INTO FRAME: theirs is controlled wildness, born of a need to know each other, to show each other. Their bodies move in two separate styles, neither holding back, neither imitating.

ANGLE ON THE CROWD

Buzz lifts Carson above the audience. She yells ecstatically:

CARSON
Way to go Spartanburg!

Crouching behind a large floor-to-ceiling post, Luanne drags at Carson's leg:

LUANNE
Get down, get down --!

CLOSE ON THE BAND PLATFORM

The MASTER OF CEREMONIES steps out, and signals for King Louie and The Nights to stop. The music dwindles away. On the dance floor, Jack and Ettie Stroos glide to a stop; Chip and Pudge finally halt, a bit bewildered.

The Master Of Ceremonies leans to King Louie's microphone:

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Ladies and gentlemen, fellow Grand Stranders -- we present the winners of the 1963 Sun Fun Shag Competition.

EVERYONE looks automatically at Jack and Ettie Stroos. Ettie smiles "modestly".

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

-- Charles Guillyard and Caroline Carmichael!

Jack & Ettie Stroos, already stepping foward, stop, incredulous. The AUDIENCE applauds Chip and Pudge, who stand stricken with joy and disbelief.

ON THE PLATFORM

Beaming, Senator Clatterbuck beckons to Chip and Pudge. At his side, Mrs. Clatterbuck gestures with their trophy.

As Chip and Pudge walk forward:

PUDGE

You think Luanne'll be pissed?

ANGLE ON THE SIDELINES

Among the crowd, Carson and Buzz yell and applaud. Luanne pulls desperately at Carson, but Carson pushes her away.

CARSON

What does it matter, Luanne?? Your folks obviously know --

LUANNE

I'm gonna tell 'em Pudge went crazy and ran off from us and we didn't know what to do - and then, I know! We called the police and the police tracked her to Myrtle Beach --

Something snaps in Carson.

CARSON

Luanne, why don't we just go up there, say, "This was our last weekend together and we didn't feel like going to Fort Sumter and touring goddamn Colonial homes! We wanted to go to the beach and meet boys and go to wild parties and make-out and dance!" I mean, why can't we just tell them the truth??

Harley and Buzz stare at Carson -- Harley with horror, and Buzz with delight. Luanne gets narrow-eyed and mean.

LUANNE

I'll tell my parents the truth when you tell Harley the truth!

Carson looks from Harley to Buzz, to Luanne. Then she slips off that heavy engagement ring, and places it in Harley's hand.

CARSON
I can't marry you, Harley. I'm in love with Buzz.

Harley just blinks for a moment.

LUANNE
They went All The Way.

Harley swings, Buzz ducks, and Harley's fist connects solidly with the large wooden post.

CLOSE ON PUDGE AND CHIP

They kiss, sweetly, over the top of their trophy. The crowd applauds, and FLASHBULBS pop.

ON THE SIDELINES

Nadine complains to Suette:

NADINE
They were awful.

The PHOTOGRAPHER turns his camera on Suette in her bikini, beside Fabian. Suette smiles that beauty-pageant smile.

Behind them, Melaina saunters past with The Manager, and casually puts out her hand, to jerk Suette's bikini strings.

As the FLASHBULB explodes, Suette's brassiere comes apart, and TWO WHITE FALSIES drop. Suette squeals.

ANGLE ON LUANNE AND HARLEY

Luanne hurries beside Harley, who hunches over his bleeding fist --

LUANNE
Ice. Ice, they'll have ice behind the bar.

MRS. CLATTERBUCK (O.S.)
Luanne Portrell Clatterbuck.

Luanne blanches, and turns with her hostess smile:

LUANNE
Mama. What a lovely surprise.

CUT TO:

Girlish Southern voices, floating on the summer air, to the tune of "Far Above Cayuga's Waters"...

ROLL FINAL CREDITS OVER:

177. EXT: BEACH HOUSE/BACK LAWN - DAY

177.

A garden party is in progress. OLDER GUESTS move gracefully over the lawn, which still bears flakes of tissue paper. Elvira, in a starched dress, serves cakes on a silver tray. The CAMERA moves toward the sound of SINGING:

Gathered against a bank of flowers are Luanne and Carson and Pudge and Melaina, in pretty summer dresses. They sing sweetly, swaying:

THE GIRLS

"On our city's northern border/
Reared against the sky/
Proudly stands our alma mater/
As the years roll by/"

The girls lean toward each other, making harmonies meet:

(cont'd)

"Forward ever, backward never/ Ever
be our cry! Hail to thee our alma
mater/ Hail to Spartanburg High!"

Elvira carries her tray past Harley, who strolls with Mrs. Clatterbuck, her hand tucked under his arm:

HARLEY

(Charming)

...The girls were so set on Fort Sumter, but I pleaded with them, I said, "Luanne, ya'll must drive over Sunday to Myrtle Beach -- we'll surprise your folks!"

Elvira passes Melaina and The Manager. As Melaina reaches for a cake, The Manager stops his protege --

THE MANAGER

Ah-ah!

The CAMERA moves on, lightly --

Senator Clatterbuck walks with Chip and Pudge:

SENATOR CLATTERBUCK

...I'll mention you next time I see Commander Lanier.

CHIP

I'd appreciate that, Sir.

Senator Clatterbuck halts, and Chip and Pudge keep walking.
The Senator stares at something:

POV - THE "S.S. CLATTERBUCK", MOORED AT THE LITTLE DOCK

Across a teak railing flaps a lacy white brassiere.

CLOSE ON PUDGE AND CHIP, STROLLING

CHIP

...As soon as I get commissioned, I
want to put in for a "Westpac"...

PUDGE

What's a "Westpac"?

CHIP

West Pacific. California.

PUDGE

-- Way out.

CHIP

-- Camp Pendleton. That'll be our base
for, like, Okinawa, Indochina, the
whole Far East. It'll be great...

The CAMERA drifts toward the kitchen door:

'8. INT: KITCHEN - DAY.

The place of true intimacy: the kitchen table. Carson and
Buzz share a bowl of pretzels.

BUZZ

I don't suppose you own anything like a
winter coat, do you?

CARSON

I might.

She opens the refrigerator. Buzz watches her, enjoying her.

BUZZ

It gets cold in New Haven at
Thanksgiving.

CARSON

What would I want to go to New Haven
for?

She grins. He grins.

CARSON

Bevo?

SMASH CUT

Reprise SHAG THEME MUSIC over MONTAGE:

- LUANNE, running away from THE CREEP
- PUDGE and CHIP, shagging at the Park N Blow diner
- MELAINA, discovering her hickey with FABIAN
- CARSON and BUZZ, screaming on The Octopus ride
- HARLEY, overhearing his parents making love
- SUETTE and NADINE, "tarring and feathering" Melaina
- SIG BOB, dangling his Corvette key
- SENATOR CLATTERBUCK's portrait, upside down
- MRS. CLATTERBUCK, leaping away from the DEAD FISH
- PUDGE and MELAINA and CARSON and LUANNE, gathered at their table at The Pavilion
- which becomes a WIDE SHOT of The Pavilion's dance floor, with EVERYBODY shagging

.