

STIFFED

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - DAY

A perfect day for a funeral, if there is such a thing.

The San Diego city skyline sparkles against a majestic backdrop of Mt. Laguna as a FUNERAL CROWD watches a coffin get lowered into the ground.

An attractive WIDOW (40's) is accompanied by a BOY (7), and a muscle-bound FABIO look-alike (30's). She starts to sob.

Note: All voices are badly dubbed, like, karate movie bad.

MALE VOICE 1
(high pitched, girly)
I'm just pretending to be sad. Now
that the old fart is finally dead
we can spend his millions.

Fabio shakes his long blonde hair, puts his arm around the Widow, and whispers in her ear.

MALE VOICE 2
(Schwarzenegger accent)
I want to bend you over his
headstone and bury my love muscle
in your hallowed ground.

The Widow starts to cry harder.

MALE VOICE 1
(high pitched, girly)
Take me! Take me now!

Fabio pulls the Widow close.

MALE VOICE 2
(Schwarzenegger accent)
First, I must shave my testicles.

A white-haired PRIEST (60's) extends his hand to the Widow.

MALE VOICE 1
Elliot, do the Priest.

CUT TO:

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - HILL - CONTINUOUS

Three guys are playing a game where they put words in the mouths of the people they're watching.

ELLIOT BOARDMAN, 22, nerdy, pasty, potentially handsome, is sprawled on the grass commando style.

Laying next to him are TIM LOGAN, 24, wild haired, chubby, stoner, and RICHARD CRANMORE 22, preppy, glasses.

Tim hands Elliot a near empty bottle of Jim Beam.

TIM (MALE VOICE 2)
Come on, do the Priest.

ELLIOT'S POV -- The funeral is over, the young boy stands alone at the grave.

ELLIOT
I'll pass.

TIM
No way José, take your medicine

Elliot takes a small swig, clearly not a bourbon fan.

RICHARD (MALE VOICE 1)
It's over anyway.

Tim grabs the bottle, takes a big swig.

RICHARD (CONT'D)
So wait, you shave your testicles?

TIM
It's called manscaping.

ELLIOT
Didn't know they made razors that small.

TIM
Carved a heart above my junk.
Chicks dig it.

RICHARD
What chicks?

ELLIOT
Let's just do this.

They wobble to their feet and turn to face a double-wide gravestone marked "Walter and Maria Boardman."

Richard and Tim put their arms around Elliot's shoulders.

RICHARD

We're gathered here today to honor the anniversary of the passing of our dear friend Elliot's parents, Walter and Maria Boardman, who were tragically taken from us three years ago today.

TIM

Don't worry. We're looking after your boy. Always.

ELLIOT

(teary)
You know I love you guys right?

TIM

Here we go.

RICHARD

Let the man speak.

ELLIOT

Seriously. You've always been there for me. You're family.

TIM

Amigos!

They do a three-way high-five that ends with them bumping their right elbows together. They each have identical Mexican sombreros tattooed on their right elbow.

TIM/RICHARD/ELLIOT

(in unison)
For life!

RICHARD

Let's relocate. Dead people freak me out.

EXT. KIMO'S KNIGHT KLUB - NIGHT

Establishing. Regal banners hang over the entrance. A CROWD waits in line to get in. A DOOR BITCH, (20's) in a metal bikini and thigh high boots opens the ropes for VIP's.

INT. KIMO'S KNIGHT KLUB

The three amigos sit at a lousy corner table. A WAITRESS (30's), dressed like damsel, serves them, unimpressed.

WAITRESS

Three Cokes. Thirty bucks.

Richard pays while Tim slurps all three Cokes. As soon as the waitress leaves he tops them up with booze from a bladder hidden under his shirt.

They "cheers" but are drowned out by SQUEALING HOT GIRLS in the nearby VIP section where three handsome BANKER GUYS (20's) flash cash and perfect teeth.

TIM

How can anyone afford to get a buzz in here? I'd go bankrupt.

ELLIOT

Don't you have to have a business before you can declare bankruptcy?

TIM

I'm working on it! Fro-2-Go is going to revolutionize the frozen pizza delivery industry.

RICHARD

There is no frozen pizza delivery industry.

TIM

Exactly.

ELLIOT

I think I'm gonna go.

TIM

What? No way. Babes are just getting warmed up.

ELLIOT

(gesturing at the VIPs)
Not for us.

TIM

Come on man. You always bail. Live dangerously for once. Besides, we need to get our livers into shape for Mexico. We're still going right?

ELLIOT
I don't know.

RICHARD
I'm in.

TIM
What do you mean "I don't know?"
It's tradition.

ELLIOT
I'm broke as fuck.

TIM
Oh come on. Mexico is dirt cheap.
Dicky Rich will spot you, right?

Richard rolls his eyes -- "sure."

ELLIOT
Thanks, but I need to get my life
together.

TIM
Whatever man. Have fun in The
Matrix while we unsheathe our
swords on some fair maidens up in
here!

They do their high-five/elbow bump thing.

RICHARD
Do say hello to your dear old Gran
for me!

As Elliot leaves, the waitress delivers a bottle of Cristal
to the Bankers. The hot girls SQUEAL in delight.

TIM
(to the Bankers)
Show offs!

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Establishing. A big La Jolla mansion. A plaque on the porch
says "Boardman 1849."

A 1971 Cadillac Eldorado Wagon is parked in the driveway. If
you've never seen one before, they look like a hearse.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Beautiful period pieces and antiques surround a hospital bed in the middle of the room. On it, Elliot's GRANDMA (90's), is cranky and dealing with dementia.

Elliot hands her an orange Popsicle. She swats it away.

GRANDMA
I wanted a purple one!

ELLIOT
You ate all the purple ones already
Grandma.

She takes it from him and starts licking it seductively.

Elliot adjusts a home-made video call contraption mounted to her bed on a swing-arm - think Skype meets LifeCall - henceforth referred to as the "Granny-Cam."

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
I'll be downstairs. If you need
anything. Just press "Call," not
"Record" OK?

GRANDMA
How about a beer?

Elliot chuckles and leaves. She reaches into a very full pillbox on her night stand and pops a handful. Angle on a framed photo of Elliot and his PARENTS in front of the house.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

This is "The Matrix." One window, metal basement doors, a single mattress on the floor. Piles of old computers.

A PC screen saver shows photos of Tim, Richard, and Elliot wearing Mexican sombreros on a beach.

Elliot sits at a workbench wearing nerdy magnification goggles and soldering a circuit board.

A DOORBELL rings and a red light mounted to the ceiling starts to flash.

Grandma appears on the video feed from the Granny-Cam.

GRANDMA
Door! Door!

ELLIOT
I got it.

Elliot fishes out a laptop from a pile of electronic parts.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

A tattooed GAY BIKER guy (30's) stands on the steps. Elliot squints into the bright sun.

GAY BIKER
Get out much?

Elliot hands him the laptop.

ELLIOT
I flashed the firmware and P-RAM so nobody will be able to track it. Installed a VNC client and a firewall too, to hide your ISP.

GAY BIKER
Sprecken zee English?

ELLIOT
You won't get caught illegally downloading porn anymore.

GAY BIKER
Sweet. So, ass, grass, or cash?

ELLIOT
Fifty bucks?

Biker pulls out a bag of weed.

GAY BIKER
You sure?

ELLIOT
I'm high on life.

GAY BIKER
Ass?

ELLIOT
I told you, I'm straight.

Biker grabs his wallet on a chain, pulls out cash.

GAY BIKER
Hey, spaghetti is straight too, before it hits hot water.

A shiny BMW pulls into the driveway. Out steps LARRY BERTLEMAN (60) polished in a pin-stripe suit.

Larry and the Biker size each other up. Biker blows Larry a kiss, hops on a Harley with pink streamers, speeds off.

LARRY

You never came to see me.

ELLIOT

I can't afford to come see you.
Costs a hundred bucks to say hello.

LARRY

This is off the clock.

ELLIOT

In that case, hello.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Larry and Elliot sit at the dining table covered with legal documents. Grandma is in bed in the living room behind them.

LARRY

Technically you can't inherit your parents debt. However, since the IRS has discovered the, how shall I put it? Creative accounting methods used by your Father, rest his soul, they can legally sell this place to collect.

ELLIOT

But my great, great, great, great, great, great grandfather built this house.

LARRY

Then there's the matter of several years unpaid property taxes. Again, technically, you're not liable.

ELLIOT

What are my options?

LARRY

Sell the house. Or come up with three-hundred and twenty-seven grand in the next thirty days.

ELLIOT

That all?

LARRY

I know the past three years have been tough, but maybe it's time to get back out into the world Elliot. Your parents would want that.

Grandma GROANS in the background.

LARRY (CONT'D)

How is she doing?

ELLIOT

She likes purple Popsicles now.

Larry stands, gathers his documents.

LARRY

Maybe we can work out a payment plan if you get a job. A real job, not this computer tinkery-doo. Something the bank can recognize.

GRANDMA

What's that jerkface doing here?

LARRY

Hello Mrs. Boardman.

Grandma flips him off.

LARRY (CONT'D)

One last thing. I've arranged an estate sale. Should help keep the wolves at bay. Besides, you don't need all this old furniture do you?

GRANDMA

Jerkface!

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Estate sale in progress. Elliot watches a hoard of BUYERS swarm over tables of silverware, books, and household items while others load furniture into their cars.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Grandma is in her bed in the middle of the nearly empty room.

A MOVER has Grandma's lamp in one hand and tries to take her night stand with the other.

GRANDMA
Don't touch that you!

Elliot enters, motions to the Mover to leave them. Grandma reaches out for her night stand.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)
It's all I have.

ELLIOT
It's OK. We'll keep it.

He sits on the edge of her bed and surveys the empty house.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Elliot, Tim, and Richard chill in The Matrix.

ELLIOT
This house has been in my family for seven generations. I can't be the one to lose it.

TIM
It's probably worth a bucket-load though.

RICHARD
You would have received a tidy sum from the estate sale, no?

ELLIOT
Not tidy enough. I need a job.

Tim walks over to the workbench, picks up a keyboard and balances it on his finger.

TIM
Come work with me at Domino's man. Make some Mexico money.

RICHARD
You know, we are looking for an I.T. Professional at work. I'd be glad to put in a good word.

TIM
Chicas.

ELLIOT

The Mayor's office? I can't handle that much responsibility right now.
 (pointing up)
 It's hard enough looking after her.

TIM

Cervezas.

RICHARD

Sure you can. Besides, I'll be there the whole time.

TIM

Chicas con cervezas.

Tim fumbles the keyboard, tries to recover, trips on a jangle of wires and falls.

TIM (CONT'D)

Damn. Someone could die down here.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Elliot waits in reception. Watches a chubby SECRETARY (20's) stuff potato chips into her mouth.

Elliot uses his phone to check the Granny-Cam video feed.

INSERT VIDEO - Grandma reads a worn 70's copy of "Playgirl."

BACK TO SCENE - The MAYOR (60's) tan, silver fox, dressed in nautical theme with an anchor pattern tie and boat shoes, bursts through a set of mahogany doors, followed by Richard.

The Mayor waves his phone.

MAYOR

What the hell is IMA? I don't need a map, I need to send e-mail!

ELLIOT

I might be able to help.

RICHARD

Captain, this is my friend, the one I told you about.

The Mayor hands his phone to Elliot.

MAYOR

You get one minute or I swear on
Poseidon's watery grave I'll
scuttle that thing.

Elliot does a few quick swipes/taps, hands back the phone.
The Mayor taps the screen -- WHOOSH -- email sent.

MAYOR (CONT'D)

(to Elliot)

You own a tie?

ELLIOT

Yes sir.

MAYOR

Call me Captain.

ELLIOT

Yes, Captain.

MAYOR

Welcome aboard.

