(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

Drake and Josh

Episode 21 "The Pool Party"

Written by
John Archibald

Copyright (c) 2021

Final

COLD OPEN

SWEEP CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE MONOLOGUE - AFTERNOON

Overlay graphics place DRAKE and JOSH in two separate boxes for their trading monologues. Drake is in the kitchen packing a bag with pool and beach items. Josh is in his room playing video games.

DRAKE

My favorite time of year? Summer. Hands down.

JOSH

I hate summer.

Drake picks up a rubber duck, but ultimately doesn't put it in the bag.

DRAKE

What's not to like?

JOSH

(dreadful)

Oh, don't even get me started.

Drake and Josh begin counting points off on their fingers.

DRAKE

Sunshine.

JOSH

Sunburn.

DRAKE

Girls in bikinis.

JOSH

Old men in speedos.

DRAKE

And last but not least...

JOSH

And the worst one of them all...

DRAKE/JOSH

No school!

They both go back to their tasks. Josh dies in his video game.

JOSH

You know what I sometimes think about?

DRAKE

You know what I've been thinking about recently?

JOSH

They should make school year-round.

DRAKE

They should make school illegal.

JOSH

Think about all the brain-growing I could be doin' during summer! It's a waste!

DRAKE

I could be doing something way more productive, but where am I? Stuck in learning prison.

Drake winces. And holds his stomach.

DRAKE (cont'd)

Ugh... learning...

Drake starts gagging while Josh sets down the controller in a dream-like state.

JOSH

Mmm... School.

DRAKE

I think I'm going to puke.

Drake rushes out of frame covering his mouth.

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SWEEP CUT TO:

INT. MOVIE THEATER - AFTERNOON

Josh is behind the center counter in his regular work uniform. He sells a customer a bucket of popcorn right before CRAZY STEVE approaches. Crazy Steve has a weird look on his face, intently staring at Josh. Josh doesn't notice and begins organizing candy bars on the counter in front of him. A moment passes before Steve interjects.

CRAZY STEVE

(screaming)

JOSH!

Josh is startled and spills all the candy bars on the ground. He staggers against the back of the counter and turns toward Steve terrified, clutching a candy bar to his chest in self defense.

CRAZY STEVE (cont'd)

(calmly)

I'm going on my lunch break.

JOSH

(cautious)

Thanks for letting me know.

Steve smiles and exits the scene. Josh begins picking up the candy bars next to the counter when Drake exits a theater.

Drake finishes a conversation with a guy wearing a sports jersey, sunglasses and a backwards visor. As the jock turns to leave, we can see the back of the jersey says "BOWIE" in bold letters.

Drake then excitedly approaches the counter where Josh is working. He waits for Josh to notice him, but he is intently picking up candy bars and doesn't see Drake.

DRAKE

JOSH!

Josh bumps his head on the counter from the surprise. He gets up and rubs the back of his head. Josh turns to Drake and glares at him. Drake is oblivious and has a big smile on his face. Josh takes a deep breath to cool down and puts on a forcing smile.

JOSH

(sarcastically)

Hey, Drake! What's up?

DRAKE

You'll never guess who I just hung out with.

JOSH

I dunno, who?

DRAKE

Dirk. Bowie.

JOSH

Wait, Dirk Bowie? Isn't he the guy who took four girls to prom and is already signed to play pro football after graduation?

DRAKE

Actually, it was six girls. But yeah!

JOSH

Woah, are you serious? That's awesome!

DRAKE

Yeah, we just watched Laser Cats 4. It was a real tearjerker.

JOSH

(somber)

Major Meowington's funeral gets me every time.

Drake and Josh bow their heads for a beat, as if they were grieving an old friend.

JOSH (cont'd)

Anyways, Dirk is, like, the coolest person in school. Since when did you guys become friends?

Drake looks around for the coast to be clear and leans in.

DRAKE

Okay, so, you know how people host end-of-the-school-year pool parties?

JOSH

No.

Well, just pretend you do. Anyways, Dirk is throwing a *huge* one. But it's super exclusive.

JOSH

Go on...

