

Parking Lot Love Song

Written by
Glen Hosking

Copyright (c) 2020 Middle Son Films
This screenplay may not be used or reproduced for any
purpose including educational purposes without the expressed
written permission of the author.

ghosking11@gmail.com
954-471-2784
middlesonfilms.com

NOTE: All teenage characters are 17-18 years of age and attend the same high school unless otherwise indicated.

EXT. BAYBROOK - VARIOUS - DAY

The year is 1987. We're in the fictional town of Baybrook, which resembles just about every town on the southern shore of Nassau County, Long Island. It's a bright fall day.

EXT. HUTCHINSON HOME

It's a modest two-story home a block away from the train tracks. It has tall trees and a narrow driveway that leads to a detached garage. There's a late model Chevy in the driveway and a rusting '78 Buick Estate Wagon with wood trim parked in front. This is "The Boat."

INT. HUTCHINSON HOME - HUTCH'S BASEMENT STUDIO

Half of the basement has been converted into a recording studio. There is sound proofing, two guitars, (a Strat and an acoustic Yamaha), a Pearl drum kit, a Roland keyboard, mics, recording equipment and a mixer.

In the center of it all is high school senior GRANT HUTCHINSON aka "Hutch." He is slender and tall for his age. His beard and the full chest of hair peeking out from his shirt makes him look legal. He has his headphones on and his Yamaha in his hands as he leans into the mic.

HUTCH
This is for Mackenzie.

He begins to play a stripped-down guitar ballad with influences of James Taylor and Cat Stevens.

NOTE: The music and lyrics for Hutch's original songs will be fully realized before production.

INT. HUTCHINSON HOME - KITCHEN - LATER

MRS. HUTCHINSON (43), is putting dishes away. The phone on the wall rings.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
(answers)
Hello.

INT. FOOT'S HOME - KITCHEN

On the other end is Hutch's best friend DOUG aka "Foot." He has a face that will always look years younger than it is.

FOOT
Mrs. Hutchinson! How are you?

INTERCUT:

MRS. HUTCHINSON
Hi Douglas. I'm good, thanks. Grant's in the basement. Let me get him.

She crosses the kitchen, stretching the cord from the wall to the basement door. She opens it and flicks a light on and off.

HUTCH (O.S.)
Yeah?

MRS. HUTCHINSON
Douglas is on the phone.

HUTCH (O.S.)
Be right up.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
(into phone)
He'll be right up.

FOOT
Thanks Mrs. H.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
Say hi to your mother for me.

FOOT
I will.

She hangs the receiver on a chair and exits.

INT. HUTCHINSON HOME - HUTCH'S BASEMENT STUDIO

Hutch writes the title of the last track of his demo on the cassette's liner card. The track list is: Welcome to the Night, Ten Million Miles Gone, Trouble With the Monkey, The Day the Lightning Died, Mackenzie Moore.

He closes the cassette and walks upstairs into the

KITCHEN

He picks up the phone.

INTERCUT:

HUTCH

Yo, Foot.

FOOT

Jesus Hutch, you spend anymore time in that basement and people will think you have dead bodies down there.

HUTCH

Well I do have an ax.

FOOT

Was that a guitar joke?

HUTCH

...Yeah.

FOOT

Good thing you want to be a rock star and not a comedian. So where are we going tonight?

HUTCH

I don't know. Hear anything good?

FOOT

I heard there might be some parties. A bunch of us are meeting at St. Luke's then we'll figure it out from there.

HUTCH

Cool.

FOOT

We taking The Boat?

HUTCH

(bummed)

I always drive.

FOOT

I know, but I told Mickey and the guys we'd pick them up and you know my piece of shit car is too small. I'll drive next time. Promise.

HUTCH

Yeah, alright. I'll pick you up at six. Oh, bring your Walkman. I finished my demo and I want you to hear it before I send it to the record labels.

FOOT

Finally.

HUTCH

It took Brian Wilson more than ten months to record Pet Sounds.

FOOT

Your demo is better than Pet Sounds?

A beat.

HUTCH

I'll pick you up at six.

He hangs up. His mother re-enters.

MRS. HUTCHINSON

Going out?

HUTCH

That's the plan.

MRS. HUTCHINSON

I thought you had work tonight.

HUTCH

Nah, I'm pulling a double tomorrow.

MRS. HUTCHINSON

Don't stay out too late.

HUTCH

I won't. Where's Pop?

MRS. HUTCHINSON

At the Knights. Oh, I spoke to your grandmother and we're having Thanksgiving at her house.

HUTCH

Great, I'll stop eating now to make room.

MRS. HUTCHINSON

Don't make fun.

HUTCH

I'll just never understand why she insists on serving a full pasta and meat course before the turkey course. Who does marinara on Thanksgiving?

MRS. HUTCHINSON

That's how she likes to do it.

HUTCH

And that's why everyone on your side of the family has been to Weight Watchers.

MRS. HUTCHINSON

You're rotten.

HUTCH

I'm just sayin'.

He begins to walk out.

MRS. HUTCHINSON

Where are you going?

HUTCH

To my room. To exercise. Before grandma turns me into a Thanksgiving float.

She swats him with a dish towel as he leaves.

EXT. MOORE HOME

It's a beautiful home in the "nice" part of town. There's a Benz in the driveway and a new Lexus.

INT. MOORE HOME - LIVING ROOM

It's nicely appointed and there is a view of the harbor through the windows. MRS. MOORE (45), also nicely appointed, is reading a book. Her daughter, high school senior MACKENZIE aka KENZIE or KENZ, enters. She's beautiful, neatly dressed and already has the presence of a college sophomore.

KENZIE

Is it okay if I go out tonight?

MRS. MOORE

Where are you going?

KENZIE
Just out with Cindy.

MRS. MOORE
But where?

KENZIE
I don't know yet. I have to call her.
We'll probably just go to a movie.

MRS. MOORE
Do you need money?

KENZIE
Not unless the movie is free.

MRS. MOORE
Don't be smart. Take some out of my
wallet.

Their housekeeper OLANDA (50) steps into the room.

OLANDA
Almost finished Mrs. Moore. Hello,
Mackenzie.

KENZIE
Hi Olanda.

MRS. MOORE
Thank you Olanda.

Olanda steps out.

MRS. MOORE (cont'd)
Olanda has agreed to come over and
help with Thanksgiving.

KENZIE
I thought we're having it catered.

MRS. MOORE
We are. But I don't want to deal with
all the schlepping back and forth to
the kitchen and then cleaning up
afterward. I want to spend time with
our guests.

KENZIE
She doesn't have to. I can handle it.

MRS. MOORE
It's already done.
(MORE)

MRS. MOORE (cont'd)
(hushed)
Besides, she needs the extra money.
Her husband got arrested.

KENZIE
What?

MRS. MOORE
The police accused him of something.
I don't know. She said he didn't do
it. It's none of my business. I'm
just glad we can help her.

Kenzie looks into the kitchen where Olanda is packing up her cleaning supplies. The woman is so tired. Kenzie looks sad for her.

INT. HUTCHINSON HOME - KITCHEN - LATER

Hutch, his mother and his father, MR. HUTCHINSON (47), eat dinner. Ravioli, salad and garlic bread.

MR. HUTCHINSON
Your mother said you're working a
double tomorrow.

HUTCH
I switched with the other assistant
manager.

MR. HUTCHINSON
You'll miss the Giants game.

HUTCH
I'll catch the highlights when I get
home. Did you take the under?

MR. HUTCHINSON
Yeah. I also took them in my pool at
work. I'm giving three points.

HUTCH
I think they'll cover.

MR. HUTCHINSON
I hope so. I got clobbered last week.

Hutch's brother GARRETT (22) enters. Everyone is surprised to see him.

GARRETT
Hey.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
Look who it is!

MR. HUTCHINSON
Hey pal!

MRS. HUTCHINSON
This is a surprise. Did you come over
for dinner?

GARRETT
No, I'm okay.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
Sit. I'll fix you a plate.

He sits. She loads up a plate for him.

MR. HUTCHINSON
How are things at the house?

GARRETT
Good. John and Monty say hi.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
You're all still okay living
together? You're getting along?

GARRETT
Yeah, it's great. I mean, John and
Monty argue like they're brothers but
it's funny. It's like the Odd Couple
but they're both slobs.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
What do they fight about?

GARRETT
Everything. Sports, movies, Iran-
Contra...you know, stuff.

MR. HUTCHINSON
How's work?

GARRETT
Busy. You know, football season, the
bar's always packed on the weekends.

MR. HUTCHINSON
That's good. More money for you.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
How's Sharon? She doesn't mind going
over to the house?

GARRETT
Eh, you know. The guys have their
girlfriends over too, so it's no big
deal.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
She's working tonight?

GARRETT
Yeah, late shift.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
I'll fix her a plate before you go.
You can take it with you.

GARRETT
Okay. Anyway, Sharon's the reason I
stopped over. She and I are moving up
state.

The room suddenly goes quiet.

MR. HUTCHINSON
Where?

GARRETT
Eastwood.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
To be closer to her parents?

GARRETT
Well, yeah...but she also found a
better job. And eventually we'll
probably get married and buy a house,
so...

MRS. HUTCHINSON
You don't want to live here?

GARRETT
No, it's not that. It's just we also
like it up there and it's cheaper to
live. We'll be able to save.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
When?

GARRETT
After New Year.

MR. HUTCHINSON
Where are you going to live?

GARRETT
With her parents. For now. Just until
we can afford a house.

MR. HUTCHINSON
What about work?

GARRETT
There are plenty of bars up there.
I'm going to head up next weekend and
start looking.

MRS. HUTCHINSON
When will we get to see you?

GARRETT
We'll come down. You know, holidays,
birthdays... And the drive isn't that
bad. You could come up and spend time
up there. It'll be fine.

Hutch silently watches the interaction. His mother takes
Garret's hand. She's despondent.

INT. HUTCHINSON HOME - HUTCH'S ROOM - LATER

Listening to: Molly Hatchet

Hutch gets dressed to go out. He puts on his tightest t-
shirt and checks himself out in the mirror. With a little
more weight he'd make a skinny tight end. There's a knock.

He opens the door. It's Garrett.

GARRETT
I'm out of here.

HUTCH
How are they doing?

GARRETT
They'll get over it.

HUTCH
Guess I'll be the favorite son now.

They smile. Garret hears the music.

GARRETT
Is that my Hatchet album?

HUTCH
(yes)
Maybe.

GARRETT
Keep it. The guys are going to throw
me a party before I go. You'll come,
right?

HUTCH
Sure.

GARRETT
Bring someone this time. And not just
Foot.

HUTCH
Maybe. So, marriage, huh?

GARRETT
Looks that way. I mean, it's the next
step, right?

Hutch nods.

GARRETT (cont'd)
How's the music going?

HUTCH
It's getting there. Might put a band
together for the spring. I'm not sure
yet.

GARRETT
Maybe you can play the party.

HUTCH
Maybe.

GARRETT
Okay. See ya.

His big brother leaves.

INT./EXT. KENZIE'S LEXUS - STREET

Listening to: The Cure

It's getting dark. Kenzie drives through her neighborhood. She looks very J Crew. In the passenger seat is her lively friend CINDY LARSON. She's colorfully Benetton.

CINDY

I heard Elliot Warren is having people over.

KENZIE

What about the movie?

CINDY

We'll still go. Besides, early showings are boring. Let's go when there are more people.

KENZIE

Okay, but only for a little while. I don't want to sit around watching people drink beer.

CINDY

But Elliot's one of your smart friends. I'll have beer and you can have enlightened conversation.

KENZIE

I just don't want to spend all night hanging out at houses or standing around in parking lots.

CINDY

I promise, we won't. We'll stop by Elliott's then go to a movie.

KENZIE

We need to get Meredith first.

CINDY

Meredith's coming?

KENZIE

She called after we spoke. We're picking up her and Bastien at Yogurtlicious.

CINDY

Oooooo, *Bastien*.

KENZIE

Oui.

CINDY
Oh, I bet she likes his wee-wee.

KENZIE
You're nasty.

EXT. HUTCHINSON HOME

Hutch exits and walks toward The Boat. He puts the demo cassette into the interior pocket of his denim jacket. He gets in and starts it. The muffler sounds awful. He selects a U2 cassette from the full carrying case he keeps on the floor. He begins to play the cassette and drives away.

EXT. FOOT'S HOME

Hutch pulls up. Foot exits his home ready to party.

FOOT
The Boat!

He gets in and they drive away.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT

FOOT
Thank god that's over.

HUTCH
What's over?

FOOT
Dinner with my aunt. She hogs all the mashed potatoes and chews with her mouth open. It's like watching a cow eat a mouse.

HUTCH
Where's your Walkman?

FOOT
(forgot it)
Oh, shit.

HUTCH
Jesus, Foot.

FOOT
I'll just listen to it here.

HUTCH

No way. I don't want everyone to hear it.

