

# **ENLISTED**

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"GENERAL INSPECTION"

Written by  
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Directed by  
Richie Keen

#1AWV08

SHOOTING DRAFT (White) 10.04.13

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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  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Tyson Schneeberger . . . . . Ross Philips  
Cute Kid . . . . . Ajani Wrighster  
General Murray . . . . . Obba Babatundé

**SETS**

**INTERIORS**

Fort McGee  
Cody's Office  
Derrick & Randy's Room  
Motor Pool  
Hallway  
Store Room  
  
Pete's Airstream  
Grocery Store  
Store  
Helicopter

**EXTERIORS**

Fort McGee  
Battalion Area  
  
Van Outside Gun Store

ACT ONE

1            INT. CODY'S OFFICE - LATE NIGHT - NIGHT 1            1

CODY's on the phone in the middle of a booty call.

CODY

Listen baby, why don't I come over,  
we'll throw on some Anita Baker,  
and see where the night takes us?

Then, another phone RINGS. It's coming from a special red phone that says "General Murray Hotline". Cody's eyes widen.

CODY (CONT'D)

Sorry, baby. It's go-time.

Cody hangs up on the STILL-TALKING WOMAN. He takes a deep breath, then picks up the red phone.

CODY (CONT'D)

When?

2            INT. PETE'S AIRSTREAM - MOMENTS LATER - NIGHT 1            2

PETE groggily answers his cell.

CODY (ON PHONE, O.S.)

Gen. Murray is on his way to  
inspect the post! Start prepping!

PETE

(hastily puts on clothes)  
What? How soon will he be here?

CODY (ON PHONE, O.S.)

Two days.

Pete stops putting on his clothes, confused.

PETE

So why do we have to do this now?

CODY (ON PHONE, O.S.)

Because it's an order that came out  
of my mouth! Do I need to come  
down there and put my fake foot in  
your real butt?

PETE

You do not.

3 INT. BARRACKS - DERRICK & RANDY'S ROOM - LATER - NIGHT 1 3

Pete enters the messy room, yawning. DERRICK and RANDY stir.

PETE

Wake up. Surprise inspection.

Derrick looks annoyed. Randy scrambles out of bed, excited.

DERRICK / RANDY

Are you kidding? / Yes, Sergeant!

PETE

Wish I could wait till morning to hear you complain, but General Murray is coming to inspect us.

DERRICK

Oh god, Cody's obsessed with that guy. And he always finds something wrong, everyone knows it's pointless.

REVEAL: Randy at attention, his half of the room now clean.

RANDY

My living quarters ready, hooah!

DERRICK

Randy doesn't count.

PETE

This will go quick as long as you don't have any contraband... like that hot plate on your night stand. Why do you even need that?

DERRICK

You know I'm a soup guy! I don't want to make my pepper pot bisque in a microwave like some animal.

PETE

Sorry, I gotta confiscate it.

DERRICK

This is the part of the Army that I hate. There's no reason to follow this rule. And being able to make a little soup now and then is the only thing that makes me happy, and by that I mean eases my depression into a bearable sadness.

PETE

You know what, fine.  
(off Derrick's look)  
I'm tired, I think it's a dumb rule  
too. Just hide it.

DERRICK

(totally stunned)  
Wow. I can't believe you're being  
so chill about this. I'm gonna hug  
you. Yup. This is gonna happen.

PETE

Take it easy.

Derrick awkwardly lunges at Pete, embracing him tightly.

DERRICK

I'm gonna make you the best damn  
bisque you've ever had, brother.

Randy, still at attention, looks over enviously at their hug.

RANDY

Permission to love you too, Sgt.!

MAIN TITLES

4

INT. MOTOR POOL - THE NEXT MORNING - DAY 2

4

The PLATOON stands at attention as Pete enters.

PETE

At ease.  
(then, noticing)  
What the hell?

He sees Robinson has loud fake nails, Dobkiss wears a blinged-out dog tag, Park wears giant cat earrings, Chubowski puffs a pipe, Gumble plays with a handheld Nintendo console. \*

PETE (CONT'D)

You look like a bunch of Bratz  
dolls.

ROBINSON

Thank you, "Chill Pete."

CHUBOWSKI

(as he puffs his pipe)  
And thank you for letting us  
express ourselves, Sgt. My morale  
is at a peak.

GUMBLE

I'm playing Donkey Kong! Wait, I thought you asked me what I was doing.

PETE

What is going on?

RANDY

Derrick told them you're chill now.

DERRICK

(off Pete's look)

All I said was you were cool about my hot plate. But hey, what's wrong with being "Chill Pete?" He's so much better than "Shout-y Pete."

PETE

(shouting)

Do you understand we're getting inspected?!

DERRICK

See? Shout-y Pete's a bummer.

