

***MICHAEL BAY:  
THE EXPLOSIVE BIOPIC***

Written by

Sean Tidwell

[seanptidwell@gmail.com](mailto:seanptidwell@gmail.com)

TITLE CARD: OUTSKIRTS OF LOS ANGELES, 1975

EXT. TRAILER PARK -- DAY

We see a 10-year old boy with long, flowing blonde hair-like Fabio. This is MICHAEL BAY.

He's FLYING HIS KITE high in the sky as the wind grows stronger and stronger.

Michael gazes up to the clouds.

MICHAEL BAY

Mama. Can I go to space when I grow up?

Michael's mom, MAUD BAY, is sitting on the porch.

MAUD BAY

They don't allow people like you in space.

MICHAEL BAY

Like me?

MAUD BAY

Bed wetters.

Michael is bummed. He then spots a JETLINER nearing in the distance.

MICHAEL BAY

Look! A plane!

MAUD BAY

That's probably the one your daddy's on. We better get leavin' to pick him up from the airport.

INT. AIRPLANE -- CONTINUOUS

Full of prisoners, it's like a school bus version of Con Air as they all sing together.

PRISONERS

99 bottles of beer on the wall, 99 bottles of beer!

PRISON GUARD

Take one down pass it around!

PRISONERS  
98 bottles of beer on the wall!

In the back, we see one of the prisoners, BRUCE BAY, Michael's father.

He holds a picture in his hand of his son Michael, rubbing it with his thumb lovingly as he looks down below.

BRUCE BAY  
(to himself)  
I did my time... I'll see you soon,  
my boy.

EXT. TRAILER PARK - CONTINUOUS

Michael lets out more kite string. It goes even higher into the sky.

MICHAEL BAY  
(pointing up)  
Dad's plane! Dad's plane!

Michael is so excited, that he accidentally LETS GO of the kite string, causing the kite to shoot up into the sky, straight towards the plane's engine.

EXT. AIRPLANE -- CONTINUOUS

MICHAEL'S KITE gets SUCKED INTO THE ENGINE, causing a massive explosion.

EXT. TRAILER PARK - CONTINUOUS

From the POV of Michael, the jetliner stalls out, banks left, and crashes several hundred feet from him!

An enormous fireball shoots a thousand feet into the sky.

Michael's hair is blown back by the sheer force.

Debris rains down.

MAUD BAY  
(running out)  
WHAT DID YOU DO?!

THE PICTURE OF MICHAEL falls in front of him—there's even some of his dad's blood on it.

MICHAEL BAY  
I KILLED DADDY WITH MY KITE!

Michael falls to his knees in heartache, screaming towards the gods as we see the reflection of fire in his eyes.

FADE TO:

TITLE CARD: 1 MONTH LATER

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL -- MATH CLASS -- MORNING

Michael is not the same boy we remember. He has heavy bags under his eyes and shows little emotion.

He stands in front of his teacher, MR. GIBBINS as he grades Michael's exam.

MR. GIBBINS  
Another poorly executed assignment,  
Michael. You didn't fill out the  
answers, you drew explosions all  
over the page...

We reveal the assignment only has explosions and words written on it like "BOOM," "BAM," and "WABAM!"

MR. GIBBINS (CONT'D)  
Do you want another F?

MICHAEL BAY  
You think I'm scared of getting  
another F? I've gotten more F's  
than you've gotten fucked, son.

MR. GIBBINS  
Son? You're not my father. You're  
my student. And my father is dead.

MICHAEL BAY  
Yeah, so is mine...

MR. GIBBINS  
Well at least I didn't kill mine.  
(beat)  
Would hate to be you.

This angers Michael. He takes a moment to compose himself as he spots a bottle of LYSOL on the table.

MICHAEL BAY

Let me ask you something: have you ever killed a man, Mr. Gibbins?

MR. GIBBINS

(snarky)

Unlike the many you have, no.

MICHAEL BAY

(with an evil wink)

True. So what's one more?

Michael grabs the bottle of Lysol from the teacher's desk, then pulls out a lighter from his pocket.

MR. GIBBINS

(scared, grabs his cross)

The devil is inside you, boy!

MICHAEL BAY

No. I'm inside him.

Michael creates a make-shift flame thrower as we see the reflection of the flames in his eyes and hear the screams of Mr. Gibbins.

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE -- A LITTLE LATER

Michael sits there in handcuffs. Several police officers guard the door. We see the PRINCIPAL and SCHOOL COUNSELOR just outside.

PRINCIPAL

(to the counselor)

He's too much of a risk to keep at our school. This is the 3rd fire incident this week...

SCHOOL COUNSELOR

And it's only Monday.... Let me evaluate his mental state. If he proves to be insane, we can expel him right here and now per state law.

INT. DARK ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

Michael sits on a chair. He stares forward blankly. The COUNSELOR walks in, scared. The scene is reminiscent of Silence of the Lambs when Clarice meets Hannibal.

COUNSELOR  
(nervous)  
Mr. Bay. I'm a guidance counselor  
here.

MICHAEL BAY  
(calm)  
May I see your credentials?

Unsure, she pulls out her guidance counselor badge and holds it up.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
(with an evil smile)  
I can't see. Come closer.

She cautiously steps forward as Michael reads it.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
That expires in one week.

COUNSELOR  
I'm in grad school. This is my  
training program.

MICHAEL BAY  
I'm not sure if any amount of  
training could help you deal with  
me...

Michael smells the air.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
You wear Evion skin cream. Made of  
90% ethanol... combustible.

COUNSELOR  
(takes nervous gulp)  
How did... you know?

MICHAEL BAY  
My grandma used to wear it... She's  
been gone for 6 years.

COUNSELOR  
That's a good memory you have.

MICHAEL BAY  
Memory is all I have... Since my  
outlook has been drastically  
tainted, since the accident...

COUNSELOR

We don't need to talk about it.

(beat)

How about we do something more fun?!

The counselor pulls out some pictures from her bag. She's going to give Michael a picture-interpretation test.

COUNSELOR (CONT'D)

I'm going to hold up drawings, and you tell me what you see. Ok?

She raises the first one, it looks like a butterfly.

COUNSELOR (CONT'D)

What do you see?

MICHAEL BAY

Fire.

She raises another one, it looks like a beautiful lion.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

C4.

She raises another, it looks like a couple holding hands.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

Jet fuel.

The counselor is freaked out.

COUNSELOR

(with a scared smile)

Ok, that's all.

MICHAEL BAY

How'd I do?

COUNSELOR

(sweating bullets)

Really great...

MICHAEL BAY

(under his breath)

Everything explodes.

COUNSELOR

What?

The counselor gets up to excuse herself.

EXT. SCHOOL HALLWAY -- MOMENTS LATER

The principle is waiting for an update as she walks out.

PRINCIPAL

So?

COUNSELOR

(shell shocked)

I quit.

INT. GRUNGY RESTAURANT KITCHEN -- CONTINUOUS

Russian mobsters sit around the table. At the head is VLAD, a tough-lookin' dude.

On the wall we see newspaper clippings: "PLANE CRASH KILLS RUSSIAN MOB LEADER, AMONG OTHERS." "PLANE CRASH TAKES OUT RUSSIAN MOBSTER, 150 OTHER PRISONERS."

VLAD

It's been one month since our beloved Dimitri was taken from us... Our boss.

(almost with a tear)

My father...

(beat)

Now, we must seek vengeance on his killer.

Vlad tightens up his fist in anger. That's when he grabs a picture of Michael Bay off the table and holds it up.

VLAD (CONT'D)

This is him. His name is Michael. Michael Bay. And a bay is where we'll throw his body once we get our hands on him....

This gets all the mobsters riled up.

VLAD (CONT'D)

Rustov and Igor, conduct surveillance on this murderer. When it's safe, we take him out.

We see RUSTOV and IGOR, both tough-looking sons of bitches. They both have guns.

RUSTOV/IGOR

Yes, boss.

VLAD

I have every reason to believe this  
was an inside job.

One of the mobsters, MAXIM, utters something after looking at  
the picture of Michael.

MAXIM

Looks like just a kid to me...

Vlad pulls out his gun and shoots at him.

VLAD

Next time I won't miss.

MAXIM

(shocked)

You didn't miss—you shot me in the  
stomach.

Vlad shot him right in the stomach.

VLAD

It's a flesh wound.

That's when another guy grabs his stomach from behind Maxim.

MIZER

Flesh wound? The bullet went  
through him and into me!

VLAD

For fucks sake.

EXT. MICHAEL BAY'S TRAILER -- LATER THAT NIGHT

Michael, with his school backpack on, walks up to the front door and goes to open it, but it's locked. He knocks.

MICHAEL BAY

Mama, open up.

(there's a pause)

MAMA! OPEN UP!!

The curtain parts as we see her in the window. She holds a cross in her hand, like Michael's the devil.

MAUD BAY (O.S.)

Michael, something hellish has  
gotten into you...

(beat)

You're too much of a liability to  
have around here.

MICHAEL BAY

(sad)

You're kicking me out...? On my  
birthday...?

MAUD BAY

It's your birthday?

A little emotion appears on Michael's face for the first time.

MAUD BAY (CONT'D)

Michael. I'm sending you to foster  
care.

MICHAEL BAY

Foster care?! But isn't that only  
for kids who lost both parents?

MAUD BAY

You killed your father. And now  
you're losing me.

MICHAEL BAY

(can't believe it)

But, but... I'm your son.

A NAKED MAN appears in the window.

NAKED MAN

And I'm about to be your worst  
enemy if you don't get goin'. Now,  
get!

Michael falls to his knees, but he can't even cry, he's  
emotionless.

A VAN pulls up that says "FOSTER CARE SERVICES" A creepy man  
sits in the front.

FOSTER DUDE

Let's go, kid.

INT. FOSTER CARE COURT -- NEXT DAY

We see a JUDGE and other foster kids lined up. Michael is  
looking all tough, but deep down, we know he's sad.

The judge addresses the court.

JUDGE

Next up: Michael Bay. 10 years old. His mother gave him up after his obsession with explosions and lighting things on fire became a nuisance. Do any foster families or parents in the court want him?

We see a man in the courtroom, RANDY, 45. Looks like a tweeker. He sits next to two women who both are grabbing one of his arms. Full on polygamy shit.

They make some small talk with each other, then.

RANDAL

We can take that boy.

JUDGE

Done, the boy goes to that man and his two wives until we can find him a permanent home.

The judge bangs his gavel.

MICHAEL BAY

(to himself)

I have two moms now? What the--

INT. RANDY'S HOUSE -- LATER

Michael, Randy, and the two women walk inside the home. That's when Michael notices something.

MICHAEL BAY

Who are all they?

We see its set up for a party, with about 30 people waiting.

RANDY

We're hosting a surprise party and your job is to man the bar.

(to the crowd)

Guys, this is Michael. He's our bartender.

Michael Bay locks his eyes on a few candles that are lit.

RANDY (CONT'D)

(looking around)

Wait. Where's Johnny? He said he was going to film the surprise.

A woman responds.

WOMAN

He's not coming. Had a bad acid trip last night.

RANDY

But we need to film this thing...

Randy gets an idea and looks at Michael.

RANDY (CONT'D)

Kid, do you know how to use a camera?

MICHAEL BAY

I've never--

Randy picks up the big video camera from the floor and throws it on Michael's shoulder.

RANDY

You take this, and film, ok? Film like you're fuckin' Fellini. Hold it on your shoulder and focus on the action. Point and shoot.

MICHAEL BAY

Ok.