Richard gives Elliot a "thumbs up."

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Elliot comes home with a manila folder and a box of grape
Popsicles. He tosses the folder to the floor, employment
forms spill out. He gives his Grandma a Popsicle.

GRANDMA

I like purple.

Tim and Richard barge in, armed with a case of beer and a
bottle of Scotch, respectively.

TIM

You know you gotta start every new
job with a hangover. It's a rule.

RICHARD

I brought the good stuff.

TIM

That's questionable.
(to Grandma)
How we doing Mrs. B?

GRANDMA

Don't let them take my table!

ELLIOT
It's OK Grandma, it's just Tim and
Richard.

Grandma reaches out, grabs Tim's beer, takes a big sip.

RICHARD
Won't that react with her meds?

GRANDMA
Hopefully.

She alternates sips of beer and bites of grape Popsicle.

Elliot takes the beer from Grandma. She pouts. Tim notices
the forms on the floor and picks them up.

TIM
(reading)
You got a million dollar life
insurance policy?

RICHARD
Standard. Everyone who works for
the city gets that.

TIM
Who gets it if you die?

RICHARD
My parents.

TIM
Like they need it. Besides I
wasn't talking to you.
(to Elliot)
You should put us. We're family
right? Then we could kill you and
split a mill.

On Elliot, thinking.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE/ELLIOT'S CUBICLE - DAY

No windows. No privacy. Stacks of ancient computers and
cables - it's a worse version of his basement "Matrix."

Elliot looks uncomfortable in a mismatched shirt and tie. He
types into a browser and pulls up the Granny-Cam video feed.

ELLIOT
Hey Grandma.

GRANDMA

Beer me.

ELLIOT

I can't beer you. I'm at work.
The Nurse will be there any minute.
Remember? I left a key. Be nice.

The Secretary sticks her head in, chip crumbs on her chin.

SECRETARY

Who you talking to?

GRANDMA

Who's that?

Elliot quickly closes the Granny-Cam window.

ELLIOT

Nobody.

SECRETARY

My e-mail keeps doing this funny
thing. Also, Steve is here.

Off Elliot's look.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)

Insurance guy. Hottie.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE/MEETING ROOM - DAY

Elliot sits across from STEVE GREY, 25, football player build
in a tight, cheap suit. Steve slides his business card
towards Elliot, a curious look on his face.

STEVE GREY

La Jolla High right?

Elliot nods.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)

I knew it! You're the third nerd!
What's up bro?

Steve goes for a high-five, Elliot leaves him hanging.

ELLIOT

You put me in a trash can once.

STEVE GREY
(laughing)
That was you? Damn. Good times.
Now look at you. Super nerd,
working for the Mayor.

ELLIOT
Weren't you supposed to go be some
pro football star?

STEVE GREY
Didn't pan out. I'm just working
for my Dad now until I get accepted
into the NFL Official Clinic.

ELLIOT
Like an Umpire?

STEVE GREY
They're called Officials. Anyway,
this is just a courtesy visit to
see if you have any questions about
your life insurance policy.

ELLIOT
Can I name my two best friends as
beneficiaries?

STEVE GREY
Most people just put their spouse,
or their kids, or their parents.

ELLIOT
I don't have any of those.

STEVE GREY
Yeah, right. Heard about that.

Elliot signs the forms and slides them over to Steve.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)
Just remember, when life deals you
a hard tackle you get right back up
and soar. Like an eagle, find your
prey, then take it down, capturing
your dreams in the claws of life.

ELLIOT
I will remember that, exactly.

STEVE GREY
Go Vikings!

Secretary pops her head in.

SECRETARY
 (sexy, to Steve)
 Hey Steve.
 (cold, to Elliot)
 Copier's busted. Again.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Elliot pulls up in the Cadillac "hearse" with Richard riding shotgun. A police car is parked on the lawn.

On the porch a muscle bound MACHO COP and a buzz cut LADY COP talk with ALICIA RODRIGUEZ, 23, Latino, attractive, despite her unflattering hospital uniform.

ELLIOT
 What the...

Elliot jumps out of the car.

RICHARD
 Don't say anything without a lawyer!

Macho Cop eyeballs the Cadillac.

MACHO COP
 Who called the Coroner?

ELLIOT
 It's not a hearse. What's going on?

LADY COP
 Sir, please step back.

ELLIOT
 This is my house. Is my Grandma OK?

ALICIA
 Besides being a racist? And loco?

MACHO COP
 Sir, do you know this woman?

ALICIA
 She called the police on me. Told them I was trespassing and illegal.

LADY COP
 Are you?

Alicia waves her ID on a lanyard.

ALICIA
I told you I'm from Chula Vista.
Born and bred.

MACHO COP
Again, do you know this woman?

ELLIOT
We haven't officially met.

LADY COP
So you're trespassing.

Lady Cop goes to handcuff Alicia.

ELLIOT
I know her! I mean, sort of. I
just hired her. She's the Nurse.
Obviously.

ALICIA
Its "Home Carer," soon to be
Doctor, thank you.

Richard steps in.

RICHARD
Thank you officers. I think we can
take it from here.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - LATER

Elliot, Richard, and Alicia stand by Grandma's bed.

ELLIOT
Grandma, this is Alicia. I told
you she's going to be here from now
on helping out, remember?

GRANDMA
I don't want any help.

ELLIOT
(to Alicia)
Sorry about that. She's, you know.

ALICIA
So she's got dementia and is
apparently a Popsicle addict.
Anything else I need to know?

ELLIOT
Don't go in the basement.

ALICIA
Is that where all the furniture is?

Tim barges in with a frozen pizza, no box.

TIM
Check this out. Prototype.
(to Alicia)
What's the best thing about home
cooking?

ALICIA
No rude Waiters?

TIM
The aroma! With Fro-2-Go, we
bring, you bake, so your whole
house smells like a pizza parlor.

ALICIA
Is that a good thing?

Elliot escorts Alicia to the door.

ELLIOT
Leave her alone, will you?

TIM
What? It's called a focus group.

ELLIOT
(to Alicia)
Thank you for today, and sorry,
again.

Elliot shuts the door.

TIM
She's hot.

ELLIOT
You know what else is supposed to
be hot?

INT. BASEMENT - LATER

Elliot, Tim, and Richard eat burnt pizza.

TIM
Your oven is old man. Needs to be re-calibrated.

ELLIOT
I'll get right onto that.

TIM
Whatever, why are we still hanging out in The Matrix? You've got a whole empty house up there.

ELLIOT
I like it down here.

Tim tosses his charred pizza crust.

TIM
Do you though? Let's go drink illegally on the beach and live a little.

EXT. LA JOLLA SHORES - NIGHT

Elliot, Richard, and Tim sit around a campfire, 40 ounce beers in hand.

TIM
So, can we talk about the hot Nurse for a second?

RICHARD
She prefers "Home Carer."

ELLIOT
She's gonna get half my paycheck, but someone has to look in on Grandma when I'm at work.

RICHARD
Maybe she can help you with your Español before our annual Mexico camping trip next weekend. We're still going right?

ELLIOT
I'm not a hundred percent.

TIM
Hell yes we're still going. I already got off work.

RICHARD
Speaking of work, I've got rather exciting news. I've decided to run for City Council.

TIM
Sweet. Can I get my parking tickets canceled?

RICHARD
I haven't won yet. I need capital for my campaign, but Father won't let me tap my trust fund.

ELLIOT
Who you running against?

RICHARD
Nobody. Karl Jeffries resigned. Wife caught him drinking schnapps with a transvestite on a beach he campaigned to make alcohol-free.

Tim raises his 40, gestures towards groups of YOUNG PEOPLE gathered around other campfires, all drinking, partying.

TIM
Serves him right.

ELLIOT
So wait, let me get this straight, you need money for a campaign, but you're the only one running?

RICHARD
I still have to win.

TIM
Nudie swim!

Tim takes off his clothes and runs towards the water, people cheer him on.

RICHARD
Stop! I just told you I'm running for office.

Tim frolics in the water. Richard runs to the water's edge with a towel for Tim. Elliot walks down to join them.

Tim prances out of the water, uninhibited. Richard wraps the towel around him.

TIM

What's wrong with you scaredy cats?
Afraid you might drown?

ELLIOT

If I did, you guys would be rich.

Hunh?

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

I named you. On my life insurance
policy? One million dollars?

Tim drops his towel, jumps naked onto Elliot, drags him into
the water, dunks his head under, pretends to drown him.

TIM

Who wants to be a millionaire?!

EXT. LA JOLLA SHORES - LATER

Elliot shivers next to the fire in his wet clothes.

ELLIOT

Think about it. I save my family
home and keep Grandma comfortable
in her old age. You get money for
your campaign. And you get money
for Fro-2-Go.

TIM

I'm not killing you man.

ELLIOT

You just tried to.

TIM

That was a joke! What you're
talking about, faking your own
death? It's kind of awesome, but
it's never gonna work.

RICHARD

Not to mention completely against
the law.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The trio stumble down the sidewalk.

RICHARD

Will you please just agree this is a stupid idea that will most likely end up with you two in jail, and me disowned. And never able to run for any public office ever.

TIM

Why do we go to jail, but not you?

RICHARD

Cranmores don't do jail.

ELLIOT

People disappear all the time. All those kids on milk cartons? How many of them are ever found? People die all over every day. One more death isn't gonna raise any suspicions. We just have to plan it right.

RICHARD

Stop. There is no "we." "We" are not talking about this.

TIM

You'd have to disappear someplace with a high probability of being hurt, or kidnapped.

ELLIOT

Like Mexico.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Elliot researches online articles about famous death fakers.

INSERT HEADLINES/ARTICLES

Man Bribes Undertaker, Attends own Fake Funeral.

Amir Vehabovic - Caught when he wrote angry letters to his "friends" who didn't attend.

Death Certificate Forger Suffered from Killer Phone Bill.

Corey Taylor - Caught when he kept using the same phone.

Woman Fakes Brain Hemorrhage to Break Up with Boyfriend.

Dianne Craven - Caught when she posted pictures on Facebook of herself in Bali with her new boyfriend.

Richard pokes his head in.

RICHARD
Almuerzo?

EXT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Elliot and Richard sit on a brick wall, eating lunch.

ELLIOT
I did some research. Technically speaking, pseudocide isn't inherently a crime.

RICHARD
First of all, we are not having this conversation. And second, that's a word?

ELLIOT
You only hear about the idiots who get caught. Like bank robberies. You know how many banks get robbed every day?

RICHARD
In San Diego? Ninety-eight last year.

ELLIOT
See? You never hear about the guys who get away with it, because if the public knew, everybody would be robbing banks instead of them robbing everybody.

RICHARD
I can't have anything to do with this. If you need more money, just stop fixing things. The Captain will give you a raise real fast. You didn't hear that from me.

ELLIOT
Remember that meathead football player who picked on us in school?

RICHARD
Steve Grey.

ELLIOT
If I remember correctly, he took a dump through the sunroof of your old man's Jag at prom.

RICHARD
 Father still thinks I did it.

ELLIOT
 If you want revenge, he's the one
 who set up my policy.

RICHARD
 If we'd invested all the lunch
 money he stole from us in Apple,
 we'd probably have a million
 dollars now.

They pause to watch a PRETTY GIRL walk by.

ELLIOT
 And hot girlfriends. He owes us.

RICHARD
 What did Tim say?

ELLIOT
 He's in.

EXT. DOMINO'S PIZZA - DAY

Eric and Tim sit in the "not a hearse" Cadillac. Tim wears
 his Domino's uniform.

TIM
 No way!

ELLIOT
 Come on man. You could quit this
 joint. Start Go-2-Fro.

TIM
 It's Fro-2-Go.

ELLIOT
 Don't you hate this job?

TIM
 It's not a job, it's school, only
 they pay me to go.

