

SPIRALER ON THE PITCH

written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY

Cars with New Jersey license plates fill a high school parking lot.

The CROWD CHEERING and YELLING is audible in the background.

A building sign reads: Jefferson County Preparatory High School. Home of the Mariners.

A lion logo of "Shore Preparatory High School" is stenciled on the visiting team's bus parked at the SOCCER FIELD entrance.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER STADIUM - DAY

A perfectly clear blue sky over a high school soccer field outlines a scoreboard that reads "1-1".

A homemade sign hangs on a fence: Mariners for the Championship!

FIELD

KYLE JOHNSON (18), arrogant, privileged, buttoned down, WASPY with a buzz cut -- the unquestionable leader of his clique.

LUKE SAMMS (18), best friend, conservative, middle class, a bit shaggier with a goatee and flowing locks of hair, are having a great game.

Passing the ball back and forth -- chemistry and in sync as they have done this a million times before.

KYLE
(to Referee)
How much time left?

REFEREE
Little over 2 minutes.

Luke is tripped from behind.

REFEREE (CONT'D)
Foul! Direct! Shore Prep High!

KYLE

Luke, you want to take it?

LUKE

Nah. You need the practice!

They giggle.

GRANDSTANDS

GIANNA (18), blonde, faithful, sassy and devoted beneath the rough exterior -- Kyle's girlfriend.

JENNA (18), brunette, glasses, nerdy and focused -- Luke's girlfriend.

GIANNA

C'mon Ky! Near side Babe!

JENNA

Let's go Ky!

FIELD

Kyle's shot fiercely bends in-ward and into the net.

GOAL!

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads "2-1" Shore Prep.

Luke passes to Kyle and shot is saved.

The GOALIE'S outlet pass is immediately stolen and Jefferson scores.

KYLE

How much time left?

REFEREE

A little under 2 minutes.

After the re-start Kyle is stripped of the ball.

COACH RANDALL

Ky, get back on D!

Luke strips back and passes to Kyle.

JEFFERSON COACH
Off sides, off sides!

REFEREE
Play On!

Kyle's shoots an in-ward bender and GOAL!.

GIANNA
KYLE!! Way to go Babe!

JENNA
Awesome pass LUKEY!!

JEFFERSON COACH
C'mon ref. Are you blind! He was
off sides ref!!

The teams line up at mid-field for the re-start.
Referee BLOWS the whistle.

Shore Preparatory High School are CHAMPIONS!

Luke and Kyle pour Gatorade on Coach Randall.

The PLAYERS hoist coach on their shoulders and parade him
front of their fans.

MOMENTS LATER

Coach Randall has the team in a huddle.

COACH RANDALL
Great game boys. We are
champions!
(cheering)
You seniors, cherish this moment
forever!

LAUGHS, CLAPS and CHEERS.

COACH RANDALL (CONT'D)
Final exams begin tomorrow.
Whoever is not taking the bus, sign
the sign out sheet.

Gianna runs and jumps into Kyle's arms and they kiss.

Jenna runs and jumps into Luke's arms and they kiss.

JENNA
Congratulation boys, you deserved
that win.

LUKE

You too, for making the long trip.

JENNA

You guys taking the bus or do you want a ride?

GIANNA

What are we an Uber? That'll be \$50 please!

She holds her hand out and Kyle flirtatiously grabs it.

GIANNA (CONT'D)

Ky, that water smells funny. Let me see that bottle.

Kyle protects it.

KYLE

C'mon let's get out of here.

Gianna concerned.

INT. JENNA'S CAR - LATER

Jenna drives, Gianna in passenger seat and the boys are in the back.

Gianna opens the window.

KYLE

Close that, it's cold back here.

GIANNA

You guys reek like farm animals and Kyle smells like Burlew's Bar.

KYLE

(to Gianna)

I thought, DUH psych. major! A lot of homework?

GIANNA

Wise ass. I probably would've had a better time doing homework than all this jockeying and driving non-sense.

KYLE

Oh, you can read? Thought Jenna was the brains in the operation?

Luke and Jenna laugh. Gianna makes a mocking face.

GIANNA

In a few years I'll be capable of re-programming that brain.

LUKE

Don't mess with a Ivy Leaguer's brain. Start lower, a lot lower, like on an arrogant, sloshed, soccer star.

Luke angry. Kyle punches him in the arm.

KYLE

Success breeds arrogance, remember that...Unlike you.

Luke returns the playful punch in the arm.

KYLE (CONT'D)

What? Again with the righteousness?

LUKE

I'm not about to go through this again. Once in a lifetime is enough!

Kyle is a little drunk.

KYLE

Buddy, you are inimitable, I'll give you that.

LUKE

Whatever that means. Just straighten up.

JENNA

(changing subject)

Ky, you should be going to Brown with me.

KYLE

Yeah, I *should*, but who's going babysit this butt head.

Kyle -- mocking face.

JENNA

You three make me sick. Can't even go to college apart.

GIANNA

Jen, I'll make sure he doesn't
shack up with another brain.

Jenna playfully punches Gianna in the arm.

GIANNA (CONT'D)

I got my room assignment today, on
the 5th floor. Did you get yours
yet?

KYLE

Yep. Luke and I are on the 4th
floor.

JENNA

Are you guys hungry?

LUKE

We have to get back. Mrs. Kane
doesn't understand the concept, let
the athletic students slide.

GIANNA

Are you a suckling papoose?

Everyone bursts out laughing.

LUKE

I thought we reeked?

JENNA

Screw it. Let's stop at Pancho's.

EXT. PANCHO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT PARKING LOT - LATER

There is a street fair happening in the parking lot. Mexican
music, salsa dancing and Mexican food vendor trucks. The
parking lot is strung with lights and Papel Picado Banners.

Gianna and Jenna immediately dance seductively with each
other and being sexy.

Gianna then pulls a Mexican MAN into her.

GIANNA

Vamos senior! baila!

They begin to dance. Jenna does the same with another MAN.

After a moment, Gianna grabs Kyle and Jenna grabs Luke and
the four of them dance salsa seductively.

MOMENTS LATER

The Man grabs Gianna's hand. Kyle jumps up and separates them. Other MEN congregate around and Jenna escapes the scrum to find Luke.

Pushing and shoving ensues and Kyle is cornered.

KYLE

Not looking for trouble.

Luke arrives and stands beside Kyle. Best friends and will die for each other.

LUKE

Relax men. We're just here having a good time. My brother doesn't mean any harm, so we'll be over there eating some tacos. Thank you for having us.

EXT. TACO STAND - LATER

Empty plates of food and bottles of Mexican drinks. Kyle finishes the last bite of his taco.

KYLE

Thanks for having my back.

LUKE

I always will. We both had each other's back a few times wouldn't you say?

Kyle hugs Luke.

KYLE

I have to leak.

LUKE

Are you drunk, dumb ass?

KYLE

No. Is it a crime to pee? You're bi-polar man.

JENNA

I have to go too.

LUKE

(pointing)

The porta john's are there.

JENNA

I'm not going in one of those.

KYLE

I guess you're shit out of
luck then.

JENNA

I'll just squat. C'mon G, come
with me.

They begin to walk away.

LUKE

Who knows what could be lurking
back there. I guess we'll all go.

BACK WOODS

Jenna drops her pants and pees. Luke as well.

KYLE

(to Jenna)

Damn girl, you need some Flomax?

Luke accidentally pees near Kyle's feet while laughing.
Kyle, who was peeing also, jumps out of the way.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Butt head.

GIANNA

Do you guys cross your pees?

Everyone laughs.

JENNA

Ok, boys, come here. Purell!

She squirts into everyone's hands.

LUKE

Let's roll guys. Have to study.

KYLE

Let's stay and have another
margarita.

LUKE

You're killin' me Smalls! sober up
dumb ass.

EXT. DORM'S DRIVEWAY - LATER

Jenna parks at the front door.

KYLE

You guys want to come up?

LUKE

Butt head. Kane's final tomorrow!
We have to read the last 50 pages
and write an outline. She's not a
team player.

GIANNA

Luke, you got him? You need help?

LUKE

Dammit! I got him G. Thanks.

Luke helps Kyle into the dorms.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - LATER

Boxes in the room, posters off the walls and suitcases
packed. Just the beds have signs of life.

Kyle lays on his bed staring at the ceiling. Pensive.

Luke reads "Soccer Digest".

LUKE

You ready for tomorrow?

KYLE

Hope so.

LUKE

Why didn't you pass that open
shot?

KYLE

You don't get great by passing more
than you shoot.

LUKE

You're a legend in only your own
mind, dumb ass.

KYLE

Winning and scoring is all I care
about. I will shoot over passing
any time I feel I can score.

(MORE)

KYLE (CONT'D)
Which, is most of the time. DUMB
ASS!

Luke opens the door and Gianna is there ready to knock.

Luke flips his hand and arm like a knight.

GIANNA
Thank you my Lord!

LUKE
See if you can tame that beast.
His head size is way too big for
this place.

Luke exits. Gianna lays in bed with Kyle.

GIANNA
What's Luke talking about? Brother
squabble?

KYLE
Nothing. Don't listen to him.

They laugh.

GIANNA
Everything's so surreal...
Graduating and then college
together.. Life with you is so
beautiful Kyle.

They kiss.

GIANNA (CONT'D)
You scared?

Kyle plays with Gianna's hair while she lays her head on top
of his outstretched arm.

KYLE
No babe. How hard could it be?

GIANNA
I just meant, no high school dorm
and rules. It's college, anything
goes.

KYLE
What are you saying?

GIANNA
I'm just.
(pause)
(MORE)

GIANNA (CONT'D)

You're drinking a lot and you're your Uncle Benny's nephew after all.

KYLE

Not you too?

Annoyed.

GIANNA

Just wanted to get that out there. I know you try to act tough, but you're not fooling me.

KYLE

Will never happen Baby. Besides, we have each other.

GIANNA

I look at Luke's mother and think how strong that woman is. How dedicated to her family and how she's dealt with life's unfairness.

KYLE

Don't worry Baby. Just trust me.

They kiss passionately and begin to make love.

INT. GIANNA AND JENNA'S ROOM - SAME TIME

Luke and Jenna kiss passionately and make love, under the covers.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KYLE'S PARENT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

MRS. JOHNSON (50), slender, snooty, smoking a long skinny cigarette.

MR. JOHNSON (50), muscular, dignified and KAYLEE (7), pig tails and always holding her teddy bear, at the dinner table.

MRS. JOHNSON

You all packed? My big college boy!

MR. JOHNSON

Son, keep your nose clean at that university. Respect the freedom and don't take advantage.

KYLE

Dad, you and Mom have to trust me.

MRS. JOHNSON

That's what Uncle Benny told our mother. Kyle, freedom is a dangerous element to some people, really dangerous. Not everyone can handle it.

KYLE

MOM! You've hammered me already on this. Kaylee, you excited about starting 3rd grade?

MR. JOHNSON

Like it or not, believe it or not, bury your head in the sand or not, either way, you have the genes.

KYLE

I also have the soccer genes you both gave me.

He chuckles, but no one else does.

MRS. JOHNSON

Don't make it about that. Benny had a reputation to keep -- always in Uncle Gerry's shadow. My poor brother's insecurities kept them at war. Then Frank and --.

KYLE

But they made it to the pro leagues. The difference is I'm not competing with anyone in my family. I'm sure Uncle Benny felt he needed an edge being always upstaged by his brother and cousin's, but it's not like that for me.

MR. JOHNSON

Agreed. Your mother and I just want you to not fall into the similar pressures. You have no one to compete with except you, yourself.

INT. LUKE'S MOTHER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

MRS. SAMMS (50), weathered and the stress has not been kind to her. She sits on the bed holding a picture frame of her and Luke's father. Melancholy.

Luke KNOCKS on the opened door and enters.

LUKE

Hi Mom. We're all ready to go.

MRS. SAMMS

Where's Jenna?

LUKE

Downstairs waiting.

She blankly nods -- disconnected.

MRS. SAMMS

Your father would've been proud.

LUKE

Yeah, well, he made his grave and now he has to lay in it.

MRS. SAMMS

Honey, it's a disease, not a choice.

LUKE

I'm not reliving this again. I'm done! We're leaving now.

MRS. SAMMS

I'm very proud of you son. Go out there and get that degree and get that huge contract. You've been through too much and deserve it.

They hug.

LUKE

Will you be ok running things here?

She stares at the picture frame and zones out, but quickly returns.

MRS. SAMMS

Don't I always?

Luke nods.

MRS. SAMMS (CONT'D)
 Don't keep that beauty downstairs
 waiting. I know you got this
 Honey.

INT. KYLE'S BEDROOM - SAME TIME

Kyle stares out his window -- pensive. He grabs a bottle of
 liquor, hidden in his desk, and swigs.

INT. YARDBURGH UNIVERSITY PSYCHOLOGY CLASSROOM - DAY

DR. PIKE (59), female, Professor and Rehab Counselor, wears a
 hat, conducting Freshman Orientation.

