

Pickleballs! - The Movie

written by

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FADE IN

INT. CHIP COX'S RV, VAN NUYS, CA-DAY

Chip Cox (64) is fast asleep-unshaven in a too-small, stained t-shirt with his formidable belly on display. He is abruptly awakened by a device mounted on his dashboard, an Amazon Echo. He calls it "Lexus".

LEXUS

Good Morning your highness. Would you like to enjoy another hour of snoozing?

CHIP

Yes-and play my favorite song.

LEXUS

Yes, your highness. Playing "Billionaire."

"Billionaire" by Bruno Mars starts to play.

Chip rubs his eyes and scratches his protruding stomach. He gazes about his RV and adjusts his package, positioned snugly inside a dated Nike jock strap.

He smells his hand, chews on one of his nails, and spits it out. He momentarily mumbles along with Bruno, closes his eyes, and drifts off to sleep with a smile on his face.

An 80's video plays. Initially we see "snow" on a dated TV. Bad graphics dance across the screen that fades to black...

SUPER: 30 for 30: Inside Cox

NARRATOR (V.O.)

This is the bizarre tale of tennis legend Richard Cox, a man of extraordinary talent and gumption. You may know him as Chip.

We see old photos of Chip as a baby. His dad looks disappointed and his mom grimaces in pain.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Richard Cox was born in Van Nuys, California to Woody and Lovey Cox.

Old home footage displays Chip being held by his father and he cries the entire time. His father passes Chip to his mom, and he is immediately consoled.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Lovey was not amused that Woody
 named their son Richard.

INT. LOVEY TALKING HEAD

LOVEY
 Woody thought calling him "Dick"
 was comical. My hustler husband
 knew just what he was doing.
 (staring upwards)
 God rest his soul. You don't name
 your son Richard, without knowing
 someday everyone will call him Dick

She shakes her head in disgust.

LOVEY (CONT'D)
 But not me. Always called him Chip.

She smiles.

LOVEY (CONT'D)
 Still do.

A screenshot of Lovey holding baby Chip smiling at the camera

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 Even at an early age, Chip showed
 promise of athleticism.

A crappy home video projects baby Chip. He holds a ping pong
 paddle and laughingly smashes items across the living room.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 It seemed that Chip Cox was
 destined to be a true tennis hero.

The screen goes black.

We see old footage of Russia and cut to photos of baby Boris.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Enter Boris Baryshnikov. While Chip
 Cox basked in the California sun,
 Boris endured the harsh climes of
 Siberia.

(MORE)

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
He was the son of a hard-line
communist father, hellbent on
spreading his altruistic beliefs to
the farthest reaches of the earth.

We see a picture of Boris' father.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Boris also showed signs of tennis
stardom as a youngster.

A bad picture is shown of Baby Boris clutching a potato.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
As Chip and Boris progressed, they
perfected their signature styles.

A more mature Chip serves with all of his energy, screaming
as he strikes the ball. He aces it and runs around yelling.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Whereas Chip's aggressive, in-your-
face style was apparent early on,
Boris took an imminently different
path. Boris learned how to play
tennis by smashing potatoes against
a wall with a racquet that oddly
resembled a hammer and sickle.

A video clip plays of Boris.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Boris developed his unorthodox
serve out of self-preservation.

Boris holds his arm up in an exaggerated fashion, hesitates
momentarily, and then ferociously strikes the ball.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Serving with a common approach
would have been the death of him,
and clearly distinguished Boris
from other tennis pros of the era.

A video clip plays of Chip.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Chip advanced through the ranks
rapidly. He was better suited
facing older, accomplished players.
(MORE)

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Beginning at a small venue in Van Nuys, he moved on to exclusive country clubs, where he showcased his brash arrogance, terrible temper, amazing court vision, and..

A bad call is made on one of his serves. Chip flips out.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 ... notorious trash talking.

Chip is screaming at the official.

CHIP
 My vision is better than perfect-my shot was IN for the W-IN-and you blew it-like.. your nose! Com'n!!

Chip sits on the other side of the net ready to serve.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 Here come's your busboy AND BIG BOY Platter-time to get served!

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 Some considered Chip to be edgy and determined; others thought he was just flat-out obnoxious. Chip's tyrannical father Woody limited him to a dollar a week allowance, which helped satisfy Woody's infatuation with rolling the dice. Chip, meanwhile, parlayed his menial income into a small fortune with his shrewd gambling tactics.

News headline: Woody dies in a mafia related incident...

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Then tragedy struck one night when Woody paid the ultimate price with his life at an Italian trattoria. Posthumously to honor his odd father, Chip vowed to become the greatest tennis player in the world, which meant taking risks-and played a huge role in Chip's meteoric rise to stardom.

We see more videos of Boris.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Boris, meanwhile, worked tirelessly for everything he earned.

Boris, about age eight, stands alongside Nikita Khrushchev seconds before Nikita is deposed by Soviet guards.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

In one of his final acts leading the U-S-S-R, Premier Nikita Khrushchev brought young Boris to Moscow, where he was secretly trained at the Sports College Under Moscow—otherwise known as SCUM. There he developed into a world-class athlete in the city's subway tunnels. Unlike its fabled stations, there was little in the way of glamour.

Boris dodges huge rats and rail cars to develop his talent.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Boris' style was cool and mechanical—the antithesis of Chip's. It matched his brooding personality perfectly.

Boris takes a sip of tea and looks directly at the camera.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Boris's surname led many to believe he was related to the famous Russian dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov. Not so, and it embarrassed Boris to no end—especially when Mikhail defected to Canada in 1974.

Old footage of Boris appears from a post-match interview.

BORIS

No-am no relation to that capitalist defecting dog-or should I call him dancing dog? Funny, eh?
(smiles))
If he not happy in beloved Soviet Union he can dance from Montreal to Vancouver for all I care!

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Baryshnikov and Cox—a study in contrasts...soon these two opposites would meet unexpectedly.

Chip screams with triumphant jubilation at his win.

CHIP

Call your televangelist cause you
need a MIRACLE to win today baby!

Chip swings wildly and the ball goes in. He yells maniacally.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Chip Cox remains undefeated in
Paris! No one in tennis history has
achieved this amazing milestone!

EXT. ROLAND-GARROS STADIUM, PARIS

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

On the famed clay courts of Roland-
Garros Chip Cox was most legendary.
Like Jerry Lewis movies, the French
confounded the world by taking the
brash American to heart.

Headline from Le Monde and newspapers in several languages,

Miracle on Clay: Will Cox EVER Lose?!!

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Chip's stunning first major victory
in 1972 was followed by six
straight wins in France. He
returned to the fabled court in
1978 for an epic clash with Boris.

Video of Boris missing and the video goes to black and white.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

But Boris faced a difficult climb.
He lost several matches before
returning to his winning ways.

Boris smiles and is surrounded by a group of reporters.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

The two forces oddly teamed up one
night for a doubles match we
wouldn't soon forget.

Camera flashes at him as paparazzi hold microphones close.

BORIS

The USSR will crumble before I
stoop to playing on the same side
as Cox, the capitalist pig.

We see Chip surrounded by even more press.

CHIP

Boris, the commie pinkie said that did he? Well, I'll play with him when American flags fly in Moscow- and they figure out that McDonalds is the healthiest food around!

Chip pauses, then continues.

CHIP (CONT'D)

The tennis net is an iron curtain- we'll NEVER be on the same side.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The French open, 1978.

Chip and Boris are on the same side of the net.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

To this day how these two ended up on the same doubles team remains a mystery. Some say their managers made the deal as a publicity stunt; others claim it was in their contracts. One thing's for certain: neither of them were amused.

Chip and Boris are not speaking to each other; Chip screams in English and Boris retorts in Russian.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Even with extreme teammate issues, the pandemic pair proceeded to win the French doubles championship.

A medals ceremony displays flags of the Soviet Union and USA being hoisted simultaneously. To compromise instead of their respective national anthems the theme song "From Russia With Love" plays. Chip and Boris do not congratulate each other.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Who could ask for a stranger-or better-stage? The undefeated Chip wins WITH Boris, fresh from a shocking win streak of his own.

The screen goes red.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Subsequently, two days later, Chip faces the ultimate test: his flawless record is on the line versus his unusual doubles partner, Boris, in the singles championship.

The screen goes black. Chip (mid-scream) appears on screen as a caption of Boris staring at the camera slides in next to him. The letters VS appear between them in 70's style font.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
The 1978 French Open.

News footage of the crowd erupting as Chip takes the court, draped in Nike attire-his tan is magnified under the lights. He flexes rippling muscles with braggadocio for the cameras.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
At the time, there was speculation
that Cox might be the greatest
athlete in sports history-or GASH!

Sports Illustrated Cover touts Chip as Athlete of the Year.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
But the unheralded Boris was fast
and capable in his own right.

Boris enters the arena and he proceeds to proudly point to his Russian Bear logo on his clothes. Boris yanks his billed cap over his tussled black hair and smiles at the camera.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
While Boris was a French Open
surprise story, he was no slouch.

Chip blows a kiss to the crowd, who adore the returning king.

In the front row of the stands rooting for Chip is his well-endowed fiancée, LACEY UNDERHILL (26), daughter of his hometown tennis club's president.

Chip blows a kiss to Lacey. She craves the attention and waves excitedly to him and points at her huge engagement ring. She then blows him a kiss...Chip daydreams...(Barry White's "My First, My Last, My Everything" plays in the background). In slow motion, Chip imagines he and Lacey holding hands on a beach. She drops his hand, unties her bikini top, and seductively sways into the water with her back to him. In chest high water Lacey faces Chip, and entices him by flipping her bikini bottom in the air when ...

Chip suddenly grabs himself as a ball crushes him in the groin. He glares at Boris, who holds his hand up apologetically for hitting him with a practice serve.

Chip wags his finger at Boris, gingerly shuffles off the court, and gathers himself in a chair before the match.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 A tenuous start to a Cold War
 championship for the ages-the
 tennis titans made things chillier
 with their juvenile shenanigans...

The match features quick cameos of the two in action.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Despite Chip's aggressive serves
 and volleys, Boris answers every
 drop and cannon shot with equal
 aplomb. Chip resorts to his
 customary trash talking...

CHIP
 Were you born this bad-or did
 Stalin teach you?

When Boris serves, Chip promptly returns, and is yawning...

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 Seven hours of intensity-the final
 point...a hush enveloped the arena.

Three viewing boxes are prominently displayed.

Proud Premier LEONID BREZHNEV and his Soviet entourage
 support their warrior & his long fight against the American.

ROCCO, the Mafia chief, is pictured with his enforcers-all
 over-sized Italian men who smoke cigars in a luxury box.

In the last box, Lacey sits with her parents. All three
 groups sit with great anticipation of the final match point.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 It was later revealed that Rocco
 placed a huge bet on Chip that
 erased a \$500,000 gambling debt
 Chip and Woody had owed to Rocco.

The arena is silent. Boris is focused. Chip clenches his jaw.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Match point.

Chip pounds a serve up the middle and the ball nicks the
 line. OTTO, HEAD REFEREE, pauses, looks at Chip, and calls...

OTTO
 IN!

Chip jumps for joy and screams in triumph!

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 Chip had won his 6th straight
 singles title on French clay!

Chip beats his chest and struts around the court-imploing
 the crowd to rise and cheer him on. He boldly displays his
 signature, double-fisted flex salute.

Rocco and his Italian mob hug each other while the buxom
 Lacey jumps up and down to capture the camera's attention.

The communists collectively hang their heads. Boris also
 looks down in shame-knowing this is a bad sign for him.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 The trophy ceremony commenced.

Chip stands center court with Lacey alongside of him-she
 holds the giant winner's check as Chip raises the trophy over
 his head, mocks his rival, and shouts into the microphone...

CHIP
 I won again! I am the GREATEST
 singles tennis player alive-and
 champion-in the universe!

Chip pauses and smiles a big cocky smile.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 My victory proves that no stinking
 Russian can beat a true 'Merican!

NARRATOR
 Chip taunted the small faction of
 the crowd which didn't support him.

Chip starts chanting

CHIP
 USA...USA...USA...

Chip tears off his shirt and flexes his amplified muscles.
 Boris looks down at his shoes while Otto stares at Lacey, who
 is bouncing up and down along with her breasts.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 It was obvious to viewers that Chip
 had been using steroids, but Boris'
 shame of losing didn't last long.

The crowd tired of Chip's pomposity and began to whistle-and
 they all join in. The head referee Otto reminds Chip...

OTTO

Mr. Cox - You are in France, not
America.

Chip ignorantly thinks the whistles are supportive of him.

CHIP (TO THE CROWD)

Thanks everybody. Marci Buckets!
Really...you are almost.. kind
enough. Regardez-moi. This...
(flexing his muscles)
is what me and my doctor created...
Arnold eat your heart out!

The audience whistles became even more pronounced.

As Chip continues to brag and flex, Boris appears anxious and embarrassed and strokes his bushy mustache standing next to Chip. He shakes his head as Chip continues to brag and gloat.

Boris is overcome with disdain for the American and frantically looks around for the nearest exit. He suddenly grabs Chip's trophy and scampers away with it!

He runs into the tunnel of the stadium to the cheers of the stunned crowd. A shirtless Chip frantically chases Boris into the tunnel and they disappear. The crowd goes ballistic!

The camera pans to Lacey, who is engaged in a tug of war for the winner's check with Otto. He retains it as Lacey tumbles to the ground, briefly exposing herself...

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Well, I'm not sure how to describe
what just happened-an epic battle,
of sure! Chip Cox, the six-time
champion, wins yet again but may
have overly exposed himself by
taking off his shirt. His commie
contestant steals his trophy and
they vanish, while Chip's fiancée
also showed some serious skin,
mister! Not a moment we expected!

The crowd erupts as Lacey, realizing she is now in the spotlight, takes a bow and fancies a slow curtsy. As she strolls off with Otto and the check, she intentionally struts her stuff as the announcer does play by play...

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 ...And now Miss Lacey has moved on
 to a gum wrapper, and..well... I can
 see..it appears she's also picking
 up a cigarette butt..Otto loves
 every bit of it-& he's not alone...

The next scene is the cover of newspaper headlines:

Newspapers start to fly into the black screen.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 The match made headlines globally.

Le Monde (morphed from original French): Cox Loses Mind-and
 Title-After Failing Drug Test!

New York Post: Soviet Steals French Open Trophy & Keeps It!

Playboy:(Picture of Lacey bending over) In Glee over G!

US News: From G-O-A-T to Goat: The Defeat Of Chip Cox

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Although this was a very rough
 ending for Chip, I'm sure we've not
 seen the last of him.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV, VAN NUYS, CA - DAY

SUPER: PRESENT DAY

Chip still is sleeping fitfully in his home on wheels.

EXT. CHIP COX'S RV

LOVEY COX (83), her hair in curlers, pounds on Chip's RV.

LOVEY
 Chip, CHIIII-P, Are you still
 sleeping?! It's almost 11 am!
 Amazon delivered a box for you.
 Could it be that book you wrote?
 Good heavens...it stinks in here!!