FOOT

How are you going to be famous if you won't let anyone hear your music?

HUTCH

They'll hear it, just...I want it to be on the radio or in concert. Then it's for real and not something I did in my basement. I'm thinking about putting a band together for the talent show.

FOOT

That would be cool. I'll be your manager.

(pats the dashboard)

We already have a tour bus. Do your parents like it?

HUTCH

They haven't heard it.

FOOT

Why not?

HUTCH

'Cause, what are they going to say? That is sucks? They're not going to give me an honest opinion. They'll just say it's great and I'm really talented but I still need to go to college just in case.

FOOT

What if I think it sucks?

HUTCH

Then I'll know it's good.

Up ahead, a teen named LORI FELDER steps into the road and flags them down.

FOOT

Run her over.

Hutch slows to a stop and rolls down his window. She hurries over to his side. She's cute in a weird way.

LORI
Hey guys.

HUTCH
What's up Lori?

LORI
Are you guys going to St. Luke's?

FOOT
No. We're on our way to a cock fight.
And you don't have a cock, so...

HUTCH
Don't listen to him. Yeah, we're
heading over there.

LORI
Can I hop a ride?

HUTCH
Hop in.

She gets in the back.

LORI
Alright! The infamous Boat. This
thing is huge.

They drive away.

LORI (cont'd)
Thanks again for the lift.

HUTCH
No problem. We just need to make a
quick stop then we're picking up
Mickey, Bunny and that crew. Cool?

LORI
Cool.

Foot gives Hutch the side eye and shakes his head.

EXT. GRAND BEVERAGE

The Boat pulls into the local beverage store.

INT. THE BOAT

Foot hands Hutch cash.

FOOT
PBR.

LORI
You have ID?

HUTCH
(deepens his voice)
My beard is my ID.

LORI
Can you get me some Bartles & Jaymes?

FOOT
You want him to say he's on the rag,
too?

LORI
(hits him in the head)
Ew!

HUTCH
What flavor?

LORI
Berry.

She offers him cash.

HUTCH
Keep it. It's on him.

FOOT
What?

Hutch gets out and walks into the store. Foot and Lori glare at each other.

LORI
Why do they call you Foot anyway?

FOOT
Because I have a twelve-inch schlong.
(off her look)
No, really...one time my parents gave me forty dollars to buy sneakers. But I really wanted beer. I found a pair of Chucks on sale for fifteen, but they only came in a size twelve and I'm a size ten. So I bought them anyway and used the leftover money for brews.

LORI
You're dumb.

FOOT
Oh yeah? Why do they call you Hoover?

LORI
No one calls me that.

FOOT
That's not what the guys on the
soccer team told me.

He jams his tongue into his cheek.

LORI
You're disgusting.

FOOT
I'm not the one who sucked a dozen
dicks.

She's deeply offended.

LORI
You're all a bunch of assholes, you
know that? I'm not like that. I made
one stupid mistake.

FOOT
I'm just messing around.

LORI
(on the verge of
tears)
No you're not. It's not fucking fair.
Tommy Delpino has sex with three
Southport girls the same night and
you guys treat him like a hero. But I
fool around with two guys *when I was
shitfaced* and now you think I'm some
slut whose into gang bangs. How's
that fucking fair? Huh, asshole?

FOOT
Holy shit. Calm the fuck down. Get
over it.

LORI
Fuck you!

She's crying. He turns around to let her compose herself.

INT./EXT. KENZIE'S LEXUS - STREET

Listening to: Erasure

They're on their way to Elliot's. Cindy is in the passenger seat, and MEREDITH and French foreign exchange student BASTIEN are making out in the back.

CINDY

Hey, you two want us to drop you off at the no-tell motel?

They break it up.

MEREDITH

Sorry.

BASTIEN

I'm not.

MEREDITH

So, Cindy. What's up with you and Brian?

CINDY

He's a loser.

KENZIE

She has a thing for Michael Slater now.

MEREDITH

(to Bastien)

He's our quarterback.

(to Kenzie)

How about you Kenz? You still too good for high school boys?

CINDY

She's saving herself for all those fine Princeton men.

MEREDITH

Snob.

KENZIE

I am not. I just don't want to be someone's practice girl. All the guys at school just want to get into my pants like I don't have a brain.

CINDY

So pick an ugly one. He'll be happy
just to talk to you.

MEREDITH

Ew.

BASTIEN

I say good for her. Eh? Look at her.
She's beautiful. Refined. Like art.
These Baybrook boys do not deserve a
woman like her.

KENZIE

Thank you Bastien.

MEREDITH

(to Bastien)

Hey, watch it.

BASTIEN

You watch it.

They start making out again. Cindy rolls her eyes and turns
up the volume to drown them out. Kenzie sneaks an envious
peek in the rear view mirror.

EXT. GRAND BEVERAGE

Hutch returns with the goods and gets in

THE BOAT

He distributes the beer and wine coolers. He senses the
tension.

HUTCH

You guys okay?

They both nod. He begins to peel the labels off of his
O'Doul's.

LORI

What are you doing?

HUTCH

Peeling off the labels.

FOOT

He doesn't drink and drive but he
doesn't want anyone to think he's a
wuss.

HUTCH
I say it's Budweiser.

LORI
You know what, good for you Hutch. My
cousin got hit by a drunk driver and
now he's in a wheelchair. Give me a
few.

He hands her a few bottles and she begins to peel off the
labels.

EXT. BUNNY'S HOUSE

The Boat pulls up. A group of friends wait on the front
steps with concealed bags and cases of beer. They are BUNNY,
MICKEY, LIDO, MORGS and his girlfriend DIANNE. They are all
destined for the workforce after high school.

They pile into The Boat, exchange greetings then drive away.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREET

Everyone's drinking and in a party mood. Mickey holds up a
garden gnome.

MICKEY
Yo, Hutch. Where'd you get this?

HUTCH
Scavenger hunt. I can't remember the
house I took it from.

MICKEY
Did you win?

HUTCH
Nah. I couldn't find a car with a
Connecticut license plate.

Mickey starts playing with it, making it dance to U2.

EXT. ST LUKE'S PARKING LOT

The lot on St. Luke's Place is shared by a church and a
strip of stores. The Boat pulls in. Several other cars are
already there. The ratio is 70:30 male to female. All white.
About half of them smoke.

Everyone gets out and the evening ritual begins. Greetings are exchanged with hand shakes and head nods. People mingle from car to car, each playing its own music. A few guys pass a football. Some of the girls huddle in a car to gossip. It's what you do when you're too young to drink in a bar.

Hutch, Foot, Lido, Bunny, Mickey and Morgs stay huddled.

FOOT

So what's going on fellas?

MORGS

Not much. What's up with you?

FOOT

Same.

BUNNY

You guys hear Delpino moved in with one of those girls?

LIDO

I heard he moved in with two of them.

MICKEY

Get the fuck out of here.

LIDO

I'm serious. They rented a basement apartment near the harbor.

HUTCH

He hasn't been in school all week. Did he drop out?

LIDO

Who fucking cares? He's knocking boots with two Southport girls. I'd never leave the fucking bed if I was him.

MICKEY

I want to be his dick for just one day.

FOOT

You are a dick.

MICKEY

Your mom would know.

FOOT

Want to go?

They begin to aggressively play-wrestle.

Several yards away, standing next to his car, is a schoolmate in an army-style camo jacket named RONNIE. He calls to Hutch.

RONNIE
Hey Hutch! I need ya.

Hutch walks over as Ronnie opens the trunk and removes a guitar case that is next to a rifle.

HUTCH
What's up Ronnie?

RONNIE
I need a favor. Can you tune this?

He opens the case to reveal a used acoustic guitar.

HUTCH
You play?

RONNIE
Nah, giving it to my little brother for Christmas. He's gonna take lessons.

Hutch examines it with the focus of a luthier. He begins to tune it.

RONNIE (cont'd)
I got it for twenty bucks at the pawn shop. It's a piece of crap, but he doesn't know what he's doing.

HUTCH
It's not bad for twenty bucks. The strings will need to be replaced pretty soon though. You should have it restrung before you give it to him.

RONNIE
Fuck that. He should be happy he's getting anything.

HUTCH
Where's he taking lessons?

RONNIE
Music store on Grand.

HUTCH

Tell him to ask for Jeff. He's great with beginners.

RONNIE

Okay.

Hutch finishes tuning it, fishes around in his pocket and pulls out a pick. He plays the opening guitar lick of "Over the Hills and Far Away" by Led Zeppelin. He makes the pawn shop guitar sound like a brand new Taylor.

He finishes and hands the guitar back to Ronnie.

HUTCH

Yep. Not bad at all.

RONNIE

Fuck you.

They smile then Hutch walks back to Foot and the guys. Bunny approaches him.

BUNNY

Hey, you guys hiring at the theater?

HUTCH

Possibly. Things get pretty hairy around the holidays. Why? You looking?

BUNNY

Maybe. Does Joanne still work there?

HUTCH

Yeah, but I think she's dating someone. Some guy from Oakview.

BUNNY

Oh.

HUTCH

Still interested?

BUNNY

Nah, that's cool. Thanks though.

A minivan pulls into the lot and parks a few yards away. The driver, a MAN (50) doesn't get out. He just sits there looking at the teens.

MICKEY

What's this idiot want?

Finally, the man exits and approaches. He reeks of regret.

BUNNY

How's it going?

MINIVAN MAN

Evening. I was driving by and saw you guys. I used to hang out here when I was your age. My friends and I did the exact same thing you're doing every Saturday. Sneaking beers out of the house. Driving around. Trying to score chicks.

FOOT

Good shit never changes.

HUTCH

You go to the high school?

MINIVAN MAN

Class of fifty-five.

MICKEY

Holy crap. So how do you like color television?

MINIVAN MAN

Mind if I hang out a little?

BUNNY

Sure man. Want a beer?

The man nods. Hutch looks at the minivan.

HUTCH

Here. Have a Bud.

He hands him one of his camouflage O'Doul's. Foot smirks. The man opens it and takes a swig.

MINIVAN MAN

Ahhhh. Enjoy this time now guys. Because it ain't gonna last.

LIDO

Bullshit. I'm gonna have a bar in my house so we can get hammered every night.

MINIVAN MAN

Uh-huh. You'll see. You'll get married, have a mortgage, kids, tuition payments... One day that party wagon of yours will become a minivan and you'll be hauling kids to little league games like your parents did. Half of you will be divorced and the other half will be wishing your wives looked as good as these girls do now. Shit, my wife never looked as good as these girls. Believe me, one day you'll be wishing nothing ever changed and you were right back here.

FOOT

Get the fuck out of here man. You're depressing us.

The poor bastard chugs the rest of the virgin beer.

MINIVAN MAN

I gotta go anyway. I got a bucket of fried chicken in the car for the kids. Thanks for the beer.

He hands the empty to Hutch.

MINIVAN MAN (cont'd)

Don't get pregnant.

He walks back to his minivan and drives away.

LIDO

Holy shit.

HUTCH

Well I'm thoroughly bummed out.

MICKEY

What a fucking whack job.

FOOT

I think it's a sign to get the fuck out of here. Where are we going?

BUNNY

Jill Bromley said Elliot Warren is having some people over.

They exchange uncertain looks.

FOOT
It'll be a bunch of brainiacs.

BUNNY
She said he might get a keg.

Now they're interested.

LIDO
Free beer.

MICKEY
I hope his sister's there.

BUNNY
Somebody wants chocolate.

MICKEY
Shut up, fuckhead.

BUNNY
I'm just messing with ya. I hear she's really nice. She sits near my sister in her match class.

LIDO
Would you really?

MICKEY
Have sex with his sister?

LIDO
Any black chick.

MICKEY
If she was hot enough. Why, you wouldn't?

LIDO
No, I would. As long as she's not too dark.

HUTCH
I'm sure they're just lining up for both of your white asses. Are we going or what?

FOOT
I'm in. Let's help him kick his keg.

MORGS
Anyone know where he lives?

They look at each other. They don't.

FOOT
Doesn't he live near the park?

BUNNY
I don't know. What elementary school
did he go to?

MORGS
Didn't he go to Steele?

BUNNY
I thought he went to Brookside.

MORGS
Hey Dianne! Do you know where Elliot
Warren lives?

She's several yards away near a another car.

DIANNE
He lives on the same street as Dexter
Hines.

LIDO
I know where that is.

MICKEY
Hey guys! We're going to Elliot
Warren's. He's got a keg. Follow us
if you want to go.

DIANNE
I'm gonna go with these guys. See you
there.

She gets in the car she's near. The guys get in The Boat.
Lori runs over and gets in as well. Four other cars decide
to follow them as The Boat pulls away.

EXT. WARREN HOME - BACK DECK

Listening to: Prince

It's a very nice house. The Warrens are doing well. The
gathering is intimate. It's a tame keg party by high school
standards. Some BRAINIACS chat near the keg.

