

TWEENS

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INT. CAR - 11AM ON A SATURDAY, SUMMER

Four friends in their late 20's / early 30's drive fast along a country road. The windows are down, and they are all badly and loudly singing "Spiderwebs" by No Doubt. The song ends and the volume is turned down. 90's songs continue to play faintly in the background.

BRAD - 30-years-old, ex-high-school-jock but now current manager at a New Balance shoe store - is sitting in the passenger seat.

His longtime girlfriend NIKKI, a 27-year-old cosmetologist, is driving.

JOSH and KELLY, a married couple who have been together since high school, are in the backseat. They are both 30 years old. Josh is an IT tech at a bank and Kelly is a loan officer assistant at that same bank. Yes, they even work together.

BRAD

I can't believe I knew all those words.

KELLY

I know! Oh my gosh. That song is like, how many years old??

JOSH

(pulls out his phone to Google search the song)
20 years. Released 1995.

KELLY

Oh my gosh. We were like 10 years old. Holy cow.

BRAD

(turning around in his seat to face Kelly and Josh)
Those were the good times you know. Pre-internet, pre-cell phones, pre-Facebook, pre-Twitter pre-everything. Life was simple. Kids these days have no attention span anymore. (To Nikki) Turn left here. (Back to Josh and Kelly) I heard about this kid who wrote an entire paper by texting it. Who does that? (To Nikki) Babe, left. Nikki, left. Nikki, LEFT!

(CONTINUED)

NIKKI

WHAT?!

BRAD

Damn it, you missed the turn. Just go up here and turn around.

NIKKI

WHAT?! You didn't tell me to turn!

BRAD

I did. I told you like a million times!

NIKKI

No you didn't!

BRAD

I did babe.

NIKKI

No you didn't. You mumbled it. Like you ALWAYS do. Sooo I couldn't hear you!!

She sharply turns the car around. Brad hangs on for dear life, while Josh and Kelly fly around in the backseat.

WE SEE THE CAR SKID AND DRIVE AWAY. IT PASSES A SIGN THAT SAYS:

"FIVE FLAGS THEME PARK. 3 MILES."

TITLE PAGE: TWEENS

INT. CAR - FIVE FLAGS PARKING LOT

The car pulls into a parking lot packed with cars. They grab one last remaining spot beside a parking lot light.

NIKKI

(turning off the car)

Well, we made it.

KELLY

We made it!

JOSH

(sarcastically)

We made it.

(CONTINUED)

Everyone starts to unbuckle seat belts, roll up windows, gather belongings, etc...

BRAD

(To everyone)

Guys, I was thinking. This place is... well, it's so nostalgic. I have so many memories here... hanging out with my buds, eating ice cream, trying to touch Donna Carson's left boob on the Ferris wheel.

JOSH

(referencing he and Kelly)

Yeah, we had one of our first dates here.

KELLY

He bought me blue cotton candy.

JOSH

Because you hated pink.

KELLY

I HATED pink. It was a phase. (They smooch. It's slightly nauseating)

BRAD

That's what I'm saying! Listen, why ruin this day with trying to stage the perfect Instagram photo? When we can just enjoy being together, like the old times. Like the 90's. Like Gwen Stefani! If people wanna talk to us, they gotta leave us a message!

NIKKI

What do mean?

BRAD

I mean. Let's leave our phones in the car.

Everyone is in pure shock. Who would suggest such a thing?

KELLY

What?

BRAD

Leave our phones in the car. We can lock them up here in the glove

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BRAD (cont'd)
compartment. It will be so...
freeing.

JOSH
I'm in.

KELLY
Josh, what if there's an emergency?

JOSH
Then we use a phone inside the park
or get a security guard, duh.

NIKKI
What if we get lost?

BRAD
We're not 5 Nikki! We'll, uh, we'll
pick a meeting spot... (getting
even more into it) like the days
before cell phones!

JOSH
(getting into it too)
Right!

NIKKI
What if I really want to take a
photo?

BRAD
Then take it in your mind, babe.

NIKKI
...Ok, I'll do it.

BRAD
That's what I'm talking about.

NIKKI
(sighs)
Only if you buy me ice cream.

BRAD
I'll buy you as many ice creams as
you want, babe. Ok guys, hand them
over.

Brad holds out his hand and they all give him their cell
phones one-by-one.

CLOSE UP: BRAD OPENING THE GLOVE COMPARTMENT. PLACING ALL 4
PHONES INSIDE. CLOSING THE GLOVE COMPARTMENT AND LOCKING IT.

(CONTINUED)

BRAD

And I'll put the key right under
this floormat, so I don't lose it
on a ride (he does). Done!

KELLY

Wow, I do feel free!

BRAD

It's amazing right. Hands in guys.

Brad puts his hand in the middle of the car,
team-huddle-style. They all put their hands on top of his.
Nikki is reluctant, but joins in too.

BRAD

Let's have the best freggin
old-school, back-in-time theme park
day ever!

ALL

(raising their hands)

WAHOO!

EXT. THEME PARK ENTRANCE

All four characters, in slow-motion, hold hands and skip
towards the entrance while the CHARIOTS OF FIRE theme song
plays in the background. They arrive at the ticket booth to
a record-scratching halt.

JOSH

What do you mean it's \$55?

OLD ADMISSIONS MAN

\$55 one adult admission.

JOSH

(sighs)

Ok. 4 please.

OLD ADMISSIONS MAN

That'll be \$220.

Everyone sighs together, with the shared thought "It wasn't
this expensive when we were kids."

4 QUICK, REPETITIVE SHOTS OF EACH CHARACTER PAYING WITH
THEIR CREDIT CARDS AND SIGNING THEIR RECEIPTS WITH A PEN.
BUT NOT JUST ANY PEN. ONE OF THOSE SUPER COOL MULTI-COLOR
CLICK PENS FROM THE 90S. EACH CHARACTER SIGNS HIS/HER
RECEIPT WITH A DIFFERENT COLOR.

