The Adventure Club

By

Robert Tackett

THE ADVENTURE CLUB

FADE IN

EXT. NIGHT

Dusty rooftop bar in Egypt, late at night, circa 2005. Well-trained Soldiers in civilian clothes can be seen walking, relaxed, through the old dusty bar and make their way to the top of the building, talking and with drinks in their hands. Relaxing, drinking on the rooftop of a bar (The flat rooftop has low tables, furniture, pillows to sit on and hookah pipes. Suddenly, explosions rock the building and the city. The Soldiers pick themselves up, dust themselves off and begin their buddy checks. Screams can be heard over the wailing of sirens. City suddenly in chaos.

1LT. JOHN NELSON

“Holy crap! What the hell’s going on?

SFC ROBERT TACKETT

“Sounds like explosions!

1LT Nelson

“We have to get back to the COB. Now.”

SFC Tackett

“Buddy checks! Check you battle buddy. Johnson! Perimeter check”.

Johnson goes and checks over the side of the roof looking out into the city, while everyone else is checking themselves and each other.

SGT JOHNSON

“Looks like explosions all over the city”!

SGT Tackett

“Thumbs up! We’re good to go, Sir. I’ll take point. Nguyen, follow me and keep it tight”.

SGT SHAWN COLLINS

“Navarette and I will follow. We’ll keep Doc between us and keep an eye on him”

SGT HENRY YOUNG

“SGT Johnson and I will bring up the rear. We’ll watch our six”.

1Lt. Nelson

“Don’t stop for the wounded. Not yet. We don’t know who the enemy is. Doc, just get us all get back to the COB, ok”?

Doc Tackett

“Roger, roger. On my six! Moving”.

The squad ran through the broken, 3 story building, ignoring pleas for help in Arabic. Avoiding the civilians, they ran. Out of the building and through the war-torn streets they ran. Ignoring the wounded, ignoring the dying, they continued to run through the dusty town. They made their way out of the lazy little town and out into the small two-lane road stretching out into the wide-open desert. Sirens could still be heard off in the distance. They were all covered in dust, bedraggled. But still together, still running at 2-meter intervals and staggered formation, they ran.

EXT. LATE NIGHT

The lights of their outpost could be seen in the distance. As they neared the deadly funnel of the security gate, troops can be seen manning their machine guns and keeping a close eye on the running Soldiers. They yelled out as they ran past their Brothers-in-arms.

Doc Tackett

“Americans coming in! Seven Americans coming in! One”!

SPC JOHN NGYUEN

“Two”!

SPC DAN NAVARETTE

“Three”!

1LT Nelson

“Four”!

SGT Collins

“Five”!

SGT Robert Johnson

“Six”!

SGT Young

“Seven”!

Once passed the choke point, they all rallied together, catching their breath. The SGT of the Guard, SGT Tyner, in full battle gear, comes over to the group.

SGT TYNER

“Glad you could join us, Doc. Did you guys see the two new LTs from the TOC out there? They’re the only ones who haven’t made it back yet”.

1LT Nelson

“No, SGT. We didn’t see anyone. Does anyone know what happened”?

SGT Tyner

“We saw three big explosions from our tower. They were spread out, all over the city. That was twenty minutes ago, nothing since. The units are all geared up. We’re ready”.

1LT Nelson- turns to his medics

“Get geared up and get to your units. Lots of people are going to be needing our help. SGT Collins, check on the clinic real quick, before heading to Bravo Company. Make sure they are ready for anything”.

The small group disperse to their various units, leaving SGT Witcher, Lt. Nelson and SFC Tackett, standing together in the darkness.

SGT Tyner-Addressing Doc Nelson first, then nodding to Doc Tackett

“Doc, the ‘Ol Man wants to see you ASAP. And Doc, Top wants to see you as soon as you cross the wire. Good luck, Doc”.

SFC Tackett-To Doc Nelson

“Doc, those civilians need us right now! You know it will take hours to cut through the red tape to let us go outside the Wire to help. It’s been twenty minutes since the last bomb”.

1LT Nelson

“Meet me back here in ten minutes, trauma gear only. I’m going with you. I’ll talk to the Ol’ Man”.

The three Soldiers go their separate ways.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT STUDENT ENTRANCE, THE PRESENT – MORNING 5 YEARS LATER

Now retired, SFC Tackett is now Security Officer Tackett. He is standing off to one side of the high school’s parking lot at the school’s entry gate. He appears to be casually watching the students go from their cars, buses and bicycles past his gate and into the school proper. The students seem to ignore him for the most part. Tackett tried to make positive eye contact with everyone, reassuring smile and a heartfelt greeting of the day. Some students even returned the acknowledgement.

Tackett

“Good morning”. “Good morning. How are you today”? “Morning”.

VARIOUS STUDENTS - AT DIFFERENT TIMES ARE OBVIOUSLY TAKEN ABACK AND NOT USED TO BEING SPOKEN TO.

“Uh… good morning”? “Morning, Bro”. “Hi”. “Good morning”.

The first morning bell rang. It signaled five minutes until students needed to be in a classroom for class to begin. The remaining students began to hurry in and get to their respective rooms. Some hurrying to the restrooms. Noticing that there were a few students hanging back in the parking lot, Tackett stands in the middle of the entry way now and forces the late-comers to acknowledge him as they attempt to enter. Purposefully, shaking each one’s hand, Tackett made eye contact with each and everyone. And greeted them with a smile.

Tackett

“Good morning. How are you doing today”?

PATRICK

“Good morning. I’m good”.

Tackett

“Morning! I’m Tackett. It’s nice to meet you”.

KANE

“Thanks, Bro. I’m Kane. I hope you like it here”.

Tackett

“Good morning, Gentlemen. How are you”?

JOSHUA

“Hi. I’m good, Bro. What’s up”?

Tackett

“I’m Tackett, the new security here. Nice to meet you”.

Joshua

“Aight. I’m Josh. Have a good day”.

Watching the stragglers get through campus, Tackett looks out into the parking lot making sure no one is still out there. Then he locks the gates and heads towards the main grounds to begin the restroom checks. The radio cackles to life.

MR. PABLO REYES (the Dean of Students) over the radio

“All SAM units report to the main quad. All SAM units report to the main quad”.

As everyone gathers up, Tackett notices that he is the only one walking. Everyone else has golf carts.

Mr. Reyes

“That’s everyone. I just wanted to make sure everyone had a chance meet each other and I wanted to cover your areas and responsibilities. Everyone, this is Robert. He’ll be our new SAM 5”.

Tackett

“Hello everyone. It’s a pleasure to meet you all”.

MARISOL

“Hey, Robert. It’s nice to see you again. I’m SAM 3. We met over the summer when your wife brought you to one of our soccer games. I got the admin buildings”.

MIKE

“Hey, I’m Mike. SAM 6. I got the sports fields. Nice to meet you”.

Tackett

“Nice to meet you too, Mike”.

TURNER

“I’m SAM 1, young man. I have the North buildings”.

Tackett

“It’s a pleasure”.

JULIANNE

“I’m SAM 4, Hi. I’m on the West side”.

Tackett

“Hello”.

OFFICER JOHN MONEY

“Hi, how are you doing? Call me John”.

Tackett

“Officer Money. It’s a pleasure to meet you, Sir”.

As the Dean of Students, Mr. Pablo Reyes continues talking…voice fades. Tackett notices that a couple of students are across the quad and appear to be trying to get to the restroom unnoticed. Looking obviously suspicious.

Mr. Reyes… voice fades back in

“Ok. Everyone. To your spots. Please stay safe”.

Tackett goes walking towards the restroom and calls on the radio.

Tackett

“SAM 3. SAM 5. 10-25. Boys Restroom”.

Marisol

“Copy”.

Looking back over his shoulder, he gives the signal to be quiet and wait here. Tackett enters the Boy’s restroom. The smell of freshly smoked weed is strong. He finds Joshua standing in front of a sink, looking towards a closed stall with some money in his hand. The stall door opens and a student (Big Mike Johnson) is coming out with a vape pen in his hand. Both students turn to see Tackett at the same time. Shocked faces.

INT. DEAN’S OFFICE.

Robert is leaving the Dean’s office, closing the glass door behind himself. Through the glass you can see the two boys standing in front of Mr. Reyes.

Marisol-Shaking her head in a good-natured way, laughing.

“Come on, Stud. Let’s go get you your own cart. I can’t believe you are getting kids suspended on your first day”!

Tackett

“Hey, this morning out at the gate, I was saying good morning to all the students and staff and they looked at me like I was crazy. Don’t we give the greeting of the day to everyone as they come on the school grounds”?

Marisol-Looking somewhat bewildered as they walk away”?

“What? No way. Why would we”?

EXT. AND INT. VARIOUS SCENE CUTS

Collage of scenes cut together, of different instances where Tackett is breaking up a fight, stopping a food fight, busting kids trying to jump the fence, students smoking out in the baseball fields, kids making out, finding more vape pens on kids, etc. Taking them all to the Dean’s office.

INT. THE TACKETT’S HOME. TACKETT TALKING TO HIS WIFE, DEANNE OVER DINNER WITH THEIR 2 SMALLEST KIDS PRESENT

Tackett

“I may be in over my head on this one. These kids are absolute delinquents”!

DEANNE

“I know you, Dear. I know you won’t give up on them. I know you can help them turn their lives around”.

Tackett

“They all get back tomorrow from their suspensions. We are definitely going to have our work cut out for us”.

Deanne

“We? Us? Who exactly are you talking about”?

Tackett

“My team. The security team at the school”.

Deanne

“Yea, ok. If you think they will help, great. But don’t go and get all butt hurt if they don’t go the extra mile, like you do. OK”?

Tackett

“I still gotta try. I think Sam 3 and Sam 6 will help for sure. Maybe Sam 4”.

Deanne

“I hope so. But don’t expect too much support from the teachers and the admin. They just don’t have the time, the drive or the motivation to help. They’re getting burned out on all the drama and crime”.

Tackett

“Good point. I have an idea”…

Deanne

“I’m sure you do. You always have a plan. That’s why I love you”.

Tackett (laughing)

“Love you to! Dinner is awesome. Thank you. Did you guys tell mommy thank you for making such an awesome dinner”?

BLAYDEN AND MELINA (AGE 4 AND 6) IN UNISON

“Thank you, Mommy”!!!

Tackett sits there for a moment with a faraway look to his eyes, the sounds of dinner slowly fade out. Scene cuts back to Tackett standing in front of his First Sergeant’s desk, back in Egypt right after they made it back to the garrison.

INT. LATE AT NIGHT IN AN OLD ARMY OFFICE.

FIRST SGT HONEYCUTT-OBVIOUSLY ANGRY AND YELLING

“What the hell were you thinking”? I don’t know what your problem is with having a death wish, Sergeant First Class Tackett, but I am this close to recommending another article 15! Do you have a death wish, Sergeant First Class”?

Doc Tackett-Standing at parade rest

“No, First Sergeant. I do not have a death wish, First Sergeant. I-“

First SGT Honeycutt-cutting him off

“Then why must you constantly be *On the Razor’s Edge*? You and your platoon had no business being outside the wire tonight! And who the hell authorized you to take your entire platoon? Why do you always push the envelope? Always testing your limits! Why”?

Doc Tackett

“I’m not trying to always be *On the Razor’s Edge*, Top.

First Sergeant Honeycutt

“Bullshit! That fucking razor is going to cut your ass in half one of these days, Doc”!

1LT Nelson-Knocking, then opening the door without waiting.

“Top. I just came from the Ol’ Man’s briefing. I convinced him to send Tack and myself out, equipped and fully loaded to assist the locals at Pyramid Hospital. We leave in ten mikes”.

First Sergeant Honeycutt-exasperated and rolling his eyes

“You two had better not fuck this up. I can’t believe we are sending our two top docs out into this shit show. God speed, Gentlemen. Now get the hell out of my office before I throw you in the brig”!

EXT. NIGHTIME. OUTSIDE THE BUILDING

1LT Nelson

“What the hell was that all about”?

Doc Tackett

“Top said I’m always *On the Razor’s Edge* and I’m gonna get somebody killed one day”.

1LT Nelson

“Yea, well, maybe he has a point. (Long dramatic pause). But not today. Today, fortune favors the bold! Today lives are depending on us, Tack. Us. Just you and me. I got us the OK to gooutside the wire and assist at Pyramid Hospital with the wounded. So, get your shit together and meet me at the gate in 10 mikes”!

EXT. 10 MINUTES LATER INSIDE THE GATE IN THE FAINT LIGHT.

The medical platoon, all geared up with weapons and aid bags, are standing around talking and waiting as Doc Nelson and   
Doc Tackett walk up out of the darkness from different directions.

1LT Nelson

“Men. Your units need you on the line. I need you to be there for them when they call. I could not be more proud of you Warrior Medics than I am right now. Cut fast, cut deep”!

EVERYONE IN UNISON

“Cut fast, Cut deep”!

Doc Tackett

“SGT Collins! Doc Collins is in charge until Doc and I get back. Each of you get to your units and help. Be ready for anything. Doc Nelson and I are going to help the locals at the hospital. We’ll be back as soon as we can”.