DRAKE

I've been hanging around him because he's been looking for a band to play at the party. I dropped the hint that I was in a band during the movie, and yeah, he wants us to perform!

JOSH

That's great! I've been itchin' to test out my new floaties.

DRAKE

Yea-wait, what?

JOSH

I mean, I can come, right? I've been the unofficial band roadie for, like, half your gigs.

DRAKE

Yeah, and I really appreciate it but...

Drake places his hand on Josh's shoulder to break the bad news.

DRAKE (cont'd)

This is above your pay grade, buddy.

JOSH

You don't pay me...?

DRAKE

Oh, right.

JOSH

Come on, you know I've been dying to perform my new interpretive dance and magic routine!

Josh hides behind his invisible shroud in a Dracula-esque fashion and shimmies his hips. Drake is not impressed.

Josh, this is just a "cool" party. I don't think you're invited.

JOSH

What? I can be cool. I'm cooler than Coolio, I'm the cooliest!

DRAKE

Sorry, maybe next time.

Drake turns to leave before Josh grabs his shoulder to stop him.

JOSH

Hang on, you still owe me big time for getting you out of summer school with Mrs. Hafer, remember?

Drake looks up to reminisce as a flashback montage begins.

BEGIN MONTAGE

The flashback shows scenes from Episode 20, where Josh is vindicating Drake in a school-style courtroom.

QUICK CUTS:

- Josh brings forward the new evidence of the case.
- The judge rules in favor of Drake.
- Drake and Josh hug.
- Drake and Josh get ladies.

END MONTAGE

Drake returns to reality and turns back to Josh.

DRAKE

Yeah, it was, like, two days ago.

JOSH

Bottom line, you owe me.

DRAKE

Okay, fine, you're right. I'll see what I can do to get you into the party. Just don't do any public weirdness and I think you'll be fine.

Josh does a celebratory Dracula shimmy and Drake cringes. He exits the scene. Josh gets back to work picking up the candy bars and Crazy Steve reenters the scene with a bag of fries.

He approaches Josh, but Josh doesn't notice him.

CRAZY STEVE

(screaming)

JOSH!

Josh hits his head on the counter once again, exclaiming this time. He stands up and turns to Steve, who is extending his arm out to him with a fry in hand.

CRAZY STEVE (cont'd)

French fry?

SWEEP CUT TO:

INT. DRAKE AND JOSH'S ROOM - EVENING

MEGAN is in Drake and Josh's room setting up an elaborate prank involving a bright green sludge. She finishes laying the sludge in front of the room's entrance and hides behind the sofa. Drake quickly opens the door and enters. He immediately starts sliding forward from the sludge. Drake collides with the bunk bed at the other end of the room and falls down.

MEGAN

Yes! It works!

Drake shoots up, covered in a little bit of the bright green goop.

DRAKE

Ow, Megan?! Get out of my room, you mini-demon.

Drake notices he's got sludge on him. He's still recuperating from the collision.

DRAKE (cont'd)

Ew, what th- what is this?

MEGAN

I just invented it. It's my new ultra-slippery slip-n-slide sludge. I call it "Slip-n-Slime"!

What do you need with ultra-slippery slip-and-whatever slime?

Megan rolls her eyes and gets up. She starts reapplying the sludge in front of the door.

MEGAN

I'm going to sell it on Ebay for a fortune! It's the perfect lubricant for summertime slip-n-slides. And it's lime flavored.

Curious, Drake takes a glob from his shirt and tastes it. His face lights up.

DRAKE

Woah, limey!

Josh now enters the room with his school bag. Oblivious, he begins to slide and flails his bag dramatically. He collides with the bunk bed.

MEGAN

I'm going to be rich!

Megan leaves the room, carefully avoiding the slime on the floor. Josh gets up, now smudged with sludge. Drake tries to eat some of the slime that's on Josh's shirt, but Josh slaps his hand.

JOSH

Would'ja WATCH IT!?

DRAKE

Fine, more for me.

Drake hops onto the couch and turns on the TV. He snacks on more of the lime goop from his torso.

JOSH

Hey, don't get any of that goop on our sofa!

