

The Surfer King

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THE SURFER KING

1 EXT. EARLY MORNING. - CUSTOMER SERVICE KIOSK 1

JAFFA, a Jamaican looking fellow in his early 20's, arrives at Water World, carrying a dusty cardboard box.

There are a few workers milling about, setting up the park for opening. He passes EDDIE, a 25-something grounds worker with Down's Syndrome.

JAFFA

Eddie!

EDDIE

(smiling, nodding)

Jaffa.

They do a hand slap maneuver that they have obviously worked out some time in the past. JAFFA proceeds up to the Customer Relations Kiosk, plops the box on the counter, and enters the kiosk. We see him open the box, it is full of CD's.

He pulls winter covers off of an overhead area to reveal a CD player and amplifiers. He starts pushing buttons he's pushed a thousand times, and lights come on. He pulls down a microphone, and clicks a button to see if it works.

He reaches into the box of CDs and pulls one out. We see it is Sheryl Crow. He gets the CD, examines it, and pops it into the CD player.

He once again picks the microphone and flips the switch as he pushes the "play" button on the CD player.

His voice echoes through the park. "Soak up the Sun" begins playing.

JAFFA

(smiling)

Ladies and Gentlemen, Water World will be open in

(checking his watch)

twenty-six hours and forty-three minutes.

GFX - OPENING CREDITS BEGIN

2 EXT EARLY MORNING - THUNDER BAY 2

BIG MIKE, the park's owner/manager - a 50-something man who is portly and bald, and RICHARD THOMPSON, head lifeguard and another GUARD are on the east side of Thunder Bay.

There is a post with a box on top of it that has a winter cover on it. The GUARD is standing there with a garden hose

holding it so the water goes into Thunder Bay.

He is obviously tired, and has been standing there a long time. We look back at the massive size of the pool and get the joke.

BIG MIKE and RICHARD pull off the winter cover. The GUARD turns to look and the hose turns with him, getting BIG MIKE wet. They object and he turns back to filling Thunder Bay. RICHARD moves the GUARD to a safe distance.

BIG MIKE blows the dust off of the box at the top of the post, and we see it is a large push button. BIG MIKE looks at RICHARD who nods "go ahead" and then pushes the button.

They both draw back as if something big should happen, but nothing. They look at each other and BIG MIKE motions for RICHARD to go over to the wall housing the wave tank for the pool.

RICHARD waves OK, and BIG MIKE pushes the button again. When nothing happens, RICHARD whacks the side of the tank with his closed fist. Suddenly a huge wave rolls out.

Nodding his approval, BIG MIKE checks off an item in his clipboard.

3 EXT. EARLY MORNING. - DAY SURFS UP AREA 3

We see people working to open the park. The VAIL PRECISION LAWN CHAIR DRILL TEAM dressed in Water World uniforms is setting and arranging chairs in time to the music. They perform precision maneuvers with the chairs, as if rifles, and cross each other in a timed march to the music.

4 EXT. EARLY MORNING. - DAY FUN HOUSE AREA 4

BIG MIKE is standing under the Fun House structure with a clipboard. He is talking to RICHARD.

After talking to BIG MIKE, RICHARD shakes his head affirmatively and walks off. He glances up to the two guards above, and grins. BIG MIKE is looking at his clipboard. We see quickly the large water tank above is spilling water a bit, indicating it is full.

The water tank spills over BIG MIKE drenching him. He stands there still, angry for a moment, then thinks better of it shaking his head and smiling, takes his pen and checks OK on his wet clipboard for the fun house water tank.

5 EXT. EARLY MORNING. - DAY FIRST AID SHACK NEAR FUNHOUSE 5

Two guards are looking down at BIG MIKE below. One guard begins motioning as if guiding a crane into place. The other guard has his hand poised on a large switch lever.

GUARD ONE is gesturing more emphatically now, closing his hands to indicate "almost there". He closes his hands, and GUARD TWO pulls the lever.

6 EXT. LATER THAT MORNING - DAY 2001 VW BUG

6

We are on the road to Water World in Federal Heights, Colorado. ROBBIE ZIRPOLLO is riding with his mother CONNIE ZIRPOLLO.

ROBBIE

(sardonically)

Yeah. This is great. I love this plan. Drag me kicking and screaming from my happy home in California to some weird place in Colorado, and say hey, this'll be fun Robbie. Maybe we can go camping....

CONNIE

Look, I know you're not happy about this. But it wasn't my idea for your father to have some kind of mid-life crisis and disappear with his secretary to Mexico with our life savings.

ROBBIE

"Administrative Assistant." There's no such thing as a secretary anymore.

CONNIE

Fine. Administrative Assistant. We couldn't afford to sit around waiting any longer to see if he was coming back. I was able to land a good job here. And now thanks to Uncle Bernie you have this job at the Water Park...

ROBBIE

(shaking his head)

Grounds crew. What kind of job is that? It sound like the guy who cleans out the coffee pots.

CONNIE

Bernie says you help keep the park clean, sweep up, that sort of thing. I'm sure it won't be so bad. Besides, a lot of the kids who work at this park go to the same high school you'll be going to. You can start the school year with some ready-made friends.

ROBBIE

I had friends in Oceanside. I had something to do for the summer.

They pass the main Water World sign. Hanging below it is a banner that says Opening Tomorrow!.

CONNIE

Hanging out at the beach surfing with your friends is not my idea of something

to do. This way you'll make some money and meet people here. You'd best get used to it. This is where we live now. We're staying.

ROBBIE

All thanks to Dad and his secretary.

CONNIE

Administrative Assistant.

ROBBIE

Whatever. Some summer....

They have arrived at the front gates of Water World, Kids are in a line leading to a check-in canopy kiosk that has a sign saying Employee Check In.

CONNIE

Promise me you'll give it a try....please?

ROBBIE

(giving in to the inevitable)

I will. I promise. See you later

He shuts the car door and walks over to the end of the line.

7 EXT. EARLY MORNING. - DAY FRONT GATES OF WATER WORLD 7

There are about 40-50 teenagers in various default street clothes, shorts and tees mostly. Robbie takes his place in line behind an older, taller boy, ALEX, who seems to know almost everyone, and has made it his personal mission to greet them.

ALEX

(back still to ROBBIE)

...and so SHE says I'll have the filet AND the lobster". I had to borrow twenty bucks from Fitzgerald just to get out of the restaurant.

Two guys in front of Alex are laughing now. Further down the line however, another voice pops up.

DOUG

(waving to ALEX)

By the way. Where is that twenty bucks?

ALEX

(avoiding)

Ohhh, hey Dougie. I'll catch up with you later...

(turning around to ROBBIE as not to continue the conversation)

Hey, how you doin'? Haven't seen you before.

ALEX looks in his wallet, as do we. It is empty.

ROBBIE

(nodding)

I'm Robbie. Robbie Zirpollo.

ALEX

I'm Alex. Where you workin'?

ROBBIE

I believe it's with the Grounds Crew?

ALEX

What's the matter, can't swim?

ROBBIE

(surprised)

I can swim. Why?

ALEX

Well, you look old enough to be a guard.

ROBBIE

Almost 16. I get my license in September.

ALEX

It's just that most of the guys on grounds are a little younger than you. Most guys your age that can swim are guards.

ROBBIE

Well, I just moved here. I guess I missed guard tryouts. You're a guard then?

ALEX

Oh, no no no. I work concessions...at Aokee's Surf and Snack Shack. It's just as well. The guards are mostly stuck up anyway. The rest of us are the ones who know how to have fun.

ROBBIE

Can't swim, huh?

ALEX

(smiling)

Nope.

ROBBIE

(listening to speaker on post above)

What is that?

ALEX

(mimicking his perception of surfers)

Surf tunes, dude!

(back to his own voice)
You'll get used to it. You'll get to
where you miss it. I had to buy two CD's
just to get through the winter.

They are now at the front of the line. A teenage girl
MELISSA is sitting at the table with papers and a clipboard.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(gesturing)

Ahh. And here we have the fair Melissa,
time clerk extraordinaire...

MELISSA

(shaking her head no)

Oh, Alex. Am I going to have to put up
with your crap for another entire summer?

ALEX

(looking upward toward the sky)

Dear Melissa.
There's nothing about our relationship
that couldn't be fixed by us spending a
few moments together in the pumphouse
behind Thunder Bay.

MELISSA

Yeah, well from what I hear, it would be
a BRIEF few moments.

ROBBIE

(wincing)

Ouch.

ALEX

(not missing a beat)

My dear, you cut me to the quick. Check
off my name and that of my amigo here,
Mr. Robbie Zirpollo.

MELISSA

(handing them cards)

Fill out these emergency cards, and turn
them in when you pick up your
uniforms....

(pointing)

over there. And Alex?

ALEX

(to ROBBIE)

She wants me.

(turning back to MELISSA)

Yeeees?

MELISSA

(finger pointing)

This year, let's clock in only our OWN
time card, shall we?

ALEX

(head shaking, to ROBBIE,
walking together)
Some people have no sense of humor.

8 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - OUTSIDE UNIFORM BUILDING 8

ROBBIE and ALEX walk up to yet another line of about 4 or 5 teens. At the front a teenage girl and a teenage guy are behind a counter and handing out uniforms based on a clipboard list.

As ROBBIE and ALEX reach the back of the line, TIFFANY, a blond beauty and two other girls brush past them to the front of the line.

ROBBIE
(taken aback, breathing in
through his nose)
Whoa....who was that?

ALEX
(unimpressed, putting his hand
on ROBBIE's shoulder as if to
hold him back, like a horse
that is riled up)
Eeeeasy there, big fella. Not in your
lifetime.
(wistfully, glancing over)
Or mine.

ROBBIE
So who is she?

ALEX
Miss Tiffany Maxwell, daughter of Big
Mike Maxwell, owner and operator of this
here fine water park.

WE SEE TIFFANY and her two friends are quickly given their uniforms by the attendants, as they ignore the kids who have waited in line.

ALEX (CONT'D)
See, Princess Tiffany and her friends
pretty much have the run of the park.
Her boyfriend is Dan Peterson, a guy we
all call Cowboy, one of the lifeguards.
Pretty decent guy from what I can tell.
But she's a piece of work. Your best
strategy is to steer clear of her and she
won't cause you any trouble.

ROBBIE
Cowboy, huh. Big guy?

ALEX
Big. Guy.

ROBBIE
(takes in a deep breath)

Hmm.

They are now at the front of the line.

MALE UNIFORM GUY

Hey Alex.

(calling back to FEMALE UNIFORM
PERSON)

Aokee's. Large.

(to ROBBIE)

MALE UNIFORM GUY (CONT'D)

Name?

Female Uniform Person has brought a blue Hawaiian shirt on a hanger.

ROBBIE

Rob Zirpollo. Uh, Robert Zirpollo

MALE UNIFORM GUY

(looks on clipboard)

Grounds?

(looks at FEMALE UNIFORM
PERSON)

MALE UNIFORM GUY (CONT'D)

(and FEMALE UNIFORM PERSON,
together, ominously)

Grounds.

She disappears to the back.

ROBBIE

(to ALEX)

So what is this grounds thing, anyway?

ALEX

Let's just say....you are critical and
indispensable to the ongoing operation...
and....flow of things here at the park.

(he and MALE UNIFORM GUY
exchange a knowing glance)

FEMALE UNIFORM PERSON

Here you go, tiger. One grounds.
Medium. You have a pair of green shorts
at home?

ROBBIE shakes his head "no".

FEMALE UNIFORM PERSON (CONT'D)

Buy some. Tonight. Wear them tomorrow
along with this shirt. You need to
report to the area just south of Surf's
Up. Look for a guy wearing Army pants
and glasses.

ALEX

I'll show him. I'm going in that

direction.
(to ROBBIE with feigned
excitement)
You get to meet The Colonel!

They walk off. As they walk off we can hear ALEX in the
distance...

ALEX (CONT'D)
(marching)
Left. Left. Left right left.

9 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - AOKEE'S SURF & SNACK SHACK 9

Aokee's is a restaurant near Thunder Bay. It seats about 50
and is lavishly decorated in a Hawaiian Surf and Ocean motif,
with surf memorabilia, fish nets, surfboards, and the like.

AOKEE is a large 375 pound plus apparently Hawaiian man, late
twenties, early thirties, wearing a purple Hawaiian shirt,
blue shorts and a white chef's apron that says KISS THE COOK.

WE SEE him on a pay phone behind the counter.

AOKEE
(to person on the line)
David...how you do this to me? I have
full staff with you. I save your spot.
I was counting on you.
(listens, nods)
Yes, yes....but The Gap? What you think
you do there? Are there girls in
swimming suits? Have you forgotten?
(listens, shaking head)
Tips. Do you get tips? Cash money?
(listens some more)

ALEX walks up. AOKEE waves to him. He is obviously upset.

AOKEE (CONT'D)
(resigned)
Well, come see us this summer, eh?
You're a good kid...a good worker. Yeah,
you too.

AOKEE hangs up the phone.

ALEX
Who....?

AOKEE
David. Seems to think there is future in
retail. Now what I do? I'm one person
short. Park opens tomorrow.

AOKEE buries his head in his hands on the counter.

ALEX
(thinking)
You know...I just met a guy that's old

enough to work here, but he's stuck in grounds.

AOKEE
(perking up)
Good guy?

ALEX
Seemed like our kind of people.

AOKEE thinks for a moment. He glances up towards Surf's Up. It hits both he and ALEX at the same time...

AOKEE
We need to get him before he get his plunger!

They take off running.

10 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - TRAIL FROM AOKEE'S TO SURF'S10 UP

AOKEE and ALEX are running together. They get about 50 feet before AOKEE, large man that he is, runs out of breath. ALEX, like a boxer in training, sort of runs in place, keeping loose, ready for AOKEE to catch his wind. Off they go again, get another 50 feet, and the same thing happens.

AOKEE
(out of breath)
Alex.....
(wheeze)
..you got to go ahead...
(wheeze)
...stall 'til I get there.

ALEX
(nodding, running in place)
OK.

ALEX takes off, and AOKEE runs again....

11 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - SURF'S UP WAVE POOL SOUTH 11

WE SEE several rolling trash cans lined up in a row, along with several janitorial carts filled with cleaning utensils and supplies.

