

ENLISTED

"HOMECOMING"

Written by

Scott Rutherford

Directed by

Michael McDonald

#1AWV09

SHOOTING DRAFT (White) 10.18.13

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CAST LIST

Pete Hill Geoff Stults
Derrick Hill Chris Lowell
Randy Hill Parker Young
Sgt. Jill Perez Angelique Cabral
Sgt. Major Cody Keith David
Specialist Chubowski Mel Rodriguez
Private Dobkiss Kyle Davis
Private Gumble Mort Burke
Private Park Tania Gunadi
Private Robinson Michelle Buteau
Private Ruiz Maronzio Vance
Erin Jessie Hodges
Karl Jordan Black
Sgt. Major Diggins Geoff Pierson
Sam Rob Lamer
Pam Oliver Herself
Johnny Marine Segun Odulolowu
Jimmy Marine Justin Lopez
Jackie Marine Carlos Acuna
Second Medic Trevor Lance Scott
Sergeant Brandon Stone Brandon Routh

SETS

INTERIORS

Fort McGee
Barracks - Hallway
Derrick & Randy's Room
Motor Pool
Cody's Office
Rec. Room

The Claymore
Erin's House - Kitchen
Van
Announcer's Box

EXTERIORS

Fort McGee
Battalion Area
Front Gate

Football Field
Highway

ACT ONE

1

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY - DAY 1

1

Two sets of boots stride across the grass. They belong to CODY and his Marine counterpart, SERGEANT MAJOR DIGGINS. They meet at midfield.

CODY

Good morning, Sergeant Major.
Looks like the field is up to snuff
for this year's football match.

SGT. MAJ. DIGGINS

I don't know about the Army, but in
the Marines we call it a game.

CODY

How quickly I remember why this
rivalry steams my trousers.

SGT. MAJ. DIGGINS

If you can call it a rivalry.

CODY

Yes, let's debate the meaning of
every word I say. Why not? What's
"not?" Is "not" a word--

SGT. MAJ. DIGGINS

I'm just saying, my Marines haven't
lost this game in ten years. You
haven't even scored in three.
Should we skip the bet this year?

CODY

Oh the bet is on.

Cody snaps and two soldiers run up and display a framed poster of kittens that says: "Kittens? Kittens!"

CODY (CONT'D)

Standard terms. Loser displays
this poster in his office and sends
a holiday card posing in front of
it! In a stupid sweater!

SGT. MAJ. DIGGINS

(shakes on it)

It's gonna be a very merry
Christmas. And stop by after the
game. We got a brand new hot dog
broiler. Makes taquitos too.

CODY
Aren't you the best at everything.

SGT. MAJ. DIGGINS
I prefer the term superior.

CODY
I prefer the term "in your face!"
'Cause this year we got a secret
weapon!

2 INT. BARRACKS - HALLWAY - DAY - DAY 1 2

PETE and DERRICK stare at a poster for the event as Pete
limbers up his throwing arm.

PETE
Time to knock the cobwebs off the
ol' rocket launcher.

DERRICK
Too bad you don't have that gross
half-shirt you used to wear to
practice in high school.

PETE
Still got it. Still fits.

DERRICK
It would fit a pregnant woman.
It's half a shirt.

As Derrick opens the door to...

3 INT. BARRACKS - DERRICK & RANDY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS - D1 3

RANDY, Kleenex in hand, quickly shuts his laptop.

RANDY
Hey!

PETE/DERRICK
Whoa! / Come on!

Randy hides his face. Pete and Derrick look anywhere else.

DERRICK
Lock the door, man!

PETE
Were you crying?

RANDY
I always cry when I do this.

PETE/DERRICK
Ohhhh. / Loosen your grip.

RANDY
It's weird if you don't cry.

PETE/DERRICK
Nope. / No it is not.

Randy shows them the screen.

RANDY
Guys, a soldier returns home from war to surprise his loving family and then they all hug! You can't not cry!

PETE
Well the good news is we're talking about two very different things.

RANDY
What are you talking about?

DERRICK
Doesn't matter.

RANDY
Anyway, it's just part of my morning routine: push ups, pull ups, starjumps, cry at soldier reunion videos, get dressed.

PETE
So all of that was nude?

RANDY
These videos are like emotional coffee. Gets you going. You should try it.

PETE
I'm good.

DERRICK
Some family I don't know all weepy over a surprise I saw coming? Pass.

SMASH CUT TO:

4 INT. BARRACKS - DERRICK & RANDY'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER - D1 4

All three brothers CRY at a reunion video: a SOLDIER has surprised his DAUGHTER at her graduation (actual video TBD).

PETE

She thought her dad was still at war but he was right behind her!

DERRICK

(still crying)
I saw it coming.