FADE TO:

TITLE CARD: 1 DAY LATER

ON SCREEN: WE SEE AN NBC NEWS BROADCAST; A NEWS ANCHOR REPORTS BREAKING NEWS LIVE.

NEWS BROADCASTER

Some are calling it the "Surprise Fire Massacre." NBC just received video footage of the incident minutes ago.

(beat)

Here are the shocking moments right before the camera man at a surprise party apparently bumped into a candle fixture and started a fire that killed 30 people.

THE FOOTAGE PLAYS OUT ON SCREEN:

We see the surprise party in action through Michael Bay's camera. It's amazing camera work. The shot is steady, precise and unintentional at the same time. It's fucking beautiful.

It's like whoever is manning this camera was born for it. That's because they were... It's Michael fuckin' Bay, baby.

CUT TO:

INT. DARK APARTMENT -- CONTINUOUS

We see a MAN sitting and watching this news segment on TV live.

He's dressed like a Hollywood director: ball cap, hoodie, jeans.

Around his apartment are posters of some of the most famous director's ever to live: a young Steven Spielberg, Stanley Kubrick, etc.

There's empty beer cans everywhere.

HE'S CAPTIVATED BY THE FOOTAGE HE SEES. SO MUCH SO HE RISES FROM HIS CHAIR.

MAN  
(to himself)  
Look at that camera work... It's  
unbelievable.

NEWS BROADCASTER (ON TV)  
The person responsible is this boy,  
Michael Bay. Who I'm just getting  
word was the same boy who caused  
the fiery plane crash that killed  
150 soon-to-be-released prisoners,  
including his very own father and a  
notable Russian mob leader.

MAN  
I must find that boy...

INT. FOSTER CARE COURT -- NEXT DAY

Randy and his two wives are there with Michael. They stand before the judge.

RANDAL  
Judge, this boy's carelessness  
killed 30 of my friends!

JUDGE

Anything else?

RANDAL

He mouths off, too!

JUDGE

He mouths off? Jesus.

(to the court)

Does anyone else want to take this boy?

There's silence from everyone in the courtroom.

JUDGE (CONT'D)

Going once.... going twice...

(beat)

Anybody?

Then, a man rises, THE SAME MAN who was amazed by Michael's camera work while watching the news segment.

MAN

I'll take that boy.

JUDGE

What's your name, sir?

MAN

My name? Steven.

JUDGE

Do you have a last name, Steven?

He confidently puffs out his chest.

MAN

Steven. Steven Spielburger.

Yes, like Steven Spielberg. But instead SpielBURGER. Like a god damn beef patty. BURGER!

JUDGE

The boy goes to Steven Spielburger for 3 weeks until he moves to his next foster home.

Steven Spielburger and Michael Bay lock eyes. Steven gives him a nod like "I got you, boy."

Michael gives him a look like "Fuck off."

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- LATER ON

They both walk in. Michael Bay puts down his bag of belongings. He looks around at Steven's apartment, seeing camera equipment.

MICHAEL BAY  
(looking around)  
Are you like, a movie maker or something?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
A pretty damn good one, too.

MICHAEL BAY  
Pretty damn good? This place looks like my asshole.

Michael SPOTS A PICTURE of Steven and his girlfriend DARIA.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
That your girlfriend? Surprised you even have one...

Steven picks up Michael by the collar and pins him against the wall.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
What did you just utter?

MICHAEL BAY  
Utter? Don't talk to me like a baby sucking on mama's breast.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Who taught you manners? I'm your elder!

MICHAEL BAY  
You're my bitch!

This pisses Steven off. He winds up and punches straight through the drywall right next to Michael's head.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You've got one hell of an attitude.  
Next time, I won't miss.

MICHAEL BAY  
Why don't you just end it for me now!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 (feeling sympathy)  
 End it? You're just a child! You've  
 got your entire life ahead of you!

MICHAEL BAY  
 Life? My life ended when I killed  
 the only man who believed in me!

Michael breaks down. Steven puts him down slowly.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 There's so much pain...  
 (pointing at his heart)  
 Inside there.

MICHAEL BAY  
 Inside where? I'm empty.

Steven backs up and takes a big breathe.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 Let me tell you something, Michael.  
 You're full of talent. The way you  
 commanded the camera in that  
 surprise party video.  
 (beat)  
 I want to give you a once in a  
 lifetime opportunity.

Steven goes up to the desk and grabs the NEWS PAPER. He flips to the ARTS SECTION.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
 You see. The LA Film Academy has a  
 short film competition. And the  
 winner gets \$100,000.  
 (beat)  
 And we're going to win it.

Michael's eyes widen.

MICHAEL BAY  
 \$100,000?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 And it'll be ours if we work hard  
 enough.  
 (beat)  
 Our work starts in the morning. But  
 you're going to have to prove you  
 want it before I can fully commit  
 to you...

MICHAEL BAY

Wow... I don't even know what to say.

(beat)

Can I ask you something, Steven?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

(stern)

It's Mr. Spielburger!

MICHAEL BAY

Sorry, Mr. Spielburger.

(beat)

Why did you take me in? Knowing my past and all.

Steven looks over at the PICTURE OF HIM AND HIS GIRLFRIEND. He takes a long pause.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

We all deserve a second chance.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S CAR -- NEXT MORNING

Michael sits shotgun as Steven pulls up to a BANK. Steven pulls out two ski masks.

MICHAEL BAY

What are we doing at the bank? Are those ski masks? It's not even cold.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

This is your first film making training test. I'll explain in a sec.

EXT. BANK -- MOMENTS LATER

Steven and Michael stand outside of the bank. Under Steven's jacket we spot a gun. He looks nervous as hell.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

So to become a true master film-maker, you must know the role of your characters. That's why today we'll be playing two.

MICHAEL BAY

And what are their roles?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Bank robbers.

MICHAEL BAY  
Whoah cool! Inside this bank?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(sweating bullets)  
Yep! And you'll be playing the  
lead!

MICHAEL BAY  
(excited)  
I've never acted before!

We look inside the bank. It's a real bank with people inside and security.

Michael has no idea Steven is using him to rob a bank. HAHA!!

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
Are the tellers inside going to  
play along, too?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You bet! I already called them up  
and they know what we're about to  
do.  
(beat)  
But you can't break character.

MICHAEL BAY  
(his mood shifts dark)  
Will there be... any explosions?  
Fire?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
No... but there will be props!

MICHAEL BAY  
What are props?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Fake things to play pretend with.  
Here's your first one.

Steven looks around to make sure the coast is clear, then PULLS OUT A GUN, handing it to Michael.

MICHAEL BAY  
Wow. A prop gun!  
(takes it)  
It's pretty heavy.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Sure is. Now you see that security  
guard right there?

We see him standing just inside the door.

MICHAEL BAY

I see him.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

I want you to keep the prop gun  
pointed at him the entire time, and  
never keep your eyes off of him.  
Cool?

MICHAEL BAY

Cool! Ready!!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Ok, now put on this ski mask.

MICHAEL BAY

(putting it on)

Do I look like a real robber?!

(points the gun at Steven  
to play around)

Bang bang!

Steven dodges the gun.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

Why are you ducking? It's fake!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

You bet, kid!

(beat)

Now let's do this. Repeat  
everything I say in there.

INT. BANK -- CONTINUOUS

Steven and Michael barge into the front door, guns waving.  
HERE WE GO!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

This is a fucking hold up!

MICHAEL BAY

Yeah! A fucking hold up!

Everyone puts up their hands in complete fear as Michael  
smiles, thinking it's all set up.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(whispers to Michael Bay)  
The stage is yours.

MICHAEL BAY  
Give me all your money!

Michael Bay notices how scared the teller is.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
You're such a great actress. Really  
selling it.

TELLER  
What?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
The money. Load it up!

MICHAEL BAY  
(to the teller)  
Do you have any lollipops? The blue  
ones? I love those.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Stick to the script, Bay!

MICHAEL BAY  
Money! Give us the money!

TELLER  
Ok! ok!

The guard starts to reach for his gun.

MICHAEL BAY  
Should I shoot him?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Yes! I mean no!

MICHAEL BAY  
BANG BANG!

The gun goes off! The guard falls.

GUARD  
He shot me in the ass!

He starts to bleed out of his ass.

MICHAEL BAY  
Fake blood? Cool! Is it true what  
they say about fake blood, that it  
tastes sweet?

Michael goes and dips his finger into the blood and licks it.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
Tastes like pennies.

The teller hands over the money to Steven.

GUARD  
You're demented!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Let's go, kid!  
(beat)  
Yell cut.

MICHAEL BAY  
CUT! END SCENE!

Steven and Michael run out with a bag full of cash.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S CAR -- MOMENTS LATER

Steven and Michael speed off.

MICHAEL BAY  
I love acting! Do you think I did  
good?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Good? You did great!

MICHAEL BAY  
Hey, you know, Steven. You're a  
pretty great actor, too.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(a little surprised)  
Really? You think so?

MICHAEL BAY  
I know so.

This makes Steven emotional as a tear drips from his eye.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
My girlfriend told me that once,  
too...

Steven quickly shakes the emotions off his face.

MICHAEL BAY  
Can I meet your girlfriend soon,  
Mr. Spielburger?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
She's on vacation. She'll be back  
soon though.

MICHAEL BAY  
I can't wait.

INT. RUSSIAN MOBSTER CAR -- CONTINUOUS

Rustov and Igor sit in a car, they've watched the entire bank robbery unfold from across the street.

IGOR  
Jesus fuckin' Christ. We're dealin'  
with a real pro.

RUSTOV  
This motha fucka just robbed a bank  
—and shot a security guard point  
blank—in the ass—then licked his  
blood!

IGOR  
This kid ain't scared of shit. He  
was laughin' when he shot him. Like  
a maniac.

VLAD  
He's more dangerous than I  
thought... we need to tell Vlad.

A concerned look washes over Igor's face.

IGOR  
Boss isn't gonna like this once we  
tell him which bank he robbed...

INT. GRUNGY RESTAURANT KITCHEN -- LATER

Rustov and Igor walk in. Vlad is sitting there, sharpening his 3 foot-long knife—while naked.

VLAD  
So. Where did you dump his body?

IGOR

Sir, um--

VLAD

Don't sir me. Where's the body?

RUSTOV

He's more dangerous than we thought.

Igor has something to say, but he's scared.

VLAD

Spit it out.

IGOR

He robbed the... the, The Third National Trust Bank...

Vlad clenches his fist.

VLAD

I knew this was an inside job... That son of a bitch knew what he was doing. Thought he could take out the plane with Dimitri--then take our money—not on on my fucking watch!

Vlad takes his gun out and unloads it on a picture of Michael Bay hanging on the wall.

VLAD (CONT'D)

(to Vlad and Igor)

You take him out, or I'll take both of you out.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- THAT NIGHT

It's night time and Steven throws Michael a blanket and pillow as Michael sits on the couch.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

10pm. lights off, kid.

MICHAEL BAY

Aren't you forgetting something...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

What? You need a cig to fall asleep?

MICHAEL BAY  
 (a little confused)  
 Aren't you going to... read to me?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 Read to you? You're not a baby.

MICHAEL BAY  
 My dad used to read to me. Before  
 he was sent to prison. Never mind.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 No. No. I Can. Yeah, totally.

Steven looks around, he grabs the newspaper and flips to a page and begins to read the article.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (READING THE  
 PAPER) (CONT'D)  
 Mr. Anderson was arrested for  
 murdering his neighbor and wearing  
 his skin to the grocery store. He  
 later ate the skin and regurgitated  
 it, feeding it to his dogs.