BRAD SIGNS HIS WITH RED.

EXT. THEME PARK ENTRANCE - THE OTHER SIDE

The ticket price was daunting, but didn't hurt their spirits. Now with colorful wrist bands on, they continue, in slow-motion, to skip to the CHARIOTS OF FIRE theme song. Brad still has the MULTI-COLOR PEN in his hand. JOSH is trying to skip and put his wallet away at the same time. Finally they reach THE PHOTO BOOTH. The music stops.

BRAD

(With the multi-color pen still in his hand. He unconsciously points and emphasizes words with it as he speaks, like a teacher with a ruler)

Ok guys. If any of us gets lost, this photo booth will be our meeting point. No matter what happens, let's plan on meeting here at 8pm. I wanna get out of here before the park closes at 10. Sound like a plan? (He finally notices the pen) Oh crap. I took the pen from that old guy.

KELLY

Who cares? I'm sure he has million.

Brad puts the pen in his pocket.

BRAD

Ok. So, sound good guys?

KELLY

Sounds good.

JOSH

Works for us.

BRAD

Nikki?

NIKKI

(still in a sour mood)

Yep.

BRAD

Ok, what should we go on first?!

(CONTINUED)

JOSH AND KELLY
The Comet!!!

EXT. THE COMET LINE

Nikki, Josh and Kelly wait in an insanely long line for the wooden roller coaster The Comet.

JOSH
This is a lot longer than I
remember.

KELLY
It's ok, it's moving fast.

They move forward an inch.

KELLY
See?

Suddenly Brad arrives carrying two half-melted ice creams.
His hands are covered in melted chocolate and vanilla.

BRAD
(to Nikki, handing her a swirl
cone with sprinkles)
Here babe.

NIKKI
(examining it)
Did you eat my cone?!

BRAD
It was dripping all over. I had no
choice.

The people behind them in line are not happy with Brad
cutting.

ANGRY WOMAN
Hey, no cutting!

BRAD
What?

ANGRY WOMAN
No cutting! We've been waiting here
for an hour. Get to the back of the
line.

(CONTINUED)

ANGRY WOMAN'S 4-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER
Yeah, back of the line!

More people start yelling.

BRAD
(to crowd)
OK!

BRAD
I'll just wait for you guys at the
exit. Hands in.

Everyone is reluctant since his hands are still covered in
ice cream.

BRAD
After this, we hit up the flume
ride. Five Flags Forever!

He runs off.

INT. THE COMET RIDE

Josh and Kelly get into The Comet seats. They start
canoodling. Nikki gets into a seat. A big fat man sits next
to her. She rolls her eyes. Off they go!

EXT. THE COMET EXIT LINE

Brad is sitting by himself on a bench, eating what is left
of his ice cream cone. A girl TWEEN sits next to him and
takes a selfie.

BRAD
You know, you don't need to take a
selfie of every ride you ride.
Sometimes it's better to just be in
the moment.

TWEEN 1
Oh, I didn't ride that.

BRAD
Then why are you taking a photo?

TWEEN 1
Because if I try and take a selfie
ON the roller coaster, I'll drop my
phone.

(CONTINUED)

BRAD

But why do you need to take a
selfie?

Tween 1 just stares at him. Then she starts texting, gets up
and walks away.

Now Brad is very, very proud of the no cell-phone decision
he's made. He basks in it.

Then Nikki, Josh and Kelly appear from the exit.

BRAD

How was it?!

JOSH

Awesome!

NIKKI

Horrible!

KELLY

To the flume ride!

EXT. MONTAGE

A theme park montage set to 90s music. We see the gang on
the flume ride, playing games, eating lunch, riding kiddie
rides, riding more roller coasters, getting slap bracelet
prizes, etc.

EXT. HAUNTED HOUSE LINE - 6PM

We catch up to them waiting in line for the Haunted House.
They are all chewing bubble gum. Kelly has her blue cotton
candy.

JOSH

I have to hand it to you Brad, this
has been a pretty fun day so far.

BRAD

I agree man, I agree. Even Nikki is
having a good time. Right babe?

NIKKI

(Finally cracking an honest,
adorable smile)

Maybe.

JOSH

The haunted house is my favorite.
Kel, remember when I tried to kiss
you?

(CONTINUED)

KELLY

Oh my gosh, yes! (to all) He tried to pull me into this corner and make out, but then a skeleton popped out and scared the shit out of him.

JOSH

But I played it off so cool. I was like "Oh I saved you!"

KELLY

Which I did not buy for one second!

JOSH

Hey, I did something right. We're still together 15 years later (they smooch).

NIKKI

That's so sweet. (teasingly) Babe, can you pull me into a corner and make out?

BRAD

Yes! (in a ghost-storytelling voice) And I will save you from all of the scary teenagers working a lame summer job!

JOSH

That's right Brad! Didn't you work here one summer?

BRAD

Two summers. But all the nerds worked in the haunted house. I ran the snowball stand. I was kind of a big deal.

NIKKI

Oh, snowballs!

KELLY

Oh, spearmint flavor...

NIKKI

Let's get some after!

KELLY

Totally!

(CONTINUED)

OLD HAUNTED HOUSE MAN
(This old man has been working
the haunted house attraction
since the 90s. He is dressed
like a poor man's Dracula. He
welcomes the group inside in a
scary voice)
Welcome to the House of Horrors!
Enter at your own risk!

They go inside. After they enter, the tween who is next in line approaches the OLD HAUNTED HOUSE MAN and takes a selfie with him. He half-smiles, but looks confused.

INT. HAUNTED HOUSE

JOSH
Oaaahhhhhh! Boo!

