

THE ALL-STARS

Screenplay
by

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From a story
by

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OPEN ON:

CU: First Edition 1985 AIR JORDANS. Red, Black & White... We PULL OUT to reveal that these Airs are nestled in and among rows and rows of insane and collectible sneakers displayed on platinum shelving running from the floor up and up and up as far as the eye can see... To eternity itself. Hundreds and hundreds of the coolest, hippest, freshest, dopest kicks ever amassed.

As Kendrick Lamar's "Hustla's Story" drops.

*"Woo!
Shoutout my hustlers, I mean
Everybody hustlers
You feel me
Look, look"*

Larry Bird Weapons... Magic Johnson Weapons... Converse ERX Impress Highs... Nike VaporMax... Dunk High Wu Tangs... Parra X Patta Cherrywood's... Converse Coach 1975 BNIB Vintage All-Stars... Jordan Son of Mars...

*"I said, wake up, open up shop, get
your hustle on
Selling pills straight out her
crib, and break into another home
Tryna get in and out, get my double-
double on"*

All pristine. Untouched by human hands... PULL BACK TO REVEAL:

INT. THE SHOE-ZEUM

A FORT KNOX of sneakers, and standing before this collection is our star, CHARLOTTE "CHARLIE" TURNBULL. She has a thousand-kilowatt smile, blue and purple hair and a never-ending stream of hustle and flow... She sports a "99 problems but my kicks ain't one" playfully ripped T-shirt and urban Sport blue jeans.

Charlie stares directly into camera - yeah, we're starting by **breaking the fourth wall** - as:

CHARLIE

I know what you're thinking.
They're just sneakers. What's the big deal? But, trust me, these ain't just sneakers. These works of design and engineering are the canvases that the masters paint on.

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

I'm talking "Steez" here. Style and ease here. The be-all, end-all that defines you to yourself while separating you from all the other purveyors of urban fashion...

Charlie continues her banter as cool sneakers float through frame like thought-bubbles.... **Air Jordans 1's, 11's, 34's... LeBron's Zoom Soldier 9... One Stars... Campbell Soup X Chuck Taylor... Jordan 2 Eminems... Dunk Low Pro SB Freddy Krueger's...**

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

... But, check this. They're also cash money. Boxes of Bobby DeNiro's, yo. Cabbage. You hear me? Cause this life ain't like a bunch of chocolates. This life is like a box of brand new crepes! These babies are status. Identity. Freedom. These deadstocks are what dreams are made of. So, it's time to wake up!

(then: echoing)

Wake up... Wake up... Wake up...

Until:

VOICE (O.S.)

WAKE UP!

And we...

SMASH CUT TO:

CHARLIE SHOOTING AWAKE!

Not in some hot-shit "Shoe-seum," but drooling in a folded beach chair in the shadows of...

EXT. NAISMITH BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME - MORNING

The shrine to hoops... Starting our storytelling in the very birthplace of basketball. SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS... But, Charlie is not waiting to enter the vaunted hall of basketball... No... She's actually...

EXT. SIDEWALK - UNDERFEETED STORE - MORNING

Sitting in a long line of countless "SNEAKERHEADS" of every shape and size who have camped out for days waiting for the **PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS UNDERFEETED SHOE STORE** to open up. For its' the release date of the new Parra Amsterdams.

We may have been seeing Charlie's dream of being a "playa"... But, in reality... She's a million miles away from getting anyplace else... And she's been awakened by a male Sneakerhead - LACEY.

LACEY

Wake up, Charlie.

CHARLIE

(wiping the sleep out of
her eyes)

Whoa, Lacey. Yo, I was just having that dream again.

LACEY

The one where you're my Bae?

CHARLIE

I said dream, not nightmare.

(then)

Check this. I was "vlogging" from my own Shoe-seum. "Sneakerchick." And I had like thousands of pairs of the freshest, dopest crepes. Featuring today's release, the nicey nice nice Parra x Nike Air Max 1's "Amsterdams.

(then)

I've clocked those bad boys everywhere...

SMASH CUT TO:

FLASHBACK:

EXT. BUS STOP - SPRINGFIELD

Charlotte surfs her Iphone... sitting among some undesirables...

CHARLIE (O.S.)

"On Kickz.com..."

A pair of Parra x Nike Air Max 1's "Amsterdams" appear...
Charlotte starts blogging on her site "SNEAKERCHICK.COM" when
a bus stop CRAZY leans in...

BUS STOP CRAZY
The Jello is jiggling. The butter's
getting hard...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT./EXT. ARBY'S DRIVE-THRU - SPRINGFIELD

Charlotte, sitting at work taking orders in the drive-thru,
now checking out a different sneakerhead website... Blogging
about the Parra's...

CHARLIE (O.S.)
On "Sneakerboy.com..."

DRIVE THRU CUSTOMER
Are you even listening? I said
Smokehouse?!?

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. LECTURE HALL - SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE - DAY

Charlotte now in a lecture hall, but not taking notes...
Instead... blogging some more linking yet another website...
reading about the object of her latest obsession...

CHARLIE (O.S.)
On "Shoepalace.com..."

PROFESSOR
(amusing himself)
... The Holy Roman Empire was
neither Holy... Roman... or an
Empire...

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. UNDERFEETED STORE - PRESENT

CHARLIE
And now it's finally drop-date.
Jean Claude Van Amsterdam!

Charlotte folds her chair and moves with the line. She checks for her money in her pocket. Reveals a **wad of cash**. She's ready...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. UNDERFEETED STORE - LATER

Charlie moves with the line. Closer still...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. UNDERFEETED STORE - LATER

Charlie is almost at the front of the line. When... Lacey is allowed in, but Charlie is not.

CHARLIE

Oh, c'mon.

LACEY

Don't worry, Bae. I'll save you a pair.

CHARLIE

I ain't your Bae and I need two, Lace. One for the vault and one for the street.

LACEY

If I hook you up, will you go out with me. Just one date. Red Lobster.

CHARLIE

Lacey?!?

LACEY

What? It's all you can eat.

(then)

'Aight. Your boy Lacey got you.

And Lacey disappears inside. Charlie is left to wait. She whips out her phone, and starts selfie-filming and posting onto her site.... "**Sneakerchick.com**."

CHARLIE

(into her phone)

"Yo. Sneakerchick about to cop the deadstock Air Max 1 AMS Parra Amsterdams!

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
 It's going down like Chris Brown.
 So, if you want a pair, holla' at
 me."

Charlotte videos into the window of the store. The place
 teeming with Sneakerheads making their buys... As we...

When... An UnderFEETed SALESMAN delivers the bad news.

UNDERFEETED DUDE
 That's it, folks. All sold out.

CHARLIE
 (working her phone)
 What? No. The vine said this store
 was getting 200 pair.

Charlotte displays the UnderFEETed web page...

UNDERFEETED DUDE
 We only got a hundred pair. The
 other hundred got rerouted.

CHARLIE
 But I've been camping out on this
 sidewalk for like three days.

UNDERFEETED DUDE
 That ain't "like" my problem.

The UnderFEETed Dude shuts and locks the door on Charlie and
 all the other suckers still on line. Charlie processes this
 latest development... But, she doesn't have to process it for
 too long, for her phone blows up.

Another SNEAKERHEAD - VAN - peers over her shoulder and sees
 a message on her phone from someone called "FLY KIX."

VAN
 Yo. You down with Fly Kix?

CHARLIE
 Naw. I'm just on his Black List.

VAN
 That's dope.
 (then)
 I'm Van. Van Hightops.

CHARLIE
 Sneakerchick.

VAN

I know. I follow you.

(then)

I follow everybody.

(then; spying her phone)

Oh, snap. Fly Kix already got them
"Amsterdams?" How's that even
possible?

CHARLIE

Fly's a Hypebeast.

VAN

That dude's always got them
deadstock crepes. Factory laced.
Dude supplies all the biggest
ballers. I heard Fly even supplies
the GOAT.

CHARLIE

C'mon, man. The GOAT'S apocryphal.

VAN

Yo, the GOAT's Greek?

CHARLIE

"Apocryphal." As in made up. A
myth. There is no real GOAT.

VAN

What-evs.

(then)

Hey. Can I roll with you?

CHARLIE

To where?

VAN

To where? To Fly's.

CHARLIE

Oh, I've never actually been to
Fly's Shoe-seum. I'm just on his
blacklist.

VAN

But, you just got invited. C'mon,
Sneakerchick. I need them Parra's.
Lit Instacop.

Charlie looks into the UnderFEETed Store and sees Lacey scoring the last two pair of new Parra "Amsterdams"- and sheepishly shrugging at Charlie through the window... As...

CHARLIE

Word.

Charlie rolls her eyes at Lacey and heads off... Van Hightops in tow.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. WHARF - NORTHAMPTON, MASS - LATER

The seedier part of town. Cargo crates. Barbed wire.

Van follows Charlie inside a warehouse.

INT. WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Where we meet LEON "FLY" KIX, the down and dirty "bitness-man" and two sidekicks - the big-backed and bodacious BERTHA (paging Sir Mix-A-Lot) and the swole-beyond-swole-lights-are-on-but-he's-not-home A-MASE...

... Who usher invited "black list" SNEAKERHEADS... In and around pallets and pallets of SNEAKER BOXES. Nikes. Adidas. Puma. Vans. You name it. Fly seems to have every sneaker ever made.

And if his shoe-seum feels rather temporary, it's because it is. Fly doesn't stay in one place for too long. He takes his shoe-seum with him. And he is all about the action.

FLY

(into his headpiece)

... So, then just before Emperor Foo kills the sailor he says, "If the Foo shits, wear it.

(laughing hysterically,
then)

Yo, I gotta cut. Hit you later,
Bronski.

And... Fly looks Charlie and Van up and down... Focusing in on Charlie's sneakers...

FLY (CONT'D)

Air Max 98's?

CHARLIE

(yup)

Tidal waves.

FLY

I'd a gone with the Triple Whites.

CHARLIE

I never sport my Triple Whites in public. These are my beaters.

FLY

(considering, then)
Tidal Waves are dope.

CHARLIE

Not as dope as your Trim Trabs.

Even Bertha and A-Mase nod approval...

FLY

How you get on my Black list?

CHARLIE

Katsushigi hooked me up.

FLY

You follow The Kat?

CHARLIE

He follows me.

FLY

Well, look at the girl.
(then)
'Aight then. Trainers over there.
Hoopdee's over there. Old school's
down that way.

CHARLIE

Where's the Deadstock Parra
Amsterdams?

FLY

You two wanna cop deadstock
"Amsterdams?" Look at the girl.
They're five large.

CHARLIE

Five? They retail for Four.

FLY

Well, this ain't retail. This is
"Fly-tail." You pay more cause you
get more. But, tell you what.
Because I'm feeling generous, I'll
sell you two pair for ten.

CHARLIE

What a steal?!?

A-Mase gets in her face.

A-MASE
Yo, these kicks ain't stolen.

And if you're wondering... A-Mase enjoyed 9th grade so much he stayed for three years.

CHARLIE
I was being ironic... You know?
Irony?
(A-Mase doesn't know)
O-kay. I'd like to check them.

VAN
Yeah. Can we check them?

FLY
Let me see the green.

Charlie pulls out her WAD OF CASH.

Fly counts the cash, then snaps his fingers and motions Charlie and Van to a special pallet of boxes...

VAN
These are all new Parra Air Max 1's
"Amsterdams"?

FLY
I got a guy in Shenzen. Yao Ming's
second cousin. Hooks me up.

Charlie pulls out a pair of felt gloves. She slips them on and carefully looks for her size on the sides of the boxes. Sees her size sneaker in the middle. Carefully pulls a box from the pallet like she's playing Jenga. The pallet holds.

Charlie leans against a nearby pallet FORKLIFT and opens the box... And there they are. Pristine. Perfect. Brand new. She examines the shoes with the care of a mother holding a newborn...

Meanwhile, Van is examining his own pair. Looking closely at the stitching... The labels... He even takes a big whiff inside the sneaker... Like a sommelier.

There's something about Van. Fly glares at him. Van glares back. Cue: Sergio Leone... As our MUSIC SCORE amps up a la the "Psycho" shower scene... "EEE" - The fonts... "EEE-EEE" - the label... "EEE-EEE-EEE" - the tongue...

When... Fly's PHONE ringtones "Walk It Talk It" by Migos...

*"Make my shoes and walk a mile
 Something that you can't do (woo,
 hey!)
 Big talks of the town, big boy gang
 moves (gang moves!)
 I like to walk around with my chain
 loose (chain, chain!)"*

FLY (CONT'D)
 (answering)
 Yo, what up GOAT?
 (then, to Charlie and Van)
 It's The GOAT. The Greatest shoe
 collector Of All Time. He's my
 homeboy.

And Van slaps Charlie on the back...

VAN
 I told you.

Which unfortunately causes her to accidentally rub the PARRA
 "AMSTERDAMS" against the Fork Lift... SMUDGING THEM! As we...

RACK FOCUS INTO: THE SMUDGE

A caterpillar of imperfection.... Charlie meet Janet Leigh -
 "EEE-EEE-EEE-EEE-EEEEEEEEEEEE!"

Charlie frantically tries to get out the smudge, but only
 makes things worse... accidentally nudging the gear stick and
 activating the Forklift...

... Which jerks forward...

... And crashes into the pallet of Parra "Amsterdams"
 boxes...

... Causing them to crash to the floor... Pristine PARRA
 "AMSTERDAMS" FALL OUT and about...

... Charlie frantically tries to stop the forklift...

... But, that only makes it worse... As the forklift nearly
 runs over various Sneakerheads, but then does run over the
 boxes of PARRA'S!!!

... Smudging, scuffing, dozens of collectible Air Max Parra
 Amsterdams! And...

Before she even can breathe, Charlie is yanked from the
 forklift by Bertha and A-Mase and thrown on the floor amidst
 the ruined sneakers. Fly leans in and...

FLY

You just ruined my entire deadstock
of mint Parra "Amsterdams which
means you just bought them all! You
dig?

CHARLIE

(weakly)

You take lay-away?

Fly opens the trunk of his car - a late model FORD...
revealing a bound and gagged UNLUCKY S.O.B.

FLY

I don't know. Why don't you ask the
last sucker who messed with my
bitness?

(then, to the unlucky

S.O.B. in the trunk)

Ain't that right, Uncle Larry?

The unlucky S.O.B. - Uncle Larry - muffles a plea before Fly
slams shut the trunk.

CHARLIE

That's your uncle?

FLY

On my wife's side...

(then)

... You know, in-laws.