Michael, scared, holds the sheets above his eyes.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (READING THE  
 PAPER) (CONT'D)  
 He's currently being held without  
 bond at the--

Steven realizes this probably isn't the best thing to read a 10-year old.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
 How about you just get some shut  
 eye. We've got an early morning.  
 Your next test is just hours  
 away...

Steven turns the lights out.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- EARLY NEXT MORNING

The sun isn't even up as Michael sleeps. That's when Steven begins to BANG POTS AND PANS over Michael.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 GET UP MICHAEL BAY! GET UP!

Michael springs up, surprised. He's soaked from the waste down.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
(noticing)  
Wait? Did you pee the bed?

MICHAEL BAY  
(like he's going to get  
hit)  
I'm sorry, I just... Please don't  
punish me.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
No worries, kid. I pee my bed  
almost every night!

MICHAEL BAY  
(relieved)  
Really?  
(Steven nods his head with  
a smile back)  
So what are we doing up so early?  
It's 5 a.m.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Yeah, ever heard of CALL TIME?! To  
be a great film-maker you need to  
be up early. THIS IS YOUR NEXT  
TEST!

MICHAEL BAY  
But I don't wanna--

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You don't wanna what?! Be the  
greatest film-maker to ever live?!  
(beat)  
Today I'm going to teach you about  
wardrobe.

MICHAEL BAY  
Wardrobe?

EXT. MACY'S DEPARTMENT STORE -- 15 MINUTES LATER

Steven and Michael stand outside of Macy's. It's clearly closed since it's only about 5:15 a.m.

MICHAEL BAY  
Why are we here? It's closed.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

They were supposed to be here to  
open it up for us. You can't count  
on people, that's for sure.

Steven then pulls out a CROW BAR from his backpack.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)

They told me to use this crow bar  
get the door open if they weren't  
here.

MICHAEL BAY

A crow bar?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Yeah. It's like a key, but heavier.

Steven pries the door with the crow bar.

MICHAEL BAY

You sure this is alright?

INT. MACY'S -- CONTINUOUS

Steven and Michael walk in, it's dark except a few security lights. They walk over to the suits section.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

(whispering)

Now. Wardrobe is everything when it  
comes to a blockbuster movie,  
Michael.

MICHAEL BAY

Why are you whispering?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

It's the morning. My voice isn't  
warm.

Michael nods in understanding.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)

You can have the hottest actor, the  
best set pieces, and the most  
expensive cameras, but if the  
outfits don't add up, you won't  
have a blockbuster, you'll have a  
wallet bruiser.

(beat)

(MORE)

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)

Now for our upcoming production  
that we'll film and submit for the  
contest, we'll be needing to pick  
out suits.

MICHAEL BAY

What will the production be about?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

You'll find out if you pass these  
first few tests.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

-They try on different suits. Steven makes a face in the mirror and Michael cracks a little smile.

-Steven begins to fit Michael, measuring him up.

-Michael looks at himself in the mirror with a suit on, and for the first time, joy fills his eyes.

-They go up to a mannequin as Steven teaches Michael how to beat it up. They both kick the mannequin mercilessly.

END MONTAGE.

They walk out the front entrance together holding suits—  
that's when the alarm sounds.

MICHAEL BAY

Is that the security alarm?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

No. That's just our cue it's time  
to go.

Steven begins to run.

MICHAEL BAY

Why are you running?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Exercise.

They both run out together.

EXT. BURGER KING -- A LITTLE LATER

Steven and Michael pull up and park outside the home of the FLAME-GRILLED Whopper: Burger King.

INT. BURGER KING -- MOMENTS LATER

Steven and Michael go up to the line and put in their order with the BURGER KING EMPLOYEE.

BURGER KING EMPLOYEE  
Welcome to Burger King. What can I get for you and your son?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Oh. He's not my son.

This hits Michael emotionally, we can see it on his face.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
What do you want, boy?

A weird, almost demonic look appears in Michael's eyes, like he's not even in his own head.

MICHAEL BAY  
(like a robot)  
Flame. Grilled.

Michael SPOTS THE GRILL behind the counter. He's transfixed on the flames.

Michael begins to walk behind the counter.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Where are you going? Michael?

Michael stands next to the fire and raises the flames all the way up with the nob.

THE FLAMES SHOOT OUT OF THE GRILL.

MICHAEL BAY  
(under his breath)  
I'm sorry I killed you, dad.

Steven jumps over the counter.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
MICHAEL NO!

Michael starts to move his head into the flames, HE'S GOING TO BURN HIMSELF ALIVE!

Steven dives at Michael, pushing him out of the way, but Steven's body lands on the grill!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

Michael snaps out of it.

MICHAEL BAY  
Mr. Spielburger!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
IT BURNS! GOD DAMNIT IT BURNS!

The scene is chaotic. Steven jumps off the grill and falls to the ground as people come rushing to his aid. His whole back has grill marks.

Michael steps back, in shock.

MICHAEL BAY  
(to himself)  
What have I done?!

EXT. HOSPITAL -- LATER

Michael walks out with an injured, but ok Steven.

MICHAEL BAY  
I'm really sorry.

Steven stops and takes a breath.

TIGHT ON MICHAEL'S HAND: He has a BOX OF MATCHES.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Give me. The matches.

Michael gives him a look like, "What matches?"

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Now.

TIGHT ON MICHAEL'S HAND: He takes ONE MATCH OUT.

Michael then reluctantly hands over the match box but puts the SINGLE MATCH INTO HIS POCKET.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Fire. Combustion. They take hold of  
you.  
(beat)  
The memories of you taking down  
that plane and killing your father,  
they're like grill marks on your  
soul.

Michael begins to shed a tear. He nods his head.

MICHAEL BAY  
And they'll always be there...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Let me tell you something, Michael—  
that I didn't think I was ready to  
tell you. When I was 9. I was on a  
road trip with my moms and dad.

MICHAEL BAY  
Moms?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Don't ask questions you don't want  
answers to.

Michael isn't sure what he means.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
It was 35 years ago. We were going  
down route 66 on a family road  
trip. My father was driving, and my  
two moms were on his lap. I was  
holding the map, relaying  
directions to my father.

Michael looks at him like, "Where's this going?"

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
My dad said "take the wheel" cause  
he's about to have a special moment  
with my moms.

Steven starts to get emotional.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
And I said "ok, dad." So he took  
his hands away, thinking mine were  
on—but they weren't. The car veered  
off the road and killed everyone.  
Except me.  
(beat)  
That's how I got this scare...

Steven lifts up his shirt to reveal his chest, the scare  
looks like a...

MICHAEL BAY  
Oh my god. Looks like a...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Penis. I know.  
(beat)  
(MORE)

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
But the point is: I killed my  
family, too.

MICHAEL BAY  
I didn't know... I'm so sorry Mr.  
Spielburger.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
I want you in my life, but you need  
to promise me you're going to fight  
every urge to light things on fire—  
including yourself.

MICHAEL BAY  
I promise.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Now let's go make a short film, and  
win that competition—and 100 grand—  
together.

FADE TO:

TITLE CARD: 10 DAYS FROM SHOOT DAY

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- CONTINUOUS

Steven and Michael Bay sit on the couch with note pads.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Now comes the hard part: writing  
the movie.

MICHAEL BAY  
What should it be about?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Well at the heart of every story is  
just that: a love story.  
(beat, super excited)  
Hey, before we get into it. I  
actually got you something.

Steven pulls something out behind his back: It's a  
TRANSFORMER TOY.

MICHAEL BAY  
Wow! A transformer toy!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Do you like it?!

MICHAEL BAY  
Does that say "Make a Wish  
foundation" on it?  
(beat)  
Did you take this from the  
hospital?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Of course not.

Clearly, Steven stole the Transformer toy from the hospital.

Michael takes the toy out and starts playing with it.

MICHAEL BAY  
Thanks...  
(a tear comes to his eye)

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You really like it, buddy. Don't  
you?

MICHAEL BAY  
It's just that, I haven't gotten a  
present in a while...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You deserve it, kid.

MICHAEL BAY  
I got you something, too. It's not  
much, but, it's all I could  
afford...

Michael pulls TWO STICKS OF GUM out of his pocket.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(pretending)  
Oh, gum. How thoughtful, bud.

They both POP IN THE GUM and start chewing.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
This is really good. What is this?  
Spearmint?

MICHAEL BAY  
Not sure. I bought it from the guy  
down the street.

Steven springs up, concerned.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
WHAT GUY?!

MICHAEL BAY

I think his name was Rico or something. He said it was "extra special gum."

(with a smile)

And it sure tastes like it.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Rico sold you this?!

Steven starts sweating.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)

Kid, there's ACID IN THIS GUM!

MICHAEL BAY

Acid?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

YES. LSD. ACID. Oh fuck oh fuck oh fuck.

MICHAEL BAY

Oops.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

(knowing full well it's too late)

What?!

MICHAEL BAY

I swallowed it. Is that bad?

Michael picks up his transformer toy, the acid begins to take effect for him and Steven.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

TRANSFORMERS! ROBOTS IN DISGUISE!

Steven and Michael's pupils widen to the size of the moon. SHIT IS ABOUT TO GET CRAZY!

BEGIN ACID TRIP:

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

I feel itchy.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Hey, do you hear that rumbling?

We hear a BIG RUMBLING near, then, people outside start screaming!

That's when a GIANT DECEPTICON TRANSFORMER RIPS THE ROOF OFF THE APARTMENT BUILDING!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Michael Bay—RUN FOR YOUR FUCKIN'  
LIFE!

Michael is in shock, so Steven grabs Michael and puts him over his shoulders like he's god damn Rambo!

MICHAEL BAY  
WHAT IS THAT THING?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
A DECEPTICON!

MICHAEL BAY  
WHAT'S A DECEPTICON?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
A KILLING MACHINE!

Steven throws Michael on his back and jumps out the front window. They land 20ft down on the lawn and take off running.

The decepticon spots them and gives chase, throwing cars and smashing buildings on the way.

Steven and Michael duck behind a car. They get spotted as the metal monster begins to sprint towards them.

MICHAEL BAY  
I DON'T WANT TO DIE!

Steven springs up to protect Michael.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
TAKE ME! NOT THE BOY!

Just then, the decepticon spots a fat dude across the street. It runs over, picks him up and pulls him apart like string cheese.

The man's guts fly all over Michael and Steven.

MICHAEL BAY  
(licking his lips)  
It tastes like blood and battery acid!

The decepticon spots them. It charges over.

DECEPTICON  
GET READY TO DIE!

MICHAEL BAY  
It's going to kill us!

Just at the decepticon is about to pick up Michael, AN ASTON MARTIN PULLS UP and we hear a man yell from inside!

MAN (O.C.)  
Get in, pussies!

IT'S SEAN CONNERY DRIVING! Steven and Michael jump in...

The decepticon SLAMS its metal hand down, barely missing the car but ripping apart the road.

INT. SEAN CONNERY'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

Sean Connery drives off with Steven and Michael inside. He looks suave as fuck.

SEAN CONNERY  
Not a good day to suck on the teet  
of a decepticon is it, boys?

MICHAEL BAY  
No sir!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Boy is it good to see you, Mr.  
Connery.

Michael looks behind him and sees that the decepticon is getting closer, like the scene from Jurassic Park when the t-rex is running after the Jeep.

MICHAEL BAY  
Faster Sean Connery! It's gaining  
on us!