DR. PIKE
 Hi everyone. I'm Dr. Pike and I'm
 a Psychology professor and the
 universities Drug Rehab Counselor.
 Dean Sampson and Mr. Yardburgh were
 unable to attend today so he asked
 me to conduct the orientation.

BLAKE (20), dorm druggie and dealer, and CLAIRE (19),
 brunette -- Blake's shadow, and walks like she owns the
 school. They are standing in the back of the classroom.

DR. PIKE (CONT'D)
 In the back are Blake --

The class turns to see them.

E MAN
 You can call me E Man.

DR. PIKE
 And Claire. Blake will take the
 boys around campus and Claire will
 take the girls. We will meet back
 here at 4. Have a good day
 everyone.

Luke, Kyle and the rest of the BOYS congregate around E Man.

E MAN
 Ok boys, let's visit my humble
 nest.

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - MOMENTS LATER

Kyle and Luke walk next to E Man through the campus observing. The rest of the BOYS trail behind.

E MAN
You boys look like jocks.

KYLE
Soccer team.

E MAN
You'll love coach Oakley, he's one of us.

Luke skeptical -- feels his malaise.

E MAN (CONT'D)
Luke, is it? You're quiet there Ronaldo, what's up?

LUKE
Kyle and I will find the locker rooms and we'll catch up with the group later. C'mon Ky.

E MAN
Suit yourselves. But, you'll need to know where my room is at, college is stressful!

They walk away.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

GREG (20), soccer star, follows along with Rob in everything, and ROB (21), African American soccer star, leader of the soccer pack clique, loiter and laugh in the locker room.

ROB
Hey, I'm Rob, this is Greg. You freshman soccer?

KYLE
Yes. I'm Kyle and this is Luke.

They shake hands.

GREG
Have you met Oakley yet?

LUKE
Yeah, on Recruitment Day.

ROB

My advice is to work hard and give him a reason to get you in the lineup. Without seeing you play, it's a safe bet you won't see any action the first year.

KYLE

Not worried. I'll be taking a pass from you and putting it into the back of the net by mid-season.

GREG

What did you say your name was, Luke? Luke, tame your boy here or it'll be a long year for him.

ROB

We'll see soon enough freshman. Good luck in orientation and with E Man, you're going to need it.

They exit.

KYLE

What douches.

LUKE

Seems to me they're not the only ones. Forget them. E Man, bad news.

KYLE

No way buddy, I liked him. You see his charisma? He's definitely someone to be cool with.

LUKE

Dumb ass, stay away! The sooner you realize that the better we'll both be!

Kyle knows the pain.

KYLE

Hey, sorry brother.

Kyle puts his hand lovingly on Luke's shoulder.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Now, let's be freshman and take over this school.

They laugh and fist bump.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S COLLEGE DORM ROOM - DAY

Luke tries to study as music blares from the hallway.

Greg and Rob are YELLING and LAUGHING.

HALLWAY

Luke opens the door to see what the noise is. Kyle turns the corner to his dorm wing.

LUKE

Hey guys. What's up?

ROB

Boo is coming back from a weekend home. We broke into his room and set up his bed and furniture in the bathroom. We even taped his posters to the wall.

Kyle enters the bathroom and sees Boo's room set up in the bathroom.

KYLE

He's going to go postal.

Luke and Kyle do a handshake. Gianna walks by and Rob's eyes fixate.

Gianna kisses Kyle -- Rob jealously ogles.

ROB

(to Gianna)

You ready for our Psychology test tomorrow?

GIANNA

Yeah, that's a piece of cake. You?

ROB

I'm totally lost on it. No way I'm passing.

GIANNA

Oh, I'll help you.

Kyle is jealous. Rob smirks.

KYLE

I thought we were chillin' tonight?

GIANNA

It's only one night Babe.

Rob smirks and Kyle slams the dorm door.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

COACH OAKLEY (68), crotchety, gruff and very shady, runs practice. Demeanor puts Will Teasel from Rambo to shame.

COACH OAKLEY

You freshman are pathetic. Kyle, what the hell were you doing?

KYLE

Sorry Coach.

COACH OAKLEY

Sorry's not going to cut it! This is not high school. Your maneuver's are not going to work here. Luke, show Kyle.

Luke dribbles past Greg and passes to Rob, who passes back to Rob and back to Luke and scores.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

That's what team work is. And, that's what a soccer player looks like. Try it again Kyle.

Kyle angry as Luke dribbles past Greg and passes to Kyle who has the ball intercepted. Kyle looks at Luke outraged.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

Great job Luke. It's nice to see a freshman catch on so quickly.

Kyle fumes.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

Ok, game tomorrow boys. Get some sleep and be ready.

Kyle storms off the field.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Coach Oakley has team in a huddle before the game. BOO (20), African American, Junior soccer star, intent and focused on the game.

COACH OAKLEY

Greg and Boo, I need your offense today. Guys, Darnold Union is practically unbeatable at home, so let's show them up, huh. Ok hands in,

(yelling)

1,2,3, YARDBURGH!!

Gianna waves to both Kyle and Luke from the Grandstands.

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads "1-1".

TIM (22), senior soccer star, throws in to Rob who passes it to Boo -- back to Rob who's foot is hooked and his knee buckles.

COACH OAKLEY

That's a red card ref. C'mon!

Both teams huddle around Rob as Oakley holds his knee.

ROB

Coach, I think it's dislocated.
Shit!

The TRAINER puts Rob on a stretcher and into the waiting ambulance.

COACH OAKLEY

Luke, get in, you're the General.

ON GIANNA

CHEERS Luke on.

ON KYLE

looks away. Jealous.

KYLE

(half-heartedly)

Let's go Luke.

Play resumes. Luke breaks up a scoring chance on defense.

COACH OAKLEY

Great play Luke. Good looking!

On the ensuing corner kick, a Darnold Union PLAYER slyly picks Luke off of his marked MAN and scores.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)
 Luke, that's your man!!! Dammit!!

Coach has hands on his hips in disbelief.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)
 (to himself)
 Friggin' freshmen!!

On the re-start, Luke passes to Boo who's shot is saved.
 Boo intercepts the GOALIE'S re-start ball and passes to Luke,
 who has his leg hooked and goes down.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)
 Red card Ref!! This is bullshit!!

Luke rises before the coach and medic team could get on the
 field.

REFEREE
 Direct. Yardburgh!!

LUKE
 How much time left?

REFEREE
 Less than a minute

Ball is placed outside the 18 yard line. Boo, Greg, Tim and
 Luke in the huddle -- talk about the set piece.

LUKE
 I'm taking this one boys.

Luke's shot massively bends in-ward towards the far post and
 sneaks in the upper corner. GOAL!

REFEREE
 Game!!

The Yardburgh State PLAYERS jump on Luke and celebrate.

ON KYLE

sits alone on the bench -- having a pity party.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - NIGHT

Luke turns the corner to Rob, on crutches -- Tim and Greg
 loitering.

LUKE
 (to Rob)
 Is it dislocated?

Rob just nods yes.

ROB
 I heard what you did out there
 today. You're still my backup,
 don't forget that!

They laugh and fist bump.

INT. GIANNA'S DORM ROOM - SAME TIME

Kyle paces -- angry.

KYLE
 So, what happened?

GIANNA
 Stop the jealousy. He's in my
 class and I helped him pass the
 test, that's all.

KYLE
 You did him, didn't you? He's a
 snake. Don't fall for his tricks,
 I'm telling you that right now!

GIANNA
 Grow up Kyle. Get over it.

KYLE
 I don't want you studying with him
 or being alone in the room again.
 You got it?

GIANNA
 I can't take your insecurities, I'm
 outta' here.

Gianna storms out.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Kyle volatile and displaced from the moment.

Greg, Rob and Luke are hanging out as E Man approaches.

E MAN
 Hey jocks. I'm open for business.

ROB
Get to steppin'. You trippin'.

E MAN
(to Kyle)
Look at this, Maradona.

Shows him Adderral.

E MAN (CONT'D)
One of these is better than three
Viagra. Not to mention, what
wonders it could do for your game.

Kyle considers it.

KYLE
I should be starting.

E MAN
I have a hottie upstairs just
waiting to try this shit out. You
interested?

LUKE
No he's not.

Luke grabs Kyle in attempt to pull him into the room.

Kyle stares at his High School Graduation ring.

KYLE
Yeah, what the hell. I'll get even
with her.

LUKE
Ky, get your ass inside. Don't
listen to him, it'll do nothing for
your game. You won't get in the
lineup any faster, don't be fooled!

Rob smirks and Luke exasperated as Kyle follows E Man
upstairs.

INT. E MAN'S DORM ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

A dark room with a GIRL and GUY in bed having sex in the
open. PEOPLE don't seem interested in the show.

A GUY in the corner is drugged out in a chair just laughing
to himself, then talking to himself and then crying to
himself.

A WOMAN has a rolled up dollar bill in her nose up to a mirror with cocaine on it.

E MAN
Welcome to my humble abode.

KYLE
This is Sick!

Claire hugs Kyle from behind.

CLAIRE
I'm Claire.

Kyle smiles. Nervous. Warming up to the out of control scene.

KYLE
I remember you from orientation.

E MAN
Make Kyle comfortable.

Claire leads Kyle to the corner and removes her top and places his hand on her breast. Kyle hesitant and removes it.

Claire places a pill in his mouth and the room starts spinning.

CLAIRE
Let's go to my room.

KYLE
I have a girlfriend. I have to get out of here.

E MAN
\$5 for the pill Kyle.

KYLE
I don't owe you shit, Claire owes you.

E MAN
Don't work that way here Playa. No free freight up in this bitch, got me?

Kyle pays E Man \$5 and escapes.

INT. COACH OAKLEY OFFICE - DAY

Coach Oakley sits behind his desk. Kyle enters hesitantly.

COACH OAKLEY
Come in, come in. Please sit.

Coach shuts the door.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)
Rough practice today, huh?

KYLE
Not at all Coach. I'm smart and exceptional so I'll make the grade, no doubt.

COACH OAKLEY
Smug son of a bitch, aren't ya'? But, I like that. I could see your potential Kyle. Luke breaking into the starting lineup is a fluke. But, he's impressive, I must say.

Kyle envious.

KYLE
I need a shot at the starting lineup too Coach. Let me show you what I can do!

COACH OAKLEY
Have you ever heard of PED's?

He nods his heads.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)
Read up on it tonight and I want to start you on that right away.

KYLE
That's illegal. There's drug testing.

COACH OAKLEY
Only if you get caught. Don't worry about that. I have the remedy.

Kyle fearful.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)
When we get word of testing, I'll get you the diuretic.

KYLE

Does anyone on this team take this?

COACH OAKLEY

Yes Kyle. We're going to the All College Tournament of the Roses this year, I promise you that. I will have my contract renewed.

KYLE

Get me in the lineup and your contract will be for life, I promise you that.

Oakley smirks.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Kyle unfocused attempting to read -- Luke is pensive.

LUKE

What happened with Oakley today?

KYLE

Huh?

LUKE

I saw you in his office.

KYLE

Just telling him not starting me is hurting the team.

LUKE

What has gotten into you lately?

KYLE

I shouldn't be riding the pine!
Give up the righteousness routine,
it's old.

Kyle rises to leave.

LUKE

Where you going?

Kyle smugly peers Luke as he exits.

INT. E MAN'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Kyle knocks on E Man's door. Kyle looks behind him to ensure Luke did not follow.

E MAN
Business time?

KYLE
Yes. Let me in quickly.

Kyle pushes his way into the room.

INT. COACH OAKLEY OFFICE - DAY

Kyle enters Oakley's office dressed for practice.

COACH OAKLEY
Your decision?

KYLE
Count me in.

COACH OAKLEY
We're both headed towards
greatness.

Coach prepares a needle.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - DAY

Luke loiters in the hallway. Rob walks by.

LUKE
You seen Ky?

ROB
He's upstairs.

LUKE
Oh, Gianna's room?

ROB
No. I was just there studying with
her, I saw him by E Man's.

Luke outraged. Rob giggles.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Gianna looks in the room. Luke is studying.

GIANNA
Hey, where's Ky?

LUKE
 (stammering)
 He's..Well, he's...He's in the
 study room, I think.

INT. STUDY ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Gianna peers into the Study Room and Boo is in a study group.

GIANNA
 Boo, you seen Ky?

BOO
 I saw him upstairs earlier.

UPSTAIRS

Gianna walks through the hallway with girls walking in their underwear and bra's. She sees E Man.

E MAN
 You lost young squirrel?

GIANNA
 Just looking for Kyle.

E MAN
 He's probably tied up. Do you want
 to enter my humble abode and we'll
 discuss your troubles over a snack?

Gianna disgusted.

INT. GIANNA'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Gianna studies -- KNOCK on the door. Kyle there with a rose in hand and she is standoffish.

GIANNA
 Can I help you?

KYLE
 I'm sorry baby. It's just, I am
 soccer. It's all I ever wanted.

GIANNA
 Don't give me that shit. You're
 here on an academic scholarship
 mind you.

