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FADE IN:

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DOCKS - NIGHT

Police cars surround a large delivery truck near a row of shipping containers, the rear doors wide open.

COPS wave their arms. Excited, jumpy.

Six ostrich run wild.

FBI AGENT GORDO, graying, two day old stubble, splits the cops and walks to the rear of the truck.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
Name's Gordo. Thirty plus with the  
Feds, twenty in RICO division.  
That's Racketeer Influenced and  
Corrupt Organizations for you in  
the know.

A CUSTOMS AGENT is questioned nearby. Gripping his knee.

CUSTOMS AGENT  
So I had him open his rear doors,  
you know, to check for contraband,  
and all hell breaks loose.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
Gangsters. Mobsters. Mafioso. La  
Cosa Nostra...

He bends down and picks up a large black feather.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
RICO ain't called RICO on accident.

CUSTOMS AGENT  
So, we're square, right? You guys  
will drop the conspiracy charges?  
I mean, I got to find a new country  
to live in and damn, those birds  
can really kick hard!

REAR OF THE TRUCK

FBI AGENT GORDO looks inside the open cargo hold.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
Tonight, I thought I'd seen it all.

Hay strewn everywhere. Water buckets. Blankets.

An ostrich parts the crowd from behind. The cops scatter.

TRUCK BUMPER (FRONT)

BRUNO, tall, dark haired, tough guy persona. He's cuffed, but leans indifferently.

FBI AGENT Gordo walks up, motions a COP to beat feet.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
So why the thievery, Bruno? The  
meat? Feathers for lady's hats?

BRUNO  
Skin. Valuable leather.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
That's a bold confession for  
someone staring at a three spot.

BRUNO  
Customs was our look out. This  
smells like a sting. Coercion.  
Entrapment. Time I lawyer up.

An ostrich darts past with a frenzied cop riding it.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
They say a mobster can never let go  
of his past. Too much loyalty, too  
much blood. Well, today, the past  
changes.

FBI Agent Gordo places the feather gently inside Bruno's  
shirt pocket.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
Maybe this will be your lucky day.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
And there are always bigger fish to  
fry.

He then leads Bruno away past annoyed cops.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
See, Bruno ain't such a bad kid.  
He's been in the rackets so long,  
we all knew his story. And we soon  
came to learn about his twin too.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DOCKS - DAY (1973)

A large ocean liner is docked. Ragged PASSENGERS trod down the gangplank.

SUPER: NEW YORK 1973

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 Story of Bruno and Benny goes way back. Started out when his folks said ciao to the old country, buongiorno to the new one.

A pair of YOUNG PARENTS touch ground. They are GIUSEPPE, 20s, a stringy man with roaming eyes.

MOMMA LEOLA, also 20s, plain, soft features. She carries a pair of bundled identical TWINS who are

BRUNO and BENNY, black haired, blue-eyed boys.

GIUSEPPE  
 Our new home, Momma Leola.

MOMMA LEOLA  
 We come with nothing, Giuseppe.  
 How will we survive?

GIUSEPPE  
 America is the land of the free,  
 home of the brave, and...

CARMELA, curvaceous, approaches. Giuseppe's jaw drops.

GIUSEPPE  
 ...a land of opportunity.

MOMMA LEOLA  
 Carmela, my little sister! Come meet her, Giuseppe!

Carmela and Momma Leola hug. Giuseppe kisses Carmela's hand. A bit too long. Carmela peeks at the boys.

CARMELA  
 Perfecto! Which one is mine?

Momma Leola twists her twins away.

CARMELA  
 You promised, Leola. These Doctors, they say I can never conceive. Without child, I am  
 (MORE)

CARMELA(cont'd)  
barren, lifeless, like an over  
ripened tomato.

GIUSEPPE  
Not from where I am standing.

CARMELA  
I paid for your journey here.  
I beg you, sister.

MOMMA LEOLA  
Uno momento, Carmela.

Momma Leola lays down both boys on an empty bench. She  
studies them. Strokes their hair.

MOMMA LEOLA  
Bruno. Benny. How could I choose?  
My soul cries, my heart weeps...

She lifts her finger...

MOMMA LEOLA  
Eenie meenie minie moe...

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
And so Momma Leola chose Bruno.  
He and his brother parted ways  
and it would be a very long time  
until them two would meet again.

INT. BRONX - APARTMENT - (1 YEAR LATER)

Dilapidated walls, torn furniture, clothes hanging on the  
fire escape. Baby Bruno CRYING in another room.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
Life in America was tough. Jobs  
were scarce, the money tight.  
Giuseppe worked the docks  
until the unions failed.

A FEMALE WELFARE OFFICER moans in ecstasy on a couch.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
But, unfortunately for Giuseppe, he  
had a weakness for unions of  
another kind.

Giuseppe feverishly licks her toes. WANT ADS open on the  
coffee table.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
Sadly, marriage between Giuseppe  
and Momma Leola would not last...

Giuseppe suddenly looks up.

Momma Leola stands in the doorway, mouth open in shock,  
grocery bags in hand.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Giuseppe running down the stairs as a volley of fruit squash  
the walls. Followed by a suitcase.

Momma Leola SLAMS her door shut. LOCKS it. And BOLTS it.

Giuseppe SIGHS. Gathers his suitcase. Walks back down.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
Giuseppe knew his life here could  
not be fixed, so he decided to  
seek a new life, in a new city  
with his other son...

EXT. CARMELA'S APARTMENT - HOURS LATER

SUPER: PHILADELPHIA

Carmela, holding a crying Baby Benny in her arms, welcomes a  
relieved Giuseppe into her home.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
...so he waltzed into the silky  
arms of Carmela, who, quite  
frankly, shoulda known better.

EXT. CARMELA'S APARTMENT - DAYS LATER

Dilapidated walls, torn furniture, clothes hanging on the  
fire escape. Baby Benny CRYING in another room.

Another FEMALE WELFARE OFFICER moans in ecstasy on a couch.

Giuseppe feverishly licks her toes. WANT ADS open on the  
coffee table.

Giuseppe suddenly looks up.

Carmela stands in the doorway, mouth open in shock, grocery  
bags in hand.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 Jeez, you think he'd lock the door,  
 put a bell on the knob, for crying  
 out loud.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Giuseppe running down the stairs as a volley of fruit squash  
 the walls. Followed by a suitcase.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 Or maybe it was a cry for help.  
 Maybe poor Giuseppe knew then he  
 couldn't hack it in the Daddy club.

Carmela SLAMS her door shut. LOCKS it. And BOLTS it.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 And just like that, he was outta  
 there. And out of both his  
 son's lives.

Giuseppe SIGHS. Gathers his suitcase. Walks back down.

INT. PHILADELPHIA - MARKET - DAY

Little Benny buys an apple from a vendor.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 Now, the boys were different from  
 the start. Some say due to the  
 lack of a father figure...

INT. PHILADELPHIA - STREETCORNER - DAY

Teenage Benny break-dances with hip STREET KIDS.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 ...and perhaps they were right.

INT. NEW YORK - MARKET - DAY

Little Bruno plugs an apple with an M-80 and blows it up.

INT. NEW YORK CITY - STREETCORNER - DAY

Teenage Bruno throws dice in an alley with tough STREET KIDS. A limo pulls up, the tough street kids scatter.

Except Bruno, who stands his ground.

A LARGE HAND, flashing a naked woman ring, waves him forward from the backseat.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
Whatever the case, they soon moved  
into adulthood, their personas  
already in place...

EXT. NEW YORK - FUN PARK - EARLY MORNING (PRESENT)

Off-the-freeway type amusement park filled with the basics.

Quiet, not yet open for business. Or so it seems.

POWER GENERATOR SHACK

DANTE, 30s, stocky, pug faced, flips a switch.

DANTE  
So, I can understand that customs  
took the birds into custody...

TILT-A-WHIRL RIDE

Bruno hovers near a ride control panel. He stares at the ostrich feather given by Gordo.

BRUNO  
Ostriches.

DANTE  
Whatever. But where the hell were  
you?

BRUNO  
Safe. A safe distance away.

Bruno crushes the feather and tosses it.

A portly man named WIGGLY is duct taped to the seat nearby.

The TILT-A-WHIRL's control panel comes to life.



WIGGLY

Bruno! I can't do the spins!  
Gimme more time! I beg you!

BRUNO

Wiggly. You borrowed ten large  
from the Boss. And since you  
don't got the vig, you're gonna  
have to cough up more than just  
the dough.

WIGGLY

There's dried puke in these carts  
older than disco.

The ride jolts. The cart moves.

WIGGLY

Wait! I think Bogart ralphed a  
tuna farfalle in this one!

Dante walks over. Offers Bruno a cigarette.

Bruno shakes his head.

BRUNO

Dante. You forget I quit a long  
time ago?

Dante shrugs his shoulders. Nods at Wiggly.

DANTE

Why'd you go easy on this rube?

Bruno points to the SPOOKY HOUSE across the way. Dark,  
tacky, fluorescent paint. Carts that move along a track.

BRUNO

I'm sixteen, right? Take Stacy  
O'Shane in there. Wiggly stopped  
the ride for me, let me pop my  
cherry in the graveyard.

Wiggly's cart spins close by.

WIGGLY (O.S.)

Stinks like albacore!

DANTE

We oughta at least kneecap him.

Wiggly's cart spins back.

WIGGLY  
Off!...off!...

BRUNO  
Your yap got somethin' to say now,  
Wiggly?

Wiggly's cart spins towards them

WIGGLY  
Off...office! Office! Money!

Bruno hits the OFF button. The ride slows to a stop.

WIGGLY  
Safe...under my desk...open.

Wiggly slumps in his seat. Unconscious.

DANTE  
Death by Tilt-A-Whirl.

Bruno reaches over, feels Wiggly's pulse.

BRUNO  
Nah. He's sleeping like a baby.

Bruno removes his own jacket, drapes it around Wiggly.

DANTE  
You off your rocker?

BRUNO  
Wiggly's like the father I  
never disappointed.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Dark, wet, grimy. A SULTRY HOOKER backs to a wall in terror as a MOB ENFORCER stalks her. Big guy, face hidden.

MOB ENFORCER  
Word is, doll face, you're the  
stoolie. Time to rub you out.

SULTRY HOOKER  
Make love to me then. For old  
times sake. Right here, on top  
of the filth. Because that's  
what I am. Filth. Say it.

MOB ENFORCER  
Time to take out the trash.

The mob enforcer raises a knife. Sultry hooker SCREAMS.  
The mob enforcer stabs her in the chest. Blood spews.  
He teeters, and then faints. Falls into her arms.  
Sultry hooker looks around.

SULTRY HOOKER  
Someone get this pansy off me!

A DIRECTOR'S VOICE, from somewhere...

DIRECTOR (O.S.)  
Cut! That's it! Enough!

ASSISTANTS rush in. The mob enforcer turns his face.  
It's Bruno. No, wait.

It's Benny. A dead ringer for Bruno, except Benny has blond streaks, two eyebrows, and a much lighter voice.

BENNY  
Oh, God. I fainted again, right?

The DIRECTOR, middle-aged, storms over.

DIRECTOR  
This isn't working out, damn you!  
We need someone more masculine!

BENNY  
I can't stand the sight of blood!

DIRECTOR  
It's fake blood! Look, I owed  
someone a favor but now I'm  
reneging. I need a real man.

Benny, mouth agape, clutches his chest in shock.

He climbs into a dumpster and SHUTS the lid.

No one pays any attention to him. Except for --

ANDRES, buff, sporting long sideburns. Dressed like a cop.  
He KNOCKS on the lid.

BENNY  
(muffled)  
Stop hovering like a vulture,  
Andres.

STUDIO WORKERS assemble around them for the next scene.

Andres lifts the lid.

ANDRES  
Must I sing a Fado song to you?

BENNY  
I am already sad.

ANDRES  
This was your first action role,  
Benny. You have the size, you have  
the look, we just need to work on  
your...

BENNY  
Honesty? Being true to myself?

ANDRES  
Bravado. *Cajones*.

BENNY  
*Cajones*? I'm squatting in a  
dumpster feeling sorry for myself  
and my roommate thinks I need  
balls?

ANDRES  
You need to reach inside yourself,  
dig out that inner animal. You are  
a great actor. From now on, only  
action roles for you.

Benny climbs out of the dumpster.

BENNY  
Like Bruce Willis? With guns  
and bombs and fist fights?

ANDRES  
Do I hear a Raspberry cheesecake  
calling your name?

BENNY  
You always know how to cheer me  
up. God, I feel so silly. Why  
did you even let me in here?

Andres brushes him off.

A SEXY ACTRESS strolls by.

ANDRES  
Oh, and remember. Action movies  
always have sexy women.

Benny grabs the dumpster lid again. Andres stops him.

ANDRES  
Acting, Benny. It's what you do.

EXT. NEW YORK - STREET - AFTERNOON

Bruno holds a PET SHOP OWNER upside down in front of his store. Shakes him. A mouse drops from a pocket. Then a baby chick. Then a wad of bills.

Bruno drops the owner and retrieves the wad.

The owner humps back inside his store.

PET SHOP OWNER  
Lemme know when the ostriches come  
in, Bruno.

Bruno walks to his parked Mercedes. Sees a parking ticket under his wiper. He snatches it, looks around. A note:

CONVENTION CENTER SECTION 3 BEER IS ON YOU

INT. CONVENTION CENTER - BOXING RING - LATER

A PAIR OF BOXERS circle each other. One larger, the other smaller. Looks like a mismatch.

SECTION 3

The cheap seats. FBI Agent Gordo sits alone. Bruno plants himself next to him, hands him a beer.

A loud THUD from the ring. FANS CHEER.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
Racketeering, loan sharking,  
probable prostitution. Your Boss  
will do a ten year stretch easy.

BRUNO  
I never rat anyone out.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
 You forget what we got on you?  
 Give him up, and you got a new  
 mailbox in the tropics.

Bruno stays silent.

FBI Agent Gordo shows Bruno a bet slip, nods at the ring.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
 Big guy. Eight to one fav. What  
 do ya think?

BRUNO  
 What's this? Third round?

INT. BOXING RING - CONTINUOUS

The larger boxer's COACH checks his watch. WHISTLES.

Large boxer lowers his hands.

Smaller boxer TAPS him.

Large boxer topples. Down for the count.

The crowd BOOS.

Smaller boxer "up yours" the crowd.

INT. SECTION 3 - CONTINUOUS

FBI Agent Gordo rises to his feet as Bruno gets up to go.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
 Are you freakin' kidding me?!?

BRUNO  
 See you around.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
 Bruno, wait. There's a reason I  
 showed you the bet slip. I made  
 it in Atlantic City.

BRUNO  
 Yeah? Bring me taffy next time.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
 Bruno, if you know what's good  
 for you, stay away from there.

