

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.

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

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 he is even wearing the Hawaiian  
shirt, like he does in the movies.

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 through  
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 with Steven Seagal, 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