

INT. A ROOM - DAY

A refugee from Ukraine, ALEKSEI, enters the room and greets the audience.

ALEKSEI
Hellos. I am here to tell you my
story and could be convince yous.

ALEKSEI pauses, reflecting on something.

ALEKSEI
So I hear that Steven Seagul is
coming to my town and he is supposed
to represent Russia. Ooo big
problem, Russia is very bad now.

ALEKSEI shrugs and continues.

ALEKSEI
So I am thinking to myself- who is
this Steven?

ALEKSEI turns to the audience, looking for an answer.

ALEKSEI
So I ask my cousin, Yergei, and he
says he is from the movies, from
America.

ALEKSEI
So I go to the internets. My nephew,
he is good with the internets, and I
tell him to look for the Seag- the
Steven Seagul.

ALEKSEI
And he is like the what?

ALEKSEI
And I am like the Steven Seagul.

ALEKSEI
So we find the movies- and these
movies, these movies they are so
bad. ass. Man!

ALEKSEI pauses, looking serious.

ALEKSEI
And I, I am a religious man, and
"thank you God, thank you." But
these fuckin movies, my. God.

ALEKSEI
Steven Seagul, he is one bad ass
mother fucker.

ALEKSEI continues, now more excited.

ALEKSEI
He is on the top of the train, and
he is shooting these bad mother
fuckers up and down, BAM BAM!

ALEKSEI
And he is kicking ass in a Hawaiian
shirt like he does this on vacation!

ALEKSEI takes a breath to collect himself

ALEKSEI
So anyway, Steven Seagul, he comes
to my town, and I think to myself, I
must meet this man. Maybe he can
convince me that Russia is not so
bad.

ALEKSEI pauses, as if considering the possibility, mock
scratching their chin.

ALEKSEI
So, I go to the event where he is
speaking. And there he is, the man
himself, the Steven Seagul.

ALEKSEI makes a gesture as if they're seeing Steven Seagal
for the first time.

ALEKSEI
He starts to talk about peace and
love between our countries, and I am
listening, but my eyes, my eyes are
on his ponytail. It is so majestic,
like a horse's tail.

ALEKSEI
And I am thinking, I think to Alexi,
I think, if Russia likes the seagul,
and I like the seagul, can we not
find a shared understanding?

ALEKSEI

So, he starts speaking, and he talks about how we can bring peace and martial arts and Japanese culture. You think "oi, alexi, this is crazy", but you will listen, as I listened, and you will believe, as I believed.

ALEKSEI

He says that if we open dojos and train together, we can create understanding and unity among people, and if we all wear Hawaiian shirts, we can spread joy and happiness.

ALEKSEI nods, as if agreeing with the idea.

ALEKSEI

So, I decide to join him on his mission. I leave my town and start traveling the world spreading the word of the Seagul.

ALEKSEI

Now people start coming together, and they forget about their differences. They train together, laugh together, and wear the Hawaiian shirts together.

ALEKSEI pauses, looking emotional.

BLACKOUT