(to A-Mase)

Not in the face.

A-Mase flexes. Charlie wrestles free and assumes a karate
position...

CHARLIE

Okay. I didn't want to come with
this. But, I'm a yellow belt in
Goju-Ryu.

She tries a roundhouse kick, but is blocked and quickly
overwhelmed by Fly. Who puts her in a hold.

FLY

Green belt. Shito-Ryo.

CHARLIE

No shito.

FLY

I'm a karate man.

(leaning in)

(MORE)

FLY (CONT'D)

And you just copped this whole stock, Sneakerchick. That's three hundred large.

CHARLIE

No way I can make that.

FLY

Then you're going to make this.

Fly gives the signal and A-Mase raises his fist at Charlie to strike a death blow when...

VAN

Wait. Don't!

FLY

Excuse you?

VAN

C'mon, Fly. This ain't cool. You can't hit a girl.

FLY

Oh, my god. You're right. Whoa.
(lowering his fist)
No, I can't...

Charlie exhales... Until...

FLY (CONT'D)

... But, Bertha here can.

Fly beckons and Bertha clenches her fists...

BERTHA

Sorry. This ain't personal.

Charlie freaks... And...

CHARLIE

Hey. No. Wait. I was just busting. I can get you the money. See... It's in the safe at my cousin Fruity's house. He lives just past the Popeye's on Plymouth... Tell you what. I'll go get it and meet up with you in, say, an hour and...

FLY

... Make her hurt, Bertha.

Bertha cocks her fist tighter. Charlie braces for the worst when...

CHARLIE

Don't do this. I'm begging you,
Fly. Please?!?

FLY

(leaning in to Charlie)

If word gets out that some fem-bot
reseller destroyed my product and
didn't get her ass kicked, I'd be
out of business.

(to Bertha)

Kick her ass.

Charlie is FREAKING OUT... when... The Beastie Boys
"Sabotage" begins to rumble...

*"I can't stand it, I know you
planned it
I'm-a set it straight, this
Watergate
I can't stand rockin' when I'm in
here
Cause your crystal ball ain't so
crystal clear"*

When... Charlie kicks Bertha in the shin, wiggles free and
TAKES OFF RUNNING FOR HER LIFE... Dropping her wallet in the
process!!!

Van and the other Sneakerheads scatter in every direction.

Fly picks up Charlie's wallet and checks out her Devries
Community College I.D. and her driver's license... With the
address "550 H BLOCK." As she runs...

FLY (CONT'D)

'Aight! You can run, but you can't
hide, Sneakerchick of 550 H Block!
I know where you live now,
Charlotte Turnbull!

(then)

Charlotte??

*"So while you sit back and wonder
why
I got this fuckin' thorn in my side
Oh my god, it's a mirage
I'm tellin' y'all, it's sabotage"*

As we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Charlie runs for her life. A-Mase and Bertha chase...

*"I feel disgrace because you're all
in my face
But make no mistakes and switch up
my channel"*

EXT. ABANDONED LOTS - MOMENTS LATER

Charlie runs through the lot. A-Mase and Bertha chase...

*"I'm Buddy Rich when I fly off the
handle
What could it be -- it's a mirage
You're scheming on a thing, that's
sabotage"*

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Charlie runs through the street. Looking back... Head on a swivel... She's not being followed.... Her mind swirling...

CUT TO:

INT./EXT. CITY BUS - LATER

Charlie sits in the back row riding back to Springfield, her world swirling... When she sees a Snickers ad on a passing bus... "WANNA GET AWAY?" Oh, yeah...

CUT TO:

EXT. 550 H BLOCK - SPRINGFIELD - LATER

Charlie hurries up to her modest row house, but can't find her keys... Or her wallet... She sneaks around back...

INT. HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Charlie checks the back door... Unlocked. She exhales and quietly enters thru the back door... when...

WHAM!

A baseball bat swings over her head! Courtesy of her grandmother, ROSA.

CHARLIE
Are you crazy, Gran Gran?

ROSA
I don't know. Are you sneaking in through the back of my house?

CHARLIE
I lost my keys.

ROSA
You lost your mind.

Rosa looks at Charlotte, and her Grandma Spidey-sense starts tingling...

ROSA (CONT'D)
Okay. What did you do now?

CHARLIE
What? I didn't do nothing. I swear.

ROSA
Don't lie to me, Charlotte.

Charlie knows she can't fool her grandma.

CHARLIE
(mind swirling)
Okay. Okay. I messed up. Real bad. There were these deadstock crepes... Parra "Amsterdams" and, fly and A-Mase, oh and this dude Van and... I don't know. It all happened so fast.

ROSA
Slow down, Charlie.

CHARLIE
(exhaling)
Okay. Sorry. I just destroyed like three hundred thousand dollars worth of collectible sneakers owned by Fly Kix.

ROSA
What is a Fly Kix?

CHARLIE

Fly Kix is not a what. It's a he. A sneaker dealer. And a thug who now wants to hurt me if I don't pay him back.

ROSA

Okay. First of all. You've got to start hanging out with people who have real names. And second of all...

And... Rosa starts whooping Charlie after every word...

ROSA (CONT'D)

If... you're... mother... was... still... alive? I... swear.

Charlie is already retreating towards her room.

INT. CHARLIE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A shrine to sneakers and urban style. Charlie enters, grabs a duffel and begins hurriedly throwing things in.

Rosa follows.

CHARLIE

(As she quickly packs)

Gran Gran, please. I keep my nose clean. I work. And I baby sit. And I do everything I'm supposed to. I'm a good girl, Gran Gran. You know that. All because I want to one day have my own shoe-seum...

(off Rosa's look)

Sneaker store. That's all I want. But, now I messed it all up.

Charlie frantically packs, until.

ROSA

Where do you think you're going to go?

CHARLIE

I don't know, Gran. Away. Until I can figure out how to pay Fly back.

Rosa looks around Charlie's room... A shrine to sneakers... At the panic in her granddaughter's eyes... She makes a choice... And...

ROSA

Lord, help me. How I wished this day would never come.

(then)

Okay... Charlotte... The time has come for you to know the truth. Come with me.

CHARLIE

Now's not a good time, Gran Gran.

ROSA

C'mon. There's something you should know about your grandfather...

CHARLIE

Gran Gran. Please.

ROSA

Charlotte Ishara Turnbull, this isn't a request. Follow me.

Rosa exits. Charlie follows...

INT. HOUSE - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

They stop at a wall of family photos... Charlie's father CHARLES II and mother... Charlie as a baby... Rosa as a young woman with Charlie's grandfather, 1960's basketball player CHARLES TURNBULL I, wearing the jersey of the COLUMBUS NORTH HIGH SCHOOL BULLDOGS... Then... PURDUE UNIVERSITY....

ROSA

Grandpa was quite the baller back in his day. All-state. Full ride at Purdue.

CHARLIE

I know, Gran Gran. Grandpa was a baller.

ROSA

Even had a try-out with the Pittsburgh Pipers. Folks thought he could've been the next Connie Hawkins.

CHARLIE

I know, Gran Gran. I know. And he would've made the ABA if he didn't blow out his knee.

ROSA
That's the thing. Grandpa didn't
blow out his knee.

Rosa lets that thought dangle as she heads up the stairs to an attic. Charlotte, now intrigued, follows Rosa up the stairs...

INT. ATTIC - MOMENTS LATER

Cluttered with decades worth of shit. Rosa searches for something while Charlie watches... impatiently...

ROSA
Your grandfather had a great
handle. Oh, how I miss his
handle...

CHARLIE
Gran Gran, please.

ROSA
What? Charles had skills on and off
the court. He caught the attention
of a lot of people. Including Mr.
Taylor.

CHARLIE
Mr. Taylor?

ROSA
Chuck Taylor.

Charlie looks at Rosa, at a loss.

ROSA (CONT'D)
Chuck Taylor. You know, the
Converse All-Stars Chuck Taylor?

CHARLIE
That dude was real?

ROSA
Your grandpa came through the same
high school that Mr. Taylor went to
way back in the day. Columbus North
High in Indiana. Mr. Taylor kept an
eye on him. Even helped get him
recruited into college.

Rosa searches... and searches... Until... behind an old RCA
phonograph player and beneath a box of family photos...

CHARLIE

That's nice, Gran Gran. But, this isn't exactly the best time for memories...

ROSA

(ignoring her)

Now... I know you collect sneakers. You blog about sneakers. You dream of owning your own sneaker store. So...

AHA! Rosa finds what she's been looking for. She pulls out a box, opens it, unwraps an item and...

ROSA (CONT'D)

... Perhaps this can help you.

Reveals the **LEFT SHOE** of an original **1929 CHUCK TAYLOR CONVERSE ALL-STAR**.

ROSA (CONT'D)

Mr. Taylor gave this to Grandpa himself.

Charlie examines the **1929 Chuck**... Leather and tan canvas... And looks like it's never been worn...

CHARLIE

What is this?

ROSA

This is one of the first Chuck Taylor Converse All-Stars ever made back in the 1920's.

CHARLIE

For real?

ROSA

For real. It's got to be worth something, right?

CHARLIE

(examining the sneaker)

It's never been worn... Original laces... Treads are clean...

(then)

Why have you kept this a secret?

ROSA

I've had my reasons.

(then)

(MORE)

ROSA (CONT'D)
So, can this help you settle your
debt?

Before Charlie can answer we hear a THUNK! THUNK! THUNK! A
knock at the front door.

Charlie looks out the attic window and sees the late model
FORD parked. FLY, A-MASE and BERTHA at the front door.

CHARLIE
Shit.

And... from down on the street...

FLY
We know you're in there,
Sneakerchick!

CHARLIE
(mind swirling)
Okay. Stay here in the attic, Gran
Gran. I'll make a run for it out
back.

Charlie looks inside the shoe box... And...

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
... I just need the other shoe. Got
to sell them as a pair. Where is
it?

ROSA
That's the thing.

CHARLIE
What's the thing?

ROSA
Well, Mr. Taylor gave your
grandfather only one sneaker, but
he gave someone else the other.

CHARLIE
Why?

ROSA
I told you. It's complicated.

THUNK! THUNK! THUNK!

FLY
Sneakerchick?!?

ROSA

If you can get the other shoe and
sell the pair you may get out of
your jam with that fool down there.

Rosa exits the attic... Now, Charlie is the one following...

INT. FIRST FLOOR - HOUSE

Rosa moves to a cabinet... Charlie follows, original Chuck
Taylor sneaker in hand...

ROSA

Now go.
(then)
I'll handle these punks.

CHARLIE

I can't leave you alone.

Rosa pulls out a sawed-off **shotgun** from the cabinet.

ROSA

Oh, I'm not alone. I've got my
friend Winnie The Chester.

Charlie's mind just got blown when... CRASH - A-Mase and
Bertha break in the front door... And suddenly find
themselves staring down both barrels of Rosa's "**shottie.**" CHA-
CHA! Locked and loaded...

They freeze. Bertha and A-Mase stare at the barrels.

FLY

Whoa. Keep cool, ma'am. We don't
want any trouble. Just what's owed
us.

A-Mase inches closer until...

ROSA

Well, if your friend here takes
another step closer he'll be lying
a casket staring up at the roof of
a church.

(then)

My baby girl owes you something and
she will repay you. But, first the
other shoe has got to drop. So,
you're going to pay for breaking my
door down, then go back under the
rock you crawled out from under and
wait for her to settle her debt.

(MORE)

ROSA (CONT'D)
I'd say a hundred dollars should
cover the door.

FLY
There's no way.

Rosa COCKS her Winchester... And Fly reaches into his pocket
and peels off a hundred dollar bill. He tosses it on the
ground, and...

FLY (CONT'D)
(to Charlie)
The Foo just shit girl and you're
the one who's going to be wearing
it!

Fly, A-Mase and Bertha beat a hasty retreat out the door.
Then:

ROSA
(then, to Charlie)
Now, the other owner may not want
to part with his own shoe. But, you
won't know until you ask.

CHARLIE
What other owner? Where is he?

Where indeed? Off Rosa's look... we...

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. RODMAN PARK PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL - DAY

A rambling, brick-and-tree lined institution in Columbus
Indiana. Back in the day, it would've been called an asylum.
Or a nut house. Or a looney bin. Now? It's a facility for the
frontal lobe challenged.

EXT. RODMAN PARK PSYCH HOSPITAL YARD - CONTINUOUS

Serene... Patients in hospital robes mill about. Or, are
escorted by staff... On benches... Gazing at the
butterflies... A few patients even shoot a basketball at a
weathered rim.

This is where we are meeting ISHMAEL "ISH" STONEBREAKER - mid-
60's with a bum knee, county-issued generic slip-on low-tops
and a coarse sandpaper of a personality... Ish is a
"resident" of Rodman Park... Sporting white "in-patient"
togs... And playing chess across from a PROFESSORIAL TYPE.

Ish studies the board... And his opponent... Then... Carefully moves his black rook into an aggressive position...

Then... Ish carefully spins the board around 180 and now studies the board and his opponent... then moves the white queen to take the rook.

Yes... Ish is actually playing with himself... The Professorial Type might have given him a game before his frontal lobotomy. Now, he just stares blankly...

Ish is just killing time when... the basketball clanks off the rim and rolls to his feet and... his mood darkens... As the lunatic comes to retrieve it.

LUNATIC

S-s-sorry, Ish.

Ish picks up the basketball and HEAVES IT far away... It knocks into the head of a BASKET WEAVER...

Ish curses the gods, flips the chess board over and limps away...

CUT TO:

INT. RODMAN PARK PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL - DAY

Ish now sits on a couch with other patients mindlessly watching BOB ROSS serenely paint a tree on a mountain... When... a MALE NURSE enters...

MALE NURSE

You've got a visitor, Ish.

ISH

Nice try, Lurch. I got nobody.

MALE NURSE

I'm serious. Somebody's here to see you.

ISH

(snapping)

Send them away. I'm watching Bob Ross.

The MALE NURSE changes the channel - CLICK - to a BASKETBALL GAME... Which sets Ish off. He glares at Lurch, who glares back and...

MALE NURSE

You've got a visitor.

Ish gets up and follows the Male Nurse away...

INT. VISITING AREA - LATER

Ish shuffles in, escorted into a common area where he finds CHARLIE. He stares at Charlie blankly...

ISH
I don't know her.

MALE NURSE
She says she knows you.

CHARLIE
I know "of" you. I'm Charlotte
Turnbull. Charlie. I'm Rosa
Turnbull's granddaughter.

This takes the piss out of Ish. He studies Charlie like an entomologist happening upon some larva, then...