Kyle is derisive.

GIANNA (CONT'D)
Where do I fit in this equation?

KYLE
You are the entire equation baby.

GIANNA
Prove it. Stop hanging around E
Man. And, what's this rumor going
around about you and Claire?

KYLE
Claire who?

Gianna looks away disappointed.

KYLE (CONT'D)
I don't know where that started,
but it's not true.

Gianna looks away disappointed again.

KYLE (CONT'D)
You can't have Rob here alone.

GIANNA
Studying together is helping both
of us.

KYLE
Quid pro quo!

Kyle goes in for a hug, but she restrains. She then relents
and they kiss.

A KNOCK on the door.

GIANNA
Come in.

Luke enters.

LUKE
Hi guys. Ky, I locked myself out.

Kyle and Gianna giggle.

KYLE
Babe, I'll be right back. C'mon
dumb ass.

LUKE
I'll be down in a minute. G, can
you show me the Grammar homework?

KYLE

Ok. I can take a hint.

Kyle leaves.

LUKE

G, we need to do something.

GIANNA

He promised me he will stay away from E Man and that whore.

LUKE

We've got bigger problems. The grapevine has it that Coach gives PED's to players. I know a couple of teammates that do it. Kyle's behavior changed as if,
(pause)
he's jealous or something.

GIANNA

You have to get proof. Do whatever you need to do, but get it.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Kyle and Luke are dressed up. Kyle combs his hair in the mirror.

KYLE

How you getting to the mixer?

LUKE

Greg's driving us. You?

Kyle stares at Luke -- he looks away annoyed.

Kyle's cell phone rings and the caller i.d. screen displays "Gianna Cell". Kyle hits the reject button.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Have you spoken to her?

KYLE

Yeah. We're cool.

LUKE

If you're so cool, then why was she here 10 times today looking for you?

Kyle gets in Luke's face.

KYLE
Just stick to your own business.

LUKE
You're falling!

Luke storms out.

INT. MIXER - LATER

Kyle in a corner with E Man and Claire. Luke in another corner with Greg, Rob and Boo talking to four GIRLS.

Luke witnesses E Man hand pills to Claire who puts one in her mouth and then places one in Kyle's mouth.

PEOPLE dance and music is LOUD. Luke sees Gianna barreling towards him.

GIANNA
Is Ky here?

LUKE
Yeah, he's right --

Luke and Gianna look up in the corner and Kyle, E Man and Claire are gone.

LUKE (CONT'D)
He was right there.

Gianna angrily calls Kyle and the call cuts off after 2 rings. Gianna runs out of the mixer crying and Luke follows after her.

EXT. OUTSIDE MIXER - MOMENTS LATER

Gianna sobs and Luke comforts her.

LUKE
He's having a hard time adjusting.
He was larger than life at Shore,
but here, he's a peon.

GIANNA
What's happening to us Luke?
What's happening to Kyle?

Luke and Gianna hug. Luke infuriated.

INT. DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Kyle lays on the bed nervous and sweaty. He notices Luke's wallet on his dresser and sneakily removes a \$20 bill and his debit card and hides it under his mattress.

Luke enters in a towel -- out of the shower. Luke's suitcase is next to his bed.

LUKE

Can't wait to see Jenna. Hey, the four of us have to go to Pancho's for dinner one night for old times sake.

Luke gets dressed.

LUKE (CONT'D)

It's like 100 degrees in here. Shut the heat.

KYLE

It's cold.

LUKE

It's 55 degrees outside.

Kyle sits on the bed reading "Soccer Digest" and is uninterested.

LUKE (CONT'D)

When you packing?

KYLE

I'm not.

LUKE

Are you planning on staying here?

KYLE

(excited)
Ooh, yeah...

LUKE

This bullshit has to end! Your parents have called you for three months and you avoid their calls.

KYLE

What did I tell you about worrying only about your business!

LUKE

So, you're just going to hang
around here high for a month
getting into Everywhere's pants?

KYLE

I hope to God it's as great as that
sounds!

Luke annoyed.

KYLE (CONT'D)

What did I tell you about that?
Her name is Claire, dumb ass.

(pause)

And Claire isn't the only one
staying behind.

LUKE

Wait! Let me guess!

KYLE

You're just a jealous suckling
papoose! Borderline, loser!

Luke absorbs the insults, but is hurt.

LUKE

What about Gianna? You know, your
GIRLFRIEND!

KYLE

She's too busy having late night
study slumber parties.

LUKE

You're an ass.

Kyle's cell phone rings and i.d. displays, "Gianna Cell".
Luke watches Kyle hit the reject button.

Luke picks up his wallet and notices something amiss. He
sees the cash has been disturbed. He looks at his credit
cards and notices his debit card is missing.

He looks at Kyle disappointed as Kyle is peering Luke from
the corner of his eye.

LUKE (CONT'D)

You're a criminal now? You need my
PIN and you'll never get it.

KYLE

Huh?

LUKE

Don't give me that shit. Give it back.

Luke holding his hand out. Kyle puzzled.

KYLE

Wha?

LUKE

You can stand there and look at me in the eyes and lie to me and steal from me?

They stand nose to nose.

KYLE

Got nothing to hide, Dumb ass.

Luke punches Kyle in the face and his lip bleeds.

LUKE

You're repulsive! Merry Christmas, BUDDY!

Luke storms out.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Gianna spots Kyle in the hallway and hides around a corner. Kyle knocks on E Man's door. He is anxious and jittery.

E MAN

Kyle. Ooo, your lip get in the way of someone's fist? Bad time brother. What can I do you for?

KYLE

You know what.

E MAN

Wait here.

E Man shuts the door. Kyle continually looks back and forth, trying to be inconspicuous.

E MAN (CONT'D)

(hands a baggie)

Here. Pay me later. Good-byeeee.

Kyle turns and Gianna is there -- devastated and heartbroken. Gianna runs as Kyle chases.

KYLE
Baby come back. It's not what you think.

GIANNA
You promised.

KYLE
He's in my Trig class and was giving me the homework.

Gianna flees. Kyle kicks a chair in the hallway.

EXT. KYLE'S PARENT'S HOUSE - DAY

The outside is decorated with lights, Santa Claus, elves, reindeer, ornaments and decorations.

E Man and Claire drive up. Kyle in the back seat sways back and forth, sweaty and wasted.

E MAN
You're home man. You need a pick me up to deal with your parents?

KYLE
You know me too well buddy.

E Man slips him a baggie -- shoves it in his pocket. Kyle and Claire exit the car.

E MAN
I'd let you have it, but you still owe me money.

KYLE
I'll pay you when I see you.

E MAN
No Playa, you pay me now.

Kyle takes out \$20 from wallet and hands it to E Man.

E MAN (CONT'D)
You're \$10 shy.

KYLE
That's all I have. I have to hit up my parents.

E MAN

Listen, I like you Playa. I have strong friends who like to do my talking. Don't make me disrupt their holiday. You got me?

Kyle rolls his eyes.

CLAIRE

See you at the dorms.

INT. KYLE'S PARENT'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The Christmas Tree is decorated with balls, ornaments and tinsel. The house has flowers, wreaths, decorations and ornaments adorned throughout.

Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Johnson and Kaylee are kneeling beside the tree, opening gifts.

Kaylee jumps into Kyle's awaiting hands. Kyle almost drops her, but recovers.

KAYLEE

Whoa. You almost dropped me. You forgot how to do it?

KYLE

NOOO, silly goose. Just making sure you remembered.

Kyle puts Kaylee down and hugs Mom and Dad.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - DAY

Kyle sees his mother's purse on the vanity in the bedroom. He looks both ways and sneaks in -- removes the wallet and pockets some cash.

DOWNSTAIRS

Kyle sits on the couch watching Kaylee play with her toys. Mom and Dad on the other couch talking.

KAYLEE

What happened to your lip?

KYLE

Got elbowed at practice.

KAYLEE

You have a lot of zits?

Kyle brushes her off. Mom removes a letter from top drawer of the living room hutch and hands it to Kyle.

KYLE'S POV

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Your full Academic Scholarship is in jeopardy of being terminated. Your Grade Point Average for the fall semester was 1.1 and the minimum required average is 3.5.

This letter is to inform you that your scholarship will be on a Probation Basis for the Spring Semester. If an overall 3.5 is not attained by the end of the spring semester, the scholarship will be rescinded and terminated.

BACK TO SCENE

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are stunned.

MR. JOHNSON

Talk to us. What is going on?

KYLE

Screw this!

Kyle storms out clutching his suitcase.

EXT. LUKE'S PARENT'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Kyle lurks into Luke's ariel window -- like a prowler.

Luke, his MOTHER, BROTHER, SISTER and Jenna sit on couches and the floor exchanging Christmas gifts.

Kyle shamefully lowers his head.

INT. KYLE'S PARENT'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Mrs. Johnson calls Luke.

INT. LUKE'S MOTHER'S HOUSE - SAME TIME

Luke answers the PHONE.

INTERCUT:

LUKE

Hello.

MRS. JOHNSON

Hi Luke, this is Mrs. Johnson.

LUKE

Merry Christmas.

MRS. JOHNSON

What's going on with Kyle? His grades are below a 3.5 and that's just not like him.

LUKE

He's having a rough time. He doesn't get that college is a different animal.

MRS. JOHNSON

I get the feeling there's more to this.

LUKE

I'm actually glad you called. I'm so scared for him. He's with the wrong crowd and getting bad advice from all ends.

MRS. JOHNSON

Just like Benny. He assured me he could handle the freedom. Dammit.

LUKE

I think he's cheating on Gianna also.

MRS. JOHNSON

I'm going right down to the coach and talk to him.

LUKE

He got himself into this mess and I'm going to spend every waking minute getting him out of this.

MRS. JOHNSON

You have a plan?

LUKE

I've had years of regret to devise one.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Kyle, E Man and Claire eat Chinese food around a baby, plug-in Christmas Tree on the desk.

Kyle hands E Man \$10. E Man puts his arm around Kyle's shoulder and smiles.

Claire removes two pills and puts one in her mouth and one in Kyle's mouth. She removes another 2 pills -- Kyle puzzled.

Claire takes one pill and places the other in his mouth. Kyle sways back and forth and eyes are bloodshot.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Kyle, Luke, Rob and Greg dress for practice.

ROB

(to Kyle)

Freshman, you hung here with E Man and Everywhere all break?

KYLE

I had the best Christmas.

ROB

I guess that leaves Gianna free, huh?

Kyle ferocious and lunges at Rob -- Luke and Greg break it up.

ROB (CONT'D)

I'll have her before long.

Kyle scowls at Rob.

INT. COACH OAKLEY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Kyle enters coach's office. Coach was watching the fracas, smiles and closes the door.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

The scoreboard reads "Darnold Union Rockets" in b.g. The team in a huddle.

COACH OAKLEY

We beat these guys here in the fall, and we could do it again.

Kyle sees Gianna with a couple of GIRLS and BOYS laughing in the Grandstands. He notices one guy take his pointer finger and move her bangs away from her face after she laughs at something.

Gianna and Rob exchange a wave -- Kyle dismayed.

REFEREE

(blows whistle)
Game on fellas!

The game begins slowly. Darnold gives away passes to Yardburgh and they exchange shots on goal.

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads "1-1".

REFEREE

(blows whistle)
Foul! Direct. Darnold Union!

On the re-start, Greg slide tackles but is late -- GOAL.

Greg stands up and is bleeding profusely from sliding along broken glass. The coaches and medic team rush the field and bandage his leg.

He is put on a stretcher and carted into the ambulance.

COACH OAKLEY

Shit.

Oakley huffs and puffs and indecisive. Hands on his hips and deep in thought. Visibly wrestling with himself.

REFEREE

Coach, you're one man down. I'm going to start if you don't make a substitution within the next three seconds.

The referee slowly puts his lips to the whistle.

COACH OAKLEY

Kyle, get in there!

Kyle jumps up and removes his sweat suit. He quickly looks up in the stands and Gianna is expressionless.

Luke throws in to Kyle who passes to Boo. Boo, looking unsure and un-wanting to pass to an open Kyle, instead passes to Tim, who's defender got back and marked him.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

Boo. What the hell are you doing?
Kyle was opened and he's the inside man!!

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads "2-1" Darnold Union.

Kyle huffs and puffs -- out of shape. Ball passed to his feet and he turns and takes a weak shot on goal. Tim intercepts the GOALIE'S re-start ball and passes to Kyle -- out of bounds.

COACH OAKLEY

Less than 1 minute guys. We need the equalizer.

Luke's corner kick lands on Kyle's heads and he heads to Tim and he heads back to Kyle. GOAL!

The DEFENDER body pushes Kyle after the play and his back slams into the post.

REFEREE

(blows whistle)
That's game. Tie game.

Luke helps Kyle up and to the sidelines.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Luke studies -- Kyle anxious and antsy.

LUKE

Nice goal today. How's your back?

KYLE

I finally got in and I'm going to do anything and everything I can not to come out of the lineup.

Luke nods and Kyle begins to walk out the door.