PETE

(reads Dobkiss' dog tag)

"Blood Type: Tiger." Good Lord.

DOBKISS

(noticing typo)

Aw it's missing a "g"! It's supposed to be "Tigger" 'cause everywhere I go I bounce on tail!

PETE

Put this stuff away before Cody sees it.

ANGLE ON the giant Motor Pool P.A. speaker.

CODY (OVER P.A.)

(shouting)

Sgt. Hill!!

Pete looks around, puzzled. There's no one there.

CODY (OVER P.A.) (CONT'D)

(normal voice)

There's cameras in here.

Off Pete's reaction...

5

INT. CODY'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 2

5

Pete sits across from Cody.

PETE

It was a miscommunication.

CODY

What miscommunication lets Pvt. Park think she can wear Hello Kitty earrings?

TYSON pops his head into Cody's office.

TYSON

Word has it General Murray's gonna inspect the post.

Pete and Cody stand by rote.

CODY

Indeed he is, 2nd Lt. Schneeberger. General Murray is my mentor and the standard by which all Army soldiers are judged.

TYSON

Yeah, he's my bro.

CODY

Well we all need "bros." Anyway... our sole objective is to make this post worthy of his visit, sir.

TYSON

Well the headline is: I agree with you. But sidebar re: the inspection of it all? Candidly? I feel like the meal we're cooking needs a few more calories.

PETE

What is he talking about?

CODY

I don't know, there's a headline and we're cooking something.

TYSON

My boy Chad at the five-sided firecracker factory -- that's short for the Pentagon...

CODY

It's actually much longer--

TYSON

Told me General Murray goes...

("nipples up" gesture)

*Ping! Ping!* for air shows. And I've arranged for a squadron of Apaches to fly over in formation.

So, bullet points:

(re: them)

amuse bouche,

(re: himself)

entree and dessert.

(re: his phone)

I gotta take this text.

He exits, typing. Cody watches him go, shaking his head.

CODY

West Point. It can produce a legendary leader like Gen. Murray, or drop a deuce like that guy.

PETE

I know, he's the worst, right?

CODY

No, we are not bonding! You need to get your head in the game. This is no ordinary inspection.

(in a reverie)

Gen. Murray is the purest essence of a soldier. He's more than just a man, he's an idea.

Pete can't help but roll his eyes.

CODY (CONT'D)

Did you just roll your eyes at my naked display of emotion?

PETE

Sorry, Sgt. Major. I guess I'm just not as...

("nipples up" gesture)

*Ping! Ping!* as you are about this.

CODY

Retract whatever those are.

(Pete does so)

You know, you used to believe in being the best of the best.

(MORE)



CODY (CONT'D)

But I guess you've decided to go  
the way of... Derrick.

PETE

That is not true.

CODY

It's fine, not everybody can be the  
best. Just be a slacker, that's  
cool. Smoke a reefer stick, man.

PETE

Come on.

CODY

May I show you something?

6

INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 2

6

WE SEE a trophy case with one trophy. Cody and Pete look on.

CODY

The only award Fort McGee has ever  
won is for "Best Irish-Named Army  
Post in South Florida... Runner  
Up." But if you can get us a  
perfect inspection score, Gen.  
Murray will award us Top Gold  
Honors.

PETE

I know you're trying to manipulate  
me by appealing to my ego.

CODY

Are you gonna win us our very first  
trophy?

PETE

My brain can't help but respond to  
this. I can literally feel my  
dopamine level rising.

CODY

No one's ever done it. No one.  
You'd be the hero to this post.

PETE

A hero?

Pete stares at the case and imagines a "Top Gold" trophy  
materializing (which we see). The trophy looks like Pete.  
Now determined, he turns and bolts past an approaching JILL.

PETE (CONT'D)  
Top Gold trophy! Hooah!

CODY  
It's just so damn easy.

JILL  
What's with him?

CODY  
He's excited about his Gen. Murray  
detail. Wanna hear yours?

7

INT. MOTOR POOL - STORE ROOM - LATER - DAY 2

7

Cody holds open a refrigerator door.

CODY  
Fill this fridge with snacks.

JILL  
Seriously?

CODY  
Gen. Murray has an eclectic palate.  
Here's his rider.

Cody holds up a piece of paper.

JILL  
His rider? What is he, a rock star?

CODY  
He's more like an Iraq star.  
(he laughs, Jill doesn't)  
No?

JILL  
A snack run, Sgt. Major? I was  
kinda hoping for something bigger.

CODY  
Oh, this is very big. This is the  
only detail that guarantees you...  
(tantalizingly)  
General Murray face time.

JILL  
(excited)  
Really? So you mean like one on  
one, or am I saying actual words to  
him, or maybe he's saying stuff and  
I'm just nodding.  
(gasps)

(MORE)

JILL (CONT'D)

Wait, is he nodding at me? Oh my  
God he's nodding at me.