ELLIOT, African-American, is sitting on the deck. Also there
are his African-American friends DEXTER, ANTHONY, SEAN,
ALYSSE, CHERYL and KATINA.

Kenzie, Cindy, Meredith and Bastien are also there. The two lovebirds share one of his fancy French cigarettes.

CHERYL

So, Bastien, how's the exchange program going? You like America?

BASTIEN

Yes, it's good. You know, MTV, Bruce Springsteen...

(squeezes Meredith)

I like your women.

SEAN

What do you think of the Croissan'wich?

BASTIEN

It's shit.

They all laugh.

ELLIOT

(to Kenzie)

Oh, congratulations, miss ivy league. Early admission to Princeton.

KENZIE

(modest)

Well, my dad studied law there. It kind of helped.

KATINA

Must be nice.

KENZIE

You should apply there. You've got the grades.

KATINA

The only way I'm getting into Princeton is on a "special" scholarship.

ALYSSE

Didn't you see the movie Soul Man?

CHERYL

Oh my Lord...

Her friends laugh and roll their eyes.

ANTHONY

It's how my mother got into Penn.

CINDY

But you'd still get to go.

KATINA

Because of a quota. Nuh-uh. I'm applying to Morehouse and Howard just like my parents did.

BASTIEN

What difference does it make? Eh? If you smart and work hard you make your own way in life.

DEXTER

You keep thinking that, French bread.

ANTHONY

I bet no one every worried about their property value because you moved into their neighborhood.

SEAN

Yeah. When was the last time a security guard followed you around a store just for being white?

DEXTER

(laughs)

The Fields Five!

ELLIOT

The Fields Five.

MEREDITH

What's the Fields Five?

ALYSSE

Not what. Who.

SEAN

You never heard this story?

DEXTER

Oh, I got this.

KATINA

Tell it Dexter.

He becomes very animated as he tells the tale.

DEXTER

Somebody was shoplifting at the Fields Mall. Hitting all the clothing stores. The Gap. Jean Country. Just Shirts. All of them. Turns out, it was four brothers and their white partner. See, the brothers would walk into a store the way brothers do and all eyes would be on them. Don't want the brothers stealing nothing, right? A minute later this clean cut white boy walks in with cutters, starts snipping off the security tags and stuffing shit into his bag because of course no one's watching the clean cut white boy. They were pulling that scam for weeks.

He lets out a hearty laugh.

MEREDITH

Oh my god, that's terrible.

CINDY

Dexter, it's not funny. It's stealing.

DEXTER

Yeah, but it's also implicit bias.

KENZIE

He's right.

KATINA

(to Kenzie)

Think they'll teach that at Princeton?

KENZIE

Of course.

Kenzie looks uncertain and concerned.

EXT. WARREN HOME

The Boat pulls up, followed by the rest of the party parade. Hutch gets out and acts as the group representative. Elliot approaches from the back of the house.

HUTCH

Hey, Elliot.

ELLIOT
What's up Grant?

They shake hands.

HUTCH
Heard you were having a thing. Mind
if we hang out a little?

Elliot is a little cautious, but he also wants to be cool.

ELLIOT
Yeah, alright. But you have to keep
it down, okay?

HUTCH
Yeah, sure.

Hutch gives the signal to the others and they exit their cars.

HUTCH (cont'd)
Is your sister here?

ELLIOT
No.

HUTCH
Good.

The crew shares hellos and high fives with their new friend Elliot as they pass him.

Hutch suddenly sees Kenzie talking to some people at the back of the driveway. His dream girl in the flesh. He walks to The Boat, takes off his jacket and tosses it inside. He checks himself out in the glass then walks toward the house.

ELLIOT
Hey, Grant. You play, right?

HUTCH
Music? Yeah.

ELLIOT
I thought so. You want to check out
my new guitar?

HUTCH
(eyes on Kenzie)
Uh...

ELLIOT
It's a Les Paul sunburst.

Hutch looks at him like he asked if he wanted to meet Hendrix.

INT. WARREN HOME - ELLIOT'S ROOM

Hutch holds the guitar like it's an ancient artifact.

HUTCH
Man, it's beautiful. How's the action?

ELLIOT
Incredible. I got it for my birthday.

HUTCH
So lucky. Half my gear is used. I didn't know you played.

ELLIOT
My uncle gave me lessons. He did a tour with Stevie Wonder.

HUTCH
No way!

ELLIOT
He lives in New Orleans now.

HUTCH
It must be awesome to live there.

ELLIOT
We went to see him this summer. They treat musicians like royalty. Ever been there?

HUTCH
(shakes his head)
I've never even been to Florida.

ELLIOT
You have to go. Hey, we should jam some time.

HUTCH
Definitely. You know, I write my own stuff. Straight up rock. You know the talent show in the spring?
(MORE)

HUTCH (cont'd)
I'm thinking about putting together a band if you're interested.

ELLIOT
I was just going to ask you if you wanted to be in mine. Dexter plays keyboards.

HUTCH
(smiling)
We could form a "super group."

ELLIOT
That would be wicked.

EXT. WARREN HOME - VARIOUS

Outside, the rest of the teens are getting along. Some mingle around the keg. Some hang out on the deck. A few lean on cars parked out front. There's a lot of laughing--some a little too loud.

Foot notices that Cindy is cold. He seizes the opportunity by running to The Boat, getting Hutch's jacket and putting it over her shoulders.

CINDY
(surprised and grateful)
Oh, thanks Doug.

FOOT
(putting on the charm)
No problem. Didn't want you to be cold. You can give it back whenever.

CINDY
That's so nice of you. I totally under dressed. I'll give it back Monday.

FOOT
Sure, yeah. Or tomorrow if you're around. I have a car. I could stop by your house. Or maybe we could meet somewhere.

CINDY
(letting him down gently)
Oh, sorry. I'm kind of booked up tomorrow.

FOOT
Yeah, cool. Okay. I'll catch ya
Monday.

Out front, a neighbor, MR. SHAPIRO (60) approaches.

MR. SHAPIRO
Hey, you kids don't belong here. Get
out of here before I call the police.

He marches to the back.

MR. SHAPIRO (cont'd)
Okay, that's it. Party's over. Where
the hell are the owners?

KENZIE
(to Cindy)
We should get going to the movies
anyway.

Cindy nods, rounds up Meredith and Bastien and walks toward
the front with the rest of the evicted.

INT. WARREN HOME - ELLIOT'S ROOM

Sean enters.

SEAN
Hey man, better come outside. Your
neighbor's being a jerk.

EXT. WARREN HOME - BACK DECK

Elliot and Hutch walk out.

MR. SHAPIRO
Where are you parents? Huh? Do they
know you're serving beer? Do they let
you drink when they're home?

ELLIOT
(mortified)
My parents are away.

MR. SHAPIRO
You want me to tell them about this?

ELLIOT
No.

MR. SHAPIRO

Get these kids out of here before I call the cops? Understand?

ELLIOT

Sorry, Mr. Shapiro.

MR. SHAPIRO

Goddamn right you're sorry.

He marches away.

HUTCH

Sorry man.

ELLIOT

It's okay.

HUTCH

Let's get together next week. You should come over and see my studio.

Elliot nods and they shake hands. Hutch looks around. Kenzie is gone. He blew it.

He walks to the front of the house where Foot, Lori, Morgs, Lido, Dianne and two other schoolmates, CHRIS and FRANK are waiting.

HUTCH (cont'd)

Where are Mickey and Bunny?

FOOT

They hopped a ride with Slugger. I told these guys they could come with us.

Hutch exchanges head nods with Chris and Frank.

LORI

Shotgun!

She gets in front. Dianne joins her. The guys pile in back. Chris is in the middle.

Hutch opens his door and notices his jacket is gone.

HUTCH

Where's my jacket?

FOOT

Oh, I gave it to Cindy Larson. She was cold.

(MORE)

FOOT (cont'd)
(on the down low)
She kind of blew me off, but I'm
laying the groundwork.

HUTCH
You asshole. My demo is in the
jacket.

FOOT
So?

He pulls Foot away from The Boat so the others can't hear.

HUTCH
There's a song on it for Mackenzie
Moore.

FOOT
How's she gonna know?

HUTCH
It's called Mackenzie Moore. What if
they find it and play it?

FOOT
Is it that bad?

HUTCH
No! It's actually really good. I
poured my freakin' heart into it. But
it's not the way I wanted this to go
down. It's supposed to be the second
single from my debut album. "Welcome
to the Night" is going to be the
first single which will establish me
as a serious rock musician then I'll
follow that up with the ballad, which
means I'll already be famous so
Mackenzie will think, "Holy shit.
Hutch has a crush on me and now he's
all over MTV and he wrote this
amazing song for me."

FOOT
Man, that's really gay.

HUTCH
We have to get that jacket back.
Where did they go?

FOOT
I don't know.

A car approaches and slows down. A group of TEENS inside. It's driven by a guy named NICKLES.

BUNNY
Yo, Nickles.

NICKLES
Yo. What's going on?

BUNNY
We got the boot.

NICKLES
That blows. I heard the Tucker twins are having a party.

BUNNY
You know where they live?

NICKLES
Yeah. Follow me.

FOOT
(to Hutch)
Maybe they went there.

HUTCH
You better hope so or you're a dead man.

They get in and drive away.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREET

Listening to: AC/DC

The Boat turns onto a main road.

LIDO
(from the way back)
Hey, Chris. Where's Stacy tonight?

CHRIS
Screw that bitch. And her old man.

LIDO
Okayyyyyy...

Still angry, Chris attempts to take a can of beer from his bag and it slips out of his hand. It hits the rusty floorboard hard enough to puncture a hole through the rusted metal. It lands on the street as The Boat continues forward.

CHRIS
Yo, Hutch. I dropped my beer.

HUTCH
Pick it up!

CHRIS
I can't. It's gone.

HUTCH
What?

CHRIS
It fell through the hole.

The others look and see the hole.

FRANK
Holy shit, Hutch. There's a fucking
hole in your car.

They all begin to laugh. But not Hutch. He stops at a red
light, puts in it park and looks back at the hole.

HUTCH
Fuck.

CHRIS
Sorry man.

FRANK
I can see all the way to China.

HUTCH
Shut up Frank.

DIANNE
Is that safe?

FOOT
Of course it's safe. Just don't step
in it.

The light turns green. The car behind them honks. Hutch puts
it in drive and continues on.

LIDO
Don't anybody fart. This thing could
explode.

The passengers erupt with laughter.

INT./EXT. KENZIE'S LEXUS - STREET

Listening to: Psychedelic Furs

The Lexus is on its way to the movie theater.

KENZIE
(to Cindy)
Nice jacket.

CINDY
He was just being nice.

KENZIE
Yeah right.

CINDY
Ew, no. Doug's nice, but he's kind of a dirt. He'll probably have one of those jobs where you come home with grease under your nails.

KENZIE
Oh now who's being a snob?

MEREDITH
I hear they call him Foot because he has a twelve-inch pecker.

KENZIE
That can't be true.

MEREDITH
Maybe Cindy can confirm it for us.

CINDY
Uh, maybe not.

BASTIEN
You can sit on his Eiffel Tower.

CINDY
Ew, nasty!

They all find it amusing. Cindy sees a 24-7 store ahead.

CINDY (cont'd)
Oooo, can we stop to get candy? The prices at the theater are a rip.

Kenzie shoots her a sideways glance. She pulls into the

24-7 STORE

CINDY
Anybody want?

MEREDITH
Raisinets.

CINDY
Kenz?

KENZIE
Whoppers.

Cindy gets out and hurries into the store. A JOCK in a Baybrook HS Wrestling sweatshirt named STEVE MCSORLEY is in line to pay.

CINDY
Hey Steve.

STEVE
What's up Cindy?

CINDY
What are you up to?

STEVE
Heading over to Slater's.

CINDY
(eyes light up)
Is he having a party?

STEVE
Just some of us guys and maybe a few other people.

CINDY
Think he'll mind if we crash?

STEVE
Who you with?

CINDY
It's me, Mackenzie, Meredith and her French boy toy.

He looks out the window and zeroes in on Kenzie. He has eyes for her.

STEVE
I don't think he'll mind.

CINDY
Cool. See you there.

She leaves to look for candy. He pays, and exits into the
PARKING LOT

He walks to his car, which is two spots from the Lexus.

STEVE
Hey Mackenzie.

She replies with a halfhearted wave. He drives away.

Meredith returns with the candy and knows this isn't going
to be easy.

CINDY
Michael Slater is having a party.

KENZIE
No.

CINDY
Please.

KENZIE
We're going to the movies.

CINDY
We'll catch the last show. Promise.
You know how I feel about him.

KENZIE
I'll drop you guys off then I'll go
to the movies by myself.

BASTIEN
(in French, subtitled)
Good girl. Stand up for yourself.

KENZIE
(in French, subtitled)
Mind your own business.