DRAKE

Oh, yeah.

Drake carefully picks a small chunk of the jelly-like slime off his chest and, using his other hand, haphazardly wipes the rest off onto the floor. He then snacks on the sludge he's holding. Josh winces in disgust as he grabs a towel and starts wiping himself off.

JOSH

Hey, did you talk to Dirk yet?

DRAKE

Yeah! For all he knows, you're just a plus one. You gotta stay cool at the party, though. I'm putting my reputation on the line for you.

JOSH

Don't worry, about me, brotha. It'll be like I'm not even there. Oh, by the way, check it out!

Josh reaches for his bag.

JOSH (cont'd)

I couldn't decide between my red floaties or my blue ones, so I just got yellow ones instead!

Josh pulls out two large, inflated yellow floaties from his school bag. He has a big smile on his face. Drake cringes.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SWEEP CUT TO:

INT. BELLEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

The bell rings and the school hall is packed with students. Drake is standing outside his locker flirting with a girl. She's talking to Drake and seems to be finishing a story.

GIRL

... And yeah, that's how I broke my big toe.

Drake laughs hysterically. When he finishes laughing, Drake looks back up to see that the girl is upset.

GIRL (cont'd)

That wasn't supposed to be a funny story. It was actually pretty traumatic.

DRAKE

No, uh, exactly! I was laughing in symphony!

GIRL

Do you mean "sympathy?"

DRAKE

(clueless)

Yeah, what you said.

The girl rolls her eyes and walks away. Drake shrugs and grabs some books out of his locker. Just then, DIRK BOWIE approaches.

Dirk has a thick Californian accent and is wearing the same football jersey from the movie theater. Despite being indoors, he's wearing sunglasses and a backwards visor. From the way he carries himself, he's a full on surfer jock.

DIRK BOWIE

(smiling)

Hey, how's it hanging, dude?

DRAKE

Oh, hey, Dirk! I'm doing okay, how are you?

DIRK BOWIE

Could be better, I'm failing three of my classes. Apparently, homework isn't "optional." You actually have to do it.

DRAKE

Oh, yeah?

Dirk is still smiling, as if he had made some monumental discovery.

DIRK BOWIE

And, get this, you have to turn it in. Crazy, right?

DRAKE

Well, I hope that turns around for you. But hey, I'm excited for the party tonight! The band and I have some great music lined up.

Dirk's expression shifts.

DIRK BOWIE

Oh, hey, so about that: I've been talking to some of my friends, as well as my private investigator, and-

DRAKE

Wait, you have a private investigator?

DIRK BOWIE

Not important.

DRAKE

D'okay.

Dirk leans against the locker, semi-cornering Drake.

DIRK BOWIE

Listen, Derrick...

DRAKE

It's Drake.

DIRK BOWIE

...I can understand if you want to bring your brother to the pool party, I get it. But you didn't tell me your brother was Josh Nichols. Drake's eyes widen and his weight shifts. He closes his locker and grips his books.

DRAKE

Well, we're not related or anything. He's my step-brother.

DIRK BOWIE

Yeah, doesn't help. Your step-brother is a total loser, he's not coming...

DRAKE

Oh? Uh, I mean I get it, I guess-

DIRK BOWIE

...And neither are you.

DRAKE

Wait, what? Why?

DIRK BOWIE

You see, Josh is so radioactively uncool that it probably has contaminated you and your band's coolness levels, and I just can't have you guys uncooling-it-up everywhere. Ya know?

DRAKE

What? That's not fair! I'm still cool!

Drake tries to play it cool by leaning against the locker and giving a suave look to Dirk. He's not having it.

DIRK BOWIE

I'll see you later.

Dirk tries to leave but Drake grabs his arm. He's looking around desperately.

DRAKE

Wait! Uh... Uh... My brother's actually super cool! So cool! He's, uh...

Dirk is listening intently. Drake looks to the wall behind Dirk and sees a poster. It depicts a kitten on a motorbike jumping over a canyon. In bold letters, it reads, "Anything is possible... if you put your mind to it!" Just then, Drake's expression changes.

DRAKE (cont'd)

He's a stuntman!