Steven is still transfixed that it's Sean Connery.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(with tears)  
You're so beautiful.

SEAN CONNERY  
I know, boy. I'm Sean Connery.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Are we on an acid trip?!

SEAN CONNERY  
If you were on an acid trip, could  
I do this?!

Sean Connery then slams on the breaks, gets out of the car, PULLS OUT HIS 6 FOOT LONG PENIS, AND BEGINS TO PEE ON THE DECEPTICON!

SEAN CONNERY (CONT'D)  
Take this big Scottish dick,  
decepticon!

It's like a high-powered fire hose, shooting hundreds of feet into the air.

The decepticon begins to glitch, its electronics fry, and it falls to the ground.

MATCH CUT TO:

END ACID TRIP.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- CONTINUOUS

Steven falls through the glass table like the decepticon as Michael pees on him. They both come to at the same moment.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
What just happened?!

MICHAEL BAY  
I don't know!  
(grabs his head)  
My head hurts.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Dude. We were tripping hardcore.

MICHAEL BAY  
You saved me back there... You  
jumped in front of the decepticon  
for me. Thanks.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Don't get it twisted. That wasn't  
real. Just a trip.

MICHAEL BAY  
Right... Sorry.

Steven sees a complete mess in the kitchen, there's piss all over the floor.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You need to mop up your piss.  
(beat)  
(MORE)

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Take the bucket and mop over there.  
Put some bleach in a clean it up.

Michael goes over and fills up the mop bucket. He then mixes some bleach in.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
And whatever you do, don't mix--

Michael then goes to dump some AMMONIA in the bleach.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Michael, no!

Steven runs to try and stop it, but it's too late.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
HOLD IT!

MICHAEL BAY  
Hold what?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
YOUR BREATH!! HOLD IT!

SMASH CUT:

EXT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- LATER

They're standing outside below the window waiting for the place to air out.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Michael! Never, ever, mix bleach with ammonia. It creates a toxic gas that could kill you!

We see the windows all open in his apartment.

MICHAEL BAY  
Sorry. I didn't know.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Alright. It's safe. We can go up now.

FADE TO:

TITLE CARD: 2 HOURS LATER

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT

On a type writer, Steven finishes off the script and picks it up, Michael is still sitting there in a daze.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
And just like that, we have our  
screenplay.

MICHAEL BAY  
(amazed)  
What's it called?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
"The Proposal."

MICHAEL BAY  
Can I read?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Not yet.

MICHAEL BAY  
(a little confused)  
Ok...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
We need to assemble a film crew  
first.  
(beat)  
but I have something to tell you.

MICHAEL BAY  
What is it, Mr. Spielburger?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
I didn't think I was ready to tell  
you.  
(beat)  
As a matter of fact, I didn't think  
you were ready. But you've had so  
much growth since I got you.

Michael is dying to know.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
(holding the script)  
I want you to shoot and direct  
my... I mean, our short film that  
we'll submit to win the 100 grand.

MICHAEL BAY  
(taken back)  
You can't be serious?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

This will be your directorial and director of photography debut.

MICHAEL BAY

I. I don't know what to say.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

How about a "thank you?"

MICHAEL BAY

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart. For believing in me. For teaching me... especially when no one else would.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Now come on, we need to pick up a special prop for our movie.

EXT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- MOMENTS LATER

Steven and Michael jump in Steven's car.

INT. RUSSIAN MOBSTER CAR -- CONTINUOUS

Igor and Rustov watch them with a close eye. Igor cocks his gun.

RUSTOV

Remember. We can't kill him. The boss wants him alive.

IGOR

I want to shoot this little prick.

RUSTOV

He's dangerous. We need to be careful...

They see Steven and Michael jump into the car together.

IGOR

I'm not scared of no kid.

EXT. JEWELRY STORE -- LATER

Steven and Michael walk up to the jewelry store. Michael sees diamonds in the window.

MICHAEL BAY

Woah. Are we using those in our movie?

Steven gives him a look like, "you bet."

INT. JEWELRY STORE -- CONTINUOUS

Steven and Michael walk inside. There's a SALES WOMAN behind the counter, along with an armed security guard.

SALES WOMAN

How can I help you gentleman today?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

I need a ring--

MICHAEL BAY

(interrupting Steven, very proud of himself)

For a short film I'm directing called "The Proposal."

SALES WOMAN

Well isn't that cute.

(to Steven)

What's your budget, sir?

Steven reaches in his pocket for a bag, but it's not there.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Oh shoot. Michael take the keys and get a red bag in the glove compartment.

Steven throws Michael the keys.

MICHAEL BAY

Be right back.

EXT. JEWELRY STORE -- CONTINUOUS

Igor and Rustov spot Michael coming out, so they duck behind Steven's car.

Michael jumps into the passenger seat.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

Michael sits inside the car and opens the glove box. He finds the red bag. Then, he looks down at the keys and gets an idea.

MICHAEL BAY

(to himself)

I'll just start it for a second a  
turn it off.

Michael starts the car, then accidentally THROWS IT IN REVERSE.

EXT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

The car CRUSHES Igor and Rustov against another car, instantly KILLING them.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

Michael has no idea what he's just done, except he thinks he rear-ended the car.

He quickly pulls the car back up and shuts off the engine, running back inside the Jewelry store.

INT. JEWELRY STORE -- CONTINUOUS

Michael hands the bag to Steven.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Everything go alright out there?

MICHAEL BAY

Yep! It's not like I backed your car into another car or anything!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Alright good. That would be bad; that's my girlfriend's car.

(to the sales lady)

Let's get this ring.

EXT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- A LITTLE LATER

Steven and Michael get out of the car, that's when Steven notices something on the bumper.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Is that... blood?

He takes his finger and licks it.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
I must have hit a deer when I was  
drunk or something.

Michael is super confused that there would be blood on the back of the bumper. That's when they begin to walk inside.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
You passed your initial director  
training, Michael. But your final  
series of tests begin tomorrow.  
(beat)  
Get some rest tonight, you're going  
to need it.

Michael takes a big nervous gulp.

EXT. TOP OF HILL -- MORNING

We're at the top of the Sepulveda pass, right where the 405 runs into the valley.

MICHAEL BAY  
What are we doing up here?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
To be a great director, you need to know how to operate a camera. And the hardest thing about operating a camera is, can you guess?

MICHAEL BAY  
Pressing record?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Being steady. A shaky shot can ruin everything.

MICHAEL BAY  
What if you're filming an earth  
quake movie?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You're missing the point.

We see a cable that runs from one hill to the other, 500 feet off the ground with the 405 below.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)

This cable was installed 10 years ago by drug smugglers to get cocaine across the Santa Monica mountains and into Brentwood and into the nostrils of Robert De Niro.

MICHAEL BAY

How do you know?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Before I made it as a director, I worked for the smugglers. And I've been across this many times. It took the ultimate control. The ultimate steadfast mindset. I Had to be focused. Calculated. I contribute it to my success today, now...

(beat)

Well now it's your turn to cross it.

MICHAEL BAY

But. But I'll die.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Boy. Have you looked in the mirror? You're already dead. This will make you feel alive again!

MICHAEL BAY

No. I can't do it. I've never tight roped in my life!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

And I was never born until I was.

Steven pulls out a video camera.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)

You place this on your shoulder, you take a deep breath, and you go.

Michael Bay looks across, and imagines his father across the way.

MICHAEL BAY

Ok. I'll do it.

(to himself)

For you, dad. To make you proud.

He takes a deep breath, grabs the camera, mounts it on his shoulder, and steps on the rope.

Michael is in control. He's focused. He doesn't even look down.

Michael steps forward, then takes another, he's got this. He's over the edge—the only way is down, and the only way across is straight ahead.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You're doing it!

That's when THE ROPE SNAPS. Michael begins to free fall.

MICHAEL BAY  
AHHHHHHHHH!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
I GOT YOU!

Steven dives forward, reaching out and grabbing Michael's arm!

The camera falls, but it catches on a ledge below—but it's about to tip over.

The scene is reminiscent of Indiana Jones when Indiana's dad is holding on to Indiana's arm as he reaches for the holy grail but tells him to "let it go" so he can be saved—but the opposite.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
GRAB THE CAMERA!

MICHAEL BAY  
PULL ME UP!

UP CLOSE ON THEIR HANDS: They begin to slip.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
BUT WE NEED THE CAMERA!

Michael is about to plunge to his death!

MICHAEL BAY  
BUT I'M SLIPPING!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
WELL YOU HAVEN'T SLIPPED YET—SO  
GRAB IT!

Now Steven is just holding onto Michael by the finger.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
IF WE LOSE THAT CAMERA WE CAN'T  
FILM THE SHORT. AND IF WE CAN'T  
FILM THE SHORT OUR SHOT AT 100  
GRAND IS NO MORE!

Michael reaches with all of his might, grabs the camera, and Steven pulls him up.

They're both exhausted.

MICHAEL BAY  
I almost died.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
"Almost," Key word.  
(beat)  
Congrats. You passed the first  
test.

MICHAEL BAY  
Really?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You showed the ultimate dedication:  
and that's dedication. Now on to  
the next round of director  
training.

EXT. HOLLYWOOD BLVD -- DUSK

Steven and Michael stand there at the heart of Hollywood. It's a rough area for anyone, especially a young boy like Michael Bay.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
When filing a movie, the most  
important thing to capture is your  
subject. And if you want a shot  
that captivates your audience, you  
can't be afraid to get up close and  
personal.  
(beat)  
Mike, come on out.

A man named MIKE LOWREY emerges out of a storm drain. He's a little shaky, looks high, very on edge. The kind of dude you'd want on your side in a fight.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
This is Mike Lawry.

MICHAEL BAY

Who's that?

MIKE LOWREY

Who's that?! I could be your daddy  
and your mommy at the same time,  
punk ass!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Mike. Mike. It's fine, he's the kid  
I was telling you about.

Mike stands down.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)

(to Michael)

Your subject is Mike. And tonight,  
you'll follow him around and film  
him.

MICHAEL BAY

What am I going to film him doing?

MIKE LOWREY

Selling crack.

MICHAEL BAY

Crack? Like a butt crack?

MIKE LOWREY

Except this shit don't stink, son.  
Feel me?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Now you guys be safe, I'm going to  
go say hello to my girlfriend.

MICHAEL BAY

Oh. She's back from her trip?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Yeah!

(beat)

You two be safe. I'll pick you up  
in the morning Michael-right here.

Steven gets in his car and drives away, leaving just Mike and Michael.

MIKE LOWREY

You ever do time?

MICHAEL BAY

Time?

MIKE LOWREY  
Yeah. Like, locked up?

MICHAEL BAY  
I was grounded once.

MIKE LOWREY  
For what?

MICHAEL BAY  
I killed my dad and 150 other  
people with a kite.

MIKE LOWREY  
With a fucking kite?

MICHAEL BAY  
Yeah. One of the diamond ones.

MIKE LOWREY  
You're hard as hell. You can shoot  
me up anytime.

Michael points the camera on him.

MIKE LOWREY (CONT'D)  
No I mean I need you to shoot me up  
with some shit, my hands are shaky.  
You ever injected?

MICHAEL BAY  
Filled a donut with cream once.

MIKE LOWREY  
(with a big smile)  
Oh so you a nasty mother fucker for  
a young dude. Nice.  
(beat)  
If we're going to be rolling around  
tonight, we need a nickname for our  
little crew. Got any ideas?

MICHAEL BAY  
Hmmmmmmmmmm.