LUKE
Where you going? You haven't
studied once.

KYLE
Study? I'm doing ok.

LUKE
Man, you're going to lose your
scholarship and get kicked off the
team and college.

Kyle laughs but Luke is exasperated.

INT. E MAN'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

E Man alone in his room. Kyle knocks.

KYLE
I hurt my back. You have something
for the pain?

E MAN
I do Maradona. It's going to cost
you though.

Kyle angry. Grabs E Man's collar and forcefully shoves him
into the wall.

KYLE
I need it now.

E Man reaches into his drawer.

E MAN
This is an Oxy. If you don't want
a visit from my friends, you'll
hand over \$10 now.

Kyle grabs the pill out of E Man's hand and places it in his
mouth.

KYLE
Put it on my tab.

INT. PSYCHOLOGY CLASS - DAY

Kyle wears sunglasses and has his head down in back of the
class. Gianna sits 2 rows away. Dr. Pike conducts class.

DR. PIKE
 Who knows what Id, Ego and
 Super Ego is?
 (looking around)
 Anyone?

Dr. Pike walks to Kyle with a heavy book and slams it down next to his head. Kyle jumps up awake.

DR. PIKE (CONT'D)
 So, the answer Kyle?

Dr. Pike removes Kyle's sunglasses.

KYLE
 To wha?

DR. PIKE
 The question.

KYLE
 With great power comes great
 responsibility?

Everyone bursts out LAUGHING. Dr. Pike is not amused.

DR. PIKE
 Kyle, you're excused from class.
 Get the notes and homework
 assignment from someone.

Gianna follows Kyle out.

INT. CLAIRE'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Gianna hides around the corner watching Kyle storm into Claire's room.

CLAIRE
 What is it?

KYLE
 Just give me something!

Claire places a pill into Kyle's mouth. He exhales and relaxes. Feels relieved.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - SAME TIME

Gianna is upset and Rob walks by and hugs her.

ROB
What's wrong?

GIANNA
My life sucks. I have to get back
to class.

ROB
Come to my room later and we can
talk.

Gianna nods.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Luke studies. Gianna enters upset.

LUKE
What is it?

GIANNA
I followed Kyle to Claire's room.
It's over Lukey. He wants to throw
his life and our life away, then
that's on him.

Luke hugs Gianna.

LUKE
We have to do everything to stop
this insanity. Don't quit on me
now.

GIANNA
You're fighting a losing fight,
Luke.

LUKE
You're wrong G. I will win, I
can't lose twice.

INT. E MAN'S DORM ROOM - LATER

Luke stands in E Man's open door way.

E MAN
Ronaldo, finally seeing things my
way. Come in my brother and let's
chill.

LUKE

You're getting one warning E Man,
stay away from Kyle.

E MAN

I ain't nobody's mother and I ain't
nobody's keeper. You take care of
you and I take care of I.

LUKE

You want me to beg? Is that it? Is
seeing me like this getting you
off?

E MAN

I ain't running no charity up in
this piece. You either want
something from me or you don't.
Don't waste my time.

LUKE

This is a one time only get out of
jail free card. Next time I visit,
you'll wish you had listened.

E MAN

You really want to help him? Pay me
the \$50 he owes. Then, I'd not
only be happy, I'd be impressed.

Luke storms out.

INT. KYLE'S PARENT'S HOUSE - DAY

Kyle enters with suitcase in hand. Easter decorations
adorned throughout the house.

Kaylee jumps up to Kyle and, like at Christmas, juggles her
for a moment, but recovers clumsily.

KYLE

You're getting too big for me
Missy.

Kyle hugs Kaylee, then his parents. They don't seem to be as
excited to see him.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Hi Mom and Dad. Yes I'm fine how
are you? Good, great son, nice to
see you. We missed you son! How's
everything son??

MR. JOHNSON

Enough!

Kyle looks at Mom and Dad.

MRS. JOHNSON

Sit down.

Mom walks to the drawer and takes out a letter from Yardburgh and hands it to Kyle.

KYLE POV:

Dear Mr. Johnson:

As stated in a letter dated December 18, 2019, it was clearly expressed that an overall 3.5 Grade Point Average was needed to be maintained in order for you to continue with the full Academic Scholarship Program.

Your second semester grades are well below 3.5, therefore your Scholarship is revoked and terminated.

You are still on Academic Probation and must maintain an overall Grade Point Average of 2.0 or better by the end of the Fall 2020 semester. If a 2.0 is not achieved, you will no longer be a student at Yardburgh University.

MR. JOHNSON

You're done son. You're going to rehab today. Let's go.

Kyle looks down shamefully. Kyle walks to front door with suitcase in hand.

KYLE

Screw this shit!

He storms out.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Kyle runs onto field late. Team is already practicing.

COACH OAKLEY
 You guys look pathetic. Too
 many Eggs and Babka? Ky, come
 here, I need to talk to you.

Kyle and coach move away from team.

KYLE
 Sorry I'm late, was studying.

COACH OAKLEY
 Don't give me that shit. I spoke
 to Claire's father and saw your
 letter.

KYLE
 That was all bullshit. Don't
 believe any of that.

COACH OAKLEY
 I've been ordered to kick you off
 the team.

KYLE
 Coach, c'mon. It's me. I'm the
 star of this team and it's all
 because of you. Our secret.

COACH OAKLEY
 We'll reevaluate in September.

KYLE
 I'll tell whoever listens. You'll
 never coach another school again.

COACH OAKLEY
 I'll have you kicked out of here.
 Don't think I don't know about E
 Man and Claire. Good luck having a
 soccer career.

Kyle removes his cleats and tosses them at coach. Kyle
 sprints away.

INT. DR. PIKE'S OFFICE - DAY

Gianna hesitantly enters.

DR. PIKE
 Gianna. Come in.

Gianna sits across from her desk.

DR. PIKE (CONT'D)
What did you want to see me about?

Gianna is nervous and tense.

DR. PIKE (CONT'D)
Relax. You can talk to me.

GIANNA
Strictly confidential?

DR. PIKE
I will do my best, but depending on what it is, I can't promise you.

GIANNA
A friend of mine is addicted to pills and I don't know what to do.

DR. PIKE
Is this friend a student here?

GIANNA
Yes.

DR. PIKE
Who is it?

GIANNA
My ex-boyfriend.

DR. PIKE
How bad?

GIANNA
He's spiraling out of control, but luckily he's not hit rock-bottom yet.

DR. PIKE
The first thing is to discuss treatment with him?

GIANNA
What if he refuses?

DR. PIKE
Then we'll stage an intervention.

GIANNA
I don't want to be a part of this.

DR. PIKE
Do you still love him?

GIANNA
With all my heart.

DR. PIKE
Then you must be a part of this.

GIANNA
He's going to flip out on me.

DR. PIKE
Maybe he knows he's spiraled and
wants to come back. You don't know
until you have the conversation.

GIANNA
Thank you so much for talking with
me Doctor.

DR. PIKE
I'll keep this between us for now,
but keep me updated.

EXT. BROWN UNIVERSITY'S DORM COURTYARD - NIGHT

Jenna reads a book. She reads her RINGING text.

JENNA POV

"G", Look behind you".

BACK TO SCENE

Gianna is there. Jenna screams with excitement.

JENNA
G!!!

They hug.

JENNA (CONT'D)
Not that I'm not thrilled to see
you, but what are you doing here?

Gianna quickly goes from jubilant to melancholy.

GIANNA
It's Ky.

JENNA
It's gotten that bad?

GIANNA

I spoke to a rehab counselor and she told me to stage an intervention.

JENNA

Omg. An intervention. Luke totally downplayed this?

GIANNA

He didn't want to upset you and take your mind off of school. Lukey has shouldered this entire insanity.

JENNA

I'm coming back with you.

GIANNA

No way. Stay here in school and leave this up to him.

JENNA

Just him?

GIANNA

I just came by to tell you that there will possibly be an intervention in the coming days and to be prepared. Other than that, I'm done.

JENNA

Just like that? you're quitting?

GIANNA

He's cheating on me with a pill whore. Everyone in the dorms know and I feel like a fool.

Jenna hugs Gianna.

GIANNA (CONT'D)

Let's go upstairs and talk some more. My flight back is 7 in the morning.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Gianna enters carrying her suitcase. Luke sits on the bed anxious.

LUKE

Just relax G. I'll do all the talking so just follow my lead and back me up with whatever I say.

GIANNA

Why do we love Kyle so much as he shits on us?

LUKE

One night I came home and no one was home and my father was a sleep in bed. I went downstairs and stayed real quiet so I wouldn't disturb him. After some time passed, Mom still wasn't home, and I went upstairs to try to wake him. His nose had dried up blood, his lips were blue and he was freezing cold to the touch.

GIANNA

Oh, God Lukey.

LUKE

Ky was the first one to my house that night. He had a bad feeling that something wasn't right, so he came over to check on me. That's a brother. He's always there for me.

GIANNA

You remember Debbie Vollaro? She was in love with Kyle and used pour water into my pocketbook everyday in class. One day Kyle took her science project and broke it into pieces. He left a note that if she had a problem with it to see him. He also had my back.

(a beat)

I just don't know how he got here.

LUKE

His uncle's were life long competitors. He doesn't know anything else. That's why his instincts take over. I love him just the same and I can't help it.

Kyle enters the room -- taken aback by Gianna's presence.

KYLE

G, what are you doing here?

GIANNA
Want to talk to you.

KYLE
Now you want to talk to me? When I
wanted to talk to you, you were too
busy spooning with Rob.

Luke interjects.

LUKE
We're not here to talk about that
drama. We have other drama that
needs to be resolved.

KYLE
This sounds like something I don't
want to hear.

LUKE
Well, you're going to hear it!

Kyle whips around.

LUKE (CONT'D)
Gianna spoke to a counselor who
agreed to talk to you.

KYLE
If I want to talk to someone I'll
just go upstairs.

Gianna hurt. Being supportive despite the barbs and zings.

GIANNA
Dr. Pike is only a phone call away.

KYLE
Ok, FRIENDS! What's the topic of
the day?

LUKE
Man, we're here to help. We're not
the enemy.

KYLE
You're the enemy FRIEND! You're
just jealous that you can't be as
fast as me and as good as me.

Luke hurt.

GIANNA

You have to stop. It's affecting you in every possible way. I know about this Ky. Your brain is flooding your nucleus accumben with Dopamine, just like your Uncle!

Kyle ashamed. Looks down in reproach, but still arrogant.

KYLE

Don't pull that psychology babble crap on me. I wrote that book.

GIANNA

You need help. We're scared. For me, please! We loved each other very much once.

KYLE

You have this pretend world where Kyle and Gianna live happily ever after. But it doesn't work that way. You're suffocating me and I'm a better person without it. You're doing Rob anyway so go bitch at him.

Gianna flees. Luke grabs Kyle shirt collar -- nose to nose.

LUKE

Do you agree and recognize that you have a drug problem?

Kyle swats Luke's hands off his shirt collar and pushes him back.

KYLE

The only problem I have is that you're starting and I'm not. That's going to change in September.

LUKE

I'm only going to ask you one more time, then it's action time. Do you agree and recognize that you have a drug problem?

Kyle stares and contemplates. Silent and still thinking hard. Luke awaiting and anticipating the positive response.

KYLE

(a beat)

No!

Kyle storms out.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Luke visibly shaken and enraged. Greg and Boo walk by.

GREG
What's wrong?

LUKE
Kyle man!

BOO
He's lost his way, huh?

LUKE
I'm not sitting back on this! I'm
talking to Oakley tomorrow!

GREG
Don't you think that's been done a
thousand times?

BOO
They turn a blind eye as long as
Oakley wins.

GREG
And don't think you'll make any
headway on E man either!

LUKE
This is a friggin' cult! I almost
want to lose on purpose.

Luke puts his head in his hands. Distressed. Unsure.

LUKE (CONT'D)
What the hell am I going to do now?

Luke storms away.

INT. GIANNA'S DORM ROOM - SAME TIME

Gianna slams her door, takes a few deep breathes while her eyes are closed. She opens her eyes and lashes out, pushing over her night stand, which crashes to the floor.

She rips the sheets off the bed and kicks at them. Then, whirls and knocks the lamp off her dresser.

She paces back and forth, fists balled and realizing her perfect life with Kyle is ending.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Dr. Pike stages an intervention. Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Johnson and Kaylee sit in a semi-circle next to Jenna and Gianna.

DR. PIKE

The way this is going to work is when Luke brings Kyle in, he's going to be belligerent. He's going to feel betrayed.

MRS. JOHNSON

What if he runs out?

DR. PIKE

Then one of you can try to get him back. Remember folks, this is voluntary.

KAYLEE

What does voluntary mean?

MRS. JOHNSON

It means only if he wants to.

A tear drops down her cheek.

DR. PIKE

He'll sit and then I'll have each of you read what you prepared.

MR. JOHNSON

Tell me more about the facility.

DR. PIKE

It's Mountainside Terrace Rehabilitation in Dwyer Pennsylvania. It specializes in teen pill abuse.