SGT Collins

“Stay frosty, Doc”.

The group exchange the “Stay Frosty” greeting until everyone has said “Stay frosty”.

Then they all turn and head off in different directions into the darkness. Doc Nelson and Doc Tackett began heading out through the security gate.

1LT Nelson-Looking up towards SGT Tyner in the gunner’s nest

“Two going out”

SGT Tyner

“Copy! Two going out”!

1LT Nelson

“One out”!

Doc Tackett

“Two out”!

The two lonely docs begin jogging down the road towards town and jump on a dilapidated truck going their way.

1LT Nelson

“How far do you think it is Pyramid Hospital”?

EXT. DARKNESS AS OTHER VEHICLES FADE AWAY IN THE DISTANCE. SCENE FADES OUT

EXT. PRESENT DAY, EARLY MORNING.

Tackett is back at the security gate welcoming students and staff with his usual positive attitude.

Tackett-Shaking hands with some students, nodding acknowledgement to others.

“Good morning. Morning. Good morning. How are you doing today? Good morning. Hello. Have a great day”.

Various students and staff return his greetings with positive emotions and smiles.

“Good morning, Security. Morning. Hi, Mr. Security. Good morning, Security. Hello. Good morning.

Tackett-Sees Patrick out in the parking lot putting something into his pockets as he is walking up.

“Good morning, Mr. Patrick. Nice to see you today”.

Patrick

“Yea. Sure. Good morning”.

Tackett

“Patrick. I want you to have a great day, today. And I don’t want you to get into any trouble. I’m going to search you in just a minute to make sure you don’t have any contraband”.

Patrick

“You can’t search me without a reason”.

Tackett

“You are correct, Sir. This is why I am giving you fair warning now, so you don’t get into trouble later. There is a trash can over there outside the gate. You can throw away anything you shouldn’t be bringing to school, ok? You get rid of whatever you have and we won’t have any trouble. We don’t have time today for that shit. We have too much to do. So, please help me out here, Patrick”.

Patrick-Slowly walking towards the trash can

“Fine. Whatever, but I don’t have anything”.

Tackett-Reaching out to shake Patrick’s hand as he comes back in the gate

“Thank you, Patrick. I hope you have a great day”.

Patrick

“Sure. You too”.

Tackett

“Good morning, Josh! It’s nice to see you today”.

Josh

“Yea, whatever”.

Tackett

“Josh. Hang on a sec.

Josh

“What? You harassing me now”?

Tackett

“No, Sir. But I want you to stay out of trouble. You see my buddies over there. (Motioning to Sam 3 and Sam 6). They are going to search you in just a moment. So, I advise you that if you have any contraband, any contraband at all, go back to that trash can and get rid of it before you come onto the school grounds. Can you do that, Josh”?

Josh

“I don’t have anything. You’re making me late for class”.

Tackett

“Josh, I am asking you very nicely. I don’t want you to get in trouble again. If you have anything, get rid of it before you come in. Let’s call it your chance at amnesty”.

Josh

“Amnesty? What’s that”?

Tackett

“This is when you don’t get in trouble for doing something you weren’t supposed to do in the first place. Almost like a free pass. This is your one chance at amnesty. Don’t let me down”.

Josh-Walking back to the trash can

“This is some bullshit. I don’t have nothing”.

Tackett

“Thanks, Josh. I appreciate you taking care of that for me. It’s my job to keep everyone here at school safe. That includes you too. I’ll catch you later, Josh, hurry and get to class so you’re not late”.

Josh-Walking away

“This some bullshit”.

Tackett-Turning to see Kane coming from the trashcan. Reaching out to shake his hand.

“Well, good morning, Mr. Kane! I hope you are having a great morning”!

Kane

“I know, I know. I see what’s up”.

Tackett

“I’m just trying to make sure no one gets in trouble, expelled or worse, gets hurt”.

Kane

“But you’re the enemy. Why are you being nice and giving us a chance. You can just bust us and get us expelled. And why you shaking our hands? I don’t get you”.

Tackett

“Kane. Please see that I am not the enemy. We are not at war. Not at all. And everyone deserves a second chance. I don’t want anyone expelled”.

EXT. THE FIRST BELL RINGS. BOTH LOOK TOWARDS THE SCHOOL.

Kane

“Now I’m late”.

Tackett-Motioning towards his golf cart.

“Don’t worry, I got you. You won’t be late. Come on, I’ll give you ride in my hooptie”!

Kane

“Seriously? You gonna give me a ride to class”?

Tackett-Laughing

“I said I got you. Come on, get in. (Tackett speaks into the radio mike) SAM 3, can you secure these gates please”?

Sam 3 (Over the radio)

“10-4”.

EXT. TACKETT AND KANE DRIVING THROUGH THE CAMPUS. AS THEY PASS STUDENTS AND TEACHERS, EVERYONE LOOKS AT THEM WITH QUESTIONING GLANCES. KANE IS ESTATIC, SMILING EAR TO EAR.

Kane-To various students they pass

“What’s up? How you doing? Get to class, now. Don’t be late”.

Tackett-Pulls up outside Mr. Henderson’s class

“Get in before the second bell rings! And no shenanigans”!

Kane-All smiles as he looks over his shoulder to Tackett as he enters the door. Just then the bell rings!

“Thanks for the ride”.

TEACHER LOU HENDERSON

“He’s late. Take him to the office. I don’t want him in my class”.

Tackett-Getting off the golf cart and walking to Mr. Henderson as he closes the classroom door so the students inside can’t hear.

“No, Sir. Kane made it to class on time. I’m not taking him to the office. He’ll be fine and don’t try to cause him any grief. No one has time for that kinda drama today”.

Mr. Henderson-Fuming, he opens the door and gets the last word in.

“Fine! But if he causes any trouble, don’t say I didn’t warn you”!

Tackett-Back in the golf cart, driving away. Speaking out loud to no one in particular.

“Fuck. This is gonna be harder than I thought. Sam 6, Sam 6, please check the amnesty trash can”.

INT. DEAN’S OFFICE.

SAM 6 and Tackett dump the trash bag from the amnesty bin onto Mr. Reyes’ desk. Vape pens, marijuana joints, small shot bottle fall out. Pause for dramatic effect.

INT. TEACHERS LOUNGE.

Multiple teachers are present and some of the security team are also present, eating and discussing their day. There is a prominent sign on the wall. “Changing the world, one student at a time”

Mr. Reyes

“Well, how are the hoodlums doing today? I haven’t seen any in my office yet”?

Mr. Henderson

“I wonder who will be the first to get expelled? The day’s not over yet. Still plenty of time”.

MR. GONZALEZ

“My monies on Josh. He’ll be the first to be kicked out. For weed! Ten bucks”!

MR. WILSON

“No way. Patrick. It’ll be Patrick for fighting. I’d bet my life on it”.

Tackett-As he walks out the door

“It may not be anyone. Those kids just might surprise you. They may turn over a new leaf starting today”.

Mr. Reyes

“Yea, right. I’ll believe that when I see it. Did you guys hear that Stockdale High had a full-blown student riot yesterday? Teachers and security got hurt. They had to call the cops in”.

Mr. Henderson

“It’s just a matter of time until that happens here. Just you wait and see”.

PRINCIPAL MARY NELSON

“I hope not. My monies on our new Security Team. I’m banking on them”.

EXT. CAFETERIA AT LUNCHTIME

Tackett sees large groups of students hurrying towards the cafeteria. A fight starts, big crowd surrounds the two students. Tackett quickly calls on the radio and forces his way through the crowd.

Tackett-Into his radio mike

“Sam 5, Ten-Ten, cafeteria”.

He gets to the two students who do not stop fighting.

“Stop. Stop it right now. I said STOP”!

He quickly grabs the wrist of the bigger student and twists the student away from the fight. Sam 3 and Sam 4 arrive to assist.

Tackett

“Get the other kid. Five S! I’ll take the Dean’s office, you take yours to the nurse’s office”.

And he marched the bigger student through the crowd, as the crowd both-cheered the students and booed security.

Sam 3 has control of the other student-Talks to Sam 4.

“Five S’s. What the hell is five s’s”?

Sam 4-Shrugging her shoulders-Speaking into her radio mike.

“Sam 4. Code four at the cafeteria. Two enroute”.

INT. DEAN’S OFFICE

Mr. Reyes

“Robert, good job with that fight. You got it under control very quickly”.

Marisol

“Yea, but what was that thing about five s’s, you said”?

Tackett-Smiling

“The five S’s. Well, they stand for Safety of everyone around, even yourself, Separate the troublemakers, Silence the troublemakers, Speed the troublemakers to safety, and Statements from the troublemakers. I’ll write it down for you on a business card”.

Mr. Reyes

“Yes, you do that. You do that”.

Sam 6-Patting Tackett on the back as they leave the Dean’s office.

“5 S’s. I like it. What else you got”?...

INT. UNUSED CLASSROOM.

School clock on the wall shows 2:30. Pan down to see Tackett writing out excuse slips with different student’s names: Josh, Kane, Patrick, Stephanie, Melina, etc.

EXT. TACKETT DRIVING A GOLFCART.

Tackett driving to all the classes and giving the slips to the various teachers to get the students out of class. All the students are now sitting in an unused classroom waiting for Tackett to come in. Outside the door, Tackett pauses for a moment of reflection.

EXT. NIGHT.

Back in Egypt, Doc Tackett and Doc Nelson hop off the truck at the ER doors of Pyramid Hospital and head into a crazy and chaotic scene of wounded and crying locals. Sirens and people wailing. They make their way the the front ER doors with all their gear on. The ER hallways are overwhelmed with broken and bleeding wounded.

1LT Nelson

“You start triaging and I’ll find the local docs in charge. We’ll have to use the local talent to help. You motivate ‘em”.

Doc Tackett

“No worries, I got it. Just go get set up and get ready”.

INT. NIGHTTIME

ER hallway with wounded all around asking for, pleading for, begging for help.

Doc Tackett-mutters under his breath as he sets about triaging the wounded.

“What a shit show. *On the Razor’s Edge,* indeed”.

1LT Nelson-Stoic and professional, yet with a sense of calm urgency, pointing to a lady with an obvious open fracture to her ankle. He speaks then moves on quickly, not waiting.

“No tourniquet, save it. Use the Israeli dressing, splint and elevate. Get her to me as soon as you can. Make sure the bleeding stops”.

Doc Tackett-To the woman and her daughter

“I’m gonna stop the bleeding”.

LOCAL EGYPTIAN RESIDENT-trying to get Tackett away from the female and pointing him towards another gentlemen with an obviously broken arm.

“La-lala-la”!

Doc Tackett

“I’ll get to him in a moment. Her first”.

Local Egyptian Resident-animatedly talking loudly in Arabic.

“(unintellible)”!

The local Egyptian resident is emphatic. Motioning to leave the bleeding lady alone and help the elderly man first. Doc Tackett-Quickly pulls his 9mm Beretta pistol and points it at the local Egyptian resident, SERIOUS MOMENT the man shuts up immediately.

1LT Nelson-Glances up from checking a child’s chest wound. Slowly shaking his head with a hint of a smile.

“*On the Razor’s Edge*, my ass”!

Local Egyptian Resident-As he is slowly backing away with his hands up.

“Mafeesh muskila, Mafeesh Muskila, Sedeke. Mafeesh Muskila”.

Local Egyptian lady-To Doc Tackett

“Shokran, Habibi. Shokran owie, Habibi”!

Montage of Doc Tackett and 1LT Nelson working on severely wounded persons throughout the night. When help finally arrives and the two can take a break outside as the sun starts to rise…

1LT Nelson-Holding a cup of coffee

“Man, Tack, I’m beat. I could use some breakfast”.

Doc Tackett-Holding up a warm coke

“Yes, Sir. Me too. I got the breakfast of champions”.

1LT Nelson

“You did good, Doc. I’m glad to have you on my team”.

Doc Tackett

“Too easy, Doc. Too easy”…

INT. DAYTIME CLASSROOM.

The Adventure Club students are all talking out loud. Some wondering why they are here. Wondering what’s going on? Tackett opens the door and looks around the room to verify everyone is present. He walks over to the desk and leans against it.

Tackett-Muttering to himself under his breath as he enters

“Too easy”.

All students at once

“Security? What do you want? We didn’t do anything! Why did you bring us here? What do you want with us? You can’t do this? I didn’t do anything! Can I leave now?

Tackett

“I want to thank each one of you for being here. Just give me a moment and hear me out then you can go. No one is in any trouble”.

Josh-Getting up to leave.

“This is bullshit. I ain’t done nothing wrong today. I’m going”.

Melina

“What do you want with us”?

Kane-Holding up his hands for calm. Josh goes and sits back down

“Aight. We’ll here you out. What chu want with us, Mr. Security”?

Tackett-Looking at everyone, one person at a time.

“Thank you all for coming. I appreciate your time. I brought you all here because there are some people who think you are delinquents, incorrigibles, trouble-makers and worse”.

The Adventure Club students, collectively groaning

Tackett

“I brought you all here because I need you. I need you to help me out”.