CHIP
 Huh? Maaa. I told you not to bother
 me in here when, I'm uum...working.
 Wasn't sleeping-was just focusing
 on my, ugh, lesson plan for today.

LOVEY
 (disgusted)
 Lord have mercy on my child...
 please come and get some breakfast.

Chip takes the box from his mother. He places it on his bed and unsuccessfully tries to open it with his bare hands. Instead he takes a small kitchen knife from a drawer.

He carefully slices the top of the box, and pulls out the volume with great anticipation. It's indeed his book, titled "The Greatest Singles Champion-- It Takes Balls To Play,".

At the bottom of the book, the author is listed as "Dick Cocks." Chip is mortified over the mistake. He bursts out the door in his t-shirt and underwear.

EXT. CHIP COX'S RV - DAY

Chip follows the power cord from the RV to where it is plugged into the garage outlet. He stops to pee in the rose bushes next to the garage. It takes time to get his stream going, so he mumbles encouragement to himself.

CHIP
 Com'n...you can do it... damn
 urologist..my pee is piss poor-
 jeeez...com'n little dickie, let's
 water these flowers...that's it...

He begins to hum.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 I wanna be a billionaire...then
 president...so freaking bad...

While peeing, he gazes into the window of the garage and sees his old trophies scattered about on an old ping pong table. He slowly hobbles into his mother's house to use the phone.

INT. LOVEY COX'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Her kitchen is kitschy, which is no surprise for a woman in her 80's who's lived by herself for decades since Woody's death. Chip hears his mother in the bathroom flushing the toilet. He reaches for the wall phone, one hand holding the book, the other pulling out a folded piece of paper that's inside. He examines it and reaches for the phone.

CHIP
 Five-one-three, area code.
 Cincinnati, all right...

He presses the buttons, then waits.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 Yes, is Malcolm Mordecai in?...I'm
 speaking with him? Well, you've
 sure got some explaining to do.

He pauses to clear his throat, then speaks loudly.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 This is Chip Cox. And you screwed
 up my name on the cover of my book-
 ON THE COVER! It's Chip Cox-that's
 C-O-X-not Dick and a porn surname..

He shakes his head in frustration as his mother enters.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 I won 6 straight French Open
 Championship singles titles and you
 can't even get my damn name right?
 What in THE Hell is your problem?

Chip's anger increases as he listens to the other end.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 Funny? You thought it was
 funny?...I'll sue you for every
 cent you've got-which is probably
 all you've got...
 (pauses)
 OK-do that and get back to me ASAP!
 (pauses)
 I don't have email. Call me at...

The line goes dead & he stares at his mom in disbelief.
 Suddenly the phone rings again. Chip picks it up.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 Malcolm? you better have answers.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. AMERICAN SYMMETRY PUBLISHING, CINCINNATI - DAY

American Symmetry, a sketchy vanity press, occupies a rundown
 office on the fourth floor of an aging downtown building.
 MALCOLM MORDECAI (37), as disheveled as the office, talks:

MALCOLM
 We do. You looked at the book yet?

CHIP

Why would I after this screw-up?

MALCOLM

Well, if you did, you'd have found your name correctly spelled all the way through the book. The mistake was just on the dust jacket.

CHIP

How could you do this to me?

MALCOLM

The kid who runs our printing press in Kentucky saw the "it takes balls" caption and searched you on the internet. He thought you'd think it was funny-and help you sell more books.

CHIP

What? He's never even heard of me?

MALCOLM

He's only 24. He could care less about a boomer's tennis story. He read it and thought it was comical.
(beat)
Fortunately, we haven't printed dust jackets and we'll fix it at no charge. Satisfied?

CHIP

(sighs)
I guess...

MALCOLM

The first book run of a hundred copies with a new dust jacket will arrive soon. Sorry for the delay.

CHIP

Don't let it happen again and it's NOT funny. My name is not a joke-I will go down in history!

MALCOLM

You've gone down all right...

Chip hangs up and returns to the breakfast table.

LOVEY

Are you OK, son?

CHIP

This younger generation, the millenniums or melon balls, or whatever they're called, don't even know who I am...

Lovey stands and strolls to the refrigerator

CHIP (CONT'D)

Can you get me the milk please?

LOVEY

Sure.

She retrieves a half-gallon container of skim milk and as she puts it on the table near Chip, the phone rings again.

LOVEY (CONT'D)

I'm closer-I'll get it-
(with irony)
and I'll move the refrigerator your way, too-if that'll help...

The phone rings and Lovey answers.

LOVEY (CONT'D)

Hello? Chip? Ummm. Let me see...

LOVEY (CONT'D)

(in a whispery aside)
It's President Underhill.

While Lovey answers the phone, Chip pulls a box of Lucky Charms from the pantry and pours milk on his cereal, while reading the comics on the back of the box.

Chip hears Lovey say "Underhill" and he overflows the bowl...

CHIP

(Frantically whispers)
Oh, shoot...ummm, mom, tell him I'm at a tennis lesson in Calabasas.

LOVEY

Ummm. Chip isn't here. I'll have him call you later today. Buh-bye.

She hangs up, then gives her son an "urge-to-kill" look.

LOVEY (CONT'D)

Calabasas?

CHIP

Sure. My student could be anybody.

Lovey puts her hands on her hips, exasperated.

LOVEY

More like nobody! Your lying is sinful and drives me bonkers!

CHIP

Oh, mom--

LOVEY

Don't you "oh, mom" me!" You're more deceit than decent anymore...

CHIP

Here she comes...

LOVEY

Call Underhill today, and I'll check that you did tomorrow.

Chip sighs, then begins eating his cereal.

LOVEY (CONT'D)

And before you retreat to your rancid RV cocoon, please clean the milk off the table! Now, I'm going back to church...to keep praying for you. By the way, Father Fenwick was asking me when you'll get your ass back to mass!

Chip gags on a bite of cereal as she leaves.

EXT. CHIP COX'S RV - LATER

A power cord connects his RV to the garage, an ersatz shrine to the Chip of his youth, who won an array of titles.

INT. GARAGE

Several trophies are displayed, including "CANOGA ACADEMY INVITATIONAL 1968." And "SAN DIEGO OPEN CHAMPION 1971."

INT. CHIP COX'S RV, VAN NUYS - MOMENTS LATER

Chip, in his RV, falls asleep and has a terrifying nightmare.

EXT. BEL AIR COUNTRY CLUB - DAY

Men in suits emerge from the country club to confront Chip and Lacey.

They are followed by Nike-logoed tennis players on Center Court. Chip, noticeably pale and skinnier than at the French Open, stands at attention, his lips quivering.

Lacey is dismissive of Chip and manages to wear a skimpier outfit than her French Open attire. She waves sheepishly.

The audience shouts out protests like "no" and "don't retire"

Chip bravely waves them quiet.

OTTO

You were the singles tennis king.

The crowd cheers. Chip skeptically waves. Otto hushes them.

OTTO (CONT'D)

But you were a poor sportsman.

The crowd boos. Chip peers downward. Otto hushes them again.

OTTO (CONT'D)

You cheated-and your steroid use is an embarrassment to Americans. You are hereby banned from competing in all tennis tournaments.

The crowd initially boos at this most severe punishment.

OTTO (CONT'D)

Someday, we hope you learn from this and can compete again. But you must test negative for steroids-and prove to be a good sportsman.

Chip's bows his head in shame while Lacey moves away from him and closer to Otto-as a slow military snare drum is heard.

The leader of the suits steps forward.

PHIL KNIGHT

You have not represented Nike to our standards and are no longer to be associated with our brand.

Two announcers describe this extraordinary event. Phil rips the Nike logos off of all of Chip's tennis attire.

ANNOUNCER

Folks, Phil Knight is stripping Cox of his Nike swoosh-thus forfeiting his multi-million endorsement deal-literally the harshest punishment levied against any pro athlete.

ANNOUNCER #2

Prison may be more harsh...

ANNOUNCER

It may be...I mean.. tough to say..

Phil Knight then forces Chip to surrender his Nike headband. He calls the suits and other Nike-logoed players to attention and has them about-face with the purpose of disgracing Chip.

Phil takes Chip's Nike racket and breaks it in half and then hands it to him. As Chip is about to leave, Phil points at his Nike tennis shoes. Reluctantly, Chip takes his shoes off and hands them to Phil, who drops them in a plastic bag.

Then, as Chip is about to walk off by himself, Phil points at his Nike socks. Chip also removes his socks and drops them in the bag. He then hobbles gingerly off, barefoot, on the rough crushed brick-clay court.

Phil laughs a slow demonic laugh as he displays ripped logos.

PHIL KNIGHT

You're pathetic!

Lacey also mocks Chip and cuddles up to Otto, who pulls her closer to him. Unified, they point in Chip's direction. Phil, Otto, and Lacey all laugh maniacally at Chip.

Chip suddenly hears a loud noise in his nightmare.

INT. LOVEY COX HOME - DAY

Chip's Mom knocks frantically on the window of the RV.

LOVEY

Chip...CHIII-P! What are you doing?

Chip suddenly wakes up and he's covered in sweat. He wails.

CHIP

PHIL KNIGHT! Bad Night!! NO!!!

Chip is in a crazed state as his mom continues yelling.

LOVEY

Chip! It's 1pm and you've been in here all day! President Underhill is on the phone again and he said it's urgent. Please come in- now!

CHIP

Uuuugh. Ooo, okay. Ummm. Coming.

INT. LOVEY COX'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Chip picks up the phone and calls the President.

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL (V.O.)
Chip, I need you over here now.

CHIP
No can do, PU...teaching a lesson.

Chip covers the phone and yells to a non-existent person.

CHIP (CONT'D)
You're doing great! Remember, eye
on the ball! Keep it up!

The President scoffs as he looks at Chip through binoculars.

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL
Really? And how's the serve coming
along for...who are you teaching?

Chip ponders and then quickly comes up with something.

CHIP
Oh umm....it is Mrs. Cocktoossen...

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL
No it's not. And I know you're not
teaching a lesson. I can clearly
see you in your mom's kitchen NOW!
...and what happened to your hair?

Chip looks out the window to see President Underhill staring at him through binoculars and wagging a finger at him. Chip simultaneously covers his head and ducks below the window.

CHIP
"Uumm... what do you want?"

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL
Come to my office-now!

Chip hangs up, momentarily stares at the phone, grabs his wig, and adjusts it as he looks into the mirror.

CHIP
Remember. You were good enough, big
enough and, gosh darn it, people
used to like you...

CHIP (CONT'D)
Mom, I'm going over to the club to
see the Emperor. See you in a bit.

EXT. COUNTRY CLUB - MOMENTS LATER

Even though it is across the street, he drives to the club in his RV and parks in the spot reserved for "Club President". He exits the RV toting his ever-present digital tape recorder and stops to look at the statue of himself from 1977.

He admires it, rubs the flat stomach of it under the Nike shirt-which has a small piece of tape covering the shape of the Nike logo. He says something into the recorder and then salutes it and walks toward the clubhouse.

Seeing Chip talking to himself, members shake their heads.

INT. COUNTRY CLUB - SECRETARY'S OFFICE

STEPHANIE the secretary sits at her desk when Chip walks in. She smiles. Chip walks right up to her desk.

CHIP
Hello darling!

She rolls her eyes. Chip leans in closer.

CHIP (CONT'D)
I know you have feelings for me
Steph. I get it. It's perfectly
natural.

Stephanie looks at her computer screen, on it is a calendar for the President, and on today's date it says "FIRE CHIP".

STEPHANIE
He's ready to see you now, Chip.

Chip enters a door.

INT. COUNTRY CLUB, SECRETARY'S OFFICE - DAY

The President sits smugly as Chip enters.

CHIP
Hey there, what's up El Presidente?
Uh, looks like my statue needs some
attention out there. I made a note
of it and a couple of other things
on my recording device. I will give
it to the secretary to get it
transcribed for you, ok?

The President looks sternly at Chip.

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL

No.(pause)
 Chip. We need to talk about... you.
 (pause)
 People aren't requesting you for
 lessons anymore. That and tennis
 seems to be losing its momentum to
 ...Pickleball...of all sports.

Chip smirks at him.

CHIP

People are clamoring for me. I have
 lessons lined up...

The President cuts him off.

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL

No you don't-and you and I both
 know it. Dane, the Mentalist is the
 only instructor that is making any
 money and most of IT involves
 pickleball strategy. As President
 of the club, it's my job to oversee
 income and expenses- and profit.

CHIP

(in disbelief)
 Dane? The so-called Mentalist is
 the furthest thing from a PROPHET!
 Heck, at least I was a lead altar
 boy...and remember what I did? Six
 time French Open CHAMPION?!

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL

My God-listen to yourself. That was
 decades ago! You are PATHETIC - and
 definitely NOT prophetic! Besides,
 that was then...and we need
 contemporary-here and now.

CHIP

OK... so you want me to go
 TEMPORARY...I can do that-and then
 work back to full-time, right?

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL

You aren't making sense of our
 conversation. I am done with you!

CHIP

What? You'd move on from the guy
who virtually built this club-me?!
And what about my statue?!!

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL

Take your damn statue..it's more a
statue of YOUR limitations anyway..

CHIP

Are you nuts? You'd just get rid of
me-and my likeness-just like that?!

Chip tries to snap his fingers but can't make it work. The
President stares at Chip for a moment.

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL

Face it-you're washed up, Chip.
You're a fake, a liar, a loser-and
STILL trying to hide your baldness.

Chip puts his hand to his hairline.

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL (CONT'D)

And that gut suggests you haven't
been on the court in too long.

Chip sucks in his belly.

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL (CONT'D)

And your logo-less gear, means you
still haven't found a new sponsor.

Chip puts his hand on his logo-less hat.

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL (CONT'D)

All told-it's time for you to go!

CHIP

Go where? Someplace better lined up
for me? The new club in Calabasas?

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL

Chip, you aren't listening.

CHIP

What?

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL

You are not making this easy on
either of us. I kept you on as an
instructor way too long.

(MORE)

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL (CONT'D)

Not any more.(pause) In exchange I'm gonna give you these Amazon glasses which will help with your vision-and maybe you'll finally see reality. The glasses have a recording device to replace your old digital. It will record, answer, and does more-like Alexa in your RV.

CHIP

Alexa?...there are no girls in my RV! And you know...I'm still hopeful Lacey will come back to me.

PRESIDENT UNDERHILL

Jeez Chip, take a fast from your past...Lacey's been married to Otto for 25 years...anyways, take these glasses...that's my best offer and our remuneration...and please go...

Everything is quiet. Chip's swagger now resembles a hobble-his championship smile is now hidden by a grimace-his kinetic energy diffused. Chip slinks dejectedly out of the office.

INT. COUNTRY CLUB, SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Chip passes Stephanie who smiles. He runs to the bathroom.

INT. COUNTRY CLUB, BATHROOM

Chip blubbers and sobs in the bathroom.

INT. COUNTRY CLUB, SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Stephanie hears Chip crying in the bathroom. She looks around the room wondering if anyone else can hear this.

