

Rooster

By

Roy Koriakin
and
Ricky Rude

An Original Concept by Ricky Rude

WGA Registration Number :
1590138

Roy Koraikin 856-625-5463
roy@kphat.com

Ricky Rude 856-495-6332
rickyrude22@yahoo.com

EXT.BARN.NIGHT

Rooster stands in front of a barn with the moon glistening across his disconcerted face.

ROOSTER(V.O)
You hear about people having
moments in life...some worth
speaking of, some not.

Rooster strikes a match and holds it up, illuminating his face. A confidence glistens in his eyes. He flicks the match at the barn and turns away.

ROOSTER(V.O)
Some people... the lucky ones; have
what they call a defining moment. A
moment that changes everything.

Rooster walks away as the barn bursts in thirty-foot flames behind him.

ROOSTER(V.O)
This is my moment... I'm one of the
lucky ones.

INT.ROOSTER'S ROOM.MORNING

A small room is wrapped with a menagerie of NASA and space ship posters and memorabilia.

Rooster, a seventeen-year-old scrawny and awkward young man sleeps in his bed as the warm morning sun shines through. A look of worry spreads across his face.

ROOSTER(V.O)
My name is Rooster. Well... that's
the nickname I was given at a young
age. You'll find out why; in
four... three... two... one...

Rooster's eyes suddenly pop open and he let's out a long continuous scream filled with fear, frustration, and defeat. "Ahhhhhhhhh!!!!!!".

ROOSTER(V.O)
Even at the mere age of three, the
thought of facing the world every
day petrified me. I use to wake up
the entire house.
(pause)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER(V.O) (cont'd)
Maybe, all the kids at school are
right. My real nickname should be
chicken.

FLASHBACK.7 YEARS AGO

INT.GYMNASIUM

A ten-year-old awkward and small Rooster sits on the mat with his mouth agape staring at some of the banners on the wall. The kid he's wrestling taps him, Rooster snaps out of it. They continue to wrestle on a distinct green mat in a small gym room plastered with "Foothsboro Fighting Irish", championship banners, flags, and other hand written inspirational signs.

Coach O'Donnell, a thick mustached man dresses in short tight shorts, and white paper thin t-shirt with that says, "kiss me, I'm Irish", with a whistle hanging from his neck.

COACH O'DONNELL
Next, let's go to the headlock. The
most dangerous move in wrestling.

The kids start practicing the headlock.

One after another, Rooster is nailing his headlocks and taking the much bigger kid down and pinning him. He looks like a natural.

COACH O'DONNELL
Look at Rooster here...If you
perfect one move. You can become a
champion.

The coach steps in the middle of the mat and motions for every one to join.

COACH O'DONNELL
Everyone circle up. Tommy, come in
the middle.

Tommy steps into the middle with the coach to show the team a move.

They wrestle stand up. As they spar around the coach continually smacks Tommy in the ear of his head gear.

Tommy is getting more and more upset and distracted every time he gets hit.

(CONTINUED)

COACH O'DONNELL

See, everyone thinks I'm extra tough on Tommy, because he's my son.

Just as he's saying that, he throws on a vicious headlock and slams Tommy down hard and squeezes the headlock.

COACH O'DONNELL

As you just witnessed. By smacking the head gear of an opponent. Not only are you gonna piss him off. But, you can slightly off balance his equilibrium.

Tommy is bright red. The coach lets him go. Tommy storms off upset.

COACH O'DONNELL

Don't be a big baby.

(pause)

All right. Practice is over except for our big baby. Tommy, stay and run laps till you learn how to act right.

The kids all disperse. Parents start showing up, and one by one all the kids leave. Except Rooster, who sits mouth agape watching Tommy run laps while waiting for his ride.

He keeps looking up at Tommy running and then intermittently looking at the clock.

ROOSTER

(To Tommy)

If the coach isn't here. Why don't you just stop running?

TOMMY

Every few minutes he'll flip the the intercom button, and if he doesn't hear footsteps hitting the mat.

Rooster, half bored, but also just a generous person by nature, starts running next to Tommy.

Tommy stops running and lays down watching Rooster run. Rooster runs for awhile.

ROOSTER

(while running)

Did you know that NASA doesn't have a set amount of astronauts at any

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER (cont'd)
given time. They hire them on an as
needed basis. Snoopy from "The
Peanuts", is actually the
astronauts personal safety mascot.

Tommy is disinterested. After awhile of running like a race
car, Roster looks at the clock, and decides to stop.

ROOSTER
I like space travel...
(awkwardly)
I gotta see if my rides here.

EXT.PARKING LOT. AN HOUR LATER

Rooster has been sitting on the stairs for an hour.

He decides to start walking. As he does. Rain starts pouring
down upon him.

Drenched he starts running back. He runs back into the
school.

INT.GYMNASIUM. MOMENTS LATER

Tommy is no longer running and the coach is nowhere in
sight.

Rooster shouts to see if anyone is around.

ROOSTER
Hello? Coach?

There's no answer.

He walks back in to the locker room.

INT.LOCKER ROOM

Still sees no one. He hears some yelling coming from the
office.

He walks up to the office and puts his eyes close to the
blinds so he can look through.

He sees coach yelling at someone on the phone, as Tommy
cowers in his seat. The coach yells then slams the phone
hanging it up. He smacks the phone off the table on to the
ground.

(CONTINUED)

He motions for Tommy to pick it up.

COACH O'DONNELL
Pick it up!

Tommy starts too, but isn't moving quick enough for the Coaches liking. While on his knees, Coach strikes Tommy across the face with an open hand.

Tommy covers up crying. Coach stands over top of him laughing.

Tommy curls into a ball.

COACH O'DONNELL
(yelling)
Pick it up you pussy!

Rooster, petrified, backs away quickly, in the process, his hood catches the blind. Causing it to rattle.

The coach opens the door.

A white statue of Rooster stands in front of him.

ROOSTER
(stammering)
My... ride, never showed up.

Coach looks around making sure no one else is around, then back at Rooster.

COACH O'DONNELL
I'll take you home.

Tommy slowly picks himself off the floor and they leave.

INT.COACHES TRUCK DRIVING

Coach, Tommy, and Rooster sit silently driving together in an old beat-up pick up truck with a fighting Irish toy hanging from the rear view mirror, and a small whiskey bottle wedged in between the seats. Heavy rain pours down on the windshield.

They drive through the outskirts of town and Coach out of the corner of his eye sees a man waiting on the side of the street. He slams on his brakes and quickly jumps out of the truck.

(CONTINUED)

Through the rain the coach and the man wrestle around. Coach gets him to the side of the truck and slams the guys head against the side window, startling the boys. The man goes down to the ground.

The coach opens the door. The man is yelling in agony as he tries to get up, but Coach stomps him back down.

COACH O'DONNELL
(yelling)
Tommy. Get my knife.

Tommy just stares at him in fear.

COACH O'DONNELL
Get my fucking blade Tommy!

Tommy reaches under the seat and hands Coach his knife.

The coach violently stabs the man in his neck. Blood squirts out as the man chokes on it. All directly in front of the boys.

The boys sit motionless.

The coach finishes up by stabbing the man several times in the gut.

He drags the mans body out of sight.

Tommy slowly pulls the door closed.

Rooster vomits on the truck floor.

Tommy and Rooster share a look of fear and uncertainty.

The driver door slams open and a bloodied Coach jumps in the truck drenched and panting.

A few moments pass as nothing is said.

A Cadillac pulls behind the truck and two Irish goons get out and rush off into the direction that Coach dragged the body.

COACH O'DONNELL
Tommy, go sit in the caddy. Your gonna get a ride home with the boys. I'm going to take Rooster home.

Tommy looks at Rooster, Rooster slightly nods for Tommy not to leave him.

(CONTINUED)

COACH O'DONNELL
Don't make me tell you again.

Tommy jumps out of the truck. The truck takes off.

Rooster and the coach silently ride home together. A pin drop could be heard. Coach sniffs a few times smelling something out of the ordinary.

Rooster hides the vomit with his feet as he shakes with fear on the long ride home.

The truck pulls up to the driveway. They both sit still for a few seconds.

The coach reaches in the middle console and takes a pull from his whiskey.

COACH O'DONNELL
Rooster, If I didn't know your
daddy the way I did. I swear to god
I would kill you right now.
(long pause)
I'm gonna tell you this once, and
only once. If you ever tell anybody
what you saw tonight. I'll kill
you, and that kindhearted mother of
yours. You believe me?
(warrants an answer)
Believe me?

ROOSTER
...Yes.

COACH O'DONNELL
Now get the fuck out of my truck.

Rooster opens the door.

Rooster slowly closes the door and walks down his driveway.

ROOSTER(V.O)
That was the last time I ever
wrestled. Matter of fact. That was
the last time I did much of
anything.

BACK TO PRESENT

INT.ROOSTER'S ROOM.MORNING

Rooster is laying in bed just getting done yelling.

He sits up panting and looking around the room like a he's a newborn right out of the womb.

He lays back down exhausted from just facing the world for only a few seconds.

MOMMA

(O.C.)

Rooster, don't you dare lay back
down. Get your ass up!

Rooster sits up and with his mouth agape stares at the colorful spaceship poster on the wall. As he stares at it. The poster takes on a life of it's own. The ship starts to blow flames out the back of it, the truck pulls away, and the clouds and sky move. The ship starts to take off as Rooster stoically stares at it.

MOMMA(OC)

Stop staring at your posters and
get your ass moving!

Rooster breaks out of his trance and takes a deep sigh.

INT.ROOSTER'S MOM'S ROOM. MOMENTS LATER

Rooster goes into his mom's room. She's lying in the bed.

He picks her out of bed, puts her in the wheelchair.

He then empties her bedpan, brushes her hair and her teeth, and changes her clothes.

ROOSTER(V.O)

When my dad was around. He kicked
the crap out of us everyday. When
he died. We were finally happy for
once. Then one day, my mama gets a
flu shot. Six days later. Her
nervous system stopped working.

INT.KITCHEN.MOMENTS LATER

At the kitchen table Rooster makes him and his mom some coffee and instant oatmeal.

He does everything for his mom, completely taking care of her.

ROOSTER(V.O)

We're still waiting and waiting for that lawsuit money. Seems like we do nothing but waiting. Like it'll be better then anyways. Money isn't gonna bring my momma back...
Waiting for nothing...

Rooster stands mouth agape rinsing his momma's clothes and underwear in the kitchen sink as he talks to his mom.

Fragile Momma sits in her nightgown slumping in her old wheel chair looking proudly at her son.

MOMMA

You gonna go do anything after school today?

ROOSTER

Why?

MOMMA

Why? Because, you don't do anything any more. You don't leave the house.

ROOSTER

Yeah...nothing worth doing.

MOMMA

When you gonna find a girlfriend Roost?

ROOSTER

Awe, don't start that mom.

MAX, Rooster's best and just about only friend, a lanky goofy Indian kid, who dresses overly hip hop. Comes busting in the door.

MAX

Awe quit it mom. I ain't seen no pussy since I came out of ya.

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER

Shut up.

Max sees that Rooster is wringing out a big old pair of granny panties in the kitchen sink.

