GARANZHIN Straighten your elbow and hold your arm out. Here.

SHURA Dad, I'm tired. What are we waiting here for?

GARANZHIN Our lucky chance. One more time.

TERESHCHENKO You mean, you want Garanzhin to replace Gomelsky?

MOISEEV He coached BC Spartak Leningrad to where they are now.

TERESHCHENKO Still, this is insane...

MOISEEV What's your suggestion?

TERESHCHENKO Comrades, Gomelsky is not a close friend of mine, but the man took Soviet basketball to an international level, and we can't replace him just because...

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE Gennady, you know full well that the decision to replace Gomelsky came right from the top. None of us can change that. Is that not clear?

TERESHCHENKO Let's talk about Garanzhin.

OFFICIAL 1 But why Garanzhin?

TERESHCHENKO Comrade Moiseyev, admit it: Being the chairman of the Basketball Federation, you're promoting your friend.

OFFICIAL 1 Of course!

TERESHCHENKO He was your teammate back in Leningrad. It's clear as day!

MOISEEV Are you saying that friendship is something to be ashamed of? I'm proud to call him my friend.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE That's all well and good, but what makes him a good fit?

MOISEEV Gomelsky is every coach's idol. Everyone follows his system. Everyone wants to play and to win like CSKA. Everyone. Garanzhin is different.

SHURA Watch out!

GARANZHIN Go do some free throws.

SHURA Dad, the hoop's too far.

GARANZHIN Just give it a try. You could even do it from here.

SHURA Here, show me.

KSENIA Where are you going? You said, from here.

SHURA He won't make it.

KSENIA Score!

SHURA Wow, Dad...

MOISEEV Vladimir! Quick!

KSENIA Just be reasonable with them.

GARANZHIN Ksenia...

KSENIA It's a foreign assignment, it's money for Shura's surgery, and we only have a year to do the surgery...

GARANZHIN Got it. No breaking chairs, no slandering Brezhnev.

KSENIA You know what?

GARANZHIN I'm off.

KSENIA Good luck.

MOISEEV Fix your collar. So, you come in, say "thanks", bow down and leave. Got it?

GARANZHIN Yes, Grigory. I'm not stupid.

MOISEEV This way.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE Vladimir, the Soviet national team needs a new head coach. We think it needs you. What do you say?

GARANZHIN Thank you for the honor. I can take on that role if...if my suggestions will be accepted.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE Such as?

GARANZHIN New methods.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE What kind?

GARANZHIN American, to begin with.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE American methods? What's wrong with Soviet methods?

TERESHCHENKO Gomelsky developed excellent methods and techniques.

GARANZHIN The players need to travel abroad to play other teams more often.

TERESHCHENKO And deal with even more stress? The boys are overworked as it is. They never see their families!

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE Gennady, please sit down.

TERESHCHENKO I'm sorry.

GARANZHIN That's part of their job.

OFFICIAL 2 How will those expenses be covered?

GARANZHIN I'm not an accountant. Also, I would replace some of the players.

TERESHCHENKO Gomelsky didn't put the team together for you to play chess with.

GARANZHIN Then, you should get Gomelsky back.

PAULAUSKAS Hey, wake up! Big boys are training here.

GOMELKIY Paulauskas! Five laps, zigzag. Don't forget the ball.

MOISEEV Done. We have Sports Committee and accounting department approval.

GOMELKIY Alex...

ALEXANDER BELOV I'm ok.

MOISEEV I've gone gray over the last week, all because of you.

GARANZHIN I can tell.

MOISEEV Here's the proposed lineup. What's this?

GARANZHIN My team.

MOISEEV Belov, Paulauskas... Belov, Paulauskas - sure. But who are these other guys?

GOMELKIY Soviet national basketball team, assemble!

MOISEEV Let's go and meet the team. Come on, let's go.

GOMELKIY My dear team! I thank you for your hard work and your victories. For all the years of commitment, and for your patience with me. You've been a part of my life, and I will always cherish that. From today, you have a new coach, Vladimir Garanzhin. Please welcome and respect him. May you always come home victorious.

KORKIYA So the rumors were true...

GARANZHIN Good day.

PAULAUSKAS Not for everyone.

GARANZHIN Unfortunately, yes. I made a list of players for the new team. I apologize in advance to those who are not on it.

MOISEEV The team captain can read it out.

GARANZHIN No hard feelings, please. I'll see the rest of you tomorrow.

PAULAUSKAS Alexander Belov, Sergey Belov, Modest Paulauskas... It's Modestas, not Modest! Stole two letters from my name!

MOISEEV Save yourself some trouble, send him back to Lithuania now.

GARANZHIN I would, but he's a good pass rusher.

PAULAUSKAS Ivan Edeshko...

EDESHKO Nice.

PAULAUSKAS Zurab Sakandelidze...

SAKANDELIDZE Yes!

PAULAUSKAS Mishiko Korkiya... Here, you read. Sergey, let's go.

ZHARMUKHAMEDOV Alzhan Zharmukhamedov, Sergey Kovalenko, Gennady Volnov Alexander Boloshev, Ivan Dvorny, Anatoly Polivoda.

GARANZHIN Alex, pass!

PAULAUSKAS He's been coaching for a week, and he only lets his favorites out.

GARANZHIN Shoot!

PAULAUSKAS When I play in Lithuania there's not a soul in the streets.

SERGEY BELOV When he plays in Belarus it's a national holiday.

GARANZHIN Belov, Paulauskas, you're up!

PLAYER Nice one!

GARANZHIN Mishiko, speed! He is supposed to be behind you, not the other way around!

SAKANDELIDZE What's the problem? We're winning.

PAULAUSKAS Sergey, here!

GARANZHIN Guys... Well done, but this is not the kind of basketball I want to see. Ivan, don't try to win all by yourself. Guys, on the court you don't see or hear one another. Sergey, you're doing long shots while Alzhan and Alex wait for a pass. Now, the defense...

SERGEY BELOV Don't worry, Vladimir. I can sink a shot from anywhere. If it isn't broken, don't fix it.

EDESHKO I'm tired of passing the ball all the time. I want to score. Like that, look! He goes for the kill. The defense try to stop him... He raises the ball... And soars. I want to do that!

ALEXANDER BELOV You and everyone else.

PAULAUSKAS Well done, Sergey. You saved the game.

DOCTOR Sergey, how's your knee?

SERGEY BELOV It's asking for an ice pack.

GARANZHIN Guys, listen up.

MOISEEV Incredible job! Just Incredible! You wiped the court with them! And here's a little thank-you from us. Paulauskas... Alex...

ALEXANDER BELOV Thanks.

MOISEEV Korkiya...

PAULAUSKAS I'd earn more back home driving a taxi.

MOISEEV I can arrange that for you. Ivan...

EDESHKO Thanks.

MOISEEV Sakandelidze...

SAKANDELIDZE Thanks.

GARANZHIN Grigory!

MOISEEV Yes?

GARANZHIN Hurray for Vladimir and his first international victory! Hip Hip!

PLAYERS Hurray!

GARANZHIN Hip Hip!

PLAYERS Hurray!

GARANZHIN Hip Hip!

PLAYERS Hurray!