ISH
Don't know anybody by that name.

CHARLIE
Please. I just need a few minutes
of your time.

ISH
(to the Male Nurse)
I want to go, Lurch. Today's green
jello day.

Ish gets up and starts to leave when...

CHARLIE
It's about the Chucks.

This stops Ish in his tracks...

ISH
What Chucks?

CHARLIE
THE Chucks.

ISH
(to the Male Nurse)
Gimme a minute.

Ish sits down across from Charlie. They stare at each other... until...

ISH (CONT'D)
Now, why would Rosa stir this pot
after all these years?

CHARLIE
So, you do know her?

ISH
Used to know her.
(then)
How'd you find me?

CHARLIE
It wasn't easy. But, Siri knows
shit. You balled at Purdue. Was a
high school bus driver in North
Carolina. Did a stint with the
Bergen County, Indiana PD... Then,
Zillow addresses... Landlords...
You know... Siri like to talk.

Charlie studies Ish... He seems so present... so sober and
sane...

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Why are you in here?

ISH
I shot a basketball.

CHARLIE
So?

ISH
So, I shot it with an AK-47.

That's a rally killer. Ish stares blankly at Charlie,
until...

CHARLIE
Gran Gran said that Chuck Taylor
gave my granddad the left shoe and
you the right one.

ISH
She tell you why?

CHARLIE
You still have it?

ISH

I asked you a question. Why would the late, great Chuck Taylor - basketball legend - guru - salesman and Hall-Of-Famer, give me and your grandfather each one shoe of the first Chuck Taylors ever made?

CHARLIE

I don't know.

ISH

The answer is, he didn't. Mr. Taylor gave the pair to me. Then your thief of a grandfather stole the left one.

CHARLIE

That's not what she said.

ISH

That's what I'm saying.

(then)

Charles was a thief. And from the looks of you, the acorn didn't fall far from the tree.

CHARLIE

Look, old man. A pristine pair of original 1929 Chuck Taylor Converse All-Stars are worth a lot of money. Money I'd split with you.

ISH

I don't need money. I need peace of mind. Which I had until you showed up.

(then)

Sorry, kid. I can't help you.

(then, barking to the Male Nurse)

I'm done here, Lurch! I wanna get some of that green jello!

Ish is led away... Leaving Charlie at a loss. Charlie looks at her Chuck Taylor and... Then stuffs it in her bag and leaves...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RODMAN PARK FIFTH-FLOOR CAFETERIA - LATER

Ish slurps down his green Jello as he looks out the window... past the walls of Rodman and sees Charlie standing on the corner...

There's something about Charlie... Something in her posture. In her slumped shoulders... Her head in her hands...

Ish looks out at the common area and his fellow patients vegging out to Bob Ross and...

ISH
Aw, screw it.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. RODMAN PARK PSYCH HOSPITAL - GROUNDS - MOMENTS LATER

A gaggle of CATATONIC LOONS chase butterflies only they can see... Ish exits and heads towards a parked Rodman Medi-Van and an INTERN, who is texting.

When... Ish grabs his chest, stumbling forward and...

INTERN
You okay, Ish?

ISH
(in agony)
No. I'm... having a coronary.
Pills? Where are my pills?

The Intern lowers his guard and... Ish head-butts him, the intern goes FLYING... Then, Ish steals his keys, gets in and PEELS OUT...

BREAKING THROUGH A GATE - CRASH!

All hell breaks out. Patients escape through the gaping gate. Interns scramble... It's feeding time at the zoo...

EXT. RODMAN PARK PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

Meanwhile... Charlie is walking away...

EXT. RODMAN PARK PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

Ish barrels down the street in the stolen medi-van, side swipes a sedan and SCREECHES TO A HALT in front of CHARLIE.

ISH

Get in!

And if you're wondering... Ish is still wearing his hospital gown....

ISH (CONT'D)

You want that other shoe, get in!

Charlie sees the INTERNS coming - A RODMAN AMBULANCE SPEEDING TOWARDS THEM - and hops in. Ish PEELS OUT...

The Ambulance follows. Beats cranking...

THE CHASE IS ON!

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Ish and Charlie careen down the street in the medi-van...

Cars SCREECH LEFT.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Cars SCREECH right.

EXT. STREET- CONTINUOUS

Ish shows off his high-speed police driving skills.

EXT. LIFE INSURANCE BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Both cars blast through intersections...

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - CONTINUOUS

And zoom past a pick-up game of hoops...

EXT. DRAWBRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

The drawbridge is rising for a passing barge...

CHARLIE

No, God! No, GOD!!!!

ISH

Call me Ishmael!

And Ish puts the pedal to the metal and flies over the drawbridge... Through the air... Landing hard on the other side... as we...

CUT TO:

EXT. ALLEY - LATER

Ish steers the medi-van to a halt in an alley... Puts it in park while Charlie reclaims herself.

CHARLIE
That was insane.

ISH
That, young lady, was driving.

Ish peers out and sees a GOODWILL TRUCK unloading racks of donations...

ISH (CONT'D)
So... Charlotte. You got any money?

CHARLIE
Why?

ISH
Cause the only person who really needs to see the crack of my wrinkly white ass is Mr. Whipple.

Charlie digs into her pocket and pulls out some crumpled bills.

CHARLIE
I've got... seventeen, no eighteen dollars. And I prefer Charlie.

ISH
Sorry, Charlie.

Ish grabs the crumpled money. They climb out of the medi-van and enter the Goodwill...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. GOODWILL - LATER

A Goodwill shopping spree. Ish trying on a slew of clothes.

-- Ish dressed like a Cholo, flannel shirt, high socks...

-- Overalls...

-- A "Happy Fisherman" T-Shirt and cords...

-- Hawaiian shirt and cargo shorts...

Until...

EXT. GOODWILL - LATER

They exit... Ish now dressed in loose-fitting jeans, a polo and some ratty shoes.

CHARLIE
You look... dope.

ISH
Yeah, well I feel like a dope.

CHARLIE
I'm just saying. You got mad Swag.

ISH
So, I'm a swaggy mad dope? What the hell does that even mean?

CHARLIE
You look good.

ISH
I know that.

And Ish heads down the street...

CHARLIE
Hey??? Where are we going?

Charlie follows...

CUT TO:

THE COLUMBUS LANES BOWLING ALLEY - EVENING

Ish and Charlie enter.

EXT./INT. COLUMBUS LANES BOWLING ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

Pins, pings and neon disco... As...

CHARLIE
What are we doing here?

ISH
You obviously aren't a golfer.

Ish limps ahead, nodding at a few regulars.

CHARLIE
Seriously. What are we doing here?

ISH
Were you always this annoying?

CHARLIE
I don't know. Were you always rude?

A grunt. Ish makes his way to the counter. The clerk - SUGAR RAY - behind the counter sees Ish with a hint of bothered recognition.

SUGAR RAY
Ish, I didn't know they let you out.

ISH
They didn't.

Ish stares at Sugar Ray until he "gets it," reaches below the counter and pulls out a shoebox... Inside the shoebox is a fanny pack... Inside the fanny pack... a LOCKER KEY... BINGO...

INT. COLUMBUS LANES BOWLING ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

Ish leads Charlie over to a bank of bowling alley LOCKERS... He matches a key to the locker... Opens it...

PERSONAL BELONGINGS INSIDE... Papers... Clothes... A shoe box... Some money... He reaches into the shoe box and pulls out A GUN...

Ish cocks the gun and holds it to Charlie's head.

ISH
Okay. Now. What do you really want from me?

CHARLIE
I told you. I want that other Chuck Taylor.

ISH
Nothing else?

CHARLIE
Like what?

ISH
Money?

CHARLIE
No.

ISH
Pension?

CHARLIE
I just want that other shoe.

Ish glares deep into Charlie's eyes... When... He smiles and...

ISH
Fair enough.

He lowers his gun.

CHARLIE
You're insane.

Then, Ish flashes his old BADGE.

ISH
I know.
(then)
I was a cop.

CHARLIE
Well, they should lock you up and
throw away the key.

ISH
They already did.
(then)
Now, where is that shoe?

Ish digs through his junk, then...

ISH (CONT'D)
Ah. Here it is!

Ish pulls out the other **1929 Chuck Taylor All-Star** from the back of his locker. It is RATTY, MOTH EATEN, scuffed up, beaten up... The exact opposite of her own pristine shoe.

Hello Felix and Oscar. Bye bye real bank.

CHARLIE
You're kidding me?

ISH
What? Here it is. The other shoe.

CHARLIE
It's...

ISH
Broken in?

CHARLIE
Disgusting. What'd you do to it?

ISH
I wore it. It's a sneaker.

CHARLIE
But, you only had one.

ISH
I mixed and matched. What's wrong?

CHARLIE
I just thought it might be in
better condition.

ISH
Yeah, well I thought I'd be in
better condition, too. But, that's
not how life works.
(then)
On the bright side...

Ish takes Charlie's Chuck from her, then as he puts both of
them on...

ISH (CONT'D)
I got my Chucks back.

Ish flexes his feet self-satisfied. And tries them out like
he's in his own private Foot Locker...

ISH (CONT'D)
Boy, I loved these old sneaks. Mr.
Taylor knew that. I could never
find another sneaker that just fit
my feet so well. He gave them to me
after I had a setback. Mr. Taylor
was like that. He always said,
"Life ain't about falling down.
It's about picking yourself back
up."

Charlie watches Ish strut... And immediately scuff up the LEFT SHOE...

ISH (CONT'D)
There. That's better.

Ish buries her head into her hands and PUNCHES the bank of lockers in frustration... somehow opening up an adjoining locker... She peers inside and her eyes WIDEN... REVEALING...

A 1984 PRISTINE PAIR OF BLACK TOE AIR JORDAN 1'S!!!!

CHARLIE
What the?

ISH
Hey! Shut that. That's my other locker. That's private.

Charlie picks them up... Sees that they've been signed by Michael Jordan himself...

CHARLIE
These are...?

ISH
... None of your business.

She reads the inner tongue... Sees the inner label... **"TONG YEN FACTORY... KOREA... MODEL: AIR Jordan 1's... CODE: EH-841105... PROTOTYPE: 1-0001..."**

It's as if she's seen the ark of the covenant.

CHARLIE
An autographed pair of prototype 1985 Air Jordan 1's?!? Zero, Zero, Zero, One.

ISH
So?

CHARLIE
So? SO?!? So... how'd you score these?

ISH
That's none of your business.

CHARLIE
Ish. These are the very first Air Jordan 1's ever made. Zero, zero, zero, one. These are THE sneakers that started it all.

ISH
 (pointing down to his
 Chucks)
 No. THESE are the sneakers that
 started it all.
 (pointing to the Airs)
 THOSE were supposed to be a gift.

CHARLIE
 (studying the Airs; her
 mind swirling)
 Original Chucks. Autographed 1985
 Prototype Air 1's.
 (studying Ish)
 Who are you?

ISH
 What's the big deal. They're just
 sneakers.

CHARLIE
 Just sneakers?!? No. No. No. In
 1984 Michael Jordan signed with
 Nike and they designed his own
 signature shoe. Nest yea they came
 out with The Air Jordan 1's. THIS
 VERY SHOE. This one. Right here.
 Zero, Zero, Zero, one!

ISH
 So?

CHARLIE
 So, we're going to be rich.

And we...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. FLY'S SHOE-SEUM - DAY

Fly paces in front of A-Mase and Bertha.

FLY
 Who does she think she is?

A-MASE
 Sneakerchick.com?

FLY
 Shut up, you turnip.

A-MASE
 (to Bertha)
 What? She's not Sneakerchick?

BERTHA
 (to A-Mase)
 Fly was posing a rhetorical question. Like "do fish swim?"

A-MASE
 You mean they don't?

FLY
 Shut up, both of you morons.
 (then)
 Girl ruins my entire stock of Parra's, then disrespects me??? We got to find her and make an example of her.

BERTHA
 She could be anywhere.

A-MASE
 Yeah. It's a big country.

Fly opens his cellphone to the "Sneakerchick" home page... and...

FLY
 But, it's a small world now. She gonna post something and when she does, she's mine.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. GREYHOUND BUS STOP - COLUMBUS, INDIANA - LATER

Charlie and Ish sit waiting for a bus amidst dozens of TRAVELERS... Ish is wearing his super old Chuck Taylors while clutches the 1985 Air Jordan 1's...

While... Charlie madly fiddles with her Iphone... Checking out her SNEAKERCHICK.COM site... On the screen we see: News about the upcoming Sneaker Con NYC.

ISH
 How much time do you waste on that thing every day?

Nothing...

ISH (CONT'D)
Charlotte? I'm talking to you.

Still nothing...

ISH (CONT'D)
Charlie?!?

Ish grabs Charlie's Iphone from her.

CHARLIE
(and)
What's your problem?

ISH
I want to talk.

CHARLIE
I'm busy, Ish. We're sitting on a
gold mine here.

ISH
I know. I know. Zero, zero, zero
one's.

CHARLIE
I don't even know what to ask for.
Or who to ask...

She digs back into her phone... Lost in her own thoughts...

ISH
C'mon. Let's talk. It won't kill
you.

Charlie is long gone. Ish grabs her phone out of her hands.
And... Charlie and Ish glare at each other like chickens
doing algebra... Charlie blinks first.

CHARLIE
Okay. Fine. Let's talk. So, how
exactly did you get these shoes?

ISH
I told you. Mr. Taylor liked me. He
knew I got knocked down and he
wanted to help pick me back up.

CHARLIE
(to the Chucks)
Not those shoes.
(to the Airs)
These shoes. The Air 1's.

ISH

Oh. Those. Well, I just shared some of Mr. Taylor's wisdom with somebody else who got knocked down back in his own day. "Life's ain't about failing. It's about getting back up." It must've made an impression.

CHARLIE

Who?

ISH

Nobody. It's really not that big a deal.

CHARLIE

Oh. Then why'd you keep them in a locker all these years?

ISH

I told you. They were supposed to be a gift for someone. But, then...
 (he doesn't finish the thought)
 ... Things changed. So, I just sorta kept them. I don't know.

Charlie takes her phone back and...

CHARLIE

I do. These are the lottery, Ish. The lottery.

ISH

All you kids today just see a dollar sign.

CHARLIE

You have no idea what I see.

The Greyhound pulls up.

ISH

No, I don't and I don't really care.

Ish eyes Charlie out of the corner of his eye. There's something about Charlie that hits Ish deeper than he lets on. Until... Charlie can feel his stare and...