RANDY

Can you imagine if they had these when our Dad was around? That movie would be better than *Jaws* and *The Notebook* combined!

DOBKISS pokes his head in the door.

DOBKISS

Hey P-wads, wanna eat?
(then)
Watcha watching?

5 INT. BARRACKS - DERRICK & RANDY'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER - D1 5

The entire PLATOON crowds around Randy's laptop, CRYING. As the video ends, invigorated:

CHUBOWSKI

That's good coffee.

MAIN TITLES

6 INT. THE CLAYMORE - NIGHT - NIGHT 1

6

Pete, Randy, and Derrick drink as ERIN argues with her manager, KARL, nearby.

ERIN

Are you kidding, Karl? Nobody can cover Saturday? It's my kid's birthday.

KARL

Half the staff's got the flu, I've got my erotic fiction bootcamp. This is on you.

RANDY

(as Karl walks off)
Erotic fiction?

ERIN

He pretty much transcribes *Friends* episodes and adds freaky sex.

DERRICK

But not between the characters you think.

PETE

So, Saturday is Sam's birthday?

ERIN

Yup. I was gonna take him to Disney World. It's all he's been talking about for weeks.

RANDY

Sweet, is he gonna wear the ears? He should wear the ears. Want me to talk to him? I'll talk to him.

DERRICK

Randy, he's not going.

RANDY

Ugh, right. He's gonna be sooooo disappointed.

Erin smiles a tight smile and moves off to tend to a customer. Pete swats the top of Randy's head.

RANDY (CONT'D)

Agh!

PETE

That's for not understanding anything.

DERRICK

Thank you.

Pete swats Derrick's head.

DERRICK (CONT'D)

Agh!

PETE

And that's for missing a golden opportunity.

Randy raises his hand to swat Derrick's head.

DERRICK

Randy, I will bite you. I will break skin.

PETE

Take the kid to Disney World. He gets the greatest birthday of his life and you get to be a hero. Something I know a little bit about.

Derrick and Randy swat the top of Pete's head.

PETE (CONT'D)

Agh!

RANDY

We've been meaning to talk to you about the "hero" thing.

DERRICK

Yeah, maybe let other people say that?

PETE

Fine, but are you trying to move the ball down the field with this girl or what?

DERRICK

Not everything's a football metaphor. But yeah, I really like Erin a lot.

RANDY

Aww.

DERRICK

Shut up. That's why I gotta be careful. She's a single mom with a young son. The second either one of them has any doubts, I'm done. So no big moves. Taking the kid to Disney World solo? Not the move.

RANDY

But isn't "no move" also a move?

PETE

You said something there, brother.

DERRICK

Don't act like that's smart.

RANDY

It is smart! You're trying to play it safe but you need to go big! Jump off that cliff and trust that love will be your parachute.

DERRICK

Stupid.

PETE

Fine, Derrick. Let the next guy win Erin's heart by making a grand gesture for her kid. What were you gonna do, get him a five-dollar gift card to the fro-yo place?

DERRICK

No!

(then, defensive)

I was thinking ten -- he's got a little buddy named Ethan.

Derrick looks unsure of himself.

RANDY

You know what to do. Let love be your parachute.

Randy mimes pulling a rip cord and a parachute opening, then forms a heart with his hands that he floats slowly down.

RANDY (CONT'D)

Weeeeeee.

Derrick slaps his hands away. Randy instantly does another.

RANDY (CONT'D)

Backup 'chute. Weeeeeee.

7

EXT. FORT MCGEE - BATTALION AREA - THE NEXT DAY - DAY 2 7

The platoon, in PT gear, "warms up" -- meaning they play-act Chubowski birthing a football "baby." Park is the midwife. Robinson is behind him giving encouragement. Ruiz mops Chubowski's brow as Gumble films. Jill stretches nearby.

RUIZ

I see the head!

ROBINSON

Just one more push, boo boo.

CHUBOWSKI

Good lord, the pain! I'm not ready to be a mother!

PARK

Here it comes!

With one final "push," Chubowski "delivers" the baby and everyone cheers.

DOBKISS
He looks just like me.

REVEAL Cody watching, agog.

CODY
What the hell are you doing?

GUMBLE
Football practice.

CODY
Thank God this year's gonna be different.

ANGLE ON Pete in SLO-MO jogging out confidently attired in a teal HALF-SHIRT. He points at a guy on a lawn-mower like a star QB showing love to the fans. The guy looks around confused: "me?"

PETE
Somebody call for a hero?
(to Derrick and Randy)
You gotta give me that one.

DERRICK/RANDY
No we don't. / I'll allow it.

PETE
Quarterback Pete Hill, reporting for duty.

JILL
I'm the quarterback.

CODY
Oh about that, Sgt. Perez... you're fired.