CODY

Why stop at nodding? He can promote  
you with the snap of his fingers.

Cody snaps. Jill looks at her rank insignia and imagines  
multiple chevrons and rockers materializing (which we see).

CODY (CONT'D)

It's just so damn easy.

Jill grabs the list from Cody.

JILL

Snack detail! Hooah!

It unfurls, revealing it's a long dot matrix paper scroll.

JILL (CONT'D)

Wow.

8

INT. MOTOR POOL - LATER - DAY 2

8

Park, Gumble, Dobkiss, Derrick, and Chubowski hang out,  
admiring each other's contraband. A determined Pete stomps  
in, all business, dragging a garbage can behind him.

DOBKISS

Hey, Chill Pete.

PETE

Nope.

Pete passes by Derrick.

DERRICK

Hey brother, I've got that bisque  
simmering back at the barracks.  
And when it blows your taste buds,  
don't blame me, blame the sea salt.

PETE

No taste buds will be blown,  
Corporal.

DERRICK

Oh, no. You don't want soup,  
you're using formal language. I  
can tell you're clenching through  
your pants...

PETE

Atten-shun!

DERRICK

This is a different chill. This is  
a bad chill.

PETE

I'm confiscating all y'all's  
contraband!

PARK

Even mine?

PETE

(shouts in Park's face)  
ALL Y'ALLS!

We see QUICK CUTS of Pete taking their contraband and tossing  
it all into the garbage can. First, Pete takes Park's  
earrings, then he rips off Dobkiss' dogtags...

DOBKISS

They're the source of my power!

Then Pete takes Chubowski's pipe...

CHUBOWSKI

But it gives me peace!

Finally, Pete takes Gumble's video game...

GUMBLE

I got no defense.

PETE

Chill Pete is gone. Hard Ass Pete  
is here to stay!

Robinson enters with ten-inch painted nails, impossibly long  
hair extensions, a fur coat over her uniform.

ROBINSON

What'd I miss?

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

9

INT. MOTOR POOL - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 2

9

The platoon stands at attention, now back to normal attire, looking warily at the new, stern Pete.

PETE

We have an inspection coming up.

He stuffs Robinson's fur coat into the trash.

ROBINSON

You owe me six dollars.

PETE

This is no ordinary inspection. It will be conducted by the legendary General Murray and if done right, we will win the Top Gold Trophy. How's that sound?

CHUBOWSKI/ROBINSON/DOBKISS/PARK/GUMBLE

Taxing. / Sad. / Don't care. / I want my earrings back. / Do you know me at all?

PETE

Wrong answers. We're gonna make this post perfect. And look as squared away as the stud on that poster.

He points to an "Army Strong" poster close by. The saluting "stud on the poster" is Pete.

DERRICK

You hung up your own poster?

RANDY

He let me do it.

DERRICK

This is such a crock. And not the kind you set on low so you can leave the house and come back ten hours later to a decadent orgy of flavors.

PETE

Oh. That reminds me.

They lock eyes. Derrick races off. Pete pursues him. The platoon pursues them. Randy grabs the trash can.

10        INT. DERRICK & RANDY'S ROOM - LATER - DAY 2

10

Pete and Derrick have a tug-of-war with his hot plate, as the platoon watches from the doorway.

\*  
\*

DERRICK

No! This was ranked number one in Soup Enthusiast! They gave it five ladles!

Pete finally wrestles away the hot plate.

PETE

All it is to me... is contraband.

He drops it into the can. Derrick seethes.

DERRICK

I can't believe this. I thought we were on the same page for once. I hugged you! I hugged you.

PETE

Last I checked, the Army doesn't bend the rules for hugs.

RANDY

Hard truth, but he's right.

PETE

Corporal, your insubordination has earned you the pleasure of mowing every lawn on the entire post.

DERRICK

Fine, but know this: I will get my revenge. And revenge is a dish best served cold, like a gazpacho. I am gonna gazpacho your ass!

PETE

Is that even a threat?

DERRICK

It is in the soup community!

11        INT. MOTOR POOL - DAY - DAY 2

11

Cody's passing by Jill who stares at her long list.

CODY

Sgt. Perez, why are you still here?  
You need to be getting those  
snacks. What if General Murray  
gets peckish?

JILL

Understood, but Sgt. Major, some of  
this stuff is just so weird. I  
mean, where do they even carry  
(reading rider)  
"That pudding endorsed by Gloria  
Estefan?"

Randy is passing by.

RANDY

Gloria Este-flan? Chocolate,  
vanilla or tres leches tapioca?

CODY

Get all of them just to be safe.  
Okay, Private Hill I want you to  
help Sgt. Perez with her snack  
detail. Clearly she needs it.

Cody walks away. Jill calls after him desperately.