BRUNO

Day I take advice from a Fed, I  
might as well turn jailhouse sissy.

FBI AGENT GORDO

You're involved in a dangerous  
life. Guess it'll take a bullet to  
convince you, huh?

BRUNO

If I die of old age, that'll be  
the cruelest death of all.

Bruno leaves.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

That's the thing about these  
mobsters. It's all about the  
fight. They expect to die  
under a hail of bullets. It's the  
proper way to go.

EXT. BRUNO'S MANSION - EVENING

Bruno exits his Mercedes in a circular driveway behind locked  
gates. A lush lawn nearby.

He cringes at Indian Tantra music coming from inside.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Heavy on Asian imports. Incense burns. Squatting yoga-style  
on a Persian rug is MONA, late 20's, smoking hot.

Bruno enters the room with a whiskey.

BRUNO

What say we kill this Indian  
tarantula music and start making  
some rug burns right here.

He tries to give her a kiss but she turns her head.

MONA

You don't answer my calls, you  
don't come home, you don't  
talk to me anymore...

Mona flips her legs in the air. Bruno strokes them.

BRUNO

Actions speak louder than words.

Mona SLAPS his hand away.

MONA  
Bruno, listen to the house. Hear that? No? Well, neither do I.

BRUNO  
Here we go again.

MONA  
There's no pitter patter.

Mona lowers her legs. Flips to her hands, like a crab.

BRUNO  
Can't we just get a mutt?

MONA  
I want a family. And I want you to get out of the rackets.

BRUNO  
Quit the rackets?!? What about your father?

MONA  
Why don't you marry him instead!

Bruno drains his whiskey and storms off.

MONA  
Where are you going now?

BRUNO  
Somewhere I'm appreciated.

Mona plants her feet, grabs her ankles.

MONA  
Hope it's to a good divorce lawyer!

BRUNO  
Hey, you gotta bury me six feet under before I sign some shyster's papers!

Mona raises her butt in the air.

BRUNO  
And you're killin' me here!



MONA

You're cut off. Until you quit,  
you aren't getting any of this.

Bruno fumes. His cell phone RINGS. He answers it.

BRUNO

Yo. Hey, Dante.  
(listens)  
I'm there. Anywhere but here.

INT. BENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Colorful, modern. Like an IKEA showroom.

Benny reads a book and nurses a cocktail. Andres, in an apron, carries out a tray from the kitchen.

ANDRES

You will melt when you try  
my succulent piri-piri chicken.  
Hear that? It's the pangs of  
jealousy all the way from Lisbon.

BENNY

Close your yap! It's time to  
put the screws on! You've been  
skimmin' off the hooch, Andres!

Benny rises, hurls his drink. It SHATTERS on the wall.

ANDRES

The hooch? Whaaaaat?

BENNY

I'll rip out your guts, squash  
your ugly mug down to your ass,  
and punt ya through the uprights!

Andres SQUEALS, drops his tray. Benny drops his "act."

BENNY

Oh, Andres, I'm sorry! I was  
reciting a line from this book!

Benny shows him.

"SHEISTER, SCHNOZZLE, HOODS 'N STIFFS INCORPORATED" How To  
Talk Like A Real Mob Guy.

ANDRES

I am such a ding dong.

BENNY

This book and my new manly attitude  
will get me the audition back! You  
just watch and see, Buster!

Benny looks down in horror at Andres' spilled tray.

BENNY

Oh my God! Your piri-piri  
chicken! It's everywhere!

ANDRES

It's okay. Let's wash them and  
zap them in the microwave.

BENNY

All your hard work.

Benny turns to a framed photo of a chiseled man. MICHAEL is  
inscribed. Blond hair, Greek God-like.

BENNY

Michael did say I was selfish.

Andres grabs the photo from Benny and SLAMS it back down.

ANDRES

He was the one who was selfish!  
And he left you, Benny! He ran off  
culinary school!

BENNY

Delete! Just kill me!

Benny falls to his couch and WAILS.

ANDRES

Oh, Benny.

EXT. NEW YORK - PIZZA KITTY - DAY

A Gentlemen's pizza club. Neon lights show foxy female cats  
flipping pizza's in the air and bending over. A sign out  
front: COME IN FOR A PUUURRRRFECT SLICE.

INT. PIZZA KITTY - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Bruno and Dante enter, pass a wall of celebrity photos. Up  
there we got Deano, Frank, Sammy, and...Bruno.

BRUNO

Dig me. Right up there next  
to the Chairman of the Board.

DANTE  
 Helps if your father-in-law owns  
 the stupid joint.

Dante's photo is stuck behind a fern.

Bruno stops at a mirror. Whips out his gun and poses.

BRUNO  
 I could be an actor, huh? Like  
 Bobby D?

DANTE  
 That's some scary shit.

BRUNO  
 What? The resemblance is uncanny?

DANTE  
 No. Seeing two Bruno's.

INT. PIZZA KITTY - SECONDS LATER

NAKED FEMALE PIZZA COOKERS toss pizza behind a counter. A  
 TOPLESS WAITRESS jumps up and down on a pogo stick as TONGUE  
 WAGGLING CUSTOMERS ignore their menus.

CORNER BOOTH

Bruno and Dante approach a GROUP OF WISE GUYS who are

BIG CHEESE LOU ROMANO, 50's, fat, twirling the same naked  
 girl ring seen earlier from the limo. He's sandwiched  
 between MARIO and PAULY. Thick and thin respectively.

Big Cheese nods at the customers as Bruno and Dante sit.

BIG CHEESE LOU  
 Dumb schmucks ain't droppin' any  
 sugar on my grub. They just sip  
 their giggle juice and ogle the  
 dames.

DANTE  
 Put the broads on inlines then.  
 Decrease the jiggle factor, Boss.

BIG CHEESE LOU  
 This is a respectable business!  
 Who asked ya, anyway?

The topless waitress SQUEALS, falls off her pogo stick.

Bruno notices a WOMAN playing darts nearby. Alone.

REZA THE RAT. Stocky, no makeup.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Okay, boys. Reason I called you  
in is -- Green Thumbs McGoo is  
making his move on my ground.

Guns COCK around the booth.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Wait, wait. You can all kill  
someone later.

A round of "AWWW'S" follows.

BRUNO

But Boss, he's in Jersey. How's  
he making his move here?

BIG CHEESE LOU

Tommy Two Timing turned rat and  
joined his camp. Green Thumbs is  
using him to get to our turf.

BRUNO

Tommy Two Timing double crossed  
us? I never saw that comin'.

Big Cheese SNAPS his finger. Reza marches over.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Boys, I'd like you to meet Reza  
the Rat. She once worked for  
Green Thumbs. Did some landscape.

PAULY

Landscape? Like planting seeds?

MARIO

Wasn't plantin' none of his seed in  
this broad. I can tell ya that.

Reza reaches down between Mario's legs, grabs a handful.  
Mario's eyes pop out.

REZA

Green Thumbs had me planting  
stiffs. Makes good fertilizer.  
Speaking of stiffs, when's the  
last time you saw your own?

Reza releases her grip. The others SNICKER. Mario begins to dry heave.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Word spread that Reza was out and staying with Minnie downtown at the Taboo Revue. So I got to Reza and hired her. On a temp-to-hire basis, of course.

DANTE

Why'd she leave Green Thumbs?

REZA

Pension plan blows.

The men SNICKER and mutter "Got that right," and "Figures."

BIG CHEESE LOU

Reza here is gonna help us bury Green Thumbs. Now, who wants to whack said dirtbag?

Mario and Pauly point to themselves and shout, "Me! Me!"

DANTE

I nominate Bruno!

Silence.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Mona would be so proud.

BRUNO

Just tell me where, Boss.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Paradise Casino. Atlantic City. Tonight.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

A mob Boss is always a target for a takeover. Someone is always trying to move in.

EXT. STREET - OUTSIDE ARMY RECRUITMENT OFFICE - DAY

Andres two hands Benny as Benny tries to reach the door. Benny is decked out in army fatigues and holds a Playboy.

BENNY

Step aside, Andres! I'm joining the army and turning straight!

ANDRES  
You can't change who you are!

BENNY  
Who are you to judge?

Andres stops. Steps aside.

ANDRES  
Then go. Go ahead and be all you  
can't be.

Benny hesitates.

BENNY  
Okay. Why not me? Why can't I  
enlist?

ANDRES  
Because even though they don't ask,  
they can most certainly tell.

BENNY  
Maybe it will toughen me up.

Andres removes a bandana from Benny's neck.

ANDRES  
Would you really want to dine in a  
place called a *mess* hall?

Benny shrugs.

ANDRES  
And latrine is not the French choo-  
choo, its where the soldiers go to  
the bathroom. And there's no  
doors.

BENNY  
That's so barbaric!

ANDRES  
I have a surprise for you. I  
thought you deserved a night  
out to forget about acting, money,  
your mother, and most of all...

BENNY  
Don't say his name!

Andres removes tickets from his pocket.

ANDRES  
A Tribute to Cher at the Paradise  
Casino in Atlantic City tonight!

Benny swoons. Together they walk off.

An ARMY RECRUITER opens the door from inside, watches the Benny and Andres leave, then sighs with relief.

EXT. NEW JERSEY - GREEN THUMBS MCGOO'S MANSION - DAY

A huge homestead with lush greenery.

EXT. GARDEN - REAR OF THE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Filled with corn, potatoes, you name it. An armed BODYGUARD, gorilla big, paces out front.

TOMMY TWO TIMING, chunky, food stains on his tie, skips across the lawn carrying a hoagie. He GIGGLES as the bodyguard frisks him on the grass.

From deep inside the garden...

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO (O.S.)  
Fekkin' rat! Yeah you, what  
you lookin' at? Kiss my arse!

A rat SQUEALS. What follows is a loud, metallic SNIP!

A headless rat carcass lands before Tommy Two Timing's feet. He YELPS, jumps back in disgust.

Corn stalks suddenly part. Out steps...

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO. 60s, trim, like an athlete. Salt and pepper hair. Carries a bloody set of pruners.

TOMMY TWO TIMING  
Heck of a garden there, Green  
Thumbs. You growin' any jicama?

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Shut your gob and talk to me,  
Tommy Two Timing.

TOMMY TWO TIMING  
Bruno's on his way right now to  
the Paradise Casino. Big Cheese  
will miss the action. Like we  
planned it.

Green Thumbs raises his pruners and SNIPS the air.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Can I trust ye?

TOMMY TWO TIMING  
Honesty is my middle name.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
(pushes past)  
Then I have to do me business.

TOMMY TWO TIMING  
Hey, Green Thumbs. You're  
gonna take a bite in the Big  
Apple. How's it feel?

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Aye, about time I took root.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
A mob hit can happen anytime,  
anywhere. For these guys, its  
about loyalty, strength, and  
survival. Complacency kills.

INT. LIMOUSINE - DAY

Bruno, Dante, Reza, and Pauly ride in the back checking their  
weapons. Mario is in the driver's seat, the glass partition  
lowered. He speaks to someone out his window.

MARIO  
Okay, so that's one order of pasta  
fagiole, one penne arrabbiata, one  
farfalle with arugula pesto, one  
beefy manicotti...

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
Trick is staying a step ahead. You  
got to anticipate your enemies next  
move. You don't, you're toast.

Bruno, sporting a permed wig, waves his hands in front of  
fake glasses.

Mario turns around.

MARIO  
Bruno, I didn't get your order.

BRUNO  
Burger with fries.



The others "hey" and "whoa" him.

Mario nudges the limo forward.

Bruno nudges Dante.

BRUNO

You think I'd be a good father?

Dante just stares at him.

BRUNO

Mona says either I knock her up,  
or else. Thing is, I don't think  
I'm ready. Am I ready?

DANTE

Fathers. Working stiffs earning  
a sucker's paycheck. It's a good  
thing you never knew yours. You  
might've chosen a different path.

BRUNO

You didn't answer me.

Dante hands Bruno a cigarette. Bruno waves him off.

Dante shrugs, lights it for himself.

DANTE

You want my opinion on kids? Just  
another thing that gets in the way.

Bruno watches Reza squeeze in a janitor's uniform.

BRUNO

Reza. What's Green Thumbs' game?

REZA

Rats and mice. Loaded dice.

Dante SLAMS the cylinder. Hands the weapon to Bruno.

DANTE

What's say you give Green Thumbs  
what he's lookin' for then.

(beat)

A hard six.

Mario starts handing back food.

Dante opens his order.

DANTE  
Hey, what is this?

He whips out his gun.

DANTE  
Mario. Let me talk to this mug.

Mario moves the limo forward to the drive thru window. Dante lowers his window. He climbs out, then climbs back in hauling a frightened MANAGER in tow.

Dante buries the manager's face into his order.

DANTE  
The hell is this?

MANAGER  
Farfalle. With arugula pesto, sir.

DANTE  
No, palooka. The silverware.

MANAGER  
They're plastic?

The others "ooh" the manager and wince.

DANTE  
What kind of drive thru is this?

Dante grabs the fork and knife and sticks them up the manager's nose.

Then shoves the manager back through.

DANTE  
What's next? House chianti?

Bruno stares at the bottle.

BRUNO  
Winery is in Idaho.

Dante climbs back out the window.

EXT. HIGHWAY - LATER

A Volkswagen convertible cruises in the slow lane.

INT. VOLKSWAGEN - CONTINUOUS

Andres and Benny sing Cher's, "It's a Man's World." Andres points to the approaching Atlantic City skyline.

INT. PARADISE CASINO - PARKING LOT - LATER

The limo pulls up. Bruno exits. So does Dante.

BRUNO

I'm gonna go check things out.  
Gimme a minute, capeche?

DANTE

I got to piss anyway.

INT. PARADISE CASINO & HOTEL - CONCERT HALL - CONTINUOUS

Andres shifts nervously, sips from a pair of Chi-Chi's as he waits. CONCERT GOERS behind him line up.

He puts one down, then digs into his pocket -- and removes a single cigarette.

A hand snakes it from his grasp.

The hand belongs to--

Benny. Dig his new suit. Blond streaks are gone. His hair is back to dark.

ANDRES

Hello, James Bond.

BENNY

I was going for suave.

ANDRES

I was going to say manly, but  
I like yours better.

Benny waves the cigarette.

BENNY

I don't see an emergency. Do you  
see an emergency?

Andres rolls his eyes, then fishes out a packet of gum. Nicorette gum.

ANDRES

I got through a pack of these a day too. That can't be good either.

Benny hands it back to him. Grabs the other Chi-Chi.

BENNY

Andres, today I got a pedicure, manicure, my hair dyed, my eyebrows waxed, and you know what I was thinking?

ANDRES

That you died and gone to Heaven?

BENNY

That a straight man would have never done any of this.

ANDRES

Benny, you are exaggerating. Lots of straight men salon.