THE COLONEL is standing, dressed in army fatigue pants and a Water World golf shirt, with a green Water World baseball cap. He is wearing black horn-rim glasses, thick lenses, and carrying a clipboard.

Lined up as if an army unit are ten grounds kids, including ROBBIE, who is sixth furthest from THE COLONEL. They are all younger than ROBBIE except one, EDDIE, whom we met at the beginning of the film.

EDDIE is standing tall and straight, proud to be there. He is nearest THE COLONEL

THE COLONEL

(looking up from clipboard)

Well, it looks like we have a good staff here. Yes...yes a good staff. It will be an excellent summer. Remember as we go through training today, our park is judged by the work WE do. If we do it well, the people come back.

(walking up and down the line)

We have a little tradition here on the grounds crew. Rather than having to learn a lot of names, many of which I can never hope to pronounce properly, each grounds crew member gets a grounds crew nickname. You will be known by that nickname in every way except, of course, your paycheck and employee records.

THE COLONEL looks over his paperwork.

THE COLONEL (CONT'D)

Let's see, what do we have? Hmm...yes. OK, first up is Eddie Cochran. Your grounds crew nickname will be....Eddie!

EDDIE smiles knowingly. This has been his grounds crew nickname for the last 8 years, mostly because he would never answer to anything else, and THE COLONEL gave up trying.

THE COLONEL (CONT'D)

Now crewmembers, listen up. Eddie here has eight years experience on the grounds crew. Why, I'd like to think there isn't anything, any situation that Eddie hasn't faced. Listen to him. Learn from him. Watch what he does. This man is the finest, most conscientious grounds crewman we've ever had.

EDDIE is beaming with pride now. THE COLONEL pulls a brand new toilet plunger from the cart nearby and hands it to EDDIE. EDDIE shoulders it as if it were a rifle.

THE COLONEL walks down the line.

THE COLONEL (CONT'D)

Let's see...Clark? Hmmm. Your grounds crew nickname will be....Sparky.

It is all ROBBIE can do not to laugh. THE COLONEL goes on to the next kid, SKEETER who is tall, skinny and goofy-looking. SKEETER'S eyes are faced forward, but something catches them. His eyes follow an unseen object as we begin to hear a small mosquito. Finally his eyes follow it until he looks, cross eyed at his own nose.

THE COLONEL has taken note of this and is following it too. SKEETER can take no more, and brushes it off his nose as he makes a face.

SKEETER

Sorry, sir. Mosquito.

THE COLONEL

Hmmm....your grounds crew nickname will
be.....Skeeter.

THE COLONEL steps over the cart and gets another new plunger
and hands it to SKEETER who follows EDDIE's lead.

Next in line is a short, chubby lad, SNITCH. As THE COLONEL
approaches him, a quick sound of passing gas is heard.

THE COLONEL is startled, and SNITCH makes a quick finger
motion indicating the culprit is SKEETER, next to him.

THE COLONEL (CONT'D)

(looking at the clipboard)

Bradley, is it? OK, Mr. Bradley....your
grounds crew nickname will be Snitch.

SNITCH shows his dismay with a frown. THE COLONEL has run
out of new plungers already and is forced to move to one of
last year's leftovers, which look somewhat depressing.

He gets one and give it to SNITCH, who looks at it, makes a
face, and decides not to shoulder it. ROBBIE is so depressed
he looks like he's about to pass out.

His worst fears have been realized. His summer is passing
before his eyes.

There's only one more person, a young 14 year-old girl, to go
before ROBBIE. THE COLONEL addresses her.

THE COLONEL (CONT'D)

Melinda Tally. Hmmm... your grounds crew
nickname will be...
(thinking)

Suddenly ALEX bursts onto the scene, and even he, at this
point, is somewhat out of breath.

ALEX

Hello, Colonel!

THE COLONEL

(thinking, staring)

Alex, isn't it?

ALEX

Yes sir, Colonel. And what a fine staff
you've assembled this year. Have you
told them yet about your army background?

THE COLONEL

Well, no, I didn't think it was..

ALEX

(interrupting, to the grounds
kids)

The Colonel here is very modest. Did you know that he reorganized the entire process of cleaning and sanitizing an army barracks and its latrines?

THE COLONEL

Well, it really wasn't much of a...

ALEX

(interrupting again)

Wasn't much?

(again, to grounds kids)

Can you just imagine for a moment the germs and bacteria our American soldiers could pick up in an unsanitised army latrine? It's impossible to determine just how many lives have been saved thanks to the efforts of this one humble Army Colonel.

THE COLONEL

Well, I suppose when you put it that way...

ALEX

(to the grounds kids)

I, too, came up through the ranks when at age 14, I began my service here at Water World learning from this great man.

THE COLONEL

Yes....I remember now.....what was your grounds nickname...?

ALEX

Not even sure I remember it myself, sir. But I remember much more. Did you tell them about the film?

THE COLONEL

Film?

ALEX

(to THE COLONEL)

"Hygiene Makes You Happy"

(to the grounds kids)

Every enlisted man in the army has seen it. Some by choice. All from the mind of The Colonel here...

THE COLONEL

(to himself)

I never forget a grounds nickname....

AOKEE has finally made it now, but is, of course, out of breath again.

THE COLONEL (CONT'D)

(concerned)
Aokee, good God, man...are you OK?

AOKEE gestures he is fine, and does a combination of charades and Hawaiian pantomime before he finally speaks.

AOKEE
Colonel....terrible mistake...

ALEX gets behind AOKEE, deciding he needs some help, feeding him words.

ALEX
(quietly behind AOKEE)
Bureaucratic bumble...

AOKEE
Bureaucratic bumble....

ALEX
Lost paperwork....

AOKEE
Lost paperwork....

ALEX
An error in the front office...

AOKEE
Error in front office....

ALEX
Spiced applesauce....

AOKEE
Spiced...

AOKEE stops, turn and glares at ALEX, who merely smiles and shrugs.

THE COLONEL
Good God, man, what are you trying to say?

ALEX comes around from behind AOKEE.

ALEX
It's Robbie sir. He was supposed to work at Aokee's and through some crazy mix-up, he ended up here.

THE COLONEL
(looking at clipboard)
Zirpollo? Well this is highly irregular...

He is flipping though the papers, confused.

ALEX
(can't pass this up)

Most annoying....

THE COLONEL
Most annoying....

ALEX
Never happened before....

THE COLONEL
Never happened before....

ALEX
Spaghetti marinara...

THE COLONEL
Spa...what?
(exasperated)
Well, if he was supposed to be assigned
to you, we'll just have to let him go...

ROBBIE has caught on and is quick to step out of line, and
pick up his shirt to be ready to go.

ROBBIE
(to THE COLONEL)
I was confused myself, sir. I had heard
I was working for some Hawaiian guy.

AOKEE
(reassuring)
I promise, we go straight to personnel,
straighten the whole thing out. You
won't need to worry.

THE COLONEL
Very well. We'll just have to make-do.

THE COLONEL goes back to the girl MELINDA he was about to
nickname before the interruption, but is staring after ALEX,
AOKEE and ROBBIE as they walk off. He looks at MELINDA. He
looks back at ALEX & company. It hits him.

THE COLONEL (CONT'D)
(remembering)
Snafu.

MELINDA
Sir?

THE COLONEL
His grounds crew nickname. I remember it
now. Snafu.

12 EXT -DAY - HILL AREA ABOVE THUNDER BAY

12

The entire staff of Water World is assembled for a pre
opening pep talk from owner BIG MIKE MAXWELL. He wears a
Water World Golf shirt, shorts and a crew-style marine hat.
Standing next to him is RICHARD THOMPSON, head lifeguard.
The workers are sitting on the hill.

AOKEE, THE COLONEL and other "management" types are standing off to the side. TIFFANY and her friends are sitting up front.

ALEX and ROBBIE are sitting together towards the back, and ROBBIE's grounds t-shirt is no longer in his hand, but has been replaced by a folded AOKEE'S blue Hawaiian shirt.

There is a lot of noise from everyone talking.

BIG MIKE

(motioning to get everyone to settle down)

Okay, everybody, let's quiet down for a minute.

(they do, and he looks down at his clipboard)

For those who don't know me, my name is Michael Maxwell, and I...sort of run things around here.

A chant starts up, with affection...

EVERYONE TOGETHER

Big Mike! Big Mike! Big Mike!

BIG MIKE smiles, this has happened before, probably a tradition.

BIG MIKE

(again motioning to settle down)

Okay, yeah thanks. Now, I want go over a few basic things. First of all, make sure you've all filled out your paperwork with personnel, cause nobody gets paid unless they do. Come to think of it, I suppose it's better for me that you don't fill out your paperwork, then I don't have to pay you. I'll make it optional. If you want to get paid, fill out your paperwork.

(looking at clipboard)

Let's remember, the people who come here are our guests, and your job is to see they have a safe and fun experience here. Let's work together to keep the park clean and safe, and we'll have a great summer together. Now with a few words is our head lifeguard, Richard Thompson.

Another cheer starts up, smaller this time, which ALEX starts.

SMALLER GROUP

Big Dick! Big Dick Big Dick!

RICHARD

(wincing some, but not

surprised, motioning to settle
down)

Yeah, yeah, very funny, we're all very
amused. Okay, many of you have been in
training for some time, and some of you
still have a ways to go...

WE SEE a quick shot of some geeky younger guards wearing
water wings, sharky goggles and noseplugs and looking less
than confident...

RICHARD (CONT'D)

(glancing at the water wing
group wistfully, almost to
himself)

...a long ways to go...

He looks down at his clipboard.

RICHARD (CONT'D)

...but I'd like to take a moment to
speak, mostly to the guards, but
certainly everyone has a role in this.
We can take everything we've learned and
distill it down to two simple rules.
Rule number one:

He pauses, thoughtful for a moment, but building into a near
rage for effect to impress on everyone...

RICHARD (CONT'D)

(loudly, emphatically, angry at
the thought that anybody
might...)

Don't drown!

He stops, composing himself.

RICHARD (CONT'D)

(almost quietly)

Rule number two:

Again, thoughtful but building to a rage at the thought that
this could happen...

RICHARD (CONT'D)

(loudly, emphatically)

Don't let anyone else drown!

He stops again, and regains his composure.

RICHARD (CONT'D)

(almost quietly to the stunned
crowd)

Thank you. Have a great summer!

There is stunned silence for a moment. They're not sure how
to react.

ALEX

(breaking the silence)
Alright! Whoo whoo!

ALEX, then everyone begins applauding. ROBBIE looks at ALEX quizzically, ALEX just shrugs. The meeting breaks up.

13 INT - MORNING - THE NEXT DAY - AOKEE'S SURF & SNACK SHACK 13

Everyone is hurrying around, getting ready for opening day. ROBBIE, wearing his new blue Hawaiian shirt, is cutting pineapple. AOKEE is busy hovering over everyone, and cooking chicken on the grill. ALEX walks in.

ALEX
(to ROBBIE)
Hey, hey lookin' good. Blue is your color. Beats that stupid t-shirt, huh?

AOKEE
(unhappy, stressed)
Alex! You are late. Come on, is opening day!

ROBBIE finishes the pineapple and hands the tray to AOKEE, almost spilling it.

AOKEE (CONT'D)
(to ROBBIE and ALEX)
You two start setting tables.

ALEX takes a pile of silverware wrapped in napkins, and points to ROBBIE to grab a box of sugar packets to refill the dispensers. ROBBIE grabs it quickly, enthusiastically, but loses his grip and spills the packets on the floor.

At that moment, AUDREY a girl in her teens who works at AOKEE'S and is stacking plastic cups on the counter, accidentally knocks a stack of cups to the ground.

RAMON, a teenage boy who works there is behind the counter. He bends over, disappearing, and we hear a crash of pots and pans. His head peers up from below the counter sheepishly.

AOKEE turns from the grill looking at all this, and has a worried look, but smiles and shrugs weakly.

AOKEE (CONT'D)
(to ALEX, gesturing)
Alex. Come here a minute.

ALEX comes up close next to him at the grill so they can talk.

AOKEE (CONT'D)
(with intensity)
Alex, look. We falling apart. I made you assistant manager this year. Go assistant manage.

ALEX

(agreeing)
No problem.

ALEX pops a CD out of the rack above the sound system, and puts it in the CD player, stopping the standard pastoral Hawaiian music that has been playing.

He turns up the volume some on the amp, and goes over to SARAH, a teenage girl working there, and grabs her grass skirt by the Velcro, removing it with a Velcro rip.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Sorry, Sarah, but I need to borrow this.

SARAH
(surprised)
Hey! How did you know I wear shorts under that?

ALEX
(mock surprise, rolling his eyes)
Oh, Puh-leeaase.

ALEX walks back out to the dining area, everyone is still working.

ALEX (CONT'D)
(to all)
Ladies and Gentlemen, may I have your attention, please?

Everyone stops and looks at ALEX.

ALEX (CONT'D)
In exactly 30 minutes, hundreds of dripping wet customers with fistfuls of money smelling of chlorine and suntan lotion will be walking in here. And what will they be looking for?
(as if directing a choir)

EVERYONE TOGETHER
(except ROBBIE, who doesn't know any better)
The best teriyaki east of the pacific!!!

ALEX
Annnnnnd?

EVERYONE TOGETHER
(Again except ROBBIE, who doesn't know any better)
The finest smoothies in the state!!!

ALEX
Now, everyone's a little tense, except me, of course. So to help you get in the proper frame of mind and relax, we need

the right soundtrack.
(to AOKEE)
Maestro?

AOKEE hits the play button on the CD player.

ALEX (CONT'D)
This is little tune I like to call the
Paradise Slide.
(mouthing with the song as it
starts)
One, two, a one two three.

The music starts and ALEX, now wearing SARAH's grass skirt,
launches into his version of the electric slide, Hawaiian
style.

EVERYONE ELSE gets the beat and begins working to the music.
AOKEE is using his spatulas as drum sticks on the overhanging
kitchen tools.

RAMON has inverted an empty pot and is beating it conga-drum
style.

ROBBIE has picked up the sugar packets and ALEX is dancing
and quickly (almost casually) tossing silverware/napkin rolls
to ROBBIE as ROBBIE catches them (at first with some
difficulty) and puts them on the tables.

SARAH has re-stacked the cups, and is juggling salt & pepper
shakers, placing them on the tables. AUDREY chops onions to
the beat.