Michal think then spots a "MIDNIGHT MOTEL" sign.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
Maybe the "midnight boys?"

RICO  
That makes us sound like male  
escorts or somethin'. Anything  
else?

Michael spots a "Good Boys Pizza Co." sign.

MICHAEL BAY  
How about... Good boys?

MIKE LOWREY  
Too good.

MICHAEL BAY  
How about... Bad boys.

A big smile comes to Mile's face.

MIKE LOWREY  
Bad boys! Bad boys for life!  
(beat)  
Now let's roll!

A car rolls up and SHOOTS MIKE LOWREY in the chest. A man yells out the car.

MAN  
That's what happens when you sell  
crack to my 6th grade son!

The car drives off. Michael checks on Mike, who is dying.

MICHAEL BAY  
Mike, you're shot.

MIKE LOWREY  
I want you to... promise me  
something, Michael.

MICHAEL BAY  
Anything.

MIKE LOWREY  
That you'll keep our Bad Boy legacy  
alive.

MICHAEL BAY  
(a little tear comes to  
his eye)  
I promise. I'll name the main  
character after you in one of my  
movies.  
(beat)  
Bad Boys. Bad Boys for life, Mike  
Lowrey.

They lock hands. He begins to slip.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

Mike? You ok?  
(to himself)  
He's dead.

Michael has faced death before, this doesn't phase him. He gets up, but then spots something in Mike's pocket.

It's a BAGGIE OF COKE.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

(to himself)  
Sugar?

Michael takes the baggie out, opens it, and smells it.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

(to himself)  
It's sugar alright.

Michael downs the whole thing in his mouth. A few seconds go by, then...

HIS PUPILS SHARPEN. HIS HEART BEGINS TO THUMP. HIS MUSCLES TENSE.

Michael Bay picks up the camera, throws it on his shoulder, and heads out on to Hollywood Blvd.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

(screaming to the heavens)  
I'm going to be the greatest film-maker to ever live.

BEGIN COKE-FUELED FILMING MONTAGE:

-Michael spots a skate board, gets on, presses record on his camera, and rolls down the street.

-The wind flows in his hair, as he skates down, his movements are purposeful, like a gazelle.

-He walks into an abandoned building, inside, several men and women rave, Michael films them, focused on his subjects, never letting the lens stray away.

-Cut to Michael rolling up to a strip club. The bouncer lets him in after he slips him some "sugar." Michael's amazed by the bikini-clad women.

-He records the strippers with his camera, directing them, diving down and all around to get breathtaking shots.

-Michael emerges through the strip club, no longer a boy, but a man with a camera. A man with purpose. A man made to direct movies with bikini-clad women.

-The night ends. And the sun rises.

END COKE-FUELED FILMING MONTAGE.

FADE TO:

EXT. HOLLYWOOD BLVD -- NEXT MORNING

Steven pulls up to Michael, who has blood-shot eyes but a confident smile on his face.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Where's Mike?

MICHAEL BAY  
He sells crack to god, now.

Michael holds up the video camera tape.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
I made something.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- LATER

Michael sits on the couch, silent. Steven goes to plug in the footage to the TV and presses play.

He sits down. We see everything Michael filmed on Hollywood Blvd.

TIGHT ON STEVEN'S FACE: He's mesmerized. Tears well in his eyes. Then total happiness. Colors dance across his oily skin. What he's watching isn't just beautiful, it's magical.

Steven looks over to Michael.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You shot this?

MICHAEL BAY  
Every frame.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Lord have mercy on me. You're some kind of prodigy. Your work behind the camera, it's unlike anything I've ever seen before.

Michael gets up.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
You're amazing...

Michael looks out the window and spots something...

A wave of sadness washes over Michael.

MICHAEL BAY  
But why do I feel so, so... empty  
inside?

WE SEE OUTSIDE: a father and son playing catch with a football.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
What's wrong?

MICHAEL BAY  
(sad boy)  
It's nothing...

Steven gets up and looks out the window himself. He knows Michael is missing a father figure. He knows he needs to be that man.

INT. PUBLIC LIBRARY -- LATER

Steven is in the middle of a book aisle looking for a specific title.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(reading a title)  
"How to be a dad" here it is.

He opens the book and starts flipping pages.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Fishing. Ok.  
(flips some more pages)  
Model Rockets. Alright.

He closes the book and takes a deep breath.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
(inspired)  
I can do this.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- LATER

Steven walks in holding two fishing poles.

Michael is sitting there, looking out the window with a blank expression.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Hey, kiddo. Want to go fishing?

Michael turns around, looks at him, and lets out a smile, nodding his head "ok."

BEGIN BONDING MONTAGE:

*MUSIC: "YOU MAKE MY DREAMS COME TRUE." - Hall and Oats*

EXT. RIVER -- MORNING

We're tight on Steven and Michael. They're about to cast their poles into the river.

MICHAEL BAY  
What pond is this?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Pond? This is better than a pond.  
It's the LA river!

We reveal they're on a bridge by DOWNTOWN LA, fishing below into the dirty LA river.

MICHAEL BAY  
Are there even fish in here?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Of course. It's water.

Like father and son, Steven teaches Michael how to cast his pole.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
(a little unsure)  
Now what you want to do is, uh--

Michael notices Steven doesn't know how to fish.

MICHAEL BAY  
Here. Just grab your pole, press here, pull back, let go, and cast your line.

Steven and Michael cast their lines together.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(a little ashamed)  
You're pretty good at this.

MICHAEL BAY  
My dad used to take me before he  
was sent to prison...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Before my dad died, he was in  
prison, too. So I know what's it's  
like.

MICHAEL BAY  
What did he do?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
He was the janitor at the prison.  
That janitor suit and bucket at the  
place, it was his. I kept it after  
he died in the accident...

MICHAEL BAY  
Sorry.

Michael's fishing pole gets some tension.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
I think I've got something! It  
feels like a big one!

Michael begins to lose hold of the pole. Steven steps behind  
him.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
I got you!

They work together to reel it in. Michael looks up at Steven  
with a big smile.

MICHAEL BAY  
We're doing it!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Together!

Then, Michael looks down, his face turns from joyful to  
fearful in a split second.

MICHAEL BAY  
DID WE CATCH A BODY?!

We look down, Michael has HOOKED A DEAD BODY on the end of  
his fishing line!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Body?! It's a swimmer. See, he's moving.

Steven is trying to downplay it, knowing full well he's dead.

MICHAEL BAY

BUT HE HAS HOLES IN HIS HEAD!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Yeah, his ear holes!

MICHAEL BAY

No the ones in his forehead with blood coming out of them!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

(yelling down)

You can't be swimming here, dude!

(to Michael)

What's wrong with people?! How about we try something else?

EXT. PARK -- LATER ON

Steven and Michael are standing in front a model rocket. Steven holds the launch controller in his hand.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Some call it a model rocket, I call it the closest a common man will ever get to space.

MICHAEL BAY

Am I a common man, Mr. Spielburger?  
Will I ever go to space?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

I may never make it to space, but you will. In person, or in cinema.

MICHAEL BAY

Really?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

You can do anything. You'll just have to ask yourself why. Why do you want to go?

Michael is inspired like never before.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Let's lace up and launch this  
thing.

MICHAEL BAY  
Lace up?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You have a loose tooth right? I  
read it in your foster care file.  
And it just so happens I have a  
loose tooth as well.

(beat)  
Don't do meth.

MICHAEL BAY  
What?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
I said you gotta remember to floss.

Steven pulls out some thin string.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
We're going to tie one end to the  
rocket, and the other end to our  
teeth.

Michael takes a nervous gulp.

Steven ties the string around his tooth, and then Michael's  
tooth. He then hands the controller to Michael.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Ready?

MICHAEL BAY  
I feel nervous.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
To feel is to be alive.  
(beat)  
Here, we'll do it together.

They both hold the launcher and press their hand on the  
"launch" button.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
3, 2--

MICHAEL BAY  
Wait!

Steven looks at him like, "What?"

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
(with admiration)  
Thanks. Thanks for everything.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(with a smile)  
Launch!

SUPER SLOW MO: The rocket lifts off, taking to the sky with incredible speed.

Michael and Steven look up in awe. The string begins to unwind, then, grips their teeth.

Their teeth come out, blood squirts everywhere, but the two couldn't be happier.

They both jump up and down. Michael gets on Steven's shoulders.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
You did it!

MICHAEL BAY  
We did it!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(gets a little emotional)  
We. That's right. We're a team!

Steven pulls out a polaroid camera and snaps a picture of them and puts it into his pocket.

They walk off into the sunset, both missing teeth, but smiling ear to ear.

INT. GRUNGY RESTAURANT KITCHEN -- NIGHT

We see the Russian mob standing before Vlad.

VLAD  
Has anyone heard from Rustov and Igor? It's been two days.

We see THE NEWS on TV, a BREAKING REPORT comes on.

NEWS BROADCASTER (ON TV)  
Police are still looking into answers in a case that happened in West Covina yesterday. Two men were found with their heads caved in on the street in front of a jewelry store.

We see blurred out footage of the bodies in front of the jewelry store.

NEWS BROADCASTER (CONT'D)  
 Police are asking for anyone with  
 information to come forward to  
 police.

Vlad rises from his chair, pulls out his gun, and lets out a scream.

VLAD  
 SON OF A BITCH!!!

BAM! BAM! BAM! He shoots the TV over and over again.

VLAD (CONT'D)  
 First, he kills my father, now, he  
 bashes in the head's of Igor and  
 Rustov?!

Vlad goes to a phone and dials a number.

VLAD (ON THE PHONE) (CONT'D)  
 Call in the reinforcements...

FADE TO:

TITLE CARD: 1 DAY BEFORE THE SHOOT

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- MORNING

Steven and Michael are sitting across from each other on the couch.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 Ok. We shoot in one day. Which  
 means we're one day closer to the  
 \$100,000 prize.  
 (beat)  
 But we need a crew for the short  
 film. Union guys. We need a gaffer  
 and an assistant camera man,  
 someone to hold B camera.

MICHAEL BAY  
 What's the B camera?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 A camera only losers hold. You're  
 not a loser.

MICHAEL BAY

Where are we going to find our  
crew?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

The old fashion way: drive around  
and look.

MICHAEL BAY

Are you going to tell me what we're  
shooting yet?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

You'll find out the night of. It's  
part of your training to keep you  
on your toes.

MICHAEL BAY

Ok...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Trust me, ok?

MICHAEL BAY

(with full confidence)

I trust you.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S CAR -- A LITTLE LATER

Steven and Michael are driving around, looking for film crew  
members.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Alright, keep an eye out. We need  
to find two people that are good at  
standing up for long periods of  
time and can hold things up.

They're driving along.

MICHAEL BAY

Oh hey. What about those people?

The car slows down as we hear a woman yell.

WOMAN (O.C.)

GOD CAN'T SAVE SINNERS!

We see a group of protesters. They hold signs that say  
everything from "THE DEVIL IS INSIDE YOU." to "IF YOU'RE A  
SINNER YOU'LL BURN IN HELL."

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Good eye! They're standing AND  
holding signs!

(beat)

Let's stop and see if any of them  
are interested.

They pull up and yell out the window.

MICHAEL BAY

Do any of you fine ladies or  
gentleman want to be involved in a  
film I'm directing and shooting  
tomorrow night?

Then, a woman walks forward, her name is KAREN. She has crazy eyes.

KAREN

Have you sinned?

MICHAEL BAY

I don't think so?