Max does a double take.

MAX

Awe hell no. Your gonna wash them granny panties in the same sink you do your dishes in?

ROOSTER

Washers broke.

MOMMA

(condescending)

Hello Max...

MAX

What up momma Roost? I'm just kidding with you. They're really sexy panties.

ROOSTER

You're hilarious...let's go.

MAX

Who's being funny?

Max winks at momma as they walk out.

EXT. BUS STOP DOWN THE STREET. MOMENTS LATER

Max is on the ground getting absolutely clobbered by Bobby Jones. Rooster and the others on the bus stop stand back and watch.

After it's done, Max jumps up and wipes himself off like nothing happened.

MAX

That's all you got?

Bobby starts coming for him. Max quickly runs away and hides behind some bushes for cover.

Bobby shakes his head and goes back.

Max rejoins Rooster as they wait.

(CONTINUED)

Briana, THE SCHOOL HOT GIRL, comes strutting down the driveway looking sexier than ever.

A guy in a Convertible Suzuki Sidekick comes pulling up.

She gets in the car and it pulls off.

Tommy, the wrestling star, comes gimping down with crutches and a fresh cast on his leg.

Kids swarm up to him wandering what happened.

MAX

Awe shit, look at Tommy. There goes the undefeated season.

ROOSTER

Who cares.

MAX

Damn...homeboy got meesed up.

INT. MATH CLASS. LATER

Rooster and a black eyed and bruised Max sit in Math bored.

A new girl comes in. Rooster lights up when she walks in. She's got a punk rock flavor and a sincere, "I don't give a shit" confidence that you don't typically see in a seventeen year old girl.

She sits behind them. Rooster can't help but to turn and take another peak at her.

MAX

You wanta do something tonight.

ROOSTER

Working on my model. Sorry...

MAX

You need a life man.

INT. MATH CLASS. SIMULTANEOUSLY

Two coaches march down the hallway with purpose. The two wrestling coaches enter the classroom.

INT. MATH CLASS. CONTINUOUS

The coaches like apes from "2001: A Space Odyssey" start poking and prodding at the kids like they are pieces of meat.

Everyone in the class, including the teacher is a bit baffled.

The Assistant Coach goes over to Greg whom is sleeping, and picks him up out of the seat, and shows him to the Head Coach.

The Head Coach shakes his head no. He drops him back in the seat.

He picks up another kid, Head Coach nods, yes.

The Assistant Coach puts him against the wall.

He picks up another kid, coach says no.

ROOSTER(V.O)

Maybe I didn't make it clear enough how important wrestling is too the town of the Footsboro, Bulldogs. Thirty-six straight conference championship wins, 361 conference wins in a row and the most State wins in the nation. The town, eats, breathes, and drinks wrestling. There's forty-seven wrestling named sandwiches in eight restaurants, Thirty-two wrestling drink specials in six bars. A wrestling bingo night, three bulldog wrestling mascots, named after the last four state champions, Buxley, Hoops, Markley, and Brown, who is rightfully called Mr. brown. Four annual wrestling parades, three festivals, two wrestling historic clubs who are long time arch rivals and have been known to have bar brawls over who was the best Bulldog wrestler ever, and last, but not least, one crowned wrestling queen that travels with the team and is said to give the team it's luck.

Back to the Classroom.

(CONTINUED)

The coaches have looked at all the kids. They're ready to leave.

Then, Max shouts out.

MAX

Yo...Rooster over here actually use
to wrestle and was kind of good.

Rooster looks at Max like he's crazy.

The coach looks at the other coach. The Head Coach shrugs his shoulders. The coach goes and picks Rooster up out of his seat. The Head Coach shakes his head "why not".

They drag Rooster with them.

INT. BOY'S LOCKER ROOM. MOMENTS LATER

Twenty scraggly teenagers, including Rooster, all stand in their underwear in the middle of the locker room.

Each kid waits to get on the scale as the coaches check their weight.

HEAD COACH

(to the group)

All right, let's get down and show
us how many push ups you can do.

All the skinny kids just stare at coach like he's crazy.

HEAD COACH

(yelling)

Do em!!!

Everyone, including Rooster goes down immediately and does push-ups.

The kids are all in mid push up as the coach calls out the push up by number.

HEAD COACH

Ten, eleven, twelve.

Around 20, one by one the kids start falling out.

HEAD COACH

Thirty-eight. Thirty-nine.

Only three kids are left, including Rooster.

(CONTINUED)

HEAD COACH
Fifty, fifty-one.

One of the kids drops.

It's down to two kids, including Rooster.

HEAD COACH
Fifty-eight, fifty-nine.

The other kid falls.

It's just Rooster still going.

Everyone is watching him in amazement.

HEAD COACH
Sixty-nine, seventy, seventy-one,
seventy two.

Rooster finally falls.

HEAD COACH
How can you do so many push ups?

ROOSTER
I don't know...I have to pick up my
mom a lot.

HEAD COACH
(announcing)
Okay...let's do some sit ups.

Rooster is disinterested. As the other kids are flopping
down and doing sit-ups. Rooster grabs his clothes and walks
out of the locker room.

HEAD COACH
Where are you going?

Rooster closes the door behind him.

INT.HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY. MOMENTS LATER

Rooster, stands in only his under wear and starts to put his
pants on.

As he's looking down, he hears.

BECCA(OC)
Nice guns...

He's startled. It's the cute new girl.

(CONTINUED)

Embarrassed he covers himself.

BECCA

You know you're supposed to change
IN...the locker room?

Rooster blushes and covers himself up.

ROOSTER

Yeah...there was too many... guys
in there.

She laughs and walks away.

Rooster shakes his head in disappointment.

INT.ROOSTER'S ROOM.LATER

Rooster sits at his desk with all the parts to his
Challenger model spread out on his desk. He is meticulously
painting minuscule pieces one at a time and handling them
with tweezers.

We see on the clock, he starts at 3pm and continues to
tinker till 8pm, the room goes from light outside too dark
as he does nothing but work on his model.

He is interrupted by his mom yelling for him.

MOMMA

(yelling)

Rooster? Rooster?

Rooster ignores her calls.

MOMMA

Rooster!!!

Rooster finally gets up and comes moping down the stairs.

MOMMA

I'm out of meds tomorrow. I need
you to run out tonight and get me
some. Take the money out of the
envelope. Should be just enough. I
just put the order in.

Rooster sighs, but he knows the drill. He grabs the envelope
that has handwritten, "Anna" on it, takes the money out.

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER
Twenty-seven cents short.

MOMMA
You know the routine.

Rooster searches under the couch cushions, through the kitchen drawers, bedroom drawers, and finally musters up enough nickels and pennies.

He heads out the door.

EXT.ROOSTERS HOUSE. NIGHT

Rooster jumps on his dirt bike and heads into town. He parks across the street from the Pharmacy.

He goes in.

INT.FOOTSBORO PHARMACY.MOMENTS LATER

Rooster goes up to the Pharmacist.

ROOSTER
Papakonstantinou for pick up.

The guy hands him a bag. Rooster hands him a Medicare card. The guy rings it up.

PHARMACIST
That's \$62.23.

Rooster pulls out exactly forty-two dollars and twenty-seven cents.

ROOSTER
It's always been \$42.27.

PHARMACIST
Just went up.

ROOSTER
It couldn't have.

The Pharmacist re-checks the computer.

PHARMACIST
Just went up sixteen days ago.
Sorry...nothing I can do, sir.

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER
(blows a gasket)
We pay thousands of dollars for
these. And you just raise it
whenever you want? How are we
supposed to live? Huh?

PHARMACIST
Sorry...

Rooster knocks some stuff off the counter.

ROOSTER
(musters a profanity out)
F-uck!

Rooster leaves. He stumbles around the streets looking for a
solution. He sees a hopping bar. He jolts in.

INT. BUDDIES TAVERN. MOMENTS LATER

Rooster walks up and asks the bartender.

ROOSTER
Can I sweep your place for some
money? I can take the trash out,
clean dishes?

BARTENDER
Sorry kid.

Just then, Coach O'Donnell comes flying in the front door
and goes right up to a patron and spikes his face into the
bar, then throws him out the door by his hair.

O'Donnell sits at the bar.

One of the guys at the bar runs out the back door.

O'Donnell sees him and shakes his head. Then he spots
Rooster.

COACH O'DONNELL
Come over here boy.

ROOSTER
I-gotta go.

COACH O'DONNELL
I said get the fuck over here!

Rooster shuffles over.

(CONTINUED)

COACH O'DONNELL
You're that little shit Rooster.

Rooster nods yes.

COACH O'DONNELL
I remember when you wrestled for
me. Had a good headlock. Coach
said you did 73 push ups today.

Rooster shakes his head.

COACH O'DONNELL
What are you doing in here?

ROOSTER
My mom needs her meds. I don't have
enough money.

COACH O'DONNELL
How much you need?

ROOSTER
Twenty dollars.

COACH O'DONNELL
I'll tell you what. I'll give you
forty right now, if you go to
wrestling practice for the next two
days.

O'Donnell pulls out the money and sits it on the bar.

Rooster with his mouth open looks at the money long and
hard. He's really reluctant to accept the offer.

ROOSTER
Just two days?

COACH O'DONNELL
Two days...

Rooster stares at the money and back at Coach.

Rooster grabs the the money from the bar and runs off.

COACH O'DONNELL
Don't fuck with me kid. I'll
destroy you.

Rooster leaves.

The bartender walks up to Coach.

(CONTINUED)

BARTENDER

Old Billy wants to see ya.

O'Donnell gets up and walks in the back and knocks on an office door. He opens it.

INT.OLD BILLY'S OFFICE

An old Irish man sits behind a desk.

OLD BILLY

Where the fuck is my money
O'Donnell?

COACH O'DONNELL

It always comes. Just need a little
more time.

OLD BILLY

Look at me. I'm not taking any more
bets from you. Your cut off.

COACH O'DONNELL

I just need a few more weeks.

OLD BILLY

looks like team is gonna finally
lose this year since your boy got
hurt?

COACH O'DONNELL

Yeah...they're weak. They got
nobody at that weight.

OLD BILLY

You sure?

COACH O'DONNELL

It's a lock. I'd bet it all for
them to loose if I was you.

OLD BILLY

I'll tell you what then. I'm going
to bet them, and if they loose.
Your debt is cleared with me. If
they win... It triples.

COACH O'DONNELL

Make that bet then.

Old Billy smiles and writes something down.

O'Donnell smirks and walks out.

INT.ROOSTER'S ROOM.MORNING

Rooster lies sleeping in his bed. He looks petrified.

Suddenly he wakes.

ROOSTER
(screaming)
Ah!!!!!!!!!!!!

He finally stops as he's panting.

EXT.BUS STOP DOWN THE STREET. AN HOUR LATER

All the kids stand at the bus stop waiting.

Rooster whizzes by them on his dirt bike.

EXT.HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT. A FEW MINUTES LATER

Rooster pulls up to the high school on his dirt bike, and parks next to the other cars.

INT. MATH CLASS. LATER

Rooster and Max sit in the class.

MAX
Yo, why you drive your bike to school?

A kid walks in and hands the teacher a note.