EVERYONE TOGETHER
(on the chorus)
Don Ho, Don Ho, Don Ho. Don Ho, Don Ho,
Don Ho.

AOKEE has now taken all the chicken off the grill and comes
out from behind the counter, dancing. The others form a
CONGA LINE behind him.

EVERYONE TOGETHER (CONT'D)
(on the chorus)
Don Ho, Don Ho, Don Ho. Don Ho, Don Ho,
Don Ho.

As they go by the tables they put on any missing items. They
get into it more and more, AOKEE especially, swinging his
huge, 375 pound guy hips.

EVERYONE TOGETHER (CONT'D)
(on the chorus)
Don Ho, Don Ho, Don Ho. Don Ho, Don Ho,
Don Ho.

As the song ends (abruptly), AOKEE bumps a surfboard (part of
the restaurant's decoration) with his hip, knocking it and
another one to the ground.

There is a loud crash and everyone pauses and looks at AOKEE, waiting to see if he gets mad.

AOKEE looks down at his hip, and makes a puppy-dog face like "I didn't know my hips were that big...." Everyone claps, laughing. AOKEE takes a bow.

14 INT -LATER THAT DAY - AOKEE'S SURF & SNACK SHACK 14

ROBBIE and ALEX are carrying bus tubs loaded with dirty dishes back toward the kitchen from the dining area.

AOKEE is sipping on a smoothie and leaning back on a counter. There are only a few customers in the eating area.

They set the tubs down on a counter that passes to the back area. An unseen person takes them into the dishwashing area.

AOKEE

(to ALEX and ROBBIE)

You did good work today. Here. I made you some of my special Power Smoothies. More customers later wanting dinner before park closes. I can't have you falling asleep on me.

AOKEE (CONT'D)

(to ALEX)

Alex, we are completely out of table stretchers and left-handed coffee pots. Take Robbie and go find some. I think some at the first-aid station near Surf's Up pool.

ALEX

(nodding knowingly)

Right. See you in a little while.

They walk off carrying their smoothies.

15 EXT - MOMENTS LATER - THUNDER BAY CONCESSIONS AREA 15

ROBBIE and ALEX are walking past Thunder Bay concessions area toward THE WAVE carrying and drinking their smoothies.

ROBBIE

So that was a typical lunch crowd?

ALEX

Well, it's early in the season yet. We'll get busier.

ROBBIE

(incredulous)

Busier?

ALEX

(laughing)

Don't worry. You'll get used to it. And tips were good, right?

ROBBIE

There's nothing like cash money in your pocket. What's that over there?

They are coming up on THE WAVE area.

ALEX

Oh, you'll find this ride interesting.

16

EXT - MOMENTS LATER - DAY - THE WAVE AREA

16

The walk up to THE WAVE attraction, where kids are surfing in a high-water pressure river/ sheet of water. Surf music plays loudly here, and kids are doing all kinds of tricks. Some riders are good, some are not, and fall quickly.

We also see SKEETER and SNITCH, the tall skinny and short chubby grounds kids we met earlier. They are cleaning up around the exit area of THE WAVE.

ALEX

(as a rider falls)

It's a lot harder than it looks.

ROBBIE

I can't imagine it's that difficult.

(to himself)

...no rudder on the board...

ALEX

Now this is a place of many wonders. See those guys in line over there?

WE SEE some guys that look a little stoned with unusual hair laughing and talking to each other.

ALEX (CONT'D)

We call them "Wave Bums". They all have season passes, and do little more than ride the wave all day long. Some of them get pretty good.

Alex points up to a fence, behind which some smoke appears to be drifting up.

ALEX (CONT'D)

That's where they hang out when they're not riding the wave. Don't get too close to them.

ROBBIE

No?

ALEX

(sniffing)

Contact high.

ROBBIE nods, understanding. ALEX points back to THE WAVE.

ALEX (CONT'D)

And there, my friend, is another one of
The Wave's features.

WE SEE a pretty girl in line to ride.

ALEX (CONT'D)

We call them "Wave Babes". And there's a
special secret to this ride.

With that ALEX walks over to BOB, a guy in his late teens,
wearing a Security Golf Shirt. He is standing and looking
off in a different direction.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Hey, Bob....can I borrow your radio a
minute?

BOB

Sure.

He hands him the radio, and ALEX is back with ROBBIE.

ALEX

(into radio)

Hey Frank, it's Alex.

ALEX waves and FRANK, the guard watching THE WAVE waves back.

FRANK VO

(heard through the radio)

Yo, Alex.

ALEX

(into radio)

Listen you have a possible code 4.

(to ROBBIE)

Means a "hottie".

ALEX (CONT'D)

(to radio)

She's up next. A free chicken sandwich
and a smoothie if you bounce up the
pressure a bit.

FRANK VO

(heard through radio)

You got it bud. But two smoothies.
"Volcanos".

ALEX

(to ROBBIE)

He knows my weak spot.

(to radio)

Two Volcanos and a chicken sandwich.

FRANK VO

(heard through radio)

Time to go to ludicrous speed!

WE SEE FRANK push forward on a handle next to him that seems to resemble the throttle on a speedboat. The ambient noise from the wave is noticeably higher.

The WAVE BABE jumps into the water with the board. SKEETER and SNITCH are still cleaning near the exit.

ALEX
(to ROBBIE, still holding the
radio)
Watch, and wait....

THEY LOOK intently at the WAVE BABE, who is pretty good, even with the increased water flow. But, after a few deft moves, she falls. ALEX looks, and sees what he is looking for. ROBBIE smiles.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Yesss!

We look back at the WAVE BABE, but the water is obscuring our view. We then see a medium shot of SKEETER and SNITCH. The WAVE BABE walks past them carrying a board, but we don't see below her waist, the board obscures our view.

SNITCH sees, and freezes, dumbstruck. SKEETER is looking down at the grate where THE WAVE water drains. He reaches down and pulls something out, and turns to the WAVE BABE walking away.

SKEETER
(unaffected)
Excuse me... Miss?
(louder)
Hello...excuse me...?

Finally she turns. We see her, but just a flash of her from the back, as the board covers her waist area. She is puzzled by this grounds kid.

SKEETER (CONT'D)
(holding up the bottom to her
swimsuit)
Is this yours?

She looks down behind the board and reacts. She bites her lower lip, winces and nods yes.

SKEETER hands her her swimsuit, and she looks around and backs away towards a towel hanging from the fence nearby. SNITCH is still frozen, stunned by what he's just seen, mouth wide open. SKEETER waves his hand in front of SNITCH's face.

No reaction. He's never seen a naked girl before.

We're back to ALEX and ROBBIE.

ROBBIE
(looking at ALEX)
You were right. I was interested in

this.

ALEX

Well, sometime bring your swimsuit. We'll come back on break. I'll show you how to do it. Surf's is this way. And keep an eye out for Frank over there. We owe him.

ROBBIE nods in agreement, and they walk off.

17 EXT MOMENTS LATER - DAY - NEAR SURF'S UP POOL 17

ROBBIE and ALEX are walking past the SURF'S UP wave pool.

ALEX

(pointing)

The First Aid station is over there. Just ask the guard. I just want to say hello to this girl I know.

ROBBIE

OK.

ROBBIE walks over to the First Aid Station. DOUG FITZGERALD, the guy we heard in line on the first day is there, he's a guard.

ROBBIE (CONT'D)

Hey. I've been sent to find some table stretchers and left-handed coffee pots.

DOUG

Oh, you must be the new guy at Aokee's.

ROBBIE

Yeah, how'd you know?

DOUG

Lucky guess. Saw some at the top of River Country. Just ask one of the guards over there.

ROBBIE

Thanks.

DOUG

And hey...tell that wienie Alex he still owes me twenty bucks!

ROBBIE

(looking back and waving as he walks away)

Got it.

18 EXT - MOMENTS LATER - CUSTOMER SERVICE KIOSK 18

ALEX and ROBBIE are walking to RIVER COUNTRY and walk past JAFFA in the CUSTOMER SERVICE KIOSK.

JAFFA
 (calling out)
 Alex!

They turn and walk over.

ALEX
 Jama...I mean...Jaffa the Jamaican...what
 shakes, it mon?

JAFFA
 Jus' the same old this's and that's, mon.

ALEX
 Jaffa, meet Robbie Zirpollo.
 (to ROBBIE)
 Jaffa plays the tunes and talks the talk.

The PHONE RINGS, and Jaffa turns to answer.

JAFFA
 (into phone)
 What? No way.
 (hangs up phone, to ALEX &
 ROBBIE)
 Check it out...

JAFFA smiles and picks up a radio.

JAFFA (CONT'D)
 (into radio)
 Attention Lost River guards. We have a
 report that some huge fat bald guy has
 abandoned his swimsuit and is slidin'
 down Lost River with nothin' on but a
 smile. Be watchin' for a great white
 whale now.

19 EXT - DAY - TOP OF LOST RIVER RIDE 19

WE SEE two female life guards, both with a surprised look on
 their faces. One has just reached into the water and picks it
 up to display a HUGE pair of swim trunks. Both girls make an
 Eeeew face.

20 EXT - DAY - CUSTOMER SERVICE KIOSK 20

JAFFA
 (on PA system now, into mike)
 Attention please. Will Mr. John Big
 Bootay report to Lost River Splashdown.
 John Big-Bootay to Lost River Splashdown.

ALEX
 (to ROBBIE)
 He's calling for security.

ALEX wanders off a moment, looking at something going on in
 the distance.

ROBBIE

(to JAFFA)

Wow. Jamaica. I thought I was far from home.

JAFFA

(dropping the accent a bit)

I'll let you in on a little secret. Perception is everything...now, Jamal from Aurora, he's probably over with those guys...

WE SEE SKEETER and SNITCH walking into the men's room, looking suspiciously around.

JAFFA (CONT'D)

(back to the accent)

...cleaning the rest rooms. But Jaffa from Jamaica, he's in customer service, wearin' the nice shirt and playing the music. Perception and atmosphere. You get it?

ROBBIE smiles and nods, and waves goodbye to catch up with ALEX.

21 INT - MOMENTS LATER - IN MEN'S CHANGING/REST ROOM 21

SNITCH is filling up a water balloon, while SKEETER is tying a piece of fishing line to the hook on the inside of the stall door. SKEETER climbs up on top of the stall.

SNITCH is tying off the water balloon and grabs the other end of the fishing line, and ties it to the fill end of the balloon. He shuts the stall door, tosses the balloon up to SKEETER, who places it strategically on the beam above the toilet. SKEETER then jumps down, and they head for the door.

Eddie Enters. We see EDDIE cautiously checking out the restroom. He reaches up over the closed stall door and feels gingerly the fishing line. He smiles and shakes his head, and heads for the door.

22 EXT -MOMENTS LATER - APPROACHING MEN'S CHANGING/REST ROOM 22

EDDIE is now pushing his cart and making his way toward the MEN'S RESTROOM. He stops to talk to two concessions girls and show them a magic trick that apparently involves a deck of cards, which he pulls from a place on his cart. We see him holding the cards so one girl can pick one.

23 EXT - MOMENTS LATER - IN FRONT OF MEN'S CHANGING/REST ROOM 23

SKEETER pops his head out and looks around. He sees Eddie in the distance about 5 minutes away, and putting a plastic liner in a trash can. He nods and disappears into the men's room.

SKEETER and SNITCH appear at the door, look out, and see EDDIE finishing his card trick. He presents a card for the

girls to see, and the both nod encouragingly, but as they walk off, they look at each other and shrug.

SKEETER and SNITCH take off, barely containing their laughter. But EDDIE notices them leaving. All of this has happened under the watchful though distant eye of ALEX.

EDDIE goes into the restroom.

EDDIE exits the restroom and goes to his cart. At this point ALEX and ROBBIE walk up to him.

ALEX
Hey Eddie. What have you got?

EDDIE
Water balloon.

EDDIE reached onto his cart and pulls out a pair of scissors, eyeing them.

ALEX
You got this?

EDDIE
Yeah. Rookies!

ALEX and ROBBIE walk away as EDDIE places a "RESTROOM CLOSED" sandwich board in front of the door. Just then BIG MIKE rushes up.

BIG MIKE
(big hurry-potty emergency)
Oh Eddie. Listen, I know you're working but you hold on for just a minute. I've been so busy, and I really gotta go.

EDDIE motions and tries to find the words....

EDDIE
But....no....

But BIG MIKE is already in. Eddies waits for it, wincing, and there is a loud splash...

BIG MIKE (O.S.)
(echoing through the door)
Yeahhhah that's cold!

EDDIE just shrugs and puts away his scissors.

24 EXT -MOMENTS LATER - TOP OF RIVER COUNTRY

24

Two young women guards, KATIE and AMY are loading kids into tubes and pushing them onto the slide. AMY is a little older than KATIE.

AMY
...so then he just disappeared. I had to call my Dad to come pick me up.

KATIE just shakes her head in amazement. ROBBIE and ALEX walk up to them. AMY is out of earshot, loading a kid. ALEX hangs back a bit.

ROBBIE

(to KATIE)

Hi. We're looking for some table stretchers and left-handed coffee pots.

KATIE

What? Amy, this guy is looking for a table stretcher?

AMY

(coming over)

Aokee's huh?

ROBBIE

(surprised)

Uh, yes...

AMY

(to ROBBIE, seeing ALEX in the background)

They're all down at Big Mike's last I saw.

(to ALEX)

When you gonna tell him?

ALEX

Hi, Amy. Who's this?

AMY

Katie, this is Alex and...

ROBBIE

(taken with KATIE)

Robbie. Ummm, Rob Zirpollo.

AMY

Well, anyway, Big Mike's is where they are.

ROBBIE

Thanks.

ALEX and ROBBIE walk off.

AMY

What a couple of losers.

KATIE

I don't know...I thought Robbie was kind of cute...

AMY

Listen, you're new, so let me tell you how things are. First those guys were wearing blue shorts. That means

concessions.

(uses her fingers to explain)

The Water World social structure is organized on three levels. At the bottom are the Trash Rats.

KATIE

Trash rats?

AMY

Bottom feeders. Grounds kids. Babies. They clean the toilets and empty the trash. Most are only 14 years old. It's the only job younger kids can do here. Next up is concessions. They're our "middle class". We don't hang with them and they don't much hang with us. At the top of heap are the guards. You are a guard. Girl, if you want to go out with someone, stick with your own kind.