KAREN

You'd know if you did. What's the  
movie about?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Let's just say it's about two  
people, the love they share, and  
their bond to Jesus Christ.

Then, another man walks up, ROD, Karen's god-loving husband.

ROD

Are these believers, honey?

KAREN

Yes, and they want to spread god's  
word through film.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Just need one of you to operate the  
B camera and another to hold the  
mic up. We shoot tomorrow night.  
I'll pick you guys up right here.

KAREN

(looking up in the sky)  
There won't be much time to film  
the movie, so we better hurry...

MICHAEL BAY

Why? Is something going to happen?

KAREN

An Armageddon is coming...

MICHAEL BAY

An Armageddon?

KAREN

Yes, my boy. To punish the sinners.

MICHAEL BAY

What will happen to... the sinners?

KAREN

A fire ball will fall from the sky.  
And take out the entire human race.

MICHAEL BAY

But how do we stop it?

KAREN

Only the bravest can. The one's who  
believe. Do you believe?

MICHAEL BAY

Yes. I believe. And don't worry. I  
will stop it. I know I have what it  
takes.

KAREN

God bless you.

ROD

You're a true child of god.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Alright, see you guys tomorrow  
night.

ROD

BYOB.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

It's a sober production.

ROD

Bring your own bible.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Right.

Steven and Michael drive off.

MICHAEL BAY  
They were nice.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- MORNING

The sun shines through the window, hitting Michael's eyes, waking him.

He holds a camera in his grasp, like someone he loves. Michael's eyes open, we see Steven sitting across from him.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
When I took you in not so long ago,  
I didn't think we'd make it past  
the first day. Frankly I thought  
you were so obsessed with fire, you  
would burn this complex down.

Michael looks at him with admiration.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
I'm so proud of what you've become.  
Now, tonight you can put your  
training to work.

Steven holds up the LA FILM ACADEMY SHORT FILM CONTENT AD.

MICHAEL BAY  
Let's win it.

BEGIN GETTING READY MONTAGE:

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- LATER

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
First things first: Let's gear up.

-Steven and Michael roll up some new camera film and load it on to the camera.

-Steven takes a broom stick, and attaches a mic at the end up with duct tape to make a mic boom.

-Michael begins to practice shots, diving, ducking, weaving up and down, etc.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Time to suit up.

-Michael and Steven both shave their faces next to each other. Michael looks up at Steven for guidance.

-They both grab the Macy's suits and put them on.

-MICHAEL GRABS THE SINGLE MATCH FROM HIS PANTS AND PUTS IT INTO HIS SUIT POCKET, unnoticed.

-We see Steven grab the ring and put it into his pocket. He looks nervous.

END MONTAGE.

EXT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION -- CONTINUOUS

We see Vlad and several dozens of Russian mobsters standing in front of him.

VLAD

Gentlemen, thank you for coming.  
(beat)

We are dealing with a mad man. Some say he's an 10-year old boy, but this is no boy. He's a trained killer. He's responsible for the deaths of over 180 people—and counting.

One big ass Russian dude steps forward.

RUSSIAN DUDE

I'll rip his fuckin' head off.

VLAD

Two of our men already tried that and he bashed their skulls in...

Vlad walks over to a few wooden crates.

VLAD (CONT'D)

So we're bringing the fire power to take him out-tonight.

(beat)

But remember: I want him alive, so I can teach him some manners myself.

Vlad opens the crates, we see ROCKET LAUNCHERS, GRENADES, GUNS, TNT, AND MORE.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

-We see a dozen targets lined up with Michael Bay's face on them 50 yards in front of the Russian mobsters.

-The mobsters target practice on Michael, firing rocket launchers. Unloading thousands of rounds of bullets. Detonating explosions.

VLAD  
(looking on)  
Tonight, you die, Michael Bay.

END MONTAGE.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S CAR -- NIGHT FALL

Steven and Michael are driving along, both in suites. Steven is holding some flowers on his lap.

Michael is reading the script.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
So, what do you think?

MICHAEL BAY  
Steven. This love story is  
beautiful.

Steven is sweating bullets and doesn't answer.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
Mr. Spielburger, you alright?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
I'm good. Just some pre-filming  
jitters.

MICHAEL BAY  
Don't worry. I'm a little too. I've  
never directed a movie before.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Michael. As you just read in the  
script, I'll be staring in the  
short film today. Along with  
another woman, who will be playing  
opposite of me. She already knows  
we're coming and is ready to begin  
filming.

A little confused, Michael nods.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
If she seems a little surprised,  
don't worry. She's just going to be  
method acting. Ok?

MICHAEL BAY

Got it.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Don't forget your training. Can you tell me what it is?

MICHAEL BAY

Don't be afraid to get close to your subject. Keep the camera steady. Know your characters. Be ready for anything.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Good. Good boy.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S CAR -- MINUTES LATER

They pick up Karen and Rod as they hop in the car with Steven and Michael.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Thanks for helping out, guys.

ROD

(to Steven, looking around)

Where's your bible?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

I forgot it... oops.

ROD

(handing him a bible)

Don't worry. I brought you one.

Steven puts it in his left-side chest coat pocket.

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S CAR -- A FEW MINUTES LATER

They pull up to a row of modest houses and stop. Steven takes a big breath as he looks at the one in the middle.

MICHAEL BAY

Is this where we're shooting?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

And our actress is right inside that house.

MICHAEL BAY  
Is she going to come out and say  
hello?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
I already spoke to her. She's ready  
inside.

MICHAEL BAY  
Got it.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Everyone ready?

Michael, Rod, and Karen nod "yes."

EXT. HOME -- CONTINUOUS

They all get out. Michael holds the camera on his shoulder and has the script.

Steven straightens out his tie and holds some flowers.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(to Michael)  
Keep the camera pointed right me.  
(to Rod)  
Keep the mic right above my head.  
(to Karen)  
Keep god on my side.

Steven then looks to Michael.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Michael. Can you open the script up and just refresh me on the beginning screen direction? From there, I know my lines, you just shoot it all as beautifully as you can.

MICHAEL BAY  
Got it.  
(open scripts)  
Ok, so we see the exterior or a beautiful girls house at Dawn.  
(beat)  
We see a handsome man named Steven.  
He holds flowers. He walks up to the door, nervous, but ready.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(proud of himself)  
That's me. Alright. Let's do this.  
(beat)  
Now I need you to say the word.

MICHAEL BAY  
The word?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
What every director dreams of  
saying.

Michael thinks for a second, then has a light bulb moment.

Michael closes his eyes and takes a big breath. He opens his eyes, then prepares to let it out...

MICHAEL BAY  
ACTION!

Michael starts rolling. He shoots heroic shots of Steven walking up to the door.

He twists and turns and gets low angles—it's epic.

Steven then goes to knock at the door, but before he does, he takes a big breath

That's when we hear some shuffling inside.

The door opens, A WOMAN stands there, shocked.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Hello, my dear.

The woman is DARCY, Steven's girlfriend we've seen in pictures at his apartment!

DARCY  
What the fuck are you doing here  
Steven?!

Michael looks stunned.

MICHAEL BAY  
(double checking the  
script)  
Wait, uh. That's not your line.

Steven goes to put his finger over Darcy's lips, but she steps back.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

(to Michael)

Keep shooting.

(to Darcy)

Darcy. I've always loved you. And I know I haven't always been honest.

DARCY

You really want to talk about honesty? How about how you told me you were a real director, Steven?!

Michael is confused as all hell. It's becoming clear Darcy is not in on this.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

I am!

DARCY

You're a porn director!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

I was a porn director! WAS! And I didn't lie!

DARCY

How about the woman you fucked on set!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

She came on to me!

DARCY

She was the set janitor, Steven! At least you could have fucked a porn star!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Listen, I'm sorry. I thought we got over that.

Michael is watching all of this unfold with his jaw dropped.

DARCY

And we did. But then what about my neighbor?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Debby? That happened when me and you were on a break!

DARCY

A break?! Just because I had to go  
to my aunt's funeral in Kansas  
doesn't mean we were on a break!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Well she came on to me!

DARCY

How?! She's 80 and uses a walker!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

I was drunk and apologized.

Darcy steps back.

DARCY

(has has enough)

Steven what are you even doing  
here...

MICHAEL BAY

(confused as hell)

None of this is in the script?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

(to Michael)

Michael, skip to page 3 line 5.

Michael flips a couple of pages.

MICHAEL BAY

(looking at the lines)

The part where you drop to one--?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

(cutting him off)

Darcy. I want to prove to you I'm  
committed. That I've changed. And  
that I love you.

Steven pulls out a ring from his pocket, dropping to one  
knee.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)

Darcy Williams. Will you marry me?

DARCY

Fuck no! And how did you even  
afford this?! You're broke!

(beat)

Get off my property before I shoot  
you.

MICHAEL BAY  
(to Darcy)  
Sorry, but, your line is "I do."

DARCY  
Who the fuck is this kid?!

MICHAEL BAY  
I'm the director.

DARCY  
Director of what?! Sucking  
assholes?! Turn that camera off!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
But Darcy! I have a kid now!

DARCY  
What?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
His name is Michael. See, I'm  
taking responsibility! I'm finally  
taking some initiative!

(beat)  
And we're going to win \$100,000 so  
I can finally buy you that bungalow  
we always talked about!

DARCY  
100 grand?! How?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
By making a short film! And this is  
the film!

DARCY  
Well you didn't think this through,  
did you—like everything else in  
your life.

(beat)  
You know what, this is over. It's  
been over, and it's still over.

(noticing her car)  
And is that my car you stole?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Borrowed for an extended period of  
time!

DARCY  
Keys!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(handing her the keys)  
But, but--

SLAM! The door shuts. Michael still doesn't understand what's going on.

MICHAEL BAY  
I think she went off script.

EXT. MAIN ST -- A SHORT TIME LATER

Steven and Michael are on a street with shops and stores. Steven looks bummed and Michael wants answers.

MICHAEL BAY  
What's going on, Mr. Spielburger?  
Was she method acting as someone  
not wanting to marry you?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Not quite...

MICHAEL BAY  
I'm new to this so I don't know.  
What happened?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
It's over kid.

MICHAEL BAY  
What's over?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
The directing. The dream. The shot  
at 100k. I'm done. I'm a lousy  
director. And a lousy boyfriend. I  
always have been and nothing will  
change.

Michael is still confused.

MICHAEL BAY  
I, I don't understand.

They stop in front of a store with a bunch of TVs in the window. THE NEWSCAST IS ON.

NEWS BROADCASTER (ON TV)  
NEW TONIGHT! The police are calling  
them the "FATHER AND SON BANDITS"  
seen here last week robbing a bank.  
(MORE)

NEWS BROADCASTER (ON TV) (CONT'D)  
And now they're suspected of  
robbing a Macy's, too.

Grainy surveillance footage appears: IT'S STEVEN AND MICHAEL ROBBING THE BANK.

Michael is at first confused, then it dawns on him.

MICHAEL BAY  
No. It can't be. You didn't.

Michael backs up slowly, realizing that Steven has been using him.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
It's not what it looks like.

MICHAEL BAY  
You used me.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
What are you talking about? We were training, everyone was in on it!

MICHAEL BAY  
You used me to help you rob a bank so you could buy your girlfriend a ring! And then you thought you could use my skills to win the film competition by shooting a short film with you proposing to her—that's not even a good idea! All of this was a set up!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
WHAT? NO!

MICHAEL BAY  
We ROBBED the Macy's to buy suits for this!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Michael! Let me explain!