KELLY
You're not scary.

BRAD
Watch out!

NIKKI
You're not scary either (the girls
share a laugh)

JOSH
(still in a scary voice)
Be careful or a very sexy man might
try and make out with you!
Oaahhhhahaha!

KELLY
Now that's scary! (the girls share
a laugh again)

BRAD
I remember this being a much more
horrifying attraction.

JOSH
Hello? Anyone here?

Silence.

The camera pans around and suddenly we notice faint glows of light behind pieces of white cloth.

(CONTINUED)

BRAD
Wait. What's that?

NIKKI
What?

Brad goes over to one of the lights. He waves his hand.

BRAD
Hello? It looks like a ghost or something... but... it's not moving...

JOSH
Weird.

KELLY
Maybe the animatronics are turned off or something?

JOSH
Yeah maybe.

BRAD
Hello?! Can someone turn on the ghosts please?

NIKKI
This is so lame. I can't believe you were actually scared of this Brad. Let's just keep going and get out of here.

They keep walking. As they exit frame, we notice the piece of cloth move, but just slightly.

They enter the next room.

BRAD
Hello? Anyone here?

JOSH
Look, more lights.

This time there are many lights under pieces of cloth, much more than the last room. Kelly walks over to one.

KELLY
Yeah, it must be turned off or something.

She slowly lifts up the cloth to investigate, and underneath is a TWEEN - texting away on his phone.

(CONTINUED)

Everyone screams, including the tween.

TWEEN 2

Aw, c'mon!

JOSH

What are you doing?!

TWEEN 2

Uh, sexting. What are you doing?

JOSH

Traveling through this haunted house that I thought would be the thrilling and horrifying adventure of my youth.

TWEEN 2

Oh. Well. Boo.

BRAD

Not good enough. Give me your phone.

TWEEN 2

What?

BRAD

Give me your phone. No phones allowed.

TWEEN 2

No jerks allowed. Get out of here man.

BRAD

I said No. Phones. Allowed. Now give me your phone and do your nerdy-ass summer job!

Suddenly our four characters look around, and all of the glowing cell phone lights are moving closer, and closer. They're surrounded. One of them accidentally touches Nikki.

NIKKI

Ew, back up. Let's get out of here, Brad.

BRAD

Right, this is lame. C'mon guys, let's go.

They all exit. Josh pushes one of the tweens on the way out.

EXT. HAUNTED HOUSE EXIT

JOSH

What in the heck was that about?!

BRAD

Stupid tweens and their cell phones, that's what. They can't get off them. They are RUINING everything.

NIKKI

Calm down, babe. They're just teenagers.

BRAD

No I won't calm down! I may have been a stupid teenager, but I wasn't a robot. I had thoughts and feelings that didn't exist on Facebook.

KELLY

Oh, Facebook isn't really popular with the young kids anymore. I think Twitter? Or, wait, Tinder maybe?

BRAD

I don't care what's popular! All these fucking kids are brain-fried. And now its affecting my life!

JOSH

It was just a silly haunted house Brad. Look, these poor kids are going to have horrible lives anyway. Stuck to technology. No self-confidence, no social skills. It's sad, in a way.

BRAD

That's right its sad. Sad losers.

NIKKI

(trying to cheer him up)

Hey, can I buy you Tutti Frutti snowball?!

BRAD

Oh yes please! This woman knows the way to my heart.

(CONTINUED)

They all leave frame toward the snowball stand. Then, at the exit of the haunted house, 3 TWEENS stand in the doorway - a skeleton, a ghost and a zombie. We zoom into their faces and notice that their eyes are blurry and bloodshot. A whole summer texting in the dark will ruin your vision. They stand there for a moment, watching our characters walk away. Then they each pull out their cell phones and start texting. They are texting to each other instead of just talking to one another. They look back and forth at each other, as if having a conversation, but text instead. Finally, they nod together to confirm their plan, give one last evil stare, and walk back inside.

EXT. SNOWBALL STAND

Brad, Nikki, Josh and Kelly approach the snowball stand. A young, tween version of Brad is working there.

BRAD

Yo. Can we get one TF, one Spear,
and one EC.

TWEEN BRAD

Huh?

BRAD

You know, one TF, one Spear and one
EC.

TWEEN BRAD

Sorry, I don't know what that
means.

BRAD

(sighs)

One Tutti Frutti, one Spearmint and
one Egg Custard.

TWEEN BRAD

Oh you speak English! Great. (He
starts making the snowballs)

BRAD

(bushing that off; leaning
into the stand)

I used to work here you know.'02
and '03. Best summers of my life.

TWEEN BRAD

That's pretty sad.

(CONTINUED)

BRAD
(brushing that off too)
You sure you don't want anything
Josh? All the cool kids are doing
it.

JOSH
Nah, I'm good.

BRAD
(back to Tween Brad)
So, how many hot chicks you get
this summer so far? 10? 20?

Tween Brad is using the noisy snowball maker machine and
can't hear adult Brad.

TWEEN BRAD
Huh?

Tween Brad brings the finished snowballs to the window.

BRAD
I said, how much action are you
getting this summer man?!

TWEEN BRAD
Oh, I'm more focused on my start-up
right now. My friends and I are
designing an app that helps you
take the perfect selfie. You know,
the mathematical angle and all that.
My mom makes me keep this job, to
keep me grounded or whatever.

BRAD
Ohhh. I see.

TWEEN BRAD
Actually, I have a Beta version on
my phone. Mind if I try it out with
you guys?

BRAD
Um, sure.

TWEEN BRAD
Ok, so squeeze in.

Everyone squeezes up to the snowball stand window. Tween
Brad extends a selfie stick with his phone on the end of it,
and takes a groupie of all 5 of them.

(CONTINUED)

TWEEN BRAD
Nice! Thanks guys!