ELLIOT
 Be serious. We can do this.

TIM
 You'll never get Dicky Rich on
 board.

ELLIOT

Already did. "Father" won't let him tap his trust fund for his campaign.

TIM

OK, hypothetically, just for the sake of discussion only, how would we do it?

EXT. CORONADO BRIDGE - NIGHT

Elliot stops the Cadillac, backing up traffic, puts an envelope on the dashboard, and gets out. He climbs onto the railing, about to leap off.

ELLIOT (V.O.)

Wait, you don't get paid if it's suicide.

Elliot sighs and turns to get back in the car.

EXT. KAWEAH RIVER, KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK - DAY

Elliot tugs a white water raft to the shore, slashes at it with a knife, pushes it back into the water. Takes off on foot with a backpack.

TIM (V.O.)

Don't they have those heat sensor cameras?

Elliot hides under a bush as a helicopter hovers overhead.

I/O. SMALL SAILBOAT - DAY

Elliot hammers a hole in the fiberglass hull, drops overboard with SCUBA gear on.

ELLIOT (V.O.)

A, I can't SCUBA. And B, sharks.

Elliot scrambles back onto the boat as a shark circles.

EXT. ULTRA-LIGHT AIRCRAFT - DAY

Elliot flies an ultra-lite far out over Mission Beach. A second ultra-light appears from below, piloted by Tim. Elliot jumps from his ultra-light onto Tim's.

TIM (V.O.)
A, I'm not helping you. And B,
you're not James Bond.

The ultra-lite drops into the sea.

EXT. BLACKS NUDE/GAY BEACH - DAY

Elliot speeds on a Jet-Ski and jumps off just before it slams into the rocks and blows up. Two NUDE MEN in body paint notice from the beach and jump in.

ELLIOT (V.O.)
Those free-ballers can sniff out a
straight man anywhere.

Elliot getting mouth-to-mouth from the nude men.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Elliot pours gasoline all over The Matrix.

I/E. CADILLAC - CONTINUOUS

ELLIOT
Dude, that totally defeats the
whole purpose. I want to save my
house, not burn it.

TIM
It's too hard man. And besides
who's going to look after Mrs. B if
you split?

ELLIOT
I'll still be here, I'll just be
dead.

TIM
So will we, if you get caught.
Maybe you should quit figuring out
how to die, and just come to
Mexico. It's gonna be epic.

ELLIOT
You're right. Forget it. I just
need to get away from this place
for a minute. Mexico will be
great.

TIM
 Hell yeah it's going to be great.
 (Speedy Gonzalez accent)
 Cervezas, tequila, womens, donkeys!

ELLIOT
 I'll see if Alicia can look after
 Grandma.

Tim makes a sexy face. They do their hi-five/elbow bump.

TIM
 Seriously though, if you try
 anything down there, I'll kill you
 myself.

INT. REI CAMPING STORE - DAY

Elliot pushes a shopping cart full of camping gear and dried food. At the checkout he ponders a set of walkie-talkies.

CASHIER
 Going camping?

ELLIOT
 Something like that.

I/E. CADILLAC - DAY

Tim, Richard, and Elliot are crammed into the front seat of the Caddy. Elliot drives, not looking too happy.

TIM
 Mexico!

RICHARD
 Si!

Tim nudges Elliot.

TIM
 Come on amigo.

Tim starts to chant the "Mexican Hat Dance" song.

TIM (CONT'D)
 (singing)
 Da-nant, da-nant, da-nant.
 Da-na-na-na-na-nanant.

Richard joins in.

TIM/RICHARD
Da-nant, da-nant, da-nant.
Da-na-na-na-na-nanant!

Elliot gives in.

TIM/RICHARD/ELLIOT
Da-nant! Da-nant! Da-nant!
Da-na-na-na-na-nanant!

TIM
 Olé!

EXT. USA/MEXICO BORDER - DAY

A CUSTOMS OFFICER (40's) studies the boys' ID's.

CUSTOMS OFFICER
 Purpose of your visit?

RICHARD
 Cultural studies sir.

TIM
 Mucho grande fiesta!

CUSTOMS OFFICER
 How about this car?

ELLIOT
 It's my Grandmother's.

Customs Officer hands back their ID's.

CUSTOMS OFFICER
 Looks like a hearse.

EXT. TIJUANA - DAY

The Caddy rolls past zombie-like ADDICTS, Lycra clad HOOKERS, dirty faced BEGGARS, out of tune MARIACHIS, shadow boxing DRUNKS, a VENDOR carrying a load of inflatable toys, and a TOUT with a donkey painted like a Zebra.

RICHARD
 I know I say this every time we
 come here, but we are so lucky.

ELLIOT
 Can't get your picture taken with a
 Zebronkey in La Jolla.

RICHARD
Life is cheap here.

TIM
And also the cervezas! Ai-yai-yai!

EXT. EL FARO CAMPGROUND - NIGHT

Sunset. The Caddy is parked on the sand, next to three small tents -- none of the gear Elliot bought at REI can be seen.

The three amigos sit on the beach, drinking beer. Tim has an El Santo Mexican wrestling mask on top of his head.

TIM
Salud.

ELLIOT
Salud.

RICHARD
Vida es bueno!

A lone MARIACHI (50's) approaches, playing a romantic melody.

TIM
I wish you guys were girls, but
since you're not...

Tim throws his beer, pulls down his mask, and does a flying leap onto Richard.

TIM (CONT'D)
We must wrestle!

The Mariachi, changes his song to match the pace of their "fight," strumming rapidly as they wrestle in the sand.

Tim pins Richard and the Mariachi stops. Tim looks over at Elliot, then down at Richard.

TIM (CONT'D)
Tag team?

RICHARD
Si.

The Mariachi starts up again. Tim and Richard run at Elliot and topple him over. Richard pins Elliot down while Tim repeatedly slaps his belly.

ELLIOT
Cut it out!

Richard and Tim stand up.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
Not cool.

TIM
You know what's not cool?

Mariachi switches to sad music.

TIM (CONT'D)
We're down here trying to have a good time and forget about real life for awhile, and your whole "I'm too depressed to live in the real world" vibe is a total buzz kill.

RICHARD
Hey, come on, that's out of order.

ELLIOT
It's OK. He's right. I'm sorry, I'll try to be more fun. Shots?

TIM
That's more like it!

The Mariachi plays upbeat music as they swill tequila.

EXT. EL FARO CAMPGROUND - DAY

Next morning. The campsite is littered with beer cans, the empty tequila bottle dangles on the Caddy's antenna. The Mariachi is passed out on the sand.

Tim kicks Richard's tent.

TIM
Wake up. Necesito cafe.

Richard stumbles out of his tent wearing the Mariachi's hat.

Tim kicks Elliot's tent.

TIM (CONT'D)
Vamanos. Cafe o'clock.

The Mariachi wakes up, starts to play "La Bamba." Tim grabs the guitar by the neck, shakes his head "no."

Tim unzips Elliot's tent -- nobody home. Checks the Caddy -- nobody inside. Scans the beach -- no sign of Elliot.

TIM (CONT'D)
He freaking did it.

RICHARD
Maybe he just went for a walk.

TIM
No way man. He freaking did it!

RICHARD
Oh dear. What shall we do?

TIM
Get coffee. Obviously.

INT. ENSENADA, MEXICO POLICE STATION - DAY

Tim and Richard sip coffee across from a MEXICAN POLICEMAN.
The Mariachi plays by the entrance, smiling enthusiastically.

MEXICAN POLICEMAN
You lose your friend. You have to
pay the fine.

TIM
Senor, por favor, we no "lose" our
friend. We just need to find him.

MEXICAN POLICEMAN
You want to file the report?

TIM
Yes! We want to file the report.

MEXICAN POLICEMAN
Then, you have to pay the fine.

RICHARD
Let me handle this OK?

Richard pulls out a wad of cash.

MEXICAN POLICEMAN
OK my friends.

The Policeman blows dust off an old typewriter.

MEXICAN POLICEMAN (CONT'D)
You need girls? Marijuana? Sniff
sniff?

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tim and Richard pull up in the Caddy, looking weary.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tim and Richard enter.

GRANDMA
Who's that?

TIM
Hey Mrs. B, is Elliot around?

GRANDMA
Left me here with that Nurse.

RICHARD
When was that?

GRANDMA
Beer me, will you?

TIM
Was Elliot here today?

RICHARD
I'll check downstairs.

Richard tries the door to the basement. Locked.

TIM
Where's the Nurse now?

GRANDMA
Fired her ass.

RICHARD
So you haven't seen Elliot today?

GRANDMA
Don't you touch my table.

Tim and Richard exchange a confused look.

TIM
Where is that fool?

EXT. MEXICAN STREET - NIGHT

A MAN at an ATM withdraws a wad of cash, he turns to reveal it's Elliot in full disguise - Corona hoodie, "Hecho en Mexico" baseball cap, big sunglasses.

EXT. TRUCK - NIGHT

Elliot pays a sketchy Mexican HOMBRE (40's) and squeezes into a secret compartment next to five other ILLEGALS. The door shuts, sealing them in darkness. Someone farts.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Richard walks with the Mayor.

MAYOR

You vouched for him and now the server is down and he's the only one with the password, so unless you want to walk the plank, find him.

RICHARD

Yes Captain.

INT. DOMINO'S PIZZA - DAY

Richard leans into Tim who is behind the counter.

RICHARD

(whispering)
We have to find him.

TIM

Chill. If I know Elliot he has a plan.

RICHARD

What if something really happened to him? Five thousand people went missing in Mexico last year.

TIM

I can't talk about this here, but we do have a cheesy crust special if you're interested.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

The Matrix has been set up for indoor "camping" with the gear Elliot bought at REI - folding chairs, camp stove etc. Black fabric covers the window.

Elliot removes his disguise and checks the Granny-Cam -- she's snoring. He lays down and falls asleep.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Next morning. Elliot gets woken up by the flashing doorbell light on the ceiling. From upstairs, the faint sound of someone KNOCKING. Grandma appears on the Granny-Cam.

GRANDMA
Door! Door!

Elliot creeps up the stairs.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

ALICIA
Hi Mrs. Boardman, how are we feeling today?

GRANDMA
I feel like I fired you.

ALICIA
Yes, you did, but since you didn't originally hire me, I'm back.

GRANDMA
Popsicle! Popsicle! Popsicle!

Elliot rushes in and gives her a Popsicle, calms her down.

ELLIOT
Be nice Grandma.
(to Alicia)
I'm sorry.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Elliot and Alicia sit at the dining table eating Popsicles.

ELLIOT
So I need to ask you a favor.

ALICIA
(suspicious)
OK.

ELLIOT
If anyone comes looking, you
haven't seen me.

ALICIA
What did you do? Kill someone?

ELLIOT
Yeah. Guy cut me off in traffic.

They laugh.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
What made you want to do this?

ALICIA
People are always getting shot in
my hood. One time this kid who
wasn't even in a gang bled out
right in front of me. So I decided
I should learn to fix people.

ELLIOT
Hard to believe we live in the same
city. Boredom is the biggest cause
of death around here. So, will I
see you tomorrow?

ALICIA
No?

ELLIOT
Correct. But thanks for looking
after her. It's good for her to
have someone to bitch at. Makes
her feel in control. Alive.

ALICIA
Great.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Tim paces in reception, armed with a Fro-2-Go prototype.
Richard enters, stressed.

TIM
I brought lunch. You guys have an
oven here?

RICHARD

How can you be so relaxed? Elliot is still dead, or pretending to be dead, or both.

DING! Steve steps off the elevator.

STEVE GREY

Well, if it isn't nerds one and two.

He notices the frozen pizza.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)

Sweet. You got an oven here?

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE/KITCHEN

Steve, Tim, and Richard chew soggy pizza.