CHARLIE

I want my own sneaker store. Okay? I love sneakers.

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

They're the only thing to me that really makes sense. There's nothing else you really need to know about me. Okay?

ISH

Cool. After college I didn't know what I wanted to do.

CHARLIE

I really don't care.

ISH

You know. I thought basketball was going to be it for me. Then, it ended. I kicked around for a bit. Worked an oil rig down in the gulf. Tended bar in San Jose. Ended up driving a school bus in North Carolina.

CHARLIE

I'm not interested.

ISH

One day this skinny little sophomore came on the bus all hang dog. I mean, he looked like the sky just fell. He had just found out he got cut from the varsity high school basketball squad. His best friend made the team, but he didn't. And he wanted basketball to be his life. So I told him the same thing Mr. Taylor told me. Life ain't about failing. It's about picking yourself up. Keep going. Try again. Prove them all wrong. Must've made an impression. Years later that young man gave me this pair of sneakers as a thank you.

CHARLIE

Wait a second. You expect me to believe that you were Michael Jordan's high school bus driver?

ISH

You can believe whatever you want to believe.

(then)

Aw, hell...

Ish hands Charlie the pair of Air Jordan 1's and...

ISH (CONT'D)
 ... Sell them for a million bucks
 for all I care.

CHARLIE
 For real?

ISH
 Yeah. Consider them a gift.
 (then)
 Go on. Before you miss your bus.

Charlie starts towards the Greyhound bus, then pivots, grits her teeth and... then points to a TEEN wearing Nikes.

CHARLIE
 Okay. You wanna know what I really see? That Asian kid over there's sporting Tobie Hatfield's Nike Free Series. They were known for their... insole support and stitching...

As Charlie gives Ish (and our audience) a tutorial... the screen will fill with images of **designers, athletes and influencers** and their unique **sneakers**.

Tobie Hatfield appears in a thought bubble that floats through screen...

TOBIE HATFIELD
"My sole purpose is to help athletes achieve their potential. We certainly want to make them "sing" visually, but only after they "sing" functionally."

As does **Tinker Hatfield**...

TINKER HATFIELD
"We were both pole vaulters at U of Oregon. Then, Phil Knight hired us and we designed the free insole."

As we're getting our tutorial... athletes and sneakers float on screen... **Mars... Larry & Magic... Dominique... MJ...**

Charlie points to someone else.

CHARLIE
 That white dude over there is rocking Eric Avar Kobe IV Protro's.

Now... **Eric Avar** appears as a thought bubble along with John Wall.

ERIC AVAR
"My inspiration was to create updated models of the bring backs."

KOBE BRYANT
"You have to play yourself into a signature shoe..."

Russel Westbrook... KD...

Charlie keeps pointing... We ZOOM IN ON COOL SNEAKERS BEING WORN BY ALL THE PEOPLE BY THE BUS STOP.

Charlie pushes on...

CHARLIE
 Homeslice is sporting Jason Petrie's LeBron 7's...

Jason Petrie appears as a thought bubble.

JASON PETRIE
"As LeBron's designer, I try and be involved in everything that goes into his shoes."

LeBron James floats up in a thought bubble.

LEBRON JAMES
"Lock me down so I can fly. Protect me from myself and make me lighter."

Then...

CHARLIE
 Over there are Juston Taylor's Alpha Trunners... Juston brought added ankle support and his signature two-toned siding...

And **Juston Taylor** appears in a thought bubble...

JUSTON TAYLOR
"We incorporated it into the 4th layer to play off what the brand did on the original Jordan Melo M8 is sort of an evolution for him."

And we continue... faster pace... More thought bubbles... Images fly through screen...

Quick CU CUTS... People sporting the dopest sneaker models...
 Air Jordan 3 'Doernbecher'..... Air Jordan 5 'Quai 54'...
 Foamposite One "Sole Collector"... Dunk Low Pro SB Pigeon
 Lebron 9 Low "LeBronold Palmer's"...

CHARLIE
 And Bruce Kilgore's Sock Racers.

Bruce Kilgorie's sock racers...

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
 Hiroshi Fujiwari, the godfather of
 Ura-Harajuku...

BAM! Hiroshi Fujiwari and his Maz LD Zeros.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
 Peter Pearl's Air Jordan 1's.

BAM! Peter Pearl and his Air Jordan 1's...

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
 Virgil Abloh's Air Force 1's.

BAM! Virgil Abloh and his Air Fore 1's.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
 Aaron Cooper.... John Warren....
 Tom Luedeke...

BAM! BAM! BAM! Our screen is filled with...

Aaron Cooper and his "Airzero Ultraflights"

Converse x Feng Chen Wang ERX 260...

Tom Luedecke and his "Nike Zoom Kobes"

**And Kobe... And Kendrick... And Renaldo... Messi...
 Federer...**

An avalanche of icons and their kicks fill up the screen
 until Charlie and Ish disappear from view... Until we PULL IN
 and realize that everything we just saw is actually in
 Charlie's EYES! Then we...

SMASH CUT TO:

WE'RE BACK TO SCENE

With Charlie and Ish...

CHARLIE
That's what I see.

Charlie glares at Ish. Ish glares at Charlie... And we...

SMASH CUT TO:

A BILLBOARD OF A PAIR OF NIKES

We PAN DOWN to reveal that we are now...

EXT. TRUCK STOP - SPRINGFIELD - LATER

We see a dirty, yellow 20-footer amidst the 18-wheelers and delivery trucks. And then we see Fly... shaking hands with a smooth operator we'll call... YASHI.

FLY
Hey, Yashi.

YASHI
Yo, yo. The real deal. Flywheel.

As they head to the rear of the yellow truck...

YASHI (CONT'D)
What's up with the short notice,
Fly? You know that's not how this
game flows.

FLY
Something came up. All my Parra
"Amsterdams" got damaged.

YASHI
(all smiles)
I had to move heaven and earth.
Talked to my guy in Montreal who
talked to his guy in Hong Kong. A
lot of favors. But, I do it because
I love you.

FLY
You do it because I pay you top
dollar.

YASHI
That too.

FLY
Let me see what you got.

Yashi opens the back of his yellow truck, revealing boxes of PARRA "AMSTERDAMS" SNEAKERS...

YASHI
"Limousines for the feet."

Fly opens a box and examines them...

YASHI (CONT'D)
Stitches are from the same factory in Ningbo that makes the real ones. Labels came from Germany. No way anybody will ever know these babies are counterfeit.

FLY
Good work, Yashi. I can't show up at Sneaker Con without my deadstocks.

YASHI
You're crazy moving these knock-offs at Sneaker Con NYC. They got LEGIT Authenticators.

Fly hands over an ENVELOPE...

FLY
Oh, these ain't ever hitting the floor. Private stock for private collectors.

YASHI
You're crazy.

FLY
Hey. I'm just a squirrel trying to get a nut. I'll see you at Sneaker Con, Yashi.

YASHI
At Sneaker Con, Flywheel.

Yashi hands over the car keys. They bump fists and Fly shuts the rear of the truck... Climbs in the cab and drives off
WIPE CAMERA RIGHT As we...

SMASH CUT TO:

WIPE CAMERA RIGHT... ANGLE ON: THE GREYHOUND RUMBLING AWAY...

Revealing that Ish and Charlie are still where we left them... together... Back in Indiana now as we...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DINER - LATER

Charlie and Ish now sit in a booth. Ish sips coffee and eats a side of fries. Charlie scarfs down a BLT and french fries. If you look close enough you'd see that they both are dipping their fries in mustard...

The pair of 1985 Air Jordan 1's sits on the table between them...

As Charlie snaps a PICTURE of them... on her phone... And photoshops it to ZOOM in and beautify the image of the sneakers...

CHARLIE

You really played college ball with my grandfather?

ISH

Yeah. There was a time when I thought basketball had all the answers for me.

CHARLIE

What happened?

ISH

The questions changed.

CHARLIE

What changed?

ISH

Basketball's funny. There's only one ball. You need to know that if you share that ball you're going to get it back. Once trust goes... it all goes.

(then)

I was sorry to hear about his passing. Did Rosa ever remarry?

CHARLIE

Gran Gran? No. She told me she had one love in her life and that was enough.

ISH

I can relate. How's she holding up?

CHARLIE

A few aches and pains, but she's cool.

ISH

Back in the day she could really cut the rug.

CHARLIE

She taught dance for a living. Volunteered at the church. Then, after my mom died and my biological split she raised me.

ISH

Do you dance?

CHARLIE

What's that have to do with anything?

ISH

It's just a question.

CHARLIE

I've got a better question. Why do you care?

ISH

I don't know. You can learn a lot about someone by the way they dance.

CHARLIE

Well, then let me see you dance, old man.

ISH

Oh, I don't dance.

CHARLIE

You're so weird.

ISH
 Just misunderstood.
 (then)
 You play chess?

CHARLIE
 Chess?

ISH
 Chess.

CHARLIE
 I hate chess.

ISH
 Figures. Chess is the gymnasium of
 the mind.

CHARLIE
 Yeah, well I used to cut gym class.

They stare at each other... This is not a meeting of the
 minds... Ish shrugs and...

A beat, when Charlie's FACE-TIME BUZZES... Caller I.D.
 "LACEY."

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
 (answering)
 What up, Lace?

INTERCUT: CHARLIE AND LACEY

LACEY
 Yo, Charlie. What happened between
 you and Fly?

CHARLIE
 Yeah. Things got a little heavy.

LACEY
 The vine is blowing up. You know
 that if you're in a real jam your
 boy Lacey got your back. 24/7.

CHARLIE
 There is something you can do. You
 think I can get a message to the
 GOAT?

LACEY
 The GOAT? You're tripping.

CHARLIE

No. For real. Lacey, I've got the Holy Grail, Lacey. A pair of signed 1985 Air Jordan 1's prototypes. Factory.

LACEY

Original Airs?

CHARLIE

Number ones.

LACEY

Who signed them?

CHARLIE

Who do you think?

Charlie turns her phone to the 1985 prototype Air Jordan 1's... Lacey's checks them out on his phone and...

LACEY

Super-fire-copa-fragilistic-ex-pi-ali-dopeness!

CHARLIE

Help me out, I'll cut you in.

LACEY

Ten percent?

CHARLIE

One percent.

LACEY

Five percent?

CHARLIE

Deliver the GOAT and sure... Five percent.

LACEY

And you'll go out with me.

CHARLIE

Don't push your luck.

LACEY

All right. All right. I got you.

They hang up. When...

ISH

That's coming out of your half. Not mine.

CHARLIE

You're serious?

ISH

I didn't okay reducing my percentage to whoever or whatever a goat is.

CHARLIE

The GOAT. The "Greatest Of All Time."

ISH

Impossible. Wilt The Stilt is dead.

CHARLIE

What? No. The GOAT is Michael or LeBron. Maybe Kobe.

ISH

Why not The Big O?

CHARLIE

Who?

ISH

Oscar Robertson?!? Or Kareem? Come on, Charlie. Basketball didn't start in 1985.

CHARLIE

No, but collectible sneakers did. And the GOAT is all about the shoes. And if he wants these Air 1's "zero, zero, zero, one" then the market will get set.

ISH

Bill Russell.

CHARLIE

Did he have his own signature shoe?

ISH

No. But he did have eleven rings.

(then)

What's the use. Fine. How do we sell these sneakers to "the GOAT?"

CHARLIE

"We" have to put the word out.

ISH

And how do "we" put the word out?

CUT TO:

EXT. DINER - PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

Ish FILMS Charlie with the Iphone.... Or, at least attempts to.

CHARLIE

Okay. Hit the red button.

ISH

This button?

CHARLIE

Yes. The button. The red button.

ISH

This button?

CHARLIE

That button!

Ish brings Charlie to a boil, then hits the RECORD BUTTON and... Charlie exhales and goes into sales mode...

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Yo, this is Sneakerchick with a special message for all you sneakerheads out there... I have the #1's! 1985 Air Jordan 1's prototypes... Production number zero, zero, zero, one. That's right. THE first signature crepe ever produced and guess what? They're signed by the man himself. MJ. Check it.

(then)

And Sneakerchick's gonna be at the next Con, yo. Sneaker Con New York City. So, if you want these Number 1 proto's, come to Sneaker Con!

(then)

... And cut.

Ish keeps rolling.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Cut! C'mon. Hit the button, Ish.

ISH
This button?

CHARLIE
THE BUTTON!

Ish hits STOP...

ISH
That's it? That's all "we" had to do?

CHARLIE
That's just the first domino.

ISH
Or the last straw.

CHARLIE
Welcome to the modern world, old timer. We post. We network. We make a market. Then we sell them at Sneaker Con.

ISH
Of course. How silly of me? Great plan. There's just one thing...
(then)
What the hell's a Sneaker Con?

CHARLIE
It's like Comic-con but for sneakers.

ISH
Oh. Now I see. Okay. Just one more thing...
(then)
... What the hell's a comic-con?

CHARLIE
It's a convention of sneakers. Every sneakerhead in the world rolls there to trade, buy and sell sneakers and check out Sneakers.

ISH
The world's gone mad.

CHARLIE

Well, then. Thank god you're
already crazy.

And Charlie uploads the video as we... We watch it upload...
until... PING! And then we watch the viewer numbers rise...

CUT TO:

QUICK WRAP AROUND: C.U. IPHONE - CHARLIE'S VIDEO

Playing... And being watched throughout the SNEAKERHEAD
WORLD... As the numbers rise! "Likes" float through screen
like thought bubbles.

INT. KITH STORE - DAY

SNEAKERHEAD CLERKS check out Charlie's video and bump fists.

CUT TO:

INT. FOOT LOCKER - DAY

SNEAKERHEAD CLERKS check out Charlie's video and re-post.

CUT TO:

INT. UNDERFEETED STORE - DAY

SNEAKERHEADS checking out Charlie's video.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

BALLERS check out Charlie's video.

CUT TO:

INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

LACEY is cutting hair... When he's not scoring shoes, he's a
barber. He checks out Charlie's video and VVVVRIP - butchers
the haircut.

CUT TO:

INT. GYM - DAY

Van pumps iron while also checking out Charlie's video. He quickly dials his phone and...

VAN
 (into his phone)
 Yo, you see what I see?
 Sneakerchick is rolling to Sneaker
 Con with '85 Air Jordan 1's! Game
 on.

CUT TO:

INT. PRIVATE JET - DAY

Flying through the sky... A shadowy FIGURE who we can't quite make out watches the video... And... though obscured... picks up his smartphone and...

GOAT (O.S.)
 Zero, zero, zero, one?!?
 (into his phone)
 I've got to have those Air 1's. Set
 the market at... 250!