BENNY

I'm tired of being pushed around. I really need to stand up like a man.

ANDRES

What you really need to do is put your Chi-Chi down. Your getting coconut all over your cuffs!

BENNY

Do you have an stain remover?

ANDRES

Yes, I carry it in my pocket all the time. Of course not, Benny!

BENNY

Quick! Get some club soda or it will stain!

Andres scurries off.

A HAND SLAPS Benny's back.

Dante.

DANTE  
 Foo-foo drink? You turnin'  
 nance on me? Hey, what's with  
 the jacket? And where's the rug?

Benny, jumps, a bit taken aback. He looks around.

Dante sees the restroom across the way.

DANTE  
 Ah, there's the pisser.

BENNY  
 Nance? You must have me  
 confused...

DANTE  
 Hey, before we whack this SOB,  
 let's drop some sugar on the  
 bangtails. I heard LONGINGHARD  
 gets the bum's rush. Real bulge  
 is on DOLLYSGAMS.

Benny sees Dante's gun handle poking out of his jacket.  
 Benny COUGHS, lowers his voice.

BENNY  
 Yeah. Bum's rush. No problem.

DANTE  
 Meet ya by the one arm bandits.

Dante leaves.

Andres grabs Benny's arm.

ANDRES  
 Come on, its starting!

BENNY  
 What?

ANDRES  
 Faux Cher!

BENNY  
 But...

Too late. Andres whisks Benny into line.

INT. CASINO - SLOTS AREA - MOMENTS LATER

A jungle paradise with bamboo huts. Bruno dumps quarters into a slot machine while studying the room.

Dante walks over, buckling his belt.

DANTE

I drain the main vein, the bathroom attendant hands me a towel and gets a fiver. Now that's a racket.

BRUNO

Get me a Manhattan. Cocktail dame must be sneakin' a smoke.

DANTE

The hell you talkin' about? You just had some giggle juice. And what happened to the other jacket?

BRUNO

What? What other jacket?

DANTE

Forget about it. Guess who.

Dante nudges Bruno towards the gaming area.

CRAPS TABLE

Green Thumbs McGoo rolls a pair of dice. His bodyguard keeps other gamblers at bay.

A STICK HANDLER calls it.

STICK HANDLER

Winner, seven!

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO

Luck o' the Irish be with me.

INT. CONCERT HALL - MOMENTS LATER

A giddy Benny and Andres in the front row. Music plays.

ON STAGE

MALE DANCERS bop amid flashing lights. A CHER LOOKALIKE comes out in a long flowing dress.

INT. GAMING AREA - EVENING

Bruno and Dante watch Reza sweeping the floor near the Restrooms. A RESTROOMS CLOSED sign hangs off her cart.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 Reza told them Green Thumbs was a Saturday night regular, known to partake in the Black Stuff which caused endless trips to the can. Plan was, once Green Thumbs made a move for the restroom, Reza was gonna drop the CLOSED sign in front...

DANTE  
 ...and you have Green Thumbs all to yourself. When you're done, look for Reza near the employees entrance.

Bruno tenses, watches out of the corner of his eyes.

DANTE  
 Nervous? How about a cigarette?

BRUNO  
 Unbelievable.

INT. CRAPS TABLE - CONTINUOUS

Green Thumbs downs his Guinness. Looks over at a nearby Blackjack table.

Sees Tommy Two Timing, incognito with a cap and moustache. Tommy watches Bruno and Dante. Nods to Green Thumbs.

Green Thumbs drops the dice.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
 Argh. Me arse. I need to lay cable. Watch me chips, lads.

Green Thumbs leaves. The bodyguard remains.

INT. CONCERT HALL - STAGE - CONTINUOUS

The dancers go into a slide, right up to the front row.

A MICHAEL LOOKALIKE pirouettes near Benny.

ANDRES  
 Take away the eyeliner...the foundation...its very frightening. Good thing he's at culinary school or I'd swear it was--

BENNY  
Michael!

The Michael lookalike hears him on stage...and trips.

MICHAEL  
Benny?!? Is that you?

BENNY  
Kitchen's closed!

Benny WAILS and heads towards the EXIT.

INT. SLOT MACHINES - CONTINUOUS

Bruno watches Green Thumbs head inside the Men's Restroom.  
Reza, her back turned, drops off a RESTROOMS CLOSED sign.

DANTE  
Make him eat lead, Bruno.

Bruno moves.

INT. MEN'S RESTROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Stalls facing each other at the far end. Only the last stall  
on the far right has feet and legs visible.

Bruno marches on, removes his gun. He stops. Thinks.

BRUNO  
The bodyguard...he ain't here.  
Why's this so easy?

He peers under the last stall.

BRUNO  
What the?...

Bruno KICKS open the door.

A pair of shoes and prosthetic legs. No Green Thumbs.

A stall door behind him CREAKS open. A HITMAN balances on a  
toilet. He's got a wandering eye and a very big gun.

He is LARRY LAZY-EYE and he jumps out of the stall FIRING.

Bruno leaps into the closest stall. Bullets SPANK the wood.  
None find their mark.

Larry Lazy-Eye runs out.



Bruno checks himself and runs after him.

EXT. CONCERT HALL - CONTINUOUS

Benny exits the concert hall when he hears GUNFIRE.

Gamblers SCREAM and run in all directions.

Larry Lazy-Eye bowls people over. Coming Benny's way.

Benny SHRIEKS. A hand grabs him from behind.

REZA

Here! Escape route behind ya!

Reza opens a door that says: NO ADMITTANCE EMPLOYEES ONLY.

Benny scampers into the corridor.

INT. MEN'S RESTROOM - CONTINUOUS

First stall on the left opens. Green Thumbs' feet drop down from the toilet. He walks out, surveys the damage.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO

Where be Bruno's corpse?

(realizing)

Larry Lazy-Eye, you stupid tosser!

Green Thumbs hears SCREAMS outside and exits.

INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Benny finds an open closet door, darts inside and SHUTS it.

EXT. CONCERT HALL - CONTINUOUS

Larry Lazy-Eye FIRES into the air. People scatter. Larry Lazy-Eye then SLAMS into Reza.

REZA

I know you...

Larry Lazy-Eye shoves her aside and charges into the same corridor Benny fled.

INT. SIDE CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

Benny, shakes, peeks out the doorway.

Larry Lazy-Eye appears in the door crack. Looks inside.

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
You!? That's impossible!

Benny SHRIEKS and SLAMS the door.

Larry Laze-Eye lifts his gun. CLICK, CLICK. Empty.

EXT. CONCERT HALL - CONTINUOUS

Bruno runs to Reza manning the door. Removes his disguise. Reza blinks.

BRUNO  
Where'd trigger man go?

REZA  
Didn't you...just...?

Reza points to the corridor. Bruno drops his disguise and runs in.

Reza walks away, stunned. Blends into the crowd.

INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Larry Lazy-Eye searches his pockets. Hears a DOOR close. He turns, sees Bruno approaching. His gun out.

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
I'm seein' it, but I ain't  
believin' it.

Larry Lazy-Eye runs away towards a side door exit.

Bruno sprints after him.

INT. CLOSET - CONTINUOUS

FOOTSTEPS run off. Benny whips open the door, runs out.

But CRASHES into Bruno, who's gun goes flying.

Bruno slumps to the floor. Knocked out.

Benny slumps back into the closet. Out cold too.

The closet door closes.

EXT. SIDE DOOR EXIT - CONTINUOUS

Larry Lazy-Eye barges through the side door. Disappears into the night.

INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Andres cautiously walks down the hall.

ANDRES  
Benny? I saw you come this way.  
This is for employee's only...

He sees Bruno's body ahead and GASPS.

Andres quickly grabs him and hauls him up.

EXT. SIDE DOOR EXIT - MOMENTS LATER

Andre's drags Bruno into his car and then SLAMS the door.

He leaps in the driver's side and drives off.

SIRENS in the distance.

Moments later, Big Cheese Lou's limousine SKIDS to a stop. Mario and Pauly jump out and head for the side door.

INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Dante walks past the closet door, holding Bruno's dropped wig and glasses in his hands.

A soft MOAN comes from the closet.

Dante opens it.

Benny, still out of it, rolls around on the floor.

MARIO (O.S.)  
Dante! This way!

Mario and Pauly wave from the end side door exit.

Dante picks up Benny over his shoulder. He SNIFFS.

DANTE  
That a new cologne you got on,  
Bruno?

INT. PIZZA KITTY - BOOTHS - LATER

Mario, Pauly, and Big Cheese Lou stare at Benny lying in a booth. Benny is still out of it. Behind them, the girls play topless ping-pong.

DANTE

Bruno must be concussed. Out cold like a Jamaican on skis.

MARIO

Hate to meet the mug who pasted Bruno.  
(nudges Pauly)  
Hey, lets get a marker and write on his face.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Wake his ass up.

Dante SLAPS Benny's face. Benny stirs...

BENNY

Sorry about the piri-piri, Andres.

...but then slips back into unconsciousness.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Who the hell is Andres?

The others shrug.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Why was the trigger man there in the first place? Was he gunnin' for Green Thumbs too? Or my son-in-law lyin' right here?

PAULY

You thinkin' there's a rat, Boss?

DANTE

And where is Reza, anyway?

INT. PARADISE CASINO - OUTSIDE MENS RESTROOM - LATER

Crime scene tape across the door. CASINO SECURITY mill around as FBI AGENTS and POLICE work on the scene.

INT. MENS RESTROOM - LAST STALL - CONTINUOUS

FBI Agent Gordo holds one of the prosthetic legs. His colleague, FBI AGENT CHU, cute, arrives with her notebook.

FBI AGENT CHU  
Trying to get a leg up on the  
case?

FBI Agent Gordo ignores her.

FBI AGENT CHU  
Dealers confirm that Green Thumbs  
McGoo was here tonight. Left to  
use the can shortly before all  
this shit started.  
(beat)  
Casino camera caught the perp with  
the perm by the slots.

FBI Agent Gordo fingers the bullet holes.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
Why the fake legs?

FBI AGENT CHU  
To fool someone, obviously. The  
shooter thought his target was  
sitting on the crapper.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
No. Bullet holes are too high and  
level. Shooter was in the stall  
behind us. To do it right, you got  
to be close, aiming down.

FBI AGENT CHU  
So, the target was standing  
outside this stall. A set up.

FBI Agent Gordo storms off.

FBI Agent Chu raises her eyebrows.

INT. BENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

A DOCTOR listens to Bruno's chest with a stethoscope as he  
sleeps. Andres wraps a bandage around Bruno's head.

ANDRES  
*...so I sing to you, waiting  
endless nights, for you to be well  
again, and in my tights...*

Bruno wakes. SWATS the Doctor's hand.

BRUNO  
What the hell is going on?

ANDRES

Fado. And, yes, I changed the words.

BRUNO

Where am I?

DOCTOR

Home. Can you tell me your name?

Bruno shakes his head.

DOCTOR

Where you work? Your age? Where the best deal on cashmere is in this Godforsaken town?

BRUNO

You deaf? I already shook my head.

DOCTOR

I was afraid of this. You've suffered trauma to your temporal region that has temporarily displaced any memory recognition. In other words, you have amnesia.

The Doctor touches Bruno's head. Bruno SWATS again.

ANDRES

Amnesia? Well, he better not forget he owes me money on the deposit for new duvee covers.

BRUNO

So, what, you give me pills, I get better. End of story, right?

DOCTOR

Oh, I'm not a real Doctor. I just play one on TV. This stethoscope and bag are just props.

BRUNO

But you listened to my chest.

DOCTOR

Guilty as charged. But this is your whole life here. Walk around, look at photos. Your memory will come back. I'm sure of it.

The Doctor hands Andres two tickets.

DOCTOR  
Here's my bill. Actually, it's  
tickets to CATS. This was fun.

The Doctor leaves. Andres leans in to Bruno with a pair of tweezers and plucks an eyebrow.

BRUNO  
What the hell are you doing?

ANDRES  
Giving you two eyebrows. Benny,  
when did you grow this bush?

Bruno pushes him away. He stands, looks around the room. Walks over to a row of photos on the mantle.

BRUNO  
I don't remember a thing.  
(beat)  
This is my whole life, eh?  
My name is Benny?

ANDRES  
And I am Andres. Your friend.

Bruno stares at photos of Benny:

- hanging out with friends at a "Coming Out" barbecue.
- screaming his head off on a roller coaster ride.
- screaming his head off at the petting zoo.

Bruno picks up a photo of Benny dressed as a woman at a Mardi Gras Party.

BRUNO  
Let me get this straight.  
(beat)  
I'm a fruitcake?

INT. PIZZA KITTY - BOOTH - AFTERNOON

Music blares. MEN CHEER.

Benny wakes, sits up. Feels the lump on his head.

He sees: a TOPLESS COOK twirl and lose pizza dough...a TOPLESS HOSTESS, on a unicycle, CRASH into a table.

Benny slinks towards the front door.

INT. PIZZA KITTY - FRONT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

Benny passes the celebrity wall.

Sees Bruno's photo and stops to study it.

A TOPLESS SWORD SWALLOWER walks by.

Benny sticks the wall to avoid her, then slinks out the door.

EXT. STREET - OUTSIDE PIZZA KITTY - MOMENTS LATER

Benny walks past storefronts, obviously confused.

BENNY

This isn't Atlantic City.

A SCUMMY POOL SHARK exits a pool hall, holding a cue stick.

The man freezes. Hands Benny money.

SCUMMY POOL SHARK

I was gonna pay ya, I swear.  
Here's your cut.

BENNY

My cut for what? Wait...

SCUMMY POOL SHARK

Like fat chicks at last call in  
there. Easy pickings.

The pool shark walks off.

A SEWAGE WORKER ascends from a manhole. Sees Benny and  
shakes his hand. His eyes well up.

SEWAGE WORKER

Shit was never so beautiful.  
Thanks for saving the union.

Benny removes his own hand in disgust.

SEWAGE WORKER

I can feed my family again!

A GANG OF THUGS part as if Benny is contagious.

A DELI OWNER runs up and plants a hoagie on his hand.



DELI OWNER  
 Jalapenos, anchovies, and heavy  
 on the Miracle Whip. Just the  
 way you like it.

Benny backs away like the deli owner has leprosy.

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Benny sports a fur coat, a gold necklace, and a Cuban cigar.  
 He walks up to a phone booth.

A CALLER inside sees him, hangs up, and scurries away.

Benny studies his surroundings. People, everywhere, are  
 either adoring him or avoiding him.

He dials a collect call.

BENNY  
 I'm going to kill Andres. How dare  
 that Portugee leave me passed  
 out here...wherever I am.  
 (waits)  
 Pick up, Andres. I'm freaking  
 out here...

A tap on his shoulder.

DANTE  
 Police! Grab some air!