The Adventure Club students quiet down and sit up straighter, paying closer attention to Tackett

Tackett-Continues.

“You guys are always in trouble, yelling and arguing with teachers, fighting in the hallways, throwing food in the cafeteria, smoking and vaping in the bathrooms, skipping class. Don’t act like you don’t know what I’m talking about.

BIG MIKE

“Yea, so what? You can’t prove anything”.

Tackett

“I’m not trying to prove anything. I need you to help me prove these people wrong”.

Jesse

“Why, we don’t care what they think”. Why should we care to prove them wrong? What’s in it for us”?

Tackett

“Well, it’s simple really. Your future depends on this moment right now. On this conversation we are having right now. Your lives are gonna change forever, starting today”.

Stephanie

“Oh really, and how is that”?

Tackett-Smiling

“Well, the adults all think you young adults are idiots. I want to find out what’s going on with each one of you. Josh, you first. Why are you always so angry? Why are you always getting into trouble”?

Josh

“People always be fucking with me. Give me some respect and I’ll give respect back”.

The Adventure Club collectively

“That’s for sure. Truth. Fuck them people”.

Tackett

“Ok. Josh. That’s a good point. This is just the beginning of what the future has in store for you. I know it isn’t right. You know it isn’t right and they sure as hell know it isn’t right. But that’s the way the world can be. The world isn’t fair. People are going to fuck with you the rest of your life. For no reason other than to give you grief and heartache. Don’t fall for it, their opinion means nothing to you. After you graduate high school, you probably will never see most of these knuckleheads again. Ever. So don’t sweat the little stuff. Josh, tell me more. What else is bothering you? What do your mom and dad say about you getting in trouble all the time.

Josh-getting angry

“Man, fuck them. I don’t got no mom or dad here. I live in a group home, man! I’m on my own, man! Fuck them”!

Tackett

“What? What do you mean you live in a group home?

Josh

“Yea, so what? Man, fuck you. I don’t need no sympathy”.

Tackett

“You’re right. The world isn’t fair. I did not know you lived in a group home. How long have you been living there?

Josh

“This will be my third year. Why? So what”?

Tackett

“No reason. Just wondering. What about you Kane? What’s your story”?

Kane

“Man. What do you care? You don’t know me. You don’t know what I been through”.

Tackett

“You’re right. I don’t know you. But I do want us all to get to know each other better. I have a great idea and I need everyone to be in on it”.

Patrick

“What are you getting at? Why you talking to us. No one cares about us”.

Tackett

“I believe you, Patrick. But I care. I’ll tell everyone about myself in a moment. First, I want to hear about Kane.

Kane

“I been living in a group home for about 10 years now. You happy, Bruh? I ain’t got nothing to hide. I have to fight for everything I got”.

Tackett

“Holy crap! Seriously? Things are that bad?

Patrick

“That ain’t the half of it. Almost everyone of us is in a group home. Some of us are seniors and what’s gonna happen to us after we graduate? We’ll be homeless when we age out”.

Tackett

“Age out? What’s that mean, Age out”?

Big Mike

“When we turn 18, we can’t be in a group home no more. Then what will we do. We can’t get no jobs. No one wants to hire kids like us”. We gotta turn to the streets, if we wanna survive”.

Tackett

“Then we just have to get you ready for the world before you turn 18. That’s all”.

Kane

“Oh, yea. Easy for you to say. And how do you plan to do that, Mr. Security Man? You just a rent a cop. You cain’t help us”.

Tackett

“Wrong, Mr. Kane. We are going to help each other. Everyone of you will meet me here tomorrow morning at 8am. And don’t be late”.

Big Mike

“Man, fuck that. I ain’t gonna be here. You can’t give us detention on a weekend”.

The Adventure Club groaning collectively

Tackett

“Detention? I’m not giving you detention. I’m gonna put you little shits to work. Starting tomorrow, you work with me. Ten bucks an hour. I’ll pay you cash at the end of the day”.

Melina

“You’re gonna give us jobs?

Patrick

“Bullshit. I don’t believe it”.

Stephanie

“No one wants to give us jobs. What kinda job”?

Tackett

“I own my own janitorial and maintenance company. I could use some help. I’ll pay you cash and you can even have a chance to save some money”.

Patrick

“A real job? With real money? Why would you want to help us”?

Tackett

“Like I said, I could use the help. You’ll see. You will definitely enjoy working with me.

Kane

“If we work, you give us cash money every day we work?

Tackett

“Yep. Every day. It’ll be about four hours a day, Saturdays. There’s seven of you, so that’s what”?

Patrick

“That’s forty bucks each. Two hundred and eighty dollars a day in cash”.

Tackett

“Why, so it is”.

Kane

“I’m gonna save my money and go to the beach! I’ve never been to the beach before! I can work on my tan”!

Josh

“I’m gonna buy me some wheels! Gotta learn to drive some time”!

Tackett

“Learn to drive? Never been to the beach? Are you guys serious”?

Jesse

“What? Who’s gonna teach us to drive? Who’s car we gonna use to learn? Who’s gonna take us to the beach? Who? You”?

Tackett-pondering for a moment

“I’ll tell you what I’ll do. You guys come work for me every Saturday for half a day. I’ll pay you cash. You save your money and at the end of each month, we will go someplace and do something you haven’t done before. Something new each month! How does that sound”?

Josh

“Sorry, no can do. The group home takes our money. We are only allowed to keep pocket change. They don’t trust us. Think we’ll buy dope and shit. Fucking thieves”!

Tackett

“Ok. Don’t worry about the money, I have an idea so you will be able to keep it. But you will have to earn the right to work for me. You have to not be getting in trouble at school. You got to keep your nose clean and stay out of the dean’s office. Let’s make a list of things we want to do and places we want to go. They can’t be too far or too expensive. They need to be realistic, ok”?

Kane

“Go to the beach”!

Tackett

“And learn to surf”?!

Kane

“Naw, man. Fuck that. I can’t even swim”.

Tackett-Looking around at everyone

“Good point, Kane. Who else can’t swim? (Multiple hands go up). Then we will just have to learn how to swim before we go”!

Josh-Raising his hand

“Learn to drive”!

Tackett

“I think I can help us out with that one. Too easy”!

Patrick

“Stick shift”!

Tackett

“Sure. Stick shift”!

The Adventure Club collectively cheering

Tackett

“Ok. Melina takes notes. We have Beach for September, Driving for October, what about November? Who hasn’t picked something yet”?

Patrick

“What about camping? I’ve never been camping in the mountains before”.

Tackett

“Camping? I love camping! Ok. Patrick, camping for November before it gets too cold! December is Christmas holidays and I already have a great idea for all of us for the holidays”.

Big Mike

“Holidays? Christmas? You talkin’ like you our family already. Man, we don’t know you. What makes you think we want to be a part of all this”?

Tackett

“Great question, Big Mike. Let me tell you a little bit about me. I came from a very, very poor family. Always moving, every year. I joined the Army before I even graduated high school. I have 5 deployments under my belt and two of those were to combat zones. I just came back from Iraq a few months ago and your principal and the admin team asked if I would help them clean up this school. But after meeting each of you, I don’t think the school needs to be cleaned up, I think you young adults just need some fun things to do to keep you busy, keep you learning, keep you growing. Idle hands are the devil’s workshop. And this will help prepare you for the real world. There is a bigger world out there than you can imagine. I want to help prepare you for that. And…I want to prove these people wrong. You’re not animals. You’re people who just need someone to care. Well…What have you got to lose? I mean, you can either keep living in this little bubble you are in and end up in jail or dead or you can work with me and have a chance to see some of the world. A chance to see what the world has to offer you. A chance to live”.

The Adventure Club collectively

“I’m in! Heck yea! Beach here I come! Gonna learn to drive! Whoo hoo! I’m in”!

Tackett

“Ok, then. Let’s meet up here tomorrow and don’t be late. Bring your school ID’s. We will need them at the bank”.

Kane

“How are we gonna get to your work? You have a bus for all us”?

Tackett

“Hmmmm…Good point, Mr. Kane. (The school bell rings, signaling the day is over). Come on, guys! We have to hurry”! (They quickly exit the classroom and follow Tackett).

EXT. DAYTIME.

After school The Adventure Club find themselves hurrying to catch up with Officer Money as he makes his way to his squad car.

Tackett-Shaking Officer Money’s hand

“Officer Money! How are you doing today, Sir? We hear you are in charge of these school vans”?...

EXT. EARLY MORNING, SCHOOL PARKING LOT.

Officer Money and Tackett are waiting for The Adventure Club kids to arrive.

Officer Money

“Are you sure you’re ready for this, Tack”?

Tackett

“Nope. Not sure at all. But I’m not gonna quit on these kids. I’m not gonna be like all the adults they’ve met. I’m gonna make them proud to be themselves.

Officer money

“Well, you seem like a stand-up guy. You got my support. Just let me know what you need, Ok? Here’s the keys. Bring it back without a scratch and I’ll put gas in it on Monday”.

Tackett

“Thanks, Money. I appreciate it. Really, I do. These kids are just afraid of what they see as their future. They see some kids have it made. Going to college. Getting jobs. These kids are just trying to survive day by day. That’s hard on a kid. It can make them forget that there is still good in the world, that there are still good people in the world”.

Officer Money

“I know exactly what you are saying. I see it every day out here”.

Tackett

I am going to reach these kids. These are my kids now, I’ll be their parent if that’s what it takes. I appreciate you helping me with this, Money”.

Officer Money-Speaking over his shoulder as he walks away to his patrol car

“No problem. Just don’t let them down”.

Tackett-To the Adventure Club students as they start arriving (some with ear buds in or hoodies on) and getting on board the school van, Tackett shakes hands with each student.

“Good morning. Glad you could make it. Morning. Hey, how you doing? Morning. I need everyone to put away their cell phones and stuff. Please no ear buds or ear phones on. I need everyone to be able to hear me clearly.

Adventure Club students groan as they get in the van, grumbling yet have good natured comments.

“Morning to you too. Morning. Good morning. Man, it’s early! I should still be sleeping. Morning. Where we going? Better not be kidnapping us!

Tackett

“No Big Mike? Anyone seen Big Mike”?

Kane

“Naw, man. He ain’t coming. He said “Fuck Security”. His loss, Bruh. Fuck him”.

Tackett-Looking around one last time before getting in the van to drive away

“Well, shit. That’s on him, then. I hope everyone remembered to bring your ID’s Ok? Use the restroom now or not at all! Let’s check this van out real quick to make sure it’s serviceable and safe to drive”!

EXT. DAYTIME.

Outside a standalone, professional looking medical clinic, The Adventure Club crew get out of the van and gather on one side.

Tackett

“Ok, guys. This is Doc Sanchez’ office. We’re gonna cut the grass, blow off the leaves, pick up the trash, clean the windows, make this place look nice. We will do this every Saturday when their office is closed. The quicker we get this done, the quicker we go eat lunch and get paid. Ok?

The Adventure Club-All talking at once

“Whoo hoo! I’m cutting grass! I’m on the leaf blower! No, I’m cutting the grass! You do the windows! No, you do the windows”!

Tackett

“Hahaha!!! Did you guys ever think you would be arguing over who does what work? Awesome! Come on, let’s go get the equipment”.

EXT. DAYTIME

Outside the garage door to the building with he door up and the equipment is now outside.

Tackett-Taking a step back, he begins watching over everyone as they interact with each other.

“First, we have to check all the equipment before we use it. Check the fuel, the oil and string for the weed eater. Everything we need is right here somewhere”.

Josh-holding the leaf blower.

“Man, I ain’t never used one of these before. How do you start it”?

Patrick

“Here. First you check the gas over here. Keep it up so it don’t spill or leak. This takes a special fuel mix. It’s called forty to 1. Then you can check the oil over here.

Josh

“Forty to 1? What kinda bullshit is that”?

Patrick

“It means that the fuel has gas and oil already in it. That’s the ratio of gas to oil. Forty to 1. It ain’t cheap, so don’t spill any. Push this little primer ball a few times before…

Tackett

“And we all need to be wearing our eye pros and our ear pros. Don’t forget, or you don’t work. You don’t work, you don’t get paid. So, no bitching, it’s just a safety precaution. Kane, can you please look in there for the safety gear”?

The Adventure Club, wearing their eye protection and hearing protection get to work with a montage of Tackett checking on everyone while they are working, pointing out what they missed. The Club pretend not to hear sometimes or not to see because of the eye and ear protection they are wearing.

Tackett

“Okie dokie! Good job. Let’s get these machines cleaned up and reset. I’m hungry and I still got to pay you guys. So, let’s go! Hurry up! Put everything away”!

The Adventure Club all talking at the same time as they head towards the school van, joking with each other.

“Heck yea! Pay day! ‘Bout to get paid! Whoo hoo! Can’t hear shit with those things on. You can’t hear shit anyways, boy! Shut the fuck up!

EXT. AFTERNOON.

The school van pulls up and parks in front of the bank. The Adventure Club exit the van.

Tackett

“After this, we’ll get some lunch. I’m getting hungry”.