BRAD
(impressed with Tween Brad)
You're welcome! Have a great summer
man!

Brad, Nikki, Kelly and Josh walk away, snowballs in hand.

Tween Brad is typing away on his smart phone. We see the groupie he has now posted to Instagram. There is a ridiculous filter on it. The caption reads "THIS IS THEM."

EXT. PATH - 7PM

Our four characters continue walking and eating their snowballs. Brad and Nikki walk ahead, Josh and Kelly trail behind.

BRAD
That kid has his own start-up!
See. The snowball stand is for
people who are going places.

NIKKI
And see, not all kids are rude,
horrible brats.

BRAD
I guess not. Hey, how do you feel
about a Ferris wheel ride at
sunset?

NIKKI
Sounds beautiful.

They hug while walking.

EXT. FERRIS WHEEL

They all ride the Ferris wheel at sunset. Brad and Nikki in a seat, and Josh and Kelly in the seat behind them.

BRAD
Now this is what I'm talking about.

NIKKI
This is so romantic babe. Sorry I
was in a bad mood this morning.

(CONTINUED)

BRAD

It's ok. I'm just glad you had a good time today too.

BRAD

(turning around to talk to Josh)

So did you make it to second base yet?

JOSH

Not yet. Just to first.

BRAD

Kelly! Don't be like Donna Carson. That man bought you a blue cotton candy.

KELLY

I really just don't see the point. I paid \$55 to enjoy this Ferris wheel. He can feel me up for free at home.

Brad turns back around to make out with Nikki.

JOSH

This is just like the old days, huh?

KELLY

Yeah, we were so young.

JOSH

We are still so young.

KELLY

I do wish I could take a photo right now though.

Back to Brad and Nikki. Brad reaches into his pocket and pulls out something... it's a Ring Pop.

BRAD

(actually serious)

Nikki, these past 5 years have been the most amazing of my life. You're the most wonderful, thoughtful, caring person I know, and I want to spend the rest of my life with you. You are my soul mate, babe. Will you marry me?

(CONTINUED)

NIKKI

Are you...? Are you serious?

BRAD

Yes I'm serious. This is just a ring for tonight. I figured we could go to the jewelry store and pick out whatever you like.

NIKKI

(overcome with joy)

YES! YES!

They kiss. A final happy moment.

EXT. FERRIS WHEEL EXIT - 8PM

They all exit the Ferris wheel. The sun has almost completely set. The park is quiet. Brad and Nikki are embracing. She is licking the Ring Pop. They've already told the news to Josh and Kelly.

JOSH

Well, congrats guys.

KELLY

I personally think you should keep the Ring Pop. I mean the size alone! How many carats is that??

BRAD

Well, guys, we made it. We didn't have our phones and no one got lost, no one went crazy.

JOSH

Yes, yes, Brad, we agree you were right.

BRAD

What was that? I didn't hear you.

JOSH

We agree. You were right.

BRAD

Thank you and you're welcome.

NIKKI

Hey guys, where is everyone?

They look around and notice that the park is just about empty.

(CONTINUED)

KELLY

Going home I guess?

JOSH

Kel, you want another cotton candy on the way out?

KELLY

Oh no, too much sugar in one day!

JOSH

Ok, maybe we are old (they laugh).

They continue to walk through the park. Trying to find their way out. It is now completely dark, with the exception of a few lights.

EXT. PATH

JOSH

You know, if we did have our cell phones, we could use them as flashlights right now.

KELLY

I don't remember it being this dark around here. How do we get out?

BRAD

I think it's a right up here.

They keep walking and run into a brightly lit bathroom house.

NIKKI

Mind if I take a potty break? I really gotta go. Kelly?

KELLY

Nah, I went before the Ferris wheel. You go ahead.

Nikki goes into the bathroom, the rest wait outside. Kelly sits on a bench. Josh pulls Brad over to talk privately.

JOSH

So, are you really going to marry her?

BRAD

Yeah, man. What do you mean?

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

I mean, last summer, when you told me you didn't think she was "the one."

BRAD

Oh, well, a lot has changed since then.

JOSH

Like what? You still argue all the time. I'm just looking out for you bro. I don't want you to walk into something you'll regret.

BRAD

Look, not everyone can be a picture perfect couple like you and Kelly, ok? Nikki and I have our moments, yes, but we've been together for 5 years. There's not going to be anyone else.

JOSH

So, you're counting the time she cheated on you and you guys took a year "break"?

BRAD

That was like 3 years ago! We've changed. We've grown into better people. In fact, that's one thing we have that you and Kelly don't - we CHANGE. We're not stuck in the past in some weird high-school versions of ourselves. We acknowledge that we are flawed human beings growing into fucked up adults. But at least we accept that about ourselves.

JOSH

Do you love her?

BRAD

Yeah. I do.

JOSH

Ok, then, like I said, congrats.

BRAD

I can't believe you.

Brad walks away.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

What? C'mon Brad. I'm just looking out for you. I just want the best for you!

Brad is gone. Disappeared into the darkness.

INT. BATHROOM

Nikki is in the stall, just finishing up peeing, when she notices feet in the stall next to hers. Suddenly a cell phone drops and bounces by Nikki's foot.

NIKKI

Um, you dropped your phone.

She zips up her pants, stands up and kicks the cell phone back to the other stall.

NIKKI

Here you go.

The cell phone is kicked back to her. Nikki looks down at it. It almost looks like her phone, same case and everything. But lots of people have the same cell phones now-a-days, right? She doesn't want to become involved in whatever kind of twisted, pick-up game this is. She exits the stall and leaves the phone on the floor.

She is washing her hands quickly, when a girl - a TWEEN - comes out from the adjacent stall.

TWEEN 3

I was trying to give you your phone back.

NIKKI

Huh?

TWEEN 3

That's your phone, right?