JILL
What?

CODY
And be cool about it.

JILL
But--

CODY

I said be cool! This is not a close call. Sgt. Hill was on the cover of Parade magazine.

PETE

High school All-American, two-time state champion, MVP both times. Speaking just as a football fan, wow.

CODY

(to Jill)

It's a pretty big get.

RANDY

Great shirt, Pete.

REVEAL: Randy finishing cutting his shirt to match Pete's.

JILL

This is just because he played in high school? I dated a rapper in eighth grade, am I Beyonce?

CODY

Show her your spin move.

Pete dodges an imaginary tackler while spinning, flags flying through the air. He looks good. The platoon "oohs."

CODY (CONT'D)

You can't catch those flags! They're too fast!

JILL

I'm out.

Jill walks off. In the B.G., Randy and Chubowski practice Pete's spin move. Cody calls after her:

CODY

Sorry, Sgt. Perez, but this isn't a game! It's flag football!

8

INT. ERIN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT - NIGHT 2

8

Derrick helps Erin do dishes.

DERRICK

That was really good. The last time I had fish was in the Chow Hall and "salmon" was spelled without an L or an O.

ERIN

Sam-N?

DERRICK

Months later and it's still the
base coat of any burp. So, sex?

Her son, SAM, enters and sighs heavily.

SAM

The light bulb's out in my room.

ERIN

Aw, I'm sorry, sweetie.
(then, sotto to Derrick)
He's in a dramatic mood. Did I
mention that a cartoon mouse is
tearing our family apart?

DERRICK

Yeah Sam, I heard your birthday's
coming up. That's exciting.

SAM

Yeah.

Derrick leans down to set up his grand gesture question.

DERRICK

I also hear you have a special
birthday wish.

SAM

Yeah.

ERIN

What are you doing?

DERRICK

(whispers, to Erin)
I got this.
(then, to Sam)
So what's your wish? Maybe I can
help make it happen.

SAM

I want to see my dad.

DERRICK

(didn't see that coming)
Oh.

SAM

But he's at war.

DERRICK

Let me start over. Where do you want to go for your birthday?

SAM

I'd go anywhere with my dad.

DERRICK

Right, I think we're focusing too much on the who, and we want to steer it back to the where.

SAM

He's in Afghanistan, but can you bring him here?

Sam looks up with big doe eyes. Derrick melts a bit.

ERIN

No, Sam, he can't.

SAM

He said he could.

DERRICK

I could probably talk to someone.

SAM

Really?!

ERIN

No, no, no. Not really.

(pulls Derrick aside)

Look, I appreciate what you're trying to do but don't let the puppy eyes back you into a corner. I mean, I know you can't really do this.

(then, a little hopeful)

Can you? Because that'd be... never mind.

Derrick looks between Sam and Erin. He can't turn back.

DERRICK

Sgt. Major Cody's a friend.

Erin's eyes widen, she laughs and hugs him, as does Sam.

DERRICK (CONT'D)

(a la Randy's "parachute")

Weeee...

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

9

INT. CODY'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY - DAY 3

9

Derrick hangs his head as Cody laughs mercilessly.

DERRICK

Please stop laughing.

Cody waves him off and continues to laugh. Then, finally:

CODY

You promised we'd bring a man home from war? I mean, I've said some crazy things in the throes of passion, but that is the craziest.

Another fit of laughter. Derrick mutters, dejected:

DERRICK

It wasn't in the "throes of passion."

CODY

Well then you got no excuse.

DERRICK

So, it's not something you can do?

CODY

It's absolutely 100% impossible!

Randy knocks and pokes his head in the door.

RANDY

Sergeant Major?

CODY

Yes, Private?

RANDY

I've been following this story closely. I have some thoughts that may be of service?

CODY

Could they best be expressed in a letter I won't read?

RANDY

(plowing forward)
Picture this: a crisp fall day. The Army-Marine flag football game has drawn to a close.

(MORE)

RANDY (CONT'D)

Our mascot, McAlligator -- that's me, I'll make the costume -- takes the field for a punt-pass-kick competition with the kids. In the distance comes a soldier, home from war. His son doesn't see him because he's too focused on McAlligator -- who, again, is me. The soldier kneels, the boy turns, and now he sees... his father. Tears, tears, tears. I'm tearing up because this is something I never got to do with my dad, but this isn't about me.

(to himself)

Get it together!

(then)

Point is, it could be the greatest soldier reunion video ever!

A beat. Derrick turns to Cody:

DERRICK

I'll try opening our windows at night, let the air in. Anyway--

CODY

I'm in.

DERRICK

What's that?

CODY

This is how I show the Marines who's boss. First I win my bet, then we play the heart strings like Yo-Yo Ma.