Josh-looking around nervously

“I ain’t never been in a bank before”.

Tackett

“No worries. We are gonna get you guys a savings account so you can save your money. You’ll get a debit card with a PIN number so you can spend the money you earn. You won’t have cash to be stolen”.

Josh

“Cool”.

Tackett-To the bank receptionist

“We’d like to open up a few savings accounts”.

EXT. BANK PARKING LOT.

The Adventure Club crew are all looking at their shiny new debit cards as they make their way across the parking lot to the school van. Everyone is excited and showing their cards to each other.

Tackett

“Listen guys. Calm down now. Calm down. This is just one part of being an adult. You have to know how much money you have available at all times. Does anyone have any other advice about money”?

Kane

“Yea, don’t let your bitch know how much you got”?

The Adventure Club all break out laughing

Tackett-Shaking his head

“No. No, that’s not even close. In the first place, you should never be with anyone if you can’t trust them. So, no. Anyone else have money advice”?

Kane

“Have a budget”!

Tackett

“Absolutely right. You have to have a budget. Make one. What else”?

Patrick

“Don’t eat so much fast food, it’s expensive. Healthier for you to make food and eat it at home”.

Josh

“Always try to put a little bit of money aside and save it. But, I spend it ‘cause I never know when I’ma get more”

Kane

“List everything you need to spend money on every month. Pay your bills on time so you don’t have late fees”.

Patrick

“After your bills are paid, put some money into savings. After that, if you have any money left, ask yourself if you really want to buy something or not”.

Tackett

“You guys seem to have things down pretty good. Now how many of you have actually done any of what you just said”?

Josh

“Man, we don’t need to budget shit, ‘cause we ain’t got no money anyways”!

Tackett

“Well, you got money now. Monday after school, we’ll make a budget. Cool”?

The Adventure Club all together

“Cool”!

INT. FAST FOOD RESTAURANT.

Everyone eating and having a good time.

EXT. LATE AFTERNOON.

Back at the school’s parking lot. Dropping off the van and the kids. Everyone walking together to the parking lot for their rides. Some cars in the parking lot with people (family, group home drivers).

Tackett

“Everyone got a ride. Let me know who’s missing their ride”.

Jesse-Looking frightened.

“Oh, shit”.

Everyone looks towards where Jesse is looking. A rough looking guy is approaching.

Tackett-Not taking his eyes off Jesse’s father.

“Jesse? You know this gentleman”?

JESSE’S FATHER-Upset

“Where the fuck you been? I hear you got a job. That so”?

Jesse-Speaking to Tackett

“My dad.

Tackett-Stepping between Jesse and his father, holding out his hand to shake.

“Jesse was with me, today, Sir. I’m-“

Jesse’s father

“Come here, Boy! I asked you a question”!

Tackett-Keeping Jesse sheltered.

“Sir. I’m sorry, it’s my-“

Jesse’s father

“Fuck you! I ain’t talking to you”!

Tackett-Cold, calm and deliberate

“I’m talking to you, Sir. Pay attention to what I’m saying. Stop your yapping, now. Jesse? Go get in my car with Dea”.

Deanne steering Jesse towards their car.

Jesse’s father-Angry. Screaming at Tackett.

“Who the fuck you think you are? You can’t take my son”?

Tackett

“Wrong, Sir. I have permission from his mother, who I understand is his legal guardian. I’m taking him home. Good day, Sir”.

Jesse’s father-Suddenly lunges at Tackett and grabs him by the shirt.

“The fuck you are. I’ll-“!!!

Tackett performs a martial art technique, ura gyaku and quickly has Jesse’s father bent over at the waist with one hand twisted behind his back.

Tackett-Whispering to Jesse’s father

“Pay attention. I see you again, I’ll break your fucking face. You weak-ass little piece of shit. You want to fight someone smaller than you? Step up to the plate, little man”.

Tackett releases Jesse’s father slowly.

Tackett

“Don’t speak. Just go. Or I won’t be so nice”.

Jesse’s father turns and walks away. As Tackett turns around, he sees everyone still standing around and watching. Everyone suddenly erupts in applause.

Tackett-Muttering to himself as he walks towards Deanne and Jesse.

“On the razor’s edge, my ass”.

EXT. PRESENT DAY, EARLY MORNING.

Tackett is back at the security gate welcoming in the students and staff with his usual positive attitude.

Tackett-Greeting the throngs of students and teachers, individually.

“Morning, morning everyone. Good morning. Have a great day. Take care”.

Students and teachers-Enthusiastically

“Morning, Security. Good morning. Morning. How you doing? Good day. Morning”.

Students can be overheard murmuring to their friends after they pass by Tackett.

“That’s him. That’s the security that fucked up Jesse’s dad. Is that him? Is that the guy? That’s him. He beat up some guy in the parking lot”.

Tackett

“Good morning, Big Mike. I missed you on Saturday”.

Big Mike-Waiting for the first bell to sound before trying to enter the gate

“Yea, fuck that. I make more on the streets”.

Tackett

“Hang on, Big Mike. I can’t have any contraband in this school. If you have anything you aren’t supposed to have, go throw it away in the trash can before you come in. Otherwise, when my partners search you, you might get expelled. No one wants that”.

Big Mike

“Fuck that. You can’t search me”.

Tackett

“Big Mike. This is your chance at amnesty. If you have anything you shouldn’t have, go get rid of it now. I don’t want to see you expelled”.

Big Mike-Turning and walking away. Turning again and walking backwards.

“Man, fuck you. Fuckin’ rent-a-cop! You don’t know who you fuckin’ wit”!

Patrick, Kane and Josh all walk up together to the gate.

Kane

“Oh, man! Is that how we look”?

Patrick

“Yea, man. He looks like a child throwing a tantrum”.

Josh

“Not me, Bro. I don’t look like that.

Tackett-Smiling a bit and jovial a little while he says

“Yea, whatever! You guys better go to the amnesty trash can before you come in here”.

Josh, Patrick and Kane-groaning as they walk over to the trash can

“Man, this some bullshit”. What, Mr. Security? Don’t you trust us? I thought we was tight, Bro”?

Tackett

“We are tight. But I still have to follow the R-O-E’s. The R-O-E’s are designed to help keep you safe”.

Kane

“R-O-E? What’s an R-O-E”?

Tackett

“R-O-E stands for Rules of Engagement. These are the rules I follow when I need to interact with students, visitors and other potentially dangerous situations. The R-O-E’s keep everyone safe. Plus, I can’t have people working for me who get in trouble. I can’t do that, no one can. I need everyone to stay out of trouble. ok”?

Patrick-To Kane and Josh

“Cool. We got rules because of us”!

Tackett-Still jovial

“I wouldn’t be too proud of that. Go get searched. Sam 3 is waiting. Better hurry, the bell is about to ring”!

INT. DAYTIME.

VARIOUS CLASSROOMS THROUGHOUT THE DAY SHOWING THE ADVENTURE CLUB STUDENTS ACTING LIKE ALL THE OTHER STUDENTS.

INT. AFTERNOON.

AFTERSCHOOL IN THE UNUSED CLASSROOM THE ADVENTURE CLUB GATHER TOGETHER, TACKETT WALKS IN.

Tackett

“So glad everyone could make it! Awesome. Awesome. Now, we don’t have a lot of time to plan and also get through budgeting so we have to work on our plan and we will make a budget for our money next time we get paid. Everyone still have their money, right”?

Kane

“What do you mean, ‘Plan’? What do we have to plan”?

Tackett

“I am so glad you asked, Mr. Kane. So…Would you rather I just planned everything for you? Told you what to do, where to go, when to be there? Or do you think it would mean more if you all took ownership of your own futures and decided those details? I am just here to help you get them done. An advisor, so to speak”.

Stephanie

“I decide my own fate. Nobody else tells me what to do”.

Tackett

“Perfect, Stephanie! Melina? You taking notes? You have our notes from the last time”?

Melina

“Yes, I do. Beach in September. It’s only a few weeks away”.

Tackett

“Perfect! Our first adventure will be a real fun one. Now, everyone give their thoughts up. Speak out loud. Don’t be afraid to voice your ideas and concerns. What does everyone think we need in order to go to the beach? Melina, please keep notes”.

Kane

“We gonna need a ride”!

Patrick

“We’re gonna need gas money. There and back”!

Melina

“Snacks. Or money for food and beer”!

The Adventure Club all laughing together

Tackett

“Oh, you wish! One thing we have to get straight, the rules at school apply to everything we do. So, no shenanigans. What else”?

Stephanie

“We need beach stuff! Like swim suits! Towels! Shades. You know”.

Tackett

“Hmmmm…. That is actually a good idea. Jesse? Why don’t you and Josh will put together a packing list of suggested items. Things you think we would need to take to the beach. Then it is up to each of you to get what’s on the list. If you don’t bring those items, you just have to do without. This will give you some sense of ownership over the adventure.

Josh and Jesse

“Aight! Bet”.

Tackett

“Now what about the transportation issue? Kane? You and Stephanie talk to Officer Money and ask him if we can borrow the van again. Make sure you shake his hand when you walk up to him, ok”?

Stephanie

“Ok. But what day are we going? And why do we have to shake his hand”?

Tackett-Looking at his day planner

“You should always shake a person’s hand when you first meet them or start talking to them as a sign of trust and respect. Ok, everyone, get out your cell phones and let’s see what day works. It needs to be at the end of the month. This will give us time to prepare”.

Patrick

“September 30th. That’s the last Saturday of the month. That’ll give us 4 weeks”.

Tackett

“Sounds good. Any objections? No one has a conflict of interest? No quinceaneras o algo”?

THE ADVENTURE CLUB GROANING COLLECTIVELY

Tackett-continues

“Let’s meet up every Monday and have a meeting. We can go over whatever issues we are facing so we get over the obstacles and meet our goal of a new adventure every month. Plus, if there is anything we need to do, we can divvy out the responsibilities then”.

THE ADVENTURE CLUB COLLECTIVELY AGREEING

“Cool. Bet. Aight. Sounds good”.

FADE OUT

EXT. EARLY MORNING THE NEXT DAY.

TACKETT IS AT HIS POST AT THE PARKING LOT GATE WATCHING STUDENTS AND STAFF ENTER. HE NOTICES A COMMOTION OUT IN THE PARKING LOT. KANE AND PATRICK ARE WALKING AND A CAR IS HONKING INCESSANTLY AT THEM AS THEY CROSS IN FRONT OF IT. A TEACHER, MR. HENDERSON IS DRIVING AND YELLING AT THE BOYS.

Tackett-Acknowledging as many students as he can and shaking the hands of some.

“Good morning. How are you doing? Hope you have a great day. Morning. Looking sharp”.

Josh-Waiting out in the parking lot for some unknown reason then finally walking up to the amnesty trash can before coming in the gate.

Tackett

“Well, good morning, Josh”.

Josh-Holding his arms out and away from his sides, waiting to be frisked.

“Morning, Bruh”.

Tackett

“Come on in, Josh”.

Josh

“You’re not going to search me”?

Tackett-Holding out his hand to shake Josh’s hand

“Nope. Not today. I trust you. Trust is a big deal, Josh. I am trusting you to do the right thing. To earn the trust of someone is a very big deal and not to be taken lightly. I don’t trust people very quickly, likewise I take the issue of trust very seriously. I am going to ask you, Josh. Man to man. Please do not betray my trust”.

Josh-Beaming as the first bell rings

“Bet”.

Tackett-To Kane and Patrick as they walk up.

“Hey, guys. What was all that ruckus about out there”?

Kane-visibly upset.

“Mr. Henderhole always trying to give us grief”.

Patrick

“Yea, fuck that guy”.

Tackett

“He was just mad for no reason? Or did you guys do anything to set him off”?

Kane-Still mad.

“He’s an asshole. It doesn’t take much to piss him off. Then he takes it out on us ‘cause we thinks we’re scared to get expelled. I don’t give a fuck. I’ll fuck that fat man up”!

Tackett

“Well, how we interact with others can definitely change the interaction. And I can see how mad you are, why don’t you hang out with me for the first period? Skip Henderson’s class today. I’ll talk to the Dean. Cool”?

Kane

“Yea, cool. Thanks”.

Tackett-The bell rings

“Let me lock these gates and then we can go bust some kids trying to smoke in the boys restroom”!

Driving around campus with Kane on the golf cart.

Tackett

“Kane, you and the other guys seem to have a lot of anger. Anger at the people around you. Anger at your families for not being here for you. How do you and the others manage your anger”?

Kane-Smiling

“Weed. We smoke weed. Lots and lots a weed”!

Tackett-Smiling back

“Yea, I get it. It helps you escape from the heavy issues of your life for a while. I get it. I do. But have you ever tried martial arts? Something like karate, ju jitsu or anything”?

Kane

“Naw, man. I don’t need that bullshit. I can fight”!

Tackett

“I get that. But martial arts isn’t all about fighting. It’s about learning how to survive in the world-without fighting. Physical fighting is just a last resort. Fighting is one small piece of the pie”.

Kane

“Naw, Mr. T. I ain’t ever tried it. Why”?