A cell phone TEXT sounds.

JENNA

(looking at phone)

Luke says they're on the elevator.

Everyone is nervous. Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Johnson and Kaylee hold hands. Gianna upset -- Jenna comforts her.

Kyle and Luke enter the lion's den. Kyle is stunned and looks at Luke disappointed.

LUKE

This is for you man. We're all here because we love and care for your well being. Sober up for this.

KYLE

You ambushed me. This is fucked up.

DR. PIKE

Kyle, I will be presiding over this intervention. Please sit down.

Kyle walks out.

Mrs. Johnson wails loudly and Mr. Johnson runs to comfort her. Kaylee is uncontrollable. Gianna looks at Luke and then Jenna.

JENNA

I'll go get him.

Jenna exits.

DR. PIKE

Ok folks, if he comes back we'll stick with the plan.

GIANNA

Dr. Pike, thank you so much for doing this.

DR. PIKE

It's part of my job. I want to see every student at this school happy and clean.

Gianna smiles and hugs Dr. Pike.

Jenna enters the room holding Kyle's hand.

DR. PIKE (CONT'D)

Please sit. No one is here to hurt you. Please listen to what your loved ones have to say.

GIANNA

(reading from paper)
I'll go first.

(MORE)

GIANNA (CONT'D)

Kyle, my life was complete the last four years and you were the reason for that. It was always G and Ky and was supposed to be that way forever. But, you betrayed me, my love for you and most of all, betrayed us. I still see the beautiful boy that I fell in love with behind this craziness and I know, behind your betrayal, you still love me.

Kyle sobs.

GIANNA (CONT'D)

Please accept this gift of treatment that is being offered to you today.

DR. PIKE

Thank you Gianna. Luke you're next.

LUKE

(reading from paper)

An 11 year-old shy, nerdy kid is sitting at a lunch table alone. Two bullies are spitting spitballs at him. An arrogant, popular kid with a big mouth, but with a heart way bigger asks, "You're Luke right? My mom babysat your sister last night". Then it began. A friendship that I will not have with anyone else in my entire life. You're my brother and I love you and please accept this gift of treatment that's being offered to you today.

Kyle sobs.

DR. PIKE

Ok, Kaylee.

Kyle jumps up.

KYLE

No way. Baby, don't you dare say anything.

(beat)

Dr. Pike, I have soccer that I can't leave. I'm playing a lot and coach Oakley doesn't like playing freshmen.

LUKE

You're not even on the team.

DR. PIKE

Luke, please don't interrupt him.
Go on Kyle.

KYLE

I have soccer Dr. Pike that I can't
walk away from.

ON LUKE

rolls his eyes.

DR. PIKE

I know you're scared. It wouldn't
be normal if you weren't, but can
you feel the love in this room for
you? The desperation in their
voices?

KYLE

Dr. Pike, I'm not going to rehab,
but I will promise to kick this.

DR. PIKE

I have to strongly disagree. You
need to go right now and I will
accompany you. You're not alone.

Kyle kneels down in front of his parents.

KYLE

Mom, Dad, I love you both and I am
sorry. I have to figure this out
on my own. Have faith in me.

Kyle stands and scans the room back and forth.

KYLE (CONT'D)

That goes for everyone else in this
room. I love you all and have
faith in me.

Kyle exits.

INT. COACH OAKLEY'S OFFICE - DAY

Coach Oakley sits behind his desk before practice. Luke
knocks on the door.

COACH OAKLEY

Luke. C'mon in.

Luke shuts the door behind him and sits.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

You shut the door, must be important.

LUKE

Coach, I don't want any repercussions, but I'm asking you to please stop with the PED's on Kyle.

COACH OAKLEY

Are you his mother?

LUKE

He's my best friend and I'm not letting you destroy him.

COACH OAKLEY

I don't think that's up to you, now is it?

LUKE

What happened to you? When and why did the line between what's right and wrong, get blurred?

COACH OAKLEY

You're one of the best field General's that I ever coached. You're a God damn freshman to boot. Mind your business and respect your elders. Do I make myself clear?

LUKE

You're just a crooked college coach struggling to make it. Not good enough to be Division I.

COACH OAKLEY

You want to find yourself on the bench, you little twerp?

LUKE

Leave Kyle alone! I'm fighting you, E Man and this whole friggin' University.

COACH OAKLEY

You'll make someone a good wife someday. Now, get out of my office and get on that field and concentrate on soccer. Get us to the Tournament of the Roses, that's an order!

Luke storms out.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - DAY

Kyle watches EVERYONE leave for the summer. Greg has suitcase in hand.

GREG

Are you staying here this summer?

KYLE

Need to figure shit out.

GREG

Stay in shape.

Rob, Tim, Boo and Luke walk by with suitcases and fist bump Kyle.

TIM

Well, good luck, you're going to need it.

KYLE

What are going to do now?

TIM

My uncle has something lined up for me. Hopefully, I'll see you at the Roses.

KYLE

Congratulations and good luck to you.

They fist bump as Tim leaves.

LUKE

Staying here alone is not a good idea.

KYLE

I have to brother. You're not going to be with me every minute for the rest of my life.

LUKE

Promise me that if you feel like you're slipping, you'll at least call me.

They hug.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Kyle alone. Bored.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Kyle looks in the empty hallway. He looks out the window into the empty parking lot. It's a ghost town.

INT. CLAIRE'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Kyle KNOCKS and no answer. KNOCKS, KNOCKS and then fierce POUNDS but no answer. Getting angrier and angrier and jiggles the handle and POUNDS and YELLS -- still no answer.

INT. KYLE AND LUKE'S DORM ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Kyle stares at his cell phone. He presses contacts, scrolls to "Gianna Cell" and pauses for a second. He gathers the courage and calls but it disconnects after two rings.

Kyle is depressed and lays back in bed. Stares at the ceiling.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - DAY

Luke visits Kyle. Luke walks up and down the deserted hallways and hesitantly walks upstairs.

INT. E MAN'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Luke RAPS on E Man's door -- no answer.

HALLWAY

Luke puts his ear up to Claire's door before knocking. He hears Kyle and Claire LAUGHING.

CLAIRE (O.S.)

Kyle you want another one?

KYLE (O.S.)
No, I think I had enough.

Luke POUNDS on the door. POUNDS and POUNDS.

Claire answers in just a bra and underwear. Hair disheveled and make-up running off her face. Luke is fed up.

Kyle grabs Luke.

LUKE
After all the chances, broken promises, lies, time and effort we put in for you and this is what you're still doing?

KYLE
This is who I am. Get over yourself and your all high and mighty high horse.

LUKE
I'm done. You exhausted me and you won. I tried everything in my power for you and you shit on it all.

(a beat)
You're not worth saving!

Luke storms out. Kyle indifferent.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - DAY

Kyle is excited EVERYONE returning from summer break carrying suitcases, boxes and bags.

Rob walks into the room.

KYLE
What are you doing?

ROB
I guess you haven't spoken to Luke?

Kyle concerned. Awaits a response.

ROB (CONT'D)
Go to Boo's room.

KYLE
What?

ROB
 Man, your acne is way out of control. Go to the dermatologist or something.

INT. LUKE AND BOO'S DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Door is ajar -- Luke unpacking and getting comfortable.

KYLE
 What are you doing?

Luke ignores him.

KYLE (CONT'D)
 Are we 4 years-old now?

LUKE
 We're just in control of our lives.

KYLE
 Just say what you gotta say!

LUKE
 Do you hear yourself? Say what you gotta say! You sound like an uneducated hillbilly. Academic scholarship, pssttssss.

KYLE
 Pussy!

HALLWAY

Kyle notices Rob leaning against the wall with his hands around Gianna's waist. They make out.

Kyle charges and throws a punch that lands on Rob's head. Rob punches Kyle in the eye and Greg breaks up the fight.

INT. E MAN'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Kyle upset. KNOCKS on E Man's door.

E MAN
 What's up? Nice eye.

KYLE
 I need something now!

INSIDE ROOM

Kyle pushes E Man into his room and shuts the door.

E MAN

The pharmacy is closed. Money issues.

KYLE

I'll get you your money. Just give me more Oxy now!!!

Kyle grabs E Man by the collar.

E MAN

Let go of me.

E Man attempts to make a call but Kyle grabs the phone from his ear and throws it.

E MAN (CONT'D)

Wrong move Maradona. My boys will be here in five minutes and you're going to be kicking a soccer ball with your knee cap.

KYLE

I need it now!

E MAN

I don't normally do this, but I'll make an exception.

(hands him pills)

Sell all of these by Sunday night and I'll let you keep your legs.

INT. COACH OAKLEY OFFICE - DAY

Coach Oakley sits behind his desk before practice and Kyle enters.

COACH OAKLEY

I see you're still here. What happened to your eye?

KYLE

Walked into the door.

Coach Oakley rolls his eyes.

Kyle nods and Coach Oakley puts his hand on Kyle's shoulder and smiles broadly -- shuts the door.

INT. KYLE AND ROB'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Kyle sweaty, wasted and laying in bed. E Man and Claire bust in.

KYLE
Next time knock.

E MAN
I'm here for my freight Playa.

KYLE
I have just one more to sell.

E MAN
Give me the money from the ones you
sold already.

Kyle stammers.

KYLE
I have to get to the ATM.

E MAN
Claire, bring the car around front.

He hands her the keys and she leaves.

E MAN (CONT'D)
I'll take you now.

Kyle nervous. Procrastinating.

KYLE
Tomorrow. I have to study for this
test --.

E MAN
We're going now.

The fire alarm suddenly RINGS and over the loud speaker.

LOUD SPEAKER
This is a fire drill, everyone
proceed immediately to their
designated areas.

Kyle saved by the bell.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - DAY

After the fire drill, E Man returns to Kyle's room with 2
HULKING BODY BUILDERS. Rob loiters.

E MAN

Hey jock. Where's Ky?

ROB

I'm not his keeper. Stay out of this wing. Leave!

E MAN

You tell Kyle, tomorrow is D Day, or loss of leg day. Tell him that message.

E Man and posse leave.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Team in a huddle before practice.

COACH OAKLEY

Welcome back kids. Going to be a big year. We're going to the Roses tournament even though we lost Tim. I will not tolerate anyone who doesn't buy in.

Kyle's eyes are bloodshot and looks a little wobbly.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

Ok. Let's practice our one on one's. Kyle vs. Rob first up.

Kyle tries to dribble past Rob but he hooks Kyle's leg. Kyle holds his leg.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

Rob, what was that?

Kyle jumps on Rob and punches him -- Rob pushes off. Kyle is restrained, but breaks loose and charges Rob again. Rob punches Kyle in the eye and his eye swells up.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

Enough! We're on the same team! I want to see both of you in my office after practice.

The PLAYERS stand between Rob and Kyle as they walk to get water.

ROB

I didn't realize Gianna was such a good kisser.

KYLE
How do you do it?

ROB
Do what?

KYLE
Manage to need a sophomore's help
to pass tests. You sure you're
smart enough to be a senior?

Rob charges Kyle and Kyle lands a punch to his head. Rob now has a knot. Luke lowers his head in sadness.

COACH OAKLEY
Ok children, let's line up,
scrimmage.

LATER PRACTICE

Boo dribbles past Kyle, and fakes out Luke and passes to Rob who slides a low shot below the goalkeeper's diving hand.

COACH OAKLEY
Rob, looking good. That knee
healed real good huh?

ROB
A little sore, but feeling good.

COACH OAKLEY
Luke you need a sandwich? I know I
love to eat one when I'm taking a
break.

Luke gives a sarcastic look.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)
Kyle, didn't you stay in shape this
summer?

KYLE
Yes sir, I did.

Luke is enraged. Kyle notices.

COACH OAKLEY
Kyle, replace Boo up front.

Luke passes to Rob who blows past Kyle. Kyle tries to slide tackle but slows down -- Rob shoots over the outstretched arm of the goalie.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

Kyle, get the piano off your back.
Rob is practically on one leg.

Coach BLOWS the whistle to resume. Kyle huffs and puffs -- out of shape. Coach Oakley is concerned.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

You ok Kyle?

Kyle collapses. His body seizes -- everyone is panicked. The COACHES and MEDIC TEAM storm the field.

Medical chaos on the field.

Luke lowers his head in disappointment and concern. Kyle is rolled onto the stretcher and loaded onto the ambulance.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Kyle is hooked to an IV and breathing tube -- sleeps. Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Johnson, Kaylee, Luke and Gianna in the hospital room.

DOCTOR SANTOS (50), female, enters.

DR. SANTOS

Family, pull up chairs please.

(pause)

We're moving Kyle to the Drug Rehabilitation Unit at our sister hospital, Kenneth Memorial.

MRS. JOHNSON

Hallelujah!

DR. SANTOS

We took the last two days to analyzing and running tests. Kyle has been addicted to Benzodiazepine, more specifically Xanax. We found abuse of Methylenedioxymethamphetamine, more specifically, Molly. We found abuse of Opiates, more specifically Oxycotin. And lastly, we found abuse of amphetamines, more specifically, Adderall.