INT. COUNTRY CLUB, BATHROOM

Chip tosses his wig in the trash and cries until he is somewhere between dry-heaving and hyperventilating. He calms himself down, retrieves his wig from the trash, and uses it to wipe his tears. He then places the wig back on his head. He stares into the mirror looking for something to inspire him... He tries to gather himself.

CHIP

You are still...a...champion.

He musters a smile, then leaves the bathroom and walks out wordlessly toward the secretary. Neither look at each other.

INT. COUNTRY CLUB, SECRETARY'S OFFICE

At her desk two security guards are waiting for him. Chip exits and the guards follow

EXT. COUNTRY CLUB - LATER

Chip walks outside and sees his statue being removed by several of the grounds crew members. He begrudgingly accepts their offer to take his statue with him.

SECURITY GUARD

Where do you want-you?

CHIP

Shotgun-why not? No back seat drivers for me-or of me...thanks

They promptly load the statue, with considerable difficulty, into the front passenger seat of Chip's RV.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - CONTINUOUS

Chip glances over to the mirror image of himself opposite him in the front seat and takes off his wig and puts it on the statue. He wears a logo-less hat and takes a deep breath.

CHIP

If Agassi can do it, so can I!

Chip walks back into the country club.

INT. LOVEY COX'S KITCHEN - LATER

Lovey picks up the phone.

LOVEY

Hello?

We hear a deep, raspy, faint voice from the other end.

LOVEY (CONT'D)

Yeah.. who's askin'?

Same voice.

LOVEY (CONT'D)

You said Rocco? My husband-my dead,
deadbeat husband-used to talk about
a Rocco at night in his sleep...
Okay, I will leave Chip a message.

EXT. COUNTRY CLUB - MOMENTS LATER

Chip hears something that merits his attention as he and the guards walk past several empty tennis courts; a loud commotion is heard from one of the courts where a small crowd is gathered. He hears the odd plunk of a solid pickleball paddle hitting a plastic ball. The action emits laughter and cheering from the players and fans in attendance. Chip walks over to the tennis court fence.

He watches the pickleball game and initially scoffs at the sport, shakes his head in disgust, and turns to walk away. He swears under his breath at the sport that is stealing his players, dried up his lessons, and cost him his job.

As he walks away, he hears two MEN in their late 20's talking outside the fence.

GUY 1

Going to the tourney this weekend?

GUY 2

You know it.

GUY 2 reveals his pickleball shirt.

GUY 2 (CONT'D)

Did you get yours?

GUY 1

Yes! I can't wait!

Chip approaches them.

CHIP

So what's this pickle game anyway?

They both look at him, undaunted.

GUY 1

America's fastest-growing sport.

Chip is shocked.

CHIP

Really? What's the tournament
you're talking about?

GUY 2

It's already full. But this flyer has the schedule of events for the rest of the year.

Guy 2 hands him a flyer. They then leave Chip alone.

GUY 2 (CONT'D)

(To his buddy)

He looks kinda familiar, right?

Chip walks on, puts on his glasses and reads the flyer aloud:

CHIP

(reading to self)

Pickleball Tournament Series across the USA...Winners qualify to go to Indian Wells for the National Pickleball Championship in November...Prize money is...

Chip's squints his eyes as he tries to adjust to his new glasses. He excitedly scans the flyer's prize money section.

CHIP (CONT'D)

(to himself)

One. million. dollars for the winners! Sign me up!

He smiles and tucks the flyer into his pocket.

CHIP (CONT'D)

(to himself)

I may be banned from competing in tennis, but not pickleball! Same sorta deal as tennis: crush it!

He looks to the Security Guards behind him.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Can I take a minute here, fellas?

The security guards nod in agreement.

Chip waits till the duffers finish their match. He asks one if he can play the winner.

PLAYER

Hey-where do I know you from?
Aren't you our former tennis pro
Cox?...I heard you just got fired?

Chip smirks at the recognition, wondering how they already know this news. Probably already on that stupid internet.

CHIP

I am not fired from playing the tickle-balls or whatever you call it.. give me your best, bitches.

INT. TENNIS FENCE

Chips slowly limps onto the court, and is handed a small, almost square shaped paddle. He looks at it, intrigued. Chip is new to the game, but with another amateur, his old championship form is craving to emerge.

THE DUFFER

So with Pickleball, we refer to kitchen area as near the net, and the no-volley zone is where volleying is prohibited...

Chip catches on quickly and realizes that despite his bad knees and formidable belly, he still has quick hands and can pound the ball.

He and the duffer easily beat the other team. Chip sneaks a paddle and a few balls into his tennis bag and happily returns home to his mother's house across the street.

INT. LOVEY COX'S KITCHEN - LATER

Lovey and Chip, seated at the kitchen table, talk about his current dilemma: probably clinged to tennis for too long.

LOVEY

How did it go with Mr. Underhill?

CHIP

OK, Ma. We talked about pickle ball. It may be my new calling.

She laughs.

LOVEY

Pickle ball?! How can you take anything with that name seriously?

CHIP

Laugh all you want at the name, but this pickle ball is growing. And best of all-I'm not banned from playing it.

LOVEY

You're almost 65 years old? This sport better have a seniors tour!

CHIP

I'm sure it does, mom. Tennis is all I have ever known...Until now. This pickleball thing may be the best shot for me.

LOVEY

Really?

CHIP

Yes, really. It's about time I shake off my pride... and ride my glide... to the other side!

Chip does an awkward shuffle. Lovey shrugs.

LOVEY

I think it's a little late in the game for THAT, but if this is what you want, Chip-then just go do it!

Lovey starts to leave the kitchen.

LOVEY (CONT'D)

If there was a patron saint of pickles I'd pray to it for you,
(pauses)
You know I love you...I'm going to lay down for awhile, Chip

Lovey exits but Chip calls after her...

CHIP

I'm gonna make you proud of me again mom. I Promise. Love you,too.

Chip unzips his gym bag and eyes the Pickleball paddle and balls inside. He gazes out the window at the empty courts.

INT. TENNIS COURT - LATER

Chip sneaks back into the club and practices his serves with the pickleball. Without a partner all he can do is practice-which he does until the sun goes down.

Chip is dripping in sweat, but he's feeling much better about himself. He sits on a bench as he watches the sunset. He puts his paddle and his balls in his gym bag.

EXT. LOVEY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

As Chip is approaching his mother's house, he notices an ambulance in the driveway. He makes a run for it.

INT. LOVEY'S HOUSE

Paramedics are in the house as Chip bursts through the door.

CHIP

What's going on?! Where's my mom?!!

One of them points in the direction of Lovey's room. Chip runs up the stairs to her room.

INT. LOVEY'S ROOM

Chip enters her room; his mom lays lifeless on her bed, clutching rosary beads in one hand, and his lucky tennis shorts, and several pictures of his tennis championships wins next to her.

Chip takes everything in, speechless. Two of the paramedics are in the room with him. He looks to them, a tear breaking down his cheek.

CHIP

(quietly)

Can I please have a minute alone
with my mom?

They freeze.

CHIP (CONT'D)

OUT NOW-PLEASE!

They leave the room. Chip starts to sob, gently. He grabs his lucky tennis shorts and pulls up a picture. He crawls into bed next to his mom and sobs hysterically.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Oh, mom...I can't believe this is
happening. What am I going to do?
You are my one true love and
supporter in every way...God Bless
you...oh... my...God...

INT. OUTSIDE LOVEY'S ROOM

The paramedics wait. Suddenly Chip exits the room. He turns to them and blows his nose on his lucky shorts.

CHIP
What happened to her?

One of the paramedics chimes in.

PARAMEDIC 1
Received a call and got here right
away, but she was already gone.

Chip nods- humbled and chagrined.

CHIP
Thank you for trying-really...

EXT. LOVEY'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

They transport Lovey out of her home on a stretcher, Chip says a last goodbye as they load her into the vehicle.

Chip waves to the paramedics as they take off.

INT. LOVEY'S HOUSE THE NEXT MORNING

Chip sulks around the house in his bathrobe. The home is devoid of spirit without his mom. It is eerily quiet.

The phone suddenly rings on the wall; Chip ignores it.

The ringing draws his attention to the phone and Chip suddenly notices a notepad on the counter below it. Scribbled on the notepad is: CHIP CALL ROCCO. URGENT. Chip stares at the notepad in horror. He slips into a memory.

INT. DARK ROOM - FLASHBACK

Rocco sits behind a table; only his hands can be seen. Chip sits on the other side of the table.

ROCCO
This brings your debt to 500 large-
including what your old man owed us
before he met his demise. You don't
want that, too, do you?

Chip looks nervously around.

CHIP
I know we owe you, but I also know
I'm the best tennis player ever.
(MORE)

CHIP (CONT'D)

I've won this tournament 5 times in a row. I will win again and pay you back-easy.

Rocco pulls out a large gun and sets it on the table.

ROCCO

For your sake, I hope so.

Chip nervously laughs.

INT. LOVEY COX'S KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Flashback and Chip is still staring at the notepad.

CHIP

Oh shit. Not Rocco again.

Chip grabs the keys to his RV and heads to the nearest bar.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Chip sits at the bar, commiserating with the Bartender.

CHIP

After all I've been through I'm trying to figure out if I'm out of my mind-or just full of crap.

BARTENDER

If it helps, I'd say you're both.

CHIP

That's what my bookie...and my mom...used to say... I have half a notion to take a stab at this pickle ball game. Ever heard of it?

BARTENDER

Yep. Sort of a combination of ping-pong and tennis for the silver sneakers crowd (pause) With your pedigree you'd almost be illegal.

CHIP

Already did the illegal route with tennis and that didn't end well-so pickleball just might be my big break. I need to do what I used to do-something major-like win a Major.

(MORE)

CHIP (CONT'D)

(pause) I need to make some money. I just heard there's a pickleball tournament that pays a MILLION dollars...but I need a doubles partner to qualify.

BARTENDER

Wow...I can't believe they're paying that kind of money! Do you have a partner in mind?

CHIP

Maybe. There's an old Russian tennis rival of mine, who was really good...as good as I ever played against. Unfortunately, I don't know what continent he's on, what kind of shape he's in and...I think he probably hates my guts...

BARTENDER

(sarcastically)

OK...uh... sounds kinda promising...good luck with that...

EXT. STARBUCKS - LATER

Chip jumps the corner of a curb in his RV to a handicap space closest to the door to use their wifi. Halfway between two parking spaces, he removes his new glasses and looks at them. He fumbles with them, clearly not technologically savvy.

CHIP

Lexus, can you hear me? Call Boris.

Lexus responds.

LEXUS (V.O.)

I hear you. Who is Boris?

Surprised by the reply, he shakes his head with bemusement.

CHIP

Boris Baryshnikov-Russian tennis player.

LEXUS (V.O.)

According to wikipedia: Boris Baryshnikov, is a former tennis champion from the Soviet Union.

(MORE)

LEXUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 He beat the infamous Chip Cox in
 the French Open in 1978 and
 currently lives in a commune in
 upstate New York. Baryshnikov is in
 foreclosure for failing to pay
 taxes.

Chip mumbles under his breath.

CHIP
 (to himself)
 Me? Infamous? Boris-former tennis
 champ! What the HELL is going on?

He takes a deep breath and calms himself.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 Call Boris Baryshnikov.

Lexus beeps.

LEXUS (V.O.)
 Locating...

Chip awkwardly looks around. Lexus stays silent. He nods at a
 random stranger as they pass by his RV. He waits impatiently.

CHIP
 (to himself)
 Is this thing on?

He fumbles with the glasses and drops them to the floor of
 the RV. He picks them up just in time to hear...

LEXUS (V.O.)
 Connecting....

Chip looks at the device, amazed and confused.

INT. BORIS BARYSHNIKOV'S OFFICE - DAY

Boris sits in his office, near a green, gold, and red banner
 reading "PEOPLE'S DISPENSARY," while talking with a
 REPRESENTATIVE of the Margaritaville Housing Development.

REPRESENTATIVE
 I understand Boris, but my hands
 are tied with this.

Boris places his hand on his head in frustration.

BORIS

So if I do not come up with total amount...what happens?

REPRESENTATIVE

The bank will repossess the property because you owe taxes.

BORIS (PRONOUNCING THE SAME)

Texas? We in New York- never been to Texas. Why owe Texas?

The representative laughs, removes papers from a briefcase and hands them to Boris. He reads over the pronouncement and becomes increasingly more despondent...

BORIS (CONT'D)

Why you laugh at Boris? This is not why I come to America.

The representative adjusts her skirt.

REPRESENTATIVE

You gave it your best, Boris. Your commune is a great property-but it's not working...We are looking at developing a resort here called Margaritaville Resorts. Jimmy Buffett is the founder-his slogan is it's always 5 0'clock somewhere- Have you heard of him?

Boris stares incredulously at the representative.

BORIS

Same guy with great music?! Da. I am big fan and so are most of my fellow commune-ists...But how do I get money?

REPRESENTATIVE

I wish I could answer that, Boris. I'd think you deserve more than nothing for your effort.

She stands up and heads to the door, then turns back to Boris

REPRESENTATIVE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry-and hope you somehow can make this work..

The Representative leaves and the phone rings. Boris answers.

BORIS
Da. Boris here.

There is some squawking on the other end of the phone.

BORIS (CONT'D)
Chip? *The* Chip Cox? It's been very long time since we talk. Yet not long enough...why you call me now?

INT. CHIP COX'S RV, VAN NUYS - CONTINUOUS

Chip sits in his RV talking through his beloved "Lexus".

CHIP
Hey Boris. I know it's been a while ...I, uh, I just happen to be heading to New York in a couple days to complete a business deal I'm working on. I heard you have some financial problems and was thinking maybe I could help you? And I was hoping we could maybe...catch up?

INT. BORIS BARYSHNIKOV'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Boris stares at his phone in disbelief.

BORIS
Catch up? I no like ketchup...I no like you either.

CHIP
We can fix that. You will see. We can both make money with what I want to talk with you about. It will be great! I'll see you soon.

Boris hangs up the phone and looks out over his property.

INT. LOVEY COX'S GARAGE - LATER

Chip rummages through old boxes. While singing to himself:
"I'm leaving in an RV- don't know when I'll be back again..."

CHIP
(to himself)
I am gonna convince Boris to join me in a great adventure...that's all...Come on?! Where is it?!

Chip ultimately finds what he's searching for: a crumbling old box with a piece of yellowed tape on the side that reads: ROAD TRIP MUSIC. Chip smiles. He rips open the flaps of the box and is confused by what he sees.

Several cassette tapes with the words "THE ALCHEMIST" are inscribed on the side. He shuffles through more of the tapes and finds "Man Searches for Meaning" written on the side. He sees a "Best of Buffett" tape and grabs that, too.

Chip finds more tapes, then finds and begins reading a hand written note from his mother.

LOVEY (V.O.)

Chip, I know you love your music, but I added a few tapes I think you can learn a lot from. Please listen to them, and take them to heart.

Chip pauses as he goes to the next page.

LOVEY. (V.O. CONT.)