DIRK BOWIE

What?

DRAKE

Yeah! Totally! He doesn't like a lot of people to know about it since he wants to be a normal guy, but he's done a ton of action stunts in Hollywood.

DIRK BOWIE

Like what?

DRAKE

Oh, you know, crazy motorcycle stuff! He jumps over explosions, buses... exploding buses.

DIRK BOWIE

(skeptical)

Motorcycles, huh? Have I seen him in any movies?

DRAKE

(unsure)

He was, uh, Ice Cube's body double in Torque?

Dirk stares at Drake, as if he's about to bust open the lie. Drake grins nervously. Dirk's expression changes.

DIRK BOWIE

No way! Torque is one of my favorite movies.

DRAKE

Wait, really?

(correcting)

Uh, I mean, yeah! Great movie.

Dirk smiles and backs off of Drake a bit.

DIRK BOWIE

Alright, dude. He's okay to come. Just remind me to fire my private investigator.

DRAKE

Uh, yes! Of course! So, I'll see you tonight?

DIRK BOWIE

See you then, Dustin. Oh, man! This'll be rad!

Dirk walks down the hall and leaves the scene.

DRAKE

(calling out)

It's Drake.

Drake's face is worried. He looks at the poster and addresses it.

DRAKE (cont'd)

Stuntman? Really?

SWEEP CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE KITCHEN - AFTERNOON

Megan is making more of her bright green slime in front of a laptop. It's an organized yet wild display of science. The sludge sits in a large transparent beaker over heat.

Megan looks to the laptop to reference her recipe. The beaker bubbles and fizzes as she stirs it and adds ingredients. Some of the ingredients include pickle juice, glue, and limes.

Josh enters and sees Megan making the sludge unattended.

JOSH

Megan? What are you doing?

MEGAN

What's it look like? I'm making more Slip-n-Slime.

JOSH

Where's Mom and Dad? You shouldn't be cooking over an open flame unsupervised.

MEGAN

Look, Josh. I'm a bit busy here. Why don't you go be a boob somewhere else?

Josh, dumbfounded, rolls his eyes and exits the kitchen into the living room.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Josh enters the room. Drake is sitting on the sofa watching TV. His guitar sits beside him. He's anxiously tapping his foot and biting his nails.

JOSH

Hey, brotha! Ya ready to get your
fiesta on tonight?!
 (concerned)
What's up, are you okay?

DRAKE

Okay, before I tell you, you have to promise me you won't get mad.

JOSH

Yeah, of course.

DRAKE

(hysterically)

Okay, so Dirk wasn't going to let you into the party tonight because you're radioactively uncool and I was all like, "Okay, that's fine I guess," but then he was all like, "You're not cool because Josh isn't cool," and I was like, "No, I'm totally cool," and he was like, "You're definitely not cool so you're not coming either," so I told him you were secretly a Hollywood stuntman who rides motorcycles and you gotta pretend to be one at the party or I'll never be cool again.

The words hang in the air. Josh's expression has not changed, and neither has Drake's. They stare at each other for a moment.

DRAKE (cont'd)

So, you're not mad?

JOSH

Oh, I'm furious! (emphatically)

FURIOUS!

You gotta do it!

Josh begins to leave to go upstairs. Drake leaps up from the sofa to block his path.

JOSH

I'm not doing it!

DRAKE

Why!?

JOSH

Because, I shouldn't have to pretend to be someone else. I like who I am, I'm sorry you don't. I'm not going!

DRAKE

You don't have to change who you are! It's only for a little bit, just pretend for a little bit!

JOSH

I don't know anything about motorcycles. Or driving!

DRAKE

Then make something up! When my band starts playing, it won't matter. Just hang out and relax.

(stubbornly)

But no floaties!

JOSH

Won't people recognize me and catch on?

Drake laughs.

DRAKE

"Recognize you," good one. I don't think anyone at this party will "recognize" you.

JOSH

Oh, whatever. I shouldn't have to lie to have a good time.

DRAKE

I know. But please, just this once!

Josh crosses his arms.