TEACHER
Rooster, the principal wants to see you in his office.

The class makes a, "ooooooooohhhhhhhhhh", noise.

INT.PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE. MOMENTS LATER

Rooster sits with his head cocked to the side and mouth agape staring at a painting on the wall as the Principal comes in.

PRINCIPAL
I don't know why you think you had the right to drive your dirt bike to school. I'm going to have to suspend you.

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER

It's the only way I could go home
to help my mom, and make it back in
time for wrestling practice.

PRINCIPAL

The suspension will start...Did you
just say wrestling practice?

ROOSTER

Yeah?

PRINCIPAL

(enthusiastic)

Why didn't you say that in the
first place. Have you wrestled
before?

ROOSTER

Six years when I was younger.

PRINCIPAL

Were you any good?

ROOSTER

Coach always said I had a mean
headlock.

PRINCIPAL

And your Irish right?

ROOSTER

Just the good half, sir.

The Principal comes over and pats him on the shoulder.

He opens the door and yells across the room.

PRINCIPAL

Paul...we got our 119 pounder.

PAUL

Who?

PRINCIPAL

Papakin...tin...ou.

ROOSTER

Roosters fine.

PRINCIPAL

Rooster... He's got a good
headlock.

(CONTINUED)

A kid getting a note from one of the secretaries over hears this.

KID WITH THE NOTE
(to himself)
Rooster?

MONTAGE OF GOSSIP OF ROOSTER WRESTLING 119 SPREADING:

-The kid with the note walks down the hallway, sees a kid pushing an audio video cart.

KID WITH THE NOTE
Yo, some kid Rooster is wrestling
119.

AV KID
Any good?

KID WITH THE NOTE
He wrestled for a few years. Got a
good headlock.

The AV kid pushes his cart down the hallway. Sees a girl step out of a classroom with a plate of fresh cookies.

COOKIE GIRL
You wanta cookie?

AV KID
Yeah sure.

He grabs a cookie and starts eating.

AV KID
(eating)
You hear they got a replacement for
Tommy at 119?

COOKIE GIRL
Who?

AV KID
I don't know. Some dude...
Rooster? He's supposed to be good.
Has a real mean headlock. Can't be
beat.

The girl takes the plate of cookies back to the room and puts them in the middle of the table.

(CONTINUED)

COOKIE GIRL

Oh my god. This kid Rooster is our new 119 pounder. Supposedly he was undefeated and has got a headlock that's legendary.

EXT. BACK OF THE SCHOOL. END OF THE DAY

Rooster, head down mopes out of the building and continues out to his dirt bike.

As he does a bunch of the kids hanging around their cars yell: "hey, hi, and yo", as they acknowledge Rooster.

He's a little perplexed with what's going on.

He gets to his bike, to find Max sitting on it, pretending like he's driving it.

MAX

I heard that you're wrestling 119 and you have a killer headlock that once put a guy in a coma.

ROOSTER

What?

MAX

Wait, that's what you need. A name for your headlock. The roostinator. Nah...We can work on something catchy.

ROOSTER

We're not working on anything. Cause tomorrow is my last day. I gotta go.

MAX

Roostinator, this is our ticket to getting laid. Don't mess this up for us.

(to himself)

We got to get your ass to Philly. You ain't trained for shit till you did the Rocky steps.

Rooster shakes his head and takes off on his dirt bike leaving Max still talking.

INT.ROOSTER HOUSE.KITCHEN

Rooster walks in. His mom is sitting at the table smiling from head to toe.

ROOSTER

What are you smiling at?

MOMMA

Your aunt Dotti from Virginia called. She talked to old Bill Thorton down at the hardware store. He said that you're the new 119 pounder for the Bulldogs. I'm so proud of you Roost.

ROOSTER

Don't get too excited.

MOMMA

Why?

ROOSTER

Just don't.

(attitude)

Do you need anything else? I gotta get to practice.

Rooster runs upstairs to grab his bag.

When he's up there. He hears a bang noise come from down stairs.

Rooster stops what he's doing. He runs down the stairs. He finds his mom laying in between the table and the wall yelling and screaming.

He picks her up from being wedged up against the wall and puts her back in the wheelchair.

ROOSTER

What happened?

MOMMA

I think I took too many pills. I got dizzy.

ROOSTER

Mom, you gotta be more careful. What would happen if I wasn't here for you?

(CONTINUED)

MOMMA

You are here.

Rooster shakes his head in frustration and kisses her in the head.

ROOSTER

I gotta go. You gonna be all right?
Promise me you'll try to keep
better track of your pills?

MOMMA

Promise.

Rooster heads out the door. A concerned Rooster rides down the town streets cruising on his dirt bike.

INT.PRACTICE GYMNASIUM. LATER

As Rooster walks into the gym all the wrestlers start clapping for him. As he walks by they give him low fives.

He gets to the end; it's Tommy in his normal clothes and on crutches.

TOMMY

Welcome to the team.

He hands him a pair of wrestling shoes.

TOMMY

I had an extra pair.

Rooster nods in appreciation.

Rooster puts on his shoes.

They do some stretching, then some drills.

HEAD COACH

(to Assistant Coach)

Let's see what he can do. Let's
partner up. Fields, pair up with
Rooster.

The two coaches stand back and watch with anticipation as they blow the whistle.

Rooster and Fields grapple, fields takes him right down, then directly to his back.

Both coaches grimace.

(CONTINUED)

Fields lets him up. They tangle up and vie for control.

Then Rooster, out of nowhere, snaps on a beautiful picturesque headlock and flips over Fields to his back.

The coaches slightly smile at each other. Practice ends.

They are all huddled up. The coach speaks.

HEAD COACH

I'm not going to lie to you. With Tommy this is one of the weakest teams we've had in 30 years. Without him, it is the weakest. Let's hope that our new addition can get us a few W's. On three, Bulldogs...

THE TEAM

One, two, three...Bulldogs!

INT.ROOSTER HOUSE.KITCHEN

He gets into his house. His moms is sleeping in her wheel chair.

He picks her up and carries her to bed and lays her down.

INT.ROOSTER'S ROOM.MOMENTS LATER

He goes into his bedroom and flips the light switch on.

Max is sitting on his bed.

Rooster jumps and yells.

ROOSTER

(yelling)

Ahh!

Max smiles at the frazzled Rooster.

ROOSTER

What are you doing here?

MAX

Rooster...I wanna manage your wrestling career.

(bracing himself)

This could be huge for us. I came up with the name for your signature

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAX (cont'd)
headlock move. "Drop-the-Bomb".
It's genius isn't it? We are going
to get so many girls from you
dropping the bomb.

ROOSTER
Get-out.

MAX
So then you like the name? It's
catchy though right?

ROOSTER
There is no name, because there is
no wrestling after tomorrow.
Get-out!

MAX
Wrestling makes you a grumpasaurus.
I'm out of here.

Max leaves.

INT. ROOSTER'S ROOM. MORNING

Rooster wakes up yelling, but instantly grabs his sore neck.
It changes the tone of the yell into a bit of a moan.

INT. MATH CLASS. LATER

Max and Rooster sit next to each other.

Max turns around to Becca.

MAX
You gonna come watch my boy Rooster
wrestle? He's got this signatory
headlock move, that I personally
named. Drop the bomb. And that's
what he's gonna do to all those
fools.

Becca just looks at Max like he's a moron.

Max turns back around.

MAX
(to Rooster)
She wants you. Dropping the bomb is
going to get us so much ass.

(CONTINUED)

TEACHER
Max...shut-up.

INT.PRACTICE GYMNASIUM. LATER

The practice is coming to an end.

Coach O'Donnell walks in.

The practice ends.

Rooster stands in front of everyone and speaks.

ROOSTER
(nervously mumbling)
Hey...I can't wrestle anymore.
I...have to...take care of my mom.
(mumbles)
I'm...Sorry...

Rooster walks out of the room.

INT.HALLWAY.CONTINUOUS

Rooster walks out in the hallway and leans his head against the wall. Coach O'Donnell follows him.

COACH O'DONNELL
You couldn't hang could you, you
little Greek pussy? I knew you were
a quitter. Not like you would have
won anything anyway. You're a
loser. Always will be.

Rooster walks away.

Tommy comes up to him.

ROOSTER
Here, let me get you your shoes.

TOMMY
Keep em. I don't need em.

Rooster quickly exits.

INT.ROOSTER HOUSE.KITCHEN

Rooster walks in and starts tending to his mom.

He's being very standoffish.

It's quiet. Momma can tell Rooster is upset and doesn't want to talk.

MOMMA

Roost, we're almost out of toilet paper and soap. Can you pick some up? You can take some money out of the envelope.

Rooster doesn't say anything.

MOMMA

What's wrong Roost?

ROOSTER

Nothing.

MOMMA

You gonna keep wrestling?

ROOSTER

No.

MOMMA

Why?

ROOSTER

Because I don't want too.

She grabs him.

MOMMA

You see what this did too me?

Rooster stares her directly in the eyes.

MOMMA

You never take life for granted. If your healthy and god able. You damn well better do something with it.

ROOSTER

I'm not wrestling.

MOMMA

Why Roost? At least tell me that?

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER

You wanna know why? Cause the only reason I went to practice was because we couldn't afford your medicine. Coach O'Donnell said he would pay me to go to practice those days. Two days are over. Now I can go back to my life. MY... LIFE...!

MOMMA

Roost, you can't just go around being angry at the world. That's the way your dad was before he left.

ROOSTER

Before he left? Don't you mean when he killed himself? You afraid I'm going to kill myself? Don't worry about it. Cause I'm nothing like that piece of...shit. Nothing!

MOMMA

Seems like your giving up just like him. Maybe you are the same.

ROOSTER

Leave me alone!

Rooster walks out the door and slams it.

EXT.ROOSTERS HOUSE. NIGHT

He walks over to his dirt bike.

Jumps on it, and violently hits the kick start with his foot over and over.

Can't get it to start.

He throws the bike down, and starts walking away.

He starts walking quicker, and quicker. Until his walk turns into a full out sprint.

He's running as fast as he can, he starts breaking down and crying.

Finally he stops out of breath and out of tears and falls to the ground, pounding it with his fist and yelling like he does every morning.

EXT.ON TOP OF A WATER TOWER. NIGHT

Rooster sits staring at the stars. Max sneaks up behind him.

MAX

Yo.

Rooster jumps.

ROOSTER

What are you doing here?

MAX

What are YOU doing here?

ROOSTER

I just want to be alone.

MAX

Your moms is looking for you.

ROOSTER

Oh yeah.

MAX

I'm just gonna to tell you how it is. You deserve to finally do something for yourself. Rooster... You're a good dude. Weird. But a good dude.

Rooster with his mouth closed looks at Max, then looks up at the bright sky.

ROOSTER

Did you know that we're constantly moving through space at the rate of 330 miles per second? So, one minute from now I'll be fifteen thousand miles from where I was before. That's a big change.

MAX

That's life man.

Max pats Rooster on the shoulder and gets up and starts walking away.

ROOSTER

Where you going?

(CONTINUED)

MAX

Man...I got porn to watch.

Max leaves.

Rooster just sits stoically staring into space.