Son, I'm not sure when you'll read this—probably after I'm gone. FYI, I'm not leaving you much in the way of material things. I bequeathed my home and savings to the church. Father Fenwick said they really need it to help out with some legal issues. He said you'd understand... so I took his word for it. No worries about my funeral—got a good discount cause I pre-paid it. The director said that would put me on heaven's waiting list. Oh, and please make sure Father Fenwick says my mass and not Father Leo—he's kinda dull. Lastly, I'm still very sorry about your name. Apparently your father lost a bet so he had to name you Dick Cox. That sucked because there were already plenty of Dicks around. I wanted to give you a fighting chance so that's why I called you Chip. All from a lost bet. You can thank your father for that...I will always love you! Mom

Chip gets emotional after reading it and gazes at a picture of him holding a trophy and his mom standing next to him.

CHIP
(quietly)
Thanks, Mom. I'll always be your
baby Cox.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - MOMENTS LATER

Chip throws the box of tapes on the floor behind the passenger seat and a gym bag full of clothes. He fires up the RV. He looks at his statue seated next to him in the passenger seat. He is ready for a new adventure!

CHIP
Cox will rise up and meet this
challenge! Who else in their right
mind would drive across country
with their own statue as co-pilot?

He laughs out loud to himself. The RV travels all of 10 feet when suddenly it sputters and stops.

EXT. Chip COX'S RV

Chip has jumper cables connected to a neighbor's car. The RV finally turns over. He waves them off.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - CONTINUOUS

He fires up the RV once again.

CHIP
I love the smell of...

The RV dies.

EXT. CHIP COX'S RV

Chip has a small gas can tipped up in the gas tank. He mumbles to himself while he pours gas in the tank.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - CONTINUOUS

Chip starts the RV again. He looks around the RV, fully expecting it to falter. He hits the gas and is finally off...

EXT. OLD ROAD - DAY

Chip's RV bumps down the road, passing neighborhoods and a cityscape while "On the Road Again" plays and he sings along.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - LATER

Chip pops in "The Alchemist" tape into the tape player.

CHIP

Okay Mom let's see what you've got.

The book starts to play. He turns it up, initially underwhelmed.

EXT. ROAD - LATER

Chip drives past a sign that reads, "WELCOME TO NEVADA," and smiles. The Alchemist plays in the background, and he mumbles along with it-reciting the words and phrases as he listens.

CHIP

And, when you can't go back, you must worry only about the best way of moving forward.

Chip smiles at the thought of these comforting words. He looks to a small picture of his mom taped to the dashboard.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Thanks, Mom.

INT. CHIP'S RV - LATER

Chip's RV rumbles through the Las Vegas Sunset Strip. He is mesmerized by the lights and has started singing the quotes from the Alchemist book.

CHIP

People are capable, at any time in their lives, of doing what they dream of.

EXT. NEBRASKA - LATER

Chip's RV passes a sign reading "WELCOME TO NEBRASKA" and then starts to sing lines from the book on tape, "A Man Searches for Meaning."

CHIP

Those who have a 'why' to live, can bear with almost any 'how'...

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - NIGHT

Chip is exhausted and can barely stay awake. He opens the window and breathes in the cold night air. He holds his head out the window, pulls his head back in and shakes off his fatigue.

He randomly yells to wake himself up and smacks his statue to stir him.

CHIP
I feel great!!!
(pausing)
Jeeminey!!What in Sam hell is wrong
with me?!! Drivin' this piece of
crap and my only help is the stoney
baloney next to me; Waaaake up!!!!

EXT. INDIANA

Chip's RV passes a sign that reads "WELCOME TO INDIANA."

INT. CHIP COX'S RV

Chip is now full on opera singing the quotes and words to the books he has heard. Chip is speeding in the commuter lane and is promptly pulled over by a state trooper.

TROOPER
Well, lookie here at what I've
got. I've been waiting for you all
day.

CHIP
Officer, I got here as fast as I could!

TROOPER
Do you think that's funny?

(pauses)

Actually, it is kinda. You aren't from around here are you?

CHIP
Not quite. I'm from LA and am on a
quest to reunite with a former
tennis rival of mine-a Russian
tennis player who lives in a New
York commune now.

TROOPER

That's one I haven't heard.

(pauses and looks oddly at the statue in the passenger seat)

What's up with the statue? You trying to fudge a ride in the commuter lane?

CHIP

No...that's just me. I was once the best tennis player on the planet.

TROOPER

Okay...Let me see your driver's license.

Chip hands him the license and the officer looks at it oddly and then back at Chip. He does a double take.

TROOPER (CONT'D)

You sure that's you? Chip Cox?...Why sure...I remember you..but boy..you really look different now.

CHIP

You saying I look better?

TROOPER

(pauses)

Let's just say...you don't look like your statue anymore.

CHIP

Well from the looks of you I doubt your mom ever won any Mrs. Indiana beauty pageants...

TROOPER

You trying to earn yourself a ticket?! Your speeding and falsifying a passenger with a statue of yourself and driving in the commuter lane are justifiable to lock you up for a while...

(Notices Chip's book on the dashboard)

And what's that book on the dash? Sounds pornographic to me. Why, you've got enough infractions...

CHIP

Officer, that's a wrong book cover but it's all mine and it's gonna be a best seller-I'll send you a free copy. And I'll do whatever you need me to do with the statue-aside from giving it to you...

TROOPER

(Pauses) Now yer trying to bribe me, too...really

(pauses)

OK...Put the statue in the back seat and lay it down face first-it's creepy anyway-and get the hell out of Hoosier-land! You sound like yer from California all right...

CHIP

Thanks a lot, officer. Really.

TROOPER

Sure. And you might want to fix your hair. It's lopsided.

CHIP adjusts his wig on the statue and resumes driving.

CHIP

It would be an honor. And thanks.

EXT. INDIANA

INT. CHIP COX'S RV

Chip is now full on opera singing the quotes and words to the books he has heard.

EXT. NEW YORK

Chip's RV passes a sign that reads "WELCOME TO NEW YORK"

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - LATER

Chip is grunting in pain-from self actualization to survival. He holds himself to relieve his urge to pee,

CHIP

Gottaaa beee...gotta peeeeeeeeeee...

His navigation yells some directions at him.

NAVIGATION (V.O.)

Turn left.

Chip is startled and slams the wheel and turns left, cutting off another vehicle. They honk at him.

CHIP

Adam Driver I'm not...

The navigation chimes in again.

NAVIGATION (V.O.)

Arrived at your destination.

EXT. COMMUNE - DAY

The RV pulls up and Chip opens the door and jumps out. The RV is still running and continues to slowly roll and bumps into a wall where it stops.

Chip desperately runs into a nearby door.

INT. BATHROOM - DAY

Chip relieves himself, peeing for a prolonged time with a uncharacteristically healthy stream...he is pleased with his performance and proudly strolls out of the bathroom.

EXT. COMMUNE - DAY

Chip hops inside the RV and monitors the gas-the needle is buried below the E. Chip sighs and hangs his head in despair.

CHIP

(to himself)

Empty.

He notices a few people casually sitting around the commune, smoking joints, staring at his dilapidated RV.

Chip walks over to them.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Where can I find Boris?

They all gaze at him quizzically and several laugh at him, replying to him in Russian. Chip shakes his head.

CHIP (CONT'D)
No, no, Where is Boris?

They again respond in Russian language. Chip tries again.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Donde esta Boris?

They all stare, confused at him. He repeats himself louder.

CHIP (CONT'D)
DONDE ESTA BORIS?

They all start laughing again. He waves them off, and starts to walk around the commune. Eventually he sees Boris in the distance. Chip calls out his name and strides toward him.

CHIP (CONT'D)
BORIS! It's me, Chip!

A few people look over to him in a confused, stoned-state. Boris turns round and sees Chip and continues shoveling feces into a wheelbarrow. Chip laughs as he approaches.

Chip and Boris size up each other, taking into account what many years have done to them.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Boris?

BORIS
Da? Chip?

They stare at each other for an awkward moment. Chip goes in for a hug, and Boris takes a step back. A brief, extremely awkward hug and then ...

CHIP
Sorry I missed our re-unions..

Boris nods his head. Chip smells Boris and grimaces.

CHIP (CONT'D)
I always thought you smelled funny,
but this...this is too much. A new
scent... you reek of shitty pot!

They both laugh.

INT. BORIS BALINIKOV'S HOUSE - LATER

Boris hands chip a small bowl with food in it, and a large glass of water. Chip nods his appreciation.

BORIS

We use manure as fertilizer to grow big marijuana crops.

Chip looks confused.

CHIP

So why are you foreclosing? You seem to be doing well here with almost nothing, Boris.

BORIS

Having nothing makes me happy, but a lady from "taxes" said we need to pay her or they will sell our commune to build new development. Why "taxes", I do not know-never been there...

Chip takes another bite of his food, he shakes his head.

BORIS (CONT'D)

The marijuana is good money...but not quite enough. You right though-spirits here are very high.

Chip snorts.

CHIP

I'm sure they are... Well, Boris, I believe there is a reason for us to come together again.

Boris eyes Chip skeptically.

CHIP (CONT'D)

I want to help you out someday.

BORIS

How?

CHIP

Pickleball. Heard of it?

Boris stares blankly at Chip, who smiles. Boris stares again.

BORIS

No tickle my balls. No thank you.

CHIP

No. Not tickle ball-pickleball. It is a sport-like a tennis and ping pong combination.

Boris looks at him again. Chip continues.

CHIP (CONT'D)

There is a Pickleball tournament coming soon. It's for seniors like us and there is big prize money...

BORIS

No. I not play some silly sport that never heard of, or played... called pickleball...for money.

CHIP

Please, Boris.

BORIS

First, never even heard of sport- and you are out of condition.

Chip is about to say something when Boris continues.

BORIS (CONT'D)

Second, we are too old-and you walk with limp.

CHIP

Not too old for pickleball.

Boris stares at him.

CHIP (CONT'D)

We will win the seniors doubles championship. And maybe pick up some endorsements...and I can get Nike back and.. maybe you can, too.

Boris shrugs.

BORIS

It is beneath me to accept sponsor who would endorse you. I want nothing but to save my commune and spread communism.

CHIP

Come on, man!

BORIS

Third.

Chip sighs.

CHIP

There's more?

BORIS

Third, listen to you. You not team
player and never were. You not know
how to work together.

Chip has heard enough. He draws Boris a crappy diagram of
what the winnings would mean for the commune.

CHIP

Save the commune, better farm
equipment, a clinic, licensed deal
for marijuana...and perhaps...

Boris is now intrigued, but still very skeptical.

BORIS

Perhaps what?

CHIP

A chance to help communism take
hold in America.

This stirs Boris's interest-he thinks about it for a minute.

CHIP (CONT'D)

We will be champions-I know it!

Boris nods his head hesitantly-but affirmatively.

BORIS

Da.

Chip smiles.

CHIP

Come with me.

EXT. TENNIS COURT - LATER

Chip walks with Boris to an abandoned tennis court in the
commune. He feigns optimism.

CHIP

Looks nice.

BORIS

Spasibo.

CHIP

Bless you.

Chip drops his gym bag, and dramatically unzips it. He pulls
out two paddles. He turns to Boris.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Welcome to our future.

Chip extends a paddle to Boris, who looks at Chip and then grasps it from him. Boris feels a certain power pulse through his veins and quickly inhales and exhales.

BORIS
Just because am trying to survive
capitalism doesn't mean I like you.

Chip looks at Boris as if to say something, then stops. Boris shakes his head.

BORIS (CONT'D)
Haven't picked up racket since
leaving...Russia.

CHIP
You were a tennis...

Chip looks awkwardly at Boris, who is now staring at Chip.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Finalist...

Boris shakes his head, throws down the racket and walks away.

BORIS
Forget this. You never change, Chip
Cox. Still look out for number one-
me your number none. Dasvidanyia.

CHIP
Boris, wait!

Chip grabs a ball and serves it, hitting Boris in the back. Boris turns and glares at Chip, who serves another ball to him. Boris grabs a paddle, picks up the ball and returns it.

Chip smiles. Boris, still not happy, is nonetheless curious.

BORIS
(Pauses)
Shit. OK...tell me about sport.

CHIP
Okay, that's the spirit..let's
start with the court-it's about a
third of a tennis court size.

BORIS
Okay.

CHIP

You play with a wiffle ball.

Chip holds up one of the balls.

CHIP (CONT'D)

The net is lower than your scrotum.

Boris hits the ball over to Chip.

BORIS

Go on.

CHIP

Some players are even older and aren't as hungry as we are.

BORIS

Why? Are we hungry?

CHIP

We want to win more than them. We have both been away from competing for long-but that doesn't make it wrong.

Chip measures out the pickleball court and slowly teaches Boris the game. The Russian catches on quickly. Soon, he is back to his old tricks, hitting lasers from the baseline.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Our opponents will fall flat from our aces-facing two old pros!

Boris stares blankly at Chip.

BORIS

What is plan-how we get the money?

Chip shuffles a bit. Boris sees that he is stalling.

CHIP

We will have to enter tournaments to qualify for the championships in California...

BORIS

And...?

CHIP

The tournaments are all across the country. We will have to travel in my RV. Unless you have a nice car?

Boris stares at Chip's RV in the distance.

BORIS

No. No car. I have nothing...
Nothing brings me happiness.

CHIP

What? Nothing brings you happiness?
Com'n, Boris, that's not possible.
What do you pay taxes with?
Nothing? Your weed?
(pauses)
Playing again will bring you joy!
Let's play for the commune-and for
your commune-ists.

Boris perplexed, hesitates.

CHIP (CONT'D)

We just have to reach a certain
number of points by winning the
tourneys. If we do that-WHEN we do
that-we qualify for the national
championships-where we will win...

CHIP (CONT'D)

Because we have something nobody
has even heard of-cause it's never
existed-we have the power of
TEAMMANSHIP!

BORIS

Okay-never heard of that and is
weird coming from you- but will
try.

(pauses))

We will leave when?

CHIP

We will take two days to get to
Florida...We'll need to leave
pretty soon.

Boris rolls his eyes.

BORIS

And no time to practice?

Chip smiles sheepishly.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV

Chip and Boris are riding in the RV.

CHIP

Hey Boris, While driving out here, I have been doing lots of thinking and want to talk about some real, deep stuff with you. Maybe we can learn from each other.

BORIS

You? Thinking? Learn from each other? Ha! What you want to talk about?

CHIP

First, something I know we can agree upon-a great story about a battle between a Russian and an American and probably the best movie of all-time. It reminds me of us: Rocky 4.

BORIS

Rocky 4?! Why that? What about it?

CHIP

It really had a big impact on me and was definitely the most important Russian-American movie ever made. It taught me so much.

BORIS

Really? Do you know that movie is like joke to Russians? Ivan Drago who fight Rocky not even Russian.

CHIP

Come on-what are you talking about? He's just as Russian as you are.

BORIS

You ignorant, Chip. That was Swedish actor, Dolph Lundgren, playing Russian boxer.

CHIP

So you mean to tell me that was all make believe? One of the most influential movies of all time?