And... SHAZAM! Just like that, we...

SMASH CUT TO:

C.U. LACEY - CONTINUOUS

Now... Working his Iphone... Re-sending text after text after text...

SMASH CUT TO:

ANOTHER QUICK WRAP AROUND: C.U. IPHONES AND OTHER SCREENS

Playing... And being watched throughout the SNEAKERHEAD WORLD... The "LIKES" keep rising...

INT. KITH STORE - DAY

SNEAKERHEAD CLERKS are helping a CUSTOMER try on sneakers... When they check out the pair of 1985 Air Jordan 1's. The GOAT'S offer flashes: "\$250,000.00" Their eyes bulge.

SNEAKERHEAD #1
 Sorry. Sneakerhead emergency.

They usher the customer out, grab their track suit tops,
close down the show and run out...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. FOOT LOCKER - DAY

SNEAKERHEAD CLERKS see the GOAT'S OFFER.

SNEAKERHEAD CLERK

Game on!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. UNDERFEETED STORE - DAY

SNEAKERHEAD CLERKS checking out the GOAT'S offer, and... Turn
off the lights, grab their coats, quickly close down the shop
and exit.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - DAY

B-BALLERS...

B-BALLER

Who got next?

The B-Baller's check out the GOAT'S offer... and... The rest
of the B-Ballers run out of the yard...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. BARBERSHOP - DAY

Lacey sits in his barber's chair... Mesmerized by the GOAT'S
offer and... we...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. GYM - DAY

Van now also checks out the GOAT'S offer and is still on his
phone...

VAN
The GOAT'S now in play and the
Fly's buzzing. It's going down.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. FLY'S WAREHOUSE - DAY

Charlie's video is now also being watched by FLY, BERTHA and A-MASE... They see the origin of the video... COLUMBUS, INDIANA...

FLY
Sneakerchick's in Indi-fucking-
ana!?!?

A-MASE
I think they just call it
"Indiana."

Fly glares at A-Mase, "really?"

FLY
Why are you still here? Find her.
Get me those shoes!

Bertha grabs A-Mase and hurries off.

CUT TO:

EXT. COLUMBUS, INDIANA - MOMENTS LATER

Ish and Charlie haven't moved. Charlie watches the numbers... Pleased.

CHARLIE
Our views are rising. The word is
out. The market is being made.

ISH
Just like that?

CHARLIE
Just like that.
(motioning to her screen)
Those ain't "likes," Ish. Those are
dollar signs. The more followers
you have, the more value you have.
(then)
Now, you have a credit card? I need
to buy a plane ticket.

ISH
Buy it with your "likes."

CHARLIE
C'mon.

ISH
What? You kids talk about
"followers" and "likes" like that's
real. That ain't real. That's
bullshit.

CHARLIE
Yeah, well that bullshit is what's
going to sell these sneakers. Now,
I've got to get to New York City.

Ish looks at Charlie... Then, at the pair of Air Jordan
1's... Then... reaches across the table and grabs his shoe
back.

ISH
You mean "we."

CHARLIE
We?

ISH
I'm not letting my Air Jordans out
of my sight. You want to go to this
Sneakercommie thingie? We travel
together.

CHARLIE
Fine. Do you have a credit card?

Ish stares at Charlie. Charlie stares at Ish... And...

ISH
I've got something better.

Ish reaches into his pocket and pulls out his old **police
badge...**

CHARLIE
You're retired.

ISH
They don't know that.

CHARLIE
You really are crazy.

ISH

And you really are desperate. We
make a great team.

CHARLIE

Yeah, well I want to be traded.

Ish hates where this is going, but he doesn't have many
options... As we...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. AIRPORT - LATER

Ish and Charlie stand at the ticket counter. Ish flashes his
badge and...

ISH

I'm Detective Ishmael Stonebreaker
and I'm transporting this fugitive.
I need two one-way tickets to New
York.

The ATTENDANT works her computer... She looks up at the two
of them... Charlie stares blankly back...

CHARLIE

I didn't do it.

ATTENDANT

Do what?

CHARLIE

Breathing while black.

ISH

Shut up.
(then, to the Attendant)
Don't let her baby face fool you.
She's a hardened criminal.

CHARLIE

I steal hearts.

The attendant rolls her eyes and types away...

INT. AIRPORT - CONTINUOUS

Meanwhile... A-Mase and Bertha are among the passengers
deplaning... They start through the airport...

CUT TO:

INT. AIRPORT - MOMENTS LATER

Ish and Charlie wait on line to get through security...
While...

INT. AIRPORT - CONTINUOUS

A-Mase and Bertha lumber towards Baggage Claim.

INT. AIRPORT - CONTINUOUS

Ish and Charlie each hold one Air Jordan shoe... When...

TSA SNEAKERHEAD

Please remove your belts and shoes.
All items must be placed in the
bin.

ANGLE ON: TSA SNEAKERHEAD

Sitting behind the X-Ray machine operating the conveyor belt
and eyeing the security screen... While also surfing on his
smartphone...

TSA SNEAKERHEAD

No liquids. Computers out. Shoes in
the bin.

They inch closer... Ish takes off his shoes and his belt.
Puts his wallet and phone in the tray...

The TSA Sneakerhead sees a picture of Charlie and the Air
Jordan 1's on his Iphone... His eyes widen as he looks up and
sees...

CHARLIE

Now taking off her shoes and belt... placing them in her
tray. Both Charlie and Ish still hold one sneaker a piece...
Reluctant...

The TSA double, and triple-checks his phone. Head on a
swivel. Prototype 1984 Air Jordan 1's??? **Air Jordan 1's!**

TSA SNEAKERHEAD (CONT'D)

(losing his mind)
Shoes in the bin...

Ish and Charlie each place their own shoes in the bin, but
hold back on the Air Jordan 1's...

TSA SNEAKERHEAD (CONT'D)

All shoes.

They carefully each place their Air Jordan shoe in a bin... And watch as it rolls towards the X-RAY machine... And disappears inside... As...

IN THE BG: BERTHA AND A-MASE

Make their way to Baggage Claim...

ANGLE ON: THE TSA X-RAY SCREEN

We see the bins in the TSA X-RAY machine... And an X-RAY image of the pair of AIR JORDAN 1'S...

The TSA Sneakerhead looks like a kid at Christmas...

ANGLE ON: CHARLIE AND ISH

As they go through their own FULL BODY SCANNER.

They are both cleared and come out the other side... Waiting for their bins to emerge... And they do emerge... With belts, shoes and wallets... But... NO AIR JORDAN 1'S...

They wait... and watch... and wait... But, nothing. Other bins come out... Still nothing... They look up and see...

THE TSA SNEAKERHEAD IS GONE!

And running away holding the pair of Air Jordan 1's.

CHARLIE

What? No. Get back here! Hey!!!

Charlie starts after the TSA Sneakerhead and is immediately stopped by other TSA AGENTS. Batons and tasers at the ready...

TSA AGENT

Stay where you are, ma'am. I need to pat you down.

CHARLIE

But, he's stealing my Airs. HEY!

Charlie tries to go back through the body scanner. She is surrounded....

TSA AGENT
I said... Don't move!

Charlie is surrounded. As... Ish watches as the TSA Sneakerhead is running away through the terminal...

CHARLIE
Ish??? Where's your badge?

ISH
In the machine.

CHARLIE
Do something.

And... Ish GRABS HIS HEART... Having a heart attack...

ISH
My... heart!

Ish stumbles backwards and falls into the TSA agents! Like a bowling ball... All hell breaks loose...

ISH (CONT'D)
I'm having a coronary. Pills! Where are my pills?!?

Ish writhes in pain... Not quite Fred Sanford pain... but pain none-the-less. And reels backwards on top of the TSA Agents, distracting them...

CHARLIE sees this and BREAKS FREE!

Leaping back through the body scanner and taking off after the TSA Sneakerhead... In her socks and with no belt!!!! Just as...

BERTHA AND A-MASE ARE STARTING DOWN THE ESCALATOR TO BAGGAGE CLAIM

They look up at the commotion and...

BERTHA
Sneakerchick!

Push their way up the down escalator...

THE CHASE IS ON...

INT. AIRPORT - CONTINUOUS

The TSA Sneakerhead weaves through the terminal carrying the prized Air Jordan 1's...

Charlie chases him. Holding up her pants... Still in her socks....

Bertha and A-Mase chase Charlie.

Past the Hudson News, TGI Fridays and the Relax-the-back...

Serpentining through travelers and luggage carts... Leaping over luggage... Dodging wheelchairs...

And... PHONES COME OUT. TRAVELERS START SHOOTING VIDEO...

INT. AIRPORT - CONTINUOUS

Ish is turning purple and being treated by the TSA Agents...

TSA AGENT
(into walkie-talkie)
We need a paramedic. Stat!

INT. AIRPORT - CONTINUOUS

Charlie races after her sneakers...

BERTHA
Charlie!!!

She looks back and sees Bertha and A-Mase, shocked...

CHARLIE
What the???

And... trips over an oversized carry-on bag next to a PRIEST. Bertha and A-Mase are about to pounce. Charlie heaves the bag at them... knocking them back.... The bag opens and AIR JORDAN 35's fly everywhere.

The Priest shrugs... and...

PRIEST
To "Air" is human.

Charlie and the Priest fist bump, then Charlie keeps going.

While A-Mase and Bertha regroup...

And... The TSA Agent gets to a security door, applies his security badge, opens it and slides through...

Charlie dives and catches the door just before it locks... She crawls through...

The door shuts... just as A-Mase and Bertha arrive... a beat too late.

EXT. TARMAC - CONTINUOUS

The TSA Sneakerhead climbs into a LUGGAGE TRAM and scoots out onto the tarmac...

Charlie leaps onto a FOOD SERVICES TRUCK and peels out...

INT. AIRPORT - CONTINUOUS

Ish is on a paramedic gurney... with an oxygen mask... He looks up out a window and sees CHARLIE chasing the TSA SNEAKERHEAD out on the tarmac...

EXT. TARMAC - MOMENTS LATER

The chase continues...

EXT. RUNWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Planes taxi... The chase continues...

EXT. RUNWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Charlie catches up to the Sneakerhead and slams her truck into the luggage tram... Luggage goes flying... The tram flips over onto its side.

Charlie jumps out, grabs the Air Jordan 1's from the TSA Sneakerhead...

CHARLIE
Pat this down, fool.

And runs off... Still in her socks...

INT. AIRPORT - MOMENTS LATER

Ish sees Charlie getting away and... he sits up... Suddenly better...

ISH
Must've been something I ate.

Ish gathers himself, climbs off the gurney and strolls away...

EXT. AIRPORT - MOMENTS LATER

Charlie squeezes through a fence and runs off out of the airport holding both AIRS in one hand and keeping her pants up in her other... As we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. AIRPORT - LATER

Ish now exits the airport, looking for Charlie... There's no sight of her... He starts left... Then, reverses right... At a loss... He stops and thinks about his next move...

When... A-Mase and Bertha barrel out of the airport and almost run Ish over. (They have no idea who he is.)

ISH
Hey. Watch where you're going,
assholes.

They don't. Instead, they cut the taxi line, hop in the first cab and order him to pull out.

Ish can only shake his head and walk off into the night... alone again... As we...

DISSOLVE TO:

VIRAL VIDEO:

Of the chase in the airport... Being watched...

INT. SEDAN - MOMENTS LATER

By Van... Who turns to someone off-screen:

VAN
Sneakerchick's at the Columbus
Airport in Indiana. So is A-Mase
and Bertha. We need to get on
this...

They drive off and we...

CUT TO:

EXT. COLUMBUS, INDIANA - LATER

A-Mase and Bertha ride around in the back of the taxi searching for Charlie... To no avail... Bertha dials her cell phone.

INTERCUT: BERTHA, A-MASE AND FLY

FLY

Talk to me.

BERTHA

She's here, Fly. We almost got her.
But she got away.

FLY

I almost care.

A-MASE

She's surprisingly agile.

FLY

Shut up, Driftwood. The word is out. Everybody is clocking those shoes now. Get them!

A-MASE

Don't worry, Fly. We're on it.

BERTHA

(adding)

Yeah. She can run, but she can't hide.

(to the driver)

Make a right!

They careen off and we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. COLUMBUS, INDIANA - STREET - LATER

Charlotte catches her breath. Then... reaches for her cell phone... Realizes she doesn't have it... Or her own shoes. Just socks... Or her belt...

CHARLIE

Damn.

But, she does have the Air Jordan 1's... The pristine, perfect, first-edition prototype Air Jordan 1's... She clutches them like a newborn baby and starts off into the night as we...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BOWLING ALLEY CAFE - LATE NIGHT

Ish sits at the counter sipping a coffee. Alone with his thoughts. A TV plays... Local news... An unflattering picture of Ish appears on the screen as...

NEWSCASTER

"And that's when Ishmael Stonebreaker commandeered a van and escaped from the Rodman Park Psych Hospital. He is considered mentally unstable and dangerous..."

Ish bows his head... when... THE AIR JORDAN 1'S are placed before him. Ish looks up and sees CHARLIE.

CHARLIE

I thought I might find you here.

ISH

And I thought you'd be halfway to New York City by now.

CHARLIE

Yeah, well... I thought you were really having a heart attack.

ISH

You're welcome.

CHARLIE

(motioning to the TV)
And you're famous.

ISH

For all the wrong reasons.

CHARLIE

Sounds like they got the "mentally unstable" part right.

ISH

Why'd you come back for me?

CHARLIE
A deal's a deal.

ISH
You sure you're really Charles'
granddaughter?

CHARLIE
Why do you hate on my grandfather
so much?

ISH
I don't. Actually, I love your
grandfather.

CHARLIE
You're so weird.

ISH
Just misunderstood.
(then)
Okay. Well, after that scene at the
airport, we can't fly or train.
We'll need a car.

CHARLIE
We need bank. And how we gonna get
bank in the middle of the night?

ISH
Guess we need to go where the bank
is still open.
(then)
You play basketball?

CHARLIE
What kind of question is that?

ISH
I don't know. A simple one? Do you
play basketball?

CHARLIE
Just because I'm a black doesn't
mean I'm automatically good at
basketball. That's racist. And for
the record. I also don't like being
late for appointments. And I like
Mumford & Sons.

ISH
 Jesus, Charlie. We're not on "The View." I'm asking you a simple question. I want to know what you're good at.

CHARLIE
 I'm good at collecting sneakers. And I'm a yellow Belt in Karate.

ISH
 A yellow Belt? Impressive.