NIKKI

Um, that looks like my phone. But it can't be my phone. Sorry, not mine.

TWEEN 3

Oh, well, I found it in the parking lot. Your photo is on the background, so I assumed it was yours.

(CONTINUED)

Nikki takes this in. She slowly walks back over to the stall and picks up the phone. She presses the home button. Her background picture pops up. It's her phone.

NIKKI

What do you mean you found it in
the parking...?

She looks up. The tween is gone. She is alone in the bathroom.

NIKKI

Strange.

She thinks a moment. She looks around. She starts getting on Facebook.

NIKKI

Well, I guess it wouldn't hurt to
post SOMETHING about the
engagement. (Smiling) Oh my god,
I'm engaged! eek!

She holds out her Ring Pop hand for the camera. "Snap" she takes a photo.

EXT. BATHROOM

Brad is not back yet. Josh and Kelly are sitting on the bench.

KELLY

You shouldn't have said those
things to him. You know he takes
stuff so personally.

JOSH

Well, this is personal. I don't
want to see my best friends' life
destroyed.

KELLY

C'mon that's being a little
over-dramatic, don't you think?

Kelly comes running out of the bathroom urgently.

NIKKI

Guys! Look, I found my cell phone
in the trash can in the bathroom.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

What?!

NIKKI

My cell phone was in the trash can!
I think someone must have broken
into the car or something...

JOSH

Wait, and it's still working?

NIKKI

Yeah, it looks fine.

JOSH

Why would someone break into your
car, take your phone, and put it in
the trash can?

NIKKI

I don't know. But what I'm saying
is, it's not just MY phone, ALL of
our phones were in the car. O.M.G.,
you think they stole my car too?!

KELLY

C'mon let's go.

NIKKI

Wait, where's Brad?

JOSH

Oh... he went on ahead. He said he
would meet us at the photo booth.

NIKKI

Ok, here I can use my phone as a
flashlight.

Nikki turns on the flashlight feature and they start
walking.

INT. FUNLAND

Brad is sitting by himself, deep in thought, in the well-lit
arcade section. He sitting at The Simpsons arcade game,
right next to the Ski-Ball machines. Maybe getting engaged
to Nikki wasn't a good idea, maybe his soul mate is still
out there. He looks around the empty arcade. He should be
getting back to his friends. Suddenly, the nearest Ski-Ball
machine lights up, starts making crazy noises and starts
spitting out tickets. Just a few at first... then more...

(CONTINUED)

then more. They start coming out very fast and in his direction.

BRAD

Uh, hello?

Then suddenly the machine stops. There are about 500 tickets on the ground. The little boy inside Brad can't help think maybe he could get a sweet prize. He grabs the tickets, not very gracefully, and walks toward the ticket desk. As he approaches, he notices someone crouched down behind the counter.

BRAD

Hello? That Ski-Ball machine just spit out all of these tickets.

A TWEEN, wearing all kinds of arcade crap (necklaces, glow-sticks, etc.), comes up from behind the counter. He looks at the tickets.

TWEEN 4

Well, it's your lucky day.

Out of protocol, Tween 4 hits the "Big Winner" button. Lights start flashing, all kinds of applause and dinging bell sounds start happening. Then Tween 4 breaks into a celebration dance, but his heart's clearly not in it.

TWEEN 4

Sorry. They make us do that dance.

He pulls out a cell phone from under the counter and places it on top.

TWEEN 4

Here you go. Your prize.

Brad looks at the phone, he picks it up and examines it.

BRAD

This is my phone.

TWEEN 4

It is now! Congratulations!

BRAD

No, I mean, this is my phone. Where did you get this?

TWEEN 4

Um, from the prize box.

(CONTINUED)

BRAD
No, BUT THIS IS MY PHONE!

He grabs Tween 4 by the collar.

BRAD
WHERE DID YOU GET THIS?!

Tween 4 wiggles himself loose and steps back.

TWEEN 4
Like I said, from the prize box
man. Look.

Tween 4 points to a sign above him that says "300 tickets =
headphones, **500 tickets = cell phone**, 900 tickets = tablet."

Brad runs out of the arcade.

TWEEN 4
See ya man.

He continues his dance.

EXT. BATHROOM

Brad runs to the bathroom, no one there. Then he remembers.

BRAD
The photo booth!

He runs out of frame.

EXT. PATH

Nikki is still lighting the way with her cell phone. Except her phone keeps dinging with all the Facebook notifications in response to her engagement photo. Nikki is trying to respond to Facebook and walk at the same time. She starts zig-zaging. Josh and Kelly, following her, start zig-zagging too. Nikki stops, they stop. She starts walking again, they start walking again. Finally, they realize this is ridiculous.

KELLY
Nikki, what are you doing?

NIKKI
(still looking down)
Huh?

(CONTINUED)

JOSH
Will you please stop texting and
walk in a straight line?

NIKKI
(still looking down, still
texting)
Ok.

KELLY
Here, give me the phone, I can
navigate for awhile.

She reaches for the phone.

NIKKI
(swatting Kelly's hand away)
NO!

Nikki looks up and we see her eyes - they are completely
blurry and bloodshot.

KELLY
Nikki, your eyes! Give me the
phone.

NIKKI
(holding the phone to her
chest)
NO!

KELLY
GIVE ME THE PHONE!

NIKKI
NO!

JOSH
(in a calm voice)
Nikki, just hand us your phone,
just for a little bit. We'll give
it back, I promise.

NIKKI
(slipping into insanity)
I have almost 800 likes on my
photo. Do you know what that means?
It will be the most amount of likes
I've ever had. EVER. You're NOT
ruining this for me.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

I promise we won't ruin your...
likes. Now just give us the phone.

NIKKI

No! You don't understand. You'll
never understand. Screw you guys!