BORIS (SIGHS)

So this is what you call deep? I'll tell you what's deep-the well in my small Siberian village that our goat fell in and ruined our water.

CHIP

Goat? You had a goat? That is what everyone called me! And ruined water, man I get it: Perrier dropped my sponsorship and I had to start drinking tap water again.

BORIS

(sarcasm)

I'm glad we have so much in common.

CHIP

Me, too. I knew this would work out for both of us! We do have many similarities. You are learning your way in the USA.

BORIS

Da...we are both men...let us listen to music now...please...

Boris rummages through tapes, pops in Jimmy Buffet playing "Cheeseburger in Paradise" and they sing along loudly.

CHIP

I love Jimmy Buffett! His songs are so real and personal. His concerts are the only shows I've ever been to-37 Buffet concerts and counting! No need to see anybody else after you've seen Buffett-the full meal!

BORIS

I like him but not quite THAT much. You know Jimmy has resort development named Margaritaville? They are working with "Texas" to take over my commune?

CHIP

What-Jimmy Buffett in a commune? No way... Wait, you do grow weed there..hmmm...makes sense now with his band the Coral Reefers...

INT. PICKLEBALL COURT - LATER AT THE US OPEN IN NAPLES, FL

SUPER: 2 days later

Boris and Chip stand against a wall stretching. They are minutes away from their first match as pickleball teammates.

CHIP

Boris, we can take these ladies...

Boris shakes his head.

BORIS

I read program. They called Pickle
Ticklers and returning champs...

Chip finishes his stretch, slides on some sunglasses and
takes a step towards Boris.

Chip and Boris run onto the court; one man in the stands
claps for them and Chip plays to that person. Then two older
women-their foes-take to the court.

Chip looks on incredulously at the woeful competition.

CHIP

They must've been the only entree
in last year's tourney...

Boris and Chip deliver several shots toward the opponents.
Chip sneaks up to the net and slams a lob shot. His mojo
ignites: he needlessly starts trash talking.

CHIP (CONT'D)

That is a recipe for disaster-don't
bring your weak sauce here!

Chip slams another hard shot. He let's them hear it again.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Call me poach master general, baby!

Boris slams the ball and it curves around one of the women,
who dives for it. She hits the ground hard and Boris runs
over and assists her to her feet. She is grateful to Boris
for being a good sport. Chip is beside himself.

CHIP (CONT'D)

What the hell are you doing?

Boris shakes his head. The lady thanks Boris. Covered in
sweat, they finish off the ladies and win their first match.
Chip grabs a towel and wipes himself off. The towel is
completely drenched.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Not too shabby for an old guy.

Boris shrugs it off..

INT. Room - LATER

Chip and Boris anxiously wait as a man is counting money.

MAN

Here ya go - \$100. Congratulations!

He hands them five \$20 bills. Their first earnings as a team!

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - LATER

Alexa rings on his dashboard and his glasses at the same time. He looks into his side mirror at Boris pumping gas.

CHIP

Hello?

We hear muted chatting on the other end.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Oh hi Tom, how are you?

Chip sees Boris still pumping gas and returns to the call.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Hmmmmmm...

Chip checks the mirror and Boris is gone. He stands up quickly and sees the Russian enter the gas station. He sighs.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Ya know I'm doing these tournaments to help promote my book sales...

More mutters.

CHIP (CONT'D)

And with Boris along for the ride, it will drum up even more press...

The muttered chatter from the other end interrupts him.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Just make sure it gets done.

Boris enters the RV as Chip finishes his conversation.

BORIS

Who was dat?

Chip, startled by Boris, tries to compose himself.

CHIP

Just, uh, the tournament director for our next stop confirming our entry. He couldn't believe we're playing together-nobody knew you were alive, let alone in the USA.

Boris looks at Chip for a moment-he changes the subject.

CHIP (CONT'D)

What took so long?

Boris holds up some snacks and smiles. Chip grabs one of them, immediately opens it and stuffs his face. Boris displays a \$20 bill to Chip, who looks at Boris, confused.

BORIS

Twenty for you, twenty for me. The rest goes to this thing you drive.

Chip smiles.

CHIP

I like your politics! Is that communism, socialism, or patriotism?

BORIS

Could be all three!

CHIP

OK. I'm confused now. I miss California. And the girls there.

BORIS (CONT'D)

You haven't changed much-or enough-Chip. But change can happen yet. Me? Nothing against California girls but I prefer Olga reading "The Communist Manifesto" wearing her babushka...that and a strong Russian vodka any day...

INT. PICKLEBALL COURT - LATER AT ANOTHER NIGHT TOURNAMENT

Chip and Boris return volley after volley, Boris keeps slamming the ball right next to the line. But the couple keeps returning the ball. Chip and Boris are exhausted.

CHIP

They're like telemarketers-they keep callin'! Pickle me Elmo!

The ball hits the ground and goes in a different direction. The opponent futilely extends his paddle and grimaces.

Chip yells in victory.

CHIP (CONT'D)

You know why they call me Mister maternity ward? Cause I always deliver-babys!

After their prize money is received, they head to the players' tunnel. GIZMO stands in the tunnel. He sports dreadlocks, a beard and turquoise lenses in his glasses.

His clothes are very colorful, including bright green shoes, hamburger logo'd pants and shirt, and a flowing red cape.

GIZMO

Gents.

Chip and Boris look up and it's hard not to notice him.

CHIP

Can we help you?

GIZMO

Name's Gizmo. You guys look pretty good out there, but still have a ways to go. You ever need a coach, or pointers from a legend, let me know. I pay forward when I can.

They both nod, then smile as they walk past Gizmo.

EXT. CHIP COX'S RV

Boris stands outside the RV shaking his head. The RV is rocking and sexual noises are audible from the RV. Boris knocks on the door.

BORIS

Chto za chert...

The door opens and a woman in her 60s exits. She adjusts her bra-less top, winks at Boris, and continues walking.

CHIP

Boris-uh...that was Doris.

Chip playfully waves goodbye. Boris shakes his head.

INT. PICKLEBALL COURT - DAY

Boris and Chip are standing in the middle of a tennis court that has been converted into a pickle ball court. Chip and Boris are sweating profusely but are enjoying the notoriety! After yet another convincing win, they are congratulated.

INT. RESTAURANT - LATER

Chip and Boris eat and share an awkward moment. Suddenly a fan of Chip's walks up to the table with a book in her hand.

FAN

I can't believe you guys are playing together again after what happened at the French Open! I didn't even know you both were still breathin'! Then I heard about Chip's book...and here you are! Can't wait for your book signing!

Boris stares at Chip with surprise and confusion. Chip quickly signs the fan's notebook. He smiles at her as she proceeds to leave, but she turns back and waves at Chip.

Boris hasn't stopped staring at Chip.

BORIS

What that about?

Chip smiles nervously at him.

CHIP

I'm writing a book, it's coming out next year and she heard about it.

Boris stares at Chip again as he stuffs food in his mouth.

BORIS

You write book? Ha! You know how to write your name?! What is it about? You will have to tell me when book comes out. I could use laugh.

CHIP

This just shows how little you know about me. I "wrote" my book using a digital voice recorder. It's about my life as a tennis champion.

BORIS

Really? What is it called?

CHIP
"It Takes Balls To Play Tennis"

BORIS
Balls? That my nickname! Why you
write book about me?

CHIP
I have balls, too, Boris.

BORIS
No. You Cox, me balls. Ha! Russian
jokes not so funny.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - NIGHT

Boris drives the RV as Chip sleeps. He sings a Russian song.
When Chip wakes he looks around the RV and smells the air.

He looks to the back of the RV, then looks at Boris.

BORIS
Kakiye?

Chip looks at him, confused.

BORIS (CONT'D)
What?

Chip gets closer to Boris and smells him.

CHIP
Boris... you smell...composty.

BORIS
That fake word...

Chip dry heaves and gasps for a moment.

CHIP
Your breath is absolutely terrible.

Boris is not happy with Chip's comments. He lashes back.

BORIS
My breath may be different from
yours but that doesn't mean that it
"bad". At least I am good person.
Can you say that about yourself?

CHIP
What's that supposed to mean?

BORIS

You have no direction with life.
You have no standards-no morals.

Chip fires back.

CHIP

Yeah? And you're a commie... and
what do you have? Nothin'!

Boris smiles.

BORIS

(mutters to self)
Nothing is good...Spasibo.

CHIP

I just don't understand how you
could follow a communist
dictator... like Hitler.

Boris mutters a few words in Russian.

BORIS

Nevezhestvo...idiotizm...

BORIS (CONT'D)

Your problem is you only see
success as money-and what it buys
for you.

Chip looks around the RV as if Boris said something stupid.

CHIP

Yea. So... How is that a problem?

BORIS

It clouds your head...fame and
fortune never bring true happiness.

Chip scoffs at him.

CHIP

You are wrong. Money is everything,
Without it, you have nothing. No
cool stuff. NOTHING!

BORIS (SMILES)

Without money, you learn the true
meaning of happiness.

CHIP

Happiness? So you have the key to
it? So please share.

BORIS

I don't have keys. You have keys.
 (points to dashboard)
 How find happiness?... we learn to
 share with each other.

Chip shakes his head.

CHIP

Share with each other? Oh, I get
 it-you mean like the welfare mommas
 driving Cadillacs and getting fat
 off free food stamps? They are
 "sharing" the fruits of labor from
 hard working people like me? I
 mean, like I was? Not in my
 America, pal. They gotta earn it.

BORIS

You had a Cadillac, no?

CHIP

No. It was a red Corvette. It was
 my big red monster...It was my
 extra special friend after Lacey
 left. I had it until the IRS took
 it because I forgot to pay taxes.

BORIS

Again with Taxes? Why their state
 so special? Why they always take?
 My father taught me the Communist
 Manifesto- From each according to
 his ability, to each according to
 his need -Remember that, Chip...

CHIP

Yep-I'll be sure to remember that.
 And you remember this-"too much of
 everything is just never enough" -
 Grateful Dead sang that.

BORIS

Who grateful to be dead?

CHIP

Nevermind. Let's just listen to
 some good music. Buffett? And, Who
 is definitely not dead-Roger Daltry
 and Pete Townsend are still alive.

BORIS

Yes?

CHIP
No, Who. Yes was another
band...oh, forget it...

BORIS
What cause I Foreigner?

CHIP
Foreigner is great, too. But
they're no Heart.

BORIS
I have Heart-you have no Heart.

CHIP
I think I have Heart here
somewhere..

BORIS
You not know where Heart is?

CHIP
Check the glove box...

BORIS
You stop making sense.

CHIP
That's the Talking Heads. How about
The Band?

BORIS
I like bands, like Jimmy Buffett
and Coral Reefers. My friends at
the commune love his music.

CHIP (SIGHS)
Wow. How did we get here?

BORIS
You pick me up in old VR. We drive
here and have big adventure. No?

CHIP
I have an idea, let's just listen
to some good music. Buffett?

BORIS
There's no Rush...

CHIP
We could jam with some Rush-the
ultimate power trio-but I thought
you wanted to listen to Jimmy?

BORIS

I do...

Plays Jimmy Hendrix' "Purple Haze"

BORIS (CONT'D)

I think that is wrong Jimmy.

CHIP

Deep purple, purple haze and purple rain-all going through my brain...

BORIS

You very strange man, Chip...remind me of...nobody I know. You Free.

CHIP

I love Free. You want me to play?

BORIS

No cost for free or Freebird either..but what happened to Jimmy...Buffett?

Buffet's "Changes in attitudes, changes in latitudes" plays and they sing along to it.

INT. PICKLEBALL COURT - DAY

Chip and Boris have just finished winning another match. Celebrations are underway. A good-looking flirtatious woman recognizes Chip. She is in her late 60s.

FLIRT

We are having a party-wanna come?

Chip smiles and puts his arm around her.

CHIP

We'd love to-wouldn't we, Boris?

Boris shakes his head.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Older people crowd the house, chatting and laughing. Chip and Boris survey the scene when the flirty older woman sees Chip.

FLIRT

Hey! I'm glad you could come! I have fresh baked garlic cloves and prune juice if you're interested.

She gives Chip a playful jab. He is speechless.

FLIRT (CONT'D)

You can never be too regular, right?

Boris smiles. She leaves them to chat with someone across the room. Chip is about to say something to Boris when the PUPPET MASTER, a skinny man wearing a baggy shirt, shorts and mismatched socks, approaches them.

PUPPET MASTER

It's Chip, right?

He shakes Chip's hand, then moves on to Boris.

PUPPET MASTER (CONT'D)

And Boris?

The two don't say anything.

PUPPET MASTER (CONT'D)

You guys are quite a pair. I thought you played a killer match today. Some small tweaks and you could be serious contenders.

Chip scoffs.

CHIP

Whatever, kid. Why's a young guy like you at a party like this?

The Puppet Master smiles.

PUPPET MASTER

Babes. Tons of babes. I used to work the wedding and funeral circuit until I found pickleball. Man, it's a friggin golden years gold mine...with a 2 to 1 ratio...

He turns and walks towards a small group of older women. Once he is out of earshot, Chip rolls his eyes.

CHIP

Good God - This may be the Worst after party. EVER!

BORIS

Come on Chip. It not so bad. Try having conversation with new people to learn about them.

CHIP

Maybe that's what you do at a commie/Russian party.... But this is 'merica! Let's spice this thing up with some karaoke!

He winks at Boris.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Chip is standing on a coffee table singing karaoke. A lousy singer, he is fully committed and belts "I Got You Babe".

He points at smiling, random ladies in the room. The song ends and someone tries to take the microphone from him. Chip pulls the mike away and announces loudly into it.

CHIP

This next song is for my partner.

Everyone looks around for a smiling, adoring woman wondering who it is, but nobody is identified. Then, Chip catches on.

CHIP (CONT'D)

I meant my pickle ball partner...and former opponent...

He points to Boris. Everyone turns and looks at him.

CHIP (CONT'D)

BORIS!

Suddenly Captain and Tennille's song "Love Will Keep Us Together" plays and Chip sings and invites Boris to join him. Boris stubbornly resists at first, but then he sheepishly ventures over and the small audience starts to cheer. Boris takes the coffee table stage and taps the mic.

BORIS

Umm...

He clears his throat.

BORIS (CONT'D)

This next song from my youth.

Boris earnestly sings the Soviet Union National Anthem.

INT. IN THE OTHER ROOM BY THE BAR - LATER

Boris with a glass of vodka in hand, has several ladies sitting by him on the couch in rapt attention.

BORIS
 Everyone thinks of changing the
 world, but no one thinks of
 changing themselves.

WOMAN #1
 Wow-I never thought of it that way.

WOMAN #2
 That's deep stuff.

The ladies swoon over Boris.

WOMAN #1
 Tell us more-where'd you learn this

BORIS
 Well... I'm not sure if I should...

WOMAN #2
 Please!

Chip walks in the room and sees the women fawning over Boris.

CHIP
 What in the actual hell is going on
 here?

Boris smiles.

WOMAN #1
 Boris was talking philosophy...