CHARLIE
 I lost interest.

ISH
 That's the problem with you kids today. You all have A.D.D.

CHARLIE
 You have no idea what I have.

ISH
 I know what you don't have. Money.

And Ish walks off. Charlie follows...

CHARLIE
 Where we going?

ISH
 To the bank.

Ish ignores him and keeps going. It's no use. Ish is on the move. Charlie follows and we...

CUT TO:

EXT. MILO GROGAN - COLUMBUS, INDIANA - DAY

Also known as the ghetto. Broken glass. Beats drop. And everybody has cool sneakers and iPhones.

But, it's still the hood. Nikes hang from a wire. CHILDREN hang out on the corner. It may be 3 am, but Milo Grogan is awake...

As... Ish and Charlie walk through the Milo Grogan projects. Being clocked like a Timex.

CHARLIE
 What the hell are we doing here?

ISH

The bank is always open in Milo Grogan.

(then)

This was my old beat. Stay put.
I've got to go "kiss the ring."
Don't make any sudden movements.
Just look, I don't know, black.

Charlie flips Ish off.

ISH (CONT'D)

You're a natural.

Ish leaves an increasingly uncomfortable Charlie behind and approaches the alpha male of Milo Grogan - the Puma Clyde wearing PEARL - hanging out on the hood of his WHITE ESCALADE with various BANGERS.

We can tell from Pearl's reaction that he knows Ish... And is not that pleased to see him. Still, he nods and the Bangers let Ish approach.

PEARL

Detective Ishmael Stonebreaker? I heard you pulled a number in the nut house.

ISH

You heard right, Pearl.

PEARL

I always knew you was crazy.

ISH

Had to be crazy to work these streets. Thought they'd break ground on that Community Center by now.

PEARL

(yeah, right)

Shee-it.

(but...)

What you doing back in The Milo?

ISH

Oh, I miss The Milo.

PEARL

Nobody misses The Milo.

ISH

You got me.

(then)

I need some help, Pearl. I'm in a jam.

PEARL

Must be a big jam if you came back to the hood.

ISH

Bigger than I can handle.

This could go many ways. Pearl studies Ish... And Charlie... Then, allows a nod...

An invitation. Ish leans in... As...

The BEATS get louder. We have no idea what he is saying to Pearl, but Ish is deferential... and animated. Motioning to Charlie... And himself... Making some sort of point.. Until...

PEARL

For real?

ISH

On my mother's life.

PEARL

Your mother's dead.

ISH

But, not forgotten.

(then)

I was always straight with you, Pearl. I always respected you. So, what do you say?

While Pearl and Ish reconnect, Charlie can only stand there uncomfortable as hell... While trying to stand tall... When...

A SWOLE THUG - CLYDE - and his little niece LEEANDRA approach Charlie and look at the old pair of Air Jordan 1's and... Opens his Iphone... to his own web page now showing the pair of Air Jordan 1's. The GOAT'S offer flashes: "\$250,000.00"

CLYDE

You're Sneakerchick, right?

CHARLIE

Yeah.

CLYDE

I knew it!

LEEANDRA

I'm a big fan.

CHARLIE

Thanks.

CLYDE

Those are them original Air 1's,
right? Zero, Zero, Zero, one. I
got 'em featured on my website.

CHARLIE

Your website?

CLYDE

Yeah. "Gimme-your-sneakers-or-I'll-kill-you.edu."

CHARLIE

Dot.edu?

CLYDE

(eyes never leaving the
shoes)

Dot.com was already taken. Domain's
are a bitch.

(then)

Yo. Those Airs look like my little
niece's size.

CHARLIE

That's not funny.

CLYDE

Good, cause I ain't kidding.

Clyde reaches for the AIRS. Yeah... this just got real...
When... in the BG Pearl and Ish are shaking hands... Pearl
looks up and...

PEARL

Clyde?!? Leeandra?!? Back up.
They're cool.

CLYDE

But, these Air 1's are money,
Pearl. It's all over the web. The
GOAT set the market at 250 large,
yo!

PEARL

You did not just talk back to me,
yo!

Pearl is not somebody anybody fucks with. Clyde and Leeandra retreat. Pearl nods at Ish... who gathers Charlie...

CHARLIE

This is where you used to work?

ISH

I'm full of surprises.

CHARLIE

You're definitely full of
something.

They turn a corner, revealing...

A SCHOOLYARD BASKETBALL COURT

Where B-BALLERS and BANGERS are passing 40's, shooting the rock... and killing time on planet Earth. One banger - WINGO - looks up...

ISH

We're looking for a game.

This is news to Charlie.

CHARLIE

I told you. I don't play ball.

Ish ignores Charlie.

ISH

Who said anything about basketball?

WINGO

How much?

ISH

Five large.

WINGO

Let me see the paper.

ISH

Well, that's the thing. I don't
actually have it on me. But, I'm
good for it. Right, Pearl?

In the BG... Pearl nods. And Wingo pulls out a CHESS BOARD and starts setting up the men.

CHARLIE

Chess?

ISH

What'd you think? Just because Wingo here is black doesn't mean he automatically plays basketball. That racist.

WINGO

Chess is the gymnasium of the mind.

ISH

(to Charlie)

See?

(then, to Wingo)

One game. Five thou.

CHARLIE

(leaning in)

We don't have five thousand dollars to lose, Ish.

ISH

Wow. In your mind we've already lost? You know that's your problem, Charlotte. You've got no self-confidence.

CHARLIE

Oh, I'm Miss Self-Confident, and I'm confident we're going to get our butts kicked.

Charlie starts to leave, but Pearl gives a signal and her path is blocked.

ISH

It's not that simple, Charlie. Pearl over there may have let us into Milo Grogan. But there's only one way out now.

On Charlie's disbelieving look, we...

SMASH CUT TO:

MONTAGE: THE CHESS GAME

Ish vs. Wingo. Speed chess. Charlie watches along with a growing crowd, clutching her Chucks closely. The hoops stop. The hustle stops. All eyes are now on the chess game.

While CELL PHONES COME OUT and start videotaping... Focusing on CHARLIE and THE AIR JORDAN 1'S. While Migos's "Walk It Talk It" plays.

Walk it, like I talk it (walk it)
Walk it, like I talk it
Walk it, walk it like I talk it
(woo!)

Pieces fly around the board. Pawns. Rooks. Queens. With each move, the crowd reacts... Fist bumps. Head shakes.

Walk it, like I talk it (yeah!)
Walk it, like I talk it (walk it)
Walk it, like I talk it
Walk it, walk it like I talk it
(woo!)

And we see it all through Charlie's eyes... Move after move. Pieces fall. Charlie cringes...

Walk it, like I talk it (hey!)
Walk it, like I talk it (walk it)
Walk it, like I talk it (walk it)
Walk it, like I talk it
Walk it, walk it like I talk it
(yeah!)

And everybody seems to be videotaping everything...

When... Wingo moves his Queen gets all up in his Ish's face...

WINGO

Checkmate.

Ish responds by throwing up his arms and waving Wingo away... When... A COOL KID - TICKY - mimics Ish... Throwing his arms out and waving Ish away.

So, Ish sticks out his chest and throws his hands out... And Ticky mimics that, too.

WINGO (CONT'D)

Every move you got, my boy Ticky
 here got five more.

The cool kid - TICKY pops and breaks in Ish's face. His energy pushing Ish backwards and backwards...

TICKY

Cause that's how we do!

The crowd is eating it up. Ish trips and falls backwards. Suddenly seeming frail... Ticky towers over him... Mocking him. When... Charlie has seen enough. She steps in.

CHARLIE

Hey. Leave the old man alone.

TICKY

What are you going to do about it, girl? You wanna battle?

ISH

Don't waste our time. She doesn't dance. She doesn't do anything except complain and collect sneakers.

CHARLIE

I do dance. Just not for you.

Charlie hands the Air Jordan 1's to Ish, then turns to Ticky.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

(to Ticky)

Okay, Little Man. Let's do this.

ISH

(to Wingo)

Double or nothing she takes the kid.

CHARLIE

What???

ISH

I got a feeling.

(to Wingo)

Double or nothing!

And just like that... the chess game recedes. For a dance battle is breaking out.

The crowd moves in. The beats are kicking. All eyes are on Charlie... who gets up her nerve and begins to pop and break.

Ticky responds with a flourish.

Charlie takes all that Ticky is serving up... Then, responds with even more moves. Flips and splits. The robot.

Back and forth they go. Popping and locking. Soulja Boy... the Spongebob... Flossing... And a dozen other dances...

Charlie finds herself in full battle mode. Completely lost in her own world... And it stops the hood.

Everybody is watching... filming... Charlie has got mad moves. She beats back Ticky... Finishing with a back-flip, into a split, into a frozen pose... And..

Ish turns to Wingo and...

ISH (CONT'D)

Now that's checkmate.

Wingo nods and forks over five grand. Ish takes the wad of cash. Immediately turns to Pearl.

ISH (CONT'D)

Hey, Pearl. You think I can maybe rent your ride for a few days? I'll pay you... say, four thousand dollars?

PEARL

Yeah. Sure, Ish. But...
(serious)
A deal's a deal. Right?

ISH

I got you, Pearl.

PEARL

I know you do.

Ish hands Pearl back the rest of the wad in exchange for a set of car keys. Then:

ISH

Oh. One more thing. You got a virgin burner we can use?

Pearl snaps his fingers and WINGO pulls out a BRAND NEW SMARTPHONE. He offers it to Ish. They shake hands and...

ISH (CONT'D)

(to Charlie)

We're going to Sneaker Con.

They head towards the Escalade as we...

SMASH CUT TO:

THIS VERY SAME VIDEO OF....

Ish and Charlie in Milo Grogan... Charlie dancing...

ISH
 (to Charlie)
 "We're going to Sneaker Con."

They head towards the Escalade. We PULL BACK to reveal that the video is being watched by BERTHA in a parked CAB on the side of a pasture... A-Mase is outside the car having himself a pee...

While... A-Mase dials his phone and...

INTERCUT: A-MASE AND FLY

A-MASE
 Hey, boss. Okay. So, we haven't found her yet, but we're on the case. I have reason to believe that Sneakerchick is heading to Sneaker Con.

FLY
 Everybody with an Iphone knows that, you moron. So, what are you still doing in Indiana?

A-MASE
 Is that another rhetorical question?

FLY
 No, you halfwit. Get your asses to Sneaker Con!

Fly thinks for an evil moment... then...

FLY (CONT'D)
 If Muhammad won't go to the mountain, perhaps its time to bring the mountain to Muhammad.

They hang up.... We stay with A-Mase and Bertha. A-Mase heads back to the cab... Stepping in something... Then...

BERTHA
 What'd he say?

A-MASE
 I think he wants us to convert to Islam.

They make a U-turn and speed away...

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - LATE NIGHT

The WHITE ESCALADE cruises down the highway heading east...
Ish behind the wheel. Charlie riding shotgun. The Chucks
sitting in the middle... Ish GIGGLES to himself.

CHARLIE
That was not funny.

ISH
It was pretty funny.

CHARLIE
Their phones were out. That's
public now.

ISH
Got news for you, Charlotte. Nobody
cares.

CHARLIE
Really?

Charlie grabs the BURNER SMARTPHONE and goes on-line. A quick
search of sneakerhead sites and the screen shows a still
shot: CHARLIE dancing... And caption after caption...

"When you realize you skipped your meds..."

"That awkward moment when you paid retail for Starbury's."

"What are those?"

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
I'm a... meme?!?

ISH
A what?

CHARLIE
A meme. Like two cats hugging or
some dude checking out booty. I'm a
trending internet joke now, Ish. A
laughingstock.

Charlotte tosses the phone down in disgust, then...

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Why?

ISH
Why what?

CHARLIE

Why are you messing with me? So, my grandfather and you had beef. I get it. But, that was a long time ago and he's long dead and buried. So, yeah. Why are you doing all this to me? Why?

ISH

(a beat, then)
Maybe, I'm, I don't know, lonely.

CHARLIE

Lonely?

ISH

Yeah. People get lonely. Look at me, Charlotte. I'm old. All alone. No family. I got nothing... Then, you show up. And, I don't know. I'm... lonely.

A real moment. Charlie processes this. Then...

CHARLIE

Why didn't you ever have a family?

ISH

I tried once. It just didn't work out. Nothing I ever tried worked out.

They drive... Then...

CHARLIE

That's not what Chuck Taylor felt.

ISH

Mr. Taylor felt bad for me.

CHARLIE

Why?

Why indeed?

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

C'mon. Failure is part of success.

Ish chews on this for a beat, then, forges forward.

ISH

Your grandfather and me grew up together in Brown County, Indiana.

(MORE)

ISH (CONT'D)
 Not far from where Chuck Taylor
 himself was born...

They drive off into the night... As Ish talks, and we...

WAFFLE DISSOLVE
 TO:

FLASHBACK:

INT. GYM - 1955

Young Ish playing at the local YMCA... Showing skills... And being watched by a then 57-year-old CHUCK TAYLOR.

ISH (O.S.)
 "I was a star player at the local
 Y. And I kept hearing about this
 other kid who could ball."

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - 1955

Young Charles I running roughshod over older players. Being watched by 57-year-old Chuck Taylor.

ISH (O.S.)
 "It was like we were Larry and
 Magic before there was a Larry and
 Magic. But, we both had the love.
 We both loved the game and would
 just about kill you to win...
 That's when Mr. Taylor first
 noticed us."

INT. GYM - 1955

Now, young Ish and young Charles I are among the kids watching Chuck Taylor run a basketball clinic....

ISH
 "Two racially different, culturally
 different, everything different
 kids from his old turf who had that
 fire. So, he arranged to have us
 play together on an A.A.U. team."

... And pointing to both young Ish and young Charles I and leading them in a drill...

ISH (O.S.) (CONT'D)

"I wanted to hate your grandfather. But, when we started balling it just clicked. Your grandfather and me."

INT. GYM - 1960

Chuck Taylor is in the stands watching teenage Ish and Charles play basketball together. A dynamic duo on the court...

ISH (O.S.)

"We were attached by some invisible bond. It was psychic. He knew where I was going to be before I did. And I knew he knew. It was godly. And Mr. Taylor saw it before we did..."

INT. GYM - 1964

High school Ish and Charles I playing together.... Giving and going... blind passes... Running game...

ISH (O.S.)

"And he arranged for us to play high school ball together in Columbus. Just like he did."

INT. INDIANA - HOUSE - 1964

A classic small farm hour... A window SHATTERS...

ISH (O.S.)