TIM

It's not really made for microwaves.

STEVE GREY

So, what happened in Mexico?

Richard nearly chokes.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)

Any time a gringo goes missing in Mexico, they tell the government. We subscribe to their database.

TIM

We don't know anything.

STEVE GREY

Kind of ridiculous him going AWOL right after naming you as his beneficiaries.

RICHARD

Surely we're not suspects.

STEVE GREY

No, of course not. And if you get me a pen, I'll sign that million dollar check over to you right now.

TIM

For real?

Steve smacks Tim in the head.

STEVE GREY

Duh. First of all its only been a few days. If he's still missing in a year, then maybe we can talk.

TIM

A year?

RICHARD

A year?

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)

That's right nerd burgers. Til then, no body? No money.

Steve tosses his soggy pizza into the sink and leaves.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Elliot installs a security camera above the front door.

INT. DOMINO'S PIZZA - DAY

Tim's CO-WORKER waves an order slip.

CO-WORKER

Yo, some dude wants you to deliver a large three amigos special. Do we even make that?

Tim grabs the slip, reads the order.

TIM

I knew it!

He grabs a pizza box and runs out.

CO-WORKER

That's pepperoni!

EXT. DOMINO'S PIZZA - DAY

Tim sits on a Domino's moped, holding his phone.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Richard collates reports, phone tucked against his shoulder.

RICHARD

I'm in a Committee meeting.

EXT. DOMINO'S PIZZA - DAY

TIM
Meet me at Elliot's. Thirty
minutes or less.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Tim, Richard, and Elliot sit on camp chairs, mid argument.

RICHARD
No. Not possible. At all. I can
not participate.

ELLIOT
I'll tell you the server password.

TIM
I say we kill him for real.

ELLIOT
You guys are on the policy. So
like it or not, you're in this.

RICHARD
We could turn you in.

ELLIOT
And implicate yourselves.

Richard and Tim exchange a look.

TIM
What's the split?

ELLIOT
Three amigos, three ways.

RICHARD
I hate this.

ELLIOT
All you have to do is keep your
mouths shut.

Tim rocks back in a camp chair, contemplating.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
And loan me some money.

RICHARD
What money?

ELLIOT
And one other little thing.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Elliot and Tim, dressed in shirt and tie, peer into the morgue. Elliot pulls out Alicia's lanyard, swipes her ID through the lock -- BEEP.

INT. HOSPITAL MORGUE - NIGHT

Elliot and Tim unzip body bags, checking out corpses.

TIM
What about this guy?

Tim pulls back the bag to reveal an INDIAN MAN (60's)

ELLIOT
He's not even close.

Tim unzips another bag, reveals an attractive WOMAN (40's).

TIM
She totally died having sex.

ELLIOT
Gross. Come on.

TIM
What? You think only old dudes
croak mid-pump? Look at her face.
That's an orgasm face.

ELLIOT
Like you'd know.

Elliot unzips a bag, inside -- a ROCKER GUY (20's).

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
Hey.

Tim comes over, they stare at the body. Tim reads the tag.

TIM
John Doe. Overdose.

EXT. HOSPITAL LOADING DOCK - NIGHT

Elliot and Tim wheel out the Rocker Guy on a gurney. Richard jumps out of the Caddy, opens the tailgate. Elliot and Tim lift Rocker Dude and start to slide him in

A pudgy SECURITY GUARD (60's) Coke bottle glasses, steps out of the shadows.

SECURITY GUARD

Hey.

Elliot and Tim freeze. Rocker Dude's naked body flops to the ground, out of sight. Guard taps a pack of Marlboro Reds.

SECURITY GUARD (CONT'D)

Any of you guys got a light?

TIM

Sorry sir.

SECURITY GUARD

Yeah, I should quit. Don't want to end up in a hearse.

ELLIOT

It's not a --

Tim punches Elliot's arm.

TIM

Have a good night sir.

The guard meanders off.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE/BASEMENT - NIGHT

The boys stare at the Rocker Guy's body on the floor.

RICHARD

We're so going to jail.

ELLIOT

Relax. He was already dead. And we're just borrowing him.

TIM

I thought Cranmores didn't do jail.

The red doorbell light on the ceiling starts flashing, from upstairs the faint sound of someone KNOCKING.

RICHARD
I knew it! We're dead.

GRANDMA
Door! Door!

Alicia appears on the new security camera feed.

ELLIOT
Quiet.

TIM
She knows?

RICHARD
She cannot know.

ELLIOT
No, shut-up.

They listen -- creaky footsteps above, the basement doorknob rattles, muddled conversation between Alicia and Grandma, more footsteps, and then the front door closing.

They watch Alicia leave on the security camera feed. Elliot pulls Alicia's ID from his pocket.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
She was probably just looking for this. It'll be OK. Let's get some clothes on him.

INT. BASEMENT - LATER

Tim, Richard, and Elliot stare at the Rocker dressed in Elliot's clothes.

TIM
He doesn't look right.

RICHARD
Maybe because he's dead.

BANG! BANG! BANG! -- someone pounds on the basement doors.

RICHARD (CONT'D)
Who the holy hell is that?

ELLIOT
I got it, don't worry.

Elliot lets in the Gay Biker.

BIKER
So, who's the victim?

ELLIOT
He's passed out drunk. Can you
still do it?

BIKER
Oh, I've done some naughty things
to bad boys who passed out on me
before, but a tattoo, I don't know.

Elliot raises his elbow, shows his sombrero tattoo.

ELLIOT
We all got them.

He indicates for Tim and Richard to show theirs.

RICHARD
Actually, do you do removals?

ELLIOT
We just want him to wake up
tomorrow and know he's our best
friend.

BIKER
Well, that is so sweet. Where do I
plug in?

INT. BASEMENT - LATER

Elliot, Tim, and Richard hold their elbows next to the Rocker
Guy's new sombrero tattoo. It's a perfect match.

RICHARD
What about dental records?

ELLIOT
We're not keeping the body.

Elliot holds up a giant set of souvenir shark jaws.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
All we need is the elbow.

RICHARD
Wait, what?

Elliot places the jaws around the Rocker Guy's elbow, uses a
giant "C" clamp to hold the jaws shut.

ELLIOT

Help me.

Elliot tightens the clamp, the jaws close against the elbow puncturing the skin.

TIM

Do what exactly?

Elliot tightens the clamp until the jaws snap. He grabs a Dremel tool from his workbench, fires it up.

RICHARD

No way. My career is over.

TIM

You're a psycho!

ELLIOT

We're in too deep. This has to be done. Tonight.

Elliot cuts away at the elbow - skin, blood, and bone splatter his face.

TIM

Who even are you?

He grabs Tim's El Santo mask, puts it on, and saws maniacally -- and finally holds up the elbow, triumphant.

Elliot's POV -- they're all covered in gore.

RICHARD

Now what Einstein?

ELLIOT

Now we borrow the Captain's boat.

RICHARD

That will never happen.

I/E. MAYOR'S BOAT - DAY

Richard drives, speeding South.

RICHARD

We are so not friends.

Elliot touches his sombrero tattoo.

ELLIOT

For life is for life, amigo.

TIM

I need a breakfast beer.

Tim reaches into a giant ice box. The elbow floats among cans of beer and boxes of bait.

The boat approaches the Mexican border -- a giant fence extends off the beach, out into the sea.

A Coast Guard cutter appears, Richard slows the boat to a stop and lets the engine idle.

ELLIOT

Damn.

RICHARD

What do we do?

Elliot drops to his knees, slides off the back of the boat into the water.

ELLIOT

Keep the engine idling.

Elliot goes under just as the Coast Guard cutter gets to them. A COAST GUARDSMAN (30's) barks through a bullhorn.

GUARDSMAN

Permission to come aboard?

RICHARD

Holy hell.

EXT. UNDERWATER - DAY

Elliot tries to control his breath. Small air bubbles blend in with the backwash from the outboard.

ELLIOT'S POV -- The hull of the Coast Guard cutter overhead.

I/E. MAYOR'S BOAT - DAY

The Guardsman and a SECOND GUARDSMAN (30'S) begin a routine safety inspection.

GUARDSMAN

You boys got your ID and papers?

INTERCUT ELLIOT AND THE GUYS ON THE BOAT

- Elliot pinches his nose.

- Guardsmen rummage the bulkheads, count life-jackets.
- Elliot looking frantic.
- Guardsmen search the interior of the boat.
- Elliot pops his head up, gasps, goes back under.
- Guardsman 1 pops his head out, looks over the railing.
- Guardsmen switch lights on and off, check the radios.

I/E. MAYOR'S BOAT

GUARDSMAN

Well, everything looks in order.

He notice the large ice box.

GUARDSMAN (CONT'D)

As long as there's no illegals
hiding in here.

He flips the lid, reaches in, and pulls out...

GUARDSMAN (CONT'D)

Anchovies?

RICHARD

Most ideal for catching Tuna.

TIM

But mostly not ideal on pizza.

Guardsman drops the bait, nods to his partner. They hop back onto their boat and speed away.

RICHARD

That was uncomfortably close.

TIM

Totally.

Elliot climbs aboard, flops onto his back, coughing.

ELLIOT

What took so long? I nearly died
down there.

I/E. MAYOR'S BOAT - LATER

Offshore from the El Faro Campground in Ensenada. Elliot grabs the elbow from the ice box, throws it overboard, along with a pair of swim shorts and his wallet.

ELLIOT

Time to say adios to Elliot Boardman.

TIM

He was a lousy friend.

RICHARD

Indeed.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

The Mayor and Secretary stand next to a BEEPING fax machine. He pulls a potato chip out of the paper feed.

MAYOR

First the server, and now this? Something is always getting fouled up around here. It's worse than a damn boat.

Mayor punches the fax machine.

MAYOR (CONT'D)

Where is our blasted IT guy?

EXT. EL FARO CAMPGROUND/BEACH - DAY

A proud MEXICAN BOY (5) drags his mother (25) by the hand to towards a sand castle decorated with Elliot's credit cards, ID, and elbow. She sees the elbow and SCREAMS.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Tim, Richard, and Elliot open the basement doors. The stench of dead Rocker Guy hits them hard.

RICHARD

Holy hell!

TIM

Smells like rotten pepperoni, only worse.

ELLIOT
We have to move him.

TIM
We?

RICHARD
Where?

ELLIOT
Back to where we got him.

TIM
Screw that! Security guy saw us
man. No deal.

RICHARD
I concur. What's your plan B?

ELLIOT
You're not gonna like it.

INT. CADILLAC - NIGHT

Interstate Highway 5. Tim, Richard, and Elliot drive North, windows down. Rocker Guy's body bag in the back. Richard pinches his nose, Tim has his nose tucked into his shirt.

TIM
Hey pull off, I gotta whiz.

INT. 7-11 STORE - NIGHT

Tim, Richard, and Elliot stand in front of a freezer case. Tim points out the frozen pizza options.

TIM
See this one? Crust tastes like
cardboard. This one? Fake ass
cheese. This one has food coloring
that will wreck your DNA. Plus you
have to drive all the way to a
fluoro lit buzz kill like this place
to get them. Fro-2-Go is going to
blow up.

ELLIOT
Can we go?

EXT. 7-11 STORE - NIGHT

The trio exit. Tim and Richard fight over a bag of junk food. Only Elliot notices a SKINNY MAN (60's) peering into the windows of the Cadillac.

ELLIOT
Hold up.

SKINNY MAN
This your car?

Elliot, Tim, and Richard freeze.

SKINNY MAN (CONT'D)
Seventy-one right? My old man had one of these. We used to play in the back. Can't do that anymore. Pesky seat belts. No fun.

ELLIOT
Not unless you want to live.

SKINNY MAN
Five-hundred cubic inch?

Elliot shrugs.