KATIE

(looking off at ROBBIE and ALEX walking away)

Aw, that's just silly. I think he's cute.

25 EXT -DAY BOTTOM OF RIVER COUNTRY ON THE WAY TO BIG MIKE'S 25

This in an area where riders splash down from riding a tube down the River Country slides. ROBBIE and ALEX are walking past the splashdown area.

ROBBIE

What did that girl Amy mean?

ALEX

About what?

ROBBIE

When she said, when are you going to tell him?

ALEX

I'll tell you over a hamburger at Big Mike's.

ROBBIE and ALEX proceed to BIG MIKE'S out of frame.

SUDDENLY in the background we see a tube splashdown from a slide and the 7 year-old girl riding in it falls out.

Realizing she is no longer safely in a tube she screams and begins splashing as if drowning. A guard nearby blows a single tweet of her whistle.

IN SLOW MOTION we see four other guards throughout the area turn and react to the whistle. They begin running, BAYWATCH style towards the scene.

Two guards are running and carrying a backboard. They converge in another BAYWATCH style slow-mo shot and line up along the edge of the splashdown pool.

One guard in the middle has a rescue tube, and, still in slow motion, squats down slowly as if to jump in and rescue the girl.

At the low end of the jump crouch, however he stops. WE SEE his face in close-up as he says.

RESCUE GUARD
(slow-motion, voice distorted,
to the girl)
Staaaaannnd Uuuuuuuupppp!

The drowning girl stops splashing wildly, and realizes she can indeed stand up. She looks at all the guards lined up, smiles sheepishly, and walks out of the pool.

26 EXT - MOMENTS LATER - BIG MIKE'S

26

ALEX is standing outside of BIG MIKE'S. ROBBIE is walking out of the restaurant.

ROBBIE
(Shaking his head)
Aokee's not going to be happy. Nobody seems to know where these things are...

ALEX
(smiling)
Yep.
(now laughing)

ROBBIE
What?

ALEX
There's no such thing as a table stretcher or a left-handed coffee pot.

ROBBIE
What a dirty trick.

ALEX
(smiling)
It's just Aokee's way of giving you a tour of the park without having to be there. Consider it a rookie initiation.

ROBBIE
(still mad)
Humph.

ALEX
Time to make it up to you. Come on.

27 EXT. DAY - BACK OF BIG MIKE'S

27

ALEX knocks loudly on the door.

A teenage boy, DAVE in a BIG MIKE's uniform answers.

DAVE

Alex!

ALEX

Hey Davey...how 'bout two for two?

DAVE

Malts?

ALEX

(looks at ROBBIE)

Chocolate.

(ROBBIE nods)

DAVE disappears for moment.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Now, if he ever shows up at our back door, we owe him chicken and smoothies.

ROBBIE

But...don't we get an employee discount? Shouldn't we go in the front?

ALEX

Well...the discount is larger this way.

ROBBIE is getting out money from his pocket, counting through it.

DAVE shows up with two burgers and two malts, and hands them to ALEX, disappears and shuts the door quickly. ROBBIE is still staring at his money.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Come on...let's go eat!

They walk out of frame.

28 INT -DAY AOKEE'S SURF AND SNACK SHACK

28

ALEX and ROBBIE are cleaning tables after another busy lunch. WE SEE that AOKEE is filling up a bucket, and getting a scrub brush, and heads out the doorway.

ALEX

Oh boy. Here we go.

ROBBIE

What now?

ALEX

Aokee. The pigeons have been taking target practice on his trophy pedestal. Come on.

They exit out the same doorway as AOKEE.

29 EXT - DAY - AOKEE'S SURF AND SNACK SHACK

29

AOKEE is busily cleaning and cursing the pigeons.

AOKEE
(speaking Hawaiian)
Stupid Pigeons. They should all die!

ALEX
(to ROBBIE)
Happens every week.

ROBBIE
(to AOKEE)
What is this thing for anyway?

AOKEE
Someday, Robbie. Someday.

He keeps cleaning.

ALEX
(to ROBBIE)
That stand is to display the coveted
Surfer King trophy.
Aokee seems to think that one day some
concessions kid with more courage than
brains is going to beat the lifeguards in
the annual Employee Olympics.

ROBBIE
And what would this concessions kid have
to do?

ALEX
Nothing, really. Just out surf the
strongest guard of them all in the
surfing competition. No big deal.

ROBBIE
Has it ever happened?

ALEX
A guard always wins the surf competition.
Know why?

TOGETHER
(ROBBIE and ALEX)
Because concessions kids can't swim!

AOKEE
(still cleaning)
Someday.

They go back into AOKEE'S SURF AND SNACK SHACK.

30 INT MOMENTS LATER -DAY- AOKEE'S SURF AND SNACK SHACK

30

ROBBIE is now behind the counter making smoothies. He puts

them up and the two kids waiting take them and walk away.

In walk AMY and KATIE.

KATIE
(to ROBBIE)
Hi there.

ROBBIE
(blinking, smiling)
Hello. On break?

KATIE
Yeah. Two Blue Crushes please.

ROBBIE
Coming up.

He shakes a mix container, blends it for about 5 seconds and pours it out into two cups. He then puts in two umbrellas with pineapple.

AMY
Oooh. Umbrellas. I've never gotten umbrellas before.

ROBBIE
These are only for VIP guests.

AMY looks over to KATIE and rolls her eyes.

ALEX arrives at this point, and decides to provide a distraction.

ALEX
Amy. Have you ever seen the fabulous Cummings and Robbins 2000-B?

AMY
(shaking her head)
I don't think so.

As he leads her back into the kitchen...

ALEX
It's incredible. It washes 2000 plates an hour....

KATIE
(to ROBBIE)
So... you're not from around here, huh?

ROBBIE
California. I just moved here at the beginning of the summer.

KATIE
I'll bet California's nice. I've never been west of the mountains.

ROBBIE

You'd love the ocean. And the sunsets are incredible. You can almost hear the sizzle as the sun drops into the ocean...

(daydreaming a bit)

Of course, we all know it doesn't drop into the ocean.

KATIE

No.

(pause)

I'm surprised you're not a guard, coming from the ocean and all.

ROBBIE

Let's just say I missed my chance, and Alex saved me from a death worse than fate. I was very nearly a trash rat.

KATIE

(frowns)

Oh. Good save.

ALEX has distracted AMY all he could and they return from the kitchen.

AMY

Well. That was exciting. Maybe next time you can show me how to scrub the grill. Come on, Katie.

They leave.

ALEX

(to ROBBIE, interested)

Well...how'd you do?

ROBBIE

(thinking)

Mmmm. I told her how beautiful the California sunsets are.

ALEX

Good job. You work fast. Hey it's time for our break. Bring your swimsuit?

ROBBIE

Yeah. The Wave?

ALEX

The Wave. I love that water.

ROBBIE looks confused.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Can't swim. It's only three inches deep.

ROBBIE

(grabbing his suit and a towel)

Ah ha! Let's go.

31 EXT -MOMENTS LATER - THE WAVE AREA 31

ROBBIE and ALEX have their swimsuits on, and are in line to get on THE WAVE. ALEX is coaching ROBBIE.

ALEX

Now, just take it easy, and don't expect too much at first. When you wipe out, your ride is done.

ALEX is up now, and he grabs the board and jumps in. He is pretty good, but not nearly as good as the WAVE BUMS. He does a few tricks and wipes out. He gets up and walks up to the line to watch ROBBIE.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(shouting)

Just ease into it.

ROBBIE takes the board and looks around. He jumps full force onto the wave. It takes him just a moment to get the feel of the board, and then he is all over it, making the WAVE BUMS look like rookies. Spins, rolls, everything that can be done he does. Finally, the guard blows a whistle indicating that his time is up.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(meeting him at the exit)

Gees. Where did you learn to do that?

ROBBIE

I'm from Oceanside, California. I was born on a surfboard.

They start walking back.

They stop for a moment to look at Thunder Bay. Just then a wave spews out, and kids on tubes are screaming as they always do.

ALEX

Think you could ride that?

ROBBIE

(looking right into ALEX's eyes)

In my sleep.

ALEX just smiles.

32 INT - LATER THAT DAY - AOKEE'S SURF & SNACK SHACK 32

AOKEE is cleaning up behind the counter. ALEX is grinning like the cat that ate the canary.

AOKEE

What you so happy about?

ALEX

(shaking his head)
You're not gonna believe it...

AOKEE
Listen. Some guy came in today and try
to buy a sandwich and pay with a phone
card. Today I believe anything.

ALEX
I took Robbie to The Wave today.

AOKEE
(looking around)
What? He drown?

ALEX
No. It turns out that he's from
Oceanside. California. You know, where
they always hold those surf competitions?

AOKEE
Yeah. So?

ALEX
It turns out that he placed second in the
state high school finals for the
shortboard competition. As a Sophomore.

AOKEE
Robbie.
(laughing in disbelief,
dismissive, then serious)
Robbie barely walk without help.

ALEX
I saw it myself. You wouldn't believe
it.

We hear a loud CRASH from the kitchen. AOKEE winces and
gestures toward the kitchen.

AOKEE
I don' believe it. Our Robbie?

ALEX
Our Robbie.

AOKEE
(thinking)
If this true....this could be da year.

ALEX
That's what I was thinking.

AOKEE
Well, go get him. We need to make ready.
He not just walk in and win this thing.

ALEX
You heard it. He's in the kitchen...

ALEX goes into the back. AOKEE sits at a table. Robbie comes out of the kitchen wearing a dishwasher apron.

AOKEE

Robbie, sit down. Alex, make up a Volcano. This boy in training.

ROBBIE

(sitting down, worried)
What did I spill now?

WE HEAR the whine of a blender as ALEX is working on the Volcano Smoothie.

AOKEE

Robbie, Alex tell me you are some kind of surfer. This true?

ROBBIE

I dunno. Yeah, surfing is usually how I spend my summers.

AOKEE

You know about Employee Olympics?

ROBBIE

Yeah. Some kind of trophy.

AOKEE

Surfer King trophy. Very big. Very nice.

(looking down)

Concessions never win.

ALEX arrives with the Volcano Smoothie. He turns a chair around and sits. They will gang up on him.

ROBBIE

I dunno...seems kind of silly to me.

ALEX

It's a big deal. Every girl wants to date you. Every guy wants to BE you. Special privileges...we all wear standard uniforms. The Surfer King gets to be creative. You ever see the cowboy hat Cowboy wears?

ROBBIE

It shouldn't be that hard...how good could this Cowboy be?

AOKEE

He very good. His family go to Hawaii every year, two, three weeks. Good surfer. If you do this, you need to see Pipeman.

ROBBIE

Pipeman?

ALEX

He's a myth.

AOKEE

Oh, no. Pipeman very real. Works here in park. Low profile. You must find him and convince him to teach you the secrets of the Thunder Bay wave. This not the ocean, surf boy.

ALEX

(thinking)

Pipeman. The Banzai Pipeline. I get it. Some kind of legendary surf champ. Where do we find him?

AOKEE

I only see him once, maybe twice. Stay behind scenes. But here he is and find him you must.

(to ROBBIE)

So. You do this?

Robbie looks at them, thinking for a moment.

CUT TO:

33 INT -MOMENTS LATER - AOKEE'S SURF & SNACK SHACK 33

WE SEE quarters going ding ding ding into the pay phone on AOKEE'S wall. The shot widens to reveal AOKEE is dumping quarters and ROBBIE is holding the phone. He puts it up to his ear.

ROBBIE

(into phone)

Hello, Grandma? No, I'm fine. Listen, Grandma...I need you to send me a few of my things...

AOKEE and ALEX are huddled around smiling.

34 INT - DAY - BIG MIKE'S OFFICE 34

BIG MIKE is standing, walking around as he speaks, TIFFANY is sitting. Clearly she is being scolded.

BIG MIKE

(angry)

...why you wouldn't believe the things I've heard. Just stupid things. Cutting in line. Demanding special treatment. Oh, and how about this one:

(mimicking her)

Princesses don't carry trash.

(back to his voice)

I've often thought it was a mistake to have you work here. Maybe I was right.

TIFFANY

(trying to dance out of it)
Oh, daddy. You know how jealous people
get.

BIG MIKE

I'd almost believe that. But I was behind
the First Aid station when you said the
"princess" line. This park exists
because the kids here work hard. They
need to be treated fairly. They need to
see you are just another lifeguard.

TIFFANY

(protesting)
But I'm not just another lifeguard.

BIG MIKE

(mad again)
You won't even be that if this continues.
If you want to keep coming here every day
and driving that little convertible of
yours, I need to see real, concrete
changes in your attitude.

TIFFANY

All right. What do you expect me to do?

BIG MIKE

For one thing, start mingling with "the
commoners". You'd be amazed at how nice
some of the people who work here are.
Make some friends outside that little
group of yours. It's the work of the
average teenager here that puts food on
our table. Show some gratitude.

TIFFANY

(thinking a moment)
Fine. I'll work it.

BIG MIKE

(softening, but firm)
Good. Work on it. Please?

TIFFANY

(nodding, but we don't believe
her)
Oh, Daddy. Don't worry about a thing.

35 EXT MORNING - THE NEXT DAY - TIME SHACK

35

ROBBIE and ALEX hook up and grab their time cards. There is
a banner hanging that says, "Employee Luau Tonight", and
SKEETER and SNITCH have taken a 5 gallon bucket and are using
it as a stepladder to attach something.

SKEETER is on the bucket with a stapler in his hand. SNITCH
hands up the hand-lettered magic marker addition, which

SKEETER staples on to the bottom of the banner while SNITCH keeps a lookout.

The addition says, "COME GET LEI'D". They scamper off, laughing.

ALEX

(looking up at the sign)

This will be good. Aokee throws a great Luau.

ROBBIE

I don't how much fun it will be. With Aokee hosting, we'll be working.

ALEX

There'll still be time for fun. Most of the work is setting up. Besides, we get paid, too. When was the last time you got paid to party?

With that, ALEX punches in, as if to punctuate the line.

36 EXT - NIGHT - OUTSIDE AOKEE'S SURF & SNACK SHACK 36

It is dark, but the place is lit up by little lights everywhere, Christmas lights in the fake palm trees, TIKI lights around AOKEE'S, and lights lighting a stage where a band is playing, what else, surf music.