MOISEEV Polivoda... Why did you run off? Here.

GARANZHIN Thanks.

MOISEEV Congratulations.

GARANZHIN Thanks.

ALEXANDER BELOV Vladimir! Thanks again for putting me on the team.

GARANZHIN As if I could do without you?

ALEXANDER BELOV And congratulations!

GARANZHIN It's too early for that.

MOISEEV It's never too early. Congratulations, Alex.

ALEXANDER BELOV Thanks, you too.

GARANZHIN The Austrians are ready to operate as soon as I have the money. I'm saving every ruble I can, but that's half the battle. I need to get him papers for leaving the country.

MOISEEV You'll need someone in the foreign ministry. We'll think of something.

GARANZHIN Thanks for all the help, buddy.

MOISEEV Come on, no need. Ready to meet the press?

GARANZHIN No. But when has that ever stopped us?

MOISEEV Sergey, come on!

TRANSLATOR What's the difference in coaching style between you and Gomelsky?

GARANZHIN I've only recently started working with the team. Gomelsky got this 'red machine' started, and it's running great. The main difference between us is what we want to achieve. The Munich Olympics is next year. We must beat the Americans.

MOISEEV What Vladimir wanted to say is that national basketball teams play at a very high level, so the Soviet team will put serious effort into training for the Olympics.

GARANZHIN What I wanted to say is that no empire is eternal.

MOISEEV That's not what he meant.

TRANSLATOR I'm curious as well. The US team will have to lose a game eventually.

PAULAUSKAS America... That would be like Mozambique playing us at hockey. Americans have a hoop in every alley.

MOISEEV What do I do now, buddy? I'm the one responsible for bringing in the crazy coach.

GARANZHIN You'll be fine. You'll even get a bonus.

MOISEEV Whisky.

EDESHKO It was a pleasure playing on the same team with you. Here...

SERGEY BELOV The pleasure isn't mutual.

MOISEEV Wake up, Vladimir. You've ruined my career. Sure, your idea sounds great, but the Americans will stuff your basket full. You're a crazy psycho!

PAULAUSKAS I want to sing a Lithuanian song.

PLAYER Sing, Mody.

GARANZHIN They have a real chance now. They're in top shape. Life in this sport is very short. A few more years and their health will be ruined. Their time is now. Can't you see that?

TEAM Bravo!

PAULAUSKAS I'm not finished yet!

MOISEEV Look.

ALEXANDER BELOV Sorry, I misunderstood...

PAULAUSKAS You people never understood us!

ALEXANDER BELOV People who?

PAULAUSKAS You Russians always want it your way!

EDESHKO Shut your mouth!

PAULAUSKAS You don't like the way we sing or the way we live, do you?

MOISEEV You think this ragtag bunch can beat the Americans?

PAULAUSKAS Always meddling in our affairs! Imposing your rules!

SERGEY BELOV Am I meddling in your affairs? Imposing anything?

PAULAUSKAS Not you. You're a friend. But I feel like a caged bird with you guys.

KORKIYA Hey, don't let it get to you. Let's go back in.

SERGEY BELOV I have a training session.

KORKIYA A training session? What's wrong with you?

SERGEY BELOV And you?

PASSAGE Strange people.

AIRPORT WORKER 1 Hello.

MOISEEV Hi.

AIRPORT WORKER 1 Down the stairs, please.

MOISEEV Thank you.

AIRPORT WORKER 1 Here's your bag. This way, please. Come this way.

CHAYKIN Get your bags ready for inspection.

KORKIYA Don't you know who we are? We're the champions of Europe and the pride of the Soviet Union! Be thorough.

CHAYKIN I will.

CUSTOMER-FAN Look, it's Sergey Belov. Comrade Belov, I'm sorry but I have to inspect your bag. Rules are rules. Uh-oh...

CHAYKIN Where did you get this?

SERGEY BELOV I bought it in Essen with my bonus money.

CHAYKIN You're the team's Komsomol rep. What do you need a Bible for?

SERGEY BELOV Does it say something bad about the Komsomol?

CHAYKIN Let him through. Comrades, move along. Move along now.

CUSTOMER-FAN Can you sign this for my son?

CHAYKIN Move along, please.

SAKANDELIDZE Hello.

CUSTOMER-FAN One bag at a time, please.

SAKANDELIDZE My mother knits, my grandma knits...

EDESHKO Even I can knit.

CUSTOMER 1 So can I.

CUSTOMER 2 Planning to sell these?

KORKIYA Can't you see these are presents? This is for Auntie Tamara, this is for Bakur... Zurab, explain why a Georgian can't go home empty-handed!

SAKANDELIDZE If we do we'll be grilled worse than here!

CUSTOMER-FAN Fine, but what is this?

SAKANDELIDZE A belt.

PAULAUSKAS I love this country. So welcoming...

MOISEEV It's going to be cold this winter.

CHAYKIN Why two of them?

MOISEEV If one gets stolen I'll have a spare.

DOCTOR This is a blood pressure monitor.

CUSTOMER 2 You can go.

DOCTOR Thank you.

CUSTOMER 1 You can go.

PAULAUSKAS So can you.

CUSTOMER 1 All done here.

CUSTOMER 2 You can go.

CHAYKIN Vladimir, hold on a moment. Congratulations.

GARANZHIN Thank you.

PAULAUSKAS Hockey players come back loaded with contraband, no problem. What was that about?

SAKANDELIDZE Maybe we have a snitch...

PAULAUSKAS Comrade Komsomol rep, can you teach us all how to get through so easily?

SERGEY BELOV If you have something to say, let's hear it.

PAULAUSKAS Just a thought. Only you and the coach weren't carrying anything.

SERGEY BELOV What, no snitches in Lithuania?

PAULAUSKAS Not until you came along.

SERGEY BELOV Yeah right.

GARANZHIN Hey, hey, calm down... Enough of that, the lot of you! I hear anything like that again and you're out! You can go paint ceilings, you won't even need a ladder.

KSENIYA Will they keep you on? Why did you say that about beating the Americans? Everyone knows it's impossible. You could get fired.

GARANZHIN That may be so, but I'll make it possible, soon.

KSENIYA How soon? We have a year to do the surgery! After that, no one will do it, not even in Europe!

SHURA Mom, Dad...Don't argue.

KSENIYA We're not arguing.

GARANZHIN Sorry, son, no presents this time.

SHURA Here, catch.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE I'm not even going to talk to you! Get out of my sight!

TERESHCHENKO With your statement, you put our country's honor at stake!

GARANZHIN Don't you have faith in our country's sporting prowess?

TERESHCHENKO That's not what I said. If I didn't believe in our country's sporting prowess I wouldn't be here. Why didn't you ask us?

GARANZHIN I thought we were on the same team.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE I also thought we were on the same team, but then I had a visit from an agency we all know well, and they came with files for criminal cases. Like the national team smuggling contraband, under supervision of their coach.

GARANZHIN I take full responsibility.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE And for this too? Will you take responsibility for Modestas? You have a raging dissident in your team! With relatives in Germany. If he goes to the Olympics, what's to stop him defecting?