JOSH

What's in it for me? You were supposed to be doing me a solid by getting me into this party. Now I'm fixing another one of your problems.

Drake sighs. He bows his head in a moment of thought before responding.

DRAKE

You're right. There's not much in it for you. But we're brothers, and that's what brothers do. You know I would help you if you needed it!

Josh takes a moment to think.

DRAKE (cont'd)

And hey: you're still going to a wicked party! It'll be fun.

Josh pauses before shaking his head.

JOSH

No, I'm not going.

DRAKE

What? I'm about to leave for the party, what am I supposed to tell Dirk?

JOSH

I don't know. I'm sorry.

DRAKE

Josh!

Josh turns and leaves to go upstairs. Drake is left alone in the living room. He checks his wristwatch and, conflicted, he picks up his guitar and heads out the front door defeated.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SWEEP CUT TO:

EXT. POOL PARTY - EVENING

The sun is setting over Dirk's backyard pool. The party is packed with high school students swimming and having a good time. It is blatant that Dirk is well off; there's security, a big designer pool, and catering. People are throwing beach balls, splashing around, and chatting.

The band is set up and Drake is tuning his guitar. Dirk comes out from the crowd and approaches Drake.

DIRK BOWIE

Hey, dude! You almost ready to play?

DRAKE

Yeah, just getting tuned up.

Dirk stares are Drake with a big grin. Drake awkwardly continues tuning his guitar.

DIRK BOWIE

So, where's Josh? He didn't bail, did he? I mean, if he did, I can only assume he's actually really lame and, therefore, you're deliberately sabotaging my party.

Dirk continues to stare at Drake. Drake meets his gaze wideeyed. Dirk then laughs loudly.

DIRK BOWIE (cont'd)

I'm joking! I'm joking! Ooh, I almost
had ya!

DRAKE

(nervously)

Yeah, Dirk! You almost got me!

Dirk sighs.

DIRK BOWIE

(sternly)

No, seriously, where is he?

DRAKE

Uh, yeah, so Dirk, I've been meaning to tell you.

(MORE)

DRAKE (cont'd)

Uh, so, Josh just got back from a big shoot with Bruce Willis, so he's probably tired and, well...

Dirk has stopped paying attention and is looking past Drake's shoulder.

DIRK BOWIE

(loudly)

Woah, who's that?

Drake turns around to see Josh entering the scene. The party-goers makes a slight pathway for him to walk through. Nobody seems to know who he is from his presentation.

He's in a tight leather jacket, jeans, and sunglasses. His hair is combed back and he looks uncomfortably suave. He approaches Drake and his band in a tight waddle before the crowd goes back to regular activities. Drake is uneasy.

DIRK BOWIE (cont'd)

You must be Josh. I'm Dirk.

Dirk extends his hand for a shake. Josh gives some awkward glances to Drake, but ultimately has to turn his entire upper torso to shake Dirk's hand due to the tightness of the jacket.

JOSH

(tough guy voice)

Yo.

DIRK BOWIE

So, Bruce Willis, huh?

JOSH

Uh, what?

DRAKE

Come on, Josh! The new movie you're working on with Bruce Willis, remember?

Drake elbows Josh's arm. His arm goes down upon impact but comes back up to the same t-pose, seemingly out of Josh's will. He winces.

JOSH

Oh, right! Of course. I knew that. I was joking. HAHA! HAHAHA!

Dirk laughs.

DIRK BOWIE

Oh, man! This guy's funny! So, Bruce. What's the dude like?

JOSH

What's he like? Oh, uh, bald. Very bald. And actiony. You gotta give him credit: the man knows how to action!

Josh laughs nervously. Drake goes along with it.

DRAKE

Oh, man! So funny, Josh.

Drake turns to Dirk.

DRAKE (cont'd)

Excuse us for one moment.

Drake pulls Josh aside while Dirk goes back to partying. Josh loosens his jacket and takes off his glasses.

DRAKE (cont'd)

What are you doing here? I thought you weren't coming.

JOSH

I wasn't going to, but I thought about what you said.

Josh signs.