Buffet tables line the area, and there is SMOOTHIE BAR set up. BIG MIKE himself is behind the bar making smoothies, while RICHARD is playing bass in the band. AOKEE is running around making sure all the buffet items are full. Everyone is wearing Leis, but the cheap plastic ones, except AOKEE and his staff, who have real ones flown in from Hawaii.

AOKEE

(pouring out four smoothies to ROBBIE and ALEX)

OK. You work hard, and we fine now. Your time to party. Here they are. Special Love Smoothies. Be careful!

ALEX

(to ROBBIE)

These never fail.

ALEX picks up two Leis from a box behind the counter. He and Robbie walk over to AMY and KATIE who are standing over near the buffet.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(to ROBBIE, but in front of AMY and Katie)

Now this will never do.

ROBBIE

(agreeing)

I'm afraid you're right. Something must

be done.

ALEX and ROBBIE set the smoothies on a nearby table. They remove the cheap plastic leis the girls are wearing. Then they put on the real ones they carried over. ALEX steps back to admire his work.

ALEX
Oh, yes, yes....

ROBBIE
Perfect. A work of art.

The girls look at each other and smile. ALEX and ROBBIE grab the smoothies and hand two to the girls. AMY sips hers right away.

AMY
I don't remember anything like this on Aokee's menu.

ROBBIE
They're..

ALEX
(interrupting)
..special smoothies. Fortunately, you know people on the inside.

Onstage, the band had finished a tune before the dialog began above. Now JAFFA steps up to the mike.

JAFFA
We'd like thank Aokee and his crew for hosting this evening's Luau.

Everyone applauds, AOKEE waves. Alex raises a hand and waves off the accolade. ROBBIE nods and smiles as the AMY and KATIE clap as well.

JAFFA (CONT'D)
We'd also like to bring Aokee up to sing one of his Hawaiian specialties.

Again, everyone claps and cheers him on. AOKEE goes on stage.

ALEX
You girls want to dance?

KATIE
(grabbing ROBBIE's hand and leading out to the dance floor)
Sure.

AMY shrugs yes and goes out with ALEX.

AOKEE
(onstage)

Mahalo and Aloha. This song is sung on my island for all young people in love...or about to be. Is called E O'Mai, or, You Are Mine.

AOKEE begins singing the Hawaiian love song, "E O'Mai". Many couples are dancing; it is a slow song.

ALEX, of course, is a goof. He dances slow, but every once in a while executes a deep dip, much to AMY's terror.

EDDIE is off to the edge of the dance floor, watching, longingly, and kind of swaying to the music. A couple of girls walk by and he does a magic trick for them.

He holds both hands up, palms open to show he has nothing in his hands. He also gestures that he has no sleeves (he is wearing a tuxedo t-shirt). He reaches behind his back and pulls out a trick bouquet of flowers, but they don't quite open right, and are still unfolding as he holds them.

EDDIE smiles weakly, he knows that isn't quite how it was supposed to go. The girls appear encouraging, but as they leave look at each other and giggle.

We pick up ROBBIE and KATIE dancing.

KATIE

So. How are things working out at Aokee's?

ROBBIE

Oh, he's great. Alex too. I thought this summer was going to be a train wreck, but it's not turning out too bad.

KATIE

Well, of course this isn't California...

ROBBIE

No, but it looks like I will get a chance to do some surfing anyway.

KATIE

Really.

ROBBIE

Apparently there's some kind of surfing contest and Aokee is all over me to enter.

KATIE

You mean the Surfer King?

ROBBIE

You've heard of it?

KATIE

It's all the other girls seem to talk about. This is my first year, but

apparently it's a pretty big deal. Being from Oceanside, you should have a good chance.

ROBBIE

We'll see. It seems kind of stupid to me. A surfing contest in Colorado.

(laughing)

My friends back home would never believe it.

They continue to dance. WE SEE BIG MIKE talking to TIFFANY and gesturing broadly. TIFFANY is clearly not agreeing with what he is saying. COWBOY is nowhere to be seen. Suddenly she throws up her hands and marches over to the dance floor where EDDIE is standing alone, swaying a bit to the music.

She whispers something in his ear, and EDDIE'S eyes get real big as she leads him by the hand to the middle of the dance floor. She wraps her arms around EDDIE and they dance, all the while glaring at her father.

EDDIE knows a good thing when he sees it, and quickly settles in, Big Man on Campus. TIFFANY is taller than he is, so he happily puts his head on HER shoulder.

BIG MIKE looks back at them, not happy with the way it happened, but satisfied.

DOUG FITZGERALD (twenty bucks DOUG) is dancing with a girl when ALEX, doing some kind of fancy spin to AMY, bumps into him.

DOUG

(to ALEX)

Alex. Got my twenty bucks?

ALEX

Oh, Dougie. You know, I left my wallet over in my locker. I'll see you before we leave and get it to you then.

DOUG

Yeah, sure.

ALEX

You know, you could always come by Aokee's and I could give it to you in trade.

DOUG

Cash money, Alex. Cash money.

ALEX

No problem.

ALEX grabs AMY and swings her into another fancy move that leads them away from DOUG.

The song ends, and everybody claps. AOKEE bows.

ROBBIE

(to KATIE)

Hey, listen. Alex told me about this great spot on the other side of Thunder Bay that looks down on the party, but it's a little more quiet. Want to go for a walk?

KATIE

Sure.

They pick up their smoothies and walk off into the night.

37 EXT MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT - NORTH EDGE OF THUNDER BAY 37

ROBBIE is walking on the seawall that separates the bay from the sunning area, tightrope style. KATIE walks next to him.

KATIE

So...what made your folks pick up from beautiful southern California and move to Colorado?

ROBBIE

Not both my folks. Just my Mom.

KATIE

Aha...trouble in paradise?

ROBBIE

Let's just say my father had an eye for his administrative assistant, and now they're both somewhere in Mexico. Mom got a job here, some of her family's here, so they said "Colorady is the place you outta be".

KATIE

It could be worse.

ROBBIE

Well, I must admit, I've met some very nice people.

(looking down and smiling)

In California, the attitude's a little different. Here, not everyone is out to prove something. Seem's like everyone just wants to have fun.

KATIE

I have a theory. Sometimes it snows here so hard, that it's a challenge just to get to work or to school. Everything shuts down for a day or so. If your car gets stuck, people appear from nowhere to help pull you out and get you back on the road. Most people here don't just look out for themselves. A lot of times,

they're looking out for you, too.

38 EXT. MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT - CUSTOMER SERVICE KIOSK 38

ALEX and AMY are inside the KIOSK. ALEX is showing her how everything works.

ALEX

All these switches feed sound throughout the park. Which reminds me.

He pulls out a CD and pops it into the CD Player and presses PLAY. He sees a flyswatter and begins waving it around like a sword.

ALEX (CONT'D)

And this is for bad little girls who don't know how to have fun.

He begins swishing it around, AMY is giggling.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Oops. There....almost got you.

AMY is dodging and laughing. ALEX closes in and seems like he will kiss her, but just starts gumming her neck, tickling her. AMY leans back laughing and WE SEE her back hits the volume knob on the amplifier.

39 EXT. NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER GRAND PAVILION 39

They have reached the area to the west of Thunder Bay. It is simply a concrete pad that overlooks the party below. We hear "Paradise is in Your Eyes" by Michael Peace, which begins with a lot of jungle sound effects.

KATIE

(looking down at the party)
You were right. This is nice.
(reacting to the jungle noises)
But not necessarily quieter.

ROBBIE

Just a sec.

He walks away slightly and gets on the radio.

ROBBIE (CONT'D)

Hey, Alex. Give us break down here.
Turn down the sound effects.

40 EXT. NIGHT - CUSTOMER SERVICE KIOSK 40

ALEX and AMY are kissing; she is up on the counter of the KIOSK.

ALEX

(interrupting, but to AMY)
Uh oh. Sorry. Hold that thought.

He grabs the radio.

ALEX (CONT'D)
(into the radio)
I'm on it.

He turns down the volume back to normal. He also flips a switch. They hear the tune now, and AMY jumps off the counter, stands there and smiles. ALEX does an over-the-top mambo moving to her and they start to slow dance.

41 EXT. NIGHT - GRAND PAVILION

41

ROBBIE has set down the radio, and is walking back to KATIE now, who is swaying to the music. He doesn't get too close to her, and actually stands off to her left.

Since she has the room and is momentarily inspired, she begins a few dance moves, ballet, and then ballroom style.

ROBBIE has seen this sort of thing before, and instinctively, almost without thinking steps in and becomes her dance partner. They proceed in a beautiful dance that almost seems rehearsed. Finally it occurs to them both.

ROBBIE
(quizzically)
So where did you learn to dance like this?

KATIE
(smiling)
Eight years at Miss Vickie's Studio of Dance. What surprises me is you.

ROBBIE
(somewhat embarrassed, keeps dancing)
Can you keep my deepest, darkest secret?

KATIE
Of course.

ROBBIE
(hesitantly)
When you grow up within spitting distance of Hollywood, every mother seems to think her child is the next Harrison Ford. So when I was about 12, my Mom started taking me to all these auditions for things.

KATIE
So are you the next Harrison Ford?

ROBBIE
Some days I'm not even the next Robbie Zirpollo.

They continue to dance. After a few moments...

KATIE

....and?

They stop and walk over to the railing overlooking the party.

ROBBIE

Turns out I get this part. They're selling some dish soap or something, and they think it will be magical to have two twelve year old kids dancing ballroom on this fantasy set with clouds and everything. They lock this girl and I into a dance studio with a choreographer for two weeks, and then they shoot the commercial.

KATIE

Doesn't sound so terrible. You certainly learned how to dance.

ROBBIE

Yeah, but when it came out everyone in school saw it. I couldn't go anywhere for six months without everyone in the room laughing their heads off.

KATIE

(touched, drawing closer)
I'm not laughing.

They kiss, then return to dancing.

42 EXT. MORNING - THE NEXT DAY - OUTSIDE AOKEE'S SURF & SNACK SHACK - SURF MUSIC BED 42

WE SEE ALEX and ROBBIE discussing something; forming a plan. They are going to look for Pipeman. ALEX gestures in one direction, and ROBBIE takes off. ALEX goes in another.

43 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - DAY FIRST AID SHACK NEAR FUNHOUSE - SURF MUSIC BED 43

ALEX walks up to the Guard, appears to ask a question. The guard shakes his head "no".

ALEX walks off.

44 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - GIFT SHOP - SURF MUSIC BED 44

ROBBIE is talking to a cashier in the store. She shakes her head 'no'. Robbie walks out hurriedly.

45 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - CUSTOMER SERVICE KIOSK - SURF45 MUSIC BED

ALEX is talking to Jaffa. JAFFA gestures wildly, as if telling some big mythical story, but at the end throws up his hands as if to say, "I don't know".

46 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - SOMEWHERE AT WATER WORLD - 46
SURF MUSIC BED

We are in pitch darkness. We hear the sound of heavy scraping metal. Lights shine and we are looking up through a manhole cover being removed. ROBBIE bends over the hole and hollers "PIPEMAN" and peers in. He shakes his head negatively and moves on.

47 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - BIG MIKE'S - SURF MUSIC BED 47

We are at the back door to Big Mike's. ALEX knocks, and the same kid as before, DAVE, pops his head out. ALEX appears to ask a question, DAVE goes back in as ALEX waits. DAVE comes out again and gestures, "no one knows". ALEX starts to leave, but turns back and asks something else. DAVE disappears and comes back with a burger. ALEX shrugs, and walks away unwrapping and eating the burger.

48 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - BACK OF SOME BUILDING 48

ROBBIE sees a door marked, "EMPLOYEES ONLY". He looks down at his employee ID and shrugs and goes in. As he enters we see he is pushed out by some unknown force. Out the open door comes "Wally" the Water World mascot, who walks off. Robbie has been knocked to the ground and looks up, shaking his head. He gets up and walks off.

49 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - BACK OF SOME BUILDING - SURF49
MUSIC BED

Now it is ALEX who has separately come upon the same door, not knowing ROBBIE has already been there. He enters, and the door remains open. We hear girls screaming and he exits quickly, followed by a volley of thrown girl's underwear, swimsuits and towels.

50 INT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - THUNDER BAY PUMPHOUSE - SURF50
MUSIC BED

This room is creepy. It is full of loud pumps and large pipes. ROBBIE is making his way through a labyrinth of piping and gauges and the like. He peers and sees a head with a red scarf, but it moves out of view. Surf music fades.

There is a constant whine of the pumps. ROBBIE moves further in and finally comes across a man holding a large pipewrench, with his back to him. He is working to tame a small leak.

ROBBIE
(quietly)
Hello?

No reaction.

ROBBIE (CONT'D)
(loudly this time)
Hello?

This startles and kind of angers PIPEMAN.

PIPEMAN

Hey. You're not supposed to be in here.

ROBBIE

Yeah, sorry. Are you Pipeman?

PIPEMAN

(recovering from the startle)

Not on purpose.

I guess some people call me Pipeman.

'Spose it's better than Carl.

ROBBIE

So you're real name's Carl?

PIPEMAN

No. I just said Pipeman was a better name than Carl.

ROBBIE

Oh. Well, my name's Robbie. I work at Aokee's.

PIPEMAN

Oh. OK. What the hell you doin' down here?

ROBBIE

I need your help.

PIPEMAN

That scrubsink at Aokee's leakin' again? Gees, I knew we shoudda replaced...

ROBBIE

It's not the scrub sink. I need your help. I'm competing in the Employee Olympics. With your advanced surfing experience, Aokee thought you might be able to help me.

PIPEMAN

(to himself)

Everybody wants to be the Surfer King.

(to ROBBIE)

What advanced surfing experience?

ROBBIE

Well, you know. "Pipeman"? Hawaii's North Shore? Surfing the pipeline?

PIPEMAN

Ohhh. Bad news, kid. I hate to disappoint you, but this is the reason they call me Pipeman. I'm the plumber around here.

PIPEMAN holds up the large wrench.

ROBBIE

Oh, boy. See, I'm from California, and I can surf, I just don't know what to expect from the wave on Thunder Bay. I...I was just hoping you could help, I really am sorry for bothering you.

ROBBIE begins walking out, dejected. PIPEMAN looks at him, and feels sorry for him.