GARANZHIN You can send that damned Paulauskas packing as far as I'm concerned. But only after the Olympics. There's nobody to replace him with. Sure, beating the Americans at their own game sounds great. Winners take all, but losers stand to lose everything.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE Sit down. You believe in our country's sporting prowess, but you have no faith in our country's healthcare. We have the best doctors in the world, but you want your son treated abroad. No, we understand, of course. But don't you go thinking you can just take your son out of the country on the next plane. There will be all manner of obstacles, you'll need serious help. Permission to leave the country, permission to get treatment. Not to mention that you'll need to buy currency.

TERESHCHENKO Sergey, you're absolutely right. Vladimir will need help.

GARANZHIN I'll manage.

TERESHCHENKO No, you'll need someone to guide you. Someone who knows the ropes and can show you what to do, and when. Someone like me.

MOISEEV Well?

GARANZHIN Well, they all wished us best of luck and shook my hand.

SERGEY BELOV So what are our orders?

GARANZHIN Your orders are to turn up for training at 9 a.m. tomorrow morning. No more of Gomelsky's methods. Only mine from now on.

SERGEY BELOV Did they make you a general?

GARANZHIN You have your orders.

SERGEY BELOV Bye.

MOISEEV Bye. They'll have your head for a ball now. And mine, too. Thanks a lot, buddy.

TRAINER Polyakova?

POLYAKOVA Here.

TRAINER Surkova?

SURKOVA Here.

TRAINER Canaris?

CANARIS Here.

TRAINER Smirnova?

SMIRNOVA Here.

TRAINER Nikolayeva?

NIKOLAYEVA Here.

TRAINER Sveshnikova? Sveshnikova?

SVESHNIKOVA I'm here!

TRAINER Vlasova?

VLASOVA Here.

TRAINER The first training session is tomorrow at 6 a.m. Until then, you are to stay in your dorm rooms. Questions?

SVESHNIKOVA What about leisure time?

TRAINER Not a question. Books, chess, sleep. That's it. Now follow me.

SVESHNIKOVA That's tough.

SPORTSWOMAN You can say that again.

SURKOVA I'll take your bag.

SASHA BELOV Sasha, will you marry me?

SVESHNIKOVA What, right here?

SVESHNIKOVA Where's your medal?

SASHA BELOV In my bag.

SVESHNIKOVA Can I see it?

SASHA BELOV Here.

SVESHNIKOVA Looks good on me?

SASHA BELOV It does. Take it.

SVESHNIKOVA They won't let me get married for at least five more years. The perks of being on the national team.

SASHA BELOV We won't tell anyone.

SVESHNIKOVA I don't have a dress.

SASHA BELOV I'll bring you one from abroad. Hmm...

SVESHNIKOVA Alex, what's wrong?

SASHA BELOV It's nothing... I'm fine... Don't tell anyone, or I'll get kicked out of the team.

GARANZHIN Flight is natural to a basketball player. Move freely! Freely! Balance your body! Total control! Now, freeze in mid-air! We'll work on that. Keep up the pace! On the court, you won't have time to think. You'll have to act, and act fast! Even faster! Move, move! Ivan, how often do you score?

EDESHKO Rarely.

GARANZHIN And others, when you pass to them?

EDESHKO Almost every time.

GARANZHIN Get it?

EDESHKO No.

GARANZHIN You will eventually.

GARANZHIN Sergey, training's over for today. You've got a long flight tomorrow. It's 20 hours to Brazil. And a game right after we arrive.

SERGEY BELOV I'll sleep on the plane.

GARANZHIN The team is resting right now.

SERGEY BELOV That's what worries me. Don't you want those guys to beat the Americans?

GARANZHIN What about you?

SERGEY BELOV My first coach used to say, "If you have doubts give the ball to Sergey. He'll know what to do with it." And it's still true. I score 30 points in a single game. Who else can do that?

GARANZHIN No one. You're right. Sergey, there can never be a team where everyone is just like you.

SERGEY BELOV Yeah. Tough luck.

GARANZHIN On the bench! Now!

TERESHCHENKO Stop fighting!

GARANZHIN Excuse me, but that's an obvious violation of the rules!

PAULAUSKAS He started it!

KORKIYA Who's he?

DOCTOR That's Comrade William Jones, General Secretary of FIBA.

GARANZHIN Grigory, I can't see. Referee! Player down!

TERESHCHENKO Who's going to score now? Give Belov a shot of something, I don't know, anything! Play for time! Play for time!

GARANZHIN Korkiya, Edeshko, Volnov, you're up. Alzhan, you're in. Alex!

PAULAUSKAS See that? He subs every 15 seconds. Is he a coach or a juggler?

SERGEY BELOV All I see is they're doing just fine without us.

GARANZHIN Nice one, Ivan! Finally!

PLAYER Alzhan, pass here!

GARANZHIN Alzhan, get over here! How bad is your eyesight? Huh?

ZHARMUKHAMEDOV Minus four.

GARANZHIN Why didn't you tell me?

ZHARMUKHAMEDOV I wanted to be on the team.

GARANZHIN I don't need blind players on the team. Get on the bench! Alex, sub Volnov. Move it!

TERESHCHENKO Another sub? You don't even let them focus! Who plays like that?

GARANZHIN The Americans do. Ivan and Mishiko! Work it! Faster!

EDESHKO Pass round! Keep going!

PLAYERS We won! We did it! We whipped them!

SVESHNIKOVA Meet me at 10 a.m. on the 31st outside the registry office.

SASHA BELOV But I arrive at 6 a.m.

SVESHNIKOVA You'll make it!

SASHA BELOV Wait! I have something for you. Here's your dress.

SVESHNIKOVA You're crazy!

TRAINER Sveshnikova, are you getting hitched?

SVESHNIKOVA What am I, stupid?

TRAINER Into the bus, now!

SVESHNIKOVA Ciao!

SASHA BELOV Which one is it?

SVESHNIKOVA What?

SASHA BELOV Which... "utilities office"?

SVESHNIKOVA Griboyedovsky.

SHURA Dad, we need a new shelf!

GARANZHIN A couple more months and we'll have Shura out of his chair.

SHURA Too many trophies!

TERESHCHENKO Are you aware of the costs involved?

MOISEEV Gennady...

GARANZHIN We need to play American teams. Students, amateurs - I don't care.

TERESHCHENKO Why would you have the best Soviet players play a bunch of students?

GARANZHIN Today's students are tomorrow's professional players. Our boys must lose their fear, and believe in beating the U.S. team. You don't have to believe in it, but they do.

TERESHCHENKO Don't you go abroad often enough?

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE Vladimir, do you even speak English?

MOISEEV Hello. Listen up. We're under scrutiny here. Tomorrow's the first game. You have to be in top shape. Don't go anywhere, stay in your hotel rooms and rest.

SASHA BELOV Grigory...

KORKIYA Vladimir, can we at least go for a walk? Just around the block, to see what America is like.

GARANZHIN Around the block is fine.

SASHA BELOV Thank you.

SASHA BELOV Get the caviar.

EDESHKO Oh, right...

MOISEEV You're too soft on them. The Americans keep their team on an army base before the Olympics.

GARANZHIN I'd rather base things on trust.