(a beat)

That's quite a mix, sadly. He's lucky to come out of this.

MRS. JOHNSON

Luke told me that he was taking PED's also.

DR. SANTOS

Yes, that's true. We think the combination of the PED's and pills negatively affected his heart, for sure. Kyle was in full cardiac arrest. The ambulance team revived him luckily. We thought we saw spots on his liver which was unfounded, but something to monitor for the future.

Everyone listens intently.

DR. SANTOS (CONT'D)

He died and then he didn't. That folks is as real to real life as you can get. You, as his family, have to ensure he receives the help he needs.

GIANNA

Kenneth Memorial is great for this sort of thing, right Doctor?

DR. SANTOS

The best.

(pause)

Dr. Pike is over there and she'll be seeing Kyle. Good luck family.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Kyle has an IV hooked to arm and breathing tube. Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Johnson and Kaylee stare at him. Monitors BLIP and BEEP.

Kyle slowly wakes up -- a NURSE removes his mask. Kaylee stands along side and holds his hand.

MRS. JOHNSON

Welcome back!

KYLE

Am I in the hospital?

MR. JOHNSON

Yes. We almost lost you.

Dr. Santos enters the room.

DR. SANTOS
Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, can I see
both of you for a moment please.

They exit.

KYLE
Hi baby. Why aren't you in school
today?

Kaylee lays her worn and tattered teddy bear beside Kyle.

KYLE (CONT'D)
Your favorite teddy. Is this the
first time it left the house?

KAYLEE
Yes. It keeps me safe from
monsters and I want you to have it.

Kyle smiles.

KAYLEE (CONT'D)
The best times of my life are when
you come home from school or
practice and I jump into your
arms. Remember the last time you
almost dropped me?

KYLE
Yes baby.

KAYLEE
I cried myself to sleep that
night.

Kyle sobs.

KAYLEE (CONT'D)
You see me as a baby still and I'm
almost 8.

Kyle smirks through his tears.

KAYLEE (CONT'D)
I may not understand everything,
but I love my big brother.

Kyle and Kaylee cry together.

KAYLEE (CONT'D)
Please stop doing whatever it is
making you drop me.

Kaylee jumps up in bed and lays besides him hugging and kissing him.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - LATER

The room is empty save Kyle and Luke. Kyle ashamed.

KYLE

I'm sorry.

LUKE

I want so much to believe you, but I just can't.

KYLE

I'm stopping everything today. No more drugs of any kind for.

LUKE

Again, I wish I could believe you. I busted my ass since we got to Yardsburg trying to keep you safe. You're your own worst enemy.

Kyle embarrassed.

LUKE (CONT'D)

You wore me down. My grades suck, my play on the field sucks and I've been sick more than ever. I lived this story once and I know the ending.

KYLE

I'm s --

LUKE

Stop saying that! I did everything I could and you only care about yourself, first, and soccer second. I'm done! You need help that I can't give you and I'm not sticking around to watch it.

KYLE

What does that mean? What are you saying?

LUKE

I transferred to Waldorf U. I'll be close to Jenna.

(a beat)

God I miss her so much.

Kyle lowers head in abashment.

LUKE (CONT'D)

I'm heading to the airport now.
You need to know that G loves you
and she always will. We both,
always will.

Luke extends his hand but Kyle rolls over.

INT. DR. PIKE'S OFFICE - DAY

Kyle and Dr. Pike have a one on one session.

DR. PIKE

Just one more question and I can
render a decision. Do you have
faith in yourself to stay clean in
the dorms?

KYLE

I lost so much. My best friend,
brother and roommate hates me. The
girl that I love will only come see
me when I'm in a coma and is dating
my roommate. I almost drop my baby
sister when she jumps in my arms.

(pause)

I died Dr. Pike!

(pause)

I was dead.

Dr. Pike asks Mr. and Mrs. Johnson to enter the room from the hallway.

DR. PIKE

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, I'm going to
sign this release allowing Kyle to
return to school, in my care, as an
out-patient. Kyle- You miss one
meeting, hit the FU button on one
of my phone calls, or don't
return one text or email, then your
ass is going to Pennsylvania full
time.

Kyle and parents have a group hug.

INT. KYLE AND ROB'S DORM ROOM - DAY

Kyle enters with suitcase. Rob and Gianna are on Rob's bed holding hands. Kyle glares -- Gianna uncomfortable.

GIANNA

Hi Ky. Nice to see you again.

She flees. Kyle and Rob are focused on each other. Neither are talking, but testosterone is high. Rob walks out while Kyle stares him down.

INT. KYLE AND ROB'S DORM ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

A KNOCK on the door. E Man and Claire enter.

E MAN

I heard you just got back.

KYLE

What do you want?

E MAN

Whoaaa. What's wrong big fella?

KYLE

We're done. Get the fuck out.

E MAN

You don't mean that. Kyle let's go.

KYLE

I'm staying E Man.

E Man does a double take. Shocked.

CLAIRE

C'mon sweetie. Let's go.

Kyle walks to Claire and slowly grabs her hand and kisses it.

KYLE

You need help sweetie. Leave this worm and get help. Your daddy is not saving you from this.

E MAN

I was going to show you that I'm not totally heartless and give you some recuperating time before giving me my money. But, since you're non-compliant.

KYLE

My mother has my personal stuff and I'll get it to you this weekend.

E MAN

I'm not playing with you Playa.
You have until Sunday night, then
the only soccer you'll be playing
is in the handicapped Olympics.

Kyle concerned and fearful.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Kyle sees Rob kiss Gianna good-bye -- he sits across from her.

KYLE

Did you hear about Luke?

GIANNA

Could you blame him?

KYLE

Listen G, I'm sorry.

GIANNA

I'm sorry? You almost destroyed
Luke's life and managed to destroy
mine and I'm sorry is the best
you've got?

Gianna storms off.

INT. PSYCHOLOGY CLASS - DAY

E Man sits next to Kyle -- Gianna 2 rows away. Dr. Pike conducts class.

DR. PIKE

Who can tell me why Jeanette was so
apprehensive in allowing Jason back
into her life? Anyone?

No one raises their hand.

DR. PIKE (CONT'D)

Who actually read the homework
assignment?

Kyle raises his hand.

DR. PIKE (CONT'D)

Ok, Kyle. Nice to finally hear
from you. Go!

KYLE

Because although he's proven himself worthy again by paying off all her bills, she still can't forget the hurt and pain she felt when he cheated on her.

DR. PIKE

Bingo Kyle. Tell me why does he have a change of heart?

KYLE

(looks at Gianna)

He realized he made a huge mistake, Dr. Pike. Love is a lot more than just a tryst in bed with a neighbor who means nothing to you.

Gianna smiles.

DR. PIKE

Mr. Romantic I see.

The class CHUCKLES.

DR. PIKE (CONT'D)

I knew there would be one guy with the same reaction. That's why I assign this book as this is the best psychological thriller, romance novel I've found. Kyle, how does this story make you feel?

KYLE

I love it. My teacher in high school, Mrs. Kane used to make us write outlines on all our homework assignments. I actually did that here.

He removes the outline out of his notebook.

KYLE (CONT'D)

It forces me to read every word and to absorb the meaning. Without it, we're just reading and not comprehending fully.

DR. PIKE

Very good. Ok class, before we move on, your assignment tonight is to read the next 5 chapters and write an outline.

(MORE)

DR. PIKE (CONT'D)
 Either ask Kyle for help or google
 Outlines and you all can figure it
 out.

E Man leans over to Kyle.

E MAN
 (whispering)
 Here.

He slips Kyle a bag of pills. Kyle places in his pocket, but
 looks conflicted. He returns it to E Man. Gianna smiles.

E MAN (CONT'D)
 (whispering)
 Don't forget, Sunday night, Playa.

Kyle fearful.

INT. KYLE AND ROB'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Kyle sits at his desk. A KNOCK on the door.

KYLE
 Come in.

Gianna enters. Kyle excited, but hides it.

KYLE (CONT'D)
 Oh hi. Rob's in the Study Room.

Kyle returns to the desk. Gianna hesitates.

GIANNA
 I liked the reference to Mrs.
 Kane.

They chuckle.

GIANNA (CONT'D)
 Not a team player, I think you
 said, if I recall correctly.

They laugh. Kyle suddenly feels ill. He holds his stomach
 and dry heaves. He runs to the bathroom vomiting -- Gianna
 there to comfort him.

She retrieves a bottle of water and a rag. She helps him to
 bed and removes his clothes -- puts clean shorts on him.

KYLE
 Sorry. I'm so embarrassed.

GIANNA

Don't be, I'm not. In fact,
that's the best sign I've seen in a
year.

Gianna walks him to the bathroom. She puts toothpaste on the
toothbrush and Kyle brushes his teeth slowly, ogling Gianna
with all his love.

Gianna then leads Kyle into bed.

KYLE

We love each other and I want a
second chance.

GIANNA

Sorry, I can't be destroyed again.
This is impossible enough.

KYLE

I'm changing. I swear I'm
changing.

GIANNA

I've heard that one before.

Kyle pleads.

GIANNA (CONT'D)

Those who don't learn from history
are doomed to repeat it.

Kyle lowers his head in shame.

KYLE

You don't want to keep Rob waiting.

Gianna indecisive. Then exits.

INT. COACH OAKLEY OFFICE - DAY

Coach prepares a needle for Kyle.

KYLE

Stop coach.

Oakley confused.

KYLE (CONT'D)

I'm not doing it anymore.

COACH OAKLEY

Yeah right.

Oakley continues with the needle.

KYLE

Coach!

COACH OAKLEY

You're serious?

Kyle nods.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

Well, looks like I have to find myself a new starting striker.

KYLE

Are you threatening me?

COACH OAKLEY

Threatening? No, just telling it like it is.

KYLE

What are you saying?

COACH OAKLEY

You're exposed. E Man, Claire -- everything.

KYLE

Why are you doing this?

COACH OAKLEY

Unfortunately, you're a good striker and I can't make it to the All College Tournament of the Roses without you.

KYLE

Yes you can. I don't need the juice to be great.

COACH OAKLEY

You're not great. You're a piece of drug shit who has had everything handed to him on a silver platter. You only care about yourself and you would never cheat to make yourself look bad. Teammates who care for other people cheat whether it makes them look good or not.

KYLE

You're a crazy old man. I'm getting on the field and you're going to give me a fair chance.

COACH OAKLEY

You don't run the show around here, I do. Bring a pillow and blanket, the bench is a hard place to sleep.

Kyle storms out.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)

I mean it Kyle. The bench is your new home.

INT. DORM HALLWAY - DAY

Kyle and Gianna walk the hallway bickering.

KYLE

Don't give me that bullshit. It's no different than Intro Algebra.

GIANNA

You're a dumb ass, but Algebra comes easy to you and I'm not going to pass this.

Gianna frustrated.

INT. DORM STUDY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They pass by the Study Room and Kyle drags her inside. Kyle opens the book.

KYLE

Write that problem down on a piece of paper.

Gianna writes it down.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Now, read to yourself and absorb the steps on solving it.

GIANNA

Ky, I don't understand what this sentence means.

Kyle writes a formula on Gianna's paper and a light goes on in her head.

GIANNA (CONT'D)

Oh I think I got it.

Gianna looks frustrated again. Kyle points in the book to part that Gianna has to read.

GIANNA (CONT'D)

This junk just comes natural to you.

Kyle smiles then it disappears from his face.

KYLE

Almost! Look at it again. You did the wrong exponent first.

It hits her.

GIANNA

Ky, what's that saying that you told me last year. Please Excuse something.

KYLE

Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally. Parenthesis, Exponents, Multiplications, Division, Addition and lastly Subtraction.

Kyle looks over the homework and they smile and high five.

Gianna and Kyle hold a stare, both daring each other to look away first, but neither do. Kyle leans in, but Rob interrupts.

ROB

What's going on in here?

GIANNA

Just studying.

ROB

I don't like this.

KYLE

If you don't like it, then you can transfer to Boo's room.

Kyle rises and feels sick.

ROB

Oh, Oh, not again. Gross. I'm out of here.

INT. DORM BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Kyle runs to the bathroom and vomits. He sits on the bathroom floor -- irritable.

Gianna approaches.

KYLE

I'm fine! Stop mothering me!

Gianna upset, but understanding. She sits down on the floor with him.

GIANNA

You could be belligerent all you need, I'm not going anywhere.

Kyle lowers his head in abashment. Then looks up and smiles broadly. They stare lovingly at each other.

INT. KYLE'S PARENT'S HOUSE - DAY

Kaylee jumps into Kyle's outstretched arms. He picks her up and swoops her around in one motion.

KAYLEE

You didn't forget.

KYLE

Never baby.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson enter from the kitchen and are excited to see Kyle.

Kaylee rests on Kyle's lap. Mrs. Johnson removes a paper from the drawer. Kyle's heart sinks. He hesitates, exhales loudly and opens the folded letter.