INT.ROOSTER HOUSE.LIVING ROOM.LATER

Rooster walks into the living room. His mom is passed out in her wheel chair to the light of the TV still on.

Rooster walks over to her, then looks at the TV. And old tape of him wrestling is playing. He watches as a twelve year old version of him pins a guy in a headlock. Then his able bodied mom walks up to him and hugs him. She picks him off the ground and squeezes him. They both have smiles plastered across their faces.

He stands watching for a few seconds, then endearingly looks back at his mom.

He starts to pick her up.

She slightly comes to.

MOMMA

Don't you wanna see yourself win?

ROOSTER

It's time to go to bed, mom.

He walks her upstairs and puts her in bed. He stands over her watching her sleep.

INT.ROOSTER'S ROOM.MORNING

Rooster's eyelids open in bed. He let's out a big yell, "AHH!!".

This time instead of him just lying and procrastinating facing the world.

He jumps out of bed and starts putting his training clothes on.

He starts stretching in his room.

He walks into his moms room. When he does, she's already awake. She smiles at him, he smiles back.

The sun shines on Rooster's back as the two share a moment.

(CONTINUED)

He goes over and picks her up, but hugs her while he does.

He runs her down the stairs, then kiddingly starts to run back up with her, then turns back around.

They laugh.

He puts her in her wheel chair, fixes her up for the day.

He runs out the door, then runs back in and goes upstairs.

He comes back down wearing a backpack.

He runs out the door. Rooster jogs down the streets with confidence.

INT.MAX'S ROOM

Rooster, with his book bag in his hands is hovered over Max soundly sleeping with a smile plastered on his face.

ROOSTER

Max...Max...

Max's eyes open.

Rooster drops the book bag on his chest.

Max, scared, freaks out yelling and screaming, and punching.

Rooster smiles. Revenge is sweet.

MAX

How you gonna wake someone up like that? I was having an underwater makeout dream with Briana. Damn....

(pause)

What's in the bag?

ROOSTER

See for yourself.

Max opens it.

It's Roosters model of the Challenger.

ROOSTER

I want you to take my model so it doesn't distract me when your training me.

Max lights up like a Christmas tree.

(CONTINUED)

MAX

I'm your trainer? For real?

Max pops up out of bed wearing tighty whitties.

He's got morning wood. He hugs Rooster.

ROOSTER

Dude, you still got morning wood.

MAX

It's cool. It's only gay... if YOU
get hard.

ROOSTER

Ewe...

ROOSTER'S TRAINING MONTAGE

-Rooster, with a rope around him is struggling to pull Max,
who is sitting on his dirt bike.

-Rooster in the fields is taking down Max with headlock,
after headlock.

-Rooster is jogging down his town streets.

-Rooster, with a rope around him is now jogging pulling Max,
on his dirt bike.

-Rooster back in practice working with the coach on his
headlock.

-Rooster runs through the town, everyone waves at him. A
little kid runs with him.

-Rooster, with a rope around him is sprinting while pulling
Max, on his dirt bike.

-Rooster is in practice wrestling, taking down guy after guy
with his headlock.

-Rooster runs through the town as a bunch of kids start
running with him. Rooster sprints away from the kids.

DAY OF THE FIRST MATCH

INT.LOCKER ROOM

Rooster is in the locker room. He looks around to make sure no one is there.

He takes a pocketknife and goes to the soap dispenser and jimmies it open.

He takes the bag of soap out and throws it in his backpack.

He then ducks into the bathroom stall.

He takes his pocketknife and pops out the big industrial roll of brown toilet paper. He goes to put it in his book bag, but it's too big.

He starts to unwind some of the paper off to make it smaller. But, realizes it will take too long.

He puts it in his bag and takes a shirt to cover the top of it and darts out of the bathroom.

He looks down the hallway, no one insight.

He pushes through the doors to the outside, as he does. He runs into:

Becca, The shirt falls off his bag, partially revealing the big brown role of toilet paper.

Rooster quickly picks up the shirt and covers it.

ROOSTER

Sorry.

BECCA

Watch where you're going asshole!

Rooster just stares at her surprised.

BECCA

I'm just kidding.

(pause)

First match tonight. You gonna win?

ROOSTER

Hope so.

Becca smirks.

BECCA

What do you have in your bag?

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER

Nothing.

She starts reaching for the t-shirt.

Rooster turns avoiding her from getting it. She smiles and continues to try to get it as he spins.

BECCA

What is it?

ROOSTER

I gotta go.

Rooster tries to run away. As he makes his first big dart. His bag comes flying open and the over-sized industrial toilet paper comes rolling out on the ground.

He stands embarrassed facing her.

She smiles at his embarrassment.

ROOSTER

You coming...tonight?

BECCA

I don't do wrestling.

He grabs the roll and starts running.

INT.ROOSTER HOUSE.KITCHEN

Rooster goes home and takes care of his mom.

He runs up stairs.

Comes back down dressed in his wrestling jumpsuit. She smiles.

MOMMA

Look at you. I'm so proud of you Roost. I wish I could be there. How about the last match of the year I'll come.

ROOSTER

You promise?

MOMMA

I promise...Ain't nothing gonna stop me from being there. If I'm in my grave I want you to dig me up and take me to that damn match.

(CONTINUED)

(pause)
You promise you'll never give up
again?

ROOSTER
I promise.

They smile at each other and Rooster leaves.

INT.BULLDOGS GYMNASIUM.LATER

It's the first match of the season.

The tension is in the air. The gymnasium is full of
spectators.

INT.HALLWAY.CONTINUOUS

The Bulldog wrestlers are all standing in the hallway. They
hear their team name called over the loud speaker. They come
running in too the gymnasium.

INT.BULLDOGS GYMNASIUM.CONTINUOUS

They run on to the mat all dressed in there jumpsuits. They
run around the mat in unison as the crowd cheers for them.

Rooster smiles in amazement at the intensity of the
atmosphere.

Max has on a Rooster t-shirt, that's says "Rooster, Dropped
the Bomb on You!", he has a big sign that says the same.

The three bulldog mascots sit on the side.

Two old men sit next to each other, Clyde and Phillip.

CLYDE
This is the year that they loose it
all. There just not that good.

PHILLIP
You say that same shit every year.
Shut your old trap for once. I'm
trying to check out the new kid.

CLYDE
Don't know why you even bother.
He's too skinny. Out of shape, and
his momma coddled him too much.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CLYDE (cont'd)

Only reason we got him was cause
he's too short for the basketball
team and too stupid for the chess
club. He's crap!

Briana walks out looking hot.

She stands next to the coach wearing her bulldog queen
wrestling sash, and high heels.

Coach O'Donnell stands next too the coaches as well.

The team comes off the mat and sits on their chairs on the
side.

Rooster sits nervously.

Coach O'Donnell comes over to him and leans down.

COACH O'DONNELL

You made the right decision.

ROOSTER

Go screw yourself.

Rooster smirks at him.

A few kids wrestle. The team is doing well.

Rooster is on deck. He gets out of his seat and starts
warming up. Mouth agape, he stops and watches the crowd, who
is doing the wave. The crowd visually becomes a crisp green
ocean, with bright blue skies, and white puffy clouds. A
wave comes splashing down on too the mat.

The other match finishes. One of his team mates shakes
Rooster. Rooster snaps out of his trance, closes his mouth.
He's up.

He takes off his warm up suit and runs on the mat.

Max goes crazy yelling and screaming.

MAX

(chanting)

Drop the bomb! Drop the bomb!

Rooster comes out. Shakes hands, then they start to wrestle.

The two are stalling for the first minute.

(CONTINUED)

Rooster looks very nervous. Then, out of nowhere the other kid shoots in and lands a double leg take down, and instantly throws a half nelson on him and takes him to his back.

Rooster is fighting for the entire final minute trying not to get pinned.

He has no quit in him. He doesn't get pinned.

The buzzer goes off.

Rooster gets off his back and mopes over to his coaches.

HEAD COACH

You can't get pinned. We can't lose the points. Just fight.

Rooster shakes his head.

Rooster goes out.

Max is cheering like crazy.

The match starts.

They tangle for a few seconds, and then Rooster delivers his move.

Like a slick ballerina he gracefully reaches in across his opponents neck and sinks his head in his arm. His opponent flips through the air and lands on his back. Rooster squeezes tight, both the guys shoulders touch the mat. The referee pounds the mat with his hand. He pins the guy.

The crowd goes nuts.

Max is running around the gym going crazy.

The coaches cheer. Briana is clapping. The bulldog mascots are barking.

O'Donnell just stands there..

Phillip is standing cheering. Clyde remains miserable and sitting.

PHILLIP

He's going to be just fine.

CLYDE

Luck of the Irish.

Phillip shrugs off Clyde.

Rooster very subtly smiles to the crowd when the ref raises his hand.

MONTAGE OF ROOSTER WINNING MATCHES

- MATCH TWO, Rooster, with in 12 seconds slaps the headlock on and pins the guy.

Ref raises his hand.

All the teammates high five him.

Max and another guy raise their signs for Rooster.

Briana smiles at Rooster.

Phillip cheers, Clyde remains grumpy in his chair.

Coach O'Donnell just shakes his head. He reluctantly shakes the other coaches hands.

- Rooster walks down the hallway and everyone is saying hi to him.

- MATCH THREE, rooster lands the headlock and pins a guy.

- MATCH FOUR, Clyde stands up.

CLYDE

That headlock shit ain't gonna work with this guy. Better have some new miracle up his sleeve!

The match starts, and sure enough, Rooster throws the headlock, and the guy throws a reverse headlock on. Just as Rooster goes to his back, the buzzer goes off.

Rooster is on top. They wrestle in stalemate for a bit, then Rooster does the lazy dog roll move, and puts the guy on his back, and pins him. The crowd goes bananas.

- MATCH FIVE, Rooster really slams a guy down with the headlock then pins him.

- MATCH SIX, Rooster fakes the headlock and throws the fireman's carry on the guy, takes him down and pins him.

- Rooster runs the Rocky stairs as Max coaches him.

- MATCH SEVEN, Rooster, is on top of his opponent. When the ref blows the whistle.

(CONTINUED)

Rooster lets the guy stand up. Rooster sets up his headlock by smacking the opponents head gear on each side. When the guy goes to protect his ears. Rooster throws his move in. Pins him.

Rooster jumps into the crowd of his teammates.

Max and a four other fans have variations of signs that say, "Rooster, Drop that Bomb".

The head coach goes to high five O'Donnell. He reluctantly high fives him.

Phillip is standing cheering, this time Clyde is actually clapping a bit.

Rooster walks by Briana, she touches his arms as he walks by.

- Rooster runs through the town, everyone in the town is greeting him. A person hands him a water as he runs by.

- Rooster runs by a free flu shot sign at the pharmacy. He stops and rips it down. A lady runs out after him. Becca is walking across the street and witnesses the incident.

DAY OF MATCH 8. HALFWAY THROUGH THE SEASON

INT.LOCKER ROOM

Rooster is getting changed in the locker room as the last wrestlers exit. He's in his boxer/ briefs.

The coach comes up to Rooster.