MICHAEL BAY  
Your girlfriend doesn't even want you. I DON'T EVEN WANT YOU!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Michael, listen. Let me explain!

MICHAEL BAY  
Did you use me, Mr. Spielburger?!  
Did you?!

Steven drops to his knees.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 Listen! At first, yes, but I didn't  
 know we'd bond, that we'd connect.  
 Like, like... like father and son.

MICHAEL BAY  
 You'll never be my father! My  
 father is dead!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 I screwed up!

MICHAEL BAY  
 You never even cared for me. You  
 used me like a used car.  
 (beat)  
 Like a used condom...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 Come on don't say that. That's low.

MICHAEL BAY  
 You can't go much lower than you...  
 No one cares about me... I was  
 wrong.

Then, A black SUV ROLLS UP.

BAM! BAM! Two shots, Steven is hit in the chest by gun fire!

TWO MEN get out and KIDNAP Michael.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
 (to the guys)  
 Get off me!  
 (yelling)  
 Help! Someone help!

Then men yell back in Russian.

Steven is on the ground, in pain after being shot in the  
 chest twice.

The two men load Michael in the SUV and drive off. Steven  
 looks around, he gets a good eye on the license plate.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 (reading the license  
 plate)  
 H.R.K.1.9.6.9.

Steven pulls the bible out of his suit pocket—IT STOPPED THE BULLETS.

Steven is alive, but helpless.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
(reaching out)  
Michael. Michael no!!!!!!

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- LATER

Steven walks in, a beaten down man.

He walks over and sees Michael's jacket. He picks it up and holds it tight.

Then, he spots the polaroid picture they took at the model rocket launch.

A single tear comes to his eyes, then...

Something comes over Steven. He completely loses it. He starts punching the walls, ripping down posters.

A SECRET DOOR is revealed behind one of the posters.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(to himself)  
You promised yourself you'd never  
go back...

There's a lock on the door.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
(to himself)  
I have to save him...

Steven opens the door.

INT. SECRET CLOSET -- CONTINUOUS

It's dark. Steven turns on the light.

We reveal a wall of guns. AK 47s. Grenades. Rocket launchers. Body armor.

It's like John Wick's gun locker on steroids. Steven loads up.

INT. WAREHOUSE -- LATER

Michael is strapped to a chair. In a daze, he begins to come to consciousness.

Vlad stands in front of him.

MICHAEL BAY  
Who are you? What do you want from me?

VLAD  
What I want, you took...

Michael looks at him confused.

VLAD (CONT'D)  
When you downed the jetliner. You killed my father.  
(beat)  
We know it was an inside job to get to our stash...

MICHAEL BAY  
My piggy bank had plenty of money.

Michael looks ahead of him, several dozen men stand there holding guns and rocket launchers.

VLAD  
Fuck you and your piggy bank.  
(beat)  
Where's the money you stole?!

MICHAEL BAY  
It's gone.

VLAD  
Gone?

MICHAEL BAY  
Spent it on a diamond for some chick.  
(beat)  
Now let me go.

Vlad clenches up his fists, he's fucking pissed.

INT. HALLWAY -- UNDISCLOSED

A man is walking down the hall, but we only see his legs. He pushes along a MOP BUCKET.

He makes his way down, calmly mopping and whistling as he goes.

INT. WAREHOUSE -- MOMENTS LATER

Vlad is face-to-face with Michael, interrogating him.

VLAD

Ready to talk? Who put you up to this?!

(nothing from Michael)

WHO?!

MICHAEL BAY

You don't know what I've been through.

VLAD

You think you're a tough guy? Have you ever been shot in the knee close range by an AK-47?

MICHAEL BAY

I bet it's more enjoyable than talking to you.

VLAD

What the fuck is wrong with you, kid?!

(beat)

Grown men who have sat where you are would have already pissed their pants and cried for mommy.

MICHAEL BAY

I'll fuck your mommy, bitch.

Michael then spits in Vlad's face.

INT. HALLWAY -- UNDISCLOSED

The same man is walking down the hallway, pushing along his mop bucket, mopping the floor.

The man takes a deep breath.

Then, he throws on some headphones as we hear the RUSSIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM begin to play.

INT. WAREHOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

Michael sits strapped into the chair. A big ass Russian dude with a glock points it at Michael Bay's forehead. Vlad stands behind.

RUSSIAN DUDE  
Ever looked down the barrel of a  
gun before?

MICHAEL BAY  
Nope. But I've stared down the  
barrel of your bitch before.

VLAD  
That's enough! I'm going to finish  
him off myself.  
(grabs the gun, points it  
at Michael)  
Any last words?

Michael mutters something, but we can't hear.

VLAD (CONT'D)  
Speak up!

He utters again.

MICHAEL BAY  
EAT ASS!

Vlad cocks the gun, ready to shoot.

Michael is looking down the barrel of a gun. A 10-year old kid, who has seen so much.

MICHAEL'S LIFE FLASHING BEFORE HIS EYES:

- The jetliner falls from the sky.
- A giant decepticon almost running them down.
- The good times with Steven catching a body while fishing.
- All the training he did as a director
- Strippers dancing from side to side

END HIS LIFE FLASHING BEFORE HIS EYES.

Michael sits in the chair. He's content with dying.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
 Before you shoot, where will I go  
 when I die?

VLAD  
 Where you belong: hell.

MICHAEL BAY  
 Hell burns. I'll feel at home.  
 (beat)  
 Now shoot me.

Vlad begins to pull back on the trigger. When...

THE SOUNDS OF A MOP ON THE FLOOR. SWOOSH. SWOOSH. SWOOSH.

VLAD  
 (turning around)  
 What the fuck?

We see a JANITOR mopping the floor in the warehouse.

VLAD (CONT'D)  
 Yo, Janitor! Fuck u doin?!  
 (to his cronies)  
 Who forgot to tell the cleaning  
 crew not to come tonight?!

CLOSE UP: On the janitor.

We see him UNSCREWING a cap on an AMMONIA bottle.

He then turns around—IT'S STEVEN SPIELBURGER dressed as a janitor!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 MICHAEL! HOLD IT!

Michael takes a big breath in and holds it.

Steven dumps the ammonia into the mop bucket, which is full of bleach.

Steven KICKS the mop bucket towards the Russian mobsters.

TOXIC FUMES fill the air and immediately render them incapacitated.

Vlad scoops up Michael and runs through a door!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
 Michael!

Steven gives chase, Vlad fires a shot, it strikes Steven in the shoulder.

He goes down. Looking at the wound, he rips his shirt off, wrapping it around his arm to stop the bleeding, continuing the chase.

INT. WAREHOUSE STAIRWAY -- MOMENTS LATER

Steven enters, then, he gets whacked across the face with a crow bar.

He goes down as we see Vlad carrying Michael up the stairs.

Steven is bleeding, but wipes the blood across his face like war paint.

EXT. ROOF OF WAREHOUSE -- MOMENTS LATER

Steven emerges. He pulls a gun from his waistband.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Let the boy go, Vlad!

Vlad emerges with a gun to Michael's head.

VLAD  
(to Steven)  
So now you show up, Mika?!

Michael thinks to himself, "who is Mika?"

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
This isn't worth it, Vlad. You've  
done enough harm to our family, now  
don't take away the only son I  
never had...

MICHAEL BAY  
Mika?! Who is Mika?! That's Steven!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(with a Russian accent)  
Michael, I'm not who I appear to  
be...

Steven suddenly has a Russian accent.

MICHAEL BAY  
Why are you speaking funny?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

I'm a-was-a Russian spy, Michael.  
Defected 3 years. Now I work as a  
janitor at the local middle school.

MICHAEL BAY

I don't understand.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

It was my old life Michael. I came  
to the U.S. as a spy, but then I  
fell in love with this great  
country. I had my first burger.  
Then I saw Jaws in theaters and  
everything changed. Hence my name,  
Steven SPIEL-BURGER. Fucking love  
that director-and burgers...

(beat, from the heart)

Michael, I care about you.

VLAD

You want to help this kid?! He  
killed our father!

MICHAEL BAY

(disbelief)

Your... dad was on that plane?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

He was...

MICHAEL BAY

You lied. You said your dad died in  
a car crash.

Steven thinks for a second.

He's pointing his gun at Vlad, but then something happens.

He points his gun at Michael.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

(in disbelief)

What are you doing?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

You did... You killed my father.  
YOU KILLED MY FATHER. MY BLOOD!

Steven turns on Michael! Vlad lets his grasp on Michael go.

VLAD

(with a smile to Steven)

Kill him, brother.

Just as we think Steven is going to kill Michael, he...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
RUN MICHAEL!

Steven then tackles Vlad to the ground.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
I'LL NEVER KILL THAT BOY! I LOVE  
HIM!

Steven throws a punch and connects with Vlad's right-side jaw, but he takes it like Tyson.

Vlad flips Steven over his body. Performing a kick up, turning 180, and then kicking Steven in the head to gain the advantage.

Michael stands stunned, not knowing what to do.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
MICHAEL RUN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!  
GET OUT OF HERE!! HE'LL KILL ME!  
THEN HE'LL KILL YOU!

Michael looks on, he begins to remember all the special moments between him and Steven:

-Him and Steven launching the rocket, fishing and pulling up a body, and tripping on acid together.

Michael snaps out of it. He reaches deep into his left pocket, then his right.

HE FINDS THE SINGLE MATCH!

He looks around and SPOTS AN AEROSOL BOTTLE.

We focus back on Vlad and Steven: Vlad is on top of Steven, taking swings to his face.

VLAD  
You betrayed our family and  
country!

Vlad lands a knee right on Steven's chin.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
I didn't want to kill for a living!  
I had no choice!

Steven tries to get up, but he's no match for Vlad's muscles.

## VLAD

You made your choice—and now you must pay for it.

## STEVEN SPIELBURGER

If you're going to kill me, at least let the boy live.

## VLAD

He's next.

Vlad is about to land a devastating blow to Steven, when...

MICHAEL BAY

No. You are, mother fucker.

Bay lights the match, holds it front of the can, and lets it rip, creating a FLAME THROWER!

Vlad is now engulfed in flames. He runs around like a mad man.

VI. AD

MICHAEL BAY

It burns, just like the clap,  
bitch.

He begins to run at Michael. Michael freezes.

That's when Steven jumps up and DROP KICKS Vlad right off the side of the roof.

He falls 20ft below on top of a car. Steven grabs Michael's shoulder and ushers him off.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Come on, kid.

EXT. STREET -- MINUTES LATER

Michael is still giving Steven the cold shoulder—he hasn't fully forgiven him yet.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Listen, Michael, I'm--

Michael notices something.

MICHAEL BAY

We see VLAD IS GONE! His body is no longer on top of the car.

VLAD (O.C.)  
picka-boo.

Steven turns around and gets head-butted by Vlad, who is battered, but ready for more blood!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You just won't die, will you.  
(to Michael)  
Grab the camera Michael—and the rocket launcher in that car!

Michael GRAB THE VIDEO CAMERA and then the rocket launcher out of Steven's stolen car.

Steven and Vlad engage in hand-to-hand combat. Steven throws a punch, Vlad grabs his arm and twists him around, karate chopping his throat.

Steven kicks Vlad's legs out from under him, buying him a few seconds.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Rocket launcher—now!

Michael THROWS Steven the rocket launcher.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
FILM, MICHAEL. DO YOU HEAR ME?!  
FILM WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!

MICHAEL MOUNTS THE CAMERA ON HIS SHOULDER and begins filming everything from this point on.