JILL

No I don't... It was just the one  
pudding thing. I don't need help--

RANDY

Pvt. Randy Hill reporting for duty!  
(a la Bill Cosby)  
"We're gonna find some Jell-O  
pudding."

JILL

Is that supposed to be Bill Cosby?

RANDY

Yeah. "Listening to jazz music in  
the basement, Theo's got to go to  
school so I can deliver the babies--"  
(as Jill walks away)  
Sgt. Perez, wait up.

12

EXT. BATTALION AREA - DAY - DAY 2

12

The soldiers are working their asses off: sweeping, cutting hedges, polishing the cannon, flagpole, etc. Pete approaches Dobkiss, who is working on a hedge that looks butchered.

PETE

Dobkiss, what the hell are you doing?

DOBKISS

It's a topiary, dog.

PETE

Don't call me dog, I'm your Sgt.

DOBKISS

No, it's a topiary dog. That's what I made. It's a Schnauzer.

PETE

Just square hedges, okay? General Murray wants to see right angles.

PAN OVER to Park who has made a perfect topiary elephant. \*

PARK

Son of a bitch!

Derrick passes by on a riding mower with earphones on.

PETE

Corporal Hill. Glad to see you're on board.

Derrick grins mockingly and waves as he passes by.

PETE (CONT'D)

He's not on board.

HONK HONK! Cody pulls up in a graffiti-festooned beat-up Humvee. He climbs out and addresses everybody.

CODY

Ha ha! Lt. Schneeberger isn't the only one who's got dazzle!

(off Pete's look)

This is General Murray's beloved Humvee, Betty Lou. I had her shipped from Fallujah.

ANGLE ON the Humvee which has graffiti on its side that says:

PETE

"Go Home Yankee Bluejeans." Nice.

CODY

I can't wait to see the smile on Gen. Murray's face. I've never seen him smile. No one has.

(MORE)



CODY (CONT'D)

See that this gets cleaned up by  
tomorrow.

Hearing this, the platoon GROANS. Pete whirls, yelling.

PETE

Do you want to win that Top Gold  
Trophy or not?!

PARK/ROBINSON/DOBKISS/CHUBOWSKI/GUMBLE

No! / Uh uh. / I want to go to  
sleep. / At what price? / This is  
clearly more important to you.

Tyson walks up, sees the topiary mess, the vandalized Humvee.  
Cody and Pete salute him, Tyson returns it.

TYSON

Update on the flyover, I canceled  
the Apaches, going with the Blue  
Angels. I know, Navy, but I felt  
like we needed a name. Also added  
red, white, and blue smoke trails.  
Impulse buy. Worth it.

(re: Humvee)

Oh boy. Table for ew.

He exits.

CODY

That guy sucks.

PETE/DOBKISS/ROBINSON/PARK/CHUBOWSKI/  
GUMBLE

Freakin' cherry butter bar. /  
Awful. / Hate him. / The worst. /  
Slap him. / I'm gonna use "table  
for ew."

13

INT. GROCERY STORE - DAY - DAY 2

13

Jill and Randy enter. Jill holds the rider.

JILL

This list is insane! I mean, where  
am I supposed to find:

(reading)

"Goji juice, black chewing gum.  
Moose jerky?"

RANDY

The co-op, the gun store, guy in a  
van behind the gun store.

JILL

Seriously? How do you know that?

RANDY

I help put together care packages  
so I know where to find any soldier  
comfort item in a ten-mile radius.  
My brain is a search engine for  
snacks.

JILL

This is amazing, you might actually  
help me!

RANDY

At your service, Sgt. M'lady.

He doffs his cover and bows grandly, knocking over a jar but  
catches it.

RANDY (CONT'D)

Boom! Reflexes like a cat!

He makes a big clawing gesture, knocks over a bigger display.

JILL

Just leave it. Let's go.

RANDY

To the gun store!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

14 INT. MOTOR POOL - LATER - DAY 2 14

Pete stands before the troops who are lined up across the floor, each armed with a big dry mop.

PETE

General Murray will be here in eighteen hours. This motor pool needs to be spotless. I want to be able to eat off this floor!

As the troops do a synchronized sweep across the floor, we **BEGIN THE "G.I. PARTY" MONTAGE SET TO MUSIC.**

ROBINSON

I feel like I'm in "Annie."

15 INT. CODY'S OFFICE - SAME TIME - DAY 2 15

Cody has his Dress Blues laid out piece by piece. He's ironing his pants, trying to get the perfect crease. He holds up the pant leg, looks at his work:

CODY

Not sharp enough.

16 INT. STORE - LATER - DAY 2 16

Jill alley-oops items to Randy who swats them into a cart.

JILL

Gummy Worms! Red Vines!  
Whoopie Pie!

RANDY

...Bam! ...Smack! ...Whoopie,  
pow! Getting it done, son!