DERRICK

Wait, so you can bring him home?

CODY

I'll have to call in some favors, but I think we could shimmy the schedule on his mid-tour leave.

DERRICK

Why'd you say it was impossible?

CODY

Why'd you make it sound so boring? Hot damn, this is gonna be a moment for the ages!

(then, very serious)

(MORE)

CODY (CONT'D)

This better be a moment for the
ages.

Derrick winces, Randy pats him on the shoulder, very happy.

10

EXT. FORT MCGEE - BATTALION AREA - DAY - DAY 3

10

The platoon is around Pete, who is still in his half-shirt.

PETE

Okay, we're gonna start with the
play that got me to State.

DOBKISS

Arson almost got me to State.

PETE

That's prison, this was high
school. The play begins with a
bold deception and ends in glory.
It's like a greatness sandwich.

ROBINSON

How is that a sandwich?

PETE

It's a metaphor.

ROBINSON

But you just said two things, a
sandwich is at least three things,
unless it's a poor people sandwich,
where you fold the bread over some
mayonnaise and cry 'cause your
Grandma's doing the best she can.

PARK

(going for a hug)
Come here, Tanisha.

PETE

I'm just trying to light a fire
under you guys.

DOBKISS

Now you're talking my language--

PETE

Here's the play. Gumble, slant
right.

GUMBLE

Don't know what that means.

PETE
Doesn't matter, I'm passing to
Ruiz, who'll be in the end zone.

RUIZ
That's right, get me the damn ball!

PETE
It'll be there to greet you like an
old friend.

CHUBOWSKI
What's my backstory?

PETE
We go on two. Blue 19! Hut-Hut!

Chubowski snaps it to Pete, who drops back, does his patented
spin move, as if to avoid a rush, throws... but HIS SHOULDER
IMMEDIATELY DISLOCATES with an awful crunching, pop.

PETE (CONT'D)
AIIIIIEEEEEEOOOOWWW!!!

Pete collapses in pain.

CHUBOWSKI
Bravo, Sergeant. This is the
boldest of deceptions.

Pete continues writhing, horribly hurt.

11 INT. CODY'S OFFICE - DAY - DAY 3

11

Cody and Pete, in a sling, stand before Jill.

CODY
Sgt. Hill's got four inches of
shrapnel in his arm so you're the
quarterback. Be cool about it.

JILL
I knew Mr. State Championship--

CODY
I said be cool. And he's still the
coach.

PETE
Believe me, you're our last option.

12 INT. MOTOR POOL - **FLASHBACK** - DAY - DAY 3 12

In a MONTAGE the platoon attempts to throw a ball through the center of an upright Humvee tire.

--Park throws then guides it with her hands as if it'll help.

--Robinson lobs the ball underhand.

--Chubowski attempts to throw the ball, it slips out of his hands and falls to the ground. He stomps on it, it deflates.

CHUBOWSKI

Victory.

--Gumble throws terribly then clutches his shoulder. To Pete:

GUMBLE

Oh, that does hurt. It's heavier than you realize.

--Ruiz throws as Pete looks on. His first throw is a bullet that knocks over an open tool box, scattering tools.

RUIZ

Do over.

Another throw from Ruiz. It hits a passing soldier.

RUIZ (CONT'D)

Do over.

His last throw sails out of frame and we hear a CAR ALARM.

RUIZ (CONT'D)

I got it!

PETE

Nope.

Derrick and Randy walk by.

PETE (CONT'D)

What about you two?

RANDY

Sorry Pete, I got an alligator costume to make. His name is McAlligator. He's kind of our beloved mascot. It's me.

PETE

Derrick?

DERRICK

I have to help Randy make an alligator costume. Is something I never thought I'd say.

Derrick and Randy head off. Pete sighs, turns around to see that the tire is AFLAME. Dobkiss is nearby.

DOBKISS

Wasn't me.

13

INT. CODY'S OFFICE - BACK TO PRESENT - DAY - DAY 3

13

Back on Cody, Pete, and Jill.

CODY

So you're the quarterback and you get her ready because before you got hurt I doubled down on the bet. Whoever loses gets Cheesecake.

PETE

That sounds delicious.

CODY

This is Cheesecake!

He hoists a cage onto his desk containing a mangy cat.

CODY (CONT'D)

Found her behind the Chow Hall. She's arthritic, half blind, and has a digestive condition requiring her to eat eight small meals of raw meat a day.

ANGLE ON Cheesecake. She hisses.

CODY (CONT'D)

I can't lose this bet.

14

INT. THE CLAYMORE - DAY - DAY 3

14

Derrick sits with Randy and his notebook of mascot sketches. Erin approaches with two beers.

ERIN

So you guys are all set to pick up Brandon tomorrow?