She starts to run away. Josh and Kelly run after her. Josh is in much better shape and catches up to Nikki pretty quickly. He pins her to the ground. She drops her phone. Josh goes to grab it, but then Nikki punches him hard in the face. Nikki grabs her phone and stands up. As Josh is standing up, she kicks him in the balls.

JOSH

Ow! Fuck!

She runs off into the darkness.

JOSH

(to Kelly, who is just now
arriving out of breath)
How come you didn't DO anything?!

KELLY

What?! I thought you had it under
control!

JOSH

No! She kicked me in the balls.

KELLY

Oh, sorry.

JOSH

What the fuck was that about?!

KELLY

I dunno. I've never seen her like
that before... maybe the shock of
the engagement is just too much for
her.

JOSH

Maybe. Look, let's just get to the
main gate. We can call a cab and go
home.

KELLY

(defeated)
How about Brad?

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

I'm pretty sure Brad hates me.
Let's just go.

They stumble down the dark path together.

EXT. PHOTO BOOTH

Brad is standing at the photo booth, waiting, looking around for his friends. No one is nearby. He has his cell phone in his hand, but he hasn't used it yet.

Out of habit, he looks at his phone, unlocks it, then abruptly puts it down. He cannot cave now, he's stronger than that. He keeps looking around. Suddenly, he sees two people in the distance walking closer. He waves to them, but then realizes he doesn't know who they are. They get closer and he sees they are two TWEENS, a couple. They are holding hands and walking in his direction. They approach him.

TWEEN COUPLE

Excuse us.

They point to the photo booth.

BRAD

Oh sorry. Go ahead.

Brad moves out of the way. The Tween Couple gets in the photo booth. They close the curtain.

Brad remains outside looking for his friends, still no sign of them. Laughing and giggling starts coming from inside the photo booth. He hears the clicking of a camera, but sees no flash coming from the booth. Strange. He peeks in through a crack in the curtain and sees the couple, not taking pictures with the photo booth, but taking selfies with their cell phone instead.

They come out of the photo booth. Brad gives them a polite nod. As they walk away,

BRAD

You know that's not how it works
right? Ugh, nevermind.

Brad keeps looking around. STILL no sign of his friends.

Suddenly the photo booth spits out a slip of photos. Brad hesitates. He knows he's going to look at them, but doesn't really want to. He grabs the slip.

(CONTINUED)

There are 5 black & white photos, all exactly the same. The couple staring straight into the camera, with crazy, alien-like bloodshot eyes. He looks closer and notices both tweens have the same hashtag # marking (a tattoo perhaps?) on their necks.

BRAD

What the...?

EXT. THEME PARK EXIT - 9:30PM

Finally, Josh and Kelly arrive at the park exit.

JOSH

We made it.

Kelly looks up at the exit, terrified. About 100 TWEENS sit along the exit wall, perched like birds. They are all looking down on their phones. It is pitch-black dark at this point, but their individual faces are illuminated by their cell phone screen lights.

KELLY

Um, Josh...

Josh looks up and sees them.

JOSH

(whispering)

Maybe if we walk by very quietly
they won't notice us.

KELLY

Maybe there is another way out?

JOSH

I don't think so. This is it.

They start walking forward, very slow and very quietly. The tweens do not notice them.

EXT. PHOTO BOOTH

Brad is still examining the creepy tween photo booth slip, when the OLD ADMISSIONS MAN appears. He is sweeping up the area with a broom and metal dustpan. He seems to be mumbling to himself, but is staring directly at Brad.

OLD ADMISSIONS MAN

(barely audible)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

OLD ADMISSIONS MAN (cont'd)
Keep the pen. Use the red. Keep the
pen. Use the red. Keep the pen. Use
the red.

The OLD ADMISSIONS MAN is moving closer and closer to Brad. Brad starts backing away slowly, then faster. He stumbles over his own feet, puts the photo booth slip in his pocket, and runs away to find his friends.

EXT. THEME PARK EXIT

Josh and Kelly are walking very slowly towards the exit and towards the terrifying wall of perched tweens. They are just about to reach the exit when Brad runs up behind them.

BRAD
(yelling)
The photo booth! YOU FORGOT ABOUT
THE PHOTO BOOTH!

Ahhhh! KELLY Shhhh! JOSH

The tweens heard this. They all look up at the same time, staring at the trio.

Oh shit. JOSH

Brad finally sees them.

BRAD
Oh shit. These tweens... they're
trouble, guys.

Brad pulls out the photo booth slip.

BRAD
Look. It's like some
exorcist-zombie shit. We gotta get
out of here. Where's Nikki?

JOSH
(hesitating)
She...she's...

KELLY
(pointing to the wall of
tweens)
There!

(CONTINUED)

They see Nikki perched towards the end of the wall with the zombie-tweens. She is looking at the trio, her cell phone illuminating her face.

BRAD

Oh my god. (He drops the photo booth slip on the ground, and runs and yells toward Nikki) NIKKI! NIKKI!

JOSH

(running after him)
No, don't!

Brad and Josh approach zombie-tween Nikki. The other tweens watch, but don't move.

BRAD

Nikki, babe. C'mon let's go.

He goes to grab her arm, she pulls away.

BRAD

C'mon. Let's go home. Let's get out of here.

Nikki looks up at Brad slowly. He notices the hashtag marking on her neck.

NIKKI

I posted a photo of the ring you gave me.

BRAD

The Ring Pop?

NIKKI

Yes! It has 999 likes. 999 likes!

BRAD

That's great babe. Now, put down the phone and let's go home.

The surrounding zombie-tweens do not like this kind of talk. They are paying attention more intently now, leaning in.

NIKKI

No, Brad. I won't leave. I won't leave until you like my photo. LIKE IT BRAD!

(CONTINUED)

BRAD
(confused, scared)
Um, ok...