They high-five. REVEAL a CUTE KID nearby watching. His jaw drops, he turns to his mom:

CUTE KID

I want to join the Army.

17 INT. MOTOR POOL - LATER - DAY 2 17

Pete pulls on a white glove and swipes his finger along the floor as the platoon anxiously awaits. He looks at the result, which we can't see. Then reveals the gloved finger is insanely dirty with hairs and a hard candy attached.

PETE

Not even close.

18 INT. CODY'S OFFICE - A LITTLE LATER - DAY 2 18

Cody is Windexing his shoes. He looks at his reflection.

CODY  
Not shiny enough.

19 EXT. VAN OUTSIDE THE GUN STORE - A LITTLE LATER - DAY 2 19

A sketchy-looking dude hands Jill a bag labeled "Moose Jerky". Jill is about to pay him when Randy stops her.

RANDY  
Ho ho ho. One second.

He sniffs it. Holds it up to the light. Takes a small bite.

RANDY (CONT'D)  
We're not paying you... for elk.

Busted, the jerky vendor reaches under the table and hands them an unmarked sack. Randy looks inside, nods.

JILL  
Pfft. Elk.

20 INT. MOTOR POOL - LATER - DAY 2 20

Pete again swipes his white-gloved finger along the floor. This time: clean. The platoon CHEERS. Pete yells.

PETE  
I want to be able to eat off it!

21 INT. MOTOR POOL - LATER - DAY 2 21

The platoon watches as Pete, with a knife and fork, eats a chicken parm directly off the floor.

PETE  
I'm still tasting floor.

GUMBLE  
What is the lesson here?

22 INT. CODY'S OFFICE - LATER - DAY 2 22

Cody, in Dress Blues, stoically salutes in the mirror. Then:

CODY  
Not reverent enough.

REVEAL Tyson in the doorway.

TYSON

Did you hear me thinking that?  
'Cause I was gonna give you the  
same note. I see I'm rubbing off  
on ya.

He exits. Cody grimly turns back to the mirror.

CODY

Salute the pain away, Donald.

23

INT. MOTOR POOL - LATER - DAY 2

23

The troops, standing on scaffolding, polish rails, stairs,  
and doorknobs, exhausted.

CHUBOWSKI

Dear Lord, how many knobs must I  
polish?

The troops snicker.

PETE

Don't laugh at that. Keep working.

GUMBLE

Can we please stop to eat?  
(rubbing belly)  
Gumble gets the grumbles.

PETE

Never say that again.

GUMBLE

I'm sorry, when I'm hungry I get  
adorable!

PETE

Look, I don't care if you're all  
starving. We gotta finish.

Jill and Randy enter with a lush bounty of snacks. The  
platoon eyes them hungrily.

ROBINSON

Whatchya got there?

JILL

More like what don't we got there.

RANDY

Shh-shh-shh-shh...

Randy hurries Jill up the stairs toward the store room.

\*

24 INT. MOTOR POOL - STORE ROOM - LATER - DAY 2

24

Jill and Randy finish stocking the fridge.

RANDY

You think this stuff is safe here?

JILL

It's fine. We'll lock the door.

Randy opens the blinds. All the troops are pressed against the window with the same hungry/creepy look.

RANDY

We better stand guard.

JILL

I don't have time for this. I have to prep my uniform, check on my troops.

RANDY

Then I shall stand guard.

JILL

Whatever floats your boat. I'll see you in the morning.

RANDY

I'll let you out.

There are two locks on the door. Randy turns both, goes to open the door, but it's still locked. He unlocks the top lock, tries it again, still locked. Unlocks the bottom lock, still locked. Tries both again, still locked.

RANDY (CONT'D)

Sure you don't want to stay?

JILL

Move it!

She effortlessly unlocks it and lets herself out. Randy tries to lock it again. Now he can't get it locked.

25 EXT. BATTALION AREA - THE NEXT MORNING - DAY 3

25

The troops are at attention in absolutely pristine Dress Blues. A velvet rope surrounds the now-sparkling Humvee, along with a sign that says "Betty Lou".

Pete, spotting an uneven clump of hair sprouting from Dobkiss' head, whips out a small electric clipper, which we hear before we see. He gives Dobkiss a quick neatening buzz. Chubowski seems particularly fit and trim.

PETE

Chubowski you look... lean?

CHUBOWSKI

A lady never reveals her secrets.  
But man to man? I'm wearing a  
girdle.

PETE

You guys look great.

DOBKISS

Gotta admit, for the first time  
ever I feel like a real soldier.

Derrick runs up and falls into line.

DERRICK

Yeah, me too, Sgt. Hill!

PETE

(suspicious)

Where were you, Corporal?

DERRICK

I just finished mowing all the  
lawns, Sergeant! Had to make sure  
I did it just right.

Pete looks warily at Derrick. Cody and Jill hurry in.