DERRICK

Yep, we've got it perfectly timed. His bus gets in right before the game, then we whisk him away to create the greatest memory of your child's life. Making me... what's that word Pete always uses?

RANDY

A hero.

DERRICK

I'm a humble man, but he's right.

ERIN

Sam is gonna be so thrilled.
(kisses him sweetly)
Seriously, this is amazing.

She walks off. Derrick turns to Randy, nervous:

DERRICK

So, she's expecting amazing. You're gonna help me make this amazing, right?

RANDY

I love that you're turning to me for help. For once I'm your big brother. I can share my wisdom, buy you beer, ruffle your sweet little head--

DERRICK

Just help me make it amazing. There's a lot riding on you. Should I be worried?

RANDY

I got this, baby bro.

Randy dramatically reveals a very crude alligator sketch labelled "McAlligator" with "Randy" and an arrow.

DERRICK

So I should be worried.

15

INT. BARRACKS - REC. ROOM - DAY - DAY 3

15

The platoon gathers around an old TV/VCR as Pete pulls a VHS tape from a storage box and pops it in.

JILL

Shouldn't we be practicing?

PETE

Bhup bhup bhup. You want to win?
You gotta study game tape. I had
my mom send a bunch of my old vids.

Pete presses play. A cheap synth stadium rock song plays as bad '90s graphics swirl on screen: "MVPete!" Jill rolls her eyes, some of the platoon thinks it's pretty cool.

PETE (CONT'D)

MVPete. You know who came up with
that?

JILL

Faulkner?

On the TV we see the quarterback (Pete) throw a long pass.
Pete follows it with a laser pointer.

PETE

Look at that tight spiral.

On TV, high school Pete runs to the sidelines, helmet off.

PETE (CONT'D)

Wait a minute, when did this turn
into a shampoo commercial?

JILL

Do you want to be alone with these
tapes?

PETE

Wouldn't hate it, but we got work
to do. Now, we're about to face a
worthy opponent. Are they better
than us?

ANGLE ON platoon, looking like the platoon.

PETE (CONT'D)

I gotta believe yes. But I'm gonna
level the playing field by teaching
you the most sophisticated offense
ever devised. It boils down to
thirty basic plays, each with
audible options depending on how
they've stacked the box.

ANGLE ON the platoon, clueless and slack-jawed.

PETE (CONT'D)

Okay, it boils down to ten plays.

ANGLE ON the platoon.

PETE (CONT'D)

Five plays. If we get them under our belt, I promise you we'll torch these guys.

(Dobkiss raises his hand)

Metaphor.

Dobkiss puts his hand down.

16

EXT. FORT MCGEE - FRONT GATE - THE NEXT DAY - DAY 4

16

Derrick and Randy watch a bus pull up.

DERRICK

Keep your eyes peeled for the name tag: Brandon Stone.

A LONE SOLDIER gets off and his family runs up and hugs him.

RANDY

Wow. That's the reunion I'd've wanted with our dad. Simple, intimate, classic.

(sniffles)

Not every cake needs frosting. But McAlligator's great for Sam.

An OLD LADY gets off, then the bus drives away.

DERRICK

Wait, where's Brandon?

RANDY

Is that him? I can't read the tags.

DERRICK

The guy with the other family?!

RANDY

(very sarcastic)

No, the old lady who's not in uniform!

(then)

That's sarcasm. It's what big brothers do. Seriously though, this is a setback.

Randy reaches out to ruffle Derrick's hair. Derrick swats his hand away.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

17 EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY - DAY 4 17

A van speeds by. We hear the platoon chanting inside.

PLATOON (O.S.)
Beat the Marines! Beat the
Marines!

18 INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS - DAY 4 18

Derrick, clearly freaking out, is on his phone. Randy sits next to him in the McAlligator costume, the head on his lap. Behind them, Pete leads the platoon in the chant.

DERRICK
Hey Brandon, Derrick again. I guess we missed you at the bus stop. That was what we call a bad surprise, as opposed to the good surprise that you're gonna be part of if you show up at the game. So show up to the game! Hope you can hear this over the
(turning, yelling)
Idiots chanting behind me!

The platoon hoots and hollers. Derrick hangs up, frustrated.

RANDY
Everything's gonna be fine, little brother.

DERRICK
It's a father-son reunion with no father!

RANDY
But we got McAlligator. So Plan B: I hit the field with the kids, Sam's having a blast, I say "hey buddy, you miss your dad?" Then I take the mask off and he sees me! He's surprised, I start crying, it's infectious, you start cheering--

DERRICK
Why would I cheer?!

RANDY
'Cause it's weird if I'm crying and cheering.

DERRICK

It's weird without Brandon! Period!

RANDY

Sometimes weird is good. Think different. Steve Jobs. Am I crazy or is Plan B actually better?