KORKIYA We also need to find a place where we can sell the caviar.

EDESHKO Like a dive bar.

KORKIYA Let's check the back alley. So this is what America looks like. Oh, look.

EDESHKO Nice. Shall we?

ZHARMUKHAMEDOV What?

SASHA BELOV He says you're an Indian. I'll pass.

KORKIYA I have money. Come on guys, let's do it.

SASHA BELOV In those stupid boots?

KORKIYA Why not?

EDESHKO Let's go back to the hotel and rest before the game.

KORKIYA Alzhan, you're no fun.

EDESHKO They're playing half-court. Let's go.

KORKIYA Let's play a bit.

SASHA BELOV No.

KORKIYA Caviar?

SASHA BELOV Who plays like that?

EDESHKO Mishiko, you ok?

KORKIYA Oh yeah! Darlings, if only you knew how we got our asses whooped today. Let's drink to the memory of Soviet basketball!

EDESHKO/ZHARMUKHAMEDOV/BELOV Hurray!

GARANZHIN What happened?

SERGEY BELOV We had a game with some locals. They weren't even students. Just some guys in the street.

GARANZHIN And?

SERGEY BELOV We lost by 20.

GARANZHIN Numbskulls. Help me get them outside and put them into taxis. Quietly.

EDESHKO Gangwaaay!

MOISEEV Alright, guys. Don't be discouraged. Things happen. I have a feeling that it was a planned provocation, and that those guys were professional athletes. It was a set-up in order to demoralize you.

SASHA BELOV No, Grigory...

MOISEEV Alex, don't underestimate the trickery of the Americans. Our coach set us up.

PAULAUSKAS He could've asked if we were up for the challenge.

KORKIYA We'll get whooped today. And when we get back home, we'll be the laughing stock !

GARANZHIN They're going to play offence and pressure you. Your strategy: less dribbling, no cross court passes.

KORKIYA Block me!

PLAYER Alex!

MOISEEV Vladimir, we're screwed.

GARANZHIN We're doing fine.

PLAYER Alex, it's yours!

KORKIYA Over here!

PLAYER Mishiko, defense!

SERGEY BELOV Vladimir, any suggestions?

GARANZHIN You're doing great.

KORKIYA To me!

GARANZHIN Anybody hurt?

DOCTOR Modestas, you ok?

PAULAUSKAS I'm fine, Seva.

DOCTOR Alzhan, let me see...

SERGEY BELOV Vladimir, what was that all about? Where was our coach in this game?

GARANZHIN Alex!

KORKIYA Seva, hurry!

GARANZHIN Understood. Thank you.

MOISEEV We can't pay for this. We don't have the budget for this. We have a medic on staff. This will be "inappropriate expenses". We'll get back and take him to the Medical Center in Tuapse...

GARANZHIN He won't make it back.

MOISEEV The doctor didn't say that.

GARANZHIN Pay for this out of the budget. I'll reimburse out of my pocket in Moscow.

MOISEEV Out of your own pocket? But that's a huge sum. Your son needs surgery...

GARANZHIN That's what we'll do now. The rest is less urgent. I'll think of something. Keep your mouth shut about this.

KSENIYA Hello?

GARANZHIN Ksenia, hey.

KSENIYA Hey.

GARANZHIN Alex is in hospital, it's bad. I need you to take all the money we have to the accounting department of the Sports Committee. Don't worry about Shura, I'll think of something.

SASHA BELOV I'm sorry I didn't tell you.

GARANZHIN I wouldn't have told me either. We're all maniacs, aren't we? Basketballs-heads. Listen... You have a rare condition. Your case is unique. No one knows how to treat you. No one knows how long you have left to live. It could be a year...before they find a cure. Sorry for being so upfront with you.

SASHA BELOV I'm sure the team will do just fine without me.

GARANZHIN Alex, I will hear none of this nonsense. You're the national team's center. Here are your tasks: rest, read books and listen to good music. I will be checking on you daily. You'll tell me what you've read and sing what you've listened to. Are we clear?

SASHA BELOV Yes, we are.

GARANZHIN You can begin now.

EDESHKO Sergey, you ok?

GARANZHIN Ivan, stay out of the corners! Cover your opponents!

KORKIYA Bear with it.

DOCTOR We use aspirin.

GARANZHIN Everything's alright. We almost won.

KORKIYA We lost a game, then Alex got sick, then we lost another game. This is a bad year.

VOLNOV Is Alex coming back soon?

GARANZHIN He'll miss this tournament.

EDESHKO Vladimir, does he need any help?

GARANZHIN I'll tell you what he needs. Alex Belov isn't playing because he's in hospital. The only way you can help him is by winning. Understood?

PLAYER Over here!

GARANZHIN Locker room, everyone. Alzhan, why didn't you pass the ball to anyone?

ZHARMUKHAMEDOV Vladimir... I'll leave the team, but please don't mention my eyesight to anyone so I can continue playing back in Tashkent.

GARANZHIN These are contact lenses. You stick them right in your eyes. It's the latest technology, we don't have them back home. Don't tell anyone.

ZHARMUKHAMEDOV Thank you. I serve the Soviet Union.

GARANZHIN They're going to play 1-3-1 zone defense. This is how we're going to play...

PLAYER Mody! Come on! Sergey! Over here!

GARANZHIN Pin them down hard! You're playing for yourself and for Alex! For yourself and for Alex!

KORKIYA Alex! Alex, look out the window! Alex! Alex! Hey! Alex! There he is!

PLAYER We did it! We won!

EDESHKO Alex, get well and come back! Help us stuff that basket full!

KORKIYA Help us beat Team USA! Come back! Let's get out of here! The cops are after us!

EDESHKO Later!

SVESHNIKOVA Where do you come from, my fair knight?

ALEXANDER BELOV From the plane. Listen. We're not getting married. And we won't see each other again.

SVESHNIKOVA Alex...

ALEXANDER BELOV Everything changed.

SVESHNIKOVA What changed?

ALEXANDER BELOV Everything. Bye.

SVESHNIKOVA What happened? Have I done something wrong? Do you have somebody else?

ALEXANDER BELOV Yes, I have somebody else. Someone I've always had. We're together now. I'm sorry.

SVESHNIKOVA Alex?

GARANZHIN Go, go, go! Guys, not good enough. Zurab, Mishiko, from you I need speed, speed and more speed. Do it again, without the weights.

KORKIYA Vladimir, can we...

GARANZHIN You heard me, Mishiko! Go! Faster, faster, faster, go!

GARANZHIN Alex, why aren't you resting?

ALEXANDER BELOV I'm not tired.

GARANZHIN You're to rest half an hour after every five minutes, got that? Wrap it up.

ALEXANDER BELOV Alright. Alright. Alright.

GARANZHIN Acceleration! Enough.

KORKIYA Vladimir, can we...

GARANZHIN Hit the showers.

KORKIYA I need to talk to you.

GARANZHIN How fast can you run 100 meters?

KORKIYA 11.7, but...

GARANZHIN You can do better.

KORKIYA What?

MOISEEV I need you for a minute.

GARANZHIN You can run faster than that.

KORKIYA I know what Paulauskas looks like. There he is.