KYLE POV

Dear Mr. Johnson:

There are a few weeks remaining in the fall semester and we are pleased to inform you that your overall 1st semester Grade Point Average is a 2.6. This is significantly higher than the 2.0 needed in the probation process. As a result, you are no longer on Probation and can continue your education at Yardsburgh State.

Everyone elated.

KAYLEE
Please play with me.

Kyle smirks and follows Kaylee upstairs.

Kyle passes his parent's room and sees his mother's purse.

KAYLEE (O.S) (CONT'D)
C'mon Ky.

Kyle stares at the purse but does not enter the bedroom.

KYLE
Here I come, baby!!!

INT. DR. PIKE'S OFFICE - DAY

Kyle sits in a chair across from her desk.

DR. PIKE
How was your weekend?

KYLE
Great. I can't remember the last
time I had so much fun with my
family.

DR. PIKE
Sounds like you're feeling again.
So how's school?

KYLE
Much better. I think I may
actually make it.

DR. PIKE
How are the temptations?

KYLE
Not gonna lie, they're almost
impossible to overcome. I have a
quasi support system, I think.

DR. PIKE
Gianna?

KYLE
Maybe!

DR. PIKE

It's most important that you have her. It makes this crazy process so much easier.

KYLE

One bummer though is the vomiting.

DR. PIKE

That's a good bummer.

KYLE

It's a bummer for Gianna. She sometimes is there pick up after me.

DR. PIKE

You're going to make it as long as you continue the hard work. The fact that Gianna is there at those gross times, tells me that it isn't a bummer to anyone, but you.

KYLE

Dr. Pike, what do you think of Coach Oakley?

DR. PIKE

He's a good coach, why?

KYLE

No reason.

(pause)

Would you be affected if he were not coaching in this college?

Dr. Pike confused. Studying Kyle.

KYLE (CONT'D)

I just mean, if his contract were not renewed then that would be monumental.

Dr. Pike befuddled.

INT. KYLE AND ROB'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Kyle sits at his desk unsettled. His mind drifts far away. Kyle pulls up "Luke Cell" on his phone contacts and calls.

INT. LUKE'S DORM ROOM - SAME TIME

Luke's phone RINGS and the caller i.d. says "Ky". Luke hits the reject button.

INT. KYLE'S DORM ROOM - SAME TIME

Kyle hears Luke's voice mail and hangs up. He jumps onto the computer and enters lsamms00@waldorfu.edu to write an email.

EMAIL

Hi buddy. Life here at Yardburgh is not the same without you. I screwed up with not only you, but Gianna, my family and my friends. I will spend my entire life making this up to you. I know you have no reason to believe me, but one day I will prove it to you.

Kyle hits the send button.

INT. LUKE'S DORM ROOM - SAME TIME

Luke on his lap top doing homework. The email envelope pops up and he hesitates. He stares anxiously and distressed.

He opens the email and reads it. He shuts his laptop without replying.

INT. KYLE AND ROB'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT

Kyle hears a KNOCK and then hears Rob in the hallway.

ROB (O.S.)

E Man, I told you and your boys to not come to this wing of the dorms.

CLOSET

Kyle hides in the closet.

E MAN (O.S.)

I need to speak to Kyle. Muy importante Pele.

ROB (O.S.)

He's not there. I don't know where he is.

E MAN (O.S.)
Tell him, he can't hide from me
forever.

ROB (O.S.)
Tell him yourself. Now, get your
asses off my door way.

DORM ROOM

Rob sees Kyle exit the closet.

KYLE
Thanks man.

ROB
Stay away from that piece of shit.
Haven't you learned anything? He's
not going to stop until you pay
him! And, we're not pulling
anymore fire alarms for you either.

INT. COACH OAKLEY OFFICE - DAY

Coach sits behind his desk. Kyle enters and closes the door.

COACH OAKLEY
Kyle. Come in. Something on your
mind? I meant to ask you, how's
the bench? Let's see if your butt
flattened out, come here turn
around.

KYLE
I meant to ask you how it feels to
be on your way out?

COACH OAKLEY
I'm here till the end of the year.

KYLE
I just mean, you're on your way out
of being a decent coach.

COACH OAKLEY
You're a plankton in this sea of
life.

KYLE
You're a has been.

COACH OAKLEY
So, why are you here loser?

KYLE
You know why I'm here.

COACH OAKLEY
(excited)
Really? This is the best decision
you've ever made. Sorry I was a
little crass before, you know this
job is stressful.

Coach stands up and prepares the needle.

COACH OAKLEY (CONT'D)
Ok Kyle. I'm going to inject a
little higher dosage, we have
ground to make up.

Kyle stands and walks to coach. He shakes his hand.

KYLE
Good-bye old man.

TOM SPRAWLING (55), balding, in a suit and GEORGE BECKER,
(65), overweight, in a suit, burst into the office. Oakley
still has the needle in his hands.

Kyle sprawls out on a chair smiling and laughing.

TOM
Howard Oakley - I'm Tom Sprawling,
and this is my colleague, George
Becker and we're from the NCAA
Investigation Body. We received a
tip that you've been administering
illegal and banned Performance
Enhancement Drugs to numerous
students here at the university.

COACH OAKLEY
That's not true!

Kyle removes the wire tap from underneath his shirt and hands
it to George.

TOM
I advise you to contact the Coaches
Union for legal advice and pending
the results of the investigation,
you're removed as coach of this
university.

Oakley is furious. Two Campus SECURITY PERSONNEL lead him out YELLING.

COACH OAKLEY

That subversive twerp there is the criminal. Investigate him! He's a pill popping thief and abuser! He gets his drugs from E Man and Claire.

TOM

Thank you very much for exposing this. You do know you have to pass a drug test?

KYLE

Only kissing you would be easier!

They chuckle.

INT. E MAN'S DORM ROOM - SAME TIME

Inside E Man's dorm room.

MONTAGE:

- A POLICE OFFICER has E Man in handcuffs.
- A female POLICE OFFICER is standing over Claire as she is sits on the bed. She is wobbly and hair disheveled and make-up runs down her face.
- Claire has her head down crying as a POLICE OFFICER has a notepad and asks her questions.
- E Man is lead into the awaiting police car and driven off.
- Claire is helped by the female Officer into an undercover car and driven away.

END OF MONTAGE:

EXT. DORMS - SAME TIME

TV Cameras and crew outside the dorms.

REPORTER

Breaking news.

INT. LUKE'S DORM ROOM - SAME TIME

Luke and Jenna are making out on his bed. The t.v. is on low in the b.g.

JENNA

Babe, you want another sandwich?

LUKE

Can't, have practice in a bit.

JENNA

You need anything from the kitchen.

Jenna glances at the t.v. and sees Kyle's face on the news.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Holy shit Luke. It's Kyle on tv.

(loud)

Hurry up, raise the volume.

EXT. DORMS - SAME TIME

TV CAMERAS and CREW.

REPORTER

This sophomore Kyle Johnson exposing an illegal PED ring orchestrated by the soccer coach, Howard Oakley. Kyle bravely wore a wire tap and confronted a hostile Oakley and when the evidence was captured on the tap, the NCAA Investigators raided the room and summarily dismissed Oakley on the spot. I will give more details as they become available.

Kyle's bravery and story doesn't end here. At the same time this was occurring, Kyle tipped off Murray police to an illegal pill and drug ring orchestrated by Blake Wiggins, who's street name is E Man, and his accomplice Claire Yardburgh, inside the school's dorms. In another shocking revelation, Wiggins' primary customer? None other than Coach Oakley.

Luke and Jenna burst out laughing.

JENNA

I have to call G right now.

Luke stares with a proud smile.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

COACH DONALDSON (40), assistant coach, African American and has the team in a huddle. BLUE STATION DEVILS sign in b.g.

COACH DONALDSON

Ok boys. The other's have been suspended so we have to play with 11 guys. This is for 2nd place and a ticket to the All College Tournament Of The Roses. Seniors, don't go out this way.

(yelling)

1,2,3 Yardburgh!

Kyle sees Gianna hug Jenna in the Grandstand. Kyle and Gianna exchange a smile. Jenna and Kyle pound their hearts.

LATER ACTION

The scoreboard reads "2-2".

Rob's pass to Kyle is intercepted and Greg sprints from the other side of the field and hook slide tackles the ball out of bounds.

Greg steals the throw in and passes to Kyle. Kyle dribbles past 2 DEFENDERS and passes to Rob who slides it back to Kyle at the other post and taps it in to the open net.

GOAL!

Rob extends his hand to Kyle and they hug.

REFEREE

Let's go re-start.

Kyle steals and passes to Rob, then to Greg who lifts a header onto Kyle. Kyle heads it onto Greg's foot and he taps it in to the back of the net.

GOAL!

The CROWD goes wild. Kyle and Greg celebrate together.

REFEREE (CONT'D)

Hurry up boys, less than a minute.

The opponents re-start after the goal and the referee looks at his watch and BLOWS the whistle.

Yardburgh wins 4-2. CROWD CHEERS and YELLS. Yardburgh players celebrate.

INT. RESTAURANT - LATER

Kyle, Gianna and Jenna out to dinner.

JENNA
Big celebrity!

KYLE
I'm no celebrity. It just took me a while to realize the other half is more important.

JENNA
What's the other half?

KYLE
Best friends and girls that you love.

Gianna smiles.

KYLE (CONT'D)
So, where's my roommate?

GIANNA
I don't know. He's your roommate.

KYLE
But he's your boyfriend.

Gianna gives a mocking face.

KYLE (CONT'D)
Problems in Disneyland?

GIANNA
We never made it to the front gate.

Gianna and Kyle hold a stare. They smirk.

KYLE
Jenna, how's the dumb ass doing?

JENNA

Great. He needs one more point to tie the single season college points record and two to break it. His team qualified also for the tournament.

KYLE

Wow, they did?

Jenna nods.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Jenna, thanks for coming. I miss what's familiar and safe in my rough times and you definitely are familiar and safe.

JENNA

He misses you.

Kyle puts his fork down -- looks down in abashment.

KYLE

I didn't act like his brother. I hurt and embarrassed him. I failed him.

Kyle excuses himself and exits. Gianna rises to chase Kyle.

JENNA

G, wait. I'll go.

EXT. OUTSIDE RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

Jenna slowly sits next to Kyle on the bench.

JENNA

Ky, it's not too late. If he doesn't answer your calls or texts then just blow it up.

KYLE

Jenna, I'm the luckiest guy in the world to have you as my best friend, I am, really. But, I don't deserve you. I surely don't deserve his forgiveness.

JENNA

Ky, there's only one arrogant soccer player who knows him better than anyone else. That's you.

Kyle smiles and is deep in thought.

JENNA (CONT'D)

Fight Ky. Fight for your brother
and if he resists, fight some more
until you break down that damn
wall. Fight Ky, Fight!

Gianna arrives as Kyle and Jenna hug.

GIANNA

Who's up for a movie??

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

College Tournament of the Roses. The Grandstands are PACKED and t.v. camera's and crews throughout the field. ANNOUNCER (35), t.v. station jacket, balding head, in front of the camera.

ANNOUNCER

Welcome to the third day of the
32nd annual College Tournament of
the Roses. 16 of the best Division
II Universities in the United
States competing on one stage for
the right to be called The Best.
We've seen 12 teams eliminated the
last two days and we're down to
4.

Waldorf University has been led by
their All World Field General, Luke
Samms, who is two points away from
breaking Mark DiCapua's 48 year
record. No easy task though as
they face a 17, 1 and 1 Darnold
Union University team out of
the New Jersey area led by their
leading goal scorer Kenny "Killer"
Strom. Waldorf's perfect 19 and 0
season is on the line.

Men, grab your beers and shut your
phone's off and give your wives
money to go to the mall as you
don't want to miss this!

GRANDSTAND

Luke exchanges waves with Jenna and Gianna. Luke and Kyle exchange side smiles and look away -- playing cat and mouse.

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads "1-1".

A Waldorf PLAYER throws in to Luke but is intercepted. Luke re-intercepts and his pass is tapped into the goal.

CROWD goes wild.

JENNA
That's my boy!!

GIANNA
(cheering)
Nice Pass Lukey!

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads 2-1 Waldorf U.

After a throw in for Darnold, the PLAYER passes to an opened man on the far side.

WALDORF COACH
Luke, that's your man. Why is he free!!!

ON KYLE

whispers to himself.

KYLE
Luke, get him. Slide tackle NOW!!!

FIELD

Luke slide tackles the ball out of bounds on the end line.

WALDORF COACH
Last rush guys. Less than a minute left.

Darnold's corner kick is into the box and Waldorf GOALIE swats away two consecutive shots.

JENNA
Luke get it out of there!!!

Luke clears to mid-field -- referee blows whistle.

Waldorf U wins 2-1.

Kyle, Gianna and Jenna hug in jubilation.

KYLE

I have to get to the locker room
and get dressed.

GIANNA

Good luck.

They hold a stare. They want to kiss, but don't.

