

INT. CHINESE PRISON - NIGHT

A rag tag group of spies stands in front of two armed forces units, one Chinese and one Iraqi. A MYSTERIOUS MAN who seems to be the ringleader stands in the background, smoking a cigarette and barely paying attention to what is going on behind him. The soldiers stare down our heroes: THE FACE, a weathered but handsome soldier who waits nervously, THE BRAINS, a 40 year old computer genius who seems terrified, and THE BEAUTY, a 24 year old modellesque spy. She looks to her left for some support.

The person she's looking to for solace is CHARLES, a scrawny 15 year old high school student. He looks up to the gorgeous spy and flashes a slight smile.

CHARLES
It'll be alright.

The moment of calm is broken by the leader of the Iraqi.

IRAQI LEADER
(in Arabic, subtitled)
Infidel! Over here! Now!

The Iraqi leader points to The Face who then walks over to meet his fate. Charles stands firm in the face of certain death. The Beauty takes her cue from him and tries to exude confidence. The Brains, on the other hand, looks like he's about to become a blubbering mess.

The female leader of the Chinese army looks over our heroes. She scans past The Brains and sets her eyes on The Beauty.

CHINESE LEADER
(in Chinese, subtitled)
You! You're MINE!

The Brains breathes a sigh of relief while The Beauty can't believe that it's her time. Charles steps in front of her, giving himself up to save her.

CHARLES
No. Take me!

The armed forces units are stunned. They then look at one another and start laughing.

The Chinese leader looks annoyed and when she speaks we now hear the voice of an SHAUNA, a stuck up 16 year old girl.

SHAUNA'S VOICE
Uh, no! I picked the new girl.

The Chinese Leader turns back towards the mysterious ringleader in the background.

SHAUNA'S VOICE (CONT'D)
Coach Johnman, Charles is breaking
the rules again!

Everyone looks over to see the mysterious man's reaction. He slowly turns around.

CUT TO:

INT. GYM CLASS - DAY

COACH JOHNMANN, an out of shape, 40 year old slob, quickly puts out his cigarette, tucks his pack of smokes into the back of his all-too-revealing gym shorts, and turns around to face his class.

COACH JOHNMANN
Do we have a problem, Charles?

Charles has now snapped out of his daydream and looks over his gym class. The two armies are the two dodgeball teams and their leaders are SAM, an overgrown 16 year old jock, and SHAUNA, a plaid skirt wearing little miss perfect.

ALLISON (O.S.)
It's OK, you did your best.

Charles turns to where The Beauty once was and sees ALLISON, the beautiful new girl in school. She smiles at Charles as she makes her way to her team. Shauna and her friends immediately start sizing up the new girl.

SHAUNA
Decent frame.

MINION #1
Abs could use some work.

Allison can't believe that they are openly inspecting her. She turns her back to her teammates.

MINION #2
Ooh, very nice bum!

Charles can only shake his head at the way Shauna and her posse are treating Allison.

WAYNE (O.S.)
Keep dreaming.

Charles turns to his right and sees, instead of The Brains, WAYNE, a chubby nerd, who chortles with his brainy cohorts.

WAYNE (CONT'D)

How much RAM would a computer need to calculate Charlie's chances with the new girl?

SPENCER

Why bother? Just multiply by zero.

The Nerds cackle and snort. Charles groans. He doesn't think things could get any worse. But then they do.

SAM

(singing)

Oh Cha-rles.

Sam and his fellow jocks wave for Charles to join their team. Charles makes his way towards his new teammates, wishing there was a way out.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BATTLEFIELD - DAY

Charles sits in a fox hole with: Iraqi leader, The Face, and a group of other soldiers. They prepare to make a run at the enemy lines. The Iraqi leader whispers something to The Face and then looks over the troops.

IRAQI LEADER

Charles, lead the first team. Take no prisoners! This is your time!

Charles nods and prepares to lead the group into battle. But just as Charles is about to run out of the foxhole, The General raises his weapon up and aims at it at Charles's head.

SAM'S VOICE

Friendly fire!

CUT TO:

INT. GYM CLASS - DAY

Sam is only a few feet away from Charles but he rears back and throws the dodgeball as hard as he can. The ball blasts Charles in the back of the head.

PETEY, a pretty boy who was the inspiration for The Face, also throws his ball at Charles's head. That shot knocks Charles to the ground. The rest of Charles's teammates then clobber him with their dodgeballs.

A WHISTLE BLOWS and Coach Johnman runs over to stop the carnage.