He's surprised. He didn't know she speaks French.

CINDY
That's fine. I'm sure we can find a
ride home.

KENZIE
You're really going to ditch me for
Michael Slater.

CINDY
Yes.

Kenzie shakes her head and they drive away.

EXT. TUCKER HOME

Listening to: Duran Duran

The scene looks more like a party. Loud music. TEENS all
over the place. The Boat parks and everyone gets out.

HUTCH
(to Foot)
I'll check in the back. You go
through the front.

FOOT
Aye, aye captain.

Hutch enters the

BACKYARD

He surveys the crowd for Kenzie. There are a lot of people.
He spots Mickey and Bunny near a keg. But no Kenzie. He goes

INSIDE THE TUCKER HOME

He finds Foot.

HUTCH
Anything?

FOOT
They're not here. I asked and
nobody's seen them.

HUTCH
Shit.

FOOT
Don't worry. They'll be here. They
probably just stopped somewhere
first. Relax man. Let's just hang
out.

HUTCH

(sighs)

Yeah, okay. Mickey and Bunny are out back.

FOOT

Sweet. Come on.

They leave the room and walk outside into the

BACKYARD

The run into the twins, MICHAEL and MATTHEW TUCKER.

MICHAEL

Hey fellas.

HUTCH

How's it going guys? Where are your parents?

MICHAEL

Spending the weekend in the city. So what have you guys been up to?

HUTCH

Just bouncing around. We were at Elliot Warren's earlier.

MATTHEW

Did he show you his new sunburst?

HUTCH

Yeah. That thing's gorgeous.

MATTHEW

I know, right? Hey, you have a drum kit. What cymbals do you use?

HUTCH

Sabian. Why?

MATTHEW

I'm thinking of switching. You like them?

HUTCH

It's what Neil Peart uses. You know, me and Elliot are thinking about putting a band together for the talent show. All original stuff. You interested?

MATTHEW

Shit yeah.

MICHAEL

Hey, guys, Lori Felder's here. I bet she'll give us all head.

MATTHEW

You're a tool.

FOOT

Yeah, you don't want any part of that shit. She probably has mouth crabs. She'll make your dick fall off.

HUTCH

Ease up guys. I heard that was all bullshit. She's a good kid.

MICHAEL

Yeah, okay dad.

FOOT

(to Hutch)

Let's hit the keg.

HUTCH

(to Matthew)

Let's talk Monday.

MATTHEW

Cool.

They go their separate ways.

INT./EXT. KENZIE'S LEXUS - SLATER HOME

It pulls up to the Slater home.

KENZIE

Have fun.

CINDY

You really don't want to go in?

KENZIE

I really don't want to go in.

Cindy pours it on.

CINDY

What if Michael Slater and I hit it off and one day I become Mrs. Michael Slater and we have beautiful babies together, one of whom I name Mackenzie after her godmother who she'll grow up to worship and adore just the way I do? Only, you weren't there to witness the magical moment it all happened. The moment me and her father fell madly and hopelessly in love. How will I explain it to sweet little Kenzie Slater?

She looks at Kenzie with puppy dog eyes. Meredith and Bastien join in.

KENZIE

(gives in)

Oh god.

CINDY

Yay.

INT. SLATER HOME

Listening to: Van Halen

They walk in. It's mostly GUYS on the football team and a few other athletic-looking TEENS.

MEREDITH

We're going to find a place to put our coats.

She and Bastien disappear up stairs, most likely to have sex. Cindy sees MICHAEL SLATER across the room. He looks like a star QB.

CINDY

Oh my god, there he is. Wish me luck.

KENZIE

(stops her, serious)

Hey. Don't lose yourself in him. You're your own person. Make sure he knows he'll never be able to do better than you.

CINDY

(barely registered)

Okay.

She walks off. Kenzie looks around, turns. There's Steve.

KENZIE

Oh, hey Steve.

STEVE

Mackenzie. I'm shocked to see you out.

KENZIE

I go out.

STEVE

No, I mean, you know, I never see you at one of these things. So it's cool to see you. You want a beer?

KENZIE

Thanks, but I'm driving.

STEVE

Right. Me too. I have a meet tomorrow. You want to grab a seat and talk?

KENZIE

Thanks, but we're not staying long. We're going to catch a movie.

STEVE

Cool idea. Maybe I'll go with you. We can catch up.

KENZIE

Oh, um...

She wishes she could disappear.

EXT. TUCKER HOME - BACKYARD

Mickey and Bunny are at the keg. Bunny chugs from a plastic cup while Mickey drinks straight from the tap like a suckling newborn. He pukes, wipes his mouth with his sleeve, then returns his lips to the tap.

Several feet away, Hutch is talking to a teen named LESLIE.

LESLIE

What words are you going to talk about in Miss Tink's class?

HUTCH

Oh, um, my favorite word is pride.
Like the U2 song. And my least
favorite word is love, because it's
so overused by people our age.

LESLIE

That's so funny. I love it.
(realizes)
Oh my god, I just did it!

HUTCH

I'm thinking more about
relationships. You know, puppy love.
"Oh my god, I love him." "Dude, you
don't understand. I love her." We
just kick the word around like a
hacky sack.

LESLIE

Right...it's so overused.

He sees Foot passing by and stops him.

HUTCH

Hey, they're still not here. I don't
think they're coming.

FOOT

I'll get it from Cindy on Monday.
It'll give me an excuse to see her.

HUTCH

No way. We have to look for them now.

LESLIE

Who are you looking for?

HUTCH

Mackenzie Moore and Cindy Larson.

LESLIE

We saw some cars at the Park on the
way here. You could try looking
there.

HUTCH

(to Foot, serious)
Let's go.

EXT. TUCKER HOME

Hutch, Foot, Lori, Morgs, Dianne and two other teens, TERESA and ALLISON walk to The Boat.

DIANNE

I told these guys we could give them a ride. I hope you don't mind.

HUTCH

Yeah, whatever.

INT. THE BOAT

They get in. Allison is seated directly in front of the hole. She's in a bitchy mood.

ALLISON

Oh my god, I had the worst freakin' time. Hilary Adams is such a bitch. Ew, this car smells like gas. Why is there a hole?

Hutch and Foot look at each other. Oh great.

INT. SLATER HOME - VARIOUS

Cindy and Slater are hitting it off. She is now wearing his varsity jacket. Hutch's jacket is slung over a chair nearby.

In another part of the room, Steve is still making a play for Kenzie. He spits into a Solo cup as they talk. It's grossing her out.

STEVE

...so I get this guy on the ground and I swear he's trying to squeeze my balls.

(spit)

And I'm like, "Yo, ref. He's squeezing my balls!" And he deducts points from me for foul language! Can you believe that shit?

(spit)

KENZIE

Why do you keep doing that?

STEVE

I need to make weight. I could spit out a whole pound by the end of the night.

He opens his mouth to show her the Jolly Rancher he's sucking on.

STEVE (cont'd)

See? Sucking on a Jolly Rancher gets the spit going.

(spit)

Is it grossing you out?

KENZIE

A little.

Steve looks around and spots another JOCK sitting within arm's length. There's a Solo cup half-full of beer by his side. Steve quietly leans over and pours the spit from his cup into the Jock's cup without him noticing. He turns back to Kenzie and makes the "shhhhh" sign.

She just looks at him, wishing she was elsewhere.

A girl named COURTNEY SIMONS walks to the front door with her BOYFRIEND (19). She's not wearing a jacket.

COURTNEY

We're Audi.

(feels the cool air)

Ew, it's freezing.

CINDY

(grabs Hutch's jacket)

Oh, Courtney, here. Take my jacket.

COURTNEY

You sure?

CINDY

Uh-huh.

(re: the varsity)

I have a new one now. You can give it back whenever.

COURTNEY

Oh my god, I love you.

She puts on the jacket and leaves.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREET

Music Playing: Led Zeppelin

The Boat is on the way to the Park. Allison is still bitching.

ALLISON

...it's my dance routine and if Hilary thinks she's just going to take it over I'll rip her freakin' hair out, the skank. Can you turn down the music? It's giving me a headache. Where are we going?

FOOT

The Park.

ALLISON

No. I just want to go home. This night sucks. Grant, just take me home.

HUTCH

(trying to be nice)

Look, let me just drop these guys at the Park then I'll take you home. Okay?

ALLISON

Whatever. This seat's so uncomfortable.

Up ahead, a broken hydrant is pouring water into the street, creating a huge puddle.

The Boat drives through it and a geyser of water shoots through the hole in the floorboard, soaking Allison with water.

ALLISON (cont'd)

AHHHHH! You did that on purpose!

No one says a word. They do all they can to contain their laughter.

EXT. THE PARK - PARKING LOT

The Park is the town's public sports and recreation complex. There are baseball fields, basketball courts, etc.

The huge parking lot is mostly empty with the exception of a few cars with TEENS and a large delivery truck parked many yards away.

The Boat pulls up near the other cars. Everyone gets out. Allison marches toward some of the other teens to complain about a sucky night that just got worse.

Hutch notices that Kenzie is not there.

HUTCH

Fuck.

TERESA

(to Lori)

I have to pop a squat. Come with me.

They walk off toward a group of high bushes.

HUTCH

(to Foot)

She's not here.

FOOT

Let's just wait. Maybe they'll show.

HUTCH

Maybe they won't. Maybe they already found the tape and she hates every fiber in my body.

Dianne approaches.

DIANNE

Hey, Hutch, can I borrow your car?

HUTCH

No.

DIANNE

Please. Morgs is taking his driving test next week and I want to help him practice.

He's hesitant.

DIANNE (cont'd)

Just around the lot. *Pleeeeeease.*

He surveys the spacious lot. It's practically empty. He hands her the keys.

DIANNE (cont'd)

You're the best.

(then)

Aren't you cold?

He shoots Foot a look. Dianne and Morgs get in The Boat. Morgs slowly backs up to begin his practice run. Hutch broods.

FOOT

Why don't you just tell Mackenzie you like her?

HUTCH

You don't just tell someone like Mackenzie Moore that you like her.

(gestures)

She's way up here while the rest of us slugs are way down there. I heard she's going to Princeton to become a lawyer. She'll have any guy she wants.

FOOT

Sounds like a stuck up bitch. Why do you even like her?

HUTCH

I don't know, why do you like Cindy?

FOOT

Because she has a smoking hot ass. Remember when we could see her g-string through those white pants? I seriously want to hit that.

HUTCH

Well it's different for me with Mackenzie. There's just something about her that makes me want to be close to her. Like, if I was with her I'd never stop trying to be better than I am. I can't just be good. I have to be great.

FOOT

Who the fuck wants to live like that?

HUTCH

I'm not kidding man. She's smart. Beautiful. She just inspires me.

FOOT
 Maybe you should work on getting laid
 first.

An old Jeep Wagoneer pulls up. It's driven by schoolmate
 BARNEY and filled with TEENS (16-17). One of them is
 Mickey's sister ROBYN (16).

BARNEY
 What up?!

FOOT
 Barney! Hey Robyn.

ROBYN
 I thought my brother was with you
 guys.

HUTCH
 He and Bunny are still at the Tucker
 twins having sex with a keg of Coors
 Light.

ROBYN
 Losers.

BARNEY
 We'll have to check that out. What's
 up with you guys?

HUTCH
 Not much. Hey, you haven't seen
 Mackenzie Moore or Cindy Larson
 around have you?

BARNEY
 Yeah, I think I saw Mackenzie's Lexus
 outside Slater's house.

HUTCH
 Slater's?

Hutch instantly

IMAGINES

A group of JOCKS at Slater's house laughing as they listen
 to the song he wrote for Kenzie who stands alone in the
 middle of it all, completely mortified.

END OF NIGHTMARE

HUTCH (cont'd)
 (to Foot)
 We have to go.

BARNEY
 Be cool guys. Maybe we'll see you
 around later.

The Wagoneer drives away.

FOOT
 Slater's? I hate those fucking guys.
 They're a bunch of meatheads.

HUTCH
 Then stay here. I'll go by myself.

He turns to look for The Boat.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT

Morgs is attempting to parallel park alongside the large
 delivery truck.

MORGS
 I suck at this part.

DIANNE
 You have to know it if you want to
 pass.

He comes too close to the truck's large rear bumper. He
 panics and hits the gas instead of the break. The Boat hits
 the sharp edge of the bumper and it slices through the front
 quarter panel like a hot knife through butter.

MORGS
 Oh shit, oh shit, oh shit!

HUTCH
 NO!

Hutch and Foot run to The Boat. Lori and Teresa catch up
 shortly after. Morgs and Dianne are out of the car.

HUTCH (cont'd)
 What the fuck did you do?!

MORGS
 I'm so sorry.

DIANNE
It's all my fault.

FOOT
Geez, Morgs. You suck.

BUNNY
Screw you man. It was an accident.
Hutch, seriously, I fucked up. I'll
have it fixed.