T.V. CAMERAS

ANNOUNCER

Waldorf U stamped their ticket to
the Roses Final and will face
either Yardsburgh State or Beachgate
University, out of San Diego,
Ca. Samms did get an assist on
their second goal and is now tied
for the all time college record for
most points in one season.
Incredible.

Now, onto our next game on hand.
The emergence of sophomore Kyle
Johnson who, only last year, was
off the team and weeks away from
being academically discharged.
This is a real heart wrenching
story of one sophomore's will, guts
and determination to turn his life
around. He's now tied for the most
goals scored in any 9 game span in
the history of Division II
collegiate soccer and needs just
one more goal to break the goals
record in a 10 game span since he
broke into the starting line-up.
I heard the whistle, so lets get
you to the opening action.

Referee BLOWS the whistle.

FIELD

Kyle exchanges kiss blowing with Gianna. He and Jenna pound
their hearts. Kyle and Luke exchange a sneaky side smile.

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads "2-1" Yardburgh.

Boo throws in -- intercepted by Beachgate. Greg sprints to the side to catch up.

COACH DONALDSON

Greg, don't you dare slide tackle!

Greg starts the slide tackle, but Kyle ran back from his spot and knocked the ball out of bounds.

ROB

Good run Ky. Thanks for saving
Greg!

Beachgate throws in and the OPPONENT slides a perfect pass and now there is a 2 on 1 in front of the GOALIE.

Rob makes a back slide tackle but is a second late.

Goal!

Score is 2-2.

COACH DONALDSON

Rob, sub.

Rob hobbles.

COACH DONALDSON (CONT'D)

Ref, sub. Blazer, get in there
freshman!

Rob stops.

ON GREG

blood drips down his leg.

ON BOO

Gasps for air and full of dirt and grass.

ON KYLE

full of dirt and grass and gasps for air.

ON TIM IN THE GRANDSTAND

they exchange smiles and fist pumps.

Rob limps to BLAZER.

ROB
Sit back down rookie.

Rob glares at Coach Donaldson.

ROB (CONT'D)
Coach, get the freshman back on the bench!

COACH DONALDSON
Your knee Rob. You're hobbling.

ROB
(to referee)
No sub. Let's go!

The CROWD CHEERS as Rob stays in the game.

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads "2-2".

Beachgate passes back and forth -- playing keep away. Greg intercepts and passes to Rob, who fakes a pass and dribbles around the player and is limping, but pushing through.

Rob passes a high ball into Kyle who head's onto Boo and GOAL.

Score is 3-2 Yardburgh.

GIANNA
Nice goal Boo Boo!!

After the re-start Rob intercepts and passes to Greg who's pass was also intercepted.

A Beachgate PLAYER's shot is saved by Yardburgh's GOALIE's outstretched arm.

The CROWD goes wild.

KYLE
(to referee)
How much time left?

REFEREE
Less than a minute.

Yardburgh goalie kicks the ball to mid-field, but a Beachgate PLAYER kicks it back into the 18 yard line where there are 10 Beachgate PLAYERS.

COACH DONALDSON

Less than 1 minute. Don't let them score!

The high ball lands on a Beachgate PLAYERS head who passes to his TEAMMATE but Greg slide tackles and Rob limps to kick out of bounds with his bad leg.

The referee BLOWS the whistle.

REFEREE

Game!

The entire TEAM jump on Greg and Rob and celebrate.

Gianna, Jenna and Luke YELL and CHEER. Luke's eyes find Kyle's amid the celebration. They hold a stare.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

T.V. Camera's and crew.

ANNOUNCER

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the final Sunday of the All College Tournament of the Roses. We have whittled the field down to 2 of the best college universities soccer programs in Division II this year. The Waldorf University side is undoubtedly led by their field General, Luke Samms, who needs 1 more point in today's match to break the all-time points record in the history of Division II college soccer.

Yardburgh State is led by their sophomore scoring sensation Kyle Johnson, who needs 1 goal in today's match to break the all time Division II collegiate goal scoring record in a 11 game span.

Two records on the line and two really tired teams playing their fourth game in four days.

Both teams are banged up and an important injury to keep an eye on is Yardburgh's Rob Hutchinson's knee. I just heard the whistle, so let's go down to the beginning action.

GRANDSTANDS

Gianna and Jenna YELL and CHEER.

FIELD

The TEAMS walk onto the field and Kyle and Gianna blow a kiss to each other.

Jenna and Kyle pound their chests to each other.

Kyle finds his mother, father and Kaylee YELLING and CHEERING. Dr. Pike stands next to them.

KAYLEE

Score my big brother!

ON KYLE

smiles at Kaylee.

ON ROB

blows Tim a kiss and they laugh.

ON LUKE

blows kisses to Jenna and his mother. Waves to Gianna.

Teams line up to shake hands but Luke turns his back on Kyle's outstretched hand -- Kyle is disappointed.

Referee BLOWS the whistle. Waldorf U starts off with a pass back to Luke who survey's the field and is immediately hard tackled by Rob. Luke goes down.

REFEREE

Indirect Waldorf. Watch the suspect play #7.

ROB

(to Luke)

Douche boy! There's a lot more of that coming.

Luke re-starts and Boo kicks the back of Luke's shins, but no whistle and they play on. Luke limps.

BOO

(to Luke)

You want me to kiss your boo-boo?

Rob passes to Kyle who fakes a player and is now one on one with Luke. Luke strips the ball from Kyle but Rob hooks Luke's leg.

Referee BLOWS the whistle.

REFEREE

Yellow card. #7. Boys- stop the chippy play. I'll give out red cards all day. Now play soccer!

Luke gets in Rob's face.

REFEREE (CONT'D)

Direct Yardburgh.

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads "0-0"

Greg re-starts with a long pass to Boo that is intercepted. Luke then retains Kyle from making the run with him.

A Waldorf U PLAYER passes to Luke which is stripped by Kyle. Kyle passes cross fields to Boo who tries to pass back to Kyle but Luke kicks the ball out of bounds.

REFEREE

Corner.

Boo short corners to Rob who kicks a high ball into the box and Kyle jumps but Luke yanks Kyle to the ground.

KYLE

Ref, he elbowed me in the air. Kick his ass out. He's dirty playing.

Greg and Rob push Luke and a scrum ensues.

Referee BLOWS the whistle.

REFEREE

(to coaches)

Coach, Yardburgh, Coach, Waldorf. If I see another dirty play then I'm handing out red cards and turning this game into a mockery. I'm not addressing this again! Re-kick, corner!

Boo kicks a high corner to Greg's head who's shot is saved by Waldorf GOALIE.

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads "0-0".

A Waldorf PLAYER throws in to Luke who passes to his TEAMMATE but Rob limps to kick it away.

ROB
(to Luke)
Not on my watch!

The ensuing corner kick to Luke, who's shot is saved by Yardburgh's goalie. The goalie kicks out to Kyle who passes to Boo but is tripped by Luke.

Referee BLOWS the whistle.

REFEREE
Half!

LATER ACTION

Scoreboard reads "0-0".

A Waldorf corner kick is saved but not cleared. Another shot saved by Yardburgh's goalie. The rebound finds Luke's foot and he drills a shot and another finger tip save.

Waldorf passes into the middle but Yardburgh goalie swat saves. The ball is stolen by Luke and then tripped by Rob.

Referee BLOWS the whistle.

REFEREE
Direct. Waldorf.

LUKE
No yellow Ref?

Luke is huddled with 2 PLAYERS deciding who is taking the shot. The huddle disperses and Luke lines up to take the direct kick.

JENNA
(yelling)
Let's go Lukey!!

Kyle walks back to the goalie and whispers something to him and he nods.

The referee BLOWS the whistle and Luke kicks the customary in bender. Luke begins to celebrate, however the goalie makes a fingertip save and out of bounds.

The place is as LOUD as any rock concert.

Luke is in disbelief.

The ensuing corner kick lands on Luke's foot and the shot is saved. Kyle was shoved to the ground and Luke smirks.

Rob pushes Luke from behind and goes flying. Referee BLOWS the whistle.

REFEREE

Yellow card, #7. That's his second yellow of the game. You're ejected.

The Yardburgh PLAYERS scream at the referee.

Coach Donaldson storms the field.

The other referee restores order, but Coach Donaldson and head referee veer off to the side ARGUING.

REFEREE (CONT'D)

Yardburgh plays with 10 men the rest of the game. Since foul happened inside the 18 yard line, penalty kick.

Luke and TEAMMATES huddle.

WALDORF PLAYER

Luke, you take it. You need 1 point for the record and this is an easy point.

The referee spots the ball on the penalty mark.

The Yardburgh goalie mentally prepares himself for the shot.

ON GIANNA

cannot bear to look.

ON JENNA

hugging Luke's mom and mouthing to herself "c'mon Lukey".

ON KAYLEE

hugs her Dad's leg and doesn't want to look.

ON KYLE'S MOM, DAD AND DR. PIKE

anxiously hugging.

The tension is so thick you can feel every ounce of it.

The referee BLOWS the whistle. Luke shoots to the goalie's left and he guessed correctly to save the game.

The CROWD goes wild!! The ball flies out of bounds and a throw in for Waldorf.

REFeree
(yelling)
3 minutes left.

The in bound is intercepted by Greg but stolen back by Luke -- passes a give and go to a TEAMMATE, but Luke is hooked by Kyle.

Luke writhes in pain and Kyle helps him to his feet.

REFeree (CONT'D)
Indirect. Waldorf. Less than 2
minutes left.

A Waldorf pass in the middle, where there is a lot of congestion. The ball lands on Luke's foot and he drills a shot and a diving save, but a big rebound.

There is a big scrum in the middle and Yardburgh can't clear.

REFeree (CONT'D)
1 minute!! If still tied, we go to
two 15 minute overtimes!

The ball lands on a Waldorf PLAYER's foot and he turns and shoots but Yardburgh's goalie makes a diving foot save. Still can't control it.

Everyone scurrying.

The ball squirts free to a Waldorf PLAYER. He fakes Greg to the ground, but Kyle intercepts it, but Luke hooks him. No whistle.

GREG
NO CALL? Are you kidding?

REFeree
Play on.

Luke is now 2 on 1 and shot saved, but, the rebound is between Luke and Kyle.

SOUND CUTS OUT -- SLOW MOTION

The ball lays still.

Yardburgh's goalie is on the other post and if Luke can be quicker than Kyle to the ball, he can tap it in the open side for the win.

Kyle lunges for the ball and beats Luke to the loose ball and controls it but, inexplicably, Luke now has the ball and taps it in for the win.

Goal!

BACK TO LIVE SPEED

Referee BLOWS the whistle.

1-0 Game over.

There's PANDEMONIUM on the field.

All the Yardburg PLAYERS are exhausted.

The Waldorf PLAYERS hoist Luke on their shoulders and parade him around the field to chants "M.V.P., M.V.P".

ON KYLE

hands on knees -- bent over.

ROB

(to Kyle)

What happened bro? The ball was on your foot, how did it end up on Luke's?

Kyle just stares at Rob and then puts his head down.

ON JENNA

jumps down and rushes the field with Luke's mom.

The players lower Luke to the ground, Jenna jumps into Luke's arms. They kiss passionately.

Mom, Dad, Kaylee and Dr. Pike find Kyle on the field.

MRS. JOHNSON

Great game son.

KAYLEE

You were slow again. Like when you used to drop me.

Kyle looks down.

DR. PIKE
Great game. Therapy 101 was just
stepped up to 505.

They chuckle.

MR. JOHNSON
Son, between you and me, what
happened?

Kyle looks at Dad and smirks. Dad smirks back and they
embrace.

MOMENTS LATER

Luke finds Kyle sitting on the bench.

Kyle stands and faces him. They hesitate and no one is
speaking. They finally exchange an embrace.

LUKE
I've heard of your turn around and
I'm so proud of you.

KYLE
I'm sorry about everything. I
promised myself and now I promise
you, I will always be your best
friend and brother.

They share another embrace.

KYLE (CONT'D)
(smirks)
Nice game winning goal by the way.

LUKE
Thank you.

KYLE
(smirks)
For what?

Luke just stares at Kyle. Hesitating. Smirking. Smiling.

LUKE
I love you Brother.

KYLE
I love you too.
(a beat)
A dark chapter of my life is now
over, because of you.

MOMENTS LATER

Gianna finds Kyle. She's smiling and shaking her head in disbelief.

KYLE

What?

She stares and smirks and smiles.

KYLE (CONT'D)

It's not as easy as you think.

She stares and smirks and smiles. Kyle rambles on.

KYLE (CONT'D)

When you're under pressure like
that and players all around you.
It's a lot harder than it looks.

She stares and smirks and smiles. Kyle rambles on.

KYLE (CONT'D)

G, there's less than 10 seconds to
clear that ball to get to overtime.

She stares and smirks and smiles. Kyle rambles on.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Luke was just quicker. That's all!

She stares and smirks and smiles. Kyle rambles on.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Well, if you don't believe me, then
you're just a big bitch.

(pause)

Will you say something!

GIANNA

(pause)

I love you and you're a good man
Charlie Brown!

They kiss passionately.

FADE OUT:

THE END