MOISEEV You know where these came from. He met with relatives in Essen. They organized for him to meet with Euroleague representatives.

GARANZHIN Tell them you couldn't find me.

MOISEEV What do you mean, "couldn't find you"?

SVESHNIKOVA Where's Belov? Why are you lying to me? You've got nobody else!

ALEXANDER BELOV I have a year left to live. Maybe two. I got diagnosed in the States. Sasha, just go.

SVESHNIKOVA You can't give up like that. Why did you leave me?

ALEXANDER BELOV Are you listening to me? It could be a year, or a month! You want to be a widow?

SVESHNIKOVA Do you not want to be anything anymore? Do you think I'll live forever? Nobody knows how long they have left. If they said you have three minutes left, what would you do? Or three seconds? What would you do? I would do everything.

ALEXANDER BELOV A true communist.

SVESHNIKOVA Alex, you and I can do whatever we want. Anything. It doesn't matter how much time you have left. While you're alive, you can do anything.

TERESHCHENKO Vladimir, the results of your experiments are in!

GARANZHIN Paulauskas again?

TERESHCHENKO No, Korkiya. He's quitting the team. Here's his notice of resignation.

GARANZHIN Zurab!

SAKANDELIDZE He went off to buy a ticket. He has a wedding to attend. He's at the airport.

TAXI DRIVER Thanks.

GARANZHIN Why didn't you tell me?

KORKIYA Vladimir, I tried so many times.

GARANZHIN Can you not just go for a day?

KORKIYA A wedding in Georgia is not a one-day event. My sister's getting married. The Olympics are once ever four years, but family is forever. I'm sorry.

GARANZHIN Is there a stadium there?

KORKIYA Why do you ask?

GARANZHIN There's a wonderful Georgian saying: Fire is the test of gold, gold is the test of women, and women are the test of men. Let's raise our glasses to the beautiful bride, to her groom, to her wonderful brother, and to this magical land!

SAKANDELIDZE Vladimir, this is our custom.

KSENIYA Vladimir...

GARANZHIN And to our training tomorrow morning! To the last drop!

KSENIYA Eat something, quick.

UNCLE ILIKO Mishiko!

KORKIYA Yes, Uncle?

UNCLE ILIKO Mishiko, are you going to Munich?

KORKIYA Of course I am. Why?

UNCLE ILIKO My friend will be there, he'sthe Israeli wrestling coach.

KORKIYA Alright.

UNCLE ILIKO Give this to him.

KORKIYA But Uncle, Munich is a very large city. How will I find him?

UNCLE ILIKO Are you not Georgian?

KORKIYA Of course I am!

UNCLE ILIKO Two Georgians will always find each other!

KORKIYA Alright.

KSENIYA On the plane I had a dream where he was running.

GARANZHIN And he will run. The Sports Committee is working on it. While we're in Munich, you go to the Committee. Pick up his travel papers and anything else they give you.

VOLNOV’S WIFE Vladimir, this is just a dream: sun, good wine, our husbands playing in the fields.

GARANZHIN We'll see how well they play on the court.

EDESHKO’S GIRLFRIEND What time does training start tomorrow?

GARANZHIN I have no idea.

VOLNOV’S WIFE How about 10 a.m.?

GARANZHIN Let's go. Keep together! Don't fall back! You're doing great! Mind your breathing! Keep up the pace!

WOMAN Mr. Garanzhin!

REPORTER What's your stance on the situation in Chile and President Aliende?

MOISEEV No comment.

SPORTSWOMAN There you go.

GARANZHIN Thank you.

VSEVOLOD Oh no...

PAULAUSKAS Come on, Seva, smile for the camera.

VSEVOLOD I feel awkward, guys.

LITHUANIAN REPORTER Comrade Paulauskas, Soviet Lithuania is rooting for you! As the saying goes, "a blue car will be waiting at the entrance to Schlosspark". Hurray! Show them who's boss!

VSEVOLOD What did he say?

PAULAUSKAS He said you walk funny.

KORKIYA Guys, I'm exhausted. I'm dying.

GARANZHIN Enough of that. We won the quarter final, we're already heroes. Guys, you're the best. Lights out in an hour.

REPORTER Can you spare a minute?

VLEVOLOD Sergey!

SERGEY BELOV Not now, Seva!

VSEVOLOD I need to go have a word with the Hungarians.

PAULAUSKAS Seva should have a dose.

SERGEY BELOV Let's wait for him.

PAULAUSKAS You'll be dead before he gets back. What does it look like?

SERGEY BELOV It's an ampoule wrapped in plastic. Mody! What's up? What's the holdup?

PAULAUSKAS Our medic has quite a bag of tricks. This is really cool.

SERGEY BELOV Put it back.

PAULAUSKAS Cool, right? Let's listen to the girls...

VSEVOLOD That's not yours to play with. Look for your snitch elsewhere. I have my own assignment. I wasn't trying to gain your trust. I could've dropped you all in it long ago. I know who has contraband, who's bought currency. And some of you are plain suspicious.

PAULAUSKAS Bastard.

VSEVOLOD That hurts, coming from a friend. Almost a friend. Coach puts up with him. Could've sent him packing, saved himself a lot of hassle. But no. He's a saint.

SERGEY BELOV A saint? He needs to win - that's why he puts up with us.

VSEVOLOD That's not what I mean. You saw his son, right? He was saving up to get him surgery, but when Alex fell ill in the States, he spent all that money on hospital bills. Think about it, Sergey. Why would he do that?

GARANZHIN The Cubans are fast as hell, so don't try to outrun them.

MOISEEV Vladimir!

GARANZHIN Warm up.

TERESHCHENKO Attention please!

GARANZHIN Get warming up.

TERESHCHENKO One moment. You need to play smart. Play to win but save your strength to beat the Americans. Cuba is our seventeenth Soviet republic. Amigo!

GARANZHIN Hello, Ksenia?

KSENIYA Vladimir, sorry. I went to the Committee. They're not letting Shura travel. You said they would! They said something about contraband, about you, that you're a liability, that you'll lose to the Americans, and that we can apply again next year. But Shura can't wait that long! And where will we get the money?

GARANZHIN Ksenia...Hello?

KSENIYA Hello?

CUBAN Comrades...

MOISEEV What's going on? We've always beaten the Cubans.

TERESHCHENKO What's all this about?

MOISEEV Calm down, he's on it.

PAULAUSKAS Guys, get it together!

MOISEEV Vladimir, we have a problem.

TERESHCHENKO Eight points down, Vladimir! Are you happy with that?

ALEXANDER BELOV Vladimir, you ok? To Mody or to me?

GARANZHIN Modestas, what's the score?

PAULAUSKAS 67:61.

GARANZHIN Who's won?

PAULAUSKAS We did. What's wrong with you?

GARANZHIN Good game guys, well done. Get some rest.

KORKIYA Vladimir, can Zurab and I go visit the Israelis, just for a minute? Thanks.

VSEVOLOD Alex Belov! I need to check your blood pressure.

GARANZHIN Modestas, you're under surveillance. If you come back a champion, you'll be fine. If not, they'll never let you out again. I don't know what our chances are. You guys are good, but so are the Americans. So if you were planning something, now is the time.