WOMAN #2
 Tell him Boris.

Chip looks at Boris.

CHIP
 Boris? This stinky commie?

He points to Boris and he smiles.

BORIS
 Humility, integrity and listening-
 the ultimate aphrodisiac-da ladies?

All the ladies swoon again and they each proceed to give
 Boris their contact information. Chip promptly summons him
 and they head for the door.

CHIP
 I've got your AFRO whatever
 alright!

(MORE)

CHIP (CONT'D)
Time to go Boris, we're blowing
this pickleball kitchen.

Boris looks at him quizically, but chooses not to retort. He follows Chip out as one of the women slips her number to him.

BORIS
Dasvidaniya ladies.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - LATER

Chip is pacing in what little space he has.

BORIS
I don't see problem. When you with
ladies, I wait until you finish...

Chip interjects.

CHIP
Well.. that is...different.

BORIS
Different because... You Chip Cox?
And I am Boris?

Chip hesitates for a minute.

CHIP
Umm.. no. It's umm...

Suddenly Alexa rings. He answers.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Hello?...uh...not a good time, Tom.

Boris stares in Chip's direction. There is a muffle on the other end of the phone.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Hey Boris-this is a personal call,
can you please step outside?

Chip smiles as he continues talking on the phone. Boris views Chip from outside the RV.

CHIP (CONT'D)
(whispers)
Wednesday? Perfect-I'll find a way.

Chip hangs up the phone and as he turns around, Boris stands in the door frame, silhouetted by the RV lights inside.

BORIS
Who is Tom?

CHIP
He's the tournament guy-getting us
our games to play.

Chip looks at the ground. Boris glares at him.

BORIS
And?

CHIP
And what? That's all he does...
that's Tom, he's the guy... the
tournament scheduling... dude.

Boris stares at him even more.

BORIS
And, when is our next tournament?

Chip suddenly realizes what he was asking.

CHIP
Ohhh... hahaha, yeah, umm, that is
the thing. It's in a few days.

BORIS
What is it?

CHIP
The Beer City Open-Grand Rapids,
Michigan.

Boris is surprised.

BORIS
Michigan? Is far?

Chip nods.

CHIP
We will leave early tomorrow
morning. And Boris?

Boris turns around.

BORIS
Da?

Chip hesitates.

CHIP
I have to tell you...

BORIS
Prodolzhat'.

Chip tries to find the words, but can't.

CHIP
...I am stopping at an old friend's
place when we are in Michigan.

Boris nods.

BORIS
Boris meet friend?

CHIP
No, that's okay, Boris.

Boris shrugs.

BORIS
Dobroy nochi.

Chip nods.

CHIP
G'night, Boris.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - DAY

Chip is in the driver's seat when he sees a small blue "WELCOME TO MICHIGAN." sign. He smiles, and looks to the passenger seat and Boris is still sleeping.

They drive for a couple more hours, then suddenly the RV starts to sputter. Chip observes the gas gauge needle is buried below empty. They fortunately managed to roll in to their destination-Grand Rapids.

The RV shutters a few times and Chip notices Boris has stirred and is now awake.

CHIP
Heyo, Boris.

The RV jerks along the road. Boris is bouncing with it.

BORIS
What is happening?

The RV comes to a stop.

CHIP
We're here!

Chip smiles. Boris looks at him.

BORIS
Michigan?

CHIP
Yessir.

They open the door to the RV and step outside.

EXT. CHIP COX'S RV

Chip and Boris notice there are signs and banners everywhere for the "BEER CITY OPEN." Chip and Boris are excited. This is clearly their biggest pickleball tournament to date.

Boris turns to Chip.

BORIS
Why did we stop here?

The RV is parked haphazardly and barely pulled off the side of the road. Chip manages a nervous smile.

CHIP
The space was open?

Boris shrugs it off.

BORIS
When do you meet friend?

Chip stares at Boris, confused.

CHIP
What?

BORIS
You said you need to meet friend?

Chip suddenly realizes what he is talking about.

CHIP
Oh, right!

Chip checks his watch.

CHIP (CONT'D)
In an hour-I should get ready.

Boris nods and looks over to the park nearby.

BORIS

I will meditate in park. Come find me when done.

Chip nods.

EXT. MAIN STREET - LATER

Chip is wearing a very tight suit that fit him several years ago-not so much now. His bulging belly stretches the fabric to it's limits. Chip adjusts himself as a lady passes by. He smiles at her and she avoids eye contact with him.

LADY

Perv.

Chip continues walking past small shops when he sees a sign that reads "JAKE'S BOOKS". He opens the door and steps in.

INT. JAKE'S BOOKS - CONTINUOUS

Inside the bookstore Chip notices a small table with a stack of his autobiography book, "It Takes Balls To Play." He smiles proudly. Next to the table is a life-size cardboard cut-out of him in his prime. Chip rushes to it.

CHIP

(to himself)

You are so beautiful...

Chip admires himself, as JAKE the owner, approaches him.

JAKE

Hello there.

Chip turns to Jake.

CHIP

Hello. I just want to say...thank you so much for...

Jake interrupts him.

JAKE

Can I help you with something?

CHIP

I'm Chip Cox!

Chip motions to the cut-out. Jake looks at him, then at the cut-out, then back.

JAKE

And...?

CHIP

And I have my book signing here...
In ten minutes.

JAKE

(to himself)
Oh, he wasn't kidding.

Jake looks back to Chip.

JAKE (CONT'D)

My apologies, sir.

He pulls the chair out behind the table.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Have a seat. I'm sure your fans
will be pouring in here shortly.

Chip takes a seat, and is flabbergasted by the display. He has a stupid grin on his face. Jake feigns enthusiasm. Chip anxiously eyes the front door for customers to no avail and begins to have doubts. Jake puts away a few books behind him.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Don't worry-folks will show.

CHIP

A fan at the restaurant...was so
excited...she could hardly wait...

Jake nods his head.

JAKE

I'm sure she was. Listen, if you...

Jake is interrupted by the sound of a bell and the arrival of a young woman. She walks directly to Chip's table. He smiles.

YOUNG WOMAN

I'm supposed to ask you var-I-US
(mispronounces)
questions, um... and get your SIGN-
a-ature.

Chip opens a book and looks to the girl.

CHIP

Sure. Fire away-and who am I making out with...uh making this out...to?

The girl looks to Jake, who mouths "please" as eyes roll.

YOUNG WOMAN

To me.

Chip literally writes "To Me," and signs his name in the book jacket. He hands her the book and smiles and looks to Jake.

YOUNG WOMAN (CONT'D)

Can I go now?

Jake nods, pulls her aside and whispers to her. Jake escorts her towards the door and slips her some bills.

The door bell rings as she exits. Jake, smiling looks at Chip

JAKE

Well, you were right, she came in.

Chip is incredulous and glares at Jake.

CHIP

That wasn't her.

JAKE

Oh, then you must have at least TWO fans in Michigan.

He chuckles-and stops as Chip continues staring at him.

CHIP

You paid her to come, didn't you?

Jake gives up the cheap charade.

JAKE

Look, I felt bad-an old guy like you, trying to sell his book, and..

Chip, defeated, plops down in the chair realizing the truth.

CHIP

...No one cares.

JAKE

Mr. Cox, didn't mean to...I just...

Chip stands up, grabs the cut-out of himself and slowly walks out the door. The bell rings on the way out.

CHIP
I'll be back to get the books-if
there's any left...that is...Jeeez

EXT. PARK - LATER

Boris is meditating in the park. He looks at his watch, then looks around the park for Chip. Boris heads back to the RV.

EXT. CHIP COX'S RV

Boris looks inside; no one is there. He notices Chip sitting on a bench with what looks to be himself. Boris is confused.

EXT. PARK BENCH

Boris walks to the bench and talks to the cardboard cut-out.

BORIS
How did visit with friend go?

Boris gets no response.

BORIS (CONT'D)
That good, eh? Was friend glad to
see Chip?

Boris gets no response again.

BORIS (CONT'D)
I see. You keep your secrets, Chip.

Chip rolls his eyes.

CHIP
Boris, I'm over here.

Boris smiles.

BORIS
I know, comrade. You looked bummed
in, so I make joke to cheer you.

Chip looks up to Boris.

CHIP
(exasperated))
Does anyone really cares about me,
Boris?

Boris sits down on the other side of the cardboard Chip.

BORIS

I do. Many people could care about you, Chip. But sometimes it hard to for someone who takes rather than gives...who talks and not listen...

CHIP

What do you mean?

BORIS

Sometimes you think you know it all-and expect everything from everyone-but you not give in return. I share happiness secret...

Chip is quiet. Boris doesn't say anything.

CHIP

No one knows who I am. My mom died. I hate to say it, but Boris, you are probably the only person that really cares about me.

Boris smiles.

BORIS

Chip Cox. You know what you need to do?

CHIP

What?

BORIS

Start giving, then you will truly feel what it means to receive.

Boris smiles. He outstretches a hand to the cardboard Chip. Chip smiles at him. He grabs the hand, and shakes it.

BORIS (CONT'D)

Now come, we must get ready. We have tournament to win.

Chip can't help but smile at Boris's positivity.

INT. PICKLEBALL COURT - NIGHT

Fans are screaming until Chip and Boris take the court.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Ladies and gentlemen, please
welcome Team Cox.

The audience starts to boo them.

CHIP
(to Boris)
This is a first—you'd think we were
politicians...I guess beer is
BOOZE! Maybe a play on words...

Boris nods his head.

BORIS
Da.

Boris waves to the crowd and smiles. Chip adjusts himself to acknowledge the booing. Suddenly the lights go out on the court. The crowd goes nuts. Lights flash and a small pillar of fire blasts from the entrance of opposing team.

Chip and Boris stretch as their opponents emerge from the entrance. THE SHARK and a very large man called THE WALRUS. They both yell as they come courtside.

Chip and Boris approach the net and the Shark extends his hand to them to exchange greetings. Chip awkwardly fist bumps Shark's outstretched hand and the Shark simply shakes his head. Boris smiles and shakes hands with the Walrus.

BORIS (CONT'D)
Best of luck.

WALRUS
For you.

Boris and Chip go to the far end of the court.

CHIP
We got this, right? He is full
bodied like I told you some would
be. We pick on him.

Boris nods.

BORIS
Da.

Boris turns his head, laser focused. Chip nods and looks at the opponents as well.

The announcer comes over the PA.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Ladies and gentlemen! Welcome to
the Beer City Open!

The audience cheers even more.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Our reigning champions, The Shark
and Walrus are back tonight to
defend their title!

The audience cheers.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Now let's get this match underway!

Boris serves, Chip moves up to the kitchen followed quickly
by Boris, The Shark hits the ball back. They volley back and
forth repeatedly and then Chip attacks.

CHIP
I am like thunder and lightning
(screams) craack...wait for it
boom!)

He slams the ball; his placement is not the best. The Shark
and Walrus are able to return the ball easily. Boris and Chip
continue alternating with returning volleys.

Boris keeps hitting the ball next to the line. The Walrus
begins to fatigue. Boris senses this and exploits it. Boris
keeps hitting the ball towards the Walrus, and suddenly the
Walrus loses his balance and falls.

Chip hits him with the ball.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Your gonna need a bigger sack to
fit in that body bag.

Boris clenches his fist and raises it.

BORIS
Yes!

Chip runs and gives Boris a hug. They have just won the Beer
City open! Clearly their best victory yet! They stand in the
middle of the court ready to receive a big check. The
Announcer is preparing to tell them what they've won.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
And the prize money for tonight's
winner is...

The announcer smiles. Chip leans in to Boris.

CHIP
 (whispering)
 I bet it's six hundred
 bucks...maybe more!

Boris smiles big.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
 No money...but even better!

Chip and Boris both gaze at the announcer, rubbing their hands together in anticipation. The announcer produces an overly large check. Where the amount field normally appears is inscribed: "A YEAR'S SUPPLY OF MILLER LITE."

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Get ready to party, because you
 just won... a years supply of
 Miller Lite, generously donated by
 our corporate sponsor!

He hands the check to Chip and then shakes Chip and Boris' hands. As he does so, several people take their pictures. The Shark walks up to Chip and shakes his hand too.

SHARK
 Players party, you comin'?

Chip looks to Boris. Boris nods.

CHIP
 Of course. I never miss a party and
 it looks like we are paying for it.

SHARK
 Yup. Thanks! See you there.

INT. PLAYERS AFTERPARTY

The party is a blast featuring drinking and plenty of good conversation. People sing Karaoke. Boris begins to mingle with Gizmo, The Puppet Master, The Unicorn, Golden Boy and others.

Chip stands by a keg drinking from a red plastic up. Chip suddenly catches the Shark staring at him. He looks around trying to avoid eye contact. Chip looks straight in front of him, and the Shark is standing there.

SHARK
 Hello.

Chip isn't sure how to respond.

CHIP

...Hi.

SHARK

Chip Cox? It's me, Sharkey from our match today. You're the former tennis champ, right?

Chip's eyes light up at the chance of having a fan.

CHIP

Yes. Yes I am.

SHARK

I've actually seen you play tennis. But I didn't recognize you without your long hair and huge muscles. You were one brawny lad!

Chip is visibly chagrined.

CHIP

You saw me play-and remember me?

SHARK

Yeah, my pop used to watch you back in the day.

Chip manages a small smile.

CHIP

Thanks.

SHARK

Tell me how you ended up playing doubles with the Russian dude at the French Open? That was crazy!

Chip begins telling the story. We see Boris chatting with some fellow pickle ballers. UNICORN and GOLDEN BOY are standing around Boris.

BORIS

So you don't hit it very hard?

UNICORN

It's all about placement and strategy, not brute strength.

Boris turns to Golden Boy.

BORIS
And what about you Golden Child?

GOLDEN BOY
Boy.

BORIS
Boy what?

GOLDEN BOY
It's Golden Boy. And Uni is right.

UNICORN
Don't call me that.

GOLDEN BOY
It's all about placement, not
speed, not power. PUHLACEMENT...and
have the Golden Axe as your paddle.

He shows it to Boris who smiles.

Boris turns and walks through a crowd of people, he
eventually finds Chip and the Shark chatting. He hears the
tail end of Chip's story as he walks up.

CHIP
And then the commie stole my trophy
and ran out of the stadium!

SHARK
Then what happened?

CHIP
I caught up with him. Let's just
say I used the trophy to imprint my
impression of him on his forehead.

Shark laughs.

SHARK
My man!

Boris approaches and urgently grabs Chip.

BORIS
Must tell you I learned secret to
Pickleball..need only worry about..

Shark interrupts...

SHARK
Chip, tell me another story about
your total domination for so long.

CHIP

We have all night and we might need it...speaking of which...we were hoping we'd get prize money...

Shark smiles at him.

SHARK

Too good for Miller Lite?

CHIP

It's not that. It's just that, well, we need the money for our...

He looks to Boris.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Vehicle. And we have no place to stay tonight-that doesn't smell like Boris.

SHARK

So you don't have anyone here in Michigan to stay with?

Boris interjects.

BORIS

All Chip's ladies have expired or retired. After all-it is past 8pm.