Tackett

“I’ve got an idea. Why don’t you get the club together tomorrow after school at the gym. I’ll show you guys some really cool martial art stuff”.

Kane

“Really? You know karate”?

Tackett

“Karate? Hahaha. We teach karate to kids. I’ll teach you martial arts for the big dogs”!

Kane

“Oh, hell yea! I’m down. I’ll get the club together tomorrow”!

EXT. DAY

JOSH AND JESSE RUNNING UP TO TACKETT DURING LUNCH

Jesse

“Tackett! We just talked to Officer Money”!

Josh

“He said he would borrow the van for us to use, but Mr. Henderson said that since we weren’t an official club of the school, he couldn’t use the gas card for us”.

Jesse

“Yea, he said we would have to pay for the gas ourselves”.

Tackett

“Well shit. Let’s call an emergency meeting after school today. Pass the word. Meet up same bat time, same bat channel”.

Josh and Jesse-Looking at each other with questioning looks.

“Huh”…

INT. AFTERNOON.UNUSED CLASSROOM.

THE ADVENTURE CLUB IS ALL PRESENT IN THE UNUSED CLASSROOM, IN WALKS TACKETT AND MR. HENDERSON

Tackett

“Thank you all for coming. I appreciate it. We have a visitor, Mr. Henderson. Mr. Henderson is the school’s Club Advisor. He makes the decisions on which clubs are legit. But first, let’s here from Josh and Jesse”.

Josh-Speaking to the whole group

“We spoke to Money, Officer Money. He said we can use the van but we need to buy the gas ‘cause we ain’t an official club”.

THE ADVENTURE CLUB ALL SPEAKING AT THE SAME TIME

“Man, fuck that! That’s some bullshit. Are you serious? Fuck them! Aww, Come on! What are we going to do”?

Tackett

“Ok, ok, ok. Let’s settle down. Hang on. That’s why I brought Mr. Henderson over. Maybe he can help us. What do you say, Mr. Henderson? What do we need to become an official club here at Golden Valley High School”?

Mr. Henderson

“Not much really. School policy states that any club must register it’s intent before the end of August to be considered a club for that school year. It is now going on the second week of September and you missed the deadline”.

THE ADVENTURE CLUB ALL GROANING

Tackett

“Mr. Henderson, can’t you make an exception? Give us a waiver? We have great things planned for this school”.

Mr. Henderson-Looking over the Adventure Club members in disdain

“Not a chance. You missed the deadline. I don’t want you kids to be having the van when another club wants to use it. It wouldn’t be fair to a real club”.

THE ADVENTURE CLUB BOOING AND TAUNTING MR. HENDERSON

Tackett-As he talks, he walks Mr. Henderson out and closes the door behind him, then Tackett turns back towards the upset kids.

“I’m sorry you feel that way, Mr. Henderson. I’m sorry I wasted your time. Have a good day”.

THE ADVENTURE CLUB ALL SPEAKING ANGRILY AT THE SAME TIME

Tackett

“Hang on, hang on. The fights not over. We don’t quit so easily. Officer Money said we could use the van if we paid for the gas. Let’s think for a moment”.

Patrick

“Man, fuck that guy”! I’mma fuck him up tomorrow”!

Jesse

“Yea, piece of shit”!

Stephanie

“I knew I didn’t like that guy”!

Tackett

“Stop. Stop for just a minute. So, we didn’t get our way. So, things aren’t going as easy as they could. It’s ok. Don’t despair. No one is dying over this. If no one is dying, it’s too easy. We can figure this out”.

Melina

“Too easy? No one’s dying? What’s that have to do with anything”.

Tackett

“I’m just trying to put things into perspective for us. No one is dying. So, there is no need to panic or rush into a bad decision. We just need a bit of patience and we will figure it out. It don’t mean nothing”.

Kane

“Where we gonna come up with gas money”?

Tackett

“Good question, and how much gas money do we really need? How far is the beach? Patrick?

Patrick

“The beach is about 2 hours away. So, 120 miles. 240 miles there and back. The van gets about 15 miles per gallon. About 8 gallons each way, so 16 gallons total at two-fifty per gallon comes out to about 40 bucks. Let’s just say 50 bucks to be safe.

Tackett

“So, what are our options? Stephanie”?

Stephanie

“Well, we could pay for it ourselves. Everyone gives up five or ten bucks or so”.

THE ADVENTURE CLUB-GROANING COLLECTIVELY

Tackett

“Good idea. We could. Any other ideas? How can we make 50 bucks”?

Josh

“We can have a fund raiser? Sell shirts or something”?

Tackett

“We can. Another good idea. How do we come up with the money to buy shirts so we can re-sell them? You guys want to use your weekly pay to invest in the club”?

THE ADVENTURE CLUB-ALL QUICKLY SPEAKING AT THE SAME TIME

“Nope. Heck no! No way. I ain’t no sucka! Not me. I ain’t payin’ for shit”!

Tackett

“Any other ideas”?

Josh

“We can ask people to donate. Or, just flat out beg for the money”.

Tackett

“We could. But that doesn’t always work out. And it would mean more if we earned the money. If we earn the money to go on an adventure, we are putting some meat in the game. We will take it more seriously. I say we earn the money”.

Stephanie

“If we earn the money, people will respect us more”.

Melina

“True. Respect”.

Kane

“Well…We could collect cans and bottles. Recycle them. There’s lots of free money laying around”.

Patrick-Face lighting up

“Yea, at all the games! During lunch and breaks. At all the games! Basketball, football, soccer! I’ll bet we can collect a butt load of money”.

Tackett-Sitting back and enjoying the discussion

“Another good idea. But who would collect the recyclables? Everyone would have to give up their breaks and part of their lunch to walk around and pick up the recyclables. Then…where would we keep them”?

Stephanie

“We can ask some of the teachers if we can get their recyclables also”!

Tackett

“Excellent idea! Stephanie you and Melina go around school this week and ask teachers if we can collect their cans and bottles. Patrick? You and Kane go ask the janitors for extra trash cans and trash bags. We can put the cans and bags in all the rooms that Stephanie and Melina get permission from. Plus, we can use some of the bags to collect cans and bottles throughout the day. Now, we just have to figure out how we can get the recyclables after the games. Any ideas”?

Patrick

“It costs money to get into the games, though. Is it going to be worth it”?

Kane

“We can ask the janitors. If they let us in for free, we’ll help clean up. Plus, we get to keep all the cans and bottles”!

Jesse

“I wonder how much we’ll make”?

Tackett

“No telling. It is definitely worth the effort though. We can turn in the bags we collect on Saturday’s, after work. We got three weeks. What do you say”?

THE ADVENTURE CLUB WHOOPING IT UP

Tackett

“Next order of business. Kane? Tell them about tomorrow”.

Kane

“We are meeting afterschool tomorrow in the gym. Mr. T is gonna teach us some martial arts. So don’t be late, or I’ll kick your-“!

Tackett

“We have one more item to handle before the end of the month”!

Josh

“Oh really? And what’s that, Bruh”?

Tackett

“Swimming! If we are going to the beach, we need to know how to swim! This Sunday after church, everyone meet me at Veteran’s Park. The one with the pool. We’ll all learn to swim!”

THE ADVENTURE CLUB WHOOPING IT UP AGAIN!

“Church? Did he say church? Who goes to church?

EXT. EARLY MORNING.

PATRICK AND KANE TALKING TO THE JANITOR. INT. JANITOR SHOWS THEM A ROOM WITH EXTRA TRASH CANS AND CLEANING SUPPLIES, TO INCLUDE TRASH BAGS

INT. VARIOUS CLASSROOMS.

MELINA AND STEPHANIE TALKING TO VARIOUS TEACHERS, SOME NOD, YES AND SOME SHAKE THEIR HEAD, NO. THE GIRLS MAKE A LIST OF NAMES

EXT. AFTERNOON.

THE GIRLS GIVE THE LIST OF NAMES TO KANE AND PATRICK.

INT. AFTERNOON.

KANE AND PATRICK TAKE TRASH CANS AND TRASH BAGS TO THE TEACHER’S CLASSROOMS ON THE LIST

INT. LUNCHTIME. TEACHERS LOUNGE.

Mr. Henderson-Talking to Tackett as Patrick and Kane bring in a trash can with a trash bag in it. A sign can be read: Recycle Here

“Tackett, what the hell are those hoodlums doing? They can’t be in here! This is for staff only”!

Tackett

“No reason to get all riled up. They are helping the school with our recycling program. Easy Peasy. No worries”.

Mr. Henderson

“I don’t care! They don’t belong here! Get ‘em out”!

Tackett-Going over to the boys and taking over.

“Good job, Guys. I’ll take it from here”.

THE BOYS LEAVE WITH SCOWLS TOWARDS MR. HENDERSON

Tackett

“Mr. Henderson, your hate and anger have no place at this school. I suggest you get your shit together as I decide whether I will press formal charges against you for harassment, verbal assault, unprofessionalism and for just being an asshole. Those kids didn’t do anything to you. Mr. Reyes”?

Mr. Reyes

“Lou, he’s right. Your anger is out of control. Fix it now, do you understand”?

Mr. Henderson-Looking towards Tackett, then to Mr. Reyes

“This isn’t over. I got the Teacher’s Union behind me! I’m untouchable! But you?! Your just security. There’s no union here to protect you! You’re on your own”!

Tackett-As he slowly exits the room

“Hmmm…Well, I am certainly sorry you feel this way. I am not sure where all this hate towards kids comes from, but I sincerely hope you get your ass cut messing around *On the Razor’s Edge”.*

Mr. Henderson

“He just threatened me! You heard it, Pablo! He just threatened me in front of all of you! You are all witnesses! He threatened to cut me with a razor”!

Mr. Reyes

“I didn’t hear anything. And it’s Mr. Reyes”.

OTHER TEACHER

“I didn’t hear shit”.

ANOTHER TEACHER

“I don’t know what you’re talking about”.

Mr. Reyes

“Just shut up and let me finish my lunch in peace”.

Mr. Henderson-looking towards the door and speaking under his breath.

“This isn’t finished, Mr. Rent-a-Cop”.

EXT. AND INT.

SCENES OF THE ADVENTURE CLUB GOING AROUND AND COLLECTING EMPTY CANS AND PLASTIC BOTTLES FROM STUDENTS ON LUNCH, CLASSROOMS, AT FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL AND SOCCER GAMES. THEY GO THROUGH TRASH CANS AND PICK UP SOME RECYCABLES FROM THE GROUNDS AND IN THE FLOWER BEDS, ETC. SHOW A SCREEN SHOT OF A COUPLE BAGS OF CANS, THEN SHOW MORE BAGS PILED UP AND SHOW EVEN MORE BAGS PILED UP THROUGHOUT THE MONTAGE.

INT. SCHOOL GYM, WRESTLING ROOM

Tackett

“Alright, Everyone, thanks for coming out today. Today we are going to learn some martial arts concepts. If this goes good and everyone agrees, we will meet up here every Wednesday after school. Bring workout clothes and some water”.

Kane-Laughing

“Cool. I’ma kick everybody’s ass”!

Tackett

“Start stretching. Patrick, lead the group in stretching please. Start at the top of our heads and work our way down”.

Patrick

“Uh…Ok. We’ll start with the neck…”

Tackett-Motioning everyone to sit in a semi-circle in front of him.

“Ok. Gather around, gather around. Today I am going to show you the first ‘san shin’, it is called ‘chi no kata’. It looks like this. ‘Chi no kata’ means earth. Copy my movements. (Tackett continues to talk while demonstrating the movement) There are five san shin. Chi no kata is the first. I will teach you a new technique every week. It’ll give you something to practice on until we learn a different technique. Earth. Balance. Balance in all things. Balance your work and your play. Balance your family and your friends. Balance your eating and your health. That’s it, good. Keep practicing.

Josh

“Why we doing this one? What’s it good for”?

Tackett

“Good question, Mr. Josh. Let’s keep practicing. Stay well-balanced. Well, the first movement gets you out of the way of an attack. See? When I step back and to an angle, it takes me out of the line of attack. Then, my next move brings me brings me in towards the attacker and I can start taking them off balance here, and they never see my strike coming in”!

Stephanie

“What? That’s so cool”.

Tackett

“It is cool. Keep practicing. Now that is ‘earth’ how many other elements are there?”?

Jesse

“Wind, fire and water. Earth makes four”.

Tackett

“Yes, Grasshopper. That is four. But there is a fifth. Emptiness. Instinct or intuition. To know without knowing”.

Kane

“That’s some deep shit, man. Cool”.

Tackett

“I agree, it is some cool shit. And this stuff has saved my life quite a few times”.

Stephanie

“Like when you were in war”?

Tackett

“Yea, when I was at war. And other times too. But today, let’s just focus on the one technique. Chi no kata. Continue”.

The Adventure Club crew continues to mimic Tackett’s movement as best as they can.

Various scene cuts of the Adventure Club members collecting recyclables during the day, at various games and storing them by the dumpster. Also, scenes of the Adventure Club working and cleaning at the doctor’s office. Final scene of the kids at the recycling center turning in the cans and bottles and getting cash.