Benny SQUEALS, flutters against the glass.

DANTE  
 Got ya! Ha! That's a first!

Benny holds his hand over his heart feigning an attack.

Dante's jacket opens up. His gun handle pokes out.

Benny sees it, his eyes widen. It hits him.

BENNY  
 The Paradise Casino...

A limo SCREECHES to a halt. Pauly at the wheel. The rear  
 door swings open. Dante motions Benny in.

DANTE  
 Get in. We're late.

BENNY  
A limo? Late for what? Am I  
dressed okay?

INT. LIMO - MOMENTS LATER

Benny plops down next to Mario. Dante squeezes in.

DANTE  
The Boss wants to see you.

BENNY  
Bruce Springsteen wants to see me?

MARIO  
What?

DANTE  
I think looney tunes still has his  
noodle scrambled.

BENNY  
I think there's been a teeny  
little mix up--

Mario's gun flashes. Benny GULPS.

MARIO  
You better wise up that head of  
yours because the Boss is lookin'  
to roll a few.

DANTE  
And stop talking like a pussy.

Benny thinks. Hunches his shoulders. Lowers his voice.

BENNY  
Looks like we're behind the eight  
ball. Er, right, fellas?

DANTE  
Let's just hope the Boss don't  
wanna throw lead.

EXT. LOU'S LUBE & TUNE CENTER - LATER

A full service vehicle lube and tune. TOPLESS FEMALE WORKERS  
scurry between open hoods. Steam billows out of one, oil  
gushes out of another. A sign says: COME GET A LUBE JOB

A TOPLESS TUNER trips over an air hose and drops an air filter which rolls down a set of stairs.

INT. UNDERGROUND PIT - CONTINUOUS

A TOPLESS OIL CHANGER reaches under a truck, tugs on an oil filter wrench, then leaps out of the way as a starter engine CRASHES to the floor.

Behind her, the air filter rolls to a door.

Behind the door is

BIG CHEESE LOU'S SECRET HIDEOUT

Chairs, couch, and bar. Photos are tacked on a chalkboard of Big Cheese, Bruno, Dante, and Pauly and Mario, drunk, at a wedding. Reza has no photo, just a drawing of a rat.

Mario, Pauly, and Dante watch the monitors as a frustrated TOPLESS OIL CHECKER looks under a hood. Benny is appalled.

MARIO

Twenty bucks says she pulls a spark plug wire.

Bills changes hands.

The topless oil checker's hand suddenly yanks out a dipstick.

The men CHEER. Mario and Benny GROAN.

PAULY

Pay up, ya mug.

A toilet FLUSHES. Big Cheese steps out from a bathroom.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

A mob boss is always paranoid. Loyalty is the highest regard. If that is lost, you're done.

BIG CHEESE LOU

So, furthermore, the only ones who knew our plan are up here and that someone double crossed us.

MARIO

You got to use that photo of me, Boss? I was pretty loaded at your daughter's wedding.

PAULY

That's because you kept feeling up  
the Organist.

Mario and Pauly GIGGLE.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Maybe I oughta have you two idiots  
whacked instead.

(beat)

Dante? What do you make of this?

DANTE

Reza. Ain't here. Guilty.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Good point. Bruno, you wanna tip  
your mitt?

BENNY

Excuse me?

DANTE

You ain't stared at the monitors  
once.

MARIO

Yeah. Usually you bet on the  
redhead to open another trunk.

Benny is at a loss for words.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Who's the rat, Bruno?!?

Benny clears his throat. Rolls his shoulders.

BENNY

Firstly, Reza is too friggin'  
obvious. Big Cheese, you said you  
hired Reza as a consultant, right?

MARIO

Bruno, the Boss just repeated it  
before he hit the can.

BENNY

You went to her. She didn't come  
to you. Think motive, people!

Big Cheese Lou walks over, takes out his gun. Benny GULPS.

Big Cheese Lou turns and FIRES at the chalkboard.

BIG CHEESE LOU  
 Bruno's right! We got to look  
 beyond the obvious! I want  
 answers and I want them now!

Big Cheese Lou puts an arm around a frozen stiff Benny.

BIG CHEESE LOU  
 Dante, find what you can about  
 Tommy Two Timing.

DANTE  
 What's Bruno gonna do?

BIG CHEESE LOU  
 Never mind him! I'm in charge!

Dante hesitates, then leaves. Big Cheese Lou nudges Benny.

BIG CHEESE LOU  
 Go see Minnie. Find out who's  
 behind this, we'll put them in  
 a meat wagon. Savvy?

BENNY  
 Minnie? Where...?

BIG CHEESE LOU  
 Your skull still goofy? The  
 Taboo Revue. She's the canary.

Big Cheese waves at his monitors.

BIG CHEESE LOU  
 I got customers coming back every  
 week! Cleanest engines in town!  
 An untapped racket!

On one monitor, a TOPLESS TIRE ROTATOR has put on two  
 unmatched tires on one side of a car.

She spins the socket gun and holsters it.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Bruno and Andres stroll. Bruno tugs at his clothes.

BRUNO  
 These threads. They're too tight.

ANDRES  
 Benny, I wasn't going to say  
 anything, but...you gained weight.

BRUNO

I did?

INSERT A SERIES OF SHOTS

-Bruno takes a bite of raspberry cheesecake outside a bakery. He makes a face and dumps it in the trash.

-Andres tosses clothes over the change room door of a trendy store. Bruno throws them back.

-Andres boogies with bare-chested male DANCERS in a Go-Go Club. Bruno dances like an 1980's white male. They all stop, make a face. Bruno gets the hint, walks away.

Bruno walks through the crowd towards the MENS RESTROOM.

Michael exits the restroom holding a Michelob Ultra.

MICHAEL

Well, hello, stranger...

Bruno walks past him without acknowledging him.

Michael can't believe it.

INT. MEN'S RESTROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Seemingly empty. Bruno studies himself in a mirror.

BRUNO

Gaysville. Somehow, this life  
don't seem like me.

He hears a SCUFFLE from a stall. A TOUGH GAY'S voice.

TOUGH GAY (O.S.)

Shut up! Get on your knees.

A WIMPY GAY'S voice follows.

WIMPY GAY (O.S.)

Don't hurt me, please.

Bruno stares at the bathroom stall door. Instinctively, his right hand shoots for his left armpit. Like he's reaching for a gun. But, there's nothing there. He shakes it off.

Bruno eases stall door open.

Tough Gay, muscular, in leather, releases Wimpy Gay.

TOUGH GAY  
Wait your turn, asshole.

Bruno yanks out Tough Gay, SLAMS him into a wall.

Bruno nods to Wimpy Gay.

BRUNO  
Be anywhere else.

Wimpy Gay bows thanks and leaves.

TOUGH GAY  
I bet you've been in the joint  
too. Make me your bitch.

Bruno twists Tough Gay's finger...and BREAKS it.

Tough Gay slumps to the floor, cradles his hand in shock.

A bottle SHATTERS near the door.

Michael, frozen in awe, his feet covered in beer.

Bruno exits.

EXT. GO-GO CLUB - MOMENTS LATER

Bruno storms out to the sidewalk. Andres right behind him,  
holding his cell phone out.

ANDRES  
Benny! The director wants you  
back! We must go!

BRUNO  
Leave me alone. I don't know  
what's wrong with me. I got a  
headache.

A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN walks by. Bruno's eyes follow her. A bit  
too long.

BRUNO  
Gams like that, she got to be a pro  
skirt.

Andres grabs Bruno's head.

And plants a long hard kiss.

Bruno, wide-eyed, finally shoves him off.

BRUNO  
I thought you said we're only  
friends!

ANDRES  
We are! I am simply trying to  
knock sense back in!

BRUNO  
Because I checked out that kitten?

ANDRES  
Kitten? Why don't you come out and  
say pussy?

BRUNO  
Kitten, looker, dolly, tomato. You  
know, dames.

Andres surrenders. Goes behind Bruno's back.

BRUNO  
Wait. If I'm fruity, why am I  
checking out babes?

A glass bottle DOINKS Bruno on the head.

Andres winding up again with a wine cooler.

BRUNO  
Ow! What was that for?

ANDRES  
Stand still! The impact must be  
precise...

Bruno grabs Andres' hand.

BRUNO  
I don't want to hurt you.

ANDRES  
If you want the part back, you need  
to get to the set this minute.

Remnants of the wine cooler spill out.

BRUNO  
Now look what you did. I got  
Very Berry runnin' down my arm.

MICHAEL (V.O.)  
Benny! There you are!



Michael exits the Go-Go Club.

ANDRES  
Now is not a good time!

MICHAEL  
Shush, Andres! Such a pest!

Michael pushes past Andres.

ANDRES  
Be brave, Benny! Resist him!

MICHAEL  
Benny. You've changed. I'm  
very impressed.  
(flexes)  
How do I look?

BRUNO  
I know this bozo, Andres?

MICHAEL  
Stop pretending to be something  
you're not, you bitch. Acting  
class is over. You should be  
begging me to come back.

Bruno straightens. Sizes up Michael.

BRUNO  
Andres and I got to be someplace  
so I'm gonna be nice and  
resist making you eat my fist.  
Step aside.

Michael places his hand on Bruno's shoulder.

MICHAEL  
You're not going anywhere.

EXT. GO-GO CLUB - ALLEY - SECONDS LATER

Bruno dumps Michael head first into a dumpster. He brushes his hands after.

BRUNO  
Audition, huh? Acting?

Andres stands stunned. Looks to Bruno, then the dumpster.

ANDRES

You don't like sugar, you have zero fashion sense, you cannot dance, you speak a new language, and you have a thing for dumpsters. I give up.

EXT. GREEN THUMBS MCGOO'S MANSION - GARDEN - LATER

Green Thumbs PUREES shrubbery with his weed whacker. His bodyguard follows, rakes up debris.

Enter Tommy Two Timing pushing Larry Lazy-Eye forward.

TOMMY TWO TIMING

Boss! Larry Lazy-Eye is here!

Green Thumbs swivels his weed whacker. Head high.

LARRY LAZY-EYE

I plugged Bruno full of holes!  
I swear! On my mother's grave!

Green Thumbs nears Larry Lazy-Eye's face.

LARRY LAZY-EYE

There was two Bruno's!

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO

You're pullin' me wire.

LARRY LAZY-EYE

Two Bruno's. I think he's cloned.  
They do that these days, you know.

Green Thumbs swings his WHIRRING weed whacker at Tommy.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO

This fella is off his nut.

TOMMY TWO TIMING

My fault, Boss. He came very cost efficient. A second hit is only half price.

Green Thumbs swivels his weapon back at Larry Lazy-Eye.

LARRY LAZY-EYE

Money back guarantee too!

Green Thumbs kills his motor. He lifts a middle finger.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
How many fingers do you see?

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
One.  
(beat)  
On each hand.

Green Thumbs nods to his bodyguard who then snatches Tommy by the head and jams a red root into his mouth.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
While buffoonery can be blamed on the matter at hand, you, Tommy, are ultimately responsible.

The bodyguard forces Tommy to eat the root.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
The root in your mouth is the Irish Jig, native to Dover farmers who paralyze unwilling sheep. Perhaps now that gob of yours might stop yapping as well.

Green Thumbs turns to Larry Lazy-Eye. Hoists his weed whacker high and FIRES it back up.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
As for you. I got me more weeding to do.

Larry Lazy-Eye SCREAMS.

INT. STUDIO SET - HALLWAY - LATER

Bruno and Andres wander past WORKERS assembling a set.

BRUNO  
But I don't remember how to act.

ANDRES  
Just improvise. Think Bruce Willis.

INT. STREET CORNER SET - CONTINUOUS

A CAST OF GANGSTERS and assorted weaponry wait against a building prop.

The Director, who chastised Benny before, YELLS at a CRIPPLED ACTOR, on crutches, wearing a cheerleader uniform.

DIRECTOR

What I don't understand is, how the hell you can fall off the float at the pride parade?!?

CRIPPLED ACTOR

Easy. Three Cosmopolitans and two pompoms. You do the math.

Bruno is guided through the doorway by Andres.

ANDRES

Benny is back!

DIRECTOR

Benny? No way. Forget it.

Bruno stops in the middle of the set. Stares at the Cast of Gangsters before him.

Bruno is hypnotized.

ANDRES

His agent said someone really broke a leg and that Benny could try again.

The Director SIGHS, holds a script out to Bruno.

DIRECTOR

Go ahead. Cramp my style. Page fifty six.

Bruno opens it to the page.

DIRECTOR

Alright everyone! Let's rehearse this again!

The cast moves into their positions.

DIRECTOR

Now Benny, I want all man. I want a menace. Bravado. This street is yours. Bring it, baby.

Bruno nods. He walks forward, reading.

BRUNO

Um, I'm here to take over as the new Capo around here.

A TOUGH MOBSTER steps forward.

TOUGH MOBSTER  
We already got us a Boss. How  
about you dust outta here.

BRUNO  
Step aside. You are nothing.

An ARMED GANGSTER appears with a big gun.

Bruno blinks. He jolts.

This scene, the set up...

Starting to remember...

ARMED GANGSTER  
How about I fill ya full of lead?

Bruno thinks fast, tosses the script aside, grabs the tough  
mobster and uses him as a human shield.

BRUNO  
Drop the heat or I snap his neck!

TOUGH MOBSTER  
Oh! You're hurting me!

Armed gangster looks around confused. So do the others.

ARMED GANGSTER  
I thought Benny was supposed to--

BRUNO  
Don't even think about burning  
powder! Do it now or I paste ya!

Guns CLATTER on the floor. From the others.

Bruno shoved tough mobster off. He lunges forward, grabs  
armed gangster. Grabs his gun.

BRUNO  
You ever point a gat at me again,  
I'll rip your throat, ya mug!

ARMED GANGSTER  
Okay, okay, I'm sorry...

BRUNO  
Now who hired ya to bump me off?  
Spill it!

ARMED GANGSTER  
Hired? I don't understand! Help!

Bruno snaps out of it. He releases armed gangster.

Bruno is back to being Bruno.

DIRECTOR  
Uh, Benny...

BRUNO  
Bruno! My name is Bruno!  
(beat)  
What is this? What am I doing  
here? I ain't no actor!

Bruno heads for the door.

Andres blocks him.

BRUNO  
Out of the way. You don't know  
who I really am. I remember now.

ANDRES  
I have spent many hours listening  
to you whine and cry and complain.  
This is your dream. Turn around.

BRUNO  
What's wrong with you? I ain't  
no wussy gaycat! I got a life!

Bruno paces. Addresses everyone.

BRUNO  
I could crush you all in one  
squeeze of my fist! I could  
destroy you, torture you, grind  
you up into a pulp and chew you  
up! I'm a made guy, a bad ass,  
someone you don't wanna fuck with!