PIPEMAN

Wait a minute, kid. I do know a little about surfing. I also know a lot about the wave here. What exactly are you looking for from me?

ROBBIE

(perking up)

I need a mentor; you know like in Karate Kid.

PIPEMAN

Karate Kid. He works at Big Mike's doesn't he?

ROBBIE

No, no it's a movie.

PIPEMAN

Never seen it. Don't know much about this mentor thing. How's it work?

ROBBIE

Generally, you, as mentor, draw on some personal religious philosophy to first intimidate, and then later inspire me. What religion are you?

PIPEMAN

(proudly)

I'm Norman.

ROBBIE

Ah, Brigham Young and all that.

PIPEMAN

No, no NNNNORM-AN. We follow the big fat guy on Cheers reruns.

ROBBIE

Okay...and your belief structure....

PIPEMAN

Usually involves a lot of beer and corn nuts, but I don't think that's gonna work here.

(thinking)

Tell you what.

Meet me at Thunder Bay tomorrow morning,

eight a.m., bring your board and we'll work something out.

ROBBIE

(happily)

Great, perfect. Thanks. I won't let you down.

(walking away, muttering to himself)

What the heck is a corn-nut?

51 EXT. MORNING - THE NEXT DAY - THUNDER BAY

51

WE SEE Thunder Bay looking east. AOKEE and ALEX are setting up lawn chairs. AOKEE is lathering on suntan lotion, and puts on a large straw hat. ALEX puts sun block cream on his nose, and they both sit on the lawn chairs. They both have large smoothies.

ROBBIE appears with his surfboard, and lays it up against the east fence at Thunder Bay. PIPEMAN arrives carrying a small device in a plastic ziplock bag.

ROBBIE approaches PIPEMAN.

ROBBIE

Hi! Glad you could make it.

(pointing to PIPEMAN's hand)

What's that?

PIPEMAN

This is how I trigger the wave.

ROBBIE

With that? A garage door clicker?

PIPEMAN

What did you think? Waves just happen?

This is Colorado, kid. Now get your board and get in the water.

Robbie gets his board and jumps into Thunder Bay, paddling over to the narrow side where the wave begins.

PIPEMAN goes down the stairs leading to near where ROBBIE has positioned himself.

PIPEMAN (CONT'D)

You sure that's where you want to be?

ROBBIE

Should be about right. Aren't you getting in? Where's your board?

PIPEMAN

Mentors don't get wet. I looked it up.

(pressing the clicker)

Get ready.

A wave comes and ROBBIE begins paddling. He misses it,

splashes the water angrily and turns back to paddle to position again. AOKEE and ALEX look at each other nervously.

PIPEMAN (CONT'D)

Want to know what you did wrong?

ROBBIE

(mad)

Just gimme another wave.

PIPEMAN

Oakey doakey.

Another wave comes. ROBBIE paddles furiously and misses it again. Now he's really angry.

ROBBIE

(tersely)

Okay. Please. Tell me what I did wrong.

PIPEMAN

You're in the wrong position. The wave doesn't crest that soon. Move ten feet further away from the back wall.

ROBBIE

(to himself)

The ocean never had a back wall.

(to Pipeman)

Thank you.

ROBBIE paddles over to the spot suggested by PIPEMAN. AOKEE and ALEX are now sitting on the edge of the lawn chairs anxiously awaiting the next wave. It comes and ROBBIE catches it easily and begins riding it aggressively. He has a good run and kicks out at the end.

AOKEE and ALEX high-five.

ALEX AND AOKEE

(together)

Yeee-haww.

They settle back into their chairs to absorb some sun.

52

INT. DAY AOKEE'S SURF AND SNACK SHACK - DAY

52

AOKEE is behind the counter finishing up making a smoothie. RICHARD, head lifeguard is on the other side; he will get the smoothie.

RICHARD

(grinning)

So. I hear he's pretty good. Haven't seen him myself yet.

AOKEE

(concerned, covering)

Good? Good at what? Who you mean?

RICHARD

Come on. Your ringer from California.
Everyone says he's gonna give Cowboy a
run for his money.

AOKEE

Robbie? Robbie barely walk without help.

We hear a loud CRASH from the kitchen.

RICHARD

Gees!

AOKEE

Ha!

AOKEE gestures back towards the kitchen.

AOKEE (CONT'D)

Your Surfer King. We just make a good
show. Your boy have nothing to worry
about.

RICHARD

You know I'd feel a lot better if you
hadn't taken most of my money in that
poker game last Friday night.

AOKEE

(dismissive)

Poker? Not an island game. I no good.

RICHARD

(nods)

Right. Tell you what. Sight unseen even
money, twenty dollars on Cowboy.

AOKEE

You want to bet with me? Take my twenty
dollars, just like that? Humph. Not
worth the trouble, twenty dollars. Now,
maybe a hundred...

RICHARD

A hundred bucks...

ANOTHER CRASH from the kitchen, this time pots & pans.

AOKEE

(to kitchen)

Robbie!

RICHARD

OK, a hundred bucks.

They slap hands to seal the deal. RICHARD leaves, grinning
and shaking his head.

AOKEE

(to kitchen)

Robbie? That you? Come out here.

ROBBIE

(entering from kitchen)

Sorry, dude, that tray was way off balance.

AOKEE

Robbie, our secret getting out. You practice too good.

ROBBIE

(happy)

I'm really getting the hang of that wave.

AOKEE

Fall more. Make good show.

ROBBIE

(thinking)

I'll try to remember to look and see who's watching.

AOKEE

(pours the rest of RICHARD's smoothie)

Good. Here, have a smoothie. You too skinny to surf good.

ROBBIE smiles and takes the smoothie back to the kitchen.

53

EXT EARLY MORNING. - THUNDER BAY

53

ROBBIE and PIPEMAN are in the middle of a practice session. PIPEMAN is at the side, ROBBIE is in the water on his board.

PIPEMAN

(gesturing)

OK, now this time, get up on the board more quickly. This is a wave pool and this wave dissipates quickly. You only have a little time to show your stuff.

ROBBIE

How will the judging work?

PIPEMAN

You get a possible ten points. Three for your surfing, three for your style and four for the judge's overall impression of your ride. No one's ever gotten a ten...I'm not really sure why.

ROBBIE

You've seen the competition. What does everybody do?

PIPEMAN

Everybody just surfs, man and tries not to fall. The big reason Cowboy's done so

well is he goes to Hawaii for a couple weeks every year. But there he's mostly a longboarder. Your job is to figure out how to make the most outta this little wave.

ROBBIE

OK. I'm ready.

The wave comes and ROBBIE catches it and surfs it hard, kicking up high at the end.

54 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - HILL ABOVE THUNDER BAY 54

WE SEE COWBOY and TIFFANY standing overlooking Thunder Bay. COWBOY has binoculars and is looking through them.

COWBOY

He's pretty good, I'll give him that.

TIFFANY

(concerned)

How good?

COWBOY

If I have an off day, he could win.

TIFFANY

(really concerned)

That's terrible. You're the Surfer King.

COWBOY

Well, some days you get the wave, and some days the wave gets you.

TIFFANY

This can't happen. What are we gonna do?

COWBOY

I don't know what you're going to do, but as me for me, I'm gonna schedule some practice time of my own.

TIFFANY

This may take a lot more than extra practice.

COWBOY

Well, I don't know what else you expect. I'll go out and do my best. If that's not enough, it's not enough.

TIFFANY grabs the binoculars and stares down at Thunder Bay. WE SEE gears turning in her head.

55 EXT. MORNING - THE NEXT DAY - CUSTOMER SERVICE KIOSK 55

ROBBIE and Alex are walking by. JAFFA sees them.

JAFFA

Hey, surfer boy! I got fifty bucks at three to one! Don't let me down, mon.

ROBBIE

(to JAFFA)

Hey Jaffa. NO worries.

(to ALEX, shocked)

People are betting on me?

ALEX

Just a little friendly pool. No big deal. Helps make this more interesting. Concessions never had a chance before...

ROBBIE

I've seen this Cowboy practice. His style is more longboard, and this is a shortboard wave, but he's still pretty good. I could lose you know.

Two concessions girls are walking by them.

CONCESSIONS GIRLS

(together)

Hi Robbie!

ROBBIE

How ya doin'

(to Alex after they have gone by)

See. How come everyone knows me by sight now?

ALEX

Ah, you're the next big thing. You'll survive it. The Employee Olympics are only a week away. What happens is we have this big opening ceremony where each team chooses a theme and we're judged on our spirit. Then different teams compete in contests that test their Water World skills. The next morning it all ends with the surf contest. You ready?

Another group of concession girls calls ROBBIE from one of the snack bars. He waves.

ROBBIE

I suppose. I've been working out a strategy to use if Cowboy has a real good day. It's risky...

Just then they both nearly run headlong into TIFFANY.

TIFFANY

Well, hello Robbie.

ROBBIE

(surprised)

You know me?

TIFFANY

Of course I know you. It's my father's park, I try get to know everyone.

ALEX

(interrupting, eager)

I'm Alex!

TIFFANY

Yes, I'm sure you are.

(ignoring ALEX, back to Robbie)

It's been a while since I've been to Aokee's. Do you suppose if I come down in a little while you could make some of that special chicken, what is it?

ROBBIE

The best teriyaki east of the Pacific.

TIFFANY

Yes...and one those smoothies I hear so much about?

ROBBIE

(stunned)

Well, sure. I'll be working all afternoon.

TIFFANY

It's a date then. See you later!

She walks off. ROBBIE just stands there. ALEX starts walking, then comes back. Finally ALEX pushes him on the shoulder.

ALEX

Come on, we gotta get back.

ROBBIE

(still shocked)

Yes. Yes we do.

56 INT. DAY AOKEE'S SURF AND SNACK SHACK

56

AOKEE is wiping the counter alone. HE turns toward the kitchen...

AOKEE

Alex! We need more large smoothie cups out here!

AOKEE continues cleaning up. ALEX shows up with a load of cups, AOKEE takes them and starts placing them.

AOKEE (CONT'D)

(to ALEX)

Look at that.

WE SEE in a far corner of AOKEE's TIFFANY and ROBBIE in an

animated, engaging conversation.

AOKEE (CONT'D)
Second time this week. Our boy Big Man
on Campus, huh?

ALEX
Big something. I hope he knows how to
work without a net.

AOKEE
Well. We all grow up sometime. He not
drop a tray of dishes in days. Something
going right. You think he ready?

ALEX
I guess we'll both find out on Sunday. I
sure hope so.

WE SEE TIFFANY and ROBBIE again, and TIFFANY is laughing
loudly at some joke ROBBIE has made.

57 EXT NEAR SUNSET - TIME SHACK

57

ROBBIE, ALEX, AMY and KATIE are clocking out for the day.
ROBBIE clocks out first. TIFFANY drives up in her
convertible.

TIFFANY
(waving him over)
Robbie!

ROBBIE goes over to talk to her. WE SEE him go around to the
passenger side.

ROBBIE
(shouting)
Alex! I won't need a ride tonight after
all. Tiff's taking me home!

ROBBIE jumps in and they drive away. ALEX, AMY and KATIE are
still standing on the porch of the TIME SHACK, shocked at
what they've seen.

ALEX
(disbelief)
Tiff?

AMY
(grossed out)
Tiff?

KATIE
(forlorn, stunned)
Tiff.

WE SEE ROBBIE and TIFFANY drive out the gate. We see KATIE
walk slowly out of the park alone.

As she is walking, we flash back to scenes of KATIE and

ROBBIE together, dancing and laughing. This time the dance moves to the song of Allison Krause's "New Favorite".

We take a final look at KATIE with the setting sun at her back and see she is crying.

58 EXT. EARLY MORNING. - SURF'S UP WAVE POOL EAST SIDE 58

We see the rising sun behind AOKEE's head as he raises a conch shell and blows it like a horn. He is dressed like a Hawaiian prince.

As the shot widens it reveals six males and two females dressed in Hawaiian native garb. ROBBIE And ALEX are among several drummers with bamboos sticks in their hands that provide percussion for the Hawaiian war dance.

AOKEE

Aie, noka moka kei kai ke alo.

The drums begin and the male dancers, carrying spears begin the Hawaiian war dance. The drummers sing the Hawaiian folk tune "No ka moku Kiakahi Ke Aloha".

There are about 100 concessions kids in regular uniform sitting cross-legged behind them, clapping the beat in unison.

The MALE DANCERS circle each other in time to the beat, gesturing a story the seems to involve some invading army. The war dance progresses until the invading warriors are defeated and the folk song ends. At the end, the kids sitting behind raise their hand and shout.

CONCESSIONS GIRLS AND BOYS

Concessions! Concessions! Concessions!

Looking to the south side of the pool, we see about 50 grounds kids sitting in rows. In our foreground there are six large trash cans, with toilet plungers arranged next to them, 2 each.

To our left are a line of six grounds kids in army fatigues carrying brooms as if rifles. The lead kid shouts:

LEAD MARCHER

Company! Forward, march.

THE DRILL team marches into full view. The grounds kids behind clap the march beat. The marchers stop in front of the line of trash cans.

LEAD MARCHER (CONT'D)

Company! Halt!

They do.

LEAD MARCHER (CONT'D)

Present Arms!

The brooms come off their shoulders and are held forward.

LEAD MARCHER (CONT'D)
Company!

MARCHERS
Yes sir.

LEAD MARCHER
Order arms.

They begin a routine practiced with brooms, in a cadence, clapped by the grounds kids behind them.

LEAD MARCHER (CONT'D)
What do you do if it's wet and not yours?

MARCHERS
(in cadence)
Don't touch it! Don't touch it!

LEAD MARCHER
How do you deal with a full can of trash?

MARCHERS
We empty! We empty!

LEAD MARCHER
Sound off!

MARCHERS
Trash Rats!

LEAD MARCHER
Again!

MARCHERS
Trash Rats!

LEAD MARCHER
Sound off, Trash Rats.

MARCHERS
Trash rats! Trash Rats!

They stop. Their brooms are raised over their heads.

LEAD MARCHER
Company! Brooms Ho!

They allow their brooms to fall to their right side and march to the trash cans. They pull out bright blue ski masks, a la BLUE MAN GROUP, and pick up the toilet plungers. The lead marcher holds his plunger high and shouts.