EXT. MORNING.

Tackett is back at the gate meeting and greeting students and staff in his happy positive manner. Even some new kids, who are not members of The Adventure Club, go to the amnesty trash can before entering school grounds. As members of The Adventure Club arrive, he speaks to them.

Tackett

“It’s Monday. Meeting after school. Same bat time, same bat channel”.

Kane-Laughing while shaking his head.

“Sure, Mr. T. Whatever that means. I’ll tell the rest of the crew”.

INT. AFTERNOON

THE ADVENTURE CLUB IS ASSEMBLED IN THE USUAL CLASSROOM AFTER SCHOOL. TACKETT WALKS IN

Tackett

“Well, good afternoon, Everyone”!

The Adventure Club crew answering in kind

“Good afternoon”!

Tackett-Holding up a handful of cash

“Mr. Patrick will give us a report from our recycling program”.

Patrick

“We made $68 bucks”!

The Adventure Club all cheering in unison

“Whooo hooo! Alright! We’re rich”!

Tackett-Smiling

“But wait…There’s more…”

Everyone looking to Tackett

Jesse

“More? Like more money? Or what”?

Tackett

“Probably. This was just from the last week alone. What does this tell us”?

Kane

“We might be able to make this much every week”!

Patrick

“Over $200 bucks a month”!

Tackett

“Yea…and…”

The Adventure Club pausing with questioning looks

Stephanie

“Who’s gonna keep the money”?

Tackett

“That’s right. Who’s gonna keep the money”?

Melina

“We’re gonna need a treasurer. Just like a real school club”.

Tackett

“Yep, just like a real school club. Who else would we need for a real club”?

Josh

“A president! I’ll be president”!

The Adventure Club erupts in half-hearted jeering and taunts of BOO!

Tackett

“Melina. Notes please. Let’s list all the positions we need, ok”?

Josh

“Write down ‘president’, Melina”.

Melina

“I got it”,

Patrick-Everyone looking at Melina

“Secretary! I guess we know who that is”!

Tackett

“Who else”?

Kane

“Vice-president”.

Tackett

“Advisor”.

Jesse

“That’s you”!

Kane

“Record keeper”.

Stephanie

“Public Relations”.

Tackett

“Good. We got Advisor. That has to be me. I advise the club. Secretary is definitely Melina. She keeps all our notes. That leaves President, Vice president, Public Relations and Treasurer. Let’s start with President”.

The Adventure Club all calling out Kane’s name in unison

“Kane. Kane”!

Tackett-laughing

“I guess Kane is our president. He will be leading the club and providing guidance. But he does tell people what to do. Vice president”?

The Adventure Club cheering for Stephanie

“Steph-a-nie. Steph-a-nie”!

Tackett

“Vice president plans out the events. Public Relations? Anyone want it”?

Josh

“I’ll take it. If no one else wants it”.

Tackett-Looking around for opposition

“Josh it is. Public Relations designs any flyers, posts information on our social media pages. Puts up posters. Melina, you got that”?

Melina

“Got it”.

Tackett

“Treasurer”?

The Adventure Club all looking towards Patrick

Patrick-sheepishly smiling

“Fine. Alright, I’ll be Treasurer”.

Tackett

“You track our money and what we spend it on. Patrick, we should also get another separate savings account for our club’s money. Ok? Who’s left”?

Jesse

“Me”.

Tackett

“You are our Transportation Specialist, Jesse. You make sure we have a vehicle, so you will be coordinating with Officer Money and make sure the vehicle is ready for our adventures”.

Jesse

“Will do”!

Tackett-Looking up as the classroom door opens and in walks his wife, Deane

“Perfect timing. Like we discussed last week, Let’s start planning out a personalized budget”.

Deanne-Starting to write on the dry erase board

“Hello, everyone. Nice to see you all again when you aren’t in trouble. I hope everyone is ready. We’ll keep this simple for now….

SCENE FADES OUT

EXT. EARLY MORNING.

TACKETT IS BACK AT THE GATE GREETING STUDENTS AND STAFF AS THEY ENTER THE SCHOOL GROUNDS. SEEMS LIKE MORE AND MORE PERSONS ARE SMILING AND GREETING EACH OTHER. THE SCHOOL SEEMS A BIT LIVELIER AND HAPPIER. TACKETT IS STILL MAINTAINING A WATCHFUL EYE OVER THE PARKING LOT AND THE VEHICLE TRAFFIC.

Josh walking to school, a car is waiting in an alley. Big Mike calls Josh over to the car. Josh talks to Big Mike and reluctantly gives him money. Big Mike gives Josh a small rolled up paper bag. Josh goes on his way to school.

Montage of scenes. Various Adventure Club members in class paying attention, out collecting cans and bottles during lunch, cleaning up at football games, the bags of recyclables pile up in the dumpster area. The Club leaving the recycling center with cash money. The Club is outside Dr. Sanchez’ office working, The Club goes into the bank and can be seen depositing their money. They are eating lunch in a fast-food restaurant.

Tackett

“All right! We have had a very nice week. Patrick, how are we doing”?

Patrick-Addressing the Club

“We made $57 bucks today. Add that to the $68 from last week and we have $125 Ducks”!!!

The Adventure Club cheering together

“Whoop, whoop! Whoo hoo! We rollin’! We rollin”! Nice!

Tackett

“Awesome, job, People! But we will need to put about $25 towards fuel”.

Patrick

“That will still leave us $100 Ducks”!

Tackett

“Tomorrow, I want everyone to be over at the school swimming pool. 10am sound good”?

Kane

“Wait. What? What’s tomorrow”?

Tackett-Smiling

“We’re going surfing in 2 weeks, remember? We need to practice swimming”!

Josh

“Pool party”!

Tackett

“Learn to swim party! Just be there. Hurry up and finish eating, we got to get you all back home”.

EXT. MORNING.SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL

Tackett-His family, wife and 2 young kids are present and in the pool.

“Come on, everyone try on a life jacket and see what fits you. If you can swim, you don’t need a jacket”.

Jesse

“I’m good. I can swim”.

Patrick

“I can swim”.

Tackett

“Ok. You three are practicing sitting on these surfboards first. Just sit on them in the water, balance and try to stay afloat, then lay down on the boards and practice paddling the length of the pool. You three, take a lap, back and forth in the pool, then we switch. Let’s go”.

Various scene cuts of the Adventure Club kids swimming, trying to balance on the surf boards, clowning around and having fun.

Tackett-Sitting back and smiling. Enjoying the moment. Kids being kids.

Deanne-Interrupting his thoughts.

“Are you sure you really want to do this? This is an awful lot for just one person to take on. Can’t you get some help? Doesn’t anyone at the school want to help you? It’s a big burden for just one person to take on. Ten at-risk youths and just you? It’s a lot, that’s all I’m saying”.

Tackett-Smiling fondly

“It is a lot. You’re right. I appreciate your concern. But this?...This is too easy”.

INT. LATE INTO THE NIGHT, 3AM.

BACK IN PYRAMID HOSPITAL. DOC TACKETT IS DRINKING A WARM COKE AND 1LTNELSON IS DRINKING COFFEE, DURING A BREAK IN THE MASS CAL. 1LT. NELSON GETTING OFF HIS NOKIA CELL PHONE.

1LT Nelson

“That was the ‘Ol Man. He said the two LTs haven’t made it back yet. He wants us to keep an eye out for them. Report in as soon as we find anything”.

Tackett

“Roger, Roger, Sir. That’s easy. Too easy”.

Nelson

“Yea, I know. I haven’t seen them on my end. You”?

Tackett

“I haven’t seen any ‘Amricans’, Doc. Everyone came through me. Everyone except those that were dead…”.

Both looking towards the makeshift morgue at the same time.

INT.

BOTH DOCS PUTTING DOWN THEIR DRINKS AND WALKING DOWN THE HALLWAY AND INTO THE STOREROOM BEING USED AS A MAKESHIFT MORGUE, NOW FULL OF BODIES, STACKED FIVE AND SIX HIGH. SOME WRAPPED IN BLANKETS, SOME NOT, MEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN. ALL DEAD. SOME HAD EYES OPEN SOME EYES CLOSED.

Tackett-Voice cracking

“Probably not even in town”…

1LT Nelson-Eyes begin tearing up.

“Yea, probably out getting drunk or something”.

The two docs begin the soul-aching task of methodically searching the face of each dead civilian to ensure the two LTs were not among the dead. They began moving the bodies and stacking and restacking them to check each and every face. Throats are swollen making it difficult to talk. Tears are flowing freely. They stoically complete the horrendous task.

1LT Nelson

“They’re not here, Doc”.

Tackett-Voice still cracking, trying to be funny.

“Yea, they are gonna be so busted”.

Both docs laughing as they go wash their hands. 1LT Nelson gets out his cell phone and calls the ‘Ol Man.

1LT Nelson

“Sir. It’s Nelson. Tack and I just checked everywhere for those two LTs. They are not here, Sir. Yes, Sir, we checked the morgue also. No sign of them. Yes, Sir. We’ll keep an eye out. Too easy”.

Tackett-Looking into the mirror at his dis-shelved appearance and looking down at his blood-soaked hands.

“Too easy”…

Tackett leans his head against the wall, begins quietly sobbing.

Doc Nelson-Steps over and provides a comforting hug.

“Too easy, Doc. We got this”.

Tackett

“Roger, Roger, Sir. We got this.

Both docs begin washing their hands and face in the sink to wash away the tears before they get back into the fray for treating more wounded.

EXT. EARLY MORNING.

TACKETT BACK AT THE SCHOOL’S PARKING LOT GATE, GREETING STUDENTS AND STAFF AS THEY ENTER FOR THE DAY.

Tackett

“Good morning, Christopher. Morning Chica. How are you doing today, Phillip? Miss Rose, it’s nice to see you. Stephanie, it’s nice to see you on time this morning. Good job”.

Different students at the appropriate time respond.

“Morning, Security. Good morning. Good morning Mr. Tackett. Morning Mr. T. Good morning, Security. Thank you, and good morning to you too”

Tackett-Greeting Mr. Henderson as the 1st bell rings. Tackett notices he is overloaded with books, brief case and a backpack. Patrick and Kane are a few steps behind him.

“Good morning, Mr. Henderson. You look like your loaded down”.

Mr. Henderson-Sarcastically

“Oh, really? Whatever gave you that idea?”

Tackett-Speaking to both Mr. Henderson and to the boys

“Here, let Kane help you with some of this. He’s in your first class. Kane would you please be so kind”?

Kane

“Yea, sure, Mr. Tackett. I got his Mr. Henderson”.

Mr. Henderson

“I don’t need any help. I’ll just be a few minutes late to class”.

Tackett

“What and leave the kids outside causing trouble. Not a chance. Kane? Thank you, Kane. It is a gracious man who can accept a gift with an open heart”.

Mr. Henderson

“What?...T-Thank you, Kane. I appreciate the help”.

Patrick-To Kane

“I’ll catch you later, Bro”.

Kane

“Bet”.

Tackett smiling as he prepares to lock up the gate, he is looking out into the parking lot for one last security check. He turns to find Sam 3 standing there.

Sam 3

“You could have just taken Mr. Henderson to his room in your golf cart, you know”?

Tackett-Smiling

“Yea, I could have. But Mr. Henderson needs to spend some time learning that our students are not the animals he thinks they are. He needs moments like these to help change his mindset”.

Sam 3-Driving off in her golf cart

“Oh…You sneaky little devil”.

Tackett finishes locking up the gates as the 2nd bell rings. He looks up and notices a car at the far end of the parking lot, Big Mike’s car. The car slowly drives off.

INT. TEACHERS LOUNGE.

MULTIPLE TEACHERS PRESENT, ALL EATING, TALKING, READING. ETC.

Mr. Henderson-To Tackett

“So…Kane tells me you’re talking some kids to the beach? To try surfing”?

The rest of the room quiets down and begin taking notice of their conversation.

Tackett

“Yep, that’s the plan, so far”.

Henderson-Addressing the whole room.

“It’s not gonna work. Those kids are just using you. You know that right”?

Tackett-Looking up at a motivational sign on the wall, and motioning to it.

“I hope not. I hope I’m making a difference. Maybe even encouraging them to be better people. You know, changing the world, one student at a time. You should try it sometime”.

Mr. Henderson

“That’s some bullshit. Even if you did get the school’s permission, and I am not giving you permission, but even if you did, you would never be able to get the group home’s permission. Never”.

Tackett

“Well.., Mr. Henderson, luckily for me, we are not a school club, we do not need the school’s permission. I do what I want, when I want, how I want and with whom I want. I am taking my kids and we are going surfing. What about you, Mr. Henderson? Would you like to go with us and catch a few waves? I promise you, you will love it”!

Mr. Henderson-Becoming indignant

“Certainly not! I’m much too busy. And those kids will jack your car and go on a crime spree. One of them would probably try to shank me”!

Tackett shaking his head as he leaves the Teacher’s Lounge.

EXT. AFTERNOON.