Bruno starts kicking props. Some in the cast begin to cower.

BRUNO  
Rubber guns, cheap suits, stupid  
dialogue. I'm outta here.

DIRECTOR  
Just a minute!

BRUNO  
What the hell do you want?!?

DIRECTOR  
You. You're rehired. Welcome  
back to the set.

INT. WARDROBE DEPARTMENT - LATER

Andres pushes a dumbfounded Bruno into a room filled with  
racks of assorted clothes.

BRUNO  
This is a joke. I'm in a fairy  
tale. Literally.  
(beat)  
Stop pushing me, Andres. I hate it  
when you do that.

ANDRES  
Although what you did back there  
was nothing short of miraculous,  
sometimes, you are hopeless.

A large WARDROBE DUDE looks up from a gun magazine. A cigar  
between his sausage fingers.

WARDROBE DUDE  
What can I do you...boys?

ANDRES  
This is Benny. He will require  
the mobster's uniform.

Bruno drifts off.

BRUNO  
The casino...hallway...almost  
remember...

The wardrobe dude CHUCKLES as he rises from a stool.

WARDROBE DUDE  
I didn't know this was a comedy.

BRUNO  
Hey, pal, you know where I can  
shove that cigar? Lit?

ANDRES  
Be nice, Benny.  
(to Wardrobe Dude)  
(MORE)

ANDRES(cont'd)

Don't worry, he is still in character.

The wardrobe dude moves racks of clothes along a belt.

WARDROBE DUDE

Let's see...Policeman's Uniform,  
Firefighter's Uniform,...  
(looks back at Bruno)  
...Nurse's Uniform...

An idea HITS Bruno.

Bruno HITS wardrobe dude with his fist.

Wardrobe dude HITS to the floor.

ANDRES

What did you just do!?

Bruno grabs numerous uniforms off the rack.

BRUNO

You said I'm an actor, right?  
Well, its time for me to act  
and I'm gonna need wardrobe.  
And lots of it.  
(beat)  
Hold your arms out.

ANDRES

We're stealing now? No.

Andres drops the uniforms.

BRUNO

Look, Andres. I am not the man you think I am.

ANDRES

Are you trying to go straight again?

Bruno whips out a photo of Carmela.

BRUNO

Who is this in the picture?

ANDRES

Your Mother. Carmela. Why?

BRUNO

Carmela. I remember the name now.  
Oh, Mama, how could you?



Bruno shakes his head. Andres hugs Bruno.

Andres moves in for a kiss.

Bruno stops him.

ANDRES  
Just give into it, damn you!

BRUNO  
Where did you find me last night?  
Where were we?

ANDRES  
Atlantic City. Paradise Casino.  
We saw Cher. Or part of it.

BRUNO  
And then...

ANDRES  
You ran away screaming because of  
Michael, there were gunshots...

BRUNO  
I remember. The hallway. I was  
chasing...

ANDRES  
No, running away hysterically...

BRUNO  
And then...for a split second, I  
saw...and he must have been picked  
up by mistake by the guys...and is  
me now...

Bruno punches the wall.

BRUNO  
That dumb queer! He'll get himself  
whacked, pretending to be me!  
Worse is, everyone's gonna think  
I'm a girlie in glad rags!

Bruno bends down and picks up the uniforms.

BRUNO  
I need your heap. Keys, now.

EXT. ALLEY - EVENING

A taxi pulls up. Benny steps out, faces a dark alley.

BENNY  
Wait...where's the Taboo Revue?

TAXI DRIVER (O.S.)  
Freak!

The taxi speeds off.

EXT. ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

Benny sees a sign above a bullet riddled door: TABOO REVUE

He hears a FOOTSTEP behind him and whirls around.

No one there.

Benny KNOCKS on the door. A slot in the door slides open. A GRUFF VOICE from within.

GRUFF VOICE  
Yeah?

BENNY  
Um, Minnie please.

The slot SHUTS. Nothing happens. Benny rolls his shoulders. KNOCKS again.

BENNY  
Let me in or I'll rip out your  
guts, squash your ugly mug down  
to your ass, and punt ya through  
the uprights!

The slot opens. So does the door. The gruff voice belongs to a DWARF standing on a stool. Benny does a double take.

DWARF  
Sorry, Bruno. It didn't sound like  
you. Minnie's on stage.

INT. TABOO REVUE STAGE - MOMENTS LATER

A small stage, thick velvet curtains, circa 1920s. MINNIE, a vivacious blonde, finishes her best Mae West.

She tugs a HORNY FAN's tie amid WOLF WHISTLES.

MINNIE  
*...thank you so much, thanks for  
the waltz, your feet was too fast  
but we all have our faults, so  
just unlock that door and lay down*  
(MORE)

MINNIE(cont'd)

*that gun, it's hard on you, it's  
hard on me, but pardon me if I love  
and run...*

She shoves him off. Horny fan collapses in ecstasy. Minnie does a bow, blows kisses, and exits the stage.

INT. BACKSTAGE DRESSING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Minnie sits down on a chair. Fixes herself in the mirror. She sees Benny walk up behind her. Roll his shoulders.

BENNY

Word is, doll face, you're the stoolie for Reza.

MINNIE

Reza? She does her own thing.  
You're wasting your time, Sugar.

Minnie gets up and tries to walk past. Benny grabs her.

MINNIE

Oh, baby, I only kiss and tell.  
You know that. So it looks like  
you'll have to rough me up.

Benny grabs her, kisses her hard, then releases her.

MINNIE

Racetrack. Private Box.

BENNY

Good girl.

Minnie, flustered, gathers herself.

MINNIE

You kissed me...does that mean?...

Benny grabs Minnie. She YELPS. He tugs at her hair.

Off comes a wig.

Minnie is a man.

BENNY

Don't mean a thing, Sugar. But  
I know a drag queen when I see  
one.

Benny walks out.

MINNIE

First post is at seven! Call me!

EXT. ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

Benny exits the alley and flags down another cab.

INT. TAXI CAB - MOMENTS LATER

Benny slides in. The NEW DRIVER looks back.

NEW DRIVER

Where to, Mac?

BENNY

Racetrack doesn't open until  
seven...

(beat)

Take me to The Pizza Kitty.  
There's someone I got to check out.

NEW DRIVER

Rock on! Best pepperoni and feta  
slice in town! Maybe I'll join ya!

Benny rolls his eyes as the driver floors it.

EXT. ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

A cigarette LIGHTS in a doorway at the end of the alley.

Dante. He KNOCKS on the door for the TABOO REVUE.

INT. PIZZA KITTY - LATER

Benny scans the photos in the lobby, zeroing in on Bruno.

BENNY

Who are you, Uni-brow? Why do they  
think I am you?

A SEXY WAITRESS, in a bikini, strolls up.

SEXY WAITRESS

Drink, Mr. Giordano?

BENNY

What did you call me?!?

SEXY WAITRESS

Your name. Mr. Giordano.

Benny leans back against a wall in shock.

BENNY  
Mamma Mia.

He grabs a Manhattan off her tray and takes a gulp.

BENNY  
Bring me another. On second  
thought, make it a fuzzy navel.  
And double the schnapps.

The sexy waitress brushes his chest.

SEXY WAITRESS  
I'd like to see your fuzzy navel.

He removes her hand.

BENNY  
(rolls his shoulders)  
So many women, so little time.

Benny takes another long gulp.

SEXY WAITRESS  
You must really love your wife.

Benny SPRAYS whiskey everywhere.

BENNY  
Where's the phone?

SEXY WAITRESS  
In here? You crazy? They're  
probably all tapped. You know  
that.

The sexy waitress hands him her cell phone.

SEXY WAITRESS  
Here. Use mine.

EXT. GREEN THUMBS MCGOO'S MANSION - GARDEN - LATER

Green Thumbs McGoo salts slugs. His bodyguard follows him.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Japers! I can rid gangsters  
from me turf but I can not keep  
slugs from me yams.

A corn stalk shakes. The bodyguard investigates. WAP! The bodyguard falls to the ground. Out like a light.

Dante steps out from the corn. Places his gun muzzle at a stunned Green Thumbs McGoo's head.

DANTE  
Your palooka missed Bruno.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Aye, Larry Lazy-Eye is as useless  
as tits on a bull.

Dante holsters his weapon.

DANTE  
My dibs changed. Instead of thirty  
percent when Big Cheese is gone, I  
now demand fifty. No less.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Lay off! That's a partnership!

Dante removes his gun again. Aims at Green Thumbs' head.

DANTE  
Might be a monopoly if you don't  
nod your skull. Fifty percent plus  
your life is a great fucking deal.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
I must be loopers to agree.

DANTE  
The only thing that stands between  
me and Big Cheese is Bruno. I  
become number two man. The only  
thing that stands between me and  
you, is this gun. Now, what's  
it gonna be?

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Why don't ya just kill Bruno  
yourself?

Dante re-holsters his gun. Lights a cigarette.

DANTE  
He's the underboss. I can't do a  
made guy. I'd be whacked before I  
reloaded. Shooter has to be from  
outside. That means you.

Tommy Two Timing appears, drooling.

TOMMY TWO TIMING  
Dante, didth you take caref Retha  
yet? Shethaw me athe Cathino.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Aye, best not to have loose ends.

Dante stares at Tommy Two Timing, then at Green Thumbs.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
This buffoon needed to be grounded.

DANTE  
Bruno's gonna take care of Reza  
for us. And I know exactly where  
she's gonna be. Boys, I have a new  
plan.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
Switching sides, lure of money,  
the pursuit of power...this is what  
mobster life is all about. They  
can't stop. And they won't. Not  
for anybody.

INT. PIZZA KITTY - LATER

Benny paces as he speaks into the cell phone. A NAKED  
WHEELCHAIR WAITRESS glides past him with a tray of drinks on  
her lap.

BENNY  
Fess up, Mother. I know the  
name Giordano. It's your sister's  
name. You know, the childless  
one you don't speak to?  
(listens)  
Then who is Bruno?

The naked wheelchair chick CRASHES into the stage, tips over.

BENNY  
Oh, Mother...

Benny shuts off the cell and collapses in a booth.

He closes his eyes.

A drink is placed on the table.

A HAND touches his shoulder.

BENNY

I told you, you got no chance with me, honey.

But its a man's hand.

BRUNO

You're too daisy for me anyway.

Benny springs to his feet.

Bruno, wearing a doctor's uniform, wig, and glasses. He removes the wig, grabs Benny, and shoves him into a pool table where a couple of POOL PLAYERS are about to break.

BRUNO

How much of my life have you screwed up?

BENNY

Nice to meet you too, bro.

BRUNO

How gay am I now!?!?

The pool players raise their eyebrows.

Bruno grabs a cue stick and stands like a batter.

BRUNO

Want me to go A-Rod on your ass?

The pool players wisely retreat.

BENNY

How did you know to find me here?

BRUNO

Gee, I don't know. Maybe the fact you're pretending to be me. I got news for you, pal. This ain't no Queer Eye for the Wise Guy.

BENNY

It's not easy being you. I had to lower my IQ and scratch myself.

BRUNO

Try waking up a mindless homo.

BENNY

(LAUGHS)

You were gay?



BRUNO  
 Hey, you're tooting the wrong  
 ringer. I saw no action, okay?

BENNY  
 So we totally switched roles.

BRUNO  
 I tell ya, poor Andres is one  
 confused hombre.

Bruno lines up the cue ball.

BENNY  
 If you hurt him in any way...

And breaks...

BRUNO  
 Relax. You'll be the one breaking  
 his heart.

INT. TABOO REVUE - LATER

FBI Agent's Gordo and Chu stand over a body under a tarp. AN  
 OFFICER lifts an edge.

Minnie. Dead. The wig stuffed in his mouth.

OFFICER  
 He/she just finished his/her set.  
 The dwarf found him/her about  
 an hour ago.

FBI AGENT CHU  
 Robbery? Trick gone bad?

FBI AGENT GORDO  
 Wig stuck in her trap? Smells  
 like a loose end. Where's  
 the dwarf? He's our witness.

The dwarf comes out of a restroom. Dressed as Mae West.

DWARF  
 The show must go on.

He walks out of the room and onto the stage. CHEERS erupt.

INT. PIZZA KITTY - POOL TABLES - LATER

Bruno, wearing his wig, banks a shot. Benny twirls his cue.

BRUNO

And you ain't never heard from our father?

BENNY

Mother refused to speak his name.

BRUNO

All this time, I thought I was an only child. Now I find out I got a brother...and he's fruit of the womb.

BENNY

And I come to find out I got a brother who's a scumbag gangster.

Bruno steps forward. Cocks his fist.

BRUNO

You wanna sock in the skull?

Benny advances too.

BENNY

Take one more step and I paste your mush.

Bruno lowers his hand.

BRUNO

Your shot, bro.

BENNY

I mean, you really talk like this? Mugs, palooka, take a powder...

Bruno gives him a blank look.

Benny hits the cue ball. Too soft, it barely moves.

Bruno LAUGHS.

BRUNO

You got a limp wrist.

BENNY  
Why am I even helping you? What  
good did you do for me?

BRUNO  
Nothing. Except I got you your  
part back.

BENNY  
The audition?

BRUNO  
Piece of cake.

BENNY  
Thank you.

BRUNO  
And what good have you done for me?

BENNY  
Only where to find Reza the Rat.

BRUNO  
Don't be a bunny.

Bruno lines up a shot.

BENNY  
Big Cheese had me visit Minnie at  
the Taboo Revue. Have her spill it  
to me. And he did. Boy, did he.

Bruno misses.

BRUNO  
Minnie is a guy? No shit?

Benny nods.

BENNY  
So, I know where to find Reza. Now  
we can work this out together.

BRUNO  
What's in it for you?

BENNY  
It's personal. But think about it.  
There are two of us. And no one  
but us knows it.

BRUNO

How do I know you won't mess it up?

The sexy waitress arrives, taps Benny's arm.

SEXY WAITRESS

There you are, Mr. Giordano.  
Here's your fuzzy navel.

EXT. RACETRACK - PARKING LOT - LATER

Bruno and Benny sit on the hood of Andres' car.

BRUNO

So Reza is in there, eh?

Benny nods.

BRUNO

Nothin' but an empty suit! I'll go  
section eight on your butch ass! I  
know you ratted me out, Reza!

BENNY

Calm down. You are not going to  
speak to her.

BRUNO

Damn right I won't! I'm gonna fill  
her with daylight!

BENNY

What she needs is someone to  
confide in. A people person.

EXT. RACETRACK - BETTING AREA - MOMENTS LATER

BETTORS line up to wager. The speaker ANNOUNCES first post  
in 5 minutes.

Benny searches the crowd.

BENNY

(quietly, to himself)  
Okay, Reza. What do you look  
like? How do I find you?

Dante SLAPS Benny in the back. Benny jumps.