JILL

General Murray will be here any  
second!

CODY

Put on your game faces!  
(then, noticing)  
Well, isn't this a surprise.

PETE

Thank you, Sgt. Major.

Cody is clearly moved by how amazing everything looks.

CODY

I'd just like to say to all of you,  
you've never made me more proud  
than at this moment.

(MORE)

CODY (CONT'D)

Top Honors or not, we have already won. This is truly a moment to savor.

Everyone beams, bursting with pride. Cody snaps to attention and they wait. And wait. Tyson jogs in, phone to his cheek.

TYSON

Hey folks. No bigs, but General Murray's not coming.

Cody is stunned.

CODY

Is he all right? Is he with the President? Are we at war?

TYSON

He's at SeaWorld.

CODY

SeaWorld? But General Murray would never shirk official duty for R&R.

TYSON

The message was: "Canceling official duties to take some R&R at SeaWorld." Ouch.

(back on phone)

Hi Stacey, I need to cancel that Blue Angel flyover. It's Schneeberger? Just like it sounds.

Tyson wanders away on the phone. Cody stares off, vacant. He is silent for a long beat. Pete and Jill look concerned.

JILL

Are you okay, Sergeant Major?

CODY

Well, let's see... The man by which I define myself blew me off to feed Shamu.

PETE

I'm not sure you actually get to feed Shamu.

JILL

Are you helping?

Dazed, Cody walks in a circle. Everyone remains at attention, uneasy. Cody walks to the Humvee, climbs in, shuts the door.



A beat, then he screams and flails crazily in frustration (we can't hear it behind his closed door). Everyone is shocked. Pete delicately knocks on the window. Cody rolls it down.

PETE

Just want to get an idea for what the plan is from here, Sgt. Major?

CODY

Do whatever you want. Obviously none of this matters.

Cody fires up the Humvee, and peels out. He crashes through the ropes and drives over the "Betty Lou" sign. Pete, stunned, turns to the troops. A beat, then:

DOBKISS/ROBINSON/PARK

Screw this. / You heard the man. / He's a bad driver.

As if letting air out of a tire, the troops strip off their Dress Blues. Chubowski pops off his girdle.

CHUBOWSKI

Aw, sweet relief.

Everybody wanders off. The brief spell of soldier quality is over. Pete turns to Derrick, accusatorily:

PETE

Did you do this?

DERRICK

(still in shock)  
I did have something planned, but this is much better.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR26 EXT. BATTALION AREA - LATER - DAY 3

26

Pete arrives at line-up, but only Chubowski is there.

PETE

Where is everyone?

CHUBOWSKI

I believe my colleagues think they have the rest of the day off.

PETE

Why, because Sgt. Major blew off some steam? That's over.

CODY (ON P.A.)

Attention all soldiers. You worked hard yesterday for no reason, so who gives a crap today? Now enjoy some Anita Baker.

Anita Baker's "Sweet Love" plays on the P.A. Pete hangs his head. A beat as Chubowski and Pete listen to the song.

CHUBOWSKI

Even I find this awkward.

27 INT. MOTOR POOL - OUTSIDE STORE ROOM - LATER - DAY 3

27

Randy still stands guard. Dobkiss and Robinson sidle up.

ROBINSON

Hey, what are you still guarding this for? The General flaked.

RANDY

I didn't hear anything about that.

DOBKISS

Yup. So I guess we get to  
(hip hop hands)  
dig in to dat booty.

Dobkiss tries to move past Randy, but Randy arm blocks him.

RANDY

You don't have clearance.

DOBKISS/ROBINSON

Okay. / Understood.

They start to walk away, Dobkiss does a fake lunge at Randy.

DOBKISS

Imma get that candy, dog.

Robinson does a fake lunge as well.

ROBINSON

I want them Rolos!

28

INT. MOTOR POOL - LATER - DAY 3

28

Gumble now plays Donkey Kong on a massive projection screen as the rest of the platoon watches. Pete enters and doesn't like what he sees. He stands in front of the screen.

PETE

This screen is for satellite maps.

GUMBLE

And now it's for Donkey Kong!  
(very under his breath)  
Bitch.

Gumble gets Mario on the screen to "jump" up and down on Pete's head. Everybody laughs. Pete looks confused.

PETE

What?

Derrick appears beside Pete.

DERRICK

How you doing, Pete? Must be hard having no authority over us today. Hey, order me to do something.

PETE

Leave me alone.

DERRICK

(boops Pete's nose)  
Nope. Don't have to comply. But I'll tell you what. I'll go away if you give me back my hot plate.

PETE

Aw, I gave it to Sgt. Maj. to throw in the trash. I bet some lucky hobo will warm his bottom on it tonight.

Derrick exits, intrigued.