JOSH (cont'd)

You're right. We're brothers. And we're supposed to be there for each other. I know if I needed your help, you'd be there for me, even if you got nothing out of it.

Drake smiles.

JOSH (cont'd)

You're my best friend, man.

DRAKE

Thanks, Josh. Right back 'atcha.

Josh's arms extend further outwards.

JOSH

Hug me, brotha?

Okay, but quickly. There's people around.

Drake and Josh scan the party before a quick embrace. Drake then looks at what Josh is wearing.

DRAKE (cont'd)

Are these my clothes?

JOSH

What? They're a little tight, but I thought I'd try to look the part.

DRAKE

Yeah, if the part is a human scarecrow.

Drake attempts to lower Josh's arms, but they come right back up. Josh bats him away.

JOSH

Hey!

DRAKE

Okay, okay. Sorry. Just keep up the act for a little longer. We're about to play, and then you can blend in with the crowd and enjoy yourself. I mean, look around! Isn't this party great?!

Just then, Dirk comes up behind them, addressing Josh.

DIRK BOWIE

I'm excited to have you here, dude. And hey: I have a little bit of a surprise!

JOSH

(nervously)

Surprise? Uh! I mean...

(tough)

Surprises are cool.

Dirk makes a signal to some guys at the party. They start bringing out a large wooden ramp.

DRAKE

Uh, Dirk? What's going on?

DIRK BOWIE

I'm glad you asked, Danny...

Drake! My name is Drake!

DIRK BOWIE

I'm stoked for your band to play, but after you told me your brother rides motorcycles, it'd be so sick to have him do a stunt jump for the party! Like from one of his Hollywood movies!

Josh's jaw drops. He's frozen.

DIRK BOWIE (cont'd)

Is something wrong?

DRAKE

Uh, well, yes! He can't!

DIRK BOWIE

Why?

DRAKE

His bike is at, uh, the Hollywood lot! Yeah! It's not here! Plus, this is such short notice. Another time!

DIRK BOWIE

Oh, come on! Grace under pressure, my dudes! He can just use one of mine!

Drake's eyes widen, but he tries to play it cool. Josh is still frozen. Dirk motions once again and a party-goer comes out with a dirt-bike. The crowd at the party is now turning their attention towards Drake, Josh, and Dirk.

DRAKE

Oh! Uh, that's great! I didn't know you rode, Dirk. You never told me that.

DIRK BOWIE

Yeah, I rode motorbikes a lot when I was a kid. I had to stop because my football coaches were too worried about me "getting hurt" or "killing someone in a freak accident." They didn't say I couldn't buy any bikes, though!

Well, uh, that's cool! But those ramps don't look very safe. Josh could get hurt.

DIRK BOWIE

Nah, my grandmother is a professional carpenter.

JOSH

Your grandmother?

DIRK BOWIE

Gam-Gam used to make me ramps to jump all the time! Don't worry, you're in good hands! Old, wrinkly, carpenter hands.

JOSH

Gam-Gam?

(painfully)

D'aw geez.

Dirk rests his arm around Josh's shoulders, pulling Josh towards him.

DIRK BOWIE

Right everyone?!

The crowd cheers as Dirk turns to Josh.

DIRK BOWIE (cont'd)

Come on! I'm sure a quick jump over the pool is nothing compared to the exploding buses from the movie sets?

Josh begins stammering, trying to get words out. Drake has nothing to say either. Dirk turns Josh towards the party.

DIRK BOWIE (cont'd)

(announcing)

Who wants to see this guy jump a motorcycle?!

The party goes wild.

DIRK BOWIE (cont'd)

I'm gonna finish setting up the ramps! This is going to be awesome!

He pats Josh's back and heads off to work on the ramps.

JOSH

(pleading)

Drake...

DRAKE

I don't know what to do!

JOSH

I'm leaving!

DRAKE

No, wait!

As Josh turns around to leave, Megan is standing there eating a popsicle and wearing sunglasses.

JOSH

Megan?! What are you doing here?

MEGAN

I was invited?

DRAKE

By who?!

MEGAN

Some "Dirk" guy. He bought out my entire stock of Slip-n-Slime!