"And when things got tough? My daddy was a drunk. Charlie's daddy left. Mr. Taylor made sure we had a place to sleep. Made sure we had a good meal. And he always made sure we had new shoes."

INT. GYM - 1964

High school Ish and Charles I both opening boxes of brand-new All-Stars.

ISH (O.S.)

"Charles and me were like brothers. Nothing was going to get between us on the court. Until Mr. Taylor introduced us both to Rosa."

When... Chuck Taylor ushers in a very pretty High School ROSA. We hold on her for a moment. 17 years old. Wide eyed. Shapely... Perfect... Then... We...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. ESCALADE - REAL TIME - AS THEY DRIVE

On Charlie's disbelieving and put-off glance....

CHARLIE

Your beef is over Gran Gran?

ISH

Sherlock Holmes over here.

(then)

Chuck Taylor coached her father in the service during the war. When he lost his job with Boeing in Seattle, Mr. T got him a job at Purdue. So, they moved to Indiana.

CHARLIE

Chuck Taylor was responsible for my grandfather and grandmother meeting?

ISH

He knew everybody's business. Every coach. Every A.D. He was the internet before the internet.

WAFFLE DISSOLVE
TO:

FLASHBACK:

INT. GYM - 1964

A school dance. Martha & the Vandella's "Dancing In The Streets" plays. 17 year old Ishmael with 17 year old Rosa. Rosa is an amazing dancer. Playful. Sexy. Fun.

ISH (O.S.)
 "When she danced I just about fell
 over."

CHARLIE (O.S.)
 "You and Gran Gran?"

ISH (O.S.)
 "Why is that so hard for you to
 grasp?"

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. ESCALADE - REAL TIME

As they drive through the night...

CHARLIE
 Because you're... you know. And
 she's...

ISH
 Oh, I do know. A white boy in love
 with a black girl in the 1960's in
 Indiana? Yeah. I know all too well.
 I loved your grandmother,
 Charlotte. And Charles knew how I
 felt. Yet, he still made his play.

WAFFLE DISSOLVE
 TO:

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - INDIANA - 1964

The school dance. 17-year-old Ish dancing with 17-year-old
 Rosa... When Charles I asks for her hand. Charles and Ish
 stare at each other. Rosa looks at them both. Smiles ever so
 slightly at Ish, then dances away with Charles I.

CUT TO:

EXT. PURDUE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - 1967

20-year-old Ish kisses 20-year-old Rosa behind an ELM TREE.
 Rosa wears a Purdue Cheerleader's Sweater. With a ROSE PIN.
 It's a warm and passionate kiss... that we soon realize is
 also a kiss goodbye.

For Rosa releases Ish and backs out from behind the elm
 tree...

onto the campus walk where she runs up to meet Charles I, who is walking to class, and slips her arm around his waist.

ISH (O.S.)

"And she - well, Rosa was always prudent. I mean, not that she didn't love Charles. They loved each other. It was complicated, especially when she found out she was with child..."

CUT TO:

INT. LOCKER ROOM - 1967

The Purdue basketball team prepares for a game... Ish pulls out his sneakers (Chuck Taylor All-Stars) from his gym bag... And also pulls out THE ROSE PIN!

It falls to the floor. Charles I sees it. And... ATTACKS!

ISH (O.S.)

"It all blew up before we were going to play in a triple-header at Madison Square Garden. I mean, we had at it."

Charles I and Ish brawl. Over benches. Banging into lockers. A massive dust-up.

ISH (O.S.) (CONT'D)

"And just like that. All the love. All the trust was gone. Everything reduced to two stupid kids filled with jealousy and envy and poison. It was all gone."

CUT TO:

INT. COACH'S OFFICE - LATER

Both Charles I and Ish now sit in chairs, bandaged, bruised and being reamed out by COACH.

ISH (O.S.)

"Charles blew out his knee. I ruined my shoulder. We both got kicked off the team. And lost our scholarships..."

CUT TO:

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

Charles I and Rosa stand before a JUDGE.

ISH (O.S.)

"... A few weeks later, your grandparents eloped. They tied the knot and I went my own way. Nine months later your father was born."

WAFFLE DISSOLVE
TO:

INT. ESCALADE - REAL TIME - MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

The pair of shoes sits between the two of them. Charlie is absorbing every word. So much so, that he doesn't see that Ish is steering the Escalade off the main road into a CEMETERY.

ISH

Anyway, when Mr. Taylor found out, he gave us each one of these shoes.

CHARLIE

I thought you said he gave them both to you.

ISH

I lied. Mr. Taylor was hoping one day we'd reunite this pair. We'd figure it all out... We never did. Rosa and Charles had their family. And I stayed away.

CHARLIE

Are you messing with me again?

ISH

I'm as serious as a heart attack.

Ish climbs out of the Escalade... Charlie follows... Ish motions to a GRAVE STONE...

"CHARLES STONEBREAKER 1968 - 1993."

ISH (CONT'D)

Your father didn't "cut out." He died in a car accident coming to see me. Drunk driver.

(then, motioning to the AIR

JORDAN 1'S)

(MORE)

ISH (CONT'D)

He was coming so I could give him these because he just had his own child.

Charlie tries to process everything. She looks at Ish... Older... Whiter... And suddenly extremely human...

CHARLIE

My dad was really...?

ISH

... My son. Rosa and I talked and decided it was better to just let everything be...

CHARLIE

And these Airs...?

ISH

Were always yours.

Ish peers back... A tear in his eye... They look at each other for what seems like an eternity... Until...

ISH (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, Charlotte. I really am sorry.

Ish weeps... And Charlie's arm somehow finds itself around Ish... They embrace...

Their embrace becomes real... Until...

CHARLIE

I wondered why I always liked the Utah Jazz?

Ish kisses the grave stone, Charlie says a small prayer and then slowly starts back to the Escalade...

ISH

C'mon. We got a ways to go before we sell those shoes. Assuming anybody really wants them.

CHARLIE

Oh, you don't know the sneakerhead world. Everybody's gonna want them.

ISH

Everybody?

CHARLIE

Everybody. C'mon. I'll drive.

Ish tosses her the keys and we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. INTERSTATE - LATE NIGHT

Charlie drives. Ish sleeps. As we hear the beat drop to Kanye, Rakim, Nas and KRS-One's "Classic:"

*"And now for my next number I'd
like to return to the...
Classic
Uh, uh, - timeless
Live straight classic
Classic
Live, straight classic
Timeless
I'd like to return to the...
Classic..."*

As she drives, she looks over at Ish... at peace... Quiet... Vulnerable... She grabs a Hoodie from the backseat, scrunches it up and gently places it as a pillow for Ish.... Then drives on silently... Alone with her thoughts, Ish and the PAIR OF AIR JORDAN 1'S... As they drive, we...

DISSOLVE TO:

VIDEO FOOTAGE OF:

Ish and Charlie and the Air Jordan 1's in Milo Grogan.

ISH

"We're going to Sneaker Con!"

Walking to the white Escalade, climbing in and driving off... We PULL BACK TO REVEAL that it is being watched by...

KYRIE IRVING

In his "Shoe-Seum..."

KYRIE IRVING

275... Those kicks are mine...

Then, the screen SPLITS... The Escalade driving... while we reveal that KYRIE IRVING is now texting with...

CHRIS PAUL

In his "Shoe-Seum..."

CHRIS PAUL
In your dreams, PJ... 300.

Who is also texting with... SPLIT SCREEN...

NICK YOUNG (SWAGGY P)

In his "Shoe-Seum..."

NICK YOUNG
I'll invite you both over to check
them out once I score them... 350!

ANOTHER SPLIT and...

LEBRON

LEBRON JAMES
That's almost funny. 400!

And like that classic CLAIROL COMMERCIAL... they tell two
friends, who tell two friends...

*"What their definition of "classic"
is
Timeless, so age don't count in the
booth
When your flow stay submerged in
the fountain of youth
Ain't no doubting the truth, I'm
off the meters
Everybody cosigning, even non-
believers
Since I came in the door became one
of y'all's leaders..."*

The screen splits and splits and splits until practically all
of the NBA's most famous current and past players are on
screen... Fighting for pixel real estate!

All the biggest NBA Sneakerheads fill our split screens:

-- Demar DeRozan...
-- Russell Westbrook...
-- Andre Iguodala...

All YAMMERING about our AIR JORDAN 1'S... Surrounded with
their own stockpiles of awesome sneakers...

Interspersed with shots of THE WHITE ESCALADE... Driving past
the skylines of...

-- PITTSBURGH...
 -- PHILADELPHIA...

*"In a fresh pair of Air Force One
 sneakers
 Uptowns, we call 'em uppies when
 they're on divas
 Probably worn when KRS-One teaches
 Nas made you look before the
 heaters
 I bet you Kan' had em on when he
 walked with Jesus..."*

INT. ESCALADE - DAWN - A NEW DAY BREAKS

CHARLIE DRIVES.... ISH SLEEPS, slumped over... they pass a
 sign... "ENTERING NEW YORK STATE..."

When... SIRENS...

Charlie looks in the rearview and sees a POLICE CAR waving
 them over.

CHARLIE

Damn.
 (then to Ish)
 Hey, Ish. Get up.

Ish doesn't move.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Ish?! C'mon. Wake up, being pulled
 over.

Charlie nudges Ish... But, he is completely non-responsive.
 Is he even breathing?

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Ish?!? This ain't time for jokes.
 Get up.

Charlie pokes and shakes Ish... Nothing. He might as well be
 dead. Meanwhile... The cop car is on her tail.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

(it just got real)
 No. No. No. This isn't happening.
 ISH!!!

Charlie shakes Ish... but still nothing...

And the POLICE CAR is now tailgating. Charlie takes a deep breath and... PULLS OVER...

EXT. ROAD SIDE - MOMENTS LATER

Charlie pulls over in the white Escalade. The police cruise behind... A TROOPER CLIMBS OUT and approaches...

Charlie puts both hands on the steering wheel and waits... The TROOPER flashes a light on ISH.

TROOPER
License and registration.

CHARLIE
Was I speeding, officer?

TROOPER
I'll ask the questions. License and registration.

CHARLIE
Look, officer. I know this is going to sound a little strange, but this isn't technically my car.

TROOPER
(to Ish)
Is it his?

CHARLIE
No. It's a funny story. We borrowed it from somebody.

TROOPER
"Borrowed" it?

CHARLIE
Well, technically rented it. It's a long story.

TROOPER
(motioning to Ish)
He okay?

CHARLIE
Who? Ish? Yeah. He's just a heavy sleeper.
(nudging Ish)
Time to get up, Grandpa.
(to the Trooper)
This is my Grandpa. I'm sure you can see the resemblance.

The Trooper studies Ish... And Charlie... The tension rises.

TROOPER
 Wake him up.
 (then)
 Hey, you. Get up.

But, still nothing. Charlie nudges Ish and... Ish keels over... LIFELESS.

TROOPER (CONT'D)
 Step out of the car. Now!

Charlie gets out of the car and is thrown against the hood and cuffed as... the Trooper calls for an ambulance and the shocked and panicked Charlie looks through the windshield at the lifeless Ish. We...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ROADSIDE - LATER

Now looking more like a crime scene...

Charlie is in tears and cuffs. Her head spinning... The PAIR OF ORIGINAL AIR JORDAN 1'S being ogled by the TROOPER...

WHEN AN UNDERCOVER SEDAN PULLS UP... the driver's door opens and we CU on a pair of **AIR JORDAN X DON C LEGACY 312's**... We PAN UP to reveal:

VAN

Yes, Sneakerhead Van Hightops... Although now he's sporting an FBI windbreaker and a badge, which he flashes to get access to Charlie. That's right, Van's a FED. He grabs the Air Jordans and ushers the trooper off.

VAN
 I'll take it from here.

Charlie can't believe her eyes...

CHARLIE
 You're a cop?

VAN
 Agent Van "Hightops" Gianelli. FBI.
 (then, showing off his
 Nikes)
 And Sneakerhead.

CHARLIE

How is this even possible?

VAN

Simple. I love sneakers and I love fighting crime. I've been working undercover trying to infiltrate the Singapore Sneaker Syndicate for three years.

CHARLIE

The what?

VAN

The S.S.S. - The biggest mover of counterfeit sneakers in the world. A 300-million-dollar-a-year-black market-business. Fly Kix is their man in the U.S.

CHARLIE

Fly Kix moves counterfeit sneakers?

VAN

To help fund his "legit" business. He plays both sides of the street.

As Van talks, we see an AMBULANCE rolling up... EMTs wheel their gurney out of the back and approach the Escalade...

CHARLIE

What does this have to do with me?

VAN

After that episode at his Shoe-seum in Springfield you owe Fly big time. He's after you.

CHARLIE

This is all a little too much for me to take. I've had a really long day.

When:

EMT

Hey. Where's the body?

Head's turn and sure enough... ISH IS GONE!!! There's nobody in the passenger seat of the Escalade. And the passenger door is open...

VAN

It's about to get longer.

And we...

CUT TO:

INT. FBI FIELD OFFICE - LATER

Ish sits across from Charlie. The Air Jordan 1's in between them. Behind Van are white boards filled with mug shots, pictures of sneakers, string connections of clues, Venn diagrams, etc., Etc.

Van admires the Air Jordan 1's.

VAN

What's your all-time favorite crepe? Mine's the Air Three's Retro OG. Black and Grey.

CHARLIE

You're really a Fed?

VAN

Graduated eighth in my class. Man, I love those shoes. But, they're not as dope as these.

(then)

So, how'd you hook up with your friend Ishmael Stonebreaker?

CHARLIE

We're not friends.

VAN

Good. Ish is certified. Discharged from the Columbus, Indiana, Police Department for a failed psych evaluation and habitual lying. In and out of psych wards ever since.

CHARLIE

Maybe he's just lonely.

VAN

Or maybe's he's just loony. Either way, it's a shame for you to have real time hanging over you now.

CHARLIE

I want a lawyer.

VAN

Yeah, well. I want world peace. Relax, Charlotte.

(MORE)

VAN (CONT'D)

You're not under arrest... Yet.
Actually, I kind of need your help.

CHARLIE

You need my help?

VAN

All true Sneakerheads need your help. I know you love sneakers, Charlie. We all do. But, there's a scourge out there. A seedy underbelly. Black-market, counterfeit crepes. Do you know how horrible it feels to spend your money on a pair of sneakers you love, only to find out later that they're fakes?

CHARLIE

I've been there.

VAN

We all have. You, me and so many other true sneakerheads.