LEAD MARCHER (CONT'D)
Company! Begin!

He counts a four beat rhythm and they begin a BLUE MAN/STOMP like drum routine with the trash cans.

Two grounds kids in regular grounds uniforms approach holding steel trash can lids by the handles (with gloves). These become drums as well as two of the drummers switch from trash can to can lids using the stick side of the toilet plunger as the drumstick.

A competition erupts from the left and right sides of the line as they each set a beat and then the other matches.

Finally, a show of unity as both sides join back into the beat for an ending flourish.

They pick up their brooms and turn their attention to the kids behind them. They begin to march in place and the seated grounds kids clap for the tempo.

LEAD MARCHER (CONT'D)
(to the seated GROUNDS KIDS)
What do you do when the table's a mess?

GROUNDS KIDS
(together)
We wipe it! We wipe it!

LEAD MARCHER
What do you do when a toilet's stopped
up?

GROUNDS KIDS
We plunge it! We plunge it!

LEAD MARCHER
Sound off!

GROUNDS KIDS
Trash rats!

LEAD MARCHER
Sound off!

GROUNDS KIDS
Trash rats!

LEAD MARCHER
Sound off trash rats!

GROUNDS KIDS
Trash rats! Trash rats!

They clap and cheer, and settle back down to sit.

All is quiet now. WE SEE concessions kids sitting, grounds kids sitting and we look to the west side of the pool and see lifeguards sitting. Everyone is looking around.

Suddenly two lifeguards dressed as Roman Soldiers appear with horns. They bellow a Roman Call to Action, and two Roman drummers lead a column of other lifeguards.

First we see female guards dressed in togas filing in. Behind them are six gladiators with swords and shields, marching.

They are followed by one female lifeguard with a basket of rose petals. She is throwing them into the path of the next group to enter.

Next we see six more guards dressed as slaves carrying COWBOY, who is sitting up on a First Aid backboard. HE is wearing laurel leaves and a toga, he is obviously Cesar. On the backboard is also the surfer king trophy.

They all approach the area in front of the seated guards, and rearrange themselves so that COWBOY has a good view of the gladiators. The drummers count a cadence that sets the pace for a simulated battle between the gladiators.

The simulated battle rages until three of the gladiators are on their knees before the three victorious gladiators. The victorious gladiators hold their swords over the fallen ones, and look to COWBOY for a yea or nay.

COWBOY generously waves and makes a thumbs up signal, and the swords are put away. The seated lifeguards all raise their fists and shout.

LIFEGUARDS

(together)

Lifeguards! Lifeguards! Lifeguards!

The guards holding COWBOY set him down in front of an elevated platform that has a microphone..

COWBOY picks up the surfer king trophy and walks to the platform. He sets the trophy on a table next to the microphone, arranging it carefully.

We see now there is a large banner hanging at the back of the wave pool that says "WATER WORLD WELCOMES EMPLOYEE OLYMPIANS".

COWBOY moves to the microphone and raises his arm in a regal manner and speaks.

COWBOY

(to all)

Let the games...begin!

The seated crowd now stands and cheers loudly. We see a group of three people, two male and one female, adults we will later identify as JUDGES. They nod approvingly and write something down on their clipboards. We see BIG MIKE near them, smiling broadly.

59

EXT. LATER THAT DAY - SURF'S UP WAVE POOL EAST SIDE

59

We see that the lounge chairs have been removed and the area is clear. There are scattered squashed up pieces of white paper lying about.

We look to the south and see that there are three boy/girl teams with one of their legs tied together, like a three legged race.

The rub here is one team member has the dustpan and the other team member has the broom. A JUDGE triggers a starter pistol and they are off.

The lifeguard team falls almost immediately, and the grounds team takes a early lead over the concessions team, who are trying to figure the dustpan/broom operation out. The two grounds people work tightly together and quickly advance.

The lifeguards have gotten back up and are hobbling up to their first piece of trash. Concessions has figured out the dustpan, but are still well behind the grounds kids.

Finally, the grounds kids win, with concessions up second, and lifeguards trailing in third. The judges note the finish on their clipboards.

60 EXT. LATER THAT DAY - THUNDER BAY 60

We see three male participants standing in the shallow end of Thunder Bay, One red suit (lifeguard) one blue suit (concessions) and one green suit (grounds)

A JUDGE on the rise to the west of Thunder Bay blows an air horn to start the race. They all rush into the bay and begin swimming furiously.

The guard takes the lead quickly, followed not far behind by the grounds kid. The concessions kid is working hard and splashing a lot but not getting very far.

As the guard reaches the back wall, he does an underwater racing turn and swims back toward the point where they started. Right behind him, the smaller grounds kid does the same thing.

As they are returning, they pass the concessions kid, who still is splashing a lot but not going fast. After they pass him he stops, as he is tired out.

Momentarily he can't even tread water any more, and a guard watching from the sidelines jumps in and pulls him out. The swimming guard has beaten the grounds kid, the concessions kid never finishes.

61 EXT LATER THAT DAY - SURF'S UP WAVE POOL SOUTH SIDE 61

There are three lines set up with several participants. It is a relay race, with the baton replaced by a tray full of drinks in paper cups, water. The colors indicate again concessions, guards and grounds.

The race is already in full swing, with concessions in the lead. The last group of relayers are now getting their trays, and concessions is way ahead.

Everyone is cheering their team on. The final pass is made to SARAH who works for AOKEE'S. She takes the tray and moves gracefully to the final stop. There is a small table on which the drinks must be placed.

She is clearly going to win when she suddenly stops.

All concessions kids are shocked and plead her to go on.

She does a nifty and graceful around the back maneuver with the tray, proceeds to the table, and sets down the drinks, tipping the tray sideways to show no water has been spilled.

The JUDGES scribble furiously.

62 EXT. LATER THAT DAY - AOKEE'S SURF & SNACK SHACK 62

Three picnic tables are set up in front of AOKEE'S. WE dolly past each one to see that they are cluttered indentionally with what appears to be the leftovers from lunch for four. Behind each table is a team of two guards, concessions and grounds kids.

A JUDGE blows a whistle and we begin by looking at the lifeguard team.

It is a boy and a girl and the girl is not too keen on this. They bring a trash can with them and begin gingerly clearing the table, acting as if they are afraid to get their hands dirty.

We dolly left to see the concessions team a little ahead of the guard team.

We dolly further left to reveal a grounds kid in a full rain suit with a face shield.

A tremendous force of water is clearing the table into the trash can which the rain-suited grounds kid is holding at it's end.

We dolly further left to see EDDIE in full army fatigues with safety goggles on and wearing the biggest super-soaker water gun in the history of man.

The table is quickly cleared, and at the same time washed. EDDIE holds up the business end of the Super-Soaker gun and blows imaginary smoke from it's barrel, like an old Western gunfighter.

The JUDGES take notes.

63 EXT. LATER THAT DAY - SURF'S UP WAVE POOL 63

The three different teams are gathered in groups waiting for the next challenge. One of each team is in full sweats, color coordinated by team.

ALEX is the one in the sweats for concessions. Slowly the sweats people walk into the pool about waist deep and lay

down.

The grounds kid is the littlest guy of all.

A JUDGE blows a whistle and four members of each team run into the water and drag their now soaked sweat suited teammate out of the water. They lie them down on a clear area and begin CPR.

The guards have a nifty little plastic device that lets them blow air into the mouth of their victim, and they roll him quickly on his side to clear water and back to begin CPR. They are fast and efficient, and clearly expertly trained.

We move left to see the grounds kids, knowledgeable but inexperienced. One girl is using her hands to provide a seals over the mouth of her "victim" and another is clumsily pumping his chest while the others try to keep a count while reading some kind of instruction card..

We move again to see the concessions kids, who are in trouble. ALEX is lying there dying, and they are arguing about who has to breathe into his mouth. They form a circle over him, pointing and arguing.

Finally they all just walk off and ALEX is still lying on the ground, eyes rolled back and twitching convulsively in a hilarious death scene.

The JUDGES take their notes.

64 EXT LATER THAT DAY - IN FRONT OF THE CANNING COMPANY 64

Once again three teams representing the three competing factions. Large stainless steel pots are bubbling on three propane cooking stands in front of the concession.

The teams each have three members in cooking aprons, again, color coded. One from each team is stirring the team's chili while the others watch the JUDGES anxiously.

Lines are forming in front of each pot, with people in line each carrying a paper chili bowl, but holding back, deferring to the JUDGES. The JUDGES are each carrying three styro cups in which to receive the chili.

They each get a portion from the guard team and take a sip. They smile politely to the cooks, but turn around and spit the chili back into the cup as delicately as possible, almost as if throwing up. A concessions kid is there with a tray of waters, which they quickly take advantage of.

They move on to the grounds team. They get their portions and taste the chili and nod, not bad.

They take another sip of water to clear their palate and move on to the concessions team. The portions are proudly scooped.

They take a taste, smile and take some more. They huddle for

a moment and then place a blue ribbon on the concessions pot. The lines quickly rearrange and merge themselves so that everyone is in line for the concessions pot.

65 EXT LATER THAT DAY - SURF'S UP WAVE POOL EAST SIDE 65

An obstacle course has been set up, and the event provides a background to the dialogue that follows. AOKEE has some papers, and is talking to ALEX and ROBBIE.

AOKEE

(looking through the papers)

This isn't good.

(looking at ALEX and ROBBIE)

It's the same as every year. Pretty much a dead heat going into the surf championship tomorrow morning.

ALEX

I can't believe those guys screwed up the CPR.

ROBBIE

Hard to blame them. No one told them they had to put their mouth on yours until the last minute. Yuck.

ALEX

Bunch of babies.

AOKEE

(to ROBBIE)

It's going to be up to you. We slip a little. You have to make up. That trophy need a new home.

They look over at the obstacle course where a tiny grounds kid is jumping up and down and raising his arms ROCKY-style.

AOKEE (CONT'D)

You need to make up. You ready? Tomorrow morning last event. You our last hope.

ROBBIE just looks at both of them nods and sighs heavily as the other grounds kids surround our winner in the background. AOKEE and ALEX walk off. Suddenly TIFFANY appears.

TIFFANY

Hi Robbie.

ROBBIE

(shy but still very much smitten)

Oh. Hey.

TIFFANY

How's your team doing?

ROBBIE

Uh. OK, I guess. Kind of a tie.

TIFFANY

Well, I think you're going to take care of that tomorrow morning. In fact, I've planned a little celebration in advance. We're going to this incredible party up in the foothills at some friends of mine.

ROBBIE

(intrigued)

Party, huh? That sounds like fun. I have to work until nine tonight.

TIFFANY

That's perfect. I'll come back here and pick you up.

She starts to walk off.

TIFFANY (CONT'D)

Oh, and Robbie...call your mom and tell her you're spending the night at Alex's or something. It's going to be a very special night.

ROBBIE

(hypnotised)

K...

She walks away. ROBBIE stands there a moment before waking up and leaving also.

66 INT. EVENING - AOKEE'S SURF & SNACK SHACK

66

It is dark. We see ALEX and AOKEE cleaning up from the day's food service. ALEX is wiping down the smoothie area, AOKEE is sweeping on the other side of the counter.

ALEX

(voice somewhat hushed)

I'm telling you we need to talk him. Something's going on.

AOKEE

(shaking his head no)

Robbie know the right thing to do. He's a good boy.

ALEX

So how about this? He tells me I've got to cover for him if his mother calls. He told her he's spending the night at my house.

AOKEE

He say that?

ALEX

Yes. Tiffany's got something up her sleeve and Robbie's too messed up to

notice.

 AOKEE
 (reflective)
Spending the night at your house. This
very bad. Very bad.

 AOKEE (CONT'D)
He should be done with the dishes by now.
Tell him we want to talk.

ALEX disappears back into the kitchen. AOKEE goes to an empty table under the one light on in the dining area and sits down.

ALEX comes back and ROBBIE follows.

 ROBBIE
Hey. I'm done with the pots and pans.
It's almost nine. Can I take off now?

 AOKEE
Robbie, please, sit.

ROBBIE sits down. So does ALEX. Robbie looks at both and gets suspicious.

 ROBBIE
Everything OK?

 AOKEE
That's what we gonna ask you. What you
plan tonight?

 ROBBIE
Well, Tiffany invited me to a little
party up in the mountains.

 AOKEE
Robbie, you athlete. Big day tomorrow.
You need sleep, not party.

 ROBBIE
It's no big deal. I'll be fine.

 AOKEE
Is big deal. Robbie. You good boy,
smart, everybody like you, but....

 ROBBIE
But...

 AOKEE
Face it. Only one reason Tiffany
interested in you. She want to make you
so tired and so crazy you lose tomorrow.

 ROBBIE
 (disbelief)
Aw, come on...

ALEX

Robbie. She's still going out with Cowboy. I saw them together at the movies two nights ago.

ROBBIE

Maybe she's just letting him down easy.

ALEX

Robbie...things...things are not always what they seem to be.

ROBBIE

Like what?

AOKEE

In this case, she acts like she likes you when really she wants Cowboy to win.

ROBBIE

Naw. You guys are nuts. She's not like that.

ALEX

She is like that.

ROBBIE

Look, I know what to believe and what not to. I'm not that easily fooled.

ALEX

Aokee?

AOKEE

(shaking his head)

Go ahead. Tell him. I trust him.

ALEX

OK. Take Aokee for instance. Gentle, genial Hawaiian guy, right?

ROBBIE

Sure. He's great. I love working here. Aokee, you've been real good to me...

ALEX

Then let me introduce you properly. Robbie Zirpollo, meet Manuel Ramirez.

AOKEE'S head is down in his hands. Robbie looks stunned.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Manuel's family snuck across the border ten years ago through Juarez, Mexico.

AOKEE

(accent gone)

My father refused to work for a drug lord who ran our town. They tried to kill

him. We barely got out with our lives.

ROBBIE

Aokee?

AOKEE

(accent now Mexican)

A name I picked up reading an obituary in the paper. I sent away to Hawaii and got his birth records and social security number. This way, I never have to worry about immigration. I spent weeks watching tapes of Hawaii Five-0 just to get the accent right. "Book 'em Danno". Huh. What's that all about?

ROBBIE

(to Alex)

And you knew?

ALEX nods yes.

AOKEE

I burnt my hand on the grill one day and started swearing in Spanish...