SKINNY MAN (CONT'D)
That V-8 is a total torque monster. Not too many of these around. Mind if I look inside?

ELLIOT
Actually, we're kind of in a hurry.

They jump in the Caddy and peel out.

SKINNY MAN
Love that front wheel drive!

INT. CADILLAC - LATER

Nobody talks. Tim hangs a handful of Green Tree air fresheners on the rear view mirror.

EXT. INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 5 - NIGHT

The Caddy takes the Del Mar Fairgrounds exit.

EXT. SAN DIEGUITO RIVER - NIGHT

They're parked near a train bridge that crosses a small estuary. Elliot checks his watch.

ELLIOT
Let's do this.

EXT. SAN DIEGUITO RIVER TRAIN BRIDGE - NIGHT

Elliot and Tim drag the body bag to the middle of the bridge.

INT. CADILLAC - CONTINUOUS

Richard keeps watch, talks on the walkie-talkie

RICHARD
What if a train comes?

INTERCUT RICHARD AND THE GUYS ON BRIDGE

Elliot puts down the body bag, pulls out his walkie-talkie.

ELLIOT
A train is supposed to come.

TIM
Say "over."

Elliot pockets the walkie-talkie, unzips the bag.

TIM (CONT'D)
You're supposed to say "over."

ELLIOT
Shut-up and help me.

TIM
I'm not touching him.

Elliot tugs the body bag, slides the Rocker Guy onto the track.

RICHARD
Train.

Elliot adjusts the Rocker Guy's shoulder so it's on the rail.

RICHARD (CONT'D)
Train!

Elliot pulls the arm out of the bag and lays it on the track.

RICHARD (CONT'D)

Train!!!

HURRRNK! -- The train horn blasts as they run off the bridge.

I/E CADILLAC - CONTINUOUS

The boys watch the train start to cross the bridge.

TIM

So what's the plan?

ELLIOT

Train runs over his shoulder.
Everything falls into the water, by
the time they find him, they'll
never miss the elbow.

RICHARD

In theory.

ELLIOT

In theory.

SCREECH -- The train slows down, but not enough.

TIM

I feel like maybe we crossed a
line.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Elliot sits next to Grandma's bed. Alicia arrives.

ALICIA

You're here.

She catches a whiff of lingering Rocker Guy stench.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Whoa. Did something die?

GRANDMA

Not me, so you can leave now.

ELLIOT

Let's go outside.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE/BACKYARD - DAY

Elliot in hat and sunglasses.

ELLIOT
Think you'd ever go back to Mexico?

ALICIA
No way. Love it here. I'm first generation American.

ELLIOT
Seventh.

ALICIA
That has its advantages, I'm sure.

ELLIOT
If you only knew. I'd go live in Mexico in a minute. Or the Maldives, Vanuatu, Vietnam.

ALICIA
What's so special about those places?

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Elliot researches countries without extradition treaties online. All three meet the criteria.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE/BACKYARD - DAY

ELLIOT
Oh, nothing. Just could use a holiday.

ALICIA
Between the Home Carer work and Med. School, I won't get a holiday for a long time, but if you wanted to you could show me what a seventh generation La Jolla local does for fun.

ELLIOT
You mean like go out? I can't, I mean, I want to but --

ALICIA
Smooth.

ELLIOT
OK, wait. How do you feel about a dress up date?

ALICIA
Like cocktail party?

ELLIOT
More like Halloween.

On Alicia, intrigued.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE/SERVER ROOM - DAY

Mayor taps angrily at a keyboard on a server rack.

MAYOR
P-A-S-S-W-O-R-D.

Tries again.

MAYOR (CONT'D)
One-two-three-four-five-six.

Tries again.

MAYOR (CONT'D)
M-O-N-K-E-Y-A-S-S.

He smashes the keyboard. The secretary pokes her head in, offers the Mayor her bag of chips. He knocks her hand away.

MAYOR (CONT'D)
This is mutiny! I want all hands
on deck. Find that landlubber!

EXT. MT. SOLEDAD - DAY

Elliot and Alicia are having a picnic. Elliot is barely recognizable with a long hair wig, leather pants, leather cuffs, leather jacket, eyeliner.

Alicia is in a tight dress, hair feathered, sexy makeup, high heels. The perfect groupie to Elliot's Joey Ramone.

ELLIOT
I thought Doctors only dated
Doctors.

ALICIA
I'm not a Doctor, yet. And
besides, they're boring. "This
journal says this, this journal
says that." Snore.

ELLIOT
 Hope I don't see you on the
 operating table.

ALICIA
 Oh come on, that stuff is
 important, but you have to have a
 life too you know?

A TOURIST COUPLE approach to check out the view. Elliot
 hides his face.

ALICIA (CONT'D)
 Embarrassed to be seen with me?

ELLIOT
 No way. You look amazing.

ALICIA
 Well then let's go someplace where
 you can show me off.

ELLIOT
 I want to, it's just, I should
 probably get home and make dinner
 for your favorite person.

Elliot opens the Granny-Cam on his phone -- Grandma is
 rocking out with headphones on. Elliot shows Alicia

ALICIA
 You're sweet. I like how you look
 after her. Even if she is a perra.
 Most gringos stick their elders in
 sad little retirement communities,
 away out of sight.

ELLIOT
 I could never do that. She's all
 the family I got.

Alicia leans over, kisses Elliot. A bus pulls up and lets
 off a load of TOURISTS.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
 We should go.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Richard compares campaign poster options.

- "Get more with Cranmore!"

- "Live more - Vote Cranmore!"
- "Don't settle for less - Vote Cran-MORE!"

INT. DOMINO'S PIZZA - DAY

Tim tapes a printout of the Fro-2-Go logo -- a girl with a pepperoni pizza Afro -- onto a Domino's box and admires it. A co-worker comes in and Tim quickly stashes the box.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Elliot fixes computers at his workbench, bored.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Macho Cop and Lady Cop knock on the front door.

GRANDMA
(from inside)
Help! Help!

They draw their guns, push open the door.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Cops barge in, scope the place.

GRANDMA
Get that chica out of my house!

LADY COP
Ma'am?

Alicia runs into the room, holding a banana.

MACHO COP
Freeze!

Alicia, puts her hands up.

ALICIA
(to Grandma)
Seriously?

GRANDMA
Arrest her.

Cops put their guns away.

LADY COP
I remember you. Nurse right?

ALICIA
Home Carer, yes. And I'm legal too. Do you remember that?

LADY COP
If you don't mind we need to have a word with Mrs. Boardman, alone.

Alicia goes into the kitchen.

MACHO COP
Ma'am, we regret to inform you that your grandson, Elliot Boardman is deceased.

The Lady Cop hands over Elliot's wallet in an evidence bag.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE/KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Alicia stands by the door listening, confused.

GRANDMA
That can't be.

MACHO COP
Just after he was reported missing his bank accounts were emptied and credit cards maxed out. Could have been kidnappers, drug dealers, who knows down there.

LADY COP
Partial remains were found in Ensenada, Mexico and those will be delivered to the local Medical Examiner tomorrow, so you can make arrangements.

GRANDMA
Men in this family, always been lousy with money.

LADY COP
I'm very sorry Ma'am.

GRANDMA
(into the Granny-Cam)
Elliot! Elliot!

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE/KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Alicia cracks open the door. Elliot grabs her from behind, covers her mouth with his hand.

ELLIOT

Shh.

ELLIOT AND ALICIA'S POV -- The cops think Grandma is nuts and leave.

LADY COP

Someone will be in touch.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Elliot releases Alicia, she pushes him away.

ALICIA

Fucking Norman Bates!

ELLIOT

What? I'm not.

Grandma cries on the Granny-Cam. Elliot turns it off.

ALICIA

You live in a empty mansion with your crazy Grandma. The cops think you died in Mexico?

ELLIOT

I can explain.

Alicia looks for a way out. Sees her ID lanyard.

ALICIA

What the hell?

ELLIOT

I've been meaning to give that back.

ALICIA

Do you know what a pain it is to replace these?

ELLIOT

I'm sorry.

ALICIA

You're sorry? You and your Grandma are both nuts.

(MORE)

ALICIA (CONT'D)
 You know what? Do whatever you
 want, but I quit. This is too
 weird.

Elliot blocks her path.

ELLIOT
 Hang on a sec. Please.

ALICIA
 Yo. I'm from Chula Vista homie. I
 can hurt you.

Elliot doesn't move. CRUNCH -- He gets a knee to the nuts
 and hits the deck, Alicia bolts upstairs.

GRANDMA (O.S.)
 Get me a Popsicle!

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Steve is across the street in his Ford Mustang, studying an
 NFL Official Rule Book. He watches Alicia leave.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE/KITCHEN

Grandma is out of bed, guzzling Scotch from the bottle.
 Elliot comes through the basement door and startles her.

GRANDMA'S POV -- Elliot has a white aura around him, almost
 glowing.

GRANDMA
 An angel.

Elliot extends his hand.

ELLIOT
 Come on Grandma, let's go.

GRANDMA
 Is it my time?

ELLIOT
 The booze and meds are just messing
 with you Grandma. Let's get you to
 bed OK?

GRANDMA
 Are there Popsicles there?

ELLIOT
All the Popsicles you want.

Elliot tucks her in. She nods off.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Steve chats up the chip eating Secretary.

STEVE GREY
Nerds like him can't handle the
mezcal, but I don't think he's
dead.

SECRETARY
Well, he better get himself back
here fast. The fax is busted and
the Captain is not happy.

Richard walks past, sees Steve, changes direction.

STEVE GREY
Hey! Nerd!

RICHARD
Sorry, I'm late for... a Committee
meeting.

STEVE GREY
This won't take long. I just
wanted to give you your check.

RICHARD
Oh. OK. Great.

Steve reaches into his pocket and pulls out a middle finger.

STEVE GREY
Sucker. We don't pay squat if he
offed himself.

RICHARD
He didn't kill himself.

STEVE GREY
Maybe not, but it would make sense.
No family. Home about to be
repo'd. Guy probably had the
suicide hotline on speed dial.

RICHARD
Don't talk about him like that.

STEVE GREY
Ooh. Who's going to stop me?

Richard storms off.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)
How's your Dad's Jag?

Steve grabs a potato chip out of the Secretary's hand, pops it in his mouth, trying to be seductive.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)
What else do you like to nibble on?

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Elliot checks the Granny-Cam -- she's licking her fingers. Someone BANGS on the basement door, scaring him.

RICHARD (O.S.)
Elliot. It's us.

Elliot opens the doors. Richard and Tim scramble in.

ELLIOT
That is not even close to the secret knock.

RICHARD
Steve knows.

TIM
You don't know that.

ELLIOT
Knows what?

RICHARD
He's not going to pay. Thinks maybe you killed yourself.

Richard's phone rings.

RICHARD (CONT'D)
(on phone)
Richard Cranmore speaking, how may I be of service to you and our community?

Tim and Elliot roll their eyes.

RICHARD (CONT'D)
I see. Yes sir. Thank you.

ELLIOT

You can be of service to me by
loaning me some coin till this is
over.

RICHARD

They want us to ID your body.

INT. CITY MORGUE - DAY

A CORONER (50's) slides open a metal drawer, peels back a
white sheet to reveal... the elbow.

TIM

That's him.

CORONER

How can you be so sure?

Tim and Richard flash their matching elbow sombrero tats.

CORONER (CONT'D)

Cute.

RICHARD

What was the cause of death?

CORONER

We don't have much to work with,
obviously, but the morphology, skin
tears, and bone chipping is
consistent with shark bite.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Elliot paces. BANG! BANG! He let's Tim and Richard in.

ELLIOT

Why can't you use the secret knock?

TIM

Who else is going to come here?
Everyone thinks you're dead.

ELLIOT

What happened at the morgue?