MULTIPLE SCENES OF THE ADVENTURE CLUB KIDS PICKING UP RECYCLEABLES FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL AND FROM TEACHERS CLASSROOMS THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

INT. THE UNUSED CLASSROOM.

THE ADVENTURE CLUB IS WAITING FOR TACKETT, TALKING AMONGST THEMSELVES, IN COMES TACKETT.

Tackett

“Hello, Everyone. Glad you all can make our meeting. We only have one more free weekend until our Surfing Adventure. Melina? Taking notes”?

Melina

“Ready”.

Tackett

“Patrick? Money situation”?

Patrick

“We have Three-hundred and thirty-six dollars”!

The Adventure Club-Cheering together!

“Whoo hooo!!! Yea! Alright! No way! Awesome!

Tackett

“Holy crap! Seriously! Wow! That is more than I had thought we would have. I am thoroughly impressed! Jesse, Logistics.

Jesse-Speaking to the group.

“We have four surfboards we can use. We have six wet suits and six life jackets. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Tackett. Not everyone needs a wetsuit or life jacket though. If we need more, we can look around at some thrift stores and yard sales”.

Tackett

“What do you guys want to do? We can go pay full price for new gear, if you want. Jesse, how much would these things cost, if we bought them new from a store? What are our options”?

Jesse

“Cheap life jackets are about twelve bucks, nicer ones are twenty and they get up to fifty or so. Wet suits are more complicated, there are many styles. They start about seventy-five bucks and go up. On-line may be a little less, but you may have shipping costs. I didn’t check any thrift stores or pawn shops”.

Tackett

“Thanks, Jesse. Kane”?

Kane

“Let’s take a vote. Do we want to buy nice stuff or save some money and buy food”?

The Adventure Club all talking at once.

“Buy new! Food, Bruh. My cousin has some life jackets in their garage. Let’s go to the swap meet. I want to eat!

Kane-Putting up his hands for quiet.

“Dang. Chill, ok. Just chill out. I didn’t realize this would be so hard”.

Tackett-Beaming

“Awesome. This is democracy in action. It is important for us to realize that there are no wrong answers here. No wrong answers. Just different ideas and opinions. This is great. One way we can alleviate some of this stress and headache is appoint someone the responsibility of procuring the items we want. Then no one else has anything to bitch about. We just have to take what we get and hope it’s what we want”.

Stephanie

“Yea, but what if what they buy, isn’t what we wanted”?

Tackett

“Well, you can always just buy your own stuff”.

The Adventure Club groaning in unison

“Awww. No way. I don’t know if I even like surfing, man! That sucks”.

Tackett-Laughing a bit

“Kane? Your call”.

Kane-Thinking…

“Melina. Can you ask your cousin if we can borrow their life jackets for the weekend”?

Melina

“Yea, I’ll call them tonight”.

Tackett

“If you get them, call my wife so you can drop them off at my house, ok”?

Melina

“Ok”.

Kane

“Perfect. Who wants to look for wetsuits”?

Jesse

“I can. But I will need Patrick to help since he has the money card. We’ll check the thrift stores and yard sales first. If we can’t find anything decent, we’ll have to go to a store next weekend. But this will give us 4 more days to find two wetsuits”.

Kane

“Ok. Good. Patrick, what else do we need”?

Patrick

“We’ll need an ice chest for water and drinks driving up and back”.

Kane

“Stephanie? You got this”?

Stephanie

“Me? Why me? Because I’m a girl”?

Josh-Yelling out

“No, because you’re a guy”!

Kane

“Quiet! No, because I know you will not forget. You always do a great job. You pay attention to the details. You’re trustworthy”.

Stephanie

“Ok. I’ll take care of the drinks. I’ll need about forty bucks.

Tackett

“Patrick, do we have any cash”?

Patrick-Speaking first, to Tackett, then to Stephanie.

“No. You want to take the Club’s debit card”?

Stephanie

“Ok”.

Tackett

“That’s one way of doing it. That’s the easiest and quickest way. There is also another way, a safer way”.

Patrick

“What do you mean, Mr. Tackett”?

Tackett

“Well, think about it. If we want this club to last for years, we need to start setting the ground rules and stuff. I think we can all trust Stephanie here. But what if a few years down the road, someone wants to use the card and they steal money from the club? Then what do we do”?

The Adventure Club all talking at once.

“Fuck him up. I’ll beat his ass. I wish a mother fucker would! Kick his ass.

Tackett

“This is why we should put some safety nets in place to protect us down the road from things like this ever happening in the first place. Let’s be proactive here”.

Kane

“We can have Stephanie use her own money first, bring Patrick a receipt, then Patrick can reimburse her on Saturday when we all go to the bank”.

Tackett-Shrugging his shoulders proudly.

“Sounds good. What do you guys think”?

The Adventure Club-Cheering together

“Alright. Sounds good. Good idea. Sweet. Way to go”.

Kane

“Ok. That’s settled. What’s next”?

Tackett

“Ok. Now I have some news for everyone. I have to speak to everyone’s parents or guardians and they have to give me permission to take you guys surfing. So…what do you guys think? Will they give us permission”?

The Adventure Cub all groaning at the same time.

Kane

“Aw, man…I don’t know”.

Patrick

“Yea, Bro. Good luck with that”.

Josh

“Looks like our surfing adventure just got cancelled”.

Tackett

“Oh yea, of little faith”…

Jesse

“Man, no one’s gonna let us go”.

Tackett

“I can be very persuasive when I’ve a mind to be. Give me everyone’s address and home numbers. I’ll come around after school this week”.

The Adventure Club-All talking together as the scene fades out.

INTERIOR. DAYTIME.

TACKETT WALKS INTO HIS WIFE’S OFFICE AT THE SCHOOL.

Tackett

“Babe. I need some help”.

Deanne

“Oh…What have you done now”?

Tackett

“Nothing. Nothing yet”.

Deanne

“Yet? Uh huh. Famous last words. Kinda like “hold my beer”.”?

Tackett

“Oh, you got jokes! I have a list of the kids in my club. I need to send an email to everyone’s parent or guardian and ask if I can meet with them. I want to ask them if their kids can go surfing next week”.

Deanne

“Yea, I guess I can help you with that. I’ll even print you out the permission slips”.

Tackett

“I don’t permission slips. We are not an official club here at the school yet. Just friends”.

Deanne

“Just friends? Seriously? Did you ask Henderson about being a club”?

Tackett

“Yes, of course. Henderson absolutely hates those kids. And I don’t know why”.

Deanne

“Well, he has good reason. Henderson was bullied a lot when he was in high school. A lot”.

Tackett

“Well, that would explain a lot. Shit. I also want these two forms printed out please. Maybe twenty-two copies”?

Deanne-After speaking she turns her face so Tackett can kiss her on the cheek.

“What? And print stuff out for you to? This is gonna cost you”!

EXT. AFTERSCHOOL.

TACKETT DRIVING UP TO KANE’S GROUP HOME. HE GETS OUT AND IS STILL IN HIS SECURITY UNIFORM WITH SOME PAPERS IN HIS HAND AND GOES UP AND RINGS THE DOOR BELL. HE WAITS FOR THE DOOR TO OPEN.

Tackett-Speaking to a young unknown teenager.

“Good afternoon. My name is Tackett. I’m looking for Kane. Is he here”?

Teenager-Yelling upstairs as he walks away, leaving the door open.

“Kane! Cops are here for you again”!

Kane-Coming down the stairs

“Boy. Better quit playin! Come in, Mr. T”.

Tackett-Shaking Kane’s hand

“Hi, Kane. Thanks for having me over. Who am I looking for”?

Kane

“Ms. Green is my guardian. She owns the house. Everyone here is staff or a foster kid like me”.

Tackett-Looking around at the clean, but sparsely decorated house.

“Ok. Cool. Ms. Green here”?

Kane

“Yea, she’s in the kitchen”.

MS. GREEN-COMING FROM THE KITCHEN, WIPING HER HANDS ON A DISH TOWEL.

“Well, hello there. I’m Ms. Green. Kane told me you might be stopping by”.

Tackett

“Yes, Ma’am. I’m Robert Tackett, Campus Security. Thank you for allowing me to come and talk to you both”.

Ms. Green

“Well. Mr. Tackett, what can I do for you”?

Tackett

“Well, Ms. Green. I am forming a club to help students, like Kane. I am putting them to work on Saturdays. I supervise them throughout the school day to help with the school’s recycling program. We are saving that money to go on a different adventure every month. Plus, I try to spend time throughout the day and mentor and give some advice and guidance when needed.

Ms. Green

“Well, thank you so much for that Mr. Tackett. But are you sure you want Kane in your club? Nobody has ever asked Kane to be a part of their group. I mean apart from these hoodlum gangs we have all over town. Kane? What do you say? Do you want to go surfing with Mr. Tackett”?

Kane

“Well, it is kinda cool. I’m the president of the club. We’re helping keep the school clean and we’re learning about money and budgeting and stuff. And I’m getting paid”!

Tackett

“Kane is a natural born leader at Golden Valley. He is doing good things. Our field trip is scheduled for the last Saturday in September. We only have one week to get prepared.

Ms. Green

“I’m not sure. I’m gonna need permission from the State. Since these boys are technically ‘wards of the state’, there isn’t much we can do without their permission.

Kane

“This some bullshit! I’m….

Tackett-Interrupting Kane

“Kane. I got this. Ms. Green, I understand your position. These rules were put into place to protect all children in foster care, especially the younger ones. How about we do this, give me the names of Kane’s case worker and I will speak to them. As long as we have your permission for him to go. Without your permission, there is no reason to continue”.

Ms. Green

“Well…Kane has been doing a little better with his temper and his chores…”

Kane

“And I’ll do even better”.

Tackett-Showing Kane the papers

“I’m sure you will, Kane. Ms. Green, Here are some of our rules for our club. This is our Ethos and this one states our Values. I modeled these off of my military career. Some would argue I may have even plagiarized them”!

Kane

“Ethos? Values?”

Tackett

“Yea, an Ethos is our beliefs and ideals that make us who we are. Our Values give us the pillars to help us build our character. Together they help guide us to become the best person we can be”.

Ms. Green

“Mr. Tackett, you served in the military? My late husband was in the Navy”.

Kane

“Yea, he was in Iraq! Weren’t you, Mr. T”?

Tackett

“Yes, Ma’am. I did five tours. Two were to combat zones. I am very proud of my service”.

Ms. Green

“Well, you certainly have my support. Now just get Mr. Wilson to ‘ok’ it”.

Kane

“Sweet! Thanks, Moms”!

Ms. Green

“Kane, Dear, go get me Mr. Wilson’s business card off my desk from upstairs, for Mr. Tackett”.

Kane leaves

Ms. Green-Speaking quietly to Tackett so they are not overheard by the other foster kids in the house.

“Mr. Tackett. Kane needs a father figure in his life. He has been let down so many times. He just wants someone to love him like a son. Don’t you dare let him down. You hear me”?

Tackett

“I understand, Ms. Green. There’s a lot at stake here with these young kids. All of them have issues just like Kane. I won’t let them down, Ma’am. I got this”.

Ms. Green-To Tackett as Kane comes down the stairs with the business card proudly displayed in his hand.

“I hope you do, Mr. Tackett, I sincerely hope you do”.

EXT. AFTERNOON. MELINA RINGS THE DOORBELL AT THE TACKETT’S HOME. HER ARMS ARE FULL OF LIFE JACKETS.

Deanne

“Oh, Hello, Melina”.

Melina

“Hi, Mrs. T. I got the life jackets for our adventure”.

Deanne

“Oh, wonderful. Bring them in, please”.

INT. LIVING ROOM.

Deanne

“Let’s put them in his library. He will be sure to see them”.

Melina-In awe.

“Wow. Is this Mr. T’s army stuff”?

Deanne

“Yea, not many people ever get to look at this stuff. You’re the first from school”.

Melina

“Are these the medals he won”?

Deanne

“I am sure they are. Don’t ask me what they mean. He doesn’t really talk about them too much”.

Melina

“He must have done a lot to get all these”.

Deanne

“I suppose he has. He doesn’t really go into too much detail. I wish sometimes he would, though. I’d really like to know what he has gone through”.

Melina

“These are his friends in the Army”?

Deanne

“Yea, some are friends, some are family, but Robert says they are all his Brothers and Sisters”.

Melina

“What did he do in the Army? Did he kill anyone”?

Deanne

“He was a Combat Medic. He swears he was one of the best. But, I hope he never had to hurt anyone. He doesn’t tell me much about his experience at war. But every now and then, I can tell he remembers something. Things that haunt him”.

Melina

“What’s in this box”?

Deanne

“That’s something very special. Very special indeed”.

Melina opens the box slowly and sees various challenge coins and more than a few individual dog tags.

Melina

“What are these? Are these dog tags”?

Deanne

“Yea, those represent the ones he couldn’t save. It wasn’t all that long ago. Robert appreciates everything he has in this life. Without these memories he wouldn’t appreciate the good things in life”.

Melina

“Balance”…

EXT. AFTERNOON.

TACKETT SITTING IN HIS CAR READING THE BUSINESS CARD. HE GETS OUT HIS CELL PHONE. FADE OUT.