ALEX

(interrupting)

And I said, boy, you speak Spanish like a native....uh oh. It's been our little secret. Now it's your secret, too.

ROBBIE

(looking at his watch)

I need to think about all this.

ALEX

(nodding)

You do.

AOKEE

Sleep tonight. Sleep well.

ROBBIE

(gets up, dazed)

Right. Goodnight.

ROBBIE leaves. ALEX and AOKEE just sit, looking at each other.

67 EXT. EARLY MORNING. - THUNDER BAY

67

Hundreds of people are gathering on bleachers to watch the surfing competition.

A large highway construction type signboard has been erected and says "Grounds 93", "Concessions 93" and "Lifeguards 94".

It is almost a festival atmosphere. The JUDGES are standing

in a group, conferring, near a table that has the controls for the sign. The sign can be viewed easily from the bleachers.

WE look over to the front of AOKEE's and see AOKEE and ALEX standing outside the restaurant.

68 EXT. EARLY MORNING. - MOMENTS LATER - AOKEE'S SURF & SNACK 68 SHACK

AOKEE
(to Alex)
Have you seen him?

ALEX
Not yet.

They are looking to the north towards the crowd, but ROBBIE appears behind them.

ROBBIE
(looking in the same direction)
What you lookin' at?

AOKEE
We looking for you. How you sleep?

ROBBIE
I slept fine.
(pause as AOKEE and ALEX wait)
I decided I'm not my father. I don't run out on the people I care about just because some blond shakes her ta-ta's at me.

AOKEE
(relieved)
We go then.

ROBBIE picks up his board, and they begin walking toward the bleachers. ALEX stops and turns suddenly.

ALEX
She shook her ta-tas? No one said anything about shaking ta-tas.
(reflectively)
This puts a whole new light on things!

He is in ROBBIE's way. ROBBIE pushes him with his board.

ROBBIE
Get going!

69 EXT. EARLY MORNING - THUNDER BAY

69

ROBBIE, COWBOY and MELINDA from grounds, who we met earlier and was conned into the contest because she said she surfed once on vacation, are all standing in front of the JUDGES.

One JUDGE explains the rules.

HEAD JUDGE

(looking down at clipboard)

Alright, here's the deal. You get three tries; three heats. We judge each run and only your high score counts. If you fall you get no score for the run. Your score will be added to the total for your team, and the winner gets the Surfer King Trophy. Any questions?

They all shake their head no.

HEAD JUDGE (CONT'D)

Then let's begin. Grounds is up first.

MELINDA grabs her board and begins paddling out. The wave comes and it's all she can do to stay on her board. She struggles and falls at the end. She will clearly not be a factor. The big screen shows a 0 in a column after the grounds score.

We look back to the bleachers to polite applause, but the COLONEL and the grounds kids are clearly disappointed.

COWBOY is out there now, the wave comes and he catches it easily. He rides the wave gracefully and well, and kicks out at the end. The big screen shows an 8 in the lifeguard row. The lifeguards and RICHARD are cheering now.

ROBBIE is next. He catches the wave and rides it more aggressively than COWBOY, but nearly falls at the end of his run. The big screen shows an 8. The concessions kids and AOKEE are very enthusiastic. They can see they have a chance with ROBBIE. PIPEMAN is watching from a far corner.

MELINDA begins her second run. She is a little more confident this time, but still seems barely able to stand and ride the wave. More polite applause, and the big screen shows a 5.

COWBOY catches his wave, and tries to imitate ROBBIE'S more aggressive style, but falls midway through the run. We hear a large gasp from the crowd as this happens.

The crowd applauds politely, and the guards are supportive but disappointed. We see the JUDGES confer and the big screen shows a 0.

ROBBIE gets his wave, and surfs it aggressively again, this time not nearly falling at all. The JUDGES nod approvingly and confer. The big screen shows a 9. The crowd goes wild, especially the concessions kids.

Melinda begins her final run. She does better than the past two, but not significantly. The JUDGES confer and the screen shows a 5. The ground kids are very disappointed, they know they are out of it now. THE COLONEL shakes MELINDA'S hand and thanks her for her efforts.

COWBOY gets his wave, and has clearly decided to go back to his original style; he rides the wave gracefully, but takes no chances.

He kicks out at the end with a wave and a smile. The guards applaud, hoping to make it seem better than it was, and the JUDGES confer and the screen shows an 8.

ROBBIE snags his wave and rides it aggressively again, but loses his balance momentarily. It costs him; the JUDGES confer and the screen shows a 7.

The concessions kids applaud, and the point totals show "Grounds 98", "Concessions 102" and "Lifeguards 102".

EVERYONE is confused, there has never been a tie before. THE JUDGES Are flipping through papers, and BIG MIKE steps up to the microphone.

BIG MIKE

(clearing his throat,
flustered)

It looks like we have a tie. This has never happened before, but I seem to remember we provided for this possibility in the rules. Hopefully our judges can help us figure out what to do!

The HEAD JUDGE is reading to the other JUDGES out loud, slaps his hand on one of the papers and comes up to the mike.

HEAD JUDGE

Reading from the rules, "...in the event of a tie at the end of three heats in the surf competition, the teams who are tied will participate in a sudden-death surf off. Additional heats will be run until a winner can be declared."

(looking up at the crowd)

The "Sudden Death" heat will begin in five minutes.

Everybody cheers...they're going to see some more great surfing.

The JUDGES signal COWBOY and ROBBIE to come over. The head JUDGE takes a quarter out of his pocket and points to COWBOY to call it. It lands and the JUDGE looks at it. HE points to ROBBIE.

HEAD JUDGE (CONT'D)

You want to go first or second?

ROBBIE

Second.

HEAD JUDGE

Be ready in five minutes.

ROBBIE, ALEX, AOKEE and PIPEMAN have gathered in front of AOKEE's to strategize.

AOKEE

So what you do? Wait for him to go crazy and fall?

ROBBIE

Don't want to win with him falling.

PEPEMAN

You could always go out and do your very best, take a lot of chances and maybe win this thing on merit.

ALEX

(dismissive)

Don't be silly. That only works in the movies.

ROBBIE

(shakes his head)

Actually, that's exactly what I'm thinking. It's the reason we're in a tie. I've been too conservative. I've got to do everything I can, or just forget about it. It's all or nothing.

(pause)

We gotta pull the fin.

AOKEE

Pull da fin?

PEPEMAN

You think you can hold it?

ROBBIE

(explaining)

One time, these tourists from Japan on the beach at La Jolla offered me a hundred bucks to do a full spin at the top of the wave, and then slide down and cut back and do a full back flip. I pulled it off. A friend of mine had a tricks board with just a single fin and foot pockets.

PEPEMAN

We gotta pull the fin. What do we do about the foot pockets?

ROBBIE

You got duct tape?

PEPEMAN reaches into his tool belt and pulls out a roll.

PEPEMAN

What kind of plumber would I be if I didn't have duct tape? Water World

Platinum! Where do you want them?

They place the board on a table. ROBBIE pulls off two small pieces of tape and places them on the board.

ROBBIE

Here and here.

PIPEMAN gets his screw gun out of his tool belt and begins removing the two outer fins of the board. He then begins looping duct tap around the board to create two foot pockets.

This provides a background to the dialog below.

AOKEE

So, help me understand. What you do now?

ROBBIE

Pipeman is taking the extra fins off my board. I only need one to make a deep cut back. He is also putting some pockets to slip my feet into so when I flip upside down, I don't lose the board.

ALEX

Flip upside down?

ROBBIE

A back flip. You guys see it on snowboarders here all the time, I'm sure.

ALEX

Oh yeah, I'm sure I did that last winter. But not on purpose! Dude. You're either gonna win this thing or you're gonna die.

AOKEE

(quickly, eagerly)

It would be better if you won.

ROBBIE

Yeah, well, a tie is like kissing your sister.

ALEX

(mock anger)

You stay away from my sister.

We hear an air horn blast. They are ready to start.

PIPEMAN

Ready!

ROBBIE

(to PIPEMAN)

I'll need the biggest wave you can give me...

PIPEMAN

(imitating Mr. Scott on Star

Trek)
I'll give 'er all she's got, Cap'n!

He hands Robbie the board. ALEX heads back to the bleachers area, PIPEMAN goes to the pumphouse in back of Thunder Bay.

AOKEE hangs back with ROBBIE and speaks to him alone.

AOKEE
(dropping his Hawaiian accent)
Robbie. When you do this, do this mostly for Robbie Zirpollo. But do it just a little bit for Manny Ramirez, eh?

AOKEE smiles and pats him on the back. Robbie nods. They head for the bay.

71 EXT. MORNING - MOMENTS LATER - THUNDER BAY 71

COWBOY is in the water paddling out to get his wave. It comes and he has apparently decided to stay with what has gotten him this far; a conservative style that keeps him looking good without falling. His ride is similar to the last one, but even more graceful and lyrical and he gets a 9.

ALEX
(to ROBBIE)
Looks like he's waiting for you to make a mistake. You sure you know what you're doing?

ROBBIE
I'm just making this up as I go along.

ALEX
Works for me! Go get 'em.

ROBBIE appears on the seawall holding his board and looking out first at the bay, then at the crowd. His mom, CONNIE waves, and he smiles weakly.

HE sees KATIE and she looks hopeful. She hasn't given up on him completely. He smiles at her and gets into the water.

He begins paddling. It seems to take forever for him to get out to the spot where he catches the wave, but he finally arrives.

He sits there for a moment, collecting himself, then raises his hand to signal he is ready.

The CONCESSIONS KIDS have started to chant, ROBBIE! ROBBIE! The guards are anxious, but even they can't help moving to the cadence of the chant.

The wave comes and he catches it quickly, and slips his feet into the duct tape pockets. He misses one pocket at first, then gets it in.

He rides it carefully and at the right moment slides up to

the top and executes a full 360 degree turn out of the water.

On landing back on the downside of the wave, he slides down it quickly, and then turns around with a deep cut and heads straight into the wave. At the top he bounces and does a complete back flip in slow motion.

We see the crowd also in slow motion. AOKEE is covering his eyes, he can't watch. ALEX's face is contorted with disbelief. Various faces in the crowd are in open-mouthed disbelief. THE JUDGES are staring intently, focussed so as not to miss anything.

ROBBIE lands the flip, and rides the rest of the wave. He waves to the crowd, and kicks off, exhausted.

The place goes nuts. No one here has ever seen anything like this before. AOKEE and ALEX run into the water and help him out. People are still cheering.

COWBOY knows he's in trouble.

THE JUDGES confer only momentarily and the score 10 appears, and the word concessions starts flashing along with the word winner. COWBOY nods in agreement.

TIFFANY says something to him, and he appears angry. We can only hear part of his response, something like:

COWBOY
(disbelief)
You did WHAT?

AOKEE and ALEX lead him up to the grandstand. COWBOY also makes his way up there, and we see him talking to BIG MIKE. BIG MIKE nods in agreement and COWBOY goes to the mike as the crowd settles down.

COWBOY (CONT'D)
As last year's Surfer King, it's my
privilege to present this year's trophy
to the most amazing surfer on the water
today. Robbie! Congratulations.

COWBOY shakes ROBBIE's hand, and ROBBIE speaks at the mike.

ROBBIE
(holding trophy)
I just want to thank Aokee, Alex and
Katie for all their support.

We see KATIE clapping, crying. AOKEE and ALEX are clapping and smiling.

ROBBIE (CONT'D)
And I have just one thing to say to
everyone in concessions. WE DID IT!

ROBBIE holds the trophy high as everyone cheers.

FADE TO BLACK.

72 EXT. EARLY EVENING SURFS WAVE POOL 72

Grounds kids are stacking chairs in preparation for final closing. Tarps are being thrown over everything and tied down.

Awnings are being taken down. Chairs and tables are being moved.

We see JAFFA packing up his CD's into that cardboard box. HE also snaps the winter covers for the sound equipment into place.

73 EXT. MOMENTS LATER - EVENING TIME OUT SHACK 73

A banner hangs over the time shack, "Thanks for another great year". ALEX, ROBBIE, KATIE and AMY are clocking out for the final time this summer.

They all stop and look around one final time. Suddenly TIFFANY drives up in her convertible.

TIFFANY

Another summer gone. How about it Robbie? You gonna guard next year? They could use your help.

They all walk closer to her car.

ROBBIE

I don't know...we have a pretty good time at AOKEE's.

TIFFANY

You know, that's what I hear. Maybe I should work there next summer.

ALEX, ROBBIE, KATIE and AMY all say these lines pretty much at the same time.

ROBBIE

You wouldn't like it...

ALEX

That's a bad idea...

KATIE

And you're such a good guard...

AMY

You'd be miserable...

TIFFANY

Maybe you're right. See you around...

EDDIE appears out of the time shack wearing his tuxedo t shirt.

EDDIE
(almost singing)
Tiffany!

He walks up to her driver's side.

TIFFANY
(feeling charitable, warmly)
Hello, Eddie.

EDDIE shows there is nothing in his hands, then reaches into the car and from behind TIFFANY's ear pulls a plastic Easter Egg out. He hands it to her, and she opens it. A beautiful butterfly flies out and away. She is momentarily entranced.

TIFFANY (CONT'D)
You know, that's one of the most beautiful things I've ever seen.
(pause, thinking, what the heck)
Hop in Eddie, let me give you a ride home.

EDDIE waves his hand for HER to scoot over so he can drive. She is surprised, but does, almost reflexively. He gets in and he looks at ALEX, ROBBIE, KATIE and AMY grinning broadly as he pulls away.

ALEX, ROBBIE, KATIE and AMY just watch in stunned silence as EDDIE and TIFFANY drive off.

ALEX
(collecting himself)
Well. Just another summer at Water World.

The group begins walking toward the exit gate, as we go wide and helicopter upward. They get smaller and smaller in the shot as we hear the conversation continue.

ROBBIE
You know Katie, I really am sorry I was such a jerk this summer.

KATIE
We'll be going to the same high school. You'll have plenty of chances to make it up to me. Let's see, there's Homecoming, the Christmas Dance, Valentines Day...and of course, the prom...

ROBBIE
Alex?

ALEX
Yeah?

ROBBIE
I'm gonna need to borrow twenty bucks.

ALEX

Yep.

We helicopter up for a final shot over the whole park.

[[top](#)]

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