He pulls his phone out of his pocket.

JOSH
Where did you get that from?!

BRAD
The arcade, they had my phone...
I... let me just like this stupid
photo so we can get out of here.

Brad goes to use his phone, but Josh slaps it out of his hand. It goes flying and lands, smashing on the pavement somewhere off-screen.

JOSH
That's how they get you! That's how
they got her! No phones, NO PHONES!

The zombie-tweens start moving closer. Some start standing and walking towards them, slowly.

BRAD
What do you mean?!

JOSH
I mean, she's gone Brad. She's one
of them. We have to leave her.

BRAD
No, I won't. Nikki, you're coming
with me.

NIKKI
Oh, no, Brad. My parents are
picking me up.

BRAD
WHAT?! No, babe. YOU ARE COMING
WITH ME.

NIKKI
Thanks for offering, but I'm not
supposed to get into car with
anyone under 18.

BRAD
I'm 30!! And I'm your fiancée.
C'mon let's GO!

(CONTINUED)

He goes to grab her arm again, but the zombie-tweens do not like this. They start moving fast towards him. Brad quickly grabs Nikki's purse, digs around, and finally finds the CAR KEYS. He drops the purse on the ground.

The zombie-tweens hold up their phones, which start shooting bright, semi-harmful LASER BEAMS! This just got serious.

BRAD
(dodging the laser beams)
NIKKI!

The zombie-tweens start building a barrier between Nikki and Brad. Brad and Josh have no choice, they begin to back away, dodging the laser beams.

NIKKI
(from inside the zombie-tween
mob; crazily ecstatic)
1,000 likes! My photo has 1,000
likes!!

Josh turns around and sees Kelly on Brad's phone. Kelly was the one who gave Nikki that last like.

JOSH
(running to her)
NO!! Kelly, put down the phone!

KELLY
What? I gave her her 1,000th like,
now we can go.

Suddenly Kelly grabs her neck, out of pain. She removes her hand and the hashtag marking has started to appear. She drops the phone.

JOSH
Come on let's go!

He grabs Kelly and Brad and they start running around the zombie-tweens with laser phones, trying to find their way out. They run out of frame, the zombie-tweens following close behind.

EXT. THEME PARK EXIT (CONT'D)

ZOOM IN: TO THE PHOTO BOOTH SLIP LAYING ON THE GROUND.

An old-man hand picks up the photo slip. As it does, the man's long-sleeved shirt rises up just a bit, and we see RED hashtag markings all over his exposed wrist.

(CONTINUED)

THE CAMERA ZOOMS OUT AND WE SEE THE BACK OF THE OLD ADMISSIONS MAN AS HE RISES AND SWEEPS UP THE PHOTO SLIP WITH HIS BROOM AND DUSTPAN.

OLD ADMISSIONS MAN
(now yelling to Brad and his
friends)
Keep the pen! Use the red!

EXT. PARKING LOT

Brad, Josh and Kelly run into frame and into the parking lot. No cars remain, except theirs. It is parked right in the middle of the dark lot. One street light is shining on it, spotlighting the car.

The zombie-tweens start coming up behind them. Brad, Josh and Kelly start running towards the car.

As they run, Brad bolts ahead. Josh tries to hold Kelly's hand, but she breaks away and starts running towards the zombie-tweens. Josh runs after her.

BRAD
Let her go!

Kelly reaches the mob of zombie-tweens, they toss her her phone, and she begins shooting laser beams towards Josh.

Josh is in a state of shock. A laser beam hits him and burns his shoulder. He can't save Kelly, she is gone.

He turns back around and runs toward Brad.

Brad jumps in the car and starts it. He sees the broken passenger window and the open, and empty, glove compartment.

Josh makes it to the car, jumps in the passenger seat and closes the door - zombie-tweens right behind him. A few lasers start hitting and damaging the car.

Brad quickly backs up the car and makes a large turn to exit the parking lot. But as he does, a handful of zombie-tweens jump on the trunk and hood, slowing him down. The zombie-tweens start running even faster now and the mob catches up with the car. They reach in the broken passenger seat window and grab Josh.

Brad starts swerving the car to shake off the zombie-tweens. It doesn't seem to be working.

(CONTINUED)

Suddenly the zombie-tweens stop. They raise their phones in the air and combine their cell phone power to create a huge, bright, massive FLASH. The car turns off, and Brad and Josh are temporarily blinded.

THE SCREEN GOES WHITE.

With the screen still white, we hear Josh screaming and the sound of cell phone cameras flashing.

Brad slowly gets his sight back. He sees the passenger door is open. Josh is gone.

The zombie-tween mob has retreated to the middle of the parking lot. It is now pitch black in the parking lot - the massive flash seemingly knocked any and all remaining power.

The zombie-tween cameras are flashing at something in the middle of the mob. Brad looks closely and sees a lifeless Josh in the middle. A hipster-ish hat has been placed on his head. One-by-one the zombie-tweens take turns posing with him, Weekend-At-Bernie's-style.

BRAD
(to self, in shock)
They're Instagramming him to
death...

Brad tries to start the car, it doesn't work. The massive flash must have knocked out the car electronics too.

He jumps out of the car and starts running towards the parking lot exit.

He keeps running and running through the massive parking lot. Suddenly, he realizes he is not being followed by the zombie-tween mob. He is alone.

He stops to catch his breath. He looks around and sees the highway in the distance. He is almost out.

This brief moment of hope is followed by horror, when Brad starts to see faint lights all around him. They are cell phone lights. He is, in fact, encircled by zombie-tweens.

They start moving in closer and closer. The lights get brighter and he can see their zombie-tween faces and the hashtag markings on their necks. This is his last chance.

Brad pulls out the MULTI-COLOR PEN. He clicks BLUE. He slowly raises the pen to his neck. He draws a hashtag. Nothing happens. The zombie-tweens move closer.