Shark lights up.

SHARK

It would be my honor to host you at the shark bite lounge-my pad.

EXT. SHARK'S MOBILE HOME - LATER

INT. SHARK'S MOBILE HOME

Shark throws a few magazines and empty beer cans from the couch and reveals a mountain of Miller Lite.

SHARK

It's not much, but stay here for the night and have all the beer you want from last year's winnings.

Boris sits down on the couch and quickly falls asleep. Chip grabs a blanket and puts it over Boris. Chip grabs a blanket and puts it over Boris.

CHIP
 (whispering)
 Dobroy nochi, comrade.

Chip sits next to Boris; a beer in hand and his eyelids get heavy. As he dozes off, he slips into a flashback/ nightmare.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. CAR - DAY

Chip sits in the passenger seat of his dad's car in front of an Italian restaurant. A younger Rocco sits at a table in the restaurant and stares at Woody and Chip in the car. Rocco motions to Woody to come in and Chip starts to go, too.

WOODY COX
 Not you, son...stay here. I'll be
 right back. Have some bidness here.

Chip watches as Woody exits the car and enters the restaurant. He sits next to Rocco and soon they start to yell at each other. Chip looks on concerned. A few of Rocco's men enter and stand Woody up. Chip helplessly observes one of Rocco's men slam Woody's face on a plate of spaghetti on the table and it splashes on Rocco, who gathers his men...

Chip yells in the car.

CHIP
 DAAAAADDD!!!!

END FLASHBACK

INT. SHARK'S MOBILE HOME

Chip jerks awake.

CHIP
 Dad!!!

He looks over to Boris, who's still sleeping on the couch. Chip checks his phone: It's 5 AM. He pushes Boris, who stirs. Chip takes the blanket off him and Boris wakes.

BORIS
 What in name of Stalin...

CHIP
 We need to get up.

BORIS

Why?

Chip throws a garden hose on Boris-along with a gas can.

CHIP

We need gas to travel.

EXT. LONELY ROAD - LATER

Chip and Boris walk around the mobile home park. Chip finds a car, and looks inside; people are sleeping in it. He motions for Boris to keep moving. They find another car, Chip can't open the gas tank. He motions again for Boris to keep moving.

BORIS

So we just take gas?

CHIP

No. Boris, we are sharing the gas with them just like you said.

BORIS

No. I never say that.

At an empty car Chip opens the gas tank and motions to Boris.

CHIP

The hose?

Boris stands still, about ten feet from the car.

BORIS

I will not do this-it is Illegal?!

Chip walks towards Boris.

CHIP

Boris, we need gas, we're out of money. There is no other way.

BORIS

We can find other way.

Chip grabs Boris by the shoulders, Boris stares at him.

CHIP

Boris, there once was an ideological and social political movement. It's aim was to set up a better version of society. A society where nobody owns anything and everybody shares everything.

Boris stares at Chip in disbelief. They both announce:

BOTH
Communism.

Boris nods his head.

BORIS
Okay. Let's do this.

Boris hands Chip the hose, then shoves it into the gas tank. Boris looks at him confused.

BORIS (CONT'D)
Now what?

Chip makes a nervous smile.

CHIP
You have to suck it out.

Boris' eyes go wide.

BORIS
Suck? Does gas get in mouth?

CHIP
It might.

Boris shrugs his shoulders. Boris sucks on the end of the hose. He keeps going. Nothing is happening.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Keep going-suck it-almost there...

Boris swallows some gas, sticks the hose into the empty gas can and it flows. Boris looks at Chip and spits out the gas.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Nasty?

BORIS
Too weak. Russian vodka much stronger.

Chip looks at him strangely. Boris smiles and Chip pours the balance of the gas into the RV's tank.

CHIP
Well, that's the last of it.

Boris looks to Chip.

BORIS
How many cars was that?

Chip counts on his fingers.

CHIP
Four... I think. How you feeling?

Boris belches loudly.

BORIS
Better-after American beer and gas
you more interesting, too. Let's
go.

Boris and Chip climb into the RV.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - LATER

Boris drives as Chip has his feet up on the dash.

BORIS
Where is next match?

CHIP
The championship qualifier. In Sun
City, Arizona. We have a lengthy
trip ahead of us.

CHIP (CONT'D)
(pause)
Since we have the time, let's talk
about other important stuff-like
your Vodka versus our Bourbon.

BORIS
Am expert on Vodka. Know nothing
about bourbon.

CHIP
Bourbon is like America's vodka-
until Tito's came along.

BORIS
What is Tito's?

CHIP
A vodka made in Austin, Texas.

BORIS
Taxes? Don't tell me about taxes.
No more Taxes!

CHIP
Tito's makes the world's best
Moscow Mules.

BORIS
You insult Russia! How dare you use
Moscow name with Vodka from Texas?

CHIP
Sorry-didn't know you were so
sensitive about Vodka.

BORIS
No more than you with money.

CHIP
Touche.

Chip pauses. A moment of surface enlightenment.

CHIP (CONT'D)
You know.. I used to be so blessed.

BORIS
What you mean?

CHIP
I was rich. I had EVERYTHING-a big
house, a Corvette, Lacey...

BORIS
So to be blessed to you is having
money and lots of...stuff?

CHIP
Of course. Can't live on nada. Look
at all that beer in the back. What
can you do with that? We needed
money-not beer-to fill the tank.

BORIS
(angrily)
We have been through this before.
That beer is not nothing. It has
value. I traded 5 cases for vodka
at last gas station.
(pauses)
Stop vehicle.

CHIP
What's the matter?

BORIS
Stop-now. I mean it...

Chip pulls the RV over to the side of the road.

CHIP
What's wrong, Boris?

BORIS
First, I must puke, then we talk.

Boris jumps out of the RV and vomits. He finishes.

BORIS (CONT'D)
How you ask me such question?

CHIP
Why are you so upset?

BORIS
You not know, really? I may work in deep shit but have depth-something you not have. You more foreign than me-who butchers English.

CHIP
And why does that concern you?

BORIS
Because you my friend. Don't know if I can do this if this is who you are.

CHIP
Who do you want me to be?

BORIS
I just want you to be Chip Cox. Pickle ball player and my friend who is more than just making money- and making love to blue haired groupees.

CHIP
Ok. I'll try, Boris...and you'll see...it'll be... after I pee..

Boris begrudgingly acquiesces.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

The RV is silhouetted a few feet from Chip and Boris. They sit on a golf green in their underwear soaping themselves up.

BORIS
Who we playing?

CHIP
Oglesby and Upgrove- solid players.

BORIS
You done with soap?

CHIP
Yep.

Suddenly the hiss of the sprinklers can be heard.

BORIS
Here it comes.

The sprinklers douse Boris and Chip, who run around them to get rinsed off-laughing and enjoying the moment.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - LATER

Chip drives and Boris sits in the passenger seat.

BORIS
Prize money?

CHIP
May it be more than beer this time!
You're syphonic!

Chip and Boris share a bag of chips. Chip looks down at it.

CHIP (CONT'D)
Where did you get these?

Boris smiles.

BORIS
Found them.

Chip spits it out.

CHIP
We don't eat food we found.

BORIS
Speak for self. Am hungry. Didn't grow up like you. My dad was tool and a dime-maker-not a dollar maker.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

Chip and Boris sneak with the hose. A car alarm blares off screen and the two vagrants run back laughing.

INT. CHIP COX'S RV - LATER

Chip, driving, is falling asleep. He suddenly calls to Boris.

CHIP

Boris - slap me on the face.

Boris reaches out and slaps him. Chip wakes up for a minute, then continues driving. He starts to nod off again.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Do it. Again. Harder!

Boris slaps him again. Chip shakes it off.

CHIP (CONT'D)

I'm sick of tired.

BORIS

Petrol and found food-and am fueled again

CHIP

Okay. Whatever works.

(pause))

Let's talk about our pickle ball strategy... If you anticipate what the return shot is you can move into position and cover the angle of it.

BORIS

I agree. But we must remember that placement is key-not strength.

CHIP

This is where we differ, comrade.

BORIS

We must play as one.. you had big, fake muscles before and hit ball very hard. Now? Not so much...

Chip smiles.

CHIP

We haven't lost yet, comrade.

They see a sign that reads. "Flagstaff."

CHIP (CONT'D)
Arizona. We're almost there.

EXT. SUN CITY TOURNAMENT

A prominent retirement community perfectly manicured with nature's finest ornamentals is abuzz with an excited crowd in anticipation of the tournament. Fans flock around the makeshift vendor tents.

Pickleball paddles, balls, and other gear selling briskly. A plethora of beer and food vendors also line the streets. Chip and Boris make their way towards an entrance that reads "Players Only".

As Chip gets dressed, Boris sits on a bench in his towel, staring off in a trance.

CHIP
Boris? We need to get ready.

Boris shakes his head.

BORIS
Don't know if I can play.

CHIP
Of course you can. Why look what I brought for us?!

Chip pulls out their uniforms--each has a shirt adorned with their respective country's flag; they are pressed and look immaculate. Boris stands up and begins to fall backwards but catches himself. Chip notices but ignores it.

CHIP (CONT'D)
I need you out there, man.

Boris nods. He grabs the uniform.

EXT. PICKLEBALL COURT - LATER

A crowd has gathered when Chip and Boris take the court. Their opponents MAC OGLESBY and STAN UPGROVE are on the other side of the net. The announcer takes to the microphone.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
 Ladies and Gents We Welcome you to
 the Sun City Vlastic Classic
 Pickleball Tournament Finals
 presented by Morts Mortuary!!!

Chip scoffs and looks to Boris.

CHIP
 (whispering)
 That's a mouthful.

Boris is already sweating and his face is pale.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
 The winner of this match will go to
 the senior Pickleball finals world
 championship at Indian Wells!

Chip is getting pumped up. The referee approaches the center of the court and motions for the teams to come together. The two teams approach each other and extend handshakes.

Chip shakes their hands firmly and glares at them; Boris limply reciprocates; Mac and Stan express concern.

MAC
 Are you sure you two are all right
 to play?

Chip takes this as a taunt.

CHIP
 Me? I am fine... Are you all right
 to play, Stan? I can get a deal for
 you to buy a wheelchair in town.
 Cause it looks like you need one.

MAC
 It's Mac, and I'm primed and in the
 best shape of my life.

Mac and Stan stare at Boris, who is barely up-right.

STAN
 Seriously, is he okay?

Chip flexes at Stan.

CHIP
 Yeah, he will be so fine...like
 Arizona wine...

Stan and Mac say nothing and start heading back to their side of the court. Chip continues.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Hey guys. I saw you warming up. I also saw a for sale sign in the pro shop. You might want to buy yourselves a real serve and volley game with some of your prune juice.

He looks to Boris.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Let's crush these geezers.

Boris takes in a few shaky breaths.

BORIS

Da... Game on.

Mac serves to start and Boris makes a dive for it, but his reflexes are off and too slow. Mac serves again and this time Boris feebly returns it.

Mac and Stan rush to the kitchen and attack the net. Boris and Chip try their best, but they are clearly outmatched.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

It's been brought to my attention that Chip Cox has recently published an autobiography. If you missed his book signing in Michigan-and it sounds like everybody did- you can catch him here after the match.

Boris stares at Chip; the referee hands the ball to Boris as it's his serve; he slams the ball right on the line. It's returned easily by Mac and Stan.

Boris' serve isn't working. Boris continues to look like he is about to pass out, but he pushes on. Chip yells at Boris each time he misses.

CHIP

Come on Boris, you gotta get there!

Chip begins to sweat profusely and also misses shots. Mac and Stan are simply superior to Chip and Boris-and barely break a sweat. The announcer calls out the obvious.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

This is a grossly one-sided affair.
Hard to tell, but it appears that
Team Cox may be under the weather.

Team Cox loses in straight sets. They are totally humiliated.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - LATER

Boris, barely awake, is perched over a garbage can ready to vomit. Chip paces back and forth.

CHIP

You weren't even trying, Boris!

BORIS

Trying? I always trying...

Boris vomits into the garbage can.

CHIP

And that...that's from all the food
you found...

BORIS

And drank too much gas-for us...

CHIP

We are screwed. We needed this
victory to qualify for Nationals.

He holds up a small wad of cash.

CHIP (CONT'D)

And this is all we got from losing!

Boris eyes Chip and utters words in Russian and Chip scoffs at him. Boris spits into the garbage can and Chip proceeds to split the money, dropping half of it into the same can.

BORIS

You no see friend in Michigan. You
had book signing.

Chip looks down at the ground.

CHIP

Not really. I mean, yes...But no
one showed up.

Boris wipes his mouth. He stands up, facing Chip.

BORIS

That's it. I done. I quit.

CHIP

Done, done-er? Boris I need you...

Boris cuts him off. As he speaks, he starts to walk away.

BORIS

Da. You humiliate me on court. You lie to me. You not listen to me. Behind my back, you plan pickle ball trip to sign book. You not care about me or my commune. You only care about yourself. Goodbye.

INT. OUTSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

Boris reaches for the door handle & turns and walks away.

CHIP (WITH SUBTITLES IN ENGLISH)

Pomnite, eto kasayetsya
razmeshcheniya, a ne sily.

Boris turns and sees Chip. He is shocked.

BORIS

Da? When you learn Russian?

Chip nods and smiles weakly.

CHIP

My mom had some self-learning tapes. I listened to them while I was driving out to see you.

(pause)

Boris, you're right and believe it or not, I've been listening to you. I'm a selfish, egotistical, cocky jerk... and I am very sorry-really.

Boris looks down at his feet.

CHIP (CONT'D)

I don't really care about the tournament anymore...I'm just trying to pay off my debts, too, that I never told you about. I was too proud-but I am also broke.

This gets Boris' attention.

CHIP (CONT'D)

And...I really do care about you.
You're the only real friend I have.
You are willing to tell me the
truth and hold me accountable when
nobody else would...I've been a
pretty lousy friend to you and I'm
really sorry about that.

(pauses)

I love you man. Will you please
give me...us...another chance?

Chip looks up hopefully. Boris hesitates, takes a step
towards him and embraces him. It is a very awkward hug, but a
sign and tender display of brotherhood, nonetheless.

BORIS

Well, no doubt it's been an
adventure, comrade. For the love of
the commune-and communism-I will
give you chance. We have need and I
have the ability to play
better...and we NEED the money.

Behind them, Mac and Stan show up.

MAC

Well, well, well. Frick and Frack.
Love and Hate. Capitalist and
Communist. Sweaty and stinky.
Loudmouth and pukey. What a team!

Chip and Boris turn around, surprised at who they see.

CHIP

Hello there.

STAN

You guys played your hearts out..

BORIS

Da. No. I played my guts out!

They all laugh.

STAN

I've played sick before too. You
killed it for the terrible shape
you were in-but you need to know
more about teamwork and how it ties
to winning.

BORIS

(nodding to CHIP)

If you can teach Chip and he is willing to listen and learn, I will give him last shot at this silly game-even though we did not qualify for nationals. We can still be competitive and have fun together.