HUTCH
(resigned)
What difference would it make? It's a
hunk of junk anyway.

They hear laughing from afar. It's Allison.

ALLISON
Ha ha! Serves you right!

DIANNE
Fuck you Allison!

MORGS
Hutch, really. I can get it fixed.

HUTCH
Whatever. We just need to go to
Slater's house so I can get my
jacket.

LORI
Slater's? I hate those guys.

HUTCH
THEN STAY THE FUCK HERE!
(looks to the others)
Anyone else?

They shake their heads no. They get in The Boat.

EXT. TUCKER HOME - BACKYARD

Mickey, Bunny and Lido talk with Michael and Matthew.

BUNNY
It must be so cool to be twins.

MICKEY
You guys ever pretend to be each
other at school?

MICHAEL

All the time. Matthew's better at science so he takes all my tests.

BUNNY

That's so fucking awesome!

LIDO

You guys ever fuck each others' girlfriends?

MATTHEW

Michael would need to have a girlfriend first.

MICHAEL

Screw you.

TEEN (O.C.)

Hey Matt!

MATTHEW

Be right back.

Matthew walks away.

MICHAEL

Don't say anything, but I did have sex with his girlfriend. She had no idea it was me.

LIDO

(laughing)

Holy shit!

EXT. SLATER HOME

The Boat parks. Hutch gets out.

HUTCH

Wait here.

INT. SLATER HOME

Listening to: The Beastie Boys

He enters, trying not to attract a lot of attention. He spots Cindy and walks up to her.

HUTCH

Cindy.

CINDY
Oh, hey Grant.

HUTCH
Can I have my denim jacket back?

CINDY
That was your jacket?

HUTCH
Yeah. Foot let you borrow it.

CINDY
Oh, I didn't know it was yours. He said to give it back whenever.

FOOT
He's a generous guy. So, can I have it?

CINDY
I gave it to Courtney Simons when she left.

The air leaves Hutch's body.

CINDY (cont'd)
I'm sorry. She'll probably give it to me on Monday.

HUTCH
Do you know where she went?

CINDY
No. Oh, but her boyfriend drives a yellow Vette. Does that help?

HUTCH
A little. Hey, you didn't go through the pockets did you?

CINDY
No, why? Do you have drugs in there?

HUTCH
Not exactly.

CINDY
Well, I hope you find it.

She walks away. He turns and almost bumps into Kenzie.

KENZIE

Oh, hi Grant.

HUTCH

Hey.

KENZIE

I didn't know you hung out with this crowd.

HUTCH

I don't. I was just looking for my jacket. It's a long story.

KENZIE

How have you been? I haven't seen much of you this semester.

HUTCH

I know. We didn't get any of the same classes this time.

(a beat)

Hey, congrats on Princeton.

KENZIE

Oh please, I don't want to talk about that anymore.

HUTCH

Why not? It's incredible. I knew if anyone was going Ivy League it would be you. Law, right?

KENZIE

Yeah...My dad wants me to go into real estate law like he did. But I'm not so sure anymore. I feel like I should do something more important. You know what I mean?

HUTCH

Hell yeah. Buildings don't need you. People do. Remember last year in US history when we did that mock court? You took the Modernist position in the Scopes trial. You were amazing.

(quotes her)

"The fear of God is not the beginning of wisdom. The fear of God is the death of wisdom. Skepticism leads to study and investigation, and investigation is the beginning of wisdom."

KENZIE

That was Clarence Darrow.

HUTCH

I know. But the way you said it. All of it. It was like watching Stevie Ray Vaughn perform a solo. It's like you were channeling some kind of supernatural force. It was so cool to watch.

KENZIE

Really?

HUTCH

You totally inspired me. I went to the library and got a book about it then I wrote a song. It's called, "Trouble With the Monkey."

KENZIE

Wow, Grant. I don't know what to say.

HUTCH

Say you'll be the kind of lawyer you know you should be. The kind the world really needs.

His confidence has her inspired.

KENZIE

You're right.

HUTCH

Truth, justice and the Mackenzie way.

KENZIE

(smiles)

I like that. So what about you? You looking at colleges?

HUTCH

Actually, I convinced my parents to let me give music a shot, and if nothing happens after a year I promised I'd enroll at community. It's all I can afford anyway.

KENZIE

Well I'm sure you're going to become a big star. I've always admired people who could play music.

HUTCH

Did you ever try?

KENZIE

My mom made me take piano but I could never get my left hand.

HUTCH

That trips up most beginners.

KENZIE

What do you play?

HUTCH

Oh, uh, everything. Guitar, keyboards, drum, bass. I have a studio in my basement and write my own stuff.

KENZIE

That's really impressive. Seriously. You know, if I ever tried again, I'd play the bass.

HUTCH

Really?

KENZIE

I just love Kim Gordon. She's so badass.

HUTCH

Sonic Youth is awesome. I listen to their new album at least once a week.

KENZIE

Well, I'd love to hear your music some time. I'm sure I'll be your biggest fan.

She's being politely supportive, but he doesn't care. This is a moment he'll never forget.

EXT. SLATER HOME

Foot is leaning on The Boat, nervously waiting for Hutch.

Two of the JOCKS from the party see The Boat, and in particular, Lori. Everyone is pretty drunk by now.

JOCK 1

Hooooooverrrr!

JOCK 2

Hey, Lori. You open for business?

Lori flips them the bird.

JOCK 1

Aw come on. Don't be like that. We're just having fun. We know you like to have fun.

She tries to get out of the car to confront them. Dianne and Teresa hold her back. Foot steps up to them.

FOOT

Hey guys, ease up, okay?

JOCK 2

Step back dirt bag. No one invited you.

(to Lori)

Come on Lori. We got half the team inside. Whaddya say?

FOOT

Come on guys. Really. She's had enough. She's not like that. You had your fun, so just go back inside.

He turns his back to return to The Boat. Jock 2 licks his palm and slaps Foot in the back of the neck. Foot turns, rushes him and the fight is on. It's two on one until Morgs and Lori get out to even the odds.

INT. SLATER HOME

Hutch and Kenzie are still talking.

HUTCH

I could give you bass lessons if you'd like. No charge. You could be the Kim Gordon of the justice system.

KENZIE

I might just take you up on that. I'll need to work on my stance.
(poses)

HUTCH

Not bad.

Steve approaches and stands next to Kenzie the way boyfriends normally do.

STEVE
 What's up freak?
 (to Kenzie)
 Hey, we better leave if we're going
 to catch that movie.

It gives Hutch the wrong idea. A TEEN rushes into the house.

TEEN
 Fight!

EXT. SLATER HOME

The brawl continues on the lawn. Steve and other Jocks burst out of the house, some to help, some to break it up.

Hutch comes out and tries to break it up. He catches an errant elbow in the cheek from Steve.

Foot and Morgs both look pretty roughed up. Lori is being held back by a Jock.

LORI
 Get the fuck off me!

Kenzie stands on the front steps. Slater, with his arm around Cindy, is on the walkway.

SLATER
 Get your asses out of here! Fucking dirtballs.

Hutch, Foot, Lori and Morgs get in The Boat. Foot sees Cindy with Slater.

SLATER (cont'd)
 (re: The Boat)
 Jesus, what a piece of shit.

The Boat drives away with as much dignity as it can muster.

KENZIE
 (to Cindy)
 I'm leaving.

She goes inside to get her things.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREET

The guys are bruised and a little bloodied.

HUTCH
What the fuck was that about?

FOOT
Nothing.

DIANNE
Those assholes were making fun of
Lori.

TERESA
Then one of them gave Foot a redneck
when he told them to stop.

Hutch looks at Foot who just stares ahead. Then he looks at
Lori.

HUTCH
You okay?

LORI
Just forget it.

MORGS
We should get the rest of the guys
and go back there to kick their
asses.

DIANNE
Craig Morgan, no!

MORGS
Don't tell me no. Those guys are
pricks.

DIANNE
No more fighting!

FOOT
Everybody just shut the fuck up! It's
over.

LORI
You shut up!

FOOT
What the fuck did I do?

HUTCH
ENOUGH!

He gets everyone to quiet down.

TERESA

Are we going back to the Tuckers?

Suddenly, there is a loud metal sound from below, followed by a scraping sound and the roar of a dead muffler.

From beneath we can see the muffler has fallen and is scraping along the pavement.

HUTCH

Fuck me.

TERESA

I think it's your muffler.

HUTCH

Thanks, Teresa.

EXT. STRIP MALL

Morgs is using a payphone as the others wait in The Boat.

MORGS

Okay. Yeah, thanks so much uncle Pete. See you there.

He hangs up, turns and gives a thumbs up.

INT./EXT. AUTO GARAGE

The Boat rises on the lift as a mechanic, Morgs' UNCLE PETE (55) watches it.

MORGS

Thanks again Uncle Pete.

UNCLE PETE

(to Hutch)

Hey kid. This car's a piece of shit.

HUTCH

Thanks.

UNCLE PETE

Holy crap! There's a hole in the bottom.

HUTCH

New A/C system.

UNCLE PETE

You know, you kids sure do like to beat the shit out of things. You should bring it in some time. Let me fix it up.

Hutch nods and approaches Foot who has a black eye.

HUTCH

Nice shiner.

FOOT

Fuck those guys. How's your cheek?

HUTCH

Eh, I'll just turn the other one.

FOOT

Hutch...

HUTCH

My car's falling apart. Cut me some slack.

(re: Lori)

Run her over, huh?

FOOT

Shut up.

(a beat)

Cindy is with Slater.

HUTCH

I saw.

FOOT

This is all her fault you know. If she didn't have such a tap-able ass.

HUTCH

Uh-huh.

(a beat)

Looks like Mackenzie is with Steve McSorley.

FOOT

That asshole? Man, I'm sorry Hutch.

HUTCH

Me too. I actually had a conversation with her. It was incredible. We talked about law, the future, music...fuck.

Something catches his eye. A yellow Vette passing by.

HUTCH (cont'd)
Oh shit! That's Courtney! Hey!

He runs toward the street but it's too late. It's long gone.

HUTCH (cont'd)
Shit!

Lori approaches Foot.

LORI
You didn't have to do that. I can
take care of myself.

FOOT
I didn't do it for you.

LORI
Yeah, well, don't think anything's
going to happen because you were nice
to me.

They look at each other a moment then she walks over to Dianne and Teresa. Hutch returns. Morgs walks up holding a garage jacket.

MORGS
Here. 'Til you find your jacket.

HUTCH
(putting it on)
Thanks man.

UNCLE PETE
I should have this done in about
fifteen minutes. It'll sound a
helluva lot better than it looks.

DIANNE
Where are we going next?

Hutch looks in the direction the Corvette traveled.

HUTCH
That way.

EXT. BAYBROOK TWIN

It's a small, two-screen movie theater in a tiny strip of stores. The films showing are "The Lost Boys" and "Predator." The parking lot is nearly full.

Kenzie pulls in and manages to find a spot. It's just her, Meredith and Bastien. They get out and approach the box office. Both of the last showings are Sold Out. Kenzie shakes her head.

MEREDITH

Sorry Kenz.

The prior showing is letting out. At the front of the pack are fellow seniors BETH, MISSY, SOPHIE and JEN. Big hair, baggy clothes. They see Kenzie.

BETH

Mackenzie! What's up? Hey Meredith!
Hi Frenchy.

BASTIEN

(winks)
Bonsoir.

MISSY

You going to see The Lost Boys?

KENZIE

That was the plan. But it's sold out.

SOPHIE

Oh, my god. It was so good. You have to see it. I. Love. Jason. Patric. I want to have all his babies.

KENZIE

Maybe next weekend.

JEN

What are you guys doing now? Want to come back to my place?

MEREDITH

Totally.

KENZIE

You guys go ahead. I'm going to call it a night.

JEN

Oh, come on. We never get to hang out with you. We'll have a few drinks, maybe smoke a little weed, then go to the diner.

MISSY

Mmmm. French fries with mozzarella cheese and brown gravy.

KENZIE

That's basically Poutine.

BASTIEN

She's right.

SOPHIE

(snark)

Told you guys.

MEREDITH

What?

SOPHIE

Mackenzie thinks she's better than us. "Poutine."

KENZIE

I do not.

BASTIEN

But you are better than they are. You are better than all of us. If I had tits and a clit I'd want to be you.

KENZIE

Butt out of it!

BETH

Just face facts. You rarely hang out with anyone in our grade. As far as you're concerned senior year is over *because you're going to Princeton.*

KENZIE

Will everyone stop throwing that in my face! Look, I do not think I am better than anyone. And I'm sorry if I got into a good school because of my father. But you want to know something? I'm not going into real estate law. I'm going to be Clarence Darrow and work for the ACLU.

(MORE)

KENZIE (cont'd)

Now, this entire evening has been a complete bust, so excuse me if I feel like going home instead of stuffing my face with imitation Poutine.

JEN

Okay. Sorry we asked. Won't happen again.