RICHARD

I never thought I'd say this, but
the ruse appears to be working.
They had your elbow. Bought the
whole shark thing too.

TIM

Yeah, meathead Steve will have to pay up as soon as he gets the report from the Coroner.

ELLIOT

Forget it. I'm out.

RICHARD

What do you mean your out?

ELLIOT

I'm out. This is never going to work. I'm going crazy in here.

TIM

You practically lived in here for three years and now, when our asses, not to mention a boatload of cash, is on the line, you want out?

ELLIOT

I hooked up with Alicia.

TIM

Define "hooked up."

ELLIOT

And she knows.

TIM

Knows knows?

ELLIOT

I don't know, she just, suspects. Something.

TIM

So she doesn't know?

ELLIOT

Still, we have to abort.

RICHARD

That is inconvenient.

TIM

No way man. We're so close. Just give it a couple more days, and then you can take the naughty Nurse out in style. Somewhere far from here, but still, in style.

ELLIOT
I need to find her, now.

RICHARD
That cannot happen. And you cannot
tell her anything, ever.

TIM
This has to stay between us.

Tim starts the three-way high-five.

TIM (CONT'D)
Amigos.

Richard puts his hand up, they wait for Elliot. He
reluctantly does the high-five/elbow bump.

TIM/RICHARD/ELLIOT
For life.

RICHARD
Whatever you do, don't leave the
house.

EXT. CHULA VISTA STREET - DAY

Elliot leans against a lamp post, barely recognizable in a
plaid shirt, khaki pants, black sunglasses, a fake goatee and
a red bandana on his head.

He watches a house across the street. Six GANG BANGERS with
blue bandanas watch him from the corner.

ELLIOT'S POV -- Alicia steps out of her house, onto the
sidewalk.

Elliot crosses the street. The gang bangers follow him.

SCARY GANG LEADER
Yo esse, I think maybe you are
lost. You need some directions?

ELLIOT
No. It's cool.

SCARY GANG LEADER
Oh!

He turns to his crew, big smile, arms spread wide.

SCARY GANG LEADER (CONT'D)
 Homie says its cool. I didn't
 realize that. Did you guys realize
 that it was cool?

They all shake their heads "no." Gang Leader shrugs at
 Elliot, pulls out a pistol and uses it to nudge Elliot's
 sunglasses off his face.

SCARY GANG LEADER (CONT'D)
 Is this cool?

ELLIOT
 No, not at all. Look, I'm just
 visiting someone.

SCARY GANG LEADER
 Or stalking, but hey, its cool.

He pistol whips Elliot -- hard -- knocks him to the ground.

SCARY GANG LEADER (CONT'D)
 I think Mr. Cool likes our women.

TATTOOED GANG GUY
 Homie got that Latina feeva.

SCARY GANG LEADER
 (calling after Alicia)
 Hey Leash! We caught a secret
 admirer.

Alicia turns around, sees Elliot on the ground.

ALICIA
 Elliot?

Elliot peels off his fake goatee and rubs his jaw.

ALICIA (CONT'D)
 Antonio Garcia you put that piece
 away right now.

SCARY GANG LEADER
 You know this creeper?

ELLIOT
 You know this dude?

ALICIA
 Don't make me call your abuela.

Gang Leader puts his gun away. Alicia offers Elliot a hand.

SCARY GANG LEADER
Next time you come in this hood
wear blue holmes. Unless you got a
death wish.

ELLIOT
Blue. Right.

EXT. ALICIA'S HOUSE - DAY

Alicia has a First-Aid kit and patches Elliot up.

ELLIOT
How'd you do that? They could have
killed us.

ALICIA
They won't bother you again. They
know who runs this hood.

ELLIOT
Who?

ALICIA
Abuelas. Grandmothers.

ELLIOT
Mine isn't exactly running anything
anymore.

ALICIA
Except her mouth.

ELLIOT
True. Listen, I did something
stupid. When my parents died I
inherited a ton of debt and I got
myself into a bit of trouble and
I'm sorry if it rubbed off on you,
but I'm working it out and I was
hoping maybe we could try again.

ALICIA
I don't know what you're talking
about exactly, but a lot of people
got it worse than you'll ever know.

ELLIOT
It's just that, I really like you.

ALICIA
 Look around Elliot. I like you
 too, but you and me? Two different
 worlds.

ELLIOT
 So you're not coming back?

ALICIA
 I'm surrounded by enough trouble.
 I don't need whatever yours is too.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Steve sits in his Ford Mustang watching the house, NFL
 Official Rule Book on the dash. He reads Elliot's obituary
 in the newspaper.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Tim and Richard, dressed in dark suits, talk to each other on
 the walkie-talkies. They are five feet apart.

TIM
 Once this funeral is done, we're
 rich. Over.

RICHARD
 If he doesn't muck it up.

TIM
 I wonder where he'll go. Over.

RICHARD
 Quite possibly Vietnam. No
 extradition.

TIM
 No pizza either. Chopstick food
 only. He's going to hate it.
 Over. Wait, not over. Maybe I
 should go with him and set up a
 Fro-2-Go franchise. Now over.

RICHARD
 You don't have to say over. I'm
 right here, I know when you're
 over.

TIM
 Copy that.

RICHARD
What if his Grandmother says
something?

TIM
I got a plan. Over.

Elliot comes downstairs holding binoculars.

ELLIOT
He's still out there.

TIM
Guess that means you're not coming.

RICHARD
Pity to miss your own funeral.

TIM
I'll get her ready.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Tim sits on Grandma's bed, pulls out a joint.

TIM
Hey Mrs. B. So, this is a special
cigarette that will make today's
adventure more, interesting.

Grandma reaches into her night stand, pulls out a bong.

GRANDMA
Spark it up rookie.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Richard and Elliot come up from the basement and see Tim and
Grandma eating Popsicles.

TIM
Mrs. B is rad! Check out this
binger.

RICHARD
Your plan was to get her baked?

ELLIOT
Grandma, is this yours?

GRANDMA

Its a loaner. From your biker friend. He's got the kind.

TIM

(checking his watch)

Damn! We gotta go. Funeral is now. Grab us some roadies.

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - DAY

A SMALL CROWD gathers around Elliot's grave.

I/E. CADILLAC - DAY

Tim and Richard sit in the car with Grandma. Tim gives her a handful of pills and a 40-ounce beer.

TIM

Time to take your medicine Mrs. B.

GRANDMA

Such a nice boy.

RICHARD

You sure about this?

TIM

No, but at least this way if she says anything people will just think...

He gestures "she's crazy."

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - CONTINUOUS

Elliot and Richard escort Grandma towards the crowd. Among them Larry Bertleman and the Gay Biker.

GRANDMA

Keep your eyes peeled boys.
Funerals are great pick up spots.

The Priest (same one as in the opening scene) waits for Tim, Richard, and Grandma to sit down.

PRIEST

We are gathered here today to honor the life of Elliot Boardman.

Tim hands some index cards to the Priest.

RICHARD
 Father, if you please.

PRIEST
 (reading)
 Elliot Boardman was a great lover,
 with a massive...

Priest looks at Tim, shakes his head in dismay.

PRIEST (CONT'D)
 Elliot Boardman was a great lover
of life with a massive desire to
 make his deceased parents proud.
 (he tosses the cards)
 He was a good son and the last of
 the Boardmans, a family who have
 been a part of our La Jolla
 community for over a century.

GRANDMA
 I need to suck something.

GAY BIKER
 Oh dear. Methinks someone's had a
 little too much smokey-smoke.

GRANDMA
 He's not dead.

GAY BIKER
 Everything is fine darling. Just
 breathe.

The Gay Biker comforts Grandma and makes sexy eyes at Larry.

Steve shows up, scans the group, suspicious.

PRIEST
 May he rest in peace. Amen.

Steve approaches Grandma.

STEVE GREY
 Mrs. Boardman, my condolences.

GRANDMA
 You know my Elliot?

STEVE GREY
 Know? You said know, not knew.

GRANDMA
I need a Popsicle. Or a beer would
be nice.

STEVE GREY
Mrs. Boardman, is your grandson
still alive?

PRIEST
Sir, if you don't mind. We are at
his funeral.

STEVE GREY
Are we?

Alicia shows up with flowers, greets Tim and Richard.

ALICIA
Sorry to be late. I had to see
this for myself.

TIM
He will be missed.

RICHARD
Indeed.

ALICIA
You don't look very sad.

Tim pulls a cut onion from his pocket and rubs it in his eye.

RICHARD
People grieve in different ways.

Grandma sees Alicia.

GRANDMA
Why does she keep coming back?

ALICIA
(whispering)
He's not dead at all, is he?

Tim and Richard dodge the question and quickly escort Grandma
away from Alicia.

RICHARD
Sorry!

STEVE GREY
(shouting)
I'm onto you!

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - HILL

Elliot watches from above, a baseball hat hiding his face.

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - FUNERAL

Alicia throws her flowers into the grave -- there's no coffin, just a small urn.

Steve looks around and sees Elliot on the hill, too far away to know for sure it's him.

STEVE GREY

Hey!

Steve sprints up the hill.

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - HILL - CONTINUOUS

Steve gets to the top where Elliot was. No sign of him.

STEVE GREY

I will not be vanquished!

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Elliot lays on his bed, staring at the ceiling. Tim and Richard hang out, still in their funeral clothes.

ELLIOT

I'm telling you he saw me.

TIM

You don't know that for sure.

ELLIOT

My Grandmother thinks I'm a ghost, Alicia thinks I'm a dick, and I'm still broke. This was a great idea.

RICHARD

You've had your funeral. They'll have to cut checks soon.

ELLIOT

Let's just turn ourselves in.

TIM

No way. We gotta hang tight man.

MONTAGE

- Elliot alone in the basement, making faces in a mirror.
- Elliot feeding Grandma a rubbery slice of Fro-2-Go.
- Elliot soldering components. Grandma comes on the Granny-Cam, looks like she may be masturbating. Elliot closes the video window.
- Elliot in bed, bouncing a ball against the wall.
- Elliot peering out the window at a FAMILY across the street playing lawn darts.
- Elliot boiling 2-Minute noodles on his camp stove.
- Elliot doing jumping-jacks in the bloody El Santo mask.

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - NIGHT

Moonrise over San Diego, the city skyline sparkles.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Elliot needs a bath, a shave, and a haircut. Tim and Richard sit across from him, deadly serious.

RICHARD

We've got a problem.

TIM

Serious problem.

ELLIOT

(freaking out)

Is it Steve? I knew it. That meathead was onto me at the funeral. Now we're going to go to jail, well not you, because Cranmores don't do jail, but me for sure and maybe Tim. I'm such a screw up.

RICHARD

Can we just tell you what the problem is?

Tim turns a paper bag upside down, stacks of bills fall out.

TIM

How to spend all this money!

ELLIOT

What?!

RICHARD

After the funeral, meathead had to pay.

TIM

What are we drinking? I'm buying. Whatever you want man. We'll turn The Matrix into party central!

ELLIOT

Screw that. I don't want to spend another second in here.

RICHARD

You can't leave though.

ELLIOT

Watch me.

INT. LIMOUSINE - DAY

Elliot has his head out the sunroof. He's wearing a blonde wig, fedora, sunglasses and a suit.

ELLIOT

Woo-hoo!

Elliot plops down into the seat. Richard mixes drinks. Tim turns the music up.

EXT. KIMO'S KNIGHT KLUB - NIGHT

The three amigos exit the limo, walk to the front of the line like VIP ballers and get ushered straight in.

INT. KIMO'S KNIGHT KLUB - NIGHT

Tim, Richard, and Elliot sit in the VIP section drinking Cristal. A waitress delivers more bottles.

WAITRESS

Anything else I can do for you gentlemen?

Tim gives her a fat tip.

TIM

Lot's of things

The waitress laughs and ruffles Tim's hair.