MAC

We can always try. Even though you can be a jerk, Chip, we want to help since we really love the sport and savor your famous tennis shootout back in '78.

STAN

Legendary stuff. You have great potential in this sport.

CHIP

Thanks-that means a lot.

EXT. PICKLEBALL COURT - LATER

The two teams face each other on opposite sides of the court.

MAC

Serving. Forget the spins, just get the ball in play-deeper the better.

Mac hits the ball where Boris and Chip must move.

MAC (CONT'D)

Make them move.

Stan attacks next and gives some advice as well.

STAN

And if your opponent has a weak backhand-exploit that.

He hits it on the weak side of Chip.

STAN (CONT'D)

Any weakness, exploit it.

MAC

For service return-return the ball to the center-it makes the opponent confused. Who's going to return it?

STAN

Try to land the ball within a foot of the baseline on your return. Keep them back, and get to the net.

Chip and Boris soak it all in.

MAC

The third shot-well, the game really starts here. The side drop shot's a very tough shot, but very effective! You're hitting the ball from the service return to the backhand side of your opponent where it just drops over the net. Then both of you follow it to the net, like this. You master this, you master the game..and your foes.

Mac and Stan demonstrate.

MAC (CONT'D)

Now you try. Do what I said to do.

Chip ignores the strategic advice and pounds the return up the middle. Mac and Stan both go for the ball simultaneously and run into each other-their heads colliding.

Chip looks wide-eyed and runs up to Mac and Stan. They both lay on the ground unconscious.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - LATER

Mac and Stan sit on the DOCTOR'S bench, rubbing their heads. The doctor examines their charts on a clipboard.

DOCTOR

Well gents, looks like you suffered simultaneous concussions.

Mac and Stan are shocked.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

You will be fine in a week to ten days, but in the meantime, no physical activity, okay?

The doctor stands up and leaves.

CHIP

I'm so sorry.

Mac and Stan manage smiles at Chip and Boris.

MAC

It's OK-it was an accident-and know what? Maybe this was meant to be.

STAN

Not gonna hate fate...

BORIS

I'm sorry?

MAC

Our doctor says we are going to be fine eventually but we can't play in this week's National Tournament. You two will have to play for us-since you won the silver medal at our tournament and are next in line

Mac smiles.

BORIS

This mean we play in California?

Boris hugs Chip and shouts in joy.

CHIP

Thanks Mac and Stan-and Boris-for this chance. We won't let you down.

EXT. INDIAN WELLS

Chip and Boris head to the tunnel entrance that says "Players Only." People take pictures and videos of them as they enter.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Chip and Boris hear the crowd outside as Chip pumps himself up by talking to himself. A darkened figure, Rocco, enters.

ROCCO

Cox? Dick Cox?

Chip turns around and sees Rocco standing in the Locker room. He stares at him in disbelief.

ROCCO (CONT'D)

Mind tellin' me what you're doing' at this ping-pong match for nonnos?

Chip looks up and sees the man from his nightmares.

ROCCO (CONT'D)

You still owe 500 large for your lousy bets and your deadbeat dad.

Two of Rocco's thugs step into the locker room. Rocco smiles.

CHIP

I know what I owe. We will win and when WE win, you'll get your dirty money. Bet on it!

Rocco smiles, then starts to laugh. His thugs laugh with him.

ROCCO

What? When you win...this match? Do you know that...

He is suddenly cut off by OTTO entering the locker room.

OTTO

Excuse me, Cox, before we get started, you need to pee in this cup for drug testing. If there is anything illegal about you...

Otto leans in close to Chip.

OTTO (CONT'D)

(whispering)

Any infraction, sideways looks, complaints, or BS... I will immediately disqualify you.

Chip grabs the cup and then he whispers to Otto.

CHIP

(whispering)

You better call this fair. You ruined my career...my life... my Nike stuff...you stole my fiancée...everything may be gone...But we're not done yet...

Otto pulls away but Chip isn't finished.

CHIP (CONT'D)

And we need that one-million-dollar prize money. Half to pay off some of my...debts. And Boris needs half for his commune.

Lacey overhears this and laughs.

LACEY
One MILLION?

Chip and Boris see her and Otto is just as confused as Lacey.

LACEY (CONT'D)
Who told you one million? There is only one-THOUSAND in prize money for seniors and ten-thousand for the winners of the Pro division.

Chip isn't sure what to say and pulls the flyer out of his pocket. Lacey shows him the flyer. She points to the amount.

LACEY (CONT'D)
Do you not know what a comma is used for? Or are you blind?
(pauses)
You always were an idiot.

Chip sends an apologetic glance to Boris. Otto and Lacey head out of the locker room and Chip begins panicking.

CHIP
What? No way! That is not possible!
I'm done...I'm finished...oh no...

OTTO (HEAD REFEREE)
Time to start the match, they are ready for you! We will see you out there after we test your urine.

He directs Chip and Boris toward the court.

CHIP
We are screwed. I'm a genuine loser...Disgraced again.

Boris grabs him then slaps him.

BORIS
No.

Chip stares at Boris.

BORIS (CONT'D)
We have come this far, you have need and we have ability. We will play this for honor-and redemption.

Chip pauses for a moment, gathers himself, and takes a deep breath. He then nods his head and stands up.

CHIP
 Honor and redemption? Really?...
 You are right, Boris! Let's do it!

Boris smiles.

CHIP (CONT'D)
 Not like I need my balls anyway.

They head out of the locker room together.

EXT. THE ANNOUNCER CHIMES IN.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
 Ladies and Gentlemen. Welcome to
 the Margaritaville National
 Championship Men's Doubles Senior
 Championships. We have a change in
 the program as we have a substitute
 team after the withdrawal of Mac &
 Stan. Your finalists are now Team
 Cox vs. The French Picklers!

ANNOUNCER #2 (V.O.)
 Like understudies in a Broadway
 show, it's time for Chip and Boris
 to fill in for the leads. But are
 they ready to step up?

Chip looks to Boris with a sudden burst of adrenaline.

CHIP
 Let's win this! For the glory of
 the pickle!

Otto takes center court.

OTTO
 Let's get this match underway!

The announcer echoes his thoughts.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
 And now, ladies and gentlemen,
 Let's get reaaaaddy to
 Piiiiccckkkllleee!

INT. PICKLEBALL COURT - CONTINUOUS

The teams take the court -- first is Chip and Boris. As they enter the court, there are plenty of cheers for them.

Boris is somewhat surprised, but Chip soaks it in. The two stare towards the other opponents' gate.

Two mature men walk in the gate, wearing French berets and shirts with the Eiffel Tower imprinted on them. Their pants are black knickers. The crowd goes wild. Boris turns to Chip.

BORIS

Oh, no. We are playing the dreaded French Picklers!

Chip nods. The two make their way to the net. The FRENCH PICKLERS approach the net; they all shake hands.

CHIP

Nice outfits. Did your mom make them for you? Tell her I'm sorry I wasn't able to call her back!

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Looks like Chip Cox is in rare form today and already attempting to get under the skin of the opponent.

Boris pulls Chip away. The picklers look confused and walk back to their service position.

ANNOUNCER

Wow. Look at Lacey's...shoes and that ring! Somehow they have gotten bigger 40 years later.

Lacey waves. The French Picklers begin with a nice serve, but Boris makes quick work of the return, hitting it down the middle, as Mac and Stan had instructed them. Mac and Stan sit in the audience & Mac turns to the person seated next to him.

MAC

I taught him that.

Chip and Boris give their opponents everything they bargained for. Boris handles the baseline rallies until the French Picklers run out of breath.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Team Cox is really shining today, folks. They are giving the Picklers everything they've got!

Chip tiptoes to the kitchen line repeatedly, barely missing it as he drives the ball up the middle, deep in the court.

CHIP

You familiar with Linda Ronstadt?
She has a song. It goes like this:
(singing) Bluuuuuee by yooooou!

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

And there is another! The Picklers
are getting pickled!

This causes multiple unforced errors as their opponents can't figure out who will return the shot. Chip holds the ball. He takes a breath, he looks to Boris, who nods.

CHIP

What's that sound you hear?
"woot, woot" Yep, I think I
hear it too-it's the victory train
coming to pick us up! All aboard!

Chip tosses the ball in the air and lightly serves; the Picklers are not expecting this. His placement is perfect and the Picklers are unable to get to it. The announcer goes wild, the crowd cheering with them.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

And the final set is over -- Team
Cox wins with an ACE! What a
remarkable way to end the
tournament! TEAM COX WINS! TEAM COX
WINS THE SENIORS DIVISION!

Boris races over to Chip and gives him a big hug. They celebrate for a minute, and then congratulate the French Picklers on a good match.

CHIP

No hard feelings fellas, I do the
trash talking to pump myself up.

PICKLER

Je compris. Oui. Oui

CHIP

Yes. You're right! We WE! I get it.

Chip, in shock, looks up in the stands, where Rocco and his enforcers are vigorously clapping. Rocco wags his fingers, points to his groin, and smiles and gives the okay sign.

In the next box is Phil Knight. He is surrounded by legendary Nike tennis player Andre Agassi and other dignitaries. They are all clapping. Phil points to his logo on his shirt and to Chip and Boris and gives Chip a thumbs up signal.

Chip is baffled, but waves back to them.

Otto and Lacey present the trophy and the check for \$1,000 to Chip and Boris, who gratefully accept and address the crowd:

CHIP (CONT'D)

Wow-it's been a long time since I have been on this big of a stage. And Lacey-you are looking good, babe...and over 30 years ago, I won a match but lost my sponsor, my respect, my fiancée, and my winning streak. But that was only the beginning. I went from being an undefeated champion to being totally defeated. I lost my job-my career-my house-my parents...and...
(rubs his head)

My hair.

(laughter)

Tonight, we coulda lost, but won because I had lots of lessons to learn before I could ever really win again. Now, doubles pickle ball provided me the chance to find humility and teammanship again with my friend and teammate, Boris.

(pause)

Boris, trusted me and came on this journey with me. He taught me about teamwork and selflessness. He showed me that, while "me" is in team, so is "meat" and when we "meet" there are two people. And when you have two people, that is plural, so it becomes "we" and the french dudes said it best twice - "we, we." That is a tribute to both of us-Boris and me. It is also the same as "us", and with "us" that is 2/3 of USA, so we are together in the USA...which, is, really, great, right?

Stunned silence by the crowd as they try to grasp what Chip has just said. Boris proceeds to take the microphone.

BORIS

My friend Chip, he has come a long way. He is good person who like all of us is still learning. Me, I learn about USA in 40 years. Not perfect, but better than nothing.

(MORE)

BORIS (CONT'D)

Thank you for another chance for us
to make something out of nothing.

Audience applause.

Rocco and his cronies start making their way to the court.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Ugh oh. Do we have another on-court
confrontation at center court?
Where is Lacey when we need her?

Lacey waves to the crowd as Rocco and his enforcers approach
the court, Phil Knight and his entourage cut in front of them

PHIL KNIGHT

Hi, I'm Phil Knight. Remember me?
We stripped Chip of his Nike
sponsorship many years ago.

Chip nods, then suddenly jumps back.

CHIP

Yes. Kinda hard to forget you. I'm
not wearing any Nike logo stuff. I
promise...except...maybe..

He reaches into his shorts and pulls up the top of his Nike
logo jock strap. Phil quickly backs away.

PHIL KNIGHT

That's all right-please keep it on.
But beware of the dreaded Pickle-
balls if you don't wash it often.

Chip tugs and pulls it, dancing around until he gets it
right. He then sneaks a whiff of his hand. Phil continues.

PHIL KNIGHT (CONT'D)

You may not know it, but we have
been following you. Although we
dropped you from tennis, we have a
unique opportunity for you to
consider. Since pickleball is an
emerging sport and you seem to have
changed your ways and now embrace
teamwork, Nike would like to have
you wear our brand again and be our
sponsored players. But you both
have to agree to sign on and be our
goodwill ambassadors of pickleball.

Boris stares at Phil.

BORIS

Why me?

Phil explains.

PHIL KNIGHT

We need you to wear and promote Nike to help us reach our audience in Russia and Eastern Europe.

CHIP

Mr. Knight, there is nothing I want more than to wear my Nike gear again. It would be an honor-I'm in!

Chip looks to Boris, who hesitates as he considers the offer beneath him as a committed communist.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Come on Boris. You taught me so much. I'll never forget what you said that night on the road. It changed my life.

BORIS

What? Wash your jockstrap?

CHIP

Good one. You know that I will never wash that jockstrap. The Nike logo may be faded but it's all I have from the glory days.

BORIS (CONFUSED)

I don't remember, what did I say?

CHIP

When you said, "From each according to his agility, to each according to his knees..."

Boris rolls his eyes.

CHIP (CONT'D)

It changed my perspective on life. I knew that, even though I am no longer chiseled, am older, and have bad knees, I still have my agility and we win with pickleball! Now it is time to change your perspective.

He looks into Boris' eyes.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Accept the endorsement and save
your commune.

(pause)

You can make Russia great!

BORIS

...Again?

CHIP

Yes!..In honor of all the great
Russian leaders...Let's just do it!

Boris shakes his head with bemusement. He extends his hand to Phil Knight, who has Chip and Boris both kneel to crown them with Nike headbands.

As Chip and Boris walk off the court arm in arm. Lacey bounces up to them, ever the opportunistic flirt.

LACEY

Will you guys be at the players'
party?

They both ignore her. She is not used to this treatment.

LACEY (CONT'D)

So, what are you guys gay now?

Boris turns to her.

BORIS

So, what if we are?

CHIP

Don't say that, Boris. She just
doesn't get it.

He turns to Lacey.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Let's just say we found happiness
together.

Chip slaps Boris on the back. Lacey takes Otto's hand, turns to walk away and shouts back to Chip and Boris.

LACEY

See you there!

INT. PLAYERS AFTER PARTY

Chip is seen talking with Rocco and his enforcers. They are all smoking cigars and celebrating.

ROCCO (TO CHIP)
We bet big and you delivered. Your debts are paid.

Boris is seen talking to a representative from Margaritaville and then shaking hands. He walks over to Chip and whispers in his ear. Chip nods and smiles. They shake hands.

BORIS
(Turns to the crowd)
I am happy to say that I accept the position as onsite Manager and will be part-owner of the New York Margaritaville Resort! No more of life filled with nothing - will be eating cheeseburgers in paradise!

CHIP
And I'm going with you-I get to stay for free and play pickleball every day. Better than nothin!

BORIS
Wow-what a Journey this has been!

CHIP
I love Journey. Don't stop believin'! Hey, gimme a beer, I'm sure that it's 5 o'clock somewhere! Better a cold one than a cold war! Now, we need a good song to wrap this thing up...

BORIS
I not like Rap...

CHIP
But you do like....Jimmy Buffett!!!

Boris smiles at Chip.

Boris and Chip cue up the music and sing "Margaritaville". After they sing the chorus the rest of the players join in.

WHEN CREDITS ROLL THE BACKGROUND MUSIC IS THE TURTLE'S
"HAPPY TOGETHER"

FADE TO BLACK. THE END.