They start walking away. Kenzie regrets being so harsh.

KENZIE

Like, never again?

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREET

Listening to: Led Zeppelin

The Boat is back on the road and it sounds better. The passengers are singing along to the music.

It pulls into a

SCHOOL PARKING LOT

There are a few cars there and some TEENS hanging out, but no yellow Corvette. They park and exit The Boat. Morgs walks to a wall to pee. Lori, Dianne and Teresa walk toward some Teens they know.

FOOT

She's not here.

HUTCH

No shit.

FOOT

Stop making yourself crazy. Just forget it. No one's going to find it and who cares if they do. You wrote and recorded your own songs. That's pretty fucking cool, and if Mackenzie Moore isn't down with that then fuck her and her meathead boyfriend.

HUTCH

Maybe you're right.

FOOT

Really?

HUTCH

No! Not really. Here's what's going to happen. I'm going to show up to school on Monday and everyone's going to be serenading Mackenzie with my song to make a fool out of her and me and she will never want to speak to me again which will totally blow because the brief conversation I had with her about an hour ago was one of the best conversations I've ever had in my life. I could put the whole thing to music. Hell I might just do that. I'll call it, "Last Best Conversation." That is, of course, if captain caveman doesn't break my neck with one of his wrestling choke holds.

FOOT

You're losing it.

HUTCH

I'm going to find Courtney Simons. I'm going to get my jacket back. And then I'm going to burn that cassette. I mean, how hard can it be to find the only yellow Corvette in town?

EXT. MUSEUM PARKING LOT

It's a small parking lot in front of the town's tiny museum. A group of cars are there and the TEENS associated with them are dancing to loud music. The cars are new model year sports cars like Chevy IROC Z, Ford Mustang, and Pontiac Firebird. The yellow Corvette is there as well.

Courtney is dancing with her Boyfriend. She performs a seductive half striptease, taking off the denim jacket and throwing it through the rolled down window of the nearby IROC Z.

Cop cars pull into the lot to break up the party. Everyone dashes for their cars before they get in trouble. The IROC Z is driven by SAL. His passengers are JOE and JAMIE. Sal tosses the jacket in back and drives away.

INT. JEN'S HOME - VARIOUS

Listening to: Madonna

Kenzie, Meredith and Bastien are hanging out. Bastien is smoking a joint with Beth and Sophie in the living room. In the kitchen, Meredith and Missy are mixing cocktails. Kenzie is talking with Jen several feet away.

KENZIE

I envy you guys.

JEN

You do?

KENZIE

You're going to be friends forever. I just know it. You'll all live near each other and go on girl's weekends when you're older. Your bond is unbreakable.

JEN

It's the hairspray.

KENZIE

I'm being serious.

JEN

Well, you and Meredith are friends. And you're really tight with Cindy, right?

KENZIE

We are, but it's different. We'll go off to college then probably move to other places. I'm sure we'll still find a way to connect, but it will be from a distance.

JEN

That's so sad. But I'm sure you'll make a lot of new friends in college. And I bet you'll find a really hot guy with lots of money.

KENZIE

Money isn't that important.

JEN

Then what is?

KENZIE

Maybe just finding someone who believes in me.

Meredith and Missy arrive with cocktails.

MISSY
Who wants sex on the beach?

KENZIE
Can't. I'm driv-
(catches herself)
Maybe one drink.

The girls cheer.

KENZIE (cont'd)
I should probably call my parents.
(to Jen)
Can I use your phone?

JEN
Sure thing. It's over there.

MEREDITH
What are you going to tell them?

KENZIE
That I'm too tired to drive and I'm
sleeping at your place tonight.

More cheers. For the moment, she's one of the girls.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREETS

Listening to: R.E.M

Hutch drives alone, his eyes scanning for the yellow
Corvette. He's a man on a mission. We begin a

MONTAGE OF HUTCH:

WALKING TROUGH A CROWDED POOL HALL

WALKING THROUGH A CROWDED BOWLING ALLEY

WALKING THROUGH A BAR

No luck.

INT. ARCADE

Hutch enters and continues his search. He is approached by a
special ed student named JEROME. Not a mean bone in his
body.

JEROME

Hey, Grant!

HUTCH

What's up Jerome.

JEROME

You here to play games? I just got second high score on Donkey Kong.

HUTCH

(genuine)

Good for you man. No, I'm just looking for Courtney Simons. I doubt she's been through here, right?

JEROME

No, why? Do you like her?

HUTCH

No. She has my jacket and I really need it back.

JEROME

Oh. I haven't seen her.

HUTCH

Alright. Thanks man. Good luck getting high score.

He begins to walk away.

JEROME

Wait. I can help you.

HUTCH

Thanks Jerome. But I'm good.

JEROME

I'm a really good lookout.

HUTCH

Okay, well, if you see her driving around flag her down and get my jacket. Then hold onto it until Monday.

He turns to go.

JEROME

I don't have a car.

HUTCH
How did you get here?

JEROME
My dad dropped me off. I'm supposed
to call him when I'm done.

HUTCH
Thanks anyway buddy. See you at
school.

He walks out into the

PARKING LOT

Jerome follows him.

JEROME
I'll come with you.

HUTCH
Sorry big guy. It's a solo mission.

JEROME
What kind of car does she have?

HUTCH
She's in her boyfriend's car. It's a
yellow Corvette.

JEROME
I know that car!

HUTCH
You do?

JEROME
It's my favorite car. Sometimes I see
it in the museum parking lot with
other sports cars.

HUTCH
Museum parking lot. Thanks.

Hutch gets in The Boat. Jerome gets in the passenger side.

HUTCH (cont'd)
What are you doing?

JEROME
Helping you find the yellow Corvette.

HUTCH
Jerome, really, I don't need your
help.

Jerome looks at him. Hopeful. He wants an adventure. Hutch
sighs and starts the car.

JEROME
Alright!

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREET

Listening to: R.E.M

The Boat turns onto the street.

JEROME
What kind of jacket is it?

HUTCH
Denim.

JEROME
I've seen you wear that at school.
You look cool. I have a denim jacket.
It's gray. I bet you miss it.

HUTCH
My demo tape is inside. I'm going to
make copies and send them out to
record labels.

JEROME
Really? I bet you're going to be a
big star.

HUTCH
I don't know buddy. There are a
million guys like me.

JEROME
No there's not.

HUTCH
Yes there is. They're all really
good. They all have demos. And they
all want a contract.

JEROME
Yeah, but you're the one who's going
to get it. And I bet you'll get lots
of girls.

HUTCH
Might as well. The one I like is off
the market. What about you? Got plans
after graduation?

JEROME
Oh, I don't know.

HUTCH
What do you like to do? What are your
skills? You gotta be good at
something.

JEROME
I'm good at video games.

HUTCH
Can't make a living playing video
games.

JEROME
I'm a good lookout.

HUTCH
That you are. Tell you what. If I
make it big you can be my head of
security. How's that sound?

JEROME
Really? That would be awesome. "Stand
back, big star coming through!"

HUTCH
Nice. You're hired.

EXT. MUSEUM PARKING LOT

The Boat pulls into the lot. There are two cop cars but no
other vehicles.

JEROME
It's not here.

HUTCH
No Jerome, it's not.

JEROME
(re: the cops)
Maybe they got arrested.

HUTCH
Fuck...

He gently bangs his head on the steering wheel.

JEROME

Don't worry big guy. We'll find it.

Hutch turns The Boat around and pulls away.

INT. JEN'S HOME - KITCHEN

Listening to: 10,000 Maniacs

Everyone takes part in a conversation as they drink and smoke.

MISSY

Oh my god, did you guys hear about
Debbie Miller?

MEREDITH

Isn't she in the hospital?

MISSY

But did you hear why? She had an
abortion.

KENZIE

Oh my god.

MEREDITH

What?!

MISSY

I heard it from Tammy. She was afraid
to tell her parents so she went to
some sleaze in Kings Bay and he
totally messed it up.

JEN

Does Jimmy know?

MISSY

He's the one who took her. They're
saying she can't have kids now. Her
parents went ballistic and are going
to press charges.

MEREDITH

(to Kenzie)

Weren't you and she like best friends
once?

KENZIE

We were really close until junior
high.

(MORE)

KENZIE (cont'd)
 Then she started getting into guys,
 and I heard some stuff about drugs.
 We just sort of drifted apart.

SOPHIE
 Oh my god, can you imagine?

MISSY
 She must have been so scared.

BETH
 Probably one of those guys with a
 rusty hanger.

JEN
 Ew, Beth! Gross.

MEREDITH
 I hope she's okay.

Kenzie looks uneasy. The story of her former friend is
 upsetting her.

KENZIE
 I need to use the bathroom. Excuse
 me.

SOPHIE
 Can we pick a new topic now? Who
 wants to play quarters?

MISSY
 Oh, I do!

She gets up and walks into the

BATHROOM

She closes the door, sits down and tries to compose herself.

MEREDITH (O.C.)
 Hey Kenz! We're going to play
 quarters. You want to play?

KENZIE
 Okay. Be right out.

EXT. BAYBROOK TWIN

The Boat pulls into the parking lot. Hutch and Jerome scans
 the cars. Nothing. He parks.

INT. BAYBROOK TWIN

Hutch and Jerome walk in and are spotted by one of the managers, CARL (24).

CARL
Yo, Hutch!

HUTCH
What's up Carl.

CARL
Hey, you want your check?

HUTCH
I'll grab it tomorrow.

CARL
Hey, Tanya was a no-show again.
Second time this week. We're gonna
have to let her go.

HUTCH
(sorry to hear it)
Yeah, I guess.

CARL
Let me know if you know anybody
dependable.

HUTCH
I think I might.

CARL
Cool.

Hutch and Jerome cross to the concession stand where JOANNE (16) is working.

HUTCH
Joanne.

JOANNE
Hi Hutch. Hey Jerome!

JEROME
Hi Joanne. You look very pretty
tonight.

JOANNE
Aw, thank you.

HUTCH
Have you seen Courtney Simons come
through here?

JOANNE
If she did, I didn't see her.

HUTCH
How about Mackenzie Moore or Steve
McSorley?

JOANNE
No. Why?

JEROME
Courtney has his denim jacket.

JOANNE
Oh. Well I hope you find it.

HUTCH
Can I get a box of Sno-Caps for the
road?

JOANNE
Sure. Do you want anything Jerome?

Jerome looks at Hutch. Hutch nods. It's okay.

JEROME
Good & Plenty?

She gets them their candy.

JEROME (cont'd)
Thanks!

HUTCH
You still dating that guy?

JOANNE
Yeah, why?

HUTCH
Just wondering. See you tomorrow.

They leave.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREETS

Listening to: Pink Floyd

The Boat is back on the street. Hutch and Jerome eat their candy in silence as they listen to the music.

EXT. MCNULTY'S PARKING LOT

The Boat pulls into the rear parking lot shared by many stores and a bar called McNulty's. Up ahead is a group of METALHEADS playing soccer with an empty beer ball as they listen to Iron Maiden.

Hutch sees something off to his left. It's an ELDERLY MAN (70) doing Tai chi outside a Chinese restaurant. It's mesmerizing.

One of the Metalheads kicks the beer ball too hard, sending it toward The Boat.

JEROME
(sees it coming)
AHHHHHHH!

The impact and Jerome's shriek causes Hutch to swerve and crash into a dumpster, damaging the front end.

METALHEAD
Sorry.

HUTCH
(to Jerome)
...Head of security.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREETS

The Boat is back on the street. The fender is bent and a headlight is broken. Hutch turns onto a

RESIDENTIAL STREET

He drives about halfway down the block.

JEROME
That's my house.

Hutch hits the brakes.

HUTCH
Where?

JEROME
Back there. We just passed it.

Hutch backs up and stops in front of the house.

HUTCH
That's your house?

JEROME
(pointing)
Yeah. My room is that one up there.

Hutch recognizes something. He remembers.

HUTCH
That's your house?

JEROME
Uh-huh.

Hutch gets out of The Boat, walks to the rear, opens the back and retrieves the gnome. He closes the back, walks toward the house and returns the gnome. Jerome has exited The Boat and witnessed it all.

JEROME (cont'd)
We were wondering where that went.

HUTCH
Sorry. Scavenger hunt.

JEROME
Did you win?

HUTCH
I lost. Thanks man. I can take it from here. You're a cool dude.

JEROME
You too buddy. See you Monday.

Hutch gets back in The Boat and drives away. He advances further down the block. He passes a cross street, stops, hits reverse and turns onto the street. He sees signs of a gathering up ahead. He slows in front of

EDDIE'S HOME

A garage door is open. Looks like a garage band inside. A group of GIRLS (18-19) is the audience. EDDIE spots Hutch and runs to him.

EDDIE
Hutch!

HUTCH
Hey, Eddie.

EDDIE
We need you.

HUTCH
I'm kind of in a hurry man.