The brothers look around and spot a slip-n-slide on the other side of the pool layered with the familiar bright green sludge (some people are tasting it). There's a particularly loud, large guy that is freaking out and dancing. He is *covered* in green sludge.

SLUDGE GUY

YEEEEEAAAAAAHHHHH!!!

He gets a running start and lunges across the slip-n-slide. With incredible speed, he darts down the mat. He slides so far that he passes the end of the mat and goes across grass and concrete to the side of the pool where Megan, Josh, and Drake are.

As he travels, he's leaving behind a green streak of slime like a snail. He eventually comes to a stop and gets up. As he stands up, large chunks of the Slip-n-Slime fall off of him and onto the concrete next to the motorbike. He celebrates and heads back to the slide. The slip-n-slide crowd cheers.

Astounded, the boys turn back to Megan, who has a wide smile on her face.

MEGAN

He offered to pay me in cash or in party, and I chose party.

She takes a large bite of her popsicle.

MEGAN (cont'd)

And it is well worth it.

Just then, Dirk returns with a crowd of people and they approach Josh.

DIRK BOWIE

(announcing)

Alright, everyone! Time for the jump!

Josh whimpers as Drake tries to keep Josh back. Dirk and the rest of the party pressure Josh towards the bike, moving him in crowd-like fashion.

The bike is on flat-ground, far away from the ramp. As he makes his way next to the bike, Josh breaks free and turns to the mob.

CROWD

Josh! Josh! Josh!

Josh starts to panic.

JOSH

(loudly)

Okay, ENOUGH!

The crowd goes silent. Except for the Sludge Guy.

SLUDGE GUY

YEEEEEAAAA- oh, my bad.

JOSH

Look, I'd like to thank Dirk for having me here, but I'm not a stuntman.

The crowd murmurs in confusion. Drake is cringing and Megan is giggling. Dirk comes up behind Drake.

DIRK BOWIE

What's going on, Drake?

Um, maybe he's retiring?...

Drake steps closer to Josh.

DRAKE (cont'd)

Josh, what are you doing?

JOSH

My identity and safety have been compromised! It's time for Plan B!

DRAKE

You have a Plan B?

JOSH

I always have a Plan B!

DRAKE

What's Plan B?!

JOSH

Being myself!

DRAKE

(to himself)

Oh, we're doomed...

Drake steps back as Josh rips off his jacket and tearaway pants, revealing a magic costume. The crowd murmurs in confusion. Josh tidies himself and takes out a wand.

MUSIC CUE: MOTIVATIONAL BALLAD

JOSH

You guys are worried about the wrong things in life! Have fun, sure! Throw parties, sure! Don't invite me to any of them! Understandable, but not preferred!

Drake facepalms.

JOSH (cont'd)

The point is, you don't have to pretend to be someone else to be "cool." Being yourself is cool. So, I'm done pretending! I'm Josh Nichols, and I am cool!

END MUSIC CUE

JOSH (cont'd)

DJ, hit it!

Funky music starts coming out of the party's loudspeakers. He pulls a deck of cards from his pocket and starts dancing. He's attempting (and failing) to do sleight of hand tricks, fumbling the cards onto the ground.

DIRK BOWIE

What is this? This is so lame!

DRAKE

I- I- I don't know! Maybe his life on
the edge has finally driven him
insane!

The crowd starts booing and throwing things at Josh, causing him to panic. Megan is laughing now.

In desperation, Josh does a dramatic spin towards the bike. As he turns, Josh slips onto the green chunks of slime left by Sludge Guy. He falls onto the motorbike belly-first, gripping the handlebars and accidentally engaging the throttle in a Superman-like pose.

The bike begins to move at a rapid pace. The party looks in awe as Josh flies from the ramp and disappears up and off-screen. The crowd gazes above as they follow Josh's (O.S.) trajectory. Josh then comes back into frame, landing at the pool's opposite ramp. He is still miraculously gripping the bike's handlebars. As he makes his way down the ramp, he crashes into a pile of conveniently placed cardboard boxes.