PAULAUSKAS Thanks, but... This game means so much to you. You've put us through hell for it, and yourself too. And now you're saying this. Why?

GARANZHIN What's most important in your life?

PAULAUSKAS My home, Lithuania.

GARANZHIN Imagine there's no more Lithuania. Does this game matter anymore?

PAULAUSKAS I get it. Goodbye.

GARANZHIN Good luck.

ALEXANDER BELOV So you'll be playing against us.

PAULAUSKAS Don't give me the sob story about the Motherland. My Motherland is Lithuania, not your bloody...

ALEXANDER BELOV My Motherland isn't "your bloody" either. It's my mom, my dad, the village where I grew up, basketball, the club, and my comrades.

PAULAUSKAS Your comrades? You never even speak to anyone. Some comrades you have.

ALEXANDER BELOV They're the best. It's me that's not so great. Look, I understand. We've all had the same thought. There's more money there, and... the ball bounces better. And they'd fix my kneesin less than a week...But I won't abandon my friends.

PAULAUSKAS Since when have they been your friends?

ALEXANDER BELOV Since long ago. But I only realized now.

SAKANDELIDZE Only a Georgian would think to bring chacha from Kazbegi to Munich!

KORKIYA You know Uncle Iliko. What was I to do?

SAKANDELIDZE How will we recognize the guy?

KORKIYA How can we not recognize a Georgian? How do you recognize me, eh?

SAKANDELIDZE You and I met ages ago.

KORKIYA So we just have to meet him.

SAKANDELIDZE Fine. Wait for me.

KORKIYA Hello, Miss.

SAKANDELIDZE Hi.

KORKIYA We're looking for the Israeli team coach.

SAKANDELIDZE He's Georgian.

KORKIYA We have to give him this.

MOISEEV Vladimir! Palestinian terrorists have attacked the Israelis right in their quarters. They've taken hostages. We meet in the hall, I've told everyone. I'm off to get Gennady.

GARANZHIN Korkiya... Zurab! Zurab! Mishiko! Wait a minute! Zurab!

TERESHCHENKO Is everyone here?

MOISEEV Except Korkiya and Sakandelidze.

TERESHCHENKO Where's Paulauskas? You let him get away. Does he think the Soviet team is his private property? The team is the face of the nation!

MOISEEV The team is still here, and it's strong as ever.

TERESHCHENKO Why are you standing up for him again? He'll take us down with him!

LITHUANIAN DRIVER No contact with journalists until you get your asylum. In fact, no contact with anyone. Trust nobody.

TERESHCHENKO Don't you get it? This isn't sport, this is war! And we're the front line! And what's your plan to survive the final? You don't have one!

MOISEEV Maybe we should pull out?

TERESHCHENKO Are you serious? We can say it's a provocation, that we uphold the Olympic values, and we refuse to play under these circumstances, right? America won't win, and the USSR won't lose. Grigory, you're a genius. I'll go call Moscow. Grigory, you get ready for the...

MOISEEV Press conference.

TERESHCHENKO Yes. And Vladimir, I assure you that your problems are just beginning. That's a promise.

GARANZHIN So that's it? All this was for nothing?

MOISEEV Exactly the opposite - it wasn't for nothing! The next Olympics are in four years. You're still the coach, nobody will change that. You bring us gold medals. We have four years to get Shura on his feet, and... and everything will be just fine. The whole American thing will be dealt with, and we'll get back to work, calm and collected. This year with you has been like sitting on a powder keg! You want to know the truth? I tipped off customs that time. After Essen, when you said you'd beat the Americans. I thought you'd lost it. And you'd take me down with you. It was me who made you coach. We'd lose to the Yanks, and then what? I'd get kicked out of the Part and the Federation. You'd go back to your old Spartak, but where would I go? Where? And you'd be, you know, better off, because... you know. After all, we wanted to... you know? Can you forgive me?

GARANZHIN Sure. You got scared, happens to everyone. But for taking this game away from us...

MOISEEV You'd have lost!

GARANZHIN Yes, maybe we would have lost, but this game was our life... and you took our life and... Snitching is one thing, but you stole basketball from me and the boys. And it's all we had. That, Grigory, makes you a bastard.

MOISEEV Wait, let me...

GARANZHIN You tell the guys yourself.

MOISEEV The statement will be on behalf of the Basketball Federation. We're leaving the Olympic Village in protest.

DOCTOR The terrorists have been given a bus, two helicopters to the airport, and a plane to Cairo.

KORKIYA Let us through, please! We have to get inside! We're athletes, this is our building!

SAKANDELIDZE Miss, tell them we're not Palestinians! Guys! Guys!

EDESHKO Is that Korkiya's voice?

SAKANDELIDZE What's the fuss about?

KORKIYA Did you think we'd be sitting inside?

SAKANDELIDZE We went out on the town. Had a good look around.

KORKIYA Came back...

SAKANDELIDZE In the morning we tried to get back and they wouldn't let us in!

ALEXANDER BELOV Here?

KORKIYA Yes.

ALEXANDER BELOV We were worried sick!

PAULAUSKAS Stop the car here.

DRIVER That's the Olympic Village.You miss it already?

PAULAUSKAS I'm not going.

LITHUANIAN TOURIST What are you talking about? Everything's been arranged!

PAULAUSKAS Thanks for everything, brother, but no.

DRIVER Our dear Mody has a case of nerves, that's all.

PAULAUSKAS Stop! You didn't abandon me. And I won't abandon my friends. I'm sorry. I've come this far, but I can't go any further. I have to go back. Bye, guys.

LITHUANIAN TOURIST Since when have they been your friends?

PAULAUSKAS Since long ago. But I only realized now.

BRUNDAGE’S VOICE We mourn... Despite what happened, the Games will go on. Every delegation has the right to withdraw from the Games. All the hostages perished.

MEDIC Every delegation decides for itself...

MOISEEV Is everyone here? It would be ethically wrong to play in this situation. At today's press conference we'll make an official statement. You can start packing.

PAULAUSKAS Is this what I came back for? To become a nobody?

SERGEY BELOV Guys, I think I've figured everything out. Alex, it wasn't the Federation that paid for your heart treatment. You all know Garanzhin's son is sick. He's been saving up for his surgery. All of it went on Alex's therapy. Mody, they wanted you out. Garanzhin stood up for you. He said you're his team. Alzhan, how many fingers?

ZHARMUKHAMEDOV Two.

SERGEY BELOV Garanzhin's contact lenses, right? Mishiko...

KORKIYA I know, brother.

SERGEY BELOV Nobody but our coach believed we could win.

ALEXANDER BELOV Not even us.

SERGEY BELOV Not even us! He dragged us here! We don't have to play. Nothing bad will happen. Moiseyev wants us to pull out. That's what the Federation wants. For the team Garanzhin invested so much into - not to lose. But who does that make us?

ALEXANDER BELOV We have to find Moiseyev.

TERESHCHENKO So, I'll say a few words about the incident, express our condolences, and then I hand over to Moiseyev for an official statement. You sit and nod your head. Got it?

GARANZHIN Got it.

TERESHCHENKO Where's Moiseyev?

INTERPRETER You may start now.