Steven takes aim at Vlad with the rocket launcher, and then FIRES!

In slow-mo, Michael goes right in front of the rocket's path.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
DUUUUUUCCKKKKK!

The rocket flies at Michael, as he points his camera right at its trajectory.

The rocket is inches from hitting him, then he does the limbo as the the rocket flies above his camera lens. THE SHOT IS GLORIOUS.

Just as the rocket is about to hit Vlad, he PICKS UP A SEWER COVER and deflects the rocket.

It ricochets right off, straight towards...

A GAS TRUCK with 50,000 pounds of JET FUEL!

It hits it and THE TANKER EXPLODE, sending a 500 foot fireball shooting towards the sky!

Michael Bay shoots the shot like a pro, never standing down. Fire engulfs the city block.

A smile comes to Michael's face—he's in his element. Film. Fire. YES.

MICHAEL BAY  
YEAH!!!!

Steven's face lights up as Michael shoots him up close. It's god damn beautiful.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Suns out.

Vlad faces down Steven, ready for more. Michael films the interaction.

VLAD  
You're going to need more than that to kill me!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Give it up, Vlad! I don't want to do this!

VLAD  
What?! You don't have what it takes to kill your own brother?!  
(beat)  
Well I do!

Vlad, PULLS OUT A GRENADE and throws it at Steven. Steven KICKS it under a car.

The blast goes off, a SHOCK WAVE flings them both ON TOP OF A MOVING BUS. Michael is right there to catch the perfect shot.

Michael then spots a moving delivery truck and jumps on the back, climbing to the top.

It drives next to the bus as Michael lines up his shot and catches Steven and Vlad in a fight.

Vlad upper cuts Steven as Steven flies up in the air. Steven lands and shakes it off. Michael notices the bus is about to go into a tunnel where there's not enough head clearance.

They must jump on the delivery truck so their head's don't get decapitated!

MICHAEL BAY  
STEVEN! TUNNEL!

Vlad and Steven jump to the delivery truck just in the nick of time.

Steven throws a jab at Vlad and gets a piece of him. Then picks him up and SLAMS HIM DOWN.

INT. BACK OF DELIVERY TRUCK -- CONTINUOUS

All three fall in the back of the truck after Steven slams down Vlad with such force they break through the roof.

Vlad pulls a knife from his ankle. He runs at Steven as he picks up a package to block the knife, Michael shoots it all.

VLAD  
Nice package.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Always was bigger than yours.

The delivery truck gasses it as the men FLY OUT OF THE BACK and on to a CAR'S WINDSHIELD.

Michael, still in the delivery truck, spots a dolly in the back with wheels.

He jumps on and out of the delivery truck and rides the wheeled dolly, holding on to the side of the truck as Steven and Vlad fight on the windshield.

He captures epic action shots with his camera still rock steady on his shoulder.

The car swerves and impacts a guard rail.

Steven and Vlad go flying into a WINDOW WASHER on a skyscraper. Michael jumps off the dolly and heads towards the two.

On the window washer, Vlad shoves Steven back and into the controller, sending the window washer straight up.

Michael runs and jumps on, holding on to the bottom with one arm as he uses the other to shoot. The shot is unbelievable, pointing down-up through the metal grates.

The window washer rises story after story as they go over the city. They're now over 700 ft up!

INT. SKYSCRAPER -- CONTINUOUS

A business meeting is taking place. One woman is presenting a report to her team.

WOMAN

So the numbers show we are on trajectory to hit our quarterly goal.

That's when the window washer goes by. Steven and Vlad are fighting, dripping in blood.

A 10-year old boy, Michael Bay, is dangling from the bottom, one arm holding on, the other arm holding the camera.

It's a totally unreal sight to see, but no one in the meeting even notices.

EXT. BUILDING -- CONTINUOUS

Steven gets a grip on Vlad's head and holds it against the windows as it bangs over and over on support beams, BAM BAM BAM.

Vlad falls to the ground, buying Steven time.

Then, Steven sees Michael is holding on below.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Michael! What are you doing?!

MICHAEL BAY  
Getting the shot!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Give me your hand!

Michael reaches his hand up, but he can't reach!

Steven panics, but then spots a HARNESS next to him.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Give me the camera and put this on!

Michael throws up the camera and straps the harness to him, which has a 3 foot long string attached to it.

Michael swings the string up to Steven, who grabs it and pulls him up.

MICHAEL BAY  
(taking his camera back)  
Thanks!

Steven turns around and Vlad nails him in the kidney with a squeegee.

Steven picks up a bucket of soap water and splashes him in the eyes.

In the process, water hits Michael's camera lens, wiping it clean.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
I needed that!

The window washer reaches the top floor which is under construction.

That's when one of the window washer lines BEGINS TO SNAP.

Vlad jumps on to the floor first and runs inside.

Then, Steven and Michael jump on the floor.

INT. TOP FLOOR OF SKYSCRAPER -- CONTINUOUS

Vlad stands 20 feet from the windows, wiping his eyes of the soap.

Michael and Steven stand on the ledge by the window. The window washer plummets to the ground below as Michael shoots it.

Around them we see a bunch of tools and equipment.

Michael spots A BIG CANVAS CANOPY out the corner of his eye.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Enough! End this!

VLAD  
I won't end this until both of you are dead.

Michael Bay pulls a gun from his back waistband.

VLAD (CONT'D)  
What are you going to do? Kill me?  
You don't even have the balls.

MICHAEL BAY  
You're right. I don't kill people  
on purpose... JUST ON ACCIDENT!

Michael takes aim at Vlad, then aims it just to the side of him, where there is a...

GIANT HIGH-PRESSURE CO2 TANK.

IN SLOW-MO: The bullet fires from the gun.

Michael grabs Steven and ushers him with him towards the window.

Michael takes THE CANOPY and straps its ends to his harness.

The bullet makes contact with the tank, EXPLODING.

A WALL OF FIRE ENGULFS VLAD. HE'S INCINERATED.

THE WALL OF FIRE barrels towards Michael and Steven.

Michael points the camera behind him to catch the insane shot.

Michael grabs Steven as they LEAP out of the window like Free Willy.

Michael throws up the canopy sheet—but it doesn't fill with air!

They plummet to the ground, then, the canopy fills with air, acting as a parachute!

THEY FLOAT TO THE GROUND. Michael captures the insane footage above and below.

The city damage is breathtaking. Easily over a 100 million dollars worth.

They land. Michael stops recording, sets down the camera, and takes a breath.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Let's get out of here.

Michael is a little hesitant. Steven looks at him like, "why aren't you coming?"

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Listen, kid. I'm sorry.

Michael doesn't say anything.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)

I'm sorry for using you. I'm sorry  
for thinking you were just a pawn.

(beat)

I feel lucky to just be around you.  
You're a light, Michael. A light in  
the dark.

Michael thinks for a second, then...

MICHAEL BAY

I forgive you, Mr. Spielburger...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

(relieved)

Hey, kid.

MICHAEL BAY

Yeah?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

(with a smile)

Call me Steven.

MICHAEL BAY

Really?

Steven shakes his head "yes."

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)

(with a big smile)

Ok, Steven.

Steven looks at the video camera.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

Did you catch all of that?

MICHAEL BAY

Every second.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER

I think we've got our short film...  
And if we win, all the money goes  
to you. You earned it.

A bloodied Steven puts his arm around Michael as they walk out.

FADE OUT:

TITLE CARD: 1 WEEK LATER

EXT. LA THEATER -- NIGHT

A big sign reads 'LA FILM ACADEMY SHORT FILM CONTEST."

INT. LA THEATER -- CONTINUOUS

We're in the auditorium. It's packed with film-makers.

A few rows in we see Steven and Michael, both in the suites they stole from Macy's.

One of the short films ends as everyone claps. The head of the LA Film Academy, BRUCE JENKINS comes up.

BRUCE JENKINS

Next up, we have a short from Michael Bay and Steven Spielburger called: Explosive Love. Let's roll it.

Michael and Steven's short begins as we go into a montage.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

-We begin towards the end. All we see is the audience. Some people cry. Some people are at the edge of their seats. Their faces glow with the yellow and orange color of fire.

-On screen we see the shots Michael has captured—they're stunning. Shot masterfully, by a master: Michael Bay.

-The short ends. The credits roll. The audience gives a standing ovation. We see the film is dedicated to Bruce Bay, Michael's dad.

-Michael can't believe the praise. He bows, proud of his work.

END MONTAGE.

CUT TO:

INT. LA THEATER -- A FEW MINUTES LATER

All the films have been screened. Now Bruce Jenkins is about to announce the winner.

BRUCE JENKINS

And the runner up goes to: John Cassavetes and his short: Closing Night.

Applause from the audience. Michael and Steven look nervous for the outcome of who will win the grand prize.

BRUCE JENKINS (CONT'D)  
 And now the moment we've been  
 waiting for. The winner of the 30th  
 annual LA Film Academy Short Film  
 Contest is: Michael Bay and Steven  
 Spielburger's short: Explosive  
 Love!

Michael can't believe it. Steven picks him up and throws him on his shoulders. The look in Michael's face is of pure joy.

They go to stand on stage and give a bow.

MICHAEL BAY  
 I knew we could do it, Steven!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
 We couldn't have done it without  
 you, Michael.

The crowd goes wild, as we...

FADE TO:

TITLE CARD: THE NEXT DAY

INT. STEVEN SPIELBURGER'S APARTMENT -- MORNING

Steven and Michael are sitting down watching some cartoons.

MICHAEL BAY  
 I was thinking later we could play  
 catch together.

TIGHT ON CALENDAR: It reads "DAY MICHAEL GETS PICKED UP."

Steven knows this, and doesn't reply to Michael.

MICHAEL BAY (CONT'D)  
 Steven, is something wrong?

Then, there's a KNOCK at the door. Steven gets up, takes a breath, and opens it.

It's CAROL, from child services.

CAROL  
 How are you doing, Mr. Spielburger?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Just fine, ma'am. Yourself?

CAROL  
Dandy.  
(to Michael)  
Michael, Get your things. It's time  
to go.

Michael, sits in shock, he had no idea.

MICHAEL BAY  
(to Steven)  
I have to go?

CAROL  
Michael, this is just a foster  
home. It's temporary.

MICHAEL BAY  
But I like it here.

Again, Steven doesn't say anything.

CAROL  
Grab your things, Michael.

MICHAEL BAY  
But, I, I--

CAROL  
I don't have all day. Say your  
goodbyes.

MICHAEL BAY  
But, Steven. I don't want to go. I  
forgive you. I don't care that you  
lied to me. I'll forget it all, ok?

A little tear comes down the cheek of Steven.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
I'm sorry...

Michael can't believe he's letting him go.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
(to Michael)  
Hey, Michael. Don't call me  
Steven...

Tears well up in Michael's eyes.

STEVEN SPIELBURGER (CONT'D)  
Call me... dad.

MICHAEL BAY  
Dad?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
(to Carol)  
I'M ADOPTING THIS BOY. THIS BOY IS  
STAYING HERE.

MICHAEL BAY  
Are you serious?!

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
Son. We grew together. Struggled  
together. Cried together. Even  
tripped on acid together.

CAROL  
Excuse me?

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
I was kidding about that last part.  
(to Michael with a wink)  
I couldn't see living life without  
you.

MICHAEL BAY  
I, I don't know what to say...

STEVEN SPIELBURGER  
You don't have to say anything,  
just come here.

Steven opens his arms for a hug, Michael runs, leaping into  
his embrace.

FADE TO:

END OF MOVIE