INT. KIMO'S KNIGHT KLUB - LATER

Richard has his hands full with two FAKE TAN GIRLS.

FAKE TAN GIRL 1
So Mister Councilman, can you make
it legal to drink on the beach?

FAKE TAN GIRL 2
Yeah, we love to party on the
beach.

A DITSY CHICK (20's) sits on Elliot's lap, takes off his
sunglasses.

DITSY CHICK
You hiding a black eye? Or hiding
from the law?

ELLIOT'S POV -- Blurry Steve look-alikes are everywhere.

ELLIOT
I think I'm gonna go.

TIM
What? No way. Babes are just
getting warmed up.

Elliot grabs his sunglasses back and bolts. The Ditz pivots
to Tim, holding out her glass for a refill.

DITSY CHICK
I'm warmed up already.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Elliot and Tim eat a Fro-2-Go pizza.

TIM
I think I perfected it.

Elliot nods -- "Not bad."

ELLIOT
Hey, I'm sorry about bailing last
night.

TIM
It's cool. This is good right?

ELLIOT
It's at least as good as Domino's.

TIM
Aw come on!

The doorbell light flashes. Grandma comes on the Granny-Cam.

GRANDMA
Door! Door!

Elliot checks the front door security camera feed. It's Larry Bertleman.

ELLIOT
Shh.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Larry sticks his head in the door.

LARRY
Mrs. Boardman?

GRANDMA
Jerkface.

LARRY
You here alone? Where's the Nurse?

GRANDMA
Fired. Elliot and his friends look after me.

Larry notices the bong.

LARRY
I see. Mrs. Boardman, Elliot is gone. And it's time for you to think about your next move. The IRS are taking the house. The silver lining is, once they get their money, you'll get the rest. A substantial amount that should easily cover the cost of whichever retirement community you choose. I brought you some brochures.

GRANDMA
No, take my night stand.

LARRY
They won't take your night stand.
I'm sure you can keep that.

Larry drops some brochures on Grandma's lap.

LARRY (CONT'D)
I'll get the Nurse to come look in
on you. Figure out where you want
to end up in the meantime.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

The Mayor sits at his desk tapping angrily at his computer keyboard. He hits a key -- BEEP! Hits another key -- BEEP! He pushes the monitor off his desk.

MAYOR
Blow me down! Cranmore!

Richard pokes his head in.

MAYOR (CONT'D)
I need that password!

RICHARD
Aye aye Captain.

MAYOR
(dismissing him)
Anchors aweigh!

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Steve sits in his Mustang, eating chips, watching Elliot's house. He crumples the bag and drives off.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Elliot gives Grandma a purple Popsicle.

ELLIOT
Grandma, I need you to do
something.

INT. LARRY BERTLEMAN'S OFFICE - DAY

Larry plays a game on his PC. Grandma enters wearing a backpack.

LARRY

Mrs. Boardman! I'm surprised to see you. Did you decide on a home?

GRANDMA

Yes. Mine.

Grandma empties the backpack full of cash on Larry's desk.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)

Jerkface.

INT. CADILLAC - DAY - TRAVELING

Elliot drives in disguise. Grandma rides shotgun. They pass a strip mall, a sign says "Fro-2-Go! Coming Soon." Election posters hang from lamp posts, "Score with Cranmore."

Grandma pats Elliot's knee.

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY/OFFICE - DAY

The Caddy pulls up outside the office. A CEMETERY WORKER (70's) rounds the corner carrying a spade.

CEMETERY WORKER

Hearse parking is over there.

ELLIOT

It's not... Yep, OK.

Elliot parks, helps Grandma out of the car, and escorts her to greet the cemetery worker.

GRANDMA

I want to prepay for my burial and visit our family plot.

CEMETERY WORKER

Not too many breathers arrive by hearse, but I understand. Some people like to experience Pathways in life before they "experience" it in the afterlife.

He reaches above the office door and pulls down a key.

CEMETERY WORKER (CONT'D)

Come on in.

INT. CEMETERY OFFICE - DAY

The Worker types away on an old PC.

CEMETERY WORKER
OK, you're all set.

He slides a credit card receipt to Grandma, she signs.

CEMETERY WORKER (CONT'D)
May I show you to the site?

ELLIOT
We know where it is, thank you.

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - DAY

Sunset. Elliot and Grandma stroll, hand in hand.

GRANDMA
Isn't it beautiful?

They approach a marble bench.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)
Let's sit. It's good to get out
of that stuffy old house.

ELLIOT
I thought you loved the house.

GRANDMA
I've loved my life there, but a
house without Popsicles isn't
really a home at all.

They watch the sunset in silence.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)
Popsicles is a metaphor for love.

ELLIOT
Yeah. I got that.

Grandma leans on Elliot's shoulder.

GRANDMA
I think I'm ready to go.

ELLIOT
I'll get the car.

GRANDMA

No. I mean, I'm ready. To go.

I/E CADILLAC - NIGHT

Elliot and Grandma drive in silence. Elliot notices Steve's Mustang tailing them and slows down for a red light.

ELLIOT

Hang on Grandma.

He floors it, swerving wildly through the intersection.

GRANDMA

(loving it)

Wee!

I/E STEVE'S FORD MUSTANG - CONTINUOUS

Steve stuck at the red light, pounds the steering wheel.

STEVE GREY

Major penalty!

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Elliot helps Grandma quickly up the steps.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Elliot tucks Grandma into bed, frantic.

ELLIOT

Remember, I'm not here OK?

GRANDMA

Beer me before you go?

Elliot heads into the kitchen.

ELLIOT (O.S.)

I'm going to stay over at Tim's.

Elliot returns with a six-pack.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

I'll sneak back in the morning to check up on you, and in the meantime, if you need me, use this.

Elliot taps the Granny-Cam. Kisses her good-bye.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

Love you.

Grandma washes down a handful of pills with her beer, then grabs her bong, sparks it up, and coughs a lungful of smoke.

GRANDMA

If you don't cough, you don't get off.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Steve snoops around house armed with a big metal flashlight. He tries the basement doors -- locked. He smashes the lock with his light and goes inside.

INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Steve's flashlight beam cuts across the basement. CRASH! -- He knocks over a pile of computer parts.

He turns off the flashlight. Waits, listening. Silence.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Grandma in bed, super high, sucks the hell out of a Popsicle. CRASH! -- She hears Steve knocking more things over.

She grabs the Granny-Cam and pushes "Record" instead of "Call."

GRANDMA

(super high/drunk)

Elliot. Elliot? They're here.
They're coming for me.

She looks up, Steve is right next to her.

GRANDMA'S POV -- Steve has a spooky flashlight aura.

STEVE GREY

(slow, warped speech)

Where is Elliot Mrs. Boardman?

Grandma flips on her bedside lamp, blinding Steve. She reaches under the covers and pulls out a giant black dildo, and smacks him in the face with it.

GRANDMA
Get away devil! Be gone.

STEVE GREY
I'm not the devil you old bitch.

Grandma keeps smacking him. Steve yanks the dildo away.

GRANDMA
Please! Not my mandingo dildo!

STEVE GREY
(waving the dildo
menacingly)
Tell. Me. Where. He. Is!

And then, Grandma dies.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)
Mrs. Boardman?

He pats her cheek. No response.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)
Oh no. No. Mrs. Boardman?

Steve hides the dildo under the sheet, turns off the lamp,
and scrambles away.

On Grandma's face: illuminated by the Granny-Cam's flashing
red "Record" light.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Morning sun, birds chirping. Tim pulls up on his Domino's
moped and drops Elliot off.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

ELLIOT
Hey Grandma, I'm back

He goes to kiss her and realizes she's dead. DING DONG! --
Elliot peers out the front door. It's Alicia. She sees him.

ALICIA
I fucking knew it!

Elliot tries to hide.

ALICIA (CONT'D)
I know you're in there. I was at
your funeral pendejo.

Elliot opens the door a crack.

ELLIOT
I'm sorry. There's a lot going on
right now.

Alicia pushes past, heads to Grandma's bed.

ALICIA
Whatever. It's fine.

ELLIOT
It's not fine. I think she's gone.

Alicia checks Grandma's pulse, the dildo falls off the bed.

ALICIA
Well, it looks like she died happy.

ELLIOT
It's so big.

ALICIA
I'll call the Medical Examiner.
They'll take things from here.

ELLIOT
Listen, you didn't see me OK? It's
important.

ALICIA
Yeah sure. You're dead to me.

INT. LARRY BERTLEMAN'S OFFICE - DAY

Larry sits at his desk on a video call with the Gay Biker.

LARRY
Who is my little dancing Bear?

ON SCREEN -- Gay Biker does a sexy dance.

Elliot walks in.

ELLIOT
Boo!

Larry ends the video call, looks likes he's seen a ghost.

LARRY
Elliot?

ELLIOT
We on the clock?

LARRY
Jesus Elliot. I was at your funeral.

ELLIOT
Yes or no?

LARRY
Sure. We're on the clock. What the hell?

ELLIOT
So we have attorney, client privilege?

LARRY
OK, yes. We do.

ELLIOT
Then I need you to arrange a funeral.

LARRY
Who didn't die this time?

ELLIOT
Grandma.

LARRY
She was just here the other day. Paid off all your father's debt. In cash no less. Must have had it under the proverbial mattress or something. Crazy bat. Why aren't you dead?

ELLIOT
And I want you to sell the house.

LARRY
You're kidding right?

ELLIOT
Fast.

LARRY
Hold on. This is too much. You're supposed to be dead.

ELLIOT
Well, I'm not. And if anyone asks,
I was in Mexico. Now stop the
clock.

Elliot gets up to leave.

LARRY
Where you going now?

ELLIOT
I'm not sure. Maybe Vietnam.

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - NIGHT

Vietnam War movie homage. Elliot, dressed in fatigues and
camo face paint, peers out from a row of hedges. Checks his
perimeter, darts across the lawn towards the office.

EXT. CEMETERY OFFICE - NIGHT

Elliot uses the hidden key above the door.

INT. CEMETERY OFFICE - NIGHT

Elliot works on the old PC.

ON SCREEN -- Elliot changes his plot from "Occupied" to
"Reserved."

Then he grabs a set of keys off the wall.

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - NIGHT

The same set of keys dangles from the ignition of a small
excavator and Elliot is in the driver's seat. He uses a
chain to drag his headstone into his Grandmother's waiting
grave and covers it with dirt, but leaves the grave open.

Then he uses a spade to dig out his own urn. He retrieves a
small roll of turf from the excavator and uses it to cover
the gap where his headstone used to be and to cover the urn
hole. He stands back -- Everything looks OK.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A "For Sale" sign is on the lawn. Across the street Steve
sits in his Mustang watching the house.

STEVE GREY
Freaking nerd.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Elliot is in his underwear, holding his urn, reclined on a camp chair, surrounded by sun lamps. He's sweating and looking burnt.

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - DAY

A perfect day for a funeral, if there is such a thing.

Everyone is there except Elliot. Among them an ELDERLY MAN 1 (80's). The Gay Biker and Larry stand together.

LARRY
Déjà vu right?

GAY BIKER
Tragic. Such a dear lady. Good customer too.

Richard arrives with the Mayor.

RICHARD
Father, I hope I can count on your vote.

PRIEST
As if there's anyone else to vote for.

A second ELDERLY MAN 2 (80's) arrives followed by Tim.

PRIEST (CONT'D)
We'll get started in a moment.

Alicia shows up, nods to Tim and Richard.

A third ELDERLY MAN 3 (80's) arrives and approaches the other two.

ELDERLY MAN 1
Pardon me, but may I inquire as to how you were acquainted with the departed?

ELDERLY MAN 2
She was my lover.

ELDERLY MAN 3
She was my lover!

ELDERLY MAN 1
And mine!