DANTE  
 These mugs that pray here and at  
 church? Difference is, here they  
 mean it.

A pair of binoculars dangle from his neck.

BENNY  
 What are you doing here, Dante?

DANTE  
 Let's just say, Minnie sang me a  
 tune.

Benny SNICKERS.

EXT. UPPER SECTION - MINUTES LATER

Bettors CHEER as horses sprint. Dante scans the crowd below.  
 Benny wipes nacho cheese off his shoes.

BENNY  
 Why are we up here? It smells  
 awful. And gross.

DANTE  
 I smell a rat.

Benny backs away.

BENNY  
 Where?!? Does it have teeth?!?

Dante grabs Benny's head and plants the binoculars on him.

Benny sees Reza sitting alone in a VIP private box.

Dante takes his binoculars back.

DANTE  
 Go take her out.

BENNY  
 Take her out where?

DANTE  
 Enough with the wisecracks, Bruno.  
 It ain't you.

He hands Benny an icepick.

DANTE  
A quick thrust, up, and twist.  
Turn her brains to mush.

Benny rolls his eyes, walks off, and pockets the icepick.

DANTE  
Meet ya out front.

EXT. PRIVATE BOX - MOMENTS LATER

Benny takes a seat next to Reza studying her racing form.  
Reza freezes.

BENNY  
I'm supposed to take you out.

REZA  
I'm surprised you even talked.

A WAITER walks by with a tray of two Manhattans. Benny stops him, grabs the drinks.

BENNY  
Another round. Make it snappy.

WAITER  
Yes, sir. Of course.

BENNY  
And don't skimp on the cherries.

The waiter blinks, then leaves.

REZA  
(tears)  
I'm scared, Bruno. We were set  
up. I saw...I saw...

BENNY  
I'm here, girl. Let it out.

EXT. RACETRACK PARKING LOT - LATER

Benny wanders outside the gates. Dante appears from behind a minivan, smoking.

DANTE  
Reza iced or what?

BENNY  
We were set up, Dante. There  
is someone on the inside.

DANTE

You don't say. Come with me.

Dante leads Benny to his car, a Crown Victoria.

Dante removes a sap. About to swing at Benny when...

BENNY

Mind if I bum smoke?

Dante stops, looks at Benny. Pockets the sap. He then hands Benny a cigarette and lights it.

Benny takes a deep drag. Blows a steady stream of smoke.

BENNY

I always like to smoke when I've been drinking. Why is that?

DANTE

Yeah, that's...not right.

BENNY

Okay, so Reza tells me she sees another hitman, so she freaks and decides to go into hiding. Why was another shooter there? And with a lazy eye? Crazy.

Police cars SKID to a stop by the entrance. OFFICERS roll out and flood the turnstiles.

BENNY

What's all the commotion?

Dante's car SCREECHES off. With Dante in it.

Benny stands there alone. Confused.

Bruno SKIDS Andres' car next to Benny.

BRUNO

Get in, Benny! Now!

INT. ANDRES' CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Bruno floors it.

BRUNO

What happened in there? Did you do something to Reza?

BENNY

No, nothing. We just talked.

BRUNO

Someone tipped off the flatfoots.  
What did Reza say?

BENNY

Nicky's Dive Bar. In the Village.  
We'll find the shooter in there.  
He drives a Red Cadillac.

BRUNO

Nicky's? The hell is that?

BENNY

It's gay bar. Oh my God, its so  
much fun...

EXT. NICKY'S DIVE BAR - LATER

A flashy dance club. Loud disco music blares.

Bruno cruises in the parking lot, sees a red Cadillac.

INT. ANDRES' CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Benny flips down the mirror and fixes his hair.

BENNY

Don't wait up for me.

BRUNO

This one is mine. Time to put the  
screws on.

BENNY

He'll spot you a mile away. How  
will you get to him?

Bruno reaches behind him. Pulls out a fireman's cap.

BRUNO

When in the Village...

BENNY

Macho, macho man...

INT. NICKY'S DIVE BAR - MOMENTS LATER



A BUFF DOORMAN opens the door from outside. Bruno, in a Firefighter's Uniform and wearing a fake mustache and glasses, enters. CUSTOMERS glance over and swoon.

BUFF DOORMAN  
We warn them where to park.  
But do they listen? Noooo.

Bruno searches the crowd.

Benny bumps into him from behind.

Wearing a cowboy uniform complete with a cowboy hat.

BRUNO  
I thought you said you was gonna  
wait in the car.

BENNY  
And pass up a chance to go drag?

Bruno gives him a look.

BENNY  
I'm kidding. We'll cover more  
ground this way.

Bruno sees Larry Lazy-Eye at the bar.

BRUNO  
There's the mug now. I'm goin' in.

Benny begins to dance.

BENNY  
So am I.

Bruno makes his way over to the bar.

Benny makes his way to the dance floor.

Bruno taps Larry Lazy-Eye on the shoulder.

BRUNO  
You drive a red Caddy?

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
It drives me, baby.

BRUNO  
You're parked in a fire lane  
and are in violation of city  
ordinance...section 42a.

Larry Lazy-Eye turns. His face is cut up, patches of hair are missing.

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
Section 42a? Ain't that the one  
about dog crap on the sidewalk?

A few drunks SNICKER.

Bruno leans in. Strokes Larry's arm.

BRUNO  
Don't be like that. Why don't you  
come outside, check out my nozzle?

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
Works for me.

INT. NICKY'S DIVE BAR - DANCE FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Benny dances and twirls his hat.

Unaware that Bruno has gone out the back door.

EXT. NICKY'S DIVE BAR - REAR DOOR - MOMENTS LATER

Larry Lazy-Eye steps outside. No one is around.

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
Wait! There ain't no fire  
lane out here!

BRUNO  
You just got hosed.

Bruno whisks Larry Lazy-Eye's gun from his holster and removes his fake moustache.

BRUNO  
Paradise Casino. Who put the  
contract out on me?

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
I don't know what you're talking  
about. Who the hell are you?

Bruno CHOPS him across the jaw.

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
Okay! It was Tommy Two Timing! He  
brought me in! Green Thumbs is  
runnin' the show!

BRUNO  
How did you know I would be there?

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
I'm a part time psychic?

Bruno raises his fist.

BRUNO  
I oughta treat you to more chin  
music if you don't speak up!

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
Alright! Look, I got no ties to  
Green Thumbs. He didn't even pay  
me. And look what that psycho did  
to me.

BRUNO  
Tommy had to find out from someone  
else. Who is the damn snitch?

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
Can I go? Nicky's got beer in  
his fridge gettin' way too cold.

Bruno grips him harder.

BRUNO  
I'm talkin' to a stiff right here.

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
Dante! It was Dante!

Bruno releases him. Stutter steps backwards in shock.

BRUNO  
Take a bunk. Go.

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
He's your meat. I don't know  
what else to tell ya.

Larry Lazy-Eye reaches for the door handle.

BRUNO  
You could never rub me out. You  
know that, right?

LARRY LAZY-EYE  
Not when there's two of you.  
Good clone job, you ask me.

SIRENS in the distance.

Police cars roll up.

SHOUTS from bar patrons of "It's a raid!"

EXT. NICKY'S DIVE BAR - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Nicky's customers begin streaming out of the club. Running hysterically past the arms of police.

Benny runs out, goes to Andres' car.

A Fed car SCREECHES to a halt next to Benny.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
Get in, Bruno! Now!

INT. FBI AGENT GORDO'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

FBI Agent Gordo floors it. Benny holds on to the dash.

BENNY  
This seems to be a theme...

FBI AGENT GORDO  
Minnie over at the Taboo Revue is dead. Witness gave us Reza at the racetrack. I guess we just missed you there.

Benny slumps in his seat.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
Relax. Same witness puts Dante there after you.

FBI Agent Gordo races through a stoplight.

BENNY  
Dante. He must have followed me. How did you know I was here?

FBI AGENT GORDO  
Reza said you might be making some poor lazy-eyed sap's life miserable.  
(beat)  
Be honest with me. Did you whack the hitman?

BENNY

No. That wasn't our, er, my intention.

FBI AGENT GORDO

Do me a favor. Pack your bags. Go stroll in Bahamian sand.

BENNY

Where are you taking me?

FBI AGENT GORDO

Home. To your wife.

EXT. NICKY'S DIVE BAR - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Bruno hides in Andres' car. He peers out the windshield and sees cops blocking the exits.

He thinks -- and reaches behind for a uniform.

EXT. NICKY'S DIVE BAR - STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Police have the parking lot barricaded.

Bruno, in a policeman's uniform, walks past a row of cops who don't bat an eye.

He finds an unoccupied police cruiser on the street. He casually enters the car and drives off.

EXT. BRUNO'S MANSION - LATER

FBI Agent Gordo's car leaves.

Benny stands outside the gates. Hears Chinese instruments.

EXT. BRUNO'S DRIVEWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Benny pushes the gates open. He sees Mona, her back to him, on the grass practicing Tai-chi.

GRASS

Mona goes through her motions. Eyes closed, focus. Careful. Confucius say, man who sit on tack, get point!

But Benny doesn't heed the warning and walks up to her.

BENNY

Uh, excuse me...

Mona flips Benny. He THUMPS the ground hard.

MONA  
That, dear husband, is for not  
coming home last night.

Benny stumbles, tries to get back up.

BENNY  
I am...not your...husb...

Mona kicks him in the groin. He collapses in a heap.

MONA  
Why is this so easy?

BENNY  
Stop! We...need to...talk!

MONA  
Talk? You never want to talk.  
(beat)  
Oh, shit. I really hurt you.

Mona helps him to his feet. Turns his hands over.

MONA  
Did you get a manicure?

Benny crosses his legs in pain. Barely able to stand.

MONA  
I hit you hard, didn't I? Aw,  
let me feel the little guy.

Her hand dives down inside his pants. Feels around.

BENNY  
The last person to have their  
hand down there wore buttless  
chaps and Aqua Velva!

She squeezes HARD. Benny winces.

MONA  
You're not Bruno! I know Bruno,  
and you aren't him!

BENNY  
(raised a few octaves)  
This may...surprise you, but  
this is not the first time...I  
was beaten up by a girl...

MONA  
Who the hell are you?

INT. BRUNO'S KITCHEN - LATER

Mona and Benny sip Chianti at the counter.

MONA  
Twin brothers?

BENNY  
I just found out that my mother is  
not mine by birth. I was given to  
her by someone else.

MONA  
I know Momma Leola has a sister  
somewhere but she refuses to talk  
about her. We had no idea this  
sister had a child. Her child.

Mona reaches for more wine.

MONA  
So where do you think my Bruno is?

BENNY  
At a gay bar.

Mona SNICKERS. Fills up their wine glasses.

MONA  
Bruno at a gay bar? Right. This  
from the guy who quit smoking the  
day he heard Brits called  
cigarette's fags.

BENNY  
He went to talk with a killer and  
the cops suddenly showed up.

MONA  
Let me get my keys.

BENNY  
Where are we going?

MONA  
Bruno went to "talk" to a hitman?  
I'll need bail money...contact the  
lawyer...call my father...

Mona disappears down the hall.

BENNY

I haven't told you the bad news yet. I think one of Bruno's buddies is in serious trouble. Something he did to a diva named Minnie.

MONA (O.S.)

Yeah? Who?

Mona suddenly SHRIEKS.

Tommy Two Timing appears from the hallway. Holds Mona and a large gun.

Benny gets up and runs to help.

But a HAND reaches him from behind. Benny whirls around.

Dante stands there, smoking a cigarette.

Dante PUNCHES Benny to the ground.

Dante bends down, removes his cigarette. Shows it to Benny.

DANTE

These things will kill you.

Dante SINGES the cigarette on Benny's lower forearm. Benny YELPS and squirms.

DANTE

Fun Park. Eight pm. Tell Big Cheese his life for Mona's.

Dante then grabs Benny by the chin. Studies him.

DANTE

Tell your brother too.

Dante cocks his fist back again...and KNOCKS Benny out.

INT. HARDWARE STORE - LATER

A typical mini-mall hardware store. Except this one has TOPLESS CLERKS and a sign that says: COME IN AN GET NAILED.

INT. HARDWARE STORE - OFFICES - CONTINUOUS

Big Cheese Lou watches out the window, sees a TOPLESS TILE SETTER squeeze calk to a cheering set of MALE CUSTOMERS.



The EX-OWNER of the store hands him a glass of champagne.

EX-OWNER

...course, I never thought I'd see  
the day when this little shop would  
steal customers from Home Depot.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Topless home renovations! Another  
untapped racket!

Big Cheese Lou hands him a suitcase full of money.

His cell phone RINGS. He picks up.

BIG CHEESE LOU

It's your nickel. Shoot.  
(listens)  
Bruno. What's so damn important  
you gotta interrupt my business?

INT. BRUNO'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Benny leans on the counter dabbing ice at his jaw.

BENNY

Mona is in trouble...

INT. HARDWARE STORE - CONTINUOUS

Mario and Pauly sit in a patio chair display.

MARIO

So, its dark, right. I'm puttin'  
toothpaste on my toothbrush, I  
start brushing my teeth. Tastes  
bad so I look down. The tube says  
Preparation H.

PAULY

This don't have a happy ending.

MARIO

Worse part is, I put my finger down  
my backside to check, it comes up  
smelling minty fresh. I got to get  
my eyes checked.

A TOPLESS PAINT CLERK manually shakes a can of paint.

PAULY

Toots, you keep shakin' that, we  
gotta get a bigger "oops" table.

BIG CHEESE LOU (O.S.)  
Mario! Pauly! In here now!

They pretend not to hear.

BIG CHEESE LOU (O.S.)  
Get in now or you'll be wearing  
shoes caked in cement!

Mario and Pauly scramble out of their chairs.

PAULY  
I can't do the river. No way.

MARIO  
Hey, Pauly. Do fish really eat  
your eyeballs first? Because I'd  
hate that if it was true.

EXT. CITY PARK - LATER

Momma Leola, gray now, sits on a bench holding the photo of  
Benny and Carmela. Bruno is next to her.

BRUNO  
When I was a kid, I found an old  
photo album from Italy in your  
trunk. The lady in this photo  
was in that album.

MOMMA LEOLA  
I don't know who this lady is,  
but she is dead to me!

BRUNO  
Come on, Momma. Enough.

MOMMA LEOLA  
I miss Benny so much!

BRUNO  
Why didn't you tell me I had  
a twin brother?

MOMMA LEOLA  
Carmela was not able to conceive.  
I had you two. She paid our  
passage to this new world, so for  
that I owe. But what does she do  
to thank me? Steals my Giuseppe!

BRUNO  
The father I never knew.

INT. BENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Bruno undresses out of the policeman's uniform. He picks up the phone and dials.

Andres watches Bruno.