EDDIE
Come on Hutch. We're desperate. We're putting on a concert for these Southport sluts and Russ flaked on us. We need a lead guitar.

Hutch checks out the girls. They're hot.

EDDIE (cont'd)
Please. One song. You can use my Flying V.

HUTCH
What song?

EDDIE
Sweet Child O' Mine. You get to play the Slash part.

It's hard to resist for any rocker.

HUTCH
Okay.

EDDIE
Yeah!

Eddie runs back to the garage while Hutch parks. There's a RHYTHM GUITARIST, BASS PLAYER and DRUMMER. Eddie is the lead singer.

EDDIE (cont'd)
Okay, fuck Russ, because we got someone even better. Our friend Hutch. He's in my music composition class and he can totally shred.

Hutch arrives. Head nods to the band. They all know each other. He takes off the garage jacket, straps on the guitar, checks the amp, and plays a few warm up notes. The girls ogle him.

Eddie stands in front of the mic and gives Hutch the signal. He begins to play that now-famous guitar lick and the girls swoon. He's tentative with his showmanship at first, unaccustomed to that kind of audience, but he slowly gets into it. Eddie begins to sing.

EDDIE (cont'd)
 (singing)
*She's got a smile that it seems to
 me. Reminds me of childhood memories.*

INT. JEN'S HOME - KITCHEN

Kenzie, Meredith, Jen, Missy, Beth, Sophie and Bastien talk and play the drinking game, quarters. They're all a little buzzed or stoned.

SOPHIE
 So, Bastien, what's it like in Paris?

BASTIEN
 It's beautiful.

SOPHIE
 Not like here, right? I bet it's beautiful everywhere.

BASTIEN
 Some places are less pleasant than others.

SOPHIE
 But probably still better than here. We have some pretty scummy areas.

MISSY
 My father says, "You know why it's called Southport? Because that's where the shit comes out."

Missy, Sophie and Beth laugh. Kenzie doesn't see the humor.

KENZIE
 Whose turn is it?

JEN
 I'll go.

She bounces a quarter and misses the glass.

MEREDITH

New topic. Tom Cruise or Patrick Swayze?

BETH/MISSY/SOPHIE/JEN

Swayze.

BETH

Okay, Mr. Riley or Mr. Thompson?

JEN

Ew, Beth!

BETH

Oh, come on. You don't think Mr. Riley is hot?

JEN

You're such a skank. Next.

MISSY

I got one. Phoebe Cates or Winona Ryder?

MEREDITH

Are you asking Bastien?

MISSY

All of us.

SOPHIE

Okay, that's gross.

BASTIEN

Phoebe Cates.

JEN

Me too.

BETH

Jen!

SOPHIE

You're such a lesbo.

BETH

Your turn Kenz. Got the hots for anyone at school?

KENZIE

Not really.

SOPHIE

Knew it.

JEN

Just give us anyone.

KENZIE

(first names she can
think of)

Um, okay. Steve McSorley or Grant
Hutchinson?

SOPHIE

Neither. They're both gross.

MISSY

McSorley.

BETH

Me too.

JEN

I don't know, Grant's kind of cute.

SOPHIE

He's a dirt.

JEN

He's nice. Who would you pick Kenzie?

KENZIE

(plays it off)

Oh, I'm with Sophie. They're both
gross.

She picks up a quarter and bounces it into the glass.
Everyone cheers as she drinks.

INT. EDDIE'S GARAGE

The band is still playing. "One song" has turned into
several. They're now playing, "Panama" by Van Halen.

EDDIE

(sings)

*Panama. Panama. Panama. Panama-ah-oh-
oh-uh-oh.*

Hutch rips into the guitar solo. He's lost in the moment.

INT. JEN'S HOME - VARIOUS

Listening to: INXS

Bastien, Jen, Missy, Beth and Sophie are going through the music collection in the living room. Kenzie and Meredith are in the kitchen. Meredith is really drunk.

MEREDITH

Bastien likes you more than me.

KENZIE

That's not true.

MEREDITH

Yes it is. He always says nice things about you.

(mimics)

"Kenzie is like a painting in the Louvre." He only likes me for sex.

KENZIE

Then dump him. You can do better.

MEREDITH

No I can't.

KENZIE

Well, then why do you like him?

MEREDITH

I like his cock.

She begins to giggle then pukes all over Kenzie's shirt and pants.

INT. JEN'S HOME - JEN'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Kenzie is now wearing some of Jen's over-sized sweatshirt and sweatpants.

JEN

You look so cute.

They exit the room and walk back into the

KITCHEN

Meredith is leaning on Bastien's shoulder. She looks like shit.

JEN (cont'd)
We need to get you some Gatorade.

BASTIEN
And some breath mints.

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT

Morgs, Dianne and Teresa talk with some other TEENS near one of the cars. Lori is several feet away drinking a wine cooler. Foot approaches.

FOOT
Those any good?

LORI
You'll hate it. Here, have a sip.

He looks around to make sure no one is watching and takes a sip.

FOOT
It's okay.

LORI
Where'd Hutch go?

FOOT
To look for his jacket. It's sort of a life and death situation.

LORI
He'll die if he doesn't get his jacket?

FOOT
Okay, promise not to tell anyone? He wrote a love song for Mackenzie Moore and it's on a cassette in his jacket. He doesn't want anyone to find out. It's why we've been driving like maniacs all over town.

She thinks about it. She's envious.

LORI
She's lucky...to have someone care about her like that. I hope she does find out. She should know how lucky she is. Hutch is one of the good ones.

Foot looks at her then takes another swig of the wine cooler.

Two cars from earlier in the evening arrive. TEENS get out. Mickey, Bunny, Lido, Frank and Chris are among them. They're hammered.

BUNNY

We got bounced from the Tuckers!

MICKEY

He threw the keg into their neighbor's pool.

LIDO

It was empty. Not the pool. The keg.

CHRIS

(looking around)

Where's Hutch?

INT. EDDIE'S GARAGE

The guys are nearing the end of their last song, "Crazy Train," by Ozzy Osbourne.

EDDIE

(singing)

I'm going off the rails on a crazy train. I'm going off the rails on a crazy train.

Hutch is tearing through it like a stud. He's totally into it. The girls are going crazy for the tall, hairy and bruised guitar player. He's a rock god. He milks the last note then soaks in the applause. One of the Southport Girls (19) wants him bad.

INT. THE BOAT

Hutch is in the back seat making out with the SOUTHPORT GIRL.

SOUTHPORT GIRL

Do you have a condom?

HUTCH

(surprised, nervous)

No.

INT. 24-7 STORE

The Southport Girl shops for snacks and drinks. Hutch is at the front counter, behind which are the condoms. Hutch quietly asks the EMPLOYEE (40):

HUTCH
Pack of Trojans.

EMPLOYEE
Which ones?

HUTCH
Just...any.

EMPLOYEE
You want the ribbed? The lubed?
Spermicide? I bet you want the
magnum, right?

HUTCH
Spermicide.

The Employee sets it on the counter. Beth, Jen and the other girls enter and see him.

BETH
Hi Grant!

He nods. Kenzie enters. They see each other. His heart drops. She sees the Trojans on the counter. Southport Girl arrives, sets her items on the counter and squeezes his ass.

He looks at Kenzie, who's witnessed it all. She gives him sort of a "good luck" smile then disappears into an aisle.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT

Hutch and the Southport Girl get in. He's devastated. She slides close to him and slips her hand between his legs.

SOUTHPORT GIRL
Let's park somewhere.

INT. THE BOAT - SECLUDED PARKING LOT

Listening to: Hagar Schon Aaronson Shrieve

The Boat is parked under a tree in a dimly lit parking lot. Hutch and the Southport Girl are in the back seat. She's giving him a hand job.

SOUTHPORT GIRL

You ready?

He nods. She begins taking off her pants as he nervously unwraps the condom and attempts to roll it on. He glances over as she removes her undies.

HUTCH

...It's so tight going down.

(starts to cum)

Oh fuck don't don't don't don't...

He came. She looks down and realizes what happens. He slumps back and begins to laugh at the absurdity of yet another misfortune. She doesn't see the humor in it at all.

INT./EXT. KENZIE'S LEXUS - STREET

Listening to: Sade

The Lexus is following a car with Jen and the other girls in it. Bastien is driving, cigarette dangling from his lips. Kenzie, buzzed, is in the front passenger seat, her mind elsewhere. Meredith is laid out in back. She feels like shit.

The lead car goes through a yellow light. Bastien gets caught at the red. He watches the car disappear ahead of him.

BASTIEN

Shit. Where is this diner?

MEREDITH

No diner. No food.

KENZIE

Let's just drive for a while.

BASTIEN

Okay, yeah.... Drive... Cool...

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT

Foot, Morgs, Mickey, Bunny and Lido talk and drink as they lean against a car.

BUNNY

Hey Morgs, you talk to your uncle yet?

MORGS

I'll get around to it.

LIDO

What the hell you waiting for? The garage is a good job. If you don't want it, I'll take it.

MORGS

You have to be A.S.E. certified asshole.

LIDO

Fuck a certificate. I know more about cars than your uncle does.

MORGS

Bullshit.

FOOT

What about you Mickey? You still gonna work for your dad?

MICKEY

Yeah, but he's gonna make me start doing prep work. I'll be peeling fucking garlic with the Mexicans.

(mimics)

"No free rides, pal. You gotta earn your way." He's such a dick.

BUNNY

Foot, you still going to community?

FOOT

Nah. My cousin says he can get me a job doing security where he works.

BUNNY

What's it pay?

FOOT

I don't know. But he says it's fucking easy. He just drives around babysitting empty buildings. The rest of the time he sleeps in the fucking car.

BUNNY

Is it union?

FOOT

I think so.

BUNNY

Ask if they're looking for more people. I'd be down for that.

There's a brief pause in the conversation.

MORGS

You think that guy was right?

BUNNY

Who?

MORGS

The fucking creepy guy in the minivan. Is this as good as it's gonna get?

They think about it for a moment.

LIDO

Wouldn't be so bad.

The Boat pulls in.

FOOT

Hutch!

The crew approaches the car. They see the new damage.

FOOT (cont'd)

What the hell happened?

HUTCH

I hit a dumpster.

He gets out and walks away from the car. Foot follows.

FOOT

Did you find the jacket?

HUTCH

No. I screwed up man. Mackenzie saw me with a girl and thinks I had sex with her.

FOOT

You had sex?

HUTCH

I messed that up too. It doesn't matter. She thinks I'm into Southport girls.

FOOT
 You could've had a Southport girl?
 How do you screw that up? Man, I
 should've gone with you.

HUTCH
 Whatever. Let's just call it a night.

FOOT
 What about the demo?

HUTCH
 I don't care anymore. I'll just take
 my lumps Monday.

FOOT
 Well, I told these guys we'd go to
 the diner.

HUTCH
 (he's over it)
 Come on, Foot...

FOOT
 We're hungry.

Everyone looks at Hutch like he's Moses and they need him to
 lead them.

FOOT (cont'd)
 I'll pay. Come on. Grilled Swiss on
 rye with bacon? Chocolate shake?

HUTCH
 Alright.

They all begin to pile into The Boat. Hutch stops Lori.

HUTCH (cont'd)
 Hey, you want a job?

LORI
 At the theater?

HUTCH
 Yeah.

LORI
 Shit yeah.

HUTCH
 Stop in tomorrow and fill out an
 application.

LORI
Really? Thanks Hutch.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREETS

Listening to: Bad Company

The Boat cruises through a neighborhood. Hutch drives. Foot and Lori are next to him. Morgs, Dianne, Mickey, Bunny, Lido, Chris, Frank and Teresa are crammed in the back. Everyone but Hutch is in some state of inebriation.

Chris leans on a passenger door. He looks out the window and opens the door.

TERESA
Chris!

FOOT
What are you doing?

HUTCH
Jesus...

Hutch stops, Chris gets out and runs onto the lawn of
STACY'S HOME

CHRIS
Stacy! Stacy, I love you! Stacy!

FRANK
Dude, get back in the car.

CHRIS
Stacy!

House lights go on. STACY opens her bedroom window. STACY'S DAD (45) storms out.

STACY'S DAD
I told you to stay away from my daughter.

CHRIS
Stacy! I just want to talk. I'm sorry I came in your mouth. I fucked up.

FOOT
Oh shit.

Chris advances toward the house. Her father gets in his way.

CHRIS
Get off me man!

They begin to fight. Everyone gets out of The Boat.

HUTCH
Chris, stop!

LIDO
Kick his ass Chris!

HUTCH
(to Lido)
Not helping!

Stacy's Dad throws him to the ground and sees that everyone is out of the car. He's outnumbered. He runs back into the house. The crew is suddenly nervous.

FRANK
Yo, he could be getting a gun.

Moments later, Stacy's Dad bursts out of the house with an arm full of bowling pins. He starts throwing them.

FOOT
Shit!