The old men laugh and high-five each other. The priest waits patiently for them to quiet down.

MAYOR
Check out these salty dogs.

ELDERLY MAN 1
What a woman.

ELDERLY MAN 2
Indeed.

ELDERLY MAN 3
That thing she did with her tongue.

They pause to reminisce.

ELDERLY MAN 1
Well gents, seeing as we share a common "herstory" shall we adjourn to the Sunnydale Center? It is bingo night and the ladies, they are awaiting.

ELDERLY MAN 2
They've got a great buffet there.

ELDERLY MAN 3
Only if we get whiskey first.

ELDERLY MAN 1
And condoms.

Elderly Man 2 unfurls a string of condoms.

ELDERLY MAN 2
I've got you covered.

ELDERLY MAN 3
Good man!

The three elderly men head off.

PRIEST
Well. Now that that's over perhaps we can get started?

Everyone gathers around the grave.

PRIEST (CONT'D)

We're gathered here today to honor the long, and, apparently, very vibrant, life of Mrs. Lillian Boardman. Mother, Grandmother and...

Elliot arrives in a suit, his skin bright red from the sun lamps. In his hand, a small cooler.

ELLIOT

Sorry I'm late.

Tim and Richard feign surprise and hug Elliot.

TIM

Hey man!

RICHARD

Holy hell, we thought you were dead! Didn't we?

TIM

Yes. We did. Think that.

ELLIOT

Didn't you get my note?

Wink, wink.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

(loudly)

I decided to stay in Mexico for awhile. Practice my Español.

MAYOR

Thank the mighty winds, now we can get the damn server password.

Steve jumps out from behind a nearby gravestone.

STEVE GREY

I knew you were alive! You nerds are gonna have to pay back all the money now.

ELLIOT

(feigning ignorance)

What money? What's he talking about?

PRIEST

Sir, if you don't mind, we've had enough excitement for one funeral.

STEVE GREY

Woo! I got you. You're going down.

Steve does a touchdown dance. Gay Biker grabs him.

GAY BIKER

I don't mind your moves sugar, just where you're doing them.

STEVE GREY

OK. Just one question though.

Steve points to Elliot.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)

If lobster face is alive, then who is in his grave? Answer me that.

Steve looks around.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)

Wait a second. Where's your grave?

Tim and Richard step up to Steve.

TIM

You should probably leave now.

RICHARD

Indeed.

Steve scratches his head, wanders off, checking gravestones.

STEVE GREY

I'm coming for you nerds!

PRIEST

Ladies and gentlemen, if you don't mind?

ELLIOT

Father, I'd like to say a few words if I may.

Priest nods, "of course."

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

As most of you know, my Grandmother was a woman with many passions.

Elliot opens his small cooler and pulls out a pack of grape Popsicles.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
 Among them was a relentless
 appetite for purple Popsicles.

GAY BIKER
 (aside)
 Purple Haze too.

Elliot takes out a Popsicle, hands the rest to Tim to
 distribute.

ELLIOT
 And she taught me that a life
 without Popsicles, without a little
 sweetness, without love, isn't a
 life worth living at all. She
 wasn't to everyone's taste, but
 I'll miss her.

Elliot holds up his Popsicle in a toast.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
 So here's to you Grandma and all
 your purple majesty.

EXT. PATHWAYS CEMETERY - LATER

Elliot talks with Larry.

LARRY
 She prepaid her own funeral with a
 credit card. Very clever. Credit
 card debt is unsecured debt so when
 you die, it dies with you. Nobody
 can collect it. If only your Dad
 was as good with money as she was.

ELLIOT
 Yeah.

Tim and Richard join them.

RICHARD
 So, what are we going to do about
 el meathead?

ELLIOT
 Pay him back? I'm just glad this
 whole charade is over.

Panicked looks from Richard and Tim.

TIM
But we spent it all on Fro-2-Go.

RICHARD
And my campaign.

ELLIOT
Give me a sec.

Elliot crosses to Alicia.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
Hey.

ALICIA
You need some aloe on that face.

ELLIOT
How are you?

ALICIA
Alive.

ELLIOT
I'm glad you came.

ALICIA
She was mean, but she was
memorable. So what are you all
about?

ELLIOT
I made some bad decisions back
there, but I've got a new lease on
life. And for as long as I'm
alive, you're the sweet thing I
want. Your my Popsicle.

ALICIA
You actually expect that cheese to
work?

Elliot sucks on his Popsicle.

ELLIOT
They are good.

ALICIA
I'll think about it. You pull any
shit, I'll sic my homies on you.

ELLIOT
Whatever, I'll just wear blue.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

The blinds are open, letting in the bright summer sun. Grandma's bed is gone. Only her night stand and lamp remain.

The camping furniture, equipment, and workbench from the basement are now set up in the living room.

Richard, Tim, and Elliot come up from the basement carrying boxes of computer stuff.

ELLIOT

That's pretty much everything.

TIM

About time you got out of The Matrix. If we ever get out of debt maybe you can buy some real furniture.

Elliot hooks up his PC.

RICHARD

On that subject, Steve was in at work again giving me grief. Says he's going to get the cops involved if we don't pay something soon.

Elliot fires up his PC.

ELLIOT

Guys. We'll pay it back. You're going to be a Councilman. And you're going to be selling frozen pizzas. Or not. Can't be too sure about that one actually. And I'm going to start my own repair business, for real this time.

TIM

Man, that meathead is gonna be hassling us forever.

Elliot notices a flashing Granny-Cam alert. Clicks on it. The recording of Grandma and Steve pops up.

ELLIOT

Holy shit.

Richard and Tim gather around.

INSERT: GRANNY-CAM FOOTAGE -- Grandma smacks Steve with the big, black dildo.

RANDMA
Get away devil! Be gone.

STEVE GREY
I'm not the devil you old bitch.

Grandma keeps smacking him. Steve yanks the dildo away.

GRANDMA
Please! Not my mandingo dildo!

STEVE GREY
(waving the dildo
menacingly)
Tell. Me. Where. He. Is!

And then, Grandma dies.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)
Mrs. Boardman?

He pats her cheek. No response.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)
Oh no. No. Mrs. Boardman?

Steve hides the dildo under the sheet, turns off the lamp,
and scrambles away.

BACK TO SCENE.

TIM
No way.

RICHARD
Holy hell. That is damning indeed.

ELLIOT
You know what this means?

TIM
Mrs. B had a mandingo craving?

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE/MEETING ROOM - DAY

Richard, Tim and Elliot sit across the table from Steve.

STEVE GREY
I'm glad you nerds decided to stop
screwing around and pay up.

ELLIOT
About that.

Elliot pulls out his phone, plays the Granny-Cam video.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

This is where I tell you that all that money is gone and it's not coming back.

Steve moves his right arm in a sideways karate chop motion.

STEVE GREY

Illegal motion. Never gonna happen.

ELLIOT

I'm not saying you killed my innocent, helpless, defenseless, sick Grandmother in her own bed, but a jury might.

STEVE GREY

You're blackmailing me?

ELLIOT

Someone once told me, when life deals you a hard tackle you get right back up and soar. Like an eagle, find your prey, then take it down, capturing your dreams in the claws of life.

STEVE GREY

What, so now I'm your prey? You think you can take me down?

ELLIOT

I think we already did.

Tim makes claw hands, SCREECHES like an Eagle.

RICHARD

And that, I believe, concludes our business for today.

The chip eating Secretary sticks her head in.

SECRETARY

Hey Steve.

Steve storms out.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)

I love when they play hard to get.

TIM
Amigos?

TIM/RICHARD/ELLIOT
Amigos!

Richard, Tim and Elliot do their three-way high-five/elbow bump.

TIM/RICHARD/ELLIOT (CONT'D)
For life!

The Mayor walks past, sees Elliot.

MAYOR
You! I swear by the hair on
Blackbeard's chinny-chin-chin, if
you don't tell me the blasted
server password this instant, so
help me, I will tar and feather
your hide.

ELLIOT
Richard is a twat. All lower case.
Use fours for the A's.

MAYOR
Blymie!

RICHARD
Why?

ELLIOT
It had to be something nobody would
ever guess.

TIM
I could have totally guessed that.

INT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Elliot arranges a stack of computer parts in the living room.

He tries to move Grandma's night stand, but it's heavier than it looks. He kneels down and goes through the drawers.

Inside he finds the dildo, the bong, a sack of weed, bags of pills, a "Playgirl," an iPod, a little black address book -- and a small lock-box.

Elliot gets a screwdriver from his workbench and pries open the lid.

ELLIOT'S POV -- The box is full of gold bars, jewels, and bands of money.

ELLIOT
 (remembering Grandma's
 words)
 It's all I have.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

Elliot leaps off the porch, kicks over the "For Sale" sign, jumps in the Caddy, and peels out.

EXT. ALICIA'S HOUSE - DAY

Caddy screeches to a halt. The gang bangers come off the corner and saunter over as Elliot gets out of the car.

SCARY GANG LEADER
 Hey, it's Mr. Cool!

TATTOOED GANG GUY
 I like your wheels esse. Looks
 like a hearse.

ELLIOT
 Yeah, I know right?

SCARY GANG LEADER
 You need to drop that thing. Get
 some rims.

Alicia steps out onto her porch.

ALICIA
 You be nice Antonio.

SCARY GANG LEADER
 Hey, I'm just talking whips with
 Mr. Cool. We cool right?

ELLIOT
 We cool.

SCARY GANG LEADER
 Let me know if you want some
 pinstripes, I'll hook you up.

The gang bangers move on. Alicia steps off her porch.

ELLIOT
 Hey.

ALICIA

Hey.

ELLIOT

So, I'm going to live dangerously here and try something. Please don't kick me in the nuts, OK?

ALICIA

No promises.

Elliot steps to Alicia and kisses her.

SUPER: NINE MONTHS LATER

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE/SUPPLY CLOSET - DAY

Steve and the Secretary make out.

STEVE GREY

You taste like salt and vinegar.

SECRETARY

You taste like an almost Umpire.

STEVE GREY

Its "Official."

Steve looks at his watch.

STEVE GREY (CONT'D)

My NFL interview!

He runs out of the closet, pulling up his pants as he goes.

EXT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Richard holds a Press conference on the steps. A massive banner reads: "Councilman Cranmore - Proud to Serve."

The two Fake Tan Girls from Kimo's are at his side. He waves to the crowds, loving the limelight.

RICHARD

I'm pleased to announce that my first action as your dutiful Councilman is to make drinking alcohol on the beach legal again!

The crowd cheers.

EXT. FRO-2-GO - DAY

Tim stands outside a Fro-2-Go franchise, ready to cut a "Grand Opening" ribbon with giant scissors.

He's surrounded by two "FRO-ETTES" -- hot girls in pepperoni pizza print bikinis and Afro wigs.

A sign on the window says "Our 13th Location!"

TIM

We make!

FRO-ETTES

(in unison)

You bake!

Tim cuts the ribbon, the Fro-ettes CHEER and then all three of them start to make out.

EXT. ELLIOT'S HOUSE - DAY

The house has been repainted a brighter color. The Caddy has been repainted too -- pinstripes, flames, and in a gangster font -- "Nerd Patrol - Your IT Dept. on Wheels."

Elliot mow's the lawn. He looks happy and healthy with a dark tan and a bright smile.

Alicia comes out the front door, visibly pregnant, carrying a glass of lemonade.

ELLIOT

Perfect timing.

ALICIA

Mayor's office called. The copier is busted again.

ELLIOT

I'll send one of the other guys to fix it. It's too nice a day to be indoors.

Elliot steps down off the ladder, takes a sip of lemonade.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

Ahh.

ALICIA

Good?

Elliot removes his sunglasses, puts his arm around Alicia,
and gives her a kiss.

ELLIOT
To die for.