29

INT. CODY'S OFFICE - DAY - DAY 3

29

Cody, his ACUs unbuttoned, listens to Anita Baker with his feet up on the desk. Derrick peers in, sees the contraband can in a corner. Cody notices him.

CODY

How's it going, baby?

DERRICK

(with a smile)

Is this a good time?

CODY

It's all good. You know, having my feet up like this is against the rules, but I don't give a damn.

DERRICK

Yeah, some of the rules seem pretty arbitrary, don't they?

CODY

Sure do.

(holds up pen)

It's like, why is there a ban on blue pens?

DERRICK

Thank you!

CODY

Let's see how the Army likes this!

Cody scribbles on a paper with the blue pen.

DERRICK

Careful! You're gonna get court-martialed!

(they laugh, then)

Why don't we make ourselves some soup?

Derrick pulls out his hot plate from the contraband can.

30

INT. MOTOR POOL - OUTSIDE STORE ROOM - LATER - DAY 3

30

QUICK CUTS of troops trying to get past Randy in a stylized LIVE VIDEO GAME as Randy fends everyone off a la DONKEY KONG:

Dobkiss climbs up the ramp. Randy pushes a barrel. Dobkiss jumps over the barrel to avoid it.

Chubowski climbs up the ramp. Randy pushes a barrel.  
Chubowski is pushed back by the barrel.

\*  
\*

Park climbs up the ramp. Randy rolls a nearby barrel at her.  
Park gets knocked over by it.

Robinson climbs up a ladder then retreats to avoid a barrel.

On the top level, Gumble charges Randy with a mini sledge  
hammer. He crushes one barrel but is felled by the next.

Randy pumps his fists in the air a la victorious Donkey Kong.

31

INT. CODY'S OFFICE - DAY - DAY 3

31

Pete barges in just as Cody is about to eat a spoonful of  
Derrick's soup. Pete narrows his eyes at Derrick.

PETE

What are you doing?

DERRICK

Freeing his mind.

PETE

Put that filthy soup down, Sgt.  
Major. It's chaos out there.  
Everyone's going buck wild.

CODY

Who cares?

PETE

I care! I didn't care but then you  
made my ego care, so I cared, I  
cared a lot!

DERRICK

You sound delirious. Nothing a hot  
bowl of bisque won't fix.

Derrick slides the bowl to Pete, but Pete pushes it back.

CODY

Listen Sgt., General Murray was my  
mentor. My mentor went to SeaWorld  
to swim with dolphins and chomp on  
churros. I work my ass off every  
year for that man. I believed in  
him. But it was all bull. I feel  
stupid for taking it seriously.

A tense beat. Derrick slowly slides the bowl towards Cody.

PETE

You said General Murray was an idea. Well, we just spent the last two days becoming that idea. You pushed me, I pushed them, and for the first time in their lives, my troops were proud of their post, proud to be soldiers. So maybe your mentor let you down... but mine didn't.

A beat. Cody seems to awaken out of a fog.

CODY

I know you're trying to manipulate me by appealing to my ego.  
(then)  
It's working.

PETE

Look, it doesn't matter if Murray comes. It's the idea that's important. Right?

Cody stands up, satisfied. He turns to Derrick.

CODY

What do you think, Corporal?

REVEAL: Derrick nursing his burned hand and a little flame flickering on the hot plate.

DERRICK

Yeah, I just burned myself pretty good, so I'm ready to turn the corner on the whole hot plate thing. It's actually a very dangerous item.

Cody dramatically tosses the soup and blue pen in the trash. He and Pete share a smile. Then Cody's red phone starts RINGING! They all look at each other with dread.

32

INT. MOTOR POOL - DAY - DAY 3

32

Cody, Pete, and Derrick run in. To their horror they discover the troops have made a huge mess. Barrels are strewn around. Dobkiss is in a kiddie pool. Chubowski puffs his pipe. All turn to see Cody, in shock. Beat, then:

DOBKISS

You said nothing matters.

PUSH IN on Cody, enraged. He opens his mouth to yell:

33 INT. MOTOR POOL - OUTSIDE STORE ROOM - SAME - DAY 3 33

From a distance, Randy hears Cody berate the troops.

CODY (O.S.)

Gen. Murray is on his way! Clean  
up this crap or you'll do push-ups  
until your pecs explode!

Randy smiles with self-satisfaction.

RANDY

I knew those guys were lying.

Randy turns and enters the store room to find...

34 INT. MOTOR POOL - STORE ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY 3 34

A dispirited Jill on the floor eating candy beside a mess of  
empty wrappers and crushed soda cans.

RANDY

Sgt. Perez, what are you doing?!

JILL

(with a full mouth)  
I'm not getting a promotion so I  
want candy!

RANDY

How did you even get in here?

JILL

I got skills.