HEAD COACH

I'm gonna to ask for one more favor. Today, is our toughest match of the year. And your guy is real good. If you win... we win. So, win.

He pats Rooster on the shoulder and walks out.

Rooster leans up against the lockers and takes a big breath.

Briana stands behind him.

BRIANA

Hey...

Rooster jumps.

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER
What are you doing in here?

Briana looks him up and down, especially at his package.

BRIANA
Come to my party tonight.

ROOSTER
(nervously)
...Okay.

She walks out. Rooster takes another big breath as he gets changed.

INT.BULLDOGS GYMNASIUM.LATER

The stands are packed with the norms and even more people.

The signs for Rooster outnumber the ones for the team.

Max is leading a chant.

The score is tied. It's Rooster's match.

The team gets around Rooster before he goes out on the match and encourages him.

He runs out to the mat.

His opponent looks much bigger than him.

Before they shake hands. The kid has words for Rooster.

PAUL DECKER
That weak ass headlock isn't going
to work on me, Chicken shit.

The whistle sounds. The two start grappling around in a circle.

This is where we get an insight into how Rooster has been using his special way of seeing things to help him win his matches.

Rooster intensely watches the other guy's moves.

It's like he's watching the guy's movements in slow motion, a frame at a time.

Then, all of a sudden, the speed changes to super fast as Rooster goes to sink a headlock in.

(CONTINUED)

He doesn't get it. The two spar around for a bit.

Then the ref calls a double stall.

Decker then shoots in with a single leg take down, grabs a leg, Rooster does not go down, hops on the one leg trying to get out of bounds to avoid the take down. The guy pulls him back.

That struggle goes on for a few seconds, until Decker finally pulls him down for control, but the buzzers goes off right before it happens.

No points are awarded.

Second Period: The ref asks Decker if he wants up or down.

Decker points down.

Decker gets down, and Rooster on top.

The whistle blows. Decker pops right up and escapes.

The two spar around, and Decker lands the single leg again, but this time gets it. He takes him down.

Rooster is on the bottom and the guy controls him for the rest of the match.

Buzzer sounds.

Third and final period: The score is 3-0, Decker's advantage.

The ref asks Rooster if he wants up or down.

Rooster looks at the coach on the sideline.

The coach turns his thumb downwards.

Rooster gets down. And Decker on top.

HEAD COACH

Rooster, you gotta give it
everything you got. You gotta
explode out of there. Explode!

The whistle blows and Rooster, like a cannon explodes out and escapes.

The crowd roars.

The score is 3-1, Advantage Decker.

(CONTINUED)

The two spar around again.

Rooster tries to land his headlock, but can't land it.
Decker tries his single leg, but Rooster has wised up to it.

Time is running out. Both look helpless.

HEAD COACH

Rooster, you gotta try something.
Something!

Rooster shrugs his shoulders; he doesn't know what to do.

The clock is down to 15 seconds.

HEAD COACH

(shouting)

I don't know. Do something...

OFF SCREEN, we hear someone yell, "Put him in a body bag Johnnie".

It triggers a memory. Rooster sees Daniel Russo waxing the floor, painting the fence, then doing the crane kick on the boat, then doing the crane kick to win the final match. Rooster instantly goes up in to the "Karate Kid" crane kick stance, bouncing up and down.

The whole crowd goes quiet. The coach puts his hand over his eyes. 10 seconds left.

Decker sees an opportunity for an easy single leg take down. He shoots in.

As he does Rooster jumps completely over top of him and spins around on him, throws a quick tilt on Decker, taking him to his back.

The ref quickly awards two back points. Just as the ref gives him the two points, time runs out.

Rooster wins 7-3. The crowd goes absolutely nuts.

Coach pulls his hands from his eyes in amazement.

Rooster runs back and jumps into his team's arms. Max makes his way into the mix.

Briana gives him a kiss on the cheek. Tom hugs him and thanks him. Coach O'Donnell gives the head coach a strong double hive five.

The bulldog mascots are howling at the moon.

(CONTINUED)

Phillip and Clyde are hugging.

CLYDE

I told you he was good.

PHILLIP

He's okay.

EXT.BRIANA'S HOUSE. NIGHT

Rooster pulls up to the house on his dirt bike, with Max on the back holding on for his dear life.

Rooster is more done up then his everyday self. His hair is done and he's dressed in his more stylish clothes.

ROOSTER

You can get off now.

Max remains holding him tightly.

MAX

I'm good...

ROOSTER

For real. Get off.

He finally lets go. They walk up to the house. There's all kinds of kids going in and out of the party.

Rooster looks nervous as they walk up to the door. They open the door. It's a full on packed party.

Max walks in. Rooster stops and takes a breath. Max realizes Rooster is not next to him. He turns back, Rooster is still standing at the front door frozen.

MAX

(to himself)

Man...I ain't never seen somebody
so scared of a party.

Max walks back up to the statue of Rooster. He gets serious and looks Rooster directly in his eyes.

MAX

Rooster, you've been head locking
the shit out of dudes. What you
need to do is relax tonight, and
treat yourself to a slut. Got
it?...Got it!?

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER

Got it.

MAX

So your cool?

ROOSTER

I think so.

MAX

Good.

(yelling)

Rooster is in the motha-fucking house everyone. He whooped that dudes ass today!

Everyone cheers throughout the party.

People approach Rooster and start shaking his hand and congratulating him. Someone hands him a drink. Rooster's nervousness, quickly turns into confidence as girls are saying hi and flirting, and everyone is approaching him.

A cute girl is talking to him. Max comes up to them.

MAX

I'm Rooster's best friend and personal manager. What did you say your name is?

Max gives Rooster the go away nod. He literally starts pushing him away. Rooster staring off into nothing, finally gets the hint and walks around the party. He has several drinks and is having a goods time.

A nerdy intoxicated guy comes up to Rooster. He grabs on Rooster so he can't get away.

NERDY GUY

Rooster, I never watched wrestling till I heard your story. Now, I can't get enough of it. You're an inspiration to all of us.

The kid keeps gabbing away as.

Briana sees him. She walks up to him, smiles and grabs his hand and starts pulling him away. Rooster follows her lead.

Nerdy kid stops talking.

(CONTINUED)

NERDY GUY
She's so lucky.

She takes him upstairs and drags him into a bedroom.

INT.BRIANA'S BEDROOM

She pushes him on the bed.

BRIANA
Rooster, you were so hot on the mat
today. I knew you would win.

Briana hits the button on her remote turning some sensual
music on the stereo.

Briana starts doing a slow sensual strip tease to the music.
A blouse button at a time showing a little more skin and
bites her wet lips.

She's down to her bra and panties.

ROOSTER
Oh my...

Briana jumps on top of Rooster and starts unbuckling his
pants, all to the beat of the music.

People start crowding around the door listening to what's
going on.

Max comes up to the door.

MAX
Who's in there?

One of the guys listening turns to him.

GUY LISTENING
Shhh...Rooster and Briana.

MAX
(to himself)
Rooster and Briana?

Max tip toes and walks down the stairs.

INT.DOWN STAIRS

As soon as he gets down the stairs, he starts yelling.

MAX
(screaming)
My boy Rooster is tearing Briana's
fine ass up!

INT.BRIANA'S BEDROOM. CONTINUOUS

Briana and Rooster are just in there underwear and are full blown making out.

INT.DOWN STAIRS

Bobby Jones busts into the party drunk with some friends.

He heads up the stairs. Max sees that he's going up the stairs and quickly follows.

Bobby sees everyone in front of the door listening.

BOBBY
Who's in my sister's bedroom?

No one answers. Bobby grabs the listening guy and slams him against the wall.

BOBBY
Who's in there?

LISTENING GUY
Your sister...

BOBBY
Who else?

LISTENING GUY
...Rooster?

Bobby tries the knob. The Door is locked.

He steps back and kicks the door in.

Bobby walks right in and pushes Briana off the bed.

Bobby drags Rooster out of the room in his boxers, down the steps and out in the back yard and throws him on the ground.

(CONTINUED)

BOBBY

Come on chicken...shit! Let's see
what ya got.

Rooster gets up and charges in and puts the much bigger Bobby into a headlock.

Bobby laughs at the move, and just over powers Rooster and throws him to the ground.

He goes over and kicks him in the side when he's down.

Everyone at this point has congregated outside to watch the fight.

People are cheering on the violence of Rooster getting beat up.

A resilient Rooster pops right up after getting kicked.

He jumps back in the action and lands a good punch, but it seems to do nothing to the much bigger Bobby.

Bobby punches him and knocks him to the ground. The crowd goes crazy.

Rooster once again gets up and tries again to throw Bobby into a headlock.

Bobby pushes him away and lands another brutal punch.

Rooster falls to the ground. It appears that he is down for the count. Then he starts to slowly get up again.

He's wobbly as he takes a swing and completely misses. While his head is down. Bobby completely clobbers him. It's ugly. Rooster's legs give out and his shoes come flying off. He's definitely down for sure this time.

Then he slowly peels himself from the ground again.

This time the crowds tone has changed. They are no longer cheering on the violence.

They're starting to now cringe as Rooster once again gets up for more.

SEVERAL PEOPLE START YELLING

"Rooster just stay down.", "Dude,
he's gonna kill you, stop",
"Rooster no....Just stay down".

(CONTINUED)

Not even letting Rooster get all the way up Bobby clobbers him again with an upper cut this time, taking Rooster off his feet. Rooster bounces off the ground when he hits.

He remains down for a few seconds.

Almost in slow motion he starts to peel himself off the ground to get up again. Both his eyes are already shut, nose and lip busted. This time people in the crowd are begging him to just stay down. He won't. He finally gets up again.

Even Bobby has had enough. He starts to walk away. Rooster slowly punches him in the back of the head.

Bobby turns around and decks him one final time.

Rooster goes down, then starts to get up again.

Max jumps on Rooster's back and holds him down, as a few others do as well. Bobby, even having won, kind of feels defeated as he walks away confused by what just happened.

INT.ROOSTER'S ROOM.MORNING

Rooster's eye's open in bed. He does his normal wake up, yelling, "AHHHHHHHHH".

This time when he 's yelling Max is standing over top of him.

He startles Max, Max starts yelling as well. They both are yelling together, "AHHHHHHHH".

MAX

Damn...you really always wake up like that?

ROOSTER

Yeah...

Max looks at Roosters face. It's all messed up.

MAX

Damn...your face is all messed up.

Rooster starts touching his face and grimacing.

MAX

I was gonna make you do the Rocky steps today. But, on my way here I ran into Timmy.

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER
Timmy Daniels?

MAX
Nah...Timmy who hangs at the
Laundromat... with the buck
teeth... he kinda talks like he's
on helium.

ROOSTER
I don't know who he his.

MAX
Well that mother-scratcher knows
everybody and anybody. I guess
everybody has to do laundry. Well,
he said there's a couple of rumors
going on about you. One, Rooster
don't quit, and he's tough as shit.
Two...it turns out Briana is a
triple "P". A pure, party, pig. She
was messing around with some dudes
from Buckleville. You know how
dudes are from Bucklesville. Well,
he gave her something, and it
wasn't good...
(long pause)
You got herpes man!

Rooster quickly sits up in bed.