BRUNO  
Sorry, Andres. It's personal.  
I'll explain to you in a sec.

Andres nods and disappears. Bruno's call is answered.

BRUNO  
Hey, Mona, baby. It's me. I  
got a lot of explaining to do...  
(listens)  
Who the hell is this?!?

INT. BRUNO'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Benny cradles the phone, looking out the windows. Shaking.

BENNY  
Your twin brother, meathead.  
Listen to me, Bruno. Dante took  
Mona.

INT. BENNY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Bruno squeezes the receiver. The plastic CRACKS.

BRUNO  
I'll kill that rat bastard!

BENNY (V.O.)  
He said Fun Park. Eight o'clock.  
(beat)  
Look, this isn't fun anymore. I'm  
in over my head...

A gun COCKS.

Bruno turns around.

Andres levels Larry Lazy-Eyes' gun at Bruno.

ANDRES  
Put the phone down.

BENNY (V.O.)  
I wish I could help, but I'm  
too afraid!

Bruno places the phone back on the cradle.

INT. BRUNO'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Benny hears a dial tone.

BENNY  
Bruno? You there? Dante knows I'm  
not you anymore! Hello?

Benny tries to Star 69 but the number is blocked.

He gathers himself.

BENNY  
I can do this. I am an actor.

INT. BENNY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Andres wavers with the gun.

ANDRES  
Your chest.

BRUNO  
Look, I know I'm irresistible, but  
this ain't a good time to be  
hittin' on me again.

ANDRES  
Benny waxes his chest. What I see  
in front of me is a bear.

BRUNO  
Put the gun down.

ANDRES  
Who are you? Where is Benny?

A KNOCK at the door. Andres turns his head.

Bruno snatches the gun from Andres.

BRUNO  
Benny is my twin brother. I  
was gonna tell you, but I just  
found out myself a while ago.

Bruno tucks the gun in his pants and answers the door.

Michael, holding a bouquet of flowers. He throws himself down at Bruno's feet.

MICHAEL

Please take me back! I beg you!

Bruno SIGHS. Looks over to Andres.

BRUNO

Gimme five minutes?

ANDRES

With pleasure.

EXT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Bruno hands Michael hankies as he SOBS on Benny's couch.

MICHAEL

...and I came to realize how selfish I was. I was always gifted with an awesome physique and God-like features, but inside I still felt like a kid.

BRUNO

Go on.

MICHAEL

Well, I was made to always act tough because of the walls I built around myself. I want to open up, but I'm afraid of being vulnerable.

BRUNO

Like, as if you had to protect yourself to protect others.

MICHAEL

Exactly. Then, seeing you act so strong made me realize that if you can change, so can I. I'm not afraid anymore.

BRUNO

Well, you got to stop being so pigheaded and think of others.

It hits Bruno too.

MICHAEL

I feel like we're connecting.  
Is this a sign that maybe,  
you and I can try again...

BRUNO

Ha! Forget that, pal.

MICHAEL

Oh...

BRUNO

But listen. You come back, say,  
in a few days, spell it out  
again for me, I might be in a  
more forgiving mood.

MICHAEL

A few days?

BRUNO

But you come in all whackadoo,  
and strutting like you own the  
joint, I'll toss you out again  
like day old polipi. *Capeche?*

Bruno picks Michael up. Leads him to the door.

MICHAEL

Can I have a hug?

BRUNO

No funny stuff.

Bruno and Michael hug.

MICHAEL

Oh, and I was fired from Faux Cher.  
Guess I shouldn't have lied to you  
about moving to culinary school.

BRUNO

That's okay. I can't color worth  
shit either.

Bruno shuts the door on a confused Michael.

Bruno hears a SNIFFLE from the kitchen.

BRUNO

Andres? You okay?

Andres comes around the corner, a hanky in his eyes.

ANDRES

That was very nice. What you did.

Bruno picks up the phone again.

INT. CROWN VICTORIA TRUNK - CONTINUOUS

Mona, tied up, squirms as brake lights illuminate her face.

The car stops. The engine dies.

The trunk opens.

Dante hauls her up. Behind him, Green Thumbs smiles.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO

Fair play, Dante! Mona be got!  
I be laughing me cacks off!

INT. BENNY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Bruno hangs up the phone.

BRUNO

Benny ain't answering.

ANDRES

So, if you're Benny's twin, does  
that make you gay too?

Bruno gives him a look.

BRUNO

I hope Benny ain't dumb enough to  
tackle Dante alone.

ANDRES

My God! He'll be killed!

Andres reaches for his emergency cigarette.

ANDRES

Looks like I picked a bad time to  
quit.

Bruno gently removes the cigarette from Andres lips.

BRUNO

I got a plan instead. What do you  
say we play dress up?

EXT. FUN PARK - CONTINUOUS

Dante passes HITMEN loading their various guns.

Green Thumbs studies his own weaponry in the back of a van:  
Chainsaws, rotor tillers, trimmers, snips, pitchforks, etc.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
So, Dante. You're certain it  
be only Big Cheese at the show?

DANTE  
Can these palooka's handle it?

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Aye, if there's one thing these  
lads can do, that be they experts  
at killin' and torture...

CUT TO:

EXT. FUN PARK - EVENING

Hitmen spin around in a teapot ride. Spilling their pints of Guinness and LAUGHING.

Dante shakes his head.

He walks over to The Spooky House where--

Mona is roped into a cart by a drooling Tommy Two Timing. A slimy RIDE OPERATOR waits by the controls.

MONA  
You scumbag, they'll find out  
it was you who was behind this.

DANTE  
That's the point.

TOMMY TWO TIMING  
(to Mona)  
Enthoy the whyde, bith.

Dante duct tapes Mona's mouth. Nods to the Ride Operator.

Mona struggles. Her cart JOLTS forward.

EXT. FUN PARK - OUTSIDE FENCE - LATER

Bruno, seething, tugs on a locked gate at a rear entrance.



FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

In this business, there are no surprises. A mobster must be ready to whack a friend if need be. Or be killed himself.

BRUNO

I'm gunnin' for you, Dante!  
You hear me? I'm off the track!  
You're dead to me!

Andres calms him.

BRUNO

(gathers himself)

The park is closed on purpose.  
Must have a guy on the inside.  
(thinks)  
Wiggly.

ANDRES

What do you want me to do now?

BRUNO

Just like we talked about. But first I gotta drop a dime. A call I thought I'd never make.

BRUNO

The park is closed on purpose.  
Must have a guy on the inside.  
(realizes)  
Wiggly.

ANDRES

What do you want me to do now?

BRUNO

Just like we talked about. But first I gotta drop a dime. A call I thought I'd never make.

BENNY (O.S.)

Grab some air copper or I squirt metal!

Benny suddenly appears. Holding two pairs of ride mechanic's uniforms.

Andres hugs him. Benny gently motions him aside.

He approaches Bruno and the two stare at each other.

BENNY  
We go in together.

BRUNO  
It'll be dangerous.

BENNY  
Not when there's two of us.

He throws Bruno one of the uniforms.

EXT. FUN PARK - FRONT ENTRANCE - MOMENTS LATER

Big Cheese Lou stands in the open gate. Studies the park.

BIG CHEESE LOU  
Spread out, boys.

Mario and Pauly playfully punch each other behind his back.

EXT. SPOOKY HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Dante relaxes on a cart, dabs his ashes.

Big Cheese Lou appears. Alone.

BIG CHEESE LOU  
Dante. Where's my daughter,  
you rat bastard.

Dante holds the safety bar out.

DANTE  
Keep your arms and legs inside  
at all times.

Big Cheese Lou hesitates, then steps in.

The ride operator pushes a red button.

The cart jolts forward.

INT. SPOOKY HOUSE - SCARY FOREST - MOMENTS LATER

Plastic ghosts and witches leap up from dead trees.

EXT. FUN PARK - CONTINUOUS

Bruno, dressed in ride mechanic overalls, zigzags between carny booths. Andres follows. They see Green Thumbs' hitmen hiding. All facing the Spooky House.

Bruno crouches next to the park's power generator shack. The very same one Dante first used for the Tilt-A-Whirl.

BRUNO

They must be inside the Spooky House.

(to Andres)

Gimme five minutes. If I ain't out, hit the switch inside here. Off, then back on.

Andres nods.

Benny arrives behind them, dressed in his mechanic's uniform.

Eating a churro.

BENNY

If I head towards a cotton candy cart next, shoot me.

INT. SPOOKY HOUSE - HAUNTED GRAVEYARD - CONTINUOUS

Dante and Big Cheese's cart enters a pitch black room.

Guns COCK in the darkness.

Lights FLICK on.

Ghosts hover over plastic gravestones in a large room.

And so does Green Thumbs, who holds a dangling emergency "off" switch. His bodyguard levels a gun nearby.

Mona is gagged and tied to a cart behind them. Seated next to her is Tommy Two Timing, gorging on a calzone.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO

End of the ride, Big Cheese.

The bodyguard frisks Big Cheese and removes his gun.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Let my daughter go. You got me. A life for a life.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO

How about a wee bit 'o fun first?

Green Thumbs lifts a large hedge cutter.

Six feet long, double-sided inch long teeth and a double barrel carburetor.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO

Alas! The Bushmaster four thousand! Has a powerful twenty two cc engine, ten thousand rpm, enough torque to lop off a man's head before he can scream!

He FIRES it up. Green Thumbs turns to Big Cheese Lou.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO

T'was nice not knowing ya.

The hedge cutter RUMBLES close to Big Cheese's face.

Dante slips into the shadows.

EXT. SPOOKY HOUSE - FRONT - CONTINUOUS

Bruno sneaks up to the ride operator and puts him to sleep with a sucker PUNCH.

EXT. POWER GENERATOR - CONTINUOUS

Andres readies with the switch.

INT. SPOOKY HOUSE - GRAVEYARD - CONTINUOUS

Green Thumbs REVS the motor and swings wildly. Big Cheese cowers as the cutter nears. Mona SQUEALS under her gag.

A VOICE from behind.

BENNY

Shut it off!

Benny jabs a gun at the bodyguard's neck.

BENNY

Drop your guns and grab air!

The bodyguard does. Green Thumbs kills his motor.

Dante appears from behind a crypt. He plants his gun at Benny's back.

DANTE

Drop it yourself.

Benny does.

Dante whisks Benny's sleeve up.

The cigarette burn scar.

DANTE  
Where's Bruno?

BENNY  
I'm Bruno.

DANTE  
Sure you are, sweetheart.

Another gun COCKS behind Dante.

Bruno.

BRUNO  
He's right, Dante. He's Bruno.

Dante drops his gun.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Japers! Two Bruno's! Which one  
be the real thing?

Dante points to Benny.

DANTE  
Used his arm as an ashtray.

Bruno makes his way to Mona, tries to untie her.

BRUNO  
Boss. Mona. Follow Benny  
and get the hell outta here.

A cart BARGES into the room. Mario and Pauly in it.

The cart THUMPS Bruno aside.

His gun CLATTERS across the floor -- right to Dante's feet.  
Dante picks it up.

Mario and Pauly freeze in horror as their cart stops.

PAULY  
Just a quick ride, eh Mario?  
Now look what you did.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Enough of the chitchat. There be  
cutting to do.

Green Thumbs FIRES up the hedge cutter again.

DANTE  
That's what you think.

Yet another gun COCKS. Dripping in tomato and cheese.

Tommy Two Timing. His calzone discarded.

He points his gun at Green Thumbs head.

TOMMY TWO TIMING  
Thith I wanted to do fowa long  
time. Drop tha cutta, athhole.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Tommy Two Timing? Japers! I  
never saw that comin'.

Green Thumbs drops his hedge cutter.

Dante picks up his gun.

DANTE  
Looks like I get to be the high  
pillow now.

Dante aims his gun at the two bosses and Bruno. He KICKS  
open a coffin.

DANTE  
Alright ya mugs. Who's first  
to try on a Chicago overcoat?

EXT. TILT-A-WHIRL - CONTINUOUS

Wiggly rounds the tilt-a-whirl, bored.

Sees Andres at the power generator shack.

Wiggly ducks, then snakes through the Tilt-A-Whirl carts, gun  
in hand.

EXT. POWER GENERATOR - CONTINUOUS

Andres checks his watch. Five minutes have gone by.

He flips the switch down.

Power goes all throughout the park.

INT. SPOOKY HOUSE - GRAVEYARD - CONTINUOUS

The lights go out. Complete darkness.

BRUNO  
Get down, Benny!

GUNSHOTS ring out. Everyone scrambles to hide.

EXT. POWER GENERATOR - CONTINUOUS

Andres waits, throws the switch back up. Power is back on.

EXT. TILT-A-WHIRL - CONTINUOUS

The ride jolts. Wiggly falls into a spinning cart.

WIGGLY  
(SNIFFS)  
Albacore! Noooo...

EXT. FUN PARK - CONTINUOUS

One by one, the rides come to life.

INT. SPOOKY HOUSE - GRAVEYARD - CONTINUOUS

The lights come back on. Bruno grabs Tommy Two Timing's gun and pushes him away.

He finds the emergency button, pushes it, and grabs Benny. They duck into Mona's cart as it jolts forward.

BRUNO  
Untie Mona's ropes, Benny!

The cart moves towards doors that open to...

INT. SPOOKY HOUSE - DUNGEON - SECONDS LATER

...a medieval room filled with weapons.

BRUNO  
Yell when you see the exit!

Benny goes to work on Mona's ropes.

Bruno FIRES his gun before the doors close.

INT. SPOOKY HOUSE - GRAVEYARD - CONTINUOUS

SECOND CART

Dante and Tommy Two Timing hop in. Return FIRE with Bruno.

SPARKS shower their cart from behind. They turn and see a

THIRD CART

Green Thumbs swings his ROARING hedge cutter and GRAZES Dante's seat. His bodyguard, next to him, FIRES wildly.

Caught in the middle, Dante FIRES forward. Tommy Two Timing FIRES backward.

Green Thumbs decapitates a ghoul.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
Screw me, Dante? Off with yer  
noggin!

FOURTH CART

Mario, Pauly, and Big Cheese Lou bring up the rear.

INT. SPOOKY HOUSE - LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Bruno and Benny's cart spins around cobwebby bookshelves. Dusty books fall on strings.

Dante and Tommy Two Timing's cart enters the room. Dante FIRES his gun hitting a fake ghost librarian.

Bruno FIRES back, the slug striking a ghastly professor.

Benny unravels Mona's ropes as they turn around another bookshelf. He looks up, sees an exit sign ahead.

BENNY  
Exit! Dead ahead!

Bruno BREAKS the safety bar. Benny and Mona roll out.

BRUNO  
Head for the door!

Dante's cart comes barreling around a bookshelf.

Bruno presses the trigger. CLICK. CLICK. Empty.

Dante's cart is empty too.

Bruno heads for the exit.