COACH JOHNMAN

Sam! Petey! Get to the principal's office NOW!

SAM

What? We were just playing.

PETEY

And he's a loser!

Coach Johnman stares at them and points to the door. The two kids are annoyed but listen to their teacher. They EXIT the gym.

Coach Johnman looks down at Charles and then turns to the class.

COACH JOHNMAN

Someone's going to need to take Charles to the nurse.

CHARLES

It's fine. I think I'm OK.

Coach Johnman steps back and STOMPS on Charles's ankle. Charles doubles over in pain.

COACH JOHNMAN

(to Charles)

I've had enough of you for the day.

(to the class)

You can never be too cautious.

MINION #2

Safety first!

Shauna elbows for Minion #2 in the ribs.

SHAUNA

You do see what you're kissing.

The girls all lean to the side a bit and take in Coach Johnman's butt. His shorts are so short that his tighty whities and flabby cheeks are hanging out.

COACH JOHNMAN
Shauna, would you--

SHAUNA
--I don't need an A that badly.

COACH JOHNMAN
Excuse me?

SHAUNA
--Oh, I mean. No! I wouldn't be
caught dead walking with that NERD!

WAYNE (O.S.)
Now hold your tauntauns...

Wayne steps forward.

WAYNE (CONT'D)
He is most certainly not a nerd. We
do have some standards and a
requisite G.P--

A dodgeball slams Wayne in the face, interrupting his defense
of nerddom.

SHAUNA
There has to be someone else.

Shaun's minions are still looking over Allison. MINION #1
grabs Allison's butt.

MINION #1
Firm but supple.

Allison immediately steps forward.

ALLISON
Yeah, I'll do it.

Allison walks over to the Coach and pats him on the back.

ALLISON (CONT'D)
Don't wait up.

Allison helps Charles up and they head out of class.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Allison and Charles walk down the hallway.

ALLISON
Are you OK?

CHARLES
I'm used to it.

ALLISON
This happens a lot?

CHARLES
Kinda. I don't side with any clique
so everyone picks on me.

ALLISON
You're like a bizarro Switzerland.

CHARLES
Without the cool knives, yeah.

Charles and Allison keep walking down the hall. There's a moment of awkward silence.

CHARLES (CONT'D)
It must be nice to start fresh. New
school, new identity.

ALLISON
Problem is you never get to pick
your identity. I'll be defined by
the jailbait and her gang of gossip
girls.

CHARLES
Shauna. Yeah.
(beat)
So you've moved a lot?

ALLISON
Yeah. My Dad works for the
Department of Defense. Goes to
places, fixes them up, moves onto
the next one.

CHARLES
Kind of like a bizarro America.

ALLISON
Hey, we've helped more people than
we've hurt!

CHARLES
 OK, OK, it was a joke.
 (beat)
 So... are we Japan or Iraq?

ALLISON
 (playfully threatening)
 We shall see, won't we?

Charles stops at the door to the nurse's office.

CHARLES
 Well this is my stop.

Allison smiles at Charles.

ALLISON
 So I was just wondering...

Charles perks up, waiting for Allison to ask him for some sort of tutoring or maybe a date.

ALLISON (CONT'D)
 Where do people go to smoke at this school?

Allison pulls out Coach Johnman's cigarettes. Charles frowns. Maybe Allison isn't everything he had hoped for.

EXT. THE SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

Charles kicks a rock as he walks home alone. He pauses when he sees Sam and Petey standing with their parents. SAM'S FATHER looks very disappointed as does SAM'S MOTHER who is holding onto a leash, at the end of which is SAM'S LITTLE BROTHER. Petey's parents also look annoyed and have a pair of toddlers on leashes as well.

SAM'S FATHER
 I am so disappointed.

PETEY'S MOTHER
 I really expected so much more.

Charles sneaks by, happy to hear that the bullies are getting in trouble.

PETEY'S FATHER
 A week of detention. They were just playing around!

SAM'S MOTHER

This school's run by a bunch of fags.

Charles can't believe what he's hearing. He then mistakenly kicks the rock, which rolls towards the bike rack.

CLANG! The rock collides with the metallic bike rack, making a noise loud enough for everyone to hear.

PETEY

There he is!

SAM'S MOTHER

Get him!

PETEY'S FATHER

C'mon, he's getting away.

Sam and Petey start sprinting at Charles who has no other choice but to run.

The toddlers try to join the chase but the parents pull back on their leashes.

PETEY'S MOTHER

(crazed)

Not yet, my sweeties. Not yet.