EXT.IN TOWN. LATER

Rooster is jogging through town. He jogs past the free
clinic.

Then he jogs back in front and does a running jog in place
and looks around to make sure no one is around to see him go
in.

He runs inside.

EXT.THE FREE CLINIC. LATER

Rooster pops his head out of the clinic.

He's looking around as he exits.

Just as he makes his decision to make a break for it.
Becca walks around the corner and catches him.

Rooster ducks back in the door.

(CONTINUED)

Becca clearly sees him and walks up to the door.

Rooster is standing in the doorway with a blank expression hoping she would just walk right by.

Becca smiles and waves at him.

He walks out.

ROOSTER

Didn't this use to be where pizza village was?

BECCA

(a matter of fact)

No...

ROOSTER

They must have moved it. You definitely can't get a slice in there.

BECCA

What happened to you?

ROOSTER

What?

BECCA

Are you okay?

ROOSTER

The clinic? I'm clean. Clean as a whistle.

(he awkwardly whistles)

BECCA

No, Is your face okay?

ROOSTER

(pointing at his face)

This? It's nothing.

BECCA

Do you need me to show you how to get to the actual Pizza Village?

ROOSTER

I am starving...for pizza. That's why I was in there.

(CONTINUED)

BECCA
Me too. For pizza.

They walk away.

EXT.PIZZA VILLAGE

They walk up to the pizzeria. Just as they do a convertible Rabbit pulls up with Briana and her friends.

FRIEND ONE
Isn't that your new boy with that skank?

Rooster and Becca go in to the pizzeria.

As they walk out holding slices.

The car pulls up to them.

BRIANA
Hey Rooster! What you doing with this wanna be goth bitch? Jump in?

Rooster puts his head down.

ROOSTER
I can't. I gotta go finish my pizza.

BRIANA
Whatever...

The car pulls away.

EXT.TRAIN BRIDGE.MOMENTS LATER

The two sit on the train bridge with their feet dangling as they nip away on some greasy slices. Rooster looks awkward and unsure of what to say. He finally musters the courage to speak.

ROOSTER
You're different.

BECCA
Good or bad different?

ROOSTER
Good. Like beautiful different.

Becca smiles.

(CONTINUED)

BECCA

Thanks...can I ask you something?
But, don't get upset with me.

Rooster nods yes.

BECCA

A lot of the times you look like
you're in such deep thought, like
you're in another world. What are
you thinking about?

(rethinking)

And I'm not saying that in a mean
way.

ROOSTER

No...it's okay. I've always been
not normal. I think it's because I
think differently then most people.
I think in pictures.

BECCA

Doesn't everybody?

ROOSTER

Not like me. Let me explain. Take
the last sentence I just said.
"I-think-in-pictures." Every one of
those words has multiple distinct
moving pictures that run through my
mind. Take just the word I ...,
when I hear that word I see a
picture of my mom holding me in the
hospital after I was born, I'm
wrapped in a pale blue blanket,
quickly followed by a picture of me
when I was in fourth grade on an
Easter egg hunt in a back yard with
a lake view, I was wearing this
puffy striped brown and white
jacket and I had this silly bowl
hair cut. I had the biggest smile.
Okay, next word, "Think". When I
hear that word I see the statue of,
"the Thinker" by August Rodin, he
points at me. Then I see this
yellow dirty light bulb that use to
be in my hallway when I was twelve
at my grand moms, it would always
blink for about thirty seconds when
you close the door. The word, "In",
I skip over, and it's associated
with next word, which is picture,

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER (cont'd)
which I see "Mona Lisa" of course,
then it's always followed by Vang
Gogh's, "A Starry Night". Put those
pictures in a clear glass box. And
that box represents the word in.
(grasping it)
I think in pictures.

BECCA
You saw all that from four words?

Rooster shakes yes.

BECCA
That's amazing...

ROOSTER
When my minds really thinking the
pictures move and play like a movie
or music video.

BECCA
So, the whole time your staring
off. You're watching your own
movies of your thoughts? I'd be
distracted too. Holy shit.

ROOSTER
Can I tell you my secret? It's why
I'm good at wrestling.

BECCA
I like secrets.

ROOSTER
When I watch somebody move on the
mat, I can slow down the moves in
my head. Like I'm watching them in
slow motion, one picture at a time.
When I see their vulnerability. I
attack.

BECCA
I never took you for a cheater,
Rooster.

ROOSTER
Not a cheater. Just different.

BECCA
So, what pictures do you see when
you think of me?

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER
Some pictures I like to keep to
myself.

He smiles. She smiles back.

ROOSTER
I gotta go.

He pops up.

BECCA
What's your real name Rooster?

ROOSTER
You really wanta know?

She shakes yes.

ROOSTER
Anthanasios Vasillios
Papakonstantinou. It's Greek.

BECCA
Rooster it is...

INT.ROOSTER HOUSE.KITCHEN.NIGHT

Rooster is doing dishes. The phone rings. His mom in the
living room gets it.

He hears her talking to someone.

MOMMA(OC)
Rooster....Phone.

Rooster walks in to the living room.

ROOSTER
Who is it?

MOMMA
The Footsboro Free Clinic.

ROOSTER
(panicked)
I'll get it.

He runs in to the kitchen and picks up the phone.

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER
(yelling to mom)
I got it. You can hang up now!

He listens as his mom waits a second before hanging up.

ROOSTER
(on the phone)
Hello?

MAN ON THE PHONE
(mispronouncing)
Is this Anathats...Anthatsta...Mr.
Pakanasti...

ROOSTER
(frustrated)
Yes..yes it is.

MAN ON THE PHONE
Sir, we have your test results
back.

He doesn't say anything.

ROOSTER
Yes?

MAN ON THE PHONE
You...have the Aids...

Rooster stands silently blown away by what he just heard.

MOMMA(OC)
You okay?

ROOSTER
Yeah.

ROOSTER
(back on the phone)
So...what, what next.

MAN ON THE PHONE
(voice changes)
You go out and get some bitches.
That's what's next!

Rooster recognizes the voice on the phone, it's Max.

ROOSTER
What the.... that's not cool.

(CONTINUED)

MAX

Man...you really thought you had aids?

ROOSTER

How did you find out I was at the clinic?

MAX

That dude Timmy from the laundry mat is a social mastermind man. Hears everything. You can't get aids from hooking up anyways dipshit.

ROOSTER

I forgot. I have something important to tell you.

Rooster hangs up the phone.

MAX

(on the phone)

What? Hello? Hello? Damn it, he got me...

INT.PRACTICE GYMNASIUM. MONDAY - DAY

All the kids are sitting around on the mat waiting for the coach to come in.

The assistant coach comes in by himself.

ASSISTANT COACH

I have some very unfortunate news for you, and the entire community of Footsboro. Our beloved head coach Mr. Murray was arrested last night on a DUI charge. Turns out that it was his third charge. Somehow it got leaked to the press. He was forced to retire his position. He will be greatly missed.

All the wrestlers are in shock. They erupt in disbelief.

ASSISTANT COACH

Quiet down. Quiet...It was the coaches request, that Coach O'Donnell takes over for him as the head coach for the rest of the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ASSISTANT COACH (cont'd)
season, and me, to remain the
assistant coach.

Rooster's face is plastered with fear.

Coach O'Donnell makes an entrance. He's smirking the whole time.

He stops and gives an even bigger smirk directly at Rooster. Rooster gets squeamish.

Rooster runs off to the side, but can't hold it. He throws up on the mat.

He just stands there looking at it.

O'Donnell walks up to him.

COACH O'DONNELL
Don't just stand there. Clean it up
boy.

Rooster cleans up the mess with a rag and mop.

He goes and sits on the sidelines.

COACH O'DONNELL
What do you think your doing? Get
out there.

ROOSTER
I just need a little bit of time.

COACH O'DONNELL
You can take some time after
practice. You are on my time now.

Rooster runs over to practice and they get started.

INT.PRACTICE GYMNASIUM. MONDAY - LATER

All the kids are wrestling.

COACH O'DONNELL
Leg lift time. Whoever can hold
them up last. Doesn't have to do up
downs. Begin...

All the kids lay on their back with their legs suspended six inches off the ground. One by one they all give up besides Rooster and Bobby Jones.

(CONTINUED)

The coach goes over to Rooster and kneels down next to him and whispers.

He starts pushing his legs down as he whispers. Rooster fights it.

COACH O'DONNELL

Boy...I don't like you. You don't like me. So, you won a few matches. Your not gonna last on my team. So, I'm going to push you so hard. You're gonna wish you never came out of your mommas vagina.

Rooster can't hold off any more. His legs hit the mat.

COACH O'DONNELL

Everybody but Bobby do up downs. Two hundred of them...

All the boys are doing up downs. As they are counting out at 196, 197...

COACH O'DONNELL

Rooster...did you just cheat me out of an up down?

ROOSTER

What? No...

COACH O'DONNELL

Did you just get smart with me son? Everyone, take a seat. Roosters going to show us how to do another 200 up downs. Count em down.

Rooster keeps going. At about ninety, Rooster gets very sluggish. The coach stands over him screaming at him. The whole team just watches and feels empathy for him.

Bobby gets up and starts doing up downs with him.

Another boy gets up and does so, as well.

BOBBY

Come on...We're a team!

The whole team gets up and starts doing up downs with Rooster.

Coach O'Donnell snickers at the boy's enthusiasm.

As they are finishing up as a team.

(CONTINUED)

Coach walks up to Rooster.

COACH O'DONNELL

Did you just mouth off to me? I
guess you wanna stay after and run
laps, huh? Everyone else can leave.
Rooster, stay and run for an hour.

Everyone leaves as Rooster keeps running laps.

Coach stands watching him and grinning.

Coach leaves. A minute after the coach leaves. Rooster lays
down on his stomach and starts to lightly smack the mat with
his hands like it's his feet running.

Tommy stumbles in on his crutches. He laughs at what Rooster
is doing.

TOMMY

I wish I was that smart when I was
younger. You're on his shit list.
Watch out. I'd run for ya, but.
(looks at his crutches)
Good luck.

Tommy leaves. Rooster continues to slap the mat.

Becca pops in. She starts laughing at Rooster slapping on
the mat laying on his stomach.

BECCA

So this is what wrestlers do?

Rooster laughs.

BECCA

It smells like...like...an epic
battle of Greek arm pits and
Italian hoagies took place in here.

ROOSTER

What are you doing here this late?

BECCA

Typical teenage angst. Flipped the
art teacher the finger. I gotta go.
Good luck doing...what, your...
doing.

ROOSTER

Hey, my final match is in three
weeks. Will you go?

(CONTINUED)

BECCA
Will it smell like this?

ROOSTER
Worse...

BECCA
I'm in.

Becca starts to walk away.

Just then we see that Briana had been watching the whole conversation from the hallway.

Becca steps out into the hallway.

INT.HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Briana, with her friends gets up in her face.

BRIANA
You don't belong in there. They
don't let freaks play sports.

BECCA
I'm going to tell you once. And
that's it. Get out of my face, you
fake ass cheer leading wanna be
bitch.

Briana backs off and walks away.

BRIANA
(walking away)
You'll get yours.