EXT. SPOOKY HOUSE - FRONT - CONTINUOUS

Benny runs out with Mona, Bruno close behind. Bullets ZING off the pavement at their feet. Mona SQUEALS.



The Ferris Wheel Hitman, high above, disappears from view.

BRUNO

This way!

They head towards the rear gate but hear RICOCHETS as...

EXT. ROLLER COASTER - CONTINUOUS

...a coaster ROARS down the tracks. ROLLER COASTER HITMEN FIRE uselessly, their bullets volleying skyward.

Bruno, Benny, and Mona head towards the Hall of Mirrors.

EXT. HALL OF MIRRORS - MOMENTS LATER

Bruno, Benny, and Mona duck inside.

EXT. SPOOKY HOUSE - FRONT - CONTINUOUS

Dante runs out the front entrance. Sees Bruno, Benny, and Mona heading into the Hall of Mirrors.

Tommy Two Timing SLAMS into him from behind.

Dante grabs him, points to the Spooky House exit.

DANTE

Whoever comes outta this joint,  
waste 'em!

TOMMY TWO TIMING

You can counth on me.

Dante takes off after the Hall of Mirrors.

Tommy Two Timing flees the scene.

INT. HALL OF MIRRORS - MOMENTS LATER

Life size warped and goofy mirrors.

Dante runs inside, sees his reflection fifty times.

BRUNO/BENNY #1 (O.S.)

Come get me, Dante.

Bruno/Benny's image splashes across another fifty mirrors.

Dante FIRES and SHATTERS a mirror.

BRUNO/BENNY #1  
But which one am I, Dante?

Bruno/Benny #2's image, too, reflects everywhere.

BRUNO/BENNY #2  
Too many Bruno's, Dante?

DANTE  
You're dead! Both of you!

Dante FIRES at one image after another. Mirrors SHATTER.

BRUNO/BENNY #1  
You set me up to die, Dante.

BRUNO/BENNY #2  
Your turn now, Dante.

Dante sees Mona in one mirror. Then, her shadow.

He FIRES.

The MIRROR CRACKS. Mona SCREAMS. A piece of glass CUTS  
Mona's arm. Blood pours out.

Bruno/Benny runs to her, shields her with his body.

Bruno/Benny # 2 jumps in front of the gun. Hands raised.

BRUNO/BENNY #2  
Don't shoot!

Bruno/Benny #2's forearm is exposed.

The cigarette burn scar again.

Bruno/Benny and Mona vanish into the mirrors behind  
Bruno/Benny #2.

DANTE  
Call Bruno out or you die.

BRUNO/BENNY #2  
One thing you forgot, Dante.

DANTE  
What's that? Take care of Mona?  
I think I'll do just that.

Bruno/Benny #2 snatches Dante's arm. Twists it.

BRUNO/BENNY

You forgot to count. Gun is  
empty.

(beat)

And I'm Bruno.

Dante presses his trigger. CLICK, CLICK, CLICK.

BRUNO

How about a hard six?

Bruno rabbit PUNCHES Dante six successive times.

Dante slumps to the floor, unconscious.

EXT. SPOOKY HOUSE - EXIT - MOMENTS LATER

Green Thumbs and his bodyguard exit.

A SHOUT of "POLICE!"

Andres faces them, dressed as a cop.

His gun drawn.

ANDRES

Drop your guns!

Green Thumbs and his bodyguard comply.

ANDRES

Now, freeze. No, put your hands in  
the air...

Again, they comply.

ANDRES

Now don't you move.

Andres searches his belt.

ANDRES

If I were handcuffs, where would I  
be?

Green Thumbs slowly rises.

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO

Aye, are ye not fuzz then?

Andres COCKS his gun.

ANDRES  
Kiss the pavement, you filthy  
dogs!

Green Thumbs slinks back to the ground.

Andres smiles, pretty impressed with himself.

SIRENS in the distance.

INT. HALL OF MIRRORS - MOMENTS LATER

REAL COPS flood the park. TWO COPS stop, point their weapons  
at Bruno.

FBI Agent Gordo shows up and motions them off.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
He's with me.

FBI Agent Gordo kicks Dante.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
But take this thug away.

The two cops lift Dante up, who wakes.

DANTE  
I got to know, Bruno. The  
cigarette scar...how?

BEGIN FLASHBACK

EXT. FUN PARK - OUTSIDE FENCE - EARLIER

BENNY (O.S.)  
Grab some air copper or I squirt  
metal!

Benny suddenly appears. Holding two pairs of ride mechanic's  
uniforms.

Andres hugs him. Benny gently motions him aside.

He approaches Bruno and the two stare at each other.

BENNY  
We go in together.

BRUNO  
It'll be dangerous.

BENNY

Not when there's two of us.

He throws Bruno one of the uniforms.

BENNY

Only one problem. Dante. He did this to me. He knows who I am.

Benny rolls up his sleeve. Shows the cigarette burn.

Bruno thinks. Walks over to Andres.

BRUNO

Got that emergency cigarette?

END FLASHBACK

Both Bruno and Benny flash their identical scars.

DANTE

You burnt yourself? For him?

The cops lead a bewildered Dante away. Benny leads Mona out safely from the shadows. Into Bruno's arms.

FBI AGENT GORDO

I'll call a paramedic, Mona.

BRUNO

Are you hurt bad, Babe?

MONA

Just a cut. Benny helped stop the bleeding.

BRUNO

Thanks, brother.

BENNY

No, thank you. Believe me.

FBI AGENT GORDO

Bruno. Thanks for the call. You going to cooperate now?

Just then, a COP walks Big Cheese Lou, Mario, and Pauly past. All three cuffed.

BIG CHEESE LOU

Let me go, copper! I didn't do nothin'! I'm a victim here!

Bruno watches them pass by, then looks to Mona.

He hugs her tight.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

A JUDGE BANGS his gavel in a crowded courtroom. Big Cheese Lou scowls. Mario and Pauly CRY. Bruno hangs his head.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
So Bruno quit the rackets. By  
doing so, he had to rat out his  
father-in-law, which was no easy  
task.

Big Cheese Lou is led away in handcuffs. Glares at Bruno.

He then sees Mona, seated directly behind him. Proud.

Big Cheese Lou nods in understanding.

EXT. COURTHOUSE - LATER

Throngs of MEDIA gather. Bruno and his lawyers descend down the steps, led to a waiting car.

FBI Agent Gordo and Mona wait inside.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
But Big Cheese Lou, Mario, and  
Pauly was not headed off to any  
old jail. Big Cheese coerced the  
judge into serving his three spot  
in a minimum security lockup.  
With all the amenities, of course.

CUT TO:

INT. FOREST MEADOWS CORRECTIONAL - DAY

A sprawling, beautiful campus. Mario and Pauly fight with OLD CONVICTS over a game of bocce ball.

POKER TABLE

Big Cheese Lou, chomping on a cigar, looks up from his hand at a cable TV screen. A RUSSIAN NEWSCASTER reads the news...and begins to disrobe.

BIG CHEESE LOU  
 Imagine the advertising revenue on  
 that show! What an untapped  
 racket!

Big Cheese Lou SLAPS his own forehead.

INT. PIZZA KITTY - EVENING

The judge drunkenly slobbers on a pizza slice as a NUDE COOK  
 juggles ripe tomatoes behind the counter.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 The condition, of course, was  
 that Big Cheese never disclose  
 that the judge in question was  
 an avid fan of a double cheese,  
 salami combo at the Pizza Kitty.  
 Always on the house.

EXT. STATE PRISON GROUNDS - GARDEN - DAY

Green Thumbs McGoo, in prison garb, swings a hoe at other  
 PRISONERS stealing his corn.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 Green Thumbs got twenty years in  
 a place that served him well...

GREEN THUMBS MCGOO  
 Be off with ya or I'll jam this  
 here hoe up your arse!

EXT. ROCK QUARRY - DAY

PRISONERS, shackled, swing hammers at large boulders as gun  
 toting GUARDS point and LAUGH.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 ...while Dante got his just  
 desserts.

Dante, prisoner #286548376, swings a tiny hammer. Barely  
 makes a scratch.

A LARGE GUARD places a blonde wig on his head.

LARGE GUARD  
 Taboo Revue ain't the same  
 without Minnie. But me and the  
 fellas are guessin' you'll do  
 just fine. Repeat after me.  
 (MORE)

LARGE GUARD(cont'd)

(as Mae West)  
*You know the spider's invitation  
 to the fly, come up and see me  
 sometime...*

EXT. CARIBBEAN ISLAND - DAY

Bruno digs his toes in the white sand on a deserted beach.

A very pregnant Mona carries him a Manhattan from a hut. She sits next to him. He touches her belly.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

They say the only way you can  
 leave the rackets is by death.  
 For Bruno, boredom on a sandy  
 beach was much the same.

Mona strokes Bruno's head. She realizes he misses home.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

Some men try to leave, but they  
 say that's a hard thing to do. But  
 its not like they were in any  
 danger anymore. Big Cheese forgave  
 them.

Bruno lifts the Manhattan. Two airline tickets lie underneath.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

And offered them a chance to come  
 home. Start their lives again.  
 Raise a family.

CUT TO:

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

A CLOAKED MOBSTER, in a black hat, his face obscured, KICKS open a door.

A THICK DOORMAN tries to intercept.

The cloaked mobster throws a jab. The doorman goes down.

INT. CASINO - CONTINUOUS

The cloaked mobster enters the room. MOB BODYGUARDS come out nowhere. The cloaked mobster dispatches one, then two, with CHOPS, PUNCHES, and well-timed KICKS.

The cloaked mobster approaches a table where a MOB BOSS courts a pair of SEXY BRUNETTES...who wisely slink aside.



MOB BOSS  
 You think you're so tough?  
 Who do you think you are?

The cloaked mobster removes his hat. Lifts his face.

BENNY  
 The new Boss.

MOB BOSS  
 You???

The cloaked mobster PLUNGES a knife into the mob boss' chest.  
 Blood sprays as he collapses. The girls SCREAM.

Suddenly, a familiar, outside voice...

DIRECTOR'S VOICE  
 Cut! Nice stab, Benny!

The Director comes on the set APPLAUDING. Benny turns and  
 curtsseys. OTHER ACTORS join in.

The mob boss sits up. Plucks the fake knife out.

BENNY  
 Couldn't do it without you  
 know who.

OFF SET

Bruno sits on a chair. Holding a prop gun. And a script.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 Whoever said you had to leave the  
 life completely?

CORNER OF SET

FBI Agent Gordo watches Benny and Bruno talk. Bruno  
 demonstrates loading and unloading the prop gun.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 Watching Bruno and Benny together  
 brought a sense of wonderment.

FBI Agent Chu taps FBI Agent Gordo's shoulder.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 As their father, my heart was  
 filled with hope, after years of  
 loss and loneliness.

FBI AGENT CHU  
Giuseppe. We have to go.

FBI AGENT GORDO  
Gimme a minute. These are my boys.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
A loneliness brought on by my own  
mistakes and foolishness.  
(beat)  
I wish I could frame this forever.

BEGIN FLASHBACKS

EXT. DOCKS - EVENING (1973)

PASSENGERS board an ocean liner. Giuseppe stops at the  
gangplank, stares at his ticket.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
At first, I almost gave up. I  
nearly went back to Italy to ease  
my pain. Start over.

Giuseppe RIPS the ticket.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
But I knew I could never. This was  
my life. My boys were here.

He steps out of line.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
And although I knew Momma Leola  
nor Carmela would ever take me  
back, I sought a way to make  
amends. For the boys. If only  
from the outside.

EXT. FBI NEW YORK OFFICE - DAY

Giuseppe exits with an application form. He thinks, crosses  
out Giordano and pens in Gordo.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
This way, I could keep tabs on  
the boys. Watch them. Protect  
them. Make their new world safe,  
like a good father should.  
(beat)  
The Feds even let me use my middle  
name.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY (1973)

KIDS and MOTHERS playing during a hot summer day. Momma Leola pushes Bruno in a stroller.

Giuseppe, dressed as an FBI Agent, watches Momma Leola and Bruno stop to feed pigeons from behind some bushes.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 I brought this all on myself, of course. Not being there for the boys. When they first crawled, walked, talked...

CUT TO:

EXT. STAGE - EVENING (1980)

Little Benny prances on stage in ballet. Carmela CLAPS.

In the back, Giuseppe, a bit older, watches Benny spin.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 ...or pirouetted.

INSERT SERIES OF SHOTS

-Little Bruno fights with TOUGH KIDS. Giuseppe runs over, flashes his badge, scares them away. Winks to a confused Little Bruno, then walks off.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 But part of me will never know the joy of watching them utter their first word, crawl to their favorite toy, or walk to my waiting arms.

-Giuseppe carrying a CRYING Little Benny on roller skates into a hospital emergency room, his ankle bandaged. Then, leaving just as Carmela enters through opposite doors.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
 Or hear my child speak my name, learn my face, see me smile. I will never feel the joy in hearing the word Daddy.  
 (beat)  
 I was never there for them, but I did what I could.

INT. MANHATTAN CONDO - EVENING - WEEKS BEFORE

Giuseppe and FBI Agent Chu inspect the plush Director's home. Giuseppe searches the Director, finds a small bag of cocaine. The Director CRIES and pleads.

Giuseppe whispers in his ear. The Director blinks.

DIRECTOR

All I have to do is hire Benny  
for the part and you let me go?

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

In some ways, I never left.

INT. HOLDING CELL - NIGHT - WEEKS EARLIER

Bruno sleeps on a bunk as other PRISONERS stand clear. FBI Agent Gordo stares at Bruno and SIGHS. He then opens the cell door.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

That night at the docks with the  
ostriches, I decided Bruno had  
enough of the gangster life. I put  
the squeeze on him. Still, I kept  
my true identity hidden.

Bruno rises from his bunk. Rubs his eyes.

The ostrich feather still tucked in his pocket.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

He needed to know it wasn't  
personal. Yet, it always was.

FBI Agent Gordo motions him out.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)

Which led me to other chapters  
in my life that were left unturned.  
If I could open those pages now,  
then maybe...

INT. MOMMA LEOLA'S HOUSE - EVENING

A Christmas dinner gathering where Bruno, Mona, their BABY BOY, Benny, Andres, and Michael await.

Momma Leola carries in a tray filled with turkey.

A KNOCK on her door. Momma Leola places the tray down.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - SECONDS LATER

Momma Leola opens the door. Cups her mouth in shock.

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
...just maybe, I can salvage  
that part of my life I so  
foolishly cast away.

Giuseppe stands there holding a bouquet of flowers.

MOMMA LEOLA  
Giuseppe?

FBI AGENT GORDO (V.O.)  
And begin living again.

Momma Leola steps aside and allows Giuseppe in.

THE END

(MORE)

FADE OUT