35 INT. MOTOR POOL - STORE ROOM - FLASHBACK - DAY 3 35

Jill enters the room through a vent. We see Randy pump his  
fists, a la victorious Donkey Kong (from earlier).

36 INT. MOTOR POOL - STORE ROOM - BACK TO SCENE - DAY 3 36

RANDY

The General's on his way right now!

JILL

(wired on sugar)  
For real? Oh God.  
(MORE)

JILL (CONT'D)

I ate all his snacks. Everything.  
I ate all the candy, Randy! Candy  
Randy! Randy Candy, that would be  
a pretty good name for a British  
candy bar.

(British accent)

'ello! I'm full o' toffee, I am!

RANDY

Get a hold of yourself, Sgt. Perez!  
We've still got the secret stash.

JILL

Secret stash? What secret stash?

Randy points to a shelf nearby.

RANDY

In that ammo can. I put some candy  
bars in there just in case.

(off her look)

I grew up with brothers. I learned  
to keep my enemies close but my  
candy closer.

Jill looks at Randy with a new respect. Meaningfully:

JILL

You're a really good soldier,  
Private Hill.

RANDY

(missing weight of moment)

I know.

37

INT. MOTOR POOL - LATER - DAY 3

37

The troops stand at attention again in perfect Dress Blues.  
Chubowski gets help tightening his girdle.

The elephant doors rise and a stunningly backlit figure  
appears: GENERAL MURRAY. The camera angle is low so he seems  
towering, but when he gets next to Cody we see he is quite  
diminutive. And very unsmiling. Cody salutes reverently.

GENERAL MURRAY

Sgt. Major, let's see what you got  
this year.

As Cody starts leading him past the line of troops...

DISSOLVE TO:



38

EXT. BATTALION AREA - LATER - DAY 3

38

The troops are again gathered on the lawn, the Humvee nearby, roped off. Cody and Gen. Murray come to a halt.

CODY

...And that's everything, General.

General Murray GRUNTS. He strokes his chin but remains tight-lipped for a beat. Cody waits anxiously. It is tense.

CODY (CONT'D)

Sir, I hope everything is to your liking--

GENERAL MURRAY

You know, this inspection has left me a little... peckish.

Cody looks to Jill. Randy hands her jerky and a candy bar. Jill proffers them to General Murray.

JILL

Savory or sweet, sir?

General Murray takes both, then:

GENERAL MURRAY

Thank you, Sergeant...  
(reads nametag)  
Perez, is it? Hm.

General Murray nods, then walks off. Jill is beside herself.

RANDY

(aside to Jill)

That was quality face time! His face nodded at your face!

JILL

Thanks so much for your help, Pvt.

RANDY

Sure, any--

Jill gives Randy a quick hug, then walks off, thrilled.

RANDY (CONT'D)

--time.

He watches her exit, confused. Is he smitten?

RANDY (CONT'D)

Oh no. Emotions.

ANGLE ON Cody and the General, still stroking his chin.

CODY

Oh, how could I forget? One last detail, General.

Cody gestures to the Humvee.

GENERAL MURRAY

Betty Lou? Is that really her?  
Sgt. Major, you son of a gun!

He turns to Cody, beaming, a wide smile on his face for the first time ever. Cody is struck.

CODY

Good to see you smile, sir.

Gen. Murray turns back to the Humvee for a moment. Cody turns to Pete, hushed and giddy:

CODY (CONT'D)

He smiled! Did you see him smile?  
He smiled!

GENERAL MURRAY

Aw hell, Sgt. Major, I didn't find one infraction. I'm awarding this post Top Gold Honors.

Everybody CHEERS.

CODY

We're very honored, sir.

GENERAL MURRAY

And I apologize for coming late. I just had to stop by SeaWorld.

(then, hushed)

We have a secret base under there.

CODY

I suspected as much.

Tyson approaches.

TYSON

Well, it's no Blue Angels flyover, sir, but I did my best to whip this post into shape.

GENERAL MURRAY

Yes, well done, 2nd Lieutenant.

ANGLE ON Pete and the rest of the platoon looking sour.

TYSON

Your chopper is waiting, shall we  
get some lunch?

Tyson leads General Murray off. Pete turns to Cody.

PETE

He just took all your credit.

CODY

It's okay. I got my smile.

PETE

And I'm gonna get my trophy.

CODY

Oh there's no trophy.

Derrick walks up.

\*

PETE

Well, I guess I gotta thank you.  
You didn't let your little revenge  
fantasy ruin the day.

DERRICK

Yeah, about that...

39

INT. HELICOPTER - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 3

39

Tyson rides with General Murray.

TYSON

Glad you're happy with the post,  
sir. I oversaw every detail.

General Murray looks out to see Derrick has mowed "GENERAL  
MURRAY EATS BUTT" into the grass. Murray turns to Tyson,  
furious. BLACKOUT.

END OF SHOW