INT.ROOSTER HOUSE.KITCHEN.LATER

Rooster walks in finding his mom laying across the floor unconscious.

Rooster stands staring at his mom.

INT.HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM

Rooster sits in the room. Waiting, and waiting, and waiting.

He gets up and paces back and forth.

He walks up to the nurse.

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER

My mom, Anna. She went in a few hours back. I haven't heard anything yet. Can you find out if I can see her?

NURSE

Give me a minute, sir.

The nurse leaves. Rooster remains pacing.

She comes back.

NURSE

Sir, I'm sorry. The doctors are still with her.

ROOSTER

When will I find out something?

NURSE

As soon as I find out something. You'll be the first one to know.

Rooster storms away and runs through the hallway, down the steps, and out the door.

He walks into the midnight air. Then just falls to the ground.

INT.HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM. NEXT MORNING

Rooster is awoken by the nurse.

NURSE

The doctor will see you now.

Rooster wipes the crust out of his eyes and follows her down the hallway. They go into a room.

INT.HOSPITAL ROOM

His mom is unconscious and hooked up to all kinds of monitors.

Rooster hugs his mom.

A doctor is standing next to her.

(CONTINUED)

DOCTOR
Rooster, take a seat please.

ROOSTER
Why isn't she awake yet?

DOCTOR
Has your mom had problems with
taking too many pills before?

ROOSTER
She forgets and takes too many
sometimes.

DOCTOR
It seems that she took too many of
the wrong kinds this time. They put
her into a coma. We don't
think it's permanent, because you
found her when you did. But, we
can't be sure yet.

Rooster stands looking at his mom. The Doctor seems to still
be talking, but Rooster doesn't hear anything. He stands
there for hours, almost suspended in that one spot, just
staring at her.

INT.HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM. NEXT DAY

Rooster sits in a chair next to her for the entire next day.

Rooster waits next to her. Max pops in.

MAX
Hey...

ROOSTER
How did you find me?

MAX
Dude from the laundry mat. Telling
you. That dude knows EVERYBODY...He
said his cousin's friend, was the
sister of one of the EMT's who
picked your moms up. Yo
man...everybody at school is
flipping out about you not being
there.
(pause)
How she doing?

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER

Not good.

MAX

What are you going to do?

ROOSTER

I gotta stay with her. She needs me.

Max looks at him, and gives him an awkward hug.

MAX

You need anything?

Rooster shakes no. Max pats him on the shoulder and leaves.

INT. MATH CLASS. NEXT DAY

Max sits in the class with an empty seat next to him as the teacher speaks.

Rooster walks in the class. Max lights up.

MAX

What you doing here?

ROOSTER

I gotta be in school to wrestle, right?

A smile plasters across Max's face.

TEACHER

Max, would you like to teach this class?

Rooster sits down. Max goes up to the front of the class and picks up a piece of chalk.

MAX

I would.

He writes on the board. "Math + Me=Boring."

MAX

Math plus, me, equals, boring. Let me explain how to do this problem. You take me, put me in a crappy class with a slightly below average teacher.

(CONTINUED)

A piece of paper lands on Rooster's desk. He uncrinkles it. It says, "Sorry about your mom. Becca(sad face)".

Rooster turns around. Becca has a sympathetic smile on her face. Rooster lips, "Thanks.."

TEACHER

Sit down Max.

MONTAGE OF ROOSTER GETTING BY

-Match 11, 12, 13 Rooster pins a guy in the headlock. Old Billy Sits in the stands looking at the Score Board of his team winning, and back at O'Donnell and shakes his head. O'Donnell acknowledges him.

-Coach O'Donnell watches Rooster, as he is the only one running around the mat.

-Rooster sits with his mom doing his homework.

-Match 14, 15, and 16. Rooster pins the opponent in headlocks.

-Rooster is doing push ups. O'Donnell has his foot on top of him. Pushing him down as he tries to push back up. Rooster, does not go up. O'Donnell yells at him to run. Rooster starts running around the mat as others practice.

-Rooster lays next to his mom in bed and reads his school book to her.

-Match 17, 18, and 19, Rooster pins the guys in Headlocks.

-Rooster does up downs in front of the entire wrestling team. Bobby Jones tries to get up and do them with him. O'Donnell yells at him to sit back down. He does. Rooster keeps going until finally he can't go any more. He just lays there not moving. All the kids sit quietly with concern. O'Donnell, goes to yell at him, but decides it might be going too far. He refrains.

INT.PRACTICE GYMNASIUM. DAY BEFORE LAST MATCH

Coach is talking as kids sit.

COACH O'DONNELL

You know why wrestling is the greatest sport in the world? Cause each individual has to contribute his effort equally. You can't hide

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

COACH O'DONNELL (cont'd)
behind a team. Each soldier has to go out and fight with everything they have, and win on their own terms. Tomorrow, is the biggest match of the year. West Difford. We barely beat them last time. Three lousy points. Rooster, that means you got Decker again. You win, we win.

They start wrestling.

Practise is coming to an end.

They all put their hands in the middle. "Victory at All Cost!" They start to leave.

COACH O'DONNELL
Rooster...stay after.
(to a chubby kid)
Johnny, get your fat ass back here.
You're wrestling for Bobby tomorrow. Put the trash bags on.
You got a lot of weight to loose.

The same chubby kid from years ago starts putting on garbage bags and running laps.

Rooster walks back.

COACH O'DONNELL
You have to loose tomorrow.
(pause)
Your moms life depends on it. Got it?
(warranting a response)
Got it?

ROOSTER
(blown back)
Loose?

COACH O'DONNELL
You heard me. I have a lot of money riding on us loosing this match.
Just fucking loose.

Rooster, stands concerned, the coach walks away.

INT.ROOSTER HOUSE.KITCHEN. LATER

Rooster sits at the table going through the mail. He sees an envelope from the government. He opens it. His eyes light up.

INT.HOSPITAL ROOM.LATER THAT NIGHT

Rooster sits next to his mom on the bed.

He holds the letter.

ROOSTER

We got it mom. We finally got it. We just have to go to Washington for the final hearing and then claim our check. This is like the Pioneer 10 mission. No one thought they could get any man made object pass the asteroid belt too Jupiter. But, they did it. It took nine years to get to Jupiter. The farthest any object has ever traveled. We finally made it to our Jupiter.

(starts crying)

Once we get that money I'm gonna get you everything you ever wanted. Remember when you said you were a little girl your only dream was to have a horse. I'm going to make sure you get two of them. I heard they can make you a special saddle so you can ride too. The most beautiful horses you ever seen. It's going to be good, mom. Like it was before this. When it was just me and you. Remember how good that was? We're gonna be all right now. Me and you. Just wake up, mom. Wake up...

Rooster hugs his mom and holds her.

Rooster turns around. Coach O'Donnell is standing in the door grinning. He starts clapping.

COACH O'DONNELL

That was so sweet. Bravo...

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER

What are you doing here?

COACH O'DONNELL

I was just concerned about your
moms health. It would be a shamed
if some thing were to happen to
her. But, I'm sure tomorrow you
will make sure that she will be
just fine.

Rooster grabs a chair and picks it up at O'Donnell.

ROOSTER

Get out of here!

Coach just laughs and walks away.

COACH O'DONNELL

Just loose kid.
(walking away)
Or I'll kill you and the good
hearted mother of yours.

INT. MATH CLASS. NEXT DAY

Rooster walks in to class with a glow.

MAX

Look at you playboy. What pussy you
been beating up?

ROOSTER

My mom got her lawsuit letter from
the government. We're good...

MAX

Get out of here...

Rooster shakes his head. Max stands up on his desk.

MAX

Everyone...Two things...One,
Rooster, just received his moms
long awaited lawsuit letter.
They're out of the poor house. And
two, Rooster is gonna stomp all
over Decker and the West Difford
Eagles tonight. So come on out and
watch him drop the bomb on those
suckers!

The whole class starts clapping and cheering.

(CONTINUED)

Rooster half heartedly smiles.

Max pulls him out of his seat. They cheer louder.

TEACHER

All right. Calm down everyone.
Congrats Rooster... And kick some
ass tonight.

The class cheers again. Max starts running around the room cheering. As they are cheering Rooster turns to Becca.

ROOSTER

You're coming, right?

BECCA

Wouldn't miss it.

Rooster smiles as Max comes and hugs him.

A girl comes into the classroom with a note and gives it to the teacher.

TEACHER

Rooster, you're a popular man. Your
presence is requested in the
principal's office.

Rooster gets up and everyone cheers on his exit.

INT.HALLWAY.CONTINUOUS

Rooster walks out of the classroom and is tackled against the locker by, Briana.

ROOSTER

(scared)

Woh, I thought you were somebody
else.

BRIANA

It's big match tonight.

ROOSTER

Yeah...

She gets real close to Rooster. Almost kissing him and seductively speaks.

BRIANA

I'll tell you what. After you win
tonight why don't you come over. My

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BRIANA (cont'd)
folks are out of town. We can
finish what we started.

She pulls away teasing him and walks away.

BRIANA
Win tonight...

INT.HOSPITAL ROOM. LATER

Rooster lies next to his mom talking to her.

The nurse comes in.

NURSE
What are you still doing here? I'm
heading to your big match. Don't
you need to be there?

ROOSTER
I'm leaving in a minute.

NURSE
Be careful, it's raining. You want
a ride?

ROOSTER
No...it's only a mile.

NURSE
See you there.

She leaves.

ROOSTER
All right mom. I gotta leave. I
know you promised you would come,
and you wouldn't miss it for the
world, even if I had to drag your
dead body.

Just then a doctor walking by, stops and randomly leaves a
wheel chair outside of the rooms door.

Rooster looks at the wheelchair, then back at his mom.

EXT.HOSPITAL.MOMENTS LATER

Rooster pushes his mom out of the hospital front doors. He has the pole with the drip bags tied across her, holding her in.

He runs out into the rain pushing her. He has a huge smile plastered across his face.

Rain is pouring over both of them. But, it's doesn't seem to matter. She would have wanted it this way.

He pushes her in the road and is running and running with her as cars pass beeping. It's their moment. He wasn't going to let her miss it. He's smiling the whole time. They are together.

He keeps pushing her and running down the street as more and more cars beep and pass them.

A car finally slams on it's breaks and backs up.

The window goes down. It's Becca.

BECCA

(yelling over the rain)

You ever realize that I always
catch you doing the most ordinary
things. I hate to even ask.

(pausing)

Can I give you a ride?

ROOSTER

Thanks...but, this is something me
and mom have to do together.

BECCA

I'd say I'd understand...

Rooster cuts her off and lands a kiss on her.

She's shocked.

ROOSTER

You talk too much.

She just stays quiet and takes in the moment.

He smiles. She just remains quiet.

ROOSTER

I gotta go. Me and my mom have a
match to attend.

(CONTINUED)

Rooster starts running with his mom again.

Becca drives next to him. He's smiling; she is smiling back at them.

INT.GYMNASIUM. A FEW MINUTES LATER

Rooster, and his mom soaking wet, and Becca come busting through the door.

The packed gym stops in silence. Rooster stops and turns to Becca.