DERRICK

It's not better.

19 EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY - DAY 4 19

Families fill the stands in Army and Marine fan apparel.

PAM OLIVER (O.S.)

What a beautiful day for football!

20 INT. FOOTBALL FIELD - ANNOUNCER'S BOX - CONTINUOUS - D4 20

Pam Oliver calls the game from the booth.

PAM OLIVER

I'm Pam Oliver and this is the Army versus Marines in their annual flag football charity game coming to you on Fox Sports Southeast Daytime Not HD Limited View. Is anyone watching this? Thank God I love the troops.

21 EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY - DAY 4 21

McAlligator (Randy) capers on the sidelines, raises the roof, etc. In a sling and half-shirt, Pete's with Cody, who stares at Diggins, handing out hot dogs on the Marine sideline.

CODY

Look at him with his weenie broiler. Time to serve a little kitty with that hot dog.

PETE

(very serious)

Man, you're firing me up.

Pete jogs over to the platoon who stretch.

PETE (CONT'D)

Okay, huddle up! Where's Derrick?

21A ANGLE ON Derrick, pacing the sidelines whisper-shouting 21A
at random soldiers as they head to the stands.

DERRICK

Brandon? Is there a Brandon here?
I'm looking for a Brandon?

Derrick stops at the sight of Erin and Sam waving to him as they take their seats. He forces a smile and waves back, then grimaces as he runs off to join Pete in the huddle.

PETE

Right now your opponent is saying,
"We got this." Because they think
you're a joke.

CHUBOWSKI

And in these troubled times we need
laughter.

PETE

Not at all what I'm saying. They
think they're here for some candy-
ass game of flag football, but
we're about to give these punks a
lesson in Pete-ball, T.M.!

PLATOON

Pete-ball, hooah!

Pete enjoys the moment briefly, until he sees a group of MASSIVE MARINES run out to the field. His face drops.

PETE

Wow they're big.

ROBINSON

Oh, no, that's just the cheer
squad.

The cheer squad stands up a giant "Go Marines" paper banner and a second group of EVEN BIGGER MARINES bursts through it.

ROBINSON (CONT'D)

That's the team.

Park gets in the biggest one's face:

PARK

Are you ready to die today?! I
will eat your heart!

PETE

No, no, don't do that. No taunting.

GUMBLE

Get ready for Pete-ball to explode
in your face!

PETE

Please don't say that.

22 INT. FOOTBALL FIELD - ANNOUNCER'S BOX - DAY - DAY 4 22

PAM OLIVER

It appears that a prankster wearing
a sling and a halter top has run
onto the field... And I'm being
told that's the Army coach. Wow.

23 EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - MONTAGE - DAY - DAY 4 23

--Ruiz kicks off and the platoon charges down the field,
screaming. A Marine catches the ball, blows right past them
and scores. Pete yells encouragement from the sidelines.

PETE

Seven points is nothing, you guys!

23A --Jill takes a snap, her pass is instantly intercepted 23A
and the Marines run back for a touchdown. From the sidelines:

PETE (CONT'D)

Twenty-eight points is nothing, you
guys!

23B --Dobkiss rushes with the ball and one of the Marines 23B
simply takes it from him and runs the other way for a
touchdown.

PETE (CONT'D)

Fifty-six points is something, but
we still have three quarters left!

23C --On the sidelines, Diggins waves at Cody and holds up a 23C
hot dog. Cody seethes.

24 INT. FOOTBALL FIELD - ANNOUNCER'S BOX - DAY - DAY 4 24

PAM OLIVER

That takes us to the two minute
warning, with the Marines leading
the Army by a score of 119 to 0.
And on a day when everyone's a
winner, you can't help but feel
like that is a lie.

25 EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY - DAY 4

25

The platoon is all taking a knee, exhausted.

PETE

Derrick, you let that guy blow
right past you!

DERRICK

It's 119 to nothing, who cares?
Brandon's a no-show and I'm about
to lose my girlfriend in front of a
crowd.

He turns to the crowd, Erin and Sam spot him and wave.
Derrick smiles and waves back. McAlligator spots Derrick
waving, waves wildly. Derrick scowls. Cody walks over.

CODY

You guys suck.

PETE

Sgt. Major I'm sorry, I know you
had a lot riding on this. I
thought I could get us the win.

CODY

Win? I just bet you'd score,
dummy. You thought you could win?
You are full of yourself.

PETE

I was an All-American!

CODY

Well, some people peak early. But
I can't lose this bet! Look at him
over there taunting me.

25A ANGLE ON: Sgt. Major Diggins eating a hot dog as if it's 25A
the yummiest thing ever. It's uncomfortable for everyone.