He hits Chris in the leg with a pin. Lido gets hit in the ribs.

STACY'S DAD
My wife's calling the cops! Get the fuck off my lawn!

He throws one at Foot. He ducks and it smashes through one of The Boat's rear windows.

HUTCH
Son of a bitch!

Stacy's Dad cocks his arm back, ready to throw again.

HUTCH (cont'd)
Alright man. Everyone back in the wagon!

Everyone gets back in The Boat and it speeds away.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREETS

HUTCH
What the fuck Chris?!

CHRIS
I fucking hate that guy!

HUTCH
Look at my fucking window!

CHRIS
I'll pay for it.

HUTCH
Yeah, right. You and Morgs. You'll
make it good as new.

He shakes his head and slams the steering wheel.

INT./EXT. KENZIE'S LEXUS - STREETS

Bastien drives, eyes on the road. Meredith is passed out.
Kenzie rests her head against the window, watching the place
of her childhood pass her by.

BASTIEN
(in French, subtitled)
When did you learn to speak French?

KENZIE
(in French, subtitled)
When I was twelve.

BASTIEN
(in French, subtitled)
You speak it beautifully.

KENZIE
(in French, subtitled)
Stop trying to seduce me.

BASTIEN
(in French, subtitled)
I'm not. I am placing you on the
pedestal on which you belong. There's
a difference.

They drive in silence for a moment.

KENZIE
 (in French, subtitled)
 I'll miss this place.

BASTIEN
 (in French, subtitled)
 You sound like you're leaving
 tomorrow.
 (a French saying)
 "When one doesn't have the things
 that one loves, one must love what
 one has."

KENZIE
 (in French, subtitled)
 Then start placing my friend on a
 pedestal.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREETS

The Boat turns onto a main road and drives a few hundred yards. Hutch sees something bad ahead.

HUTCH
 Whoa.

There's been an accident. Barney's Jeep Wagoneer is upside down. It's wheels still spinning.

FOOT
 That's Barney's car.

The Boat stops. Everyone gets out and rushes to the Wagoneer.

LORI
 Oh my god, Mickey. Your sister's in
 there!

MICKEY
 Robyn!

The passengers are injured, but no one appears seriously hurt. They start pulling them out of the vehicle. It's chaos.

TERESA
 Are you guys okay?

DIANNE
 What happened?

ROBYN

A car just pulled out in front of us
and we flipped.

They look several yards away and see a DRUNK DRIVER (35)
getting out of his damaged car. He runs.

Mickey and Bunny chase him down and start pounding him.
Sirens can be heard approaching.

Hutch tries to get Mickey and Bunny off the Drunk Driver.

HUTCH

Guys, stop! Cops!

Arms are flailing and Hutch catches an elbow in the lip,
busting it open.

HUTCH (cont'd)

Fuck!

He's at the end of his rope. He walks to The Boat, wiping
the blood from his mouth, and begins to kick his car in the
door.

HUTCH (cont'd)

Fuck! Fuck! Fuck! Fuck!

He kicks it so hard he dents it. Police, EMTs and fire
rescue arrives.

The IROC-Z passes, slowing down to view the scene.

INT. SAL'S IROC-Z

SAL

Holy shit.

JOE

I think that's Barney's car.

JAMIE

I hope everyone's okay.

They drive on, with the denim jacket in the back seat.

INT./EXT. KENZIE'S LEXUS

Listening to: Bruce Springsteen

The Lexus stops at a red light. Meredith is still out. Kenzie is asleep.

A car pulls up next to them. Leslie, from the Tucker party is in the passenger seat.

LESLIE
Hey! Bastien!

BASTIEN
Bonsoir, cheri!

LESLIE
Oh my god, I love your French! What are you guys doing?

BASTIEN
I don't know. What are you doing?

LESLIE
We're going to The Arch for a nightcap.

BASTIEN
An arch? We French love arches.

LESLIE
Follow us.

The light turns green. Bastien follows them.

EXT. ACCIDENT SCENE

The Drunk Driver is in handcuffs. COPS are taking statements. EMTs attend to the injured, loading them into ambulances. Mickey stays with his sister.

Hutch and Foot sit on the hood of The Boat watching it all.

HUTCH
My brother's moving upstate.
Somewhere near Syracuse.

FOOT
How'd your mom take it?

HUTCH
Not well.
(a beat)
He's gonna have a party before he leaves.

FOOT
That's cool. His roommates are a
panic.

They sit in silence for a moment, as the ambulances' doors
close.

HUTCH
(sighs)
Life, man.

FOOT
Yep. Fucking life.

A car pulls up. It's Nickles.

NICKLES
What the hell happened?

FOOT
A drunk driver hit Barney and he did
a barrel roll.

NICKLES
Oh shit. Everyone okay?

FOOT
Looks that way.

NICKLES
What are you doing now?

FOOT
Diner.

NICKLES
Come to The Arch. Everyone's heading
there for a nightcap.

FOOT
I don't know...

NICKLES
Come on. Last call.

Hutch and Foot look at each other. Shrug.

HUTCH
What the hell.

Nickles drives away. Everyone loads into The Boat.

INT./EXT. SAL'S IROC-Z - THE ARCH

It's a large parking lot next to an arched monument. The IROC-Z is one of many cars already there, many of which we've seen throughout the night.

Sal is searching through his pockets.

SAL
Crap, I'm out of smokes. You guys
have any?

JOE
(smoking)
This is my last one.

JAMIE
Maybe there are some in this jacket.

JOE
Whose jacket is that?

She picks up the denim jacket and finds the demo tape.

JAMIE
No cigarettes. Just this cassette.

SAL
(takes it from her)
Let me see.

He reads it. He chuckles. He inserts it in his cassette player.

INT./EXT. THE BOAT - STREETS

Listening to: Sonic Youth

The Boat is on its way to The Arch. Foot spots the yellow Corvette up ahead.

FOOT
Hutch!

HUTCH
Holy shit.

He guns it.

INT./EXT. YELLOW CORVETTE

Courtney's Boyfriend sees The Boat coming up fast in his rear view mirror. He thinks it's a race and floors it.

The chase is on.

EXT. THE ARCH

Leslie's car and Kenzie's Lexus arrive and park. Bastien gets out. Kenzie and Meredith get out soon after.

From a distance, Sal spots Kenzie, a mischievous grin on his face. He opens the rear hatch of his car. Huge speakers inside.

SAL

Hey Moore!

She looks in his direction.

SAL (cont'd)

I think Grant Hutchinson likes you.

He walks to the driver's side, reaches in and hits Play. Through the speakers:

HUTCH (V.O.)

This is for Mackenzie.

The opening notes of "Mackenzie Moore" begin to play.

HUTCH (V.O.) (cont'd)

(singing)

*Who is that lady with the fire in her
head? Burns so beautifully from all
the books she's read. And so she
glows. But does she know she's so
much more? Oh do you know Mackenzie
Moore? I like the way you state your
closing argument. Picked up my old
guitar and wrote it in cement...*

At first, she's embarrassed. But she likes it the more she listens to the lyrics. Everyone around her likes it too. It's a really good love song by one of their own.

INT./EXT. THE CHASE

The Boat does what it can to keep pace with the Vette. Everyone in The Boat is cheering on Hutch. But the Vette is just too light and fast. It's several yards ahead.

It speeds into

THE ARCH

and drives toward the IROC-Z. The Boat pulls in soon after and parks. Hutch hears his song playing. Then he sees Kenzie. And she sees him. Everyone gets out. They hear the song.

FOOT
Hutch, is this--?

HUTCH
Yeah.

LORI
(listening)
It's beautiful Hutch.

She pats him on the back, then gives him a push in Kenzie's direction. He approaches Kenzie.

KENZIE
Is this you?

HUTCH
(nods)
I didn't have the guts to tell you in person.

KENZIE
This is definitely more subtle.

HUTCH
Sorry.

She continues to listen. She looks around and sees the effect it's having on everyone. Every guy has his arms around his girl. It's a hit love ballad.

KENZIE
It's really good.

She continues to listen to the song.

HUTCH (V.O.)

(singing)

*Oh, Mackenzie. You make me want to be
more. Oooo, Mackenzie. You make me
want to be more.*

KENZIE

Is that true?

HUTCH

It's just a daydream. I hardly know
you.

KENZIE

Yes you do.

She looks at his injuries.

KENZIE (cont'd)

Is that from the fight?

HUTCH

(points)

This is. But the lip is more recent.

(he notices her
clothes)

I like your sweats.

KENZIE

I got puked on.

He laughs, which makes her laugh. They've both had a rough
night.

KENZIE (cont'd)

Wait, what about your girlfriend?

HUTCH

What? Oh. No. That was a mistake. I
got caught up in a moment. Nothing
happened. Seriously.

KENZIE

You don't owe me an explanation.

HUTCH

What about you and Steve? Are you
guys--

KENZIE

No. Not even friends, really. And he
produces a lot of spit.

HUTCH
 (chuckles)
 I've seen that.

They look in each others' eyes. Really seeing each other for the first time. The song ends. Everyone cheers, hoots and hollers for Hutch.

INT. SAL'S IROC-Z

The auto reverse activates and plays the cassette from the beginning. The opening track, "Welcome to the Night," plays. Crunchy guitar hook. Pulsing bass line. Thumping drumbeat. The kind of song that would have influenced The White Stripes and Jet.

HUTCH (V.O.)
 (singing)
*Down here in the village everything
 is alive. You can be what you want to
 be. Welcome to the night. Fine woman
 in the fishnet dress. She's doing it
 right. Neon lips. Heels to impress.
 Welcome to the night.*

The kids go crazy for it.

KENZIE
 (listening)
 Killer bass line.

HUTCH
 Real easy to learn.

They smile. It's the beginning of something.

KENZIE
 You want to go to the diner? Get some french fries with mozzarella cheese and brown gravy?

HUTCH
 Isn't that basically Poutine?

KENZIE
 (finger to lips)
 Shhhhhh.
 (a beat)
 You mind driving?

HUTCH
 I don't mind driving at all.

It's the first time tonight the thought of driving has made him smile. They walk to The Boat. She sees the damage.

KENZIE

What happened to your car?

HUTCH

It's been a crazy night.

KENZIE

I just wanted to see a movie.

HUTCH

You know, I'm one of the assistant mangers at the theater. I can give you a lifetime pass.

KENZIE

You have those?

HUTCH

We do now.

Foot sees them walking toward The Boat.

FOOT

Where you going?

HUTCH

Diner.

FOOT

Wait up!

Foot, Lori and the rest of the crew run toward The Boat. Lori has Hutch's denim jacket.

LORI

I got your jacket.

HUTCH

(smiling)

Thanks.

KENZIE

Meredith! We're going to the diner.

Meredith is happy to see Kenzie and Hutch. She and Bastien get in the Lexus to follow them. Everyone piles in The Boat. Kenzie sits next to Hutch.

FOOT

What about your demo?

Hutch looks out the windshield. Everyone is still partying to his music.

HUTCH
I'll get it Monday.

Bunny and Mickey begin to sing the "Love Boat" theme song as The Boat drives away. Everyone but Hutch and Kenzie, who look embarrassed, joins in.

ALL
(singing)
*Love. Exciting and new. Come aboard.
We're expecting you. The Love Boat!
Da da da!*

FADE TO:

INT. BAYBROOK HIGH - AUDITORIUM - EVENING

It's the Spring Talent Show. The auditorium is packed with students, most of whom we've seen throughout the story.

Hutch and Elliot have formed their super group. Hutch and Elliot on guitar. Dexter on Hammond organ. Matthew on drums. Katina, Alysse and Jen on backing vocals. And Kenzie on bass.

Elliot steps to the microphone and handles lead vocals and rhythm guitar as they kick into, "Trouble with the Monkey." It's like something Lenny Kravitz would write years later.

ELLIOT
(sings)
*Got trouble with the monkey. Got
trouble with the man. Is it evolution
baby? Or is it God's plan?*

The crowd goes crazy as the group tells the tale of the Scopes Monkey Trial. Hutch and Kenzie share a mic and add to the backing vocals. Dexter rips off some killer runs. Hutch rips into a killer solo.

ELLIOT (cont'd)
(singing the chorus)
*The truth is on trial. Scientific
denial. The truth is on trial, for
the mind of a child.*

The song comes to a raucous end. The applause is massive. Hutch straps on his acoustic and trades places with Elliot. He steps to the mic. Smiles.

HUTCH
This is for Mackenzie.

Huge applause and whistles from the crowd. They know this song by now. Hutch looks at Kenzie. It's a moment they'll never forget. He begins to play as

CREDITS BEGIN TO ROLL

We continue to see the performance. Students whip out their lighters. Alarmed teachers attempt to stop them.

The addition of the Hammond organ and backing vocals makes the song fuller and bluesier than the acoustic version we heard in the parking lot. The crowd sings along as the band plays on...

FADE TO BLACK

THE END