ROOSTER

Would you mind watching my mom? I'm sorry. Becca, this is my mom.

(turns to his mom)

Mom...this is Becca.

(like he's whispering)

When I think of her name. I see that sunset we saw in Ocean City when I was eight. We both said it was the most beautiful thing we had ever seen.

BECCA

Not exactly the way I intended on meeting your mother. But, yes. I will watch her.

ROOSTER

Thanks...I got a match to win.

The announcers start calling the wrestlers out. Rooster smiles and runs off too his teammates.

Coach O'Donnell grimaces at Rooster. Rooster ignores him.

THE MATCH STARTS

The crowd goes crazy.

They introduce the matches and the weight classes from each team. Each wrestler runs out into the middle and shakes his opponents hand.

They call Rooster and Decker. As they shake hands.

DECKER

You're dead chicken shit.

LATER

Rooster is taking off his warm-up outfit and is loosening up.

He's in the zone. The announcers call his name. He runs, O'Donnell stops him.

COACH O'DONNELL

Everything is on you now. You're gonna loose this match. or your gonna be dead like your daddy.

Rooster stares at O'Donnell. Blown back by what he just said.

Old Billy is in the stands with his goons watching. He looks up at the score it's tied. O'Donnell gives him a nod.

Rooster runs into middle of the mat. The two opponents shake hands. The whistle blows.

The two spar around for a bit.

The ref calls a double stalling penalty on them.

Finally, Rooster tries a headlock, but doesn't land it. Decker counters and tries a single leg, but doesn't land it.

There's ten seconds left when the two grip each other up, and as Rooster tries to make a move and throw Decker. Decker, by mistake steps on Roosters foot, and when Rooster goes to throw him. Rooster's ankle snaps.

A ungodly bone breaking noise echoes through out the gymnasium.

Rooster goes down, and Decker jumps on top of him. He gets two points as the buzzers sounds.

Rooster lies on the ground screaming and holding his ankle.

His ankle is beyond broke. The foot is just hanging limp.

The whole gymnasium grows quiet as the coaches and medics rush to the middle.

The medic observes the ankle. It looks terrible.

MEDIC

There's no doubt. It's broke. You're going to have to call the match.

(CONTINUED)

Rooster yelling out in pain.

ROOSTER
We're not calling the match!

COACH O'DONNELL
I think we should.

MEDIC
He could cause irreversible damage
if he continues.

ROOSTER
I swear to god, if any one calls
this match except me.

REFEREE
It's your decision son.

ROOSTER
(to the medic)
Wrap it.

Rooster stares down O'Donnell.

REFEREE
You got two minutes.

The medic supports him and walks him to the sideline.

He starts to wrap his ankle.

COACH O'DONNELL
Rooster, what are you doing.

O'Donnell stares him down.

The medic throws ice on his ankle.

REFEREE
Time...

ROOSTER
(to the medic)
Anything I can do to make it
better?

MEDIC
Don't use it.

Some of his teammates lift Rooster up and walk him over to
the middle. As they walk Rooster turns to O'Donnell.

(CONTINUED)

ROOSTER
I'm gonna win this match.

The teammates leave Rooster in the middle jumping up and down on one foot.

Decker has to pick of up or down. He picks up.

Rooster has to get down. He can't by himself. He tries. The Referee extends his arm, he grabs it and stabilizes himself and goes to the ground.

Decker gets on top.

The whistle blows.

Decker relentlessly tries moves. But, somehow, Rooster holds him off. The whole time he fends him off, he yells out in pain like a wounded mutt.

The crowd grows quiet at Roosters courage. Rooster has a no quit in him, and that inspires every person in the gym.

Rooster is crying as he wrestles. The pain is so evident too every person in that gym.

Decker throws some tilts on Rooster taking him to his back and wracking up the points. But, Rooster keeps getting out; he won't let himself get pinned.

He keeps looking at his mom, at Becca, and at Max, and then back at his mom, and decides that he can't stop. He promised his mom he will never give up again.

The buzzer sounds. End of the period.

The score is 9-0. Decker. Final period.

Rooster picks the up position. He pulls himself on top of Decker.

The whistle blows.

Rooster explodes up and back, popping up on one leg and separating himself. Decker stands up as well, both are standing separated, but Rooster is doing it by jumping up and down on one leg to balance himself.

Likes he's practiced it, he's amazingly agile hopping around one one leg. He avoids take down, after take down.

The clock is running out. There's twenty seconds on it.

(CONTINUED)

Suddenly the world turns too slow motion. Rooster sees Deckers every move. Decker pulls off to the side raising one of his arms. The world, suddenly speeds up into fast forward. Rooster, with one leg darts in and lands a headlock.

He flips Decker to his back.

Holding Decker on his back, he squeezes with all of his might to pin him, but Decker goes against him with all his to resist.

The crowd is going insane.

The clock is running out, 5, 4, 3...

Rooster is looking at the clock, squeezing harder. Looking at his mom. Squeezing harder.

The ref is down looking to see if both shoulder blades are down. One is, the other is not but, is just a quarter of an inch from the mat.

The ref raises his hand to smack the mat for the pin. His hand goes in a downward motion.

The buzzer sounds.

The period is over just as his hand hits the mat.

It's so close. The crowd is completely quiet.

The ref takes a second, then says the pin counts.

The crowd goes absolutely crazy.

Rooster just lies on the mat smiling.

He looks up at his mom. He smiles at her.

Rooster pops up on one foot, and the Ref raises Decker's hand.

The bulldogs fans start cheering and clapping like crazy.

Rooster hops around the middle of the mat and the crowd keeps cheering.

He smiles. Max wheels Rooster's mom into the middle of the mat. Rooster hugs her as the crowd keeps going crazy.

ROOSTER
(to his mom)
I told you I wouldn't quit mom.

Clyde turns to Phillip.

CLYDE
Biggest heart I've ever seen on a
wrestler. Hands down.

PHILLIP
Smartest thing you said all season.

Max and Becca put Roosters arms around their shoulders as they push the wheelchair and exit out the door together as the crowd keeps chanting.

INT.HALLWAY.CONTINUOUS

They push through the doors. Briana comes running up.

BRIANA
Rooster...what are you doing? Let's
go.

Becca looks over at Rooster. Rooster gives her the non-verbal okay.

Becca turns to Briana and punches her in the face. Straight up cold clocks her.

Briana has no clue what just happened. She grabs her face in shock. They all smile and keep going out the front door.

EXT.BY BECCA'S CAR.CONTINUOUS

They walk up to the car. Coach O'Donnell comes up and pins Rooster on the side of the car.

COACH O'DONNELL
You really fucked me tonight
Rooster. But, there is some good
news. I heard your moms lawsuit
settlement came in. Guess what?
Half of it's mine.

ROOSTER
What?

(CONTINUED)

COACH O'DONNELL

Who do you think has been giving
you those envelopes with your
mommas name on them every week? Me
and your mom signed a contract a
long time ago. I get half.

Coach O'Donnell grins spitefully, and then walks away.

COACH O'DONNELL

Good match. Lot of balls kid. Lot
of balls.

He walks away leaving Rooster dumbfounded, standing in the
rain.

EXT.O'DONNELL BARN. NIGHT. A FEW NIGHTS LATER

Rooster, with a foot cast on, is standing outside of the
barn holding a bat.

ROOSTER(V.O)

The thought of that man hurting my
mom, or taking the money from us. I
couldn't bare it.

Rooster kicks the door in. O'Donnell sits in his chair
admiring his moonshine distillery laid out in the barn.
O'Donnell is all beat up. He has an arm cast on, bruised
face, broken nose, and two black eyes.

He smiles at Roosters arrival.

COACH O'DONNELL

Well, oh well. Look what we have
here. What do you want piss ant?

ROOSTER

I've came to kill you.

COACH O'DONNELL

Well damn. You do have some balls
don't you boy.

O'Donnell pops up out of his chair and walks at Rooster.

COACH O'DONNELL

Let's see what you got boy.

Rooster starts to go for him, but he's too slow, he swings
the bat and O'Donnell avoids him.

(CONTINUED)

COACH O'DONNELL

I wanted to tell you a story about your dad. See, years back, me and him were best friends. He's the one that taught me how to distill moonshine. He was the best on the east coast hands down. He was beautiful to watch.

Rooster takes another swing at O'Donnell. Misses him. Hits a table and breaks some stuff.

COACH O'DONNELL

One day me and him met this fine piece of ass. We thought she was the cat's meow. We fought, and fought over her. He won...That was your momma. I didn't want to give up. Pleaded with your mom to be with me. When she finally gave in and said yes.

Rooster swings again. Just misses him.

COACH O'DONNELL

That's when she found out she was pregnant with your little ass. See, I hated you even before you were born. I've always hated you. You stopped me from being with my woman.

ROOSTER

(anger)

Your lying!

COACH O'DONNELL

Your dad and I kept brewing together over the years. Having him around was a constant reminder of the woman I wanted and couldn't have. So, one day... I killed him. Made it look like a suicide.

Rooster yells and raises the bat in the air.

ROOSTER

No...!!!!

He slams the bat down, but some how O'Donnell manages to move out of the way and rip the bat out of his hands.

(CONTINUED)

COACH O'DONNELL
Just like I'm going to kill you.

He hits Rooster in the shoulder with the bat. Rooster goes down to the ground. But, being tough as nails, he gets right back up.

COACH O'DONNELL
Some time after I killed your daddy
I was all set up to marry your
momma. Then she got that shot. I
couldn't be with no damn cripple.

He raises the bat in the air to kill Rooster.

COACH O'DONNELL
(smirking)
But, don't you worry. I'm gonna
take care of your moms just fine.
Put her in a nice government home.

Just as O'Donnell is ready to come down with the bat. A metal pole hits him over the head.

Blood trickles down his face and his knees give out from under.

He falls to the ground revealing Tommy, holding a pipe.

Rooster looks up at him. They look at each other just like they did when they were younger.

Tommy puts his hand out and lifts Rooster from the ground.

EXT.BARN.NIGHT

Rooster and Tommy spread moonshine on the outside of the Barn. Rooster looks at Tommy. Tommy returns the look.

Rooster strikes the match, and then throws it. They both start to walk away as the barn catches on fire, then blows up thirty feet in the air.

ROOSTER(V.O)
Most people don't ever get the
chance to have a defining moment. I
guess I was one of the lucky ones.

INT.ROOSTER'S ROOM.WEEKS LATER

A confident Rooster lays in his bed sleeping peacefully filled with hope and dreams.

ROOSTER(V.O)

It turns out that moonshine distilleries blow up all the time. Not even sure if it mattered. Ninety-eight percent of the town wanted to see that bastard dead any way.

(pause)

Well, my mom eventually came out of her coma. Claims she remembers hearing the crowds cheering my name. And she was proud of me. Me and Becca are still together. My first real girlfriend. And Max, well, never got laid...but he does have a girlfriend...As my mom once told me. If you have your health, and an able body. You better damn well use it. And...don't ever give up. Ever...

Roosters eyes quickly open as he's laying in bed, and just as he's about to let out a scream.

He stops, and a look of contention goes across his face.

He smiles and lays his head back down.

CUT TO BLACK.

THE END.