CODY (CONT'D)

It's a confusing taunt, but dammit,
I feel the burn. Now score!

Cody stalks away. Pete turns to the platoon.

PETE

Change of plans. We're scoring.

PARK

We've been trying to score.

PETE

Yeah but with skill. Which it turns out I cannot give you. What I can give you is... a stank nasty bag of trick plays... I call this first play: "That's Not The Play."

25B MOMENTS LATER: The platoon lines up. From the sideline: 25B

PETE (CONT'D)

That's not the play! That's not the play!

The platoon stands and acts disappointed in themselves as if they blew the play. Chubowski tosses Jill the ball and she holds it casually as she throws her arms up in frustration.

PETE (CONT'D)

Get over here!

Jill walks over to Pete, annoyed.

JILL

I don't need a gimpy quarterback in a sports bra telling me what to do!

The Marines chuckle at the in-fighting as they stand around waiting. Pete nods, Jill smiles, and she sprints downfield.

PAM OLIVER (O.S.)

Oops, that's a live ball.

The Marines catch Jill, but not before she gains 20 yards.

PAM OLIVER (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Army showing some signs of life, if they score here it will change literally nothing about this historic massacre.

25C MOMENTS LATER: In the huddle the platoon's excited now. 25C

PETE

I call this next one: "Bubble Boy."

25D MOMENTS LATER: Jill takes the snap, hands off to Park. 25D
The platoon forms a circle around her to keep her flags out of reach. The Marines, at ease with their lead, ask the ref:

JOHNNY MARINE

Really?

JIMMY MARINE

Is this legal?

*
*
*
*

JACKIE MARINE

Come on.

*

The Marines are uncomfortable as they try to penetrate the slow-moving human shield. Robinson does not seem to mind.

ROBINSON

This is stank nasty.

They finally grab Park's flag, but only after a 15 yard gain.

PETE

Time out!

25E MOMENTS LATER: 6 seconds left. The troops look to Pete. 25E

PETE (CONT'D)

Dammit, Bubble Boy ate up all our clock and we got fifty yards to go.

PARK

What are we gonna do?

DERRICK

I got it! I get hurt, I have to go to the hospital. Then Erin can't break up with me because who breaks up with a guy in the hospital?

PETE

Doesn't matter! The time for tricks is over.

SLOW PUSH IN on Pete as he becomes intense.

PETE (CONT'D)

Gumble... flag right.

GUMBLE

Still don't know what that means.

PETE

Still doesn't matter. Ruiz, you be waiting in that end zone.

RUIZ

I don't want the damn ball.

PETE

Too bad. It'll be there to greet you. Like an old friend.

PARK

But, Sgt. Hill, your arm?

Now we're CLOSE on Pete as he dramatically removes his sling:

PETE
I'll get it there.

25F MOMENTS LATER: Pete lines up at QB, Jill on the 25F
sidelines. The Marines get a kick out of this.

JIMMY MARINE *
Hey Johnny Football! *

JACKIE MARINE *
Fresh meat! *

PETE
Army Ranger! Blue 19! Marines
suck! Hut-HIKE!

IN SLOW-MOTION: As before, Chubowski snaps it to Pete, who drops back, again does his patented spin move, throws... but there is no hero moment as HIS SHOULDER AGAIN IMMEDIATELY DISLOCATES with an awful crunching, pop.

PETE (CONT'D)
AIIIIIEEEEEEOOOOWWW!!!

The Marines shift focus to the very painful sounding injury.

JOHNNY MARINE *
Oh God. *

JIMMY MARINE *
Are you okay? *

JACKIE MARINE *
Noooo. *

The ball barely wobbles in the air and falls into a surprised Chubowski's hands. A beat, then he runs. He uses Pete's spin move on an uninterested Marine.

CHUBOWSKI
Deception!

A MEDIC jogs out to Pete. Chubowski stiff-arms him into the turf. And he SCORES! END SLOW-MO.

26 INT. FOOTBALL FIELD - ANNOUNCER'S BOX - DAY - DAY 4 26

PAM OLIVER
An inconsequential touchdown and they're celebrating for no reason. A horrific injury was sustained by the coach in the baby-doll top.

27 EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY - DAY 4 27

The platoon tries to lift Chubowski on their shoulders but it turns into a project. The Marines point at the scoreboard:

JOHNNY MARINE

We beat you by like 16 touchdowns.

*

PARK

In your face!

27A Cody pushes through to where a SECOND MEDIC is patching up Pete and the first medic, who are both on stretchers. 27A

SECOND MEDIC

I gotta cut your shirt off to get to your arm.

PETE

Don't touch the shirt!
(then, in pain)
Actually yeah, get in here. You got any morphine?

Pete and the medic get carried off. Cody turns to Derrick:

CODY

And now part two of my triumph. We reunite a boy with his father.