TERESHCHENKO Thank you. This is undeniably an act of provocation against the Soviet Union. Quiet down! And the Soviet Union does not tolerate such insults. Therefore...

MOISEEV Hello. Sorry I'm late.

TERESHCHENKO Where the hell were you? Therefore, we have concluded that the only correct course of action is...

MOISEEV To play. The Games must go on. Sport rises above all conflict, be it cold war or terrorism. This is the Soviet national team's official statement. Oh, and all our players are fine and well. Thank you. They're all with you, even Korkiya, Paulauskas and Sakandelidze.

TERESHCHENKO Are you insane?

MOISEEV I can go work for the army. The salary is enough to get by on.

REPORTER Grigory what's behind your decision?

ADMINISTRATOR Vladimir, you have a call from Moscow.

GARANZHIN Hello?

SHURA Dad, can you hear me?

GARANZHIN Shura? Yes, I can hear you, son. I'm sorry, son.

SHURA Sorry? Just make sure you win.

GARANZHIN I'll try very hard.

SHURA What do you mean, "try"? I bet three rubles on you winning. I'd have bet more, but that's all I had.

GARANZHIN I hear you, kiddo. We'll get your three rubles back. Thank you, son.

ANNOUNCER Greetings, sports fans, we're with you from Munich for the 1972 Olympic Men's Basketball Final. No one has ever beaten the US team, but we're all rooting for Vladimir Garanzhin's team anyway. Let's see who's on the starting lineup.

SERGEY PAVLOVICH I thought I could finally relax at home, and now this.

ANNOUNCER Hank Iba, the US team's head coach. They call him The Iron Duke of Defense, because that's how his team plays. This is Iba's third time at the Olympics. Both previous times his team won gold.

LITHUANIAN TOURIST He's ruining his life for the sake of one game.

TERESHCHENKO Give me the lineup. Look over there. Are you happy now? Had your fifteen minutes of fame? What do they feed them?

GARANZHIN The starting lineup...

PAULAUSKAS They're going straight for the throat. Four black guys, one white.

TERESHCHENKO Vladimir, pull yourself together.

GARANZHIN First up are Zurab, Mishiko, both Belovs and Alzhan. We're playing a fast game. Got it? Get ready. Alex, Alzhan, you're under the hoop. Zurab, Mishiko, run like the wind. Break them down. If you have doubts give the ball to Sergey. He'll know what to do with it. Let's do this.

PLAYERS Hurray!

SERGEY BELOV Cheer up, you're our secret weapon.

PAULAUSKAS Sergey, get going.

GARANZHIN Here we go.

PAULAUSKAS I came all this way to sit on a bench.

LITHUANIAN TOURIST Modestas isn't on the court.

LITHUANIAN DRIVER They'll jail him when he gets back.

REFEREE Pass!

GARANZHIN Now that looks more like basketball.

ANNOUNCER Zurab Sakandelidze gets a foul. The shot doesn't count.

AKSAKAL What do you mean it doesn't count?!

KORKIYA Nice one, Zurab!

SAKANDELIDZE Sorry, Mishiko!

KORKIYA Hell, we're just getting started!

GARANZHIN Zurab, pass earlier on your first step! Foul!

ANNOUNCER Alex Belov gets two free throws...

SERGEY PAVLOVICH Go, go, go...

ANNOUNCER And he opens the score! Korkiya intercepts and passes the ball to Sakandelidze...Score!

GARANZHIN That's more like it.

SPECTATORS USSR! USSR!

GRANDFATHER Would you just look at that?

BASKETBALL PLAYER Pass, pass!

GRANDFATHER Tamara, bring more wine!

TERESHCHENKO Look at them go.

GARANZHIN Run, guys, run!

ANNOUNCER Vladimir Garanzhin got his starting lineup just right. Our Georgian players took the Americans by surprise.

GARANZHIN Mishiko! Keep on your mark!

ANNOUNCER Alzhan Zharmukhamedov, from SKA Tashkent, gets a foul.

GARANZHIN Alzhan, keep it down!

ANNOUNCER The Americans have woken up and upped their pace. Sakandelidze is virtually cut off. The Georgian duo are under pressure.

GARANZHIN Pass to Sergey! Sergey, up the court! Sergey, number five is yours!

SERGEY PAVLOVICH Can't you see Alzhan on your left? Galya!

GALYA Yes, sir?

SERGEY PAVLOVICH Bring us some stiff drinks!

ANNOUNCER Sergey Belov is ripping the US team to shreds!

SAKANDELIDZE Hey, what are you doing?!

MOISEEV What the hell?

GARANZHIN He knows what he's doing. Ivan, you're on after the next throw-in.

EDESHKO Who am I subbing?

GARANZHIN Sergey.

MOISEEV Who's going to score then? On your right!

YERYOMINA There's clearly some tension in the American team.

GARANZHIN Sergey, well done! Get your breath back, on the bench.

SERGEY BELOV Why?

GARANZHIN Breathe, guys, breathe. Boys... You're ten points over the US team in the Olympic final. This is history, remember this moment. Don't take any risky shots. Keep your defense tight because they're going to stampede. Alex?

ALEXANDER BELOV I'm fine.

GARANZHIN Alex!

ALEXANDER BELOV I'm fine!

MOISEEV That's brutal.

YERYOMINA This is not basketball anymore. It seems the Americans have no other way to stop our team from winning.

MEDIC You took a bad one.

EDESHKO I'm ok.

MEDIC Breathe slowly. Take it easy.

EDESHKO I'm fine.

MEDIC He's fine.

MALE VOICE Get back!

SERGEY BELOV Why the hell did he put me on the bench?

BASKETBALL PLAYER Over here!

GARANZHIN Sergey, sub Mishiko!

YERYOMINA Both teams are substituting, Sergey Belov is in for Mishiko Korkiya. On the American team Mike Bantom is in for Jim Brewer.

BASKETBALL PLAYER Take your time, keep the ball. I'm on the right.

YERYOMINA The ten point lead is restored, Sergey Belov is master of the court!

SERGEY BELOV Damn right.

GARANZHIN Both Belovs, on the bench! Start warming up. Keep them busy! Hold them back! Easy, guys. Relax, relax.

YERYOMINA The Soviet team's lead is down to seven points.

GARANZHIN Beautiful.

YERYOMINA Five points. Three points. Only three points with one minute to half-time.

GARANZHIN Are we going to play or not?

YERYOMINA If the Americans manage to reduce the gap further or draw equal, they'll have the psychological advantage in the second half.

GARANZHIN Both Belovs, you're up. Keep stretching.

YERYOMINA Alexander Belov! 26:21 at half-time, the Soviet team is in the lead.

MEDIC Alex can't go on.

GARANZHIN You tell him that.

GARANZHIN Don't be scared of them. They're made of the same stuff as you are. Here's the lineup... Paulauskas. Edeshko. Sakandelidze. Alex, you get to rest a bit.

ALEXANDER BELOV I'm fine.

GARANZHIN Boloshev will cover for you. Spread your wings, my little ostriches! And fly!

YERYOMINA The Americans are playing a hard and dirty game of basketball.

GARANZHIN Pass to Sergey!

LITHUANIAN TOURIST They can't do without Modestas.

DRIVER Maybe they won't jail him after all.

LITHUANIAN TOURIST Bravo, Modestas!

MOISEEV Why did you make the spy sit out the whole first half?

GARANZHIN What was that?

YERYOMINA What's going on here? How can that be allowed? Where are the referees looking?

MOISEEV Are we playing rugby here?

EDESHKO Alzhan, you ok?

YERYOMINA This is outrageous! When are the referees going to take notice?

MEDIC Hold it there.

GARANZHIN Nice one! Boloshev, play it safe! Showoffs! Grigory!

MOISEEV What can I do?

MEDIC Curl your toes in. Do it! Now stretch them out. Anesthetic, bandage and you're good to go.

KORKIYA Brother, why are we putting up with this?

GARANZHIN Easy now. Mishiko, you're up.

SERGEY BELOV Nothing we can do, it wasn't a foul.

AUNT KORKIYA Mishiko, son, don't do it...

KORKIYA If it wasn't the final I'd knock your teeth into next week. Sorry, I couldn't help it.

GARANZHIN I'd have done the same.

MOISEEV You took their best center out, nice one.

GARANZHIN Looks like Alex got angry. Alex! Read the rules. Yes! Sergey you're the man! Grigory, you're about to see what American basketball is all about. We just have to grin and bear it.

YERYOMINA The American fans are serenading their team.

GARANZHIN Zurab, in for Sergey Belov! Go!

YERYOMINA The Americans aren't giving in. Our lead is fading away. Substitutes left, right and center.

EDESHKO Alzhan!

GARANZHIN Boloshev, sub Alzhan. What's the matter?

ZHARMUKHAMEDOV I lost a contact lens.

GARANZHIN Why didn't you say right away?

ZHARMUKHAMEDOV I didn't have time.

GARANZHIN What are you playing at? Time-out.

YERYOMINA There are three minutes remaining.

GARANZHIN Alex, you're on! Alzhan, Mody, you're on! Boloshev, Belov, Volnov, on the bench.

TERESHCHENKO He can't keep substituting like that!

MEDIC That's how he won the first half.

TERESHCHENKO Never mind.

GARANZHIN Don't panic, don't rush. No stupid fouls, we can't afford them. Got that? Let's go!

TERESHCHENKO What do I do with this?

MEDIC Suck it.

YERYOMINA Both teams are now under intense pressure. Modestas Paulauskas!

DRIVER Now they'll make him a Party member.

YERYOMINA Hank Iba is replacing Ed Ratleff with Doug Collins. He's a serious threat for our team.

FANS Don't let him through! Keep him back!

YERYOMINA Mike Bantom gets a foul. Sergey Belov!

GARANZHIN Get ready! Stay focused!

YERYOMINA Sergey Belov almost never misses from the free-throw line. We need his marksmanship now more than ever!

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE Just do what you always do.

GARANZHIN That's ok, that's ok!

PAULAUSKAS Get it together.

GARANZHIN That's it! Keep it up!

YERYOMINA Fifty one seconds of play left. There's time for two possessions. The Soviet team is three points ahead. The lead is down to one point. We have possession. We need to keep hold of the ball as long as possible.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE Hold it, hold it, hold it.

YERYOMINA Time is on our side, with 15 seconds to the end of the game. We have the ball again, with six seconds left!

PAULAUSKAS Over here!

NOT IDENTIFIED Alex!

YERYOMINA Alex Belov makes an unfortunate mistake three seconds from full-time. Zurab Sakandelidze gets a foul.

ALEXANDER BELOV I'm sorry, guys.

YERYOMINA Is Collins able to play on? Yes he is. That deserves respect. Doug Collins is on the free-throw line. His first throw hits its mark. The American team draws even for the first time in the game.

GARANZHIN Time-out. Time-out, Grigory! Where's my time-out?! What are you doing?

MOISEEV We asked for a time-out! Look, there it is!

GARANZHIN Why?

YERYOMINA The United States team has won the match.

GARANZHIN I requested a time-out!

MOISEEV Get out of here! Why didn't the Soviet national team get its time-out? There was a request! Time-out!

GARANZHIN Guys, over here. Guys. Ivan, sub Alzhan. Alzhan, you rest. Sergey... Boys, three seconds is lots of time. Enough to win, lose and win again. Mody, sprint down the left side. Ivan, look at Sergey, pass to Mody. Mody, pass to Alex at the hoop. That's it. Go! You can do it!

YERYOMINA Three seconds... to the end of the game.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE Everyone makes mistakes. Garanzhin does, we do.

MOISEEV I demand that the clock be reset and the final three seconds replayed! Why wasn't the clock showing three seconds? The clock showed one second! The buzzer went right after the throw-in! And right now, look! The clock is showing 50 seconds! I want to finish the game according to the rules!

TERESHCHENKO I suggested not playing, because of the attack.

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE So why did they play?

TERESHCHENKO It was all Moiseyev and Garanzhin's idea! Hello? The arguing continues at the scorers' table.

MOISEEV And you sounded the buzzer while the ball was in the air.

YERYOMINA No, it's not over yet. It seems that the match isn't over.

MOISEEV Vladimir! You have three seconds!

YERYOMINA Three seconds to the end of the game. The clock was wrong. There are three seconds of play left. It's too early for the Americans to celebrate...

GARANZHIN Alex, Ivan, over here!

YERYOMINA ...celebrate victory. The game continues. Three more seconds of play. The referees are asking the players to return to the court.

GARANZHIN Alex, you go for the ball and fly under the hoop. Ivan, you watch Alex. It doesn't matter how much time we have left. You got that, Alex? Got that?

ALEXANDER BELOV Got it.

GARANZHIN Go, let's do it.

ALEXANDER BELOV I got it now. While we're alive, we can do anything.

SERGEY BELOV Guys, it's been a pleasure being with you on the team. Honest.

YERYOMINA Only three seconds…

EDESHKO Ivan, watch the court.

YERYOMINA ...left in the game.

SERGEY BELOV This is the best game of my life. Thank you.

YERYOMINA The clock has been reset. Everyone is out of their seats. 49:50, with the US team leading the score.

EDESHKO Ivan, watch the court.

YERYOMINA Ivan Edeshko will throw the ball into play. And the Soviet team scores! Victory! We are the champions! We are the Olympic champions!

FANS Gennady, we won! We beat the Americans! We're heroes!

WOMAN Thank you, thank you! You're a hero! Hurray! Hurray!

EDESHKO Vladimir, hurray!

ANATOLIY I'm sorry, I was wrong about Garanzhin...

HEAD OF SPORTS COMMITTEE We'll fix everything tomorrow.

PAULAUSKAS Get lost, all of you!

MOISEEV Boys! Your bonuses. I hope you won't be disappointed. This time it's more than what Lithuanian taxi drivers earn.

ALEXANDER BELOV But we were playing for our country, not the money.

SERGEY BELOV This is for Shura's surgery.

GARANZHIN Guys, why?

YEREMINA with the US team leading the score. Ivan Edeshko will throw the ball into play. Three seconds. Pass to Alexander Belov... And the Soviet team scores! Victory!