(then)

You're into Fly. And Fly wants these Air Jordan 1's. And he's going to be at Sneaker Con NYC doing his thing on the main floor. Then, doing his nasty in the shadows. Making side deals. Moving his counterfeit product.

CHARLIE

What does this have to do with me?

VAN

All the biggest collectors are onto these bad boys now. The real Ballers. I heard even THE GOAT is stalking these babies. And Fly knows this. He aches for access to the real Ballers. And I want to use this to nail him, Charlie.

CHARLIE

No, man. I don't rat.

VAN

This ain't ratting, Charlie. I'm giving you a choice.

CHARLIE

This ain't a choice.

VAN

Oh, yes it is. You can either be processed into the system for the security breach at the Columbus airport and for driving a stolen car... or you can maybe save your grandmother.

CHARLIE

WHAT?!?

VAN

Oh... Did I forget to mention?
 (then, hitting a remote)
 Surveillance footage came in yesterday from the Fresh Acres in Springfield...

A screen flashes to life. On the screen we see... CLASSIC SECURITY CAMERA SURVEILLANCE VIDEO:

Rosa exits the Fresh Acres store slowly wheeling a cart of groceries... When a sedan PULLS UP and cuts her off... FLY appears blocking her path... And pointing something at her... Could be a gun... But, we don't quite see... In any event...

Rosa is led away!

CHARLIE

Gran Gran!
 (then, to Van)
 What do I have to do?

On Charlie's desperation, we...

SMASH CUT TO:

FBI FIELD OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Van oversees as Charlie dials a phone number... And...

ROSA (O.S.)

Hello?

INTERCUT: CHARLIE AND ROSA

CHARLIE

Gran? It's me, Charlie.

ROSA

Hi, Charlie.

CHARLIE

How are you?

We PULL BACK from the CU to reveal that Rosa is now being held hostage by FLY...

ROSA

Oh, I'm... fine.

CHARLIE

You sound funny.

ROSA

My allergies are acting up.

CHARLIE

You don't have allergies.

ROSA

I do now... To a punk-assed fly.

Fly grabs the phone from her... and...

FLY

Well if it ain't Sneaker-shit.

CHARLIE

Fly?!? What are you doing? I told you I'm getting your money.

FLY

Change of plans. I know you're coming to Sneaker Con New York, Charlie. And I know you've set the market for those Air 1's. Well... guess what? I just cornered your market.

CHARLIE

If you touch a hair on Gran Gran's head, I'll kill you.

FLY

And if you don't deliver those Air Jordan 1's to my booth at Sneaker Con, she won't have a head for me to touch.

And CLICK: Fly hangs up...

Charlie grits her teeth and glares up at Van as...

VAN
It's "shoe time."

CUT TO:

A HUGE BANNER: "SNEAKER CON - NEW YORK CITY"

We pull back to reveal...

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - NIGHT

The iconic Skyline... The hustle. The bustle...

INT. JAVITS CENTER - CONTINUOUS

A cavernous Convention hall... Funky Fresh booths and displays are set up to celebrate SNEAKERS and SNEAKERHEAD CULTURE... This place is oozing style and energy...

But, mostly sneakers. Rows and rows. Boxes and boxes. Product... Mascots... action and energy as far as the eye can see.

-- A FULL COURT basketball court.
-- Virtual reality consoles in another.
-- Augmented reality consoles in yet another.
-- Banks of video screens showing hoops and sneaker highlights...
-- **SNEAKS**, a SNEAKER CON **MASCOT prepares his T-Shirt Cannon.**
-- SNEAKER CON LEGIT AUTHENTICATORS at the ready...
-- Deejay booth with MARTIN GARRIX behind the two wheels of steel. And he goes to work. Spinning his beats - JAY Z's "SO AMBITIOUS" - as...

The doors open and... COLLECTORS, CUSTOMERS and the CURIOUS pour in.

*"I pop my demo tape in, start to
beat my head,
Peaked out my eye, see if he was
beating his,
He might as well say beat it kid,
he's on the list,
Its like I'm searching for kicks
like a sneaker head"*

INT. SNEAKER CON - MOMENTS LATER

The action begins. Sneakerheads... Sneakers. Deals being made. Auctions. Money changing hands. SNEAKS fires his T-SHIRT CANNON!

*"Hey I'm on a mission
No matter what the conditions,
Forget personal issues
When you been what I been through,
Hey if you believe it,
Then you could conceive it."*

CUT TO:

INT. LUXURY SUITE - CONTINUOUS

Overlooking the hall's floor. CELEBRITY SNEAKERHEADS and their PEEPS relax in the comfort being waited on... while COLLECTIBLE SNEAKERS are displayed for them by "Ring Girl" MODELS and exalted RE-SELLERS: Air Jordan 11's, LeBronald Palmer's, Converse Dior's... Jack Purcells... Jordan Spiz'ike... Tom Sachs X Nikecraft Mars Yard... Blazer '73 Premium "Beautiful Loser"...

... We PULL outside the window... down below on the street... and we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. JAVITS CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Next to Javits Center is a shuttered building... The sign is gone, but you can still read the outline of where the name used to be...

"SUGAR RAY'S BATH HOUSE"

INT. ABANDONED SUGAR RAY'S BATH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

FLY'S TRAVELLING SHOE-SEUM is set up. A-Mase rends to hundreds and hundreds of boxes of sneakers. While Fly primps in front of a hand mirror being held by Bertha. Getting "game ready." Making sure his look is "just right." Hoodie... Baseball cap. Bling. And a pair of Nike Foamposite One "Sole Collector's."

He admires himself in mirror near... ROSA... Who is bound to a chair...

FLY

This is all your fault. If you had just let Sneakerchick give me the Chuck Taylors you wouldn't be here to begin with.

ROSA

Who raised you? Kidnapping an old woman over a pair of gym shoes. You're going to get yours. You'll see.

Fly gags Rosa with a towel and... Oh, no he didn't. Rosa's eyes bulge with incredulity.

FLY

(to his beef)

If she needs to use the bathroom... Don't let her.

And with that, Fly exits. And we...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. SNEAKER CON - MOMENTS LATER

THE BANKS OF VIDEO SCREENS showing VANESSA HUDGENS' "SNEAKERNIGHT." When... A HIDDEN DOOR SLIDES OPEN from behind the screens and Fly enters Sneaker Con... Strutting his stuff... Over to his FLY KIX BOOTH and a throne made of sneaker boxes.

FLY

You name it, Fly Kix has got it. Deadstock Nike Air Mag Back to the Future... Air Jordan 15 'Eastbay PE Pack'... I even got the React Element 55 Rabid Panda's! Step right up and get your fly kicks!

CUT TO:

INT. JAVITS CENTER - SNEAKER CON - MOMENTS LATER

Charlie entering the hall from the main entrance and looking out at the sea of activity... Charlie carries a SNEAKER BOX, the Air Jordan 1's safely inside... As... She nods to Van across the way and whispers into a WIRE...

CHARLIE

Can you hear me?

Van gives her the "thumb's up." Then... in turn, he "talks" with UNDERCOVER AGENTS around the hall through some device in his wristband...

Good luck trying to figure out just who knows who is undercover and who isn't.

INT. JAVITS CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

Charlie walks through the crowd searching for the "FLY KIX" booth...

The beats drop... Games are played... The huge Sneaker Con MASCOT poses for pictures with kids... LEGIT AUTHENTICATORS authenticate...

And... there's a different kind of BUZZ following her. As Sneakerheads turn and notice her... And check their phones... It's Sneakerchick.

SNEAKERHEADS

(murmuring)

"Sneakerchick." "Yo, that's Sneakerchick." "The Air 1's are here."

Charlie tries to ignore the buzz and keeps moving... Especially when she sees the FLY KIX booth and approaches... To find Fly holding court on a throne made up of sneaker boxes. A Sneakerhead checks out a pair of Nikes... As...

FLY

Your boy Fly's got the best deals at Sneaker Con!

SNEAKERHEAD #1

Oh... I can't afford these.

Fly hands the Sneakerhead a pamphlet...

FLY

I feel you. So, check this out. I have a special sale going on off site.

(then, in full "Crazy Eddie" mode)

I've gone crazy on my deals. I'm practically giving them away. My prices are INSANE!

The Sneakerhead reads the pamphlet... "FLY KIX TRAVELLING SHOE-SEUM - INVITATION ONLY."

CUT TO:

ANGLE ON: CHARLIE

As she approaches Fly's booth. Clutching her shoe box...
When...

The Sneaker Con Mascot bounces up with his sneaker cannon and cuts her off. Charlie tries to sidestep the mascot, but the mascot is persistent...

CHARLIE
Not now, Freak.

When... From within the Sneaker Con mascot's costume we hear...

ISH (O.S.)
About time you got here.

Charlie does a double-take as Ish raises the sneaker mascot head just enough to reveal himself...

CHARLIE
Ish!?! You're alive?

ISH (O.S.)
You call this living?

CHARLIE
What the hell are you doing in that stupid suit?

ISH (O.S.)
Intel. Clocking the place. Being your eyes in the sky. Or your boots on the ground.

CHARLIE
You're so weird.

ISH (O.S.)
Just misunderstood. This Sneaker Con is impressive. Did you know that Pony's are still a thing?

CHARLIE
(in no mood)
I know all about you, Ish. I saw your police file.
(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
Kicked off the force on a psych.
You're a pathological liar.

ISH (O.S.)
Only half of what I say is a lie.

CHARLIE
Yeah, but which half?

ISH (O.S.)
It's complicated. Once we sell the
Airs I'll come clean.

CHARLIE
It's more complicated than you
think. Fly took Gran Gran hostage.
(off Ish's look)
You missed a lot when you ran away.

ISH (O.S.)
I was taking evasive action. I knew
we were going to get pulled in and
then I'd be in custody and sent
away again. I couldn't risk that.

And Charlie reveals to Ish the WIRE SHE'S WEARING...

CHARLIE
Too late.

ANGLE ON: VAN

VAN
(into his wristband)
Get that thing out of there.

ANGLE ON: CHARLIE AND ISH (MASCOT)

UNDERCOVER SNEAKERHEAD FEDS surround Ish in his mascot
costume and...

UNDERCOVER SNEAKERHEAD
Let's go, Sneaks...

When...

ISH (O.S.)
(his mind spinning, then to
Charlie)
Don't do the trade here.

CHARLIE

What?

ISH (O.S.)

This place is crawling with Feds.

... And Ish/mascot "KICKS" the undercover cops in their groins, sending them reeling... then takes off running through the crowd...

Ish zigs and zags through the crowd... creating a stir... Even posing for the quick selfie... Until he KNOCKS OVER A giant PYRAMID OF SNEAKERS... Sneakerheads dive about like a pinata has been struck... While the Sneaker Con Mascot disappears...

ANGLE ON: FLY

In his booth, seeing the commotion. A giant sneaker running rampant through the crowd. He chortles, then turns to head back to his throne... Only now to find...

Charlie sitting on the throne now, and holding the SHOE BOX...

CHARLIE

The king is dead. Long live the Queen.

Fly nods with minor respect, then...

FLY

You got my 1984 Air Jordan 1 autographed proto's?

Charlie opens her box revealing the Air Jordan 1's...

CHARLIE

You get the Air 1's when I get back Gran Gran. Where is she?

FLY

Someplace safe.

CHARLIE

Lead the way.

Glares, then... And they exit.

ANGLE ON: VAN

Hiding behind a POP-A-SHOT... Watching them move.

VAN
 What the hell's she doing?
 (into his wristband)
 They're moving.

And so are the undercover agents...

INT. SNEAKER CON - MOMENTS LATER

As Fly and Charlie move through the crowd... Charlie keeps her head on a swivel... They walk through the crowd away from the front entrance... towards the bank of video screens.

CHARLIE
 Hey. Exit's that way.

FLY
 For some people.
 (then)
 I should thank you. You set quite the market for those sneakers. All the biggest ballers want in.

CHARLIE
 Where are you taking me?

FLY
 You wanna make it in the sneaker business, you've got to always have a back-up plan.

And with that Fly kicks open the SECRET SLIDING DOOR in the BANK OF VIDEO SCREENS and ushers Charlie out.

EXT. JAVITS CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

Fly and Charlie exit a back door... Charlie suddenly nervous...

They cross the alley and approach the shuttered "Sugar Ray's Bath House..."

CHARLIE
 Where are we going?

FLY
 None of your business. That's where.

Fly leads her into the side door of the shuttered Bath House...

INT. SNEAKER CON - CONTINUOUS

Van hears Charlie...

VAN

They're next door! Move out.

Van (and a bevy of agents) scramble.

INT. SUGAR RAY'S BATH HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

They enter Fly's traveling shoe-seum... It's empty now save for BERTHA and A-MASE... They see Fly and Charlie...

FLY

Bring her out.

Fly motions... A-Mase disappears out back... While they wait... Charlie looks round... And...

CHARLIE

How do you do it, Fly? How do you always have the biggest inventory of the dopest crepes?

FLY

I told you, I've got a guy in Shenzhen.

CHARLIE

How many of these are fake?

FLY

Watch it, kid.

CHARLIE

C'mon, Fly. We both know the big brands don't release this kind of inventory...

(Fly studies Charlie, suspicious... when...)

That pair of Parra "Amsterdams" I was gonna buy from you before was fake, Fly. The glue smelled like a modeling kit. A sure sign of counterfeits. I knew it and was still gonna buy them cause I needed them for my website status. So, don't play me. Sneakerhead to sneakerhead... How many of these shoes are fake?

Fly thinks and relents. He is just about to answer when...

ROSA (O.S.)
Charlie?!? Thank heavens.

Bertha and A-Mase returns with ROSA in tow.

CHARLIE
Gran Gran.

They start towards each other when...

FLY
Not so fast. The Airs.

CHARLIE
Let her go.

FLY
You first.

And we wait... For what seems like an eternity... Rosa... And Charlie... And Fly... And A-Mase... And Bertha... Until... Charlie holds out the box...

Fly grabs it, his eyes widening with glee.

FLY (CONT'D)
They're mine! All mine! The original crepes! Holy Grail! 1985 Air Jordan 1's Prototype! And there ain't nothing you can do about it. Nobody messes with The Fly! Bzzzzzzzz!!!

Fly grabs for his cell phone and speed dials...

FLY (CONT'D)
(into his phone)
Yo, I got the Airs!

When... CRASH!!!!

ISH, still wearing the bottom of his mascot uniform, COMES CRASHING THROUGH THE DOORS...

SNEAKER CANNON ABLAZING!!!

(Imagine Rambo and Tony Montana, if they were dressed as