(CONTINUED)

He raises the pen to his neck again. He clicks GREEN. He draws a hashtag on his neck. Nothing happens. The zombie-tweens move closer.

He raises the pen to his neck a third time. This time he clicks YELLOW. He draws a hashtag on his neck. Nothing happens. The zombie-tweens move even closer.

Brad throws the MULTI-COLOR PEN back in his pocket and starts running as fast as he can toward the highway. As he approaches the zombie-tween circle, he screams a loud Braveheart cry and punches two of them in the face. One of them drops their phone. Brad grabs it, holds it up and tries to activate the laser beam. He can't figure it out. The phone does nothing. The phoneless zombie-tween rushes at him. Brad turns, breaks through the zombie-tween circle and keeps running toward the highway, phone in hand.

As he's running, with the zombie-tween laser-shooting mob behind him, Brad once again grabs the MULTI-COLOR PEN out of his pocket. He clicks RED - aha! He starts to draw the hashtag on his neck so hard that he also draws blood, which drips down his neck.

He completes the hashtag and stops running. He defiantly turns around to face the zombie-tweens, throws the pen on the ground and starts pretending to text on the phone.

The zombie-tween mob reaches Brad and stops. They don't see him. His plan is working! One-by-one the zombie-tweens go back to their regular business of texting while walking. Brad blends in and starts walking too.

Brad pretends to text, and slowly walks in the direction of the highway. Finally, he reaches the highway, leaving the zombie-tweens behind. He crouches down in the highway embankment and tosses the phone. He waits.

He takes one last look behind him at the retreating tween-zombie-texting mob. They disappear into the darkness.

Brad turns around to face the highway and sees a big bus approaching in the distance. He walks out onto the highway and waves his arms. The bus pulls up to him and stops.

The door opens and out steps NICK CARTER, from the BACKSTREET BOYS.

NICK CARTER
Need a ride man?

(CONTINUED)

BRAD

Yes! Please!

NICK CARTER

Actually, maybe you can help us. We're looking for Five Flags. We're supposed to be performing there tomorrow night. Are we headed in the right direction?

BRAD

(still out of breath)

Oh Five Flags? You don't want to go there. It's shut down for the summer. Outbreak of... measles. Something in the water or something. Total ghost town.

NICK CARTER

Oh really? (talking to people in the bus) Boys, this guy says Five Flags is closed. (back to Brad) Are you sure?

BRAD

Yeah, definitely closed. Sorry man. But, there's a great concert venue in town. 50 miles or so. Are you guys a band or something?

INT. BACKSTREET BOYS TOUR BUS

Cut to Brad sitting on the couch in the BACKSTREET BOYS tour bus. Kevin, Brian, A.J. and Howie sit on either side of him. They are surrounded by Backstreet Boys EVERYTHING - posters, pillows, mugs, pens, tables, chairs, even the couch has all their faces on it.

Nick brings over a PAPER map and places it on the table in front of them.

NICK CARTER

(pointing to the map)

So you're saying, if we keep going down this highway, we'll hit the city?

BRAD

(also pointing at the map)

Yeah. This one right here. See.

(CONTINUED)

BRAD
(looking up)
Don't you guys have a GPS?

KEVIN RICHARDSON
What's GPS?

BRAD
You know... an electronic map.
Global Positioning System? Like, on
your phone?

All of the Backstreet Boys start laughing.

BRIAN LITTRELL
On our phone?!

HOWIE DOROUGH
(to the Boys)
Who is this guy??

Nick Carter pulls out his phone. It's an old, huge candybar
phone from the 1990's.

NICK CARTER
(still laughing)
You mean a map on this?!

Now, Nick Carter starts mocking him. The Boys are rolling in
laughter.

NICK CARTER
(pressing buttons on his
phone)
Beep. Boop. Magic phone give me
directions. Beep. Boop.

BRAD
(taking this all in)
Wait, so you're telling me you
don't have smart phones? Are you on
Facebook? Instagram?

They all stare blankly at Brad.

A.J. MCLEAN
(excitedly pointing at a huge,
old PC in the corner)
We have a chat room on that.

Now Brad starts laughing uncontrollably.

(CONTINUED)

BRAD

That doesn't even make any sense!

KEVIN RICHARDSON

Oh let's get a photo!

Kevin pulls out an old wind-up camera. The remaining four Boys pose around Brad. "Click" Kevin takes the photo. He winds the film, that was his last one on that roll.

KEVIN RICHARDSON

That was great boys. Remind me to stop by a CVS and get this developed!

BRIAN LITTRELL

(to Brad)

Hey man, you want to stay with us for the rest of our tour?

BRAD

Um, sure. How long is your tour?

NICK CARTER

Well, forever. (singing) "As long as you love me"... us, I mean us. As long as you love us, you're more than welcome to stay.

BRAD

(thinking)

Well... I do love you guys. That one song with the puppet strings? Epic.

A.J. MCLEAN

That was N'Sync.

BRAD

Oh right... hashtag 90sBoyBandsAreAllTheSame! (laughing at his own joke)

They all start blankly at Brad again.

BRAD

You don't know what hashtags are either?! Yes, I'll go on tour with you. Absolutely, yes.

ALL

(with great enthusiasm)

Alright!!!

(CONTINUED)

All 6 characters high-five. "Backstreet's Back All Right!"

CUT TO BLACK.

OVER CREDITS

We see Brad enjoying his new life with the Backstreet Boys. Listening to a cassette on a Walkman, typing in the chat room on the old PC, taking backstage photos with the wind-up camera, checking his pager, etc, etc. The last photo, dated 2020, shows Brad and the Backstreet Boys in a crowded theme park, spreading out their arms and looking straight up at a highly-placed camera - everyone else is looking down at their phones.