DERRICK

Well actually, Sgt. Major, the guy was a no-show, so that big reunion we promised you isn't gonna--

Pam Oliver addresses the crowd through a P.A. mic.

PAM OLIVER (OVER P.A.)

Ladies and gentlemen, McAlligator has invited some lucky kids to join him for a Punt-Pass-Kick competition. First: Sam Stone!

To Derrick's horror, out runs McAlligator. Sam runs out to join him. Up in the stands, Erin claps excitedly.

DERRICK

Randy, no! Noooo!

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

28 EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - MOMENTS LATER - DAY - DAY 4 28

Derrick shouts at McAlligator, who does a goofy touchdown dance with a football.

DERRICK
Randy! No! Abort! Abort!

Erin joins Derrick.

ERIN
Is this it? So Brandon's gonna come up behind him and tap him on the shoulder?

DERRICK
Yes, I mean, that would be amazing, right?

Erin looks at him strangely as Sam throws the ball to McAlligator, who starts to goofy jog over to Sam.

ERIN
Is that... not what's gonna happen?

DERRICK
(coming clean)
Listen... I'm sorry but Brandon is--

Suddenly, Derrick is tapped on the shoulder and he turns to see Randy. Stunned, he looks back on the field to see:

28A McAlligator finish his run to Sam. He takes off his 28A mask to reveal: IT'S BRANDON!

BRANDON
Hey Sam!

SAM
Dad!

Sam jumps into his father's arms and hugs him.

DERRICK
--Brandon is right there! That's a surprise. That I knew about.

PAM OLIVER (OVER P.A.)
Welcome back, Sergeant Stone!

The crowd cheers. Erin cries. Derrick can't believe it. Relieved, he soaks up the happy moment with Erin. It's way better than he imagined, a perfect soldier reunion.

ANGLE ON Randy, pleased with his work and touched. ANGLE ON the platoon crying their eyes out.

Then Erin, overwhelmed by emotion, runs to Sam and Brandon.

DERRICK

Oh, so you're going over there.

Erin joins the hug and the crowd goes wild. Brandon gives her a KISS and Derrick's face sinks.

DERRICK (CONT'D)

And there's another surprise.

Derrick stares in shock as Erin hugs up against Brandon, who it turns out is extremely good looking.

RANDY

I told you things work out. He showed up right as I was putting the costume on! And he had the idea to wear it himself. Total super soldier move.

DERRICK

I just reunited my girlfriend with her ex-husband.

RANDY

Yeah you did! Oh.

Then, Erin waves Derrick over. His despair eases up a bit and he runs over.

RANDY (CONT'D)

Love is your parachute! Remember that!

Derrick approaches Brandon who reaches out to shake his hand.

ERIN

This is Derrick.

BRANDON

Oh, yeah. Thank you so much, man. This is amazing.

DERRICK

Yeah, it's great. Great handshake. And face. Very handsome.

BRANDON

Sorry I missed you at the bus. I
hopped off at the mall to get a
camera. We're doing a trip to
Disney for Sam's birthday. Gotta
capture the memories.

DERRICK

Blink and they're gone.

Sam grabs the football from Brandon, and Brandon chases him.
Erin turns to Derrick.

ERIN

Are you okay?

DERRICK

Am I?

She gives him an unmistakably romantic kiss.

DERRICK (CONT'D)

That helps.
(re: Brandon)
Six two?

ERIN

Six four.

28B ANGLE ON: Cody handing Cheesecake over to Sgt. Major 28B
Diggins.

CODY

She loves venison and hates to be
looked in the eye. Good luck.

Cheesecake hisses as Cody hands her over.

DISSOLVE TO:

29 INT. DERRICK & RANDY'S ROOM - THE NEXT DAY - DAY 5 29

Derrick and Pete sit Randy down in front of the TV/VCR.

DERRICK

So I got you a gift for all your help.

PETE

We got you a gift.

DERRICK

Fine, we. You know that box of
tapes mom sent to Pete?

RANDY

Wait, is this me humping my
sleeping bag? 'Cause I'd actually
prefer not to see that.

DERRICK

Tragically Pete taped over that with
an episode of "Nash Bridges," but
this... I think it'll be up your
alley.

Derrick hits play. It's an old home video: their uniformed
FATHER steps off a bus in a line of soldiers coming home to
their loving families. YOUNG DERRICK, PETE, and their VERY
PREGNANT MOTHER run up and hug him. Dad kisses mom, rubs
Pete and Derrick's heads, then kisses mom's pregnant belly.

PETE

You might not remember it, but
you were there.

Randy is beside himself with awe.

RANDY

Best soldier reunion ever. Thanks,
brothers.

As all three brothers continue to watch, we...

END OF SHOW