INT. LATE AFTERNOON. IN MR. WILSON’S OFFICE.

MR. WILSON

“Good afternoon, Mr. Tackett. What can I do for you”?

Tackett-Looking around the office. Tackett notices a picture on the wall of some troops in their gear, looks like the middle east somewhere.

“Thank you for taking the time to speak with me on such short notice, Mr. Wilson. I work security over at Kane’s high school”.

Mr. Wilson

“Oh, dear Lord, what has the boy got himself into now”?

Tackett-Smiling

“Nothing like that, Sir. He is actually doing pretty well. I came to ask if we can take Kane and other kids in foster homes to the beach. We have an opportunity to get out of the city and we planned a fun day at Venice Beach next week”.

Mr. Wilson

“Beach”?

Tackett

“Yes, Sir. Our club is comprised of mostly ‘at risk youth’ and Officer Money and I have plans to mentor them and keep them busy by going on a different adventure every month. Like surfing, horseback riding, hiking, going to the snow. Stuff that they would not get a chance to do, simply because they are in foster care”.

Mr. Wilson

“I don’t know. This is quite unusual. I know the foster homes don’t always like to go the extra mile, they don’t have the resources or the inclination sometimes. But I cannot put the welfare of these ‘at risk’ kids in the hands of someone we don’t know”.

Mr. Tackett-Motioning to the picture on the wall.

“Is this your son? This looks like it was taken in Afghanistan”.

Mr. Wilson

“Yes, that’s him. He’s a sergeant. He should be home next month, God willing. You served in Afghanistan”?

Tackett

“No, Sir. I went to Iraq. It doesn’t look like a desert, so I figured it might be Afghanistan. I am sure he will get back just fine, Sir. Sir, I am willing to jump through some hoops to take these kids next week, just let me know what needs to be done”.

Mr. Wilson

“Well, we need to get a background check done first. You will need to get fingerprinted. Then there are some legal papers to sign about being responsible and stuff. I think it is very courageous of you to take these troubled kids and help mentor and guide them. No one has ever gone out of their way to treat them like family. It is very remarkable. I wish we had more people who would open their hearts and help make a difference in the lives of kids like these. If there were, maybe we could change the world”.

Tackett

“Yes, Sir. I am trying. I have a few people at the school who are a great resource pool to get help from. Thank you for giving me a chance to make their lives better. I appreciate it”.

Mr. Wilson-Standing up to shake hands.

“Non-sense. I appreciate it. I really do. The odds are stacked so heavily against them. And these kids may not realize it just yet, but these just might be the best memories they ever have”.

Tackett

“Maybe. Maybe. I hope I can get through to them. Change the course they are on. I have a great plan to help change the world. Wish me luck! And thanks again, Mr. Wilson”!

Mr. Wilson-Talking to his secretary after Tackett leaves.

“What a concept this guy has. I hope his idea makes it around the world. What a world it would be”…

INT. EVENING. THE TACKETTS ARE EATING DINNER.

Deanne

“Well?...You ready for your big day tomorrow”?

Tackett

“Yep. Ready as I’ll ever be, I suppose. This will be fun. It’ll be easy”.

Deanne

“You just have fun and keep an eye on those kids. We can’t have anything going wrong tomorrow. I’ll take photos of the whole thing so you can put it on your club’s social media pages”.

Tackett

“Social media pages? Good idea. Take all the pics you can and I’ll have the kids put something together after the adventure. At least we’ll have the pics ready to go. Thanks. What would I do without you”?

Deanne

“You’d still be working those long hours and you’d never be home. You would miss dinners like this and your kids would grow up without really knowing their father”.

Tackett

“Wow. That is pretty heavy. I thought you’d say something like, ‘You wouldn’t do crap’! or something else just as funny”.

Deanne

“No, Babe. You know I love you. I trust that you have the kid’s best interest at heart. I’ll clean up and take the kiddos to my mom’s. You better do you ‘C-P-C’s or whatever you call it”.

Tackett

“That’s P-C-C’s. Pre-Combat Checks. Good idea. I’ll go over my checklist and make sure we have everything. Then I got to get some sleep. My alarm is set for 4am so I can pack everything up. I’ll wake you up at six, ok”?

Deanne

“Six? You mean I get to sleep in? Whoo Hoo!”

EXT. EARLY MORNING

JOSH AND PATRICK ARE WALKING TO SCHOOL. BIG MIKE ROLLS UP IN HIS CAR.

Big Mike

“Where you little shits going so early”?

Patrick

“None yo’ business, Big Mike”.

Big Mike

“Oh, you feeling froggy, Boy”?

Patrick

“Naw, just leave us alone. We got shit to do”.

Big Mike

“Man, fuck you and your boy, here”.

Josh

“Come on, Patrick. Let’s get outta here, Brah. They’ll be waiting on us”.

Big Mike-flashing a pistol

“Someone waiting on you, huh? Come here, ‘fore I loose my cool and ghost ya”.

Patrick

“What you want, man? We gotta go”.

Big Mike

“You guys ain’t buying my shit, like you used to. I want to know what’s up? Where you getting your shit from”?

Josh

“We ain’t buying nothin’ from no one. We straight”.

Big Mike

“Straight huh? We’ll see about that. How much you go on you”?

Patrick-Both showing their empty pockets

“We ain’t got no money on us, Big Mike”.

Big Mike

“No? No money? That ain’t like you”.

Josh

“”Cause we don’t want to get robbed”!

Big Mike-Handing Josh a rolled up paper bag.

“Here, boy. Consider this an advance. You boys, pay me on Monday morning. You hear me”?

Josh

“We don’t want nothing”.

Big Mike

I ain’t asking you. Take it. Pay me on Monday or I’ll find you. You hear me, bitch”.

Patrick-Taking the bag.

“Yea, we hear you. Come on, let’s go”.

TACKETT AND HIS WIFE ARE AT THE SCHOOL PARKING LOT AS THE ADVENTURE CLUB KIDS ARE BEING DROPPED OFF.

Tackett

“Kane? What do you want to do first”?

Kane

“First, make sure everyone shows up. Then make sure we have everything we need. Then we should check the vehicle and make sure we have gas. And money! We need money”.

Tackett

“Yep. So, delegate out your tasks to get this done quickly and also to keep you from doing everything and being the big bad parent figure”.

Kane

“Yea, right. Ok. Stephanie? Can you account for everyone? Let me know when everyone is here. Please? Jesse? Can you please check out the van. We need gas, make sure the tanks full and all the lights work, you know. The usual”?

Stephanie

“Yea, We’re just missing Josh and Patrick”.

Jesse

“I’m on it”.

Kane

“Melina? What about snacks and drinks? We good”?

Melina

“Yep, all good. Ice chest is in the back of the van”.

Patrick and Josh come walking up with their back packs.

Stephanie

“Ok, Kane. We’re all here”.

Kane

“Josh? Now that you’re here, go over that equipment checklist with Patrick. Make sure we have all the boards, wetsuits and shit”.

Josh

“Aye, aye, Captain”!

Tackett

“Kane, send everyone to the amnesty box, please? Before we go. We cannot have anything go wrong. Nothing. This has to be perfect, ok”?

Kane

“Yea, I get you, Mr. T. Ok, everyone, go to the amnesty trashcan and get rid of your shit. If you brought some shit, don’t bring it on the bus”.

Josh

“This some bullshit. We ain’t got nothing”.

Kane

“Good, then go to the amnesty box. I want to see the beach. I ain’t never been before and I don’t want you fuckin’ it up. Cool”?

Josh

“Cool. I get you, Brah”.

Josh looks over at Patrick. Patrick shrugs his should and walks slowly to the amnesty box.

Kane

“Ok. Cool. Everyone on the bus. Let’s go”.

INT. SCHOOL VAN

TACKETT ADDRESSES THE CLUB FROM THE DRIVER’S SEAT.

Tackett

“Ok, everyone. Glad you all could make it. You know my wife Deanne is here as another chaperone. Did everyone use the restroom before they got here? I hope so. Let me know if you need to use the bathroom. Also, we will be taking the Five to the Four-oh-Five to Venice Beach Blvd.

Josh

“Why you telling us all that, Mr. T”?

Tackett

“This is part of our regular safety briefing. Every time we go somewhere we need to have a quick safety briefing. The briefing will cover our route of travel, how long it should take and what the weather is like so we can be prepared. People need to know when to expect us, in case we have an accident they can start looking for us sooner. Plus, no one likes to be surprised by unexpected delays. So, pick your Battle Buddy”.

Patrick

“Pick a what”?

Tackett

“A Battle Buddy. We always go in at least two’s. It’s safer that way. We keep an eye out for each other and it helps us stay on the straight and narrow, so we can enjoy the adventure and not get hurt or kidnapped, or worse”.

Stephanie

“You’re just trying to scare us. Right”?

Deanne

“Unfortunately, no. We’re not trying to scare you. We want everyone to go and have fun, but the truth is that it can be a very dangerous world. The way we stay safe is by banding together. Pick your Battle Buddy”!

Josh

“I’ll fuck somebody up if they try to fuck wit me”!

Patrick

“You can believe that”!

Tackett

“It’s not about if we can fight back and defend ourselves. It’s about carrying ourselves in such a manner as to not present ourselves as an easy target. This way we won’t have to fight at all…Hopefully”.

Melina

“It’s like what you were teaching us at the dojo”.

Tackett

“Yes, something like that. Buddy up!

The Adventure Club all motioning to each other joining teams. Josh whispers to Patrick.

Josh

“What’d you do with the bag, Brah”?

Patrick-Shrugging his shoulders and nodding his head towards the amnesty trash can.

“Man, fuck, Big Mike”.

Josh

“Oh, man. What’ll we do on Monday. We got to tell someone, Brah”?

Patrick

“Don’t sweat it. I’ll take care of Big Mike”.

Josh

“How? You got a gak? Huh? You got a gak, Brah”?

Patrick

“I’ll figure it out. Trust me”.

Josh

“Oh, great. This is my first and last time seeing the beach, ‘cause I’m a dead man”!

Patrick

“Shut the fuck up. I got this. Ok? I got this”.

Josh

“Fine. Fine. Whatever”.

Tackett

“Jesse? Where are the first aid kit and the fire extinguisher”?

Jesse

“Both are in the back of the van by the ice chest”.

Tackett

“Cool. Now, who knows a song we can all sing”?

The Adventure Club all groaning in unison!

Scenes of the van driving down the freeways of Los Angeles towards Venice Beach

Tackett

This is the main parking lot for Venice Beach. If anyone gets lost, find your way back here. We will not leave until we have everyone. Patrick? You and your Battle Buddy find us a place on the beach where we can set up our OP, ok?

Patrick

“OP? what’s an OP”?

Tackett

“Operating post. Our base camp. The spot where we will keep our stuff, like towels, food and where we will hang out”.

Patrick

“Oh. Got it. Come on Kane”.

Deanne

“Before you go, does anyone need to use the restroom”?

Everyone’s hands shoot up!

Scene cuts of everyone running to the water and jumping in, playing around, some kids have life jackets on. Show the kids trying to surf, see a dolphin out in the water, eating snacks and drinking beverages, going walking along the Venice Beach boardwalk, looking at the shops, seeing all the people, the roller skaters, etc. The performers. Everyone having a great time.

EXT. SUNSET. EVERYONE SITTING AROUND ON THE BEACH.

Kane-Speaking happlily

“Oh, man! I don’t want this day to end”!

Josh

“Yea, Bro, It’s gonna suck going back home”.

Tackett

“No, it’s not gonna ‘suck’. This doesn’t have to end. Remember our club, your club, can do this every month now. Every month we can go on a new adventure. And if you like that adventure, we can do it again. We can do whatever you want”!

Stephanie

“Yea, Balance in all things. Some fun at the beach and some school work. Just like Mr. T said at the dojo. Chi. Chi no kata”.

The Adventure Club collectively yell

“Balance”!

Deanne

“Yea, that’s the one cool thing about working hard, you save your money and you can do something like this. You deserve this. Everyone here pitched in and helped make this happen. You just need a little guidance to see what is possible. The world can be an incredible place if you know how to navigate it”.

Patrick-Speaking to Melina

“What adventure is our club going on next month”?

Melina

“Learning how to drive”!

Tackett-Laughing

“Driving? Oh, hell no”!!!

Kane-Serious now

“Hey, Mr. T, our club needs a name. What’s the name of our club”?

Patrick

“Yea, we need a name. A cool-ass name”.

Tackett

“Good point. We do need a name for our awesome club. Any choices”?

Jesse

“What about ‘The Bad Ass Club’”?

Tackett

“Nope. Vetoed”!

Josh

“The Dopest Club”!

Deanne

“Nope, Vetoed”!

Stephanie

“We are a club that goes on adventures, right? How about ‘The Adventure Club’”?

Kane

“The Adventure Club? I like it”.

Melina

“The Adventure Club. Cool”.

Patrick

“I think we got a winner. The Adventure Club, it is”!

The Adventure Club all yelling

“THE ADVENTURE CLUB”!!!