The crowd gasps as they witness the crash. They wait a beat in anticipation. Before they go see if he is okay, Josh emerges from underneath the boxes seemingly fine. The crowd erupts with cheers as they flock to Josh. Josh is bewildered and Drake gives him a big hug.

DRAKE (cont'd)

Josh! Josh, you did it! You did the jump!

JOSH

(wavering)

I'm gonna need a new set of magic pants. I think I soiled mine.

Josh then falls backwards onto the ground, passing out. Dirk approaches in concern.

DIRK BOWIE

Is he okay?

DRAKE

I'm sure he'll be fine.

The crowd lifts up a semi-conscious Josh in celebration and guides him off-screen. Drake stalls for a moment before turning back to Dirk.

DRAKE (cont'd)

So, that was some crazy Hollywood stunt work there, huh?

DIRK BOWIE

I know he's not a stuntman.

DRAKE

Yeah, I figured.

DIRK BOWIE

I mean, I don't know why you would tell me he's a stuntman when he's the coolest magician I've ever seen! That was crazy!

DRAKE

Wait, really?

DIRK BOWIE

Dude, I wish I had a brother who was half as cool as he is.

Dirk's words hang in the air as he walks past Drake to meet with the crowd. Drake smiles and turns towards Josh's direction.

DRAKE

(to himself)

Yeah, I guess I am pretty lucky.

FADE TO:

EXT. POOL PARTY - NIGHT

Dirk stands in front of Drake and the band. They're all set up and ready to go.

DIRK BOWIE

Give it up for Drake Parker!

The crowd cheers as Drake's band begins to play the show's theme, "I Found a Way." Sludge Guy can be seen busting sick moves and break-dancing. Josh is splashing around in the pool wearing his yellow floaties on either arm.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MOVIE THEATER - MORNING

The movie theater lobby is bustling with people. Josh is in his work uniform sweeping up a bucket of spilled popcorn as Drake enters from the main door. He approaches Josh.

DRAKE

Man, this summer is going to be awesome. At the party, I was able to line up four more gigs: one birthday party and three bar mitzvahs!

JOSH

Well, I guess summer *is* the mitzvah season.

Josh pauses.

JOSH (cont'd)

Hey, what happened to Dirk? I haven't seen him since the party.

DRAKE

You didn't hear?

JOSH

No, what happened?

DRAKE

After the party, he was cleaning up Megan's Slip-n-Slime when he tripped on a rogue sludge puddle. He slid for sixty feet and then slammed head first into a garden gnome.

JOSH

Oh, geez. Is he okay?

DRAKE

The doctors said he's perfectly fine, except for the fact the only word he's able to say now is "lime." Total medical anomaly.

JOSH

So, does that mean he'll never play football again?

DRAKE

I dunno, maybe all the tactics he has to call on the field will be citrus themed.

Josh goes back to sweeping as Drake checks his watch and looks around.

DRAKE (cont'd)

Hey, you busy? Wanna see a movie?

JOSH

You know I'm working today. Besides, aren't you meeting a date here?

Just then, three girls enter from the main door.

DRAKE

A couple, actually.

The three girls approach Drake and surround him on all sides.

GIRL 1

Hey, Drake! We're so excited for your next show.

DRAKE

Well, I hope you girls like "Spin the Dreidel."

The girls giggle. Drake turns to Josh.

DRAKE (cont'd)

So, are you sure you don't want to see a movie?

Josh puts away his broom and stammers.

JOSH

Uh, I don't know. I'm a bit busy
today.

Drake turns to the girls.

DRAKE

Ladies, this is my brother, Josh Nichols.

GIRL 2

O.M.G., the magician from Dirk's pool party?!

DRAKE

The very same!

GIRL 1/GIRL 2/GIRL 3

Oh, he's so cute!/Ooh, yeah!/Magic is so cool!

The girls crowd around Josh. Josh's expression changes.

GIRL 3

Josh, how *did* you do that motorcycle trick?

JOSH

Uh, well, a magician never reveals his secrets!

Everyone laughs exuberantly. Josh looks around the theater.

JOSH (cont'd)

I guess one movie wouldn't hurt.

They all leave and head into a theater.

FADE OUT