The four parents admire their sons as they chase after Charles.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - AFTERNOON

Charles sprints through the playground. He passes Wayne, who holds up a flag. Charles then passes Spencer, who is holding a stopwatch. Charles then takes a turn and runs behind a building. Moments later, Sam and Petey come running by and Wayne holds the flag up again.

Charles keeps running around the building and comes full circle. He's back to where Wayne and Spencer are standing.

CHARLES

How am I looking?

WAYNE

By our calculations...

Spencer checks his stopwatch.

SPENCER
...they'll catch up to you in five
point seven minutes.

CHARLES
Thanks.

Charles takes off.

CHARLES (CONT'D)
(to himself)
That's enough time to get home.

Petey and Sam turn the corner. Sam chases after Charles but Petey blind-sides Wayne and Spencer, violently tackling them to the ground.

Like a zombie from Dawn of the Dead, Petey immediately springs up and starts sprinting after Charles.

EXT. CHARLES'S HOUSE - DAY

Charles runs through the gate and to the front door. It's locked. He rings the doorbell frantically. He looks back and sees the bullies have caught up with him.

Charles hops off the stoop and runs to the back of his house. The bullies chase after him.

Charles gets back to the front of the house and leaps onto the stoop to try the door once again. Unfortunately for our hero, as he flies towards the doorstep, the front door opens and slams him in the face. Charles is sent sailing into the flower bed in front of the house.

BRUCE, an intense looking ex-secret agent, steps out and looks over the yard. The bullies run to the front but freeze as soon as they see him.

PETEY
Oh, I didn't realize you knew
Charlie.

BRUCE
Who?

The bullies take this as a sign that they can mess with Charles.

SAM
Oh, in that case we'll just be...

Bruce glares at the bullies.

BRUCE

You'll just be getting off this property.

A car pulls up. The bullies retreat to it.

PETEEY & SAM

He threatened us!

Sam's parents gets out of the car.

SAM'S MOTHER

What's the big idea... Oh, it's you.

Bruce picks up an acorn that's sitting on the porch railing.

SAM'S FATHER

You might scare the kids of this town but I'm not--

Bruce throws the acorn at Sam's dad. It goes right in the dad's mouth and lodges in his throat. Sam's mom is stunned.

SAM'S MOTHER

Fall back!

Sam, Petey, and Sam's parents hop into the car and peel off to safety.

Still laying in the flower bed, Charlie looks over and sees something in the basement window. It's a pair of breasts.

CHARLES

Nice!

The person steps into full view and Charlie sees it is his mother.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

Mom?

Charles gags a bit and the scrambles to his feet. He then comes face-to-face with Bruce. The initial fear is soon pushed aside by confusion.

CHARLES (CONT'D)

Wait, why are you at my house and my mom's...

Charles puts two and two together. Bruce realizes this doesn't look good.

BRUCE

Um, I'm Bruce. I just... was...
working on the plumbing.

CHARLES

Oh, is that what you adults are
calling it nowadays?

Charles storms into the house.

INT. FOYER - DAY

Charles heads to the basement door. Bruce stops him.

BRUCE

You really want to do this? It
could break your family apart.

CHARLES

The guilt of a divorce, two
Christmases, it'd be a windfall for
me.

The basement door starts to open by Bruce blocks it with his foot.

BRUCE

Looks like the door might be stuck.
Let me get it.

Bruce looks to Charlie.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

(whispering)
What do you want?

CHARLES

I want to do what you do.

BRUCE

Your mom?

CHARLES

No! The secret agent stuff.

BRUCE

You can't believe all the rumors--

CHARLES

--Everyone in town knows you used to work for the CIA.

BRUCE

I'm not--

CHARLES'S MOM (O.S.)

--What's going on? Who are you talking to?

CHARLES

I'm here, Mom. We'll get you out.

CHARLES'S MOM (O.S.)

Oh, well... OK. Bruce was just over here...

CHARLES

Fixing the plumbing? Was it something Dad couldn't do when he got back from his business trip?

CHARLES'S MOM

Oh, it was something your dad couldn't do for a good 15 years now.

Charles rips opens the door. His mom is stunned and speechless. Charles looks like he's about to drop the bomb but Bruce puts his arm around the boy.

BRUCE

Charles wanted some help to, uh, tryout for the baseball team. I thought I could teach him a thing or two.

MOM

Oh that would be great. Thank you! Don't let me keep you.

Charles's mom smiles and walks off.

Charles and Bruce give each other a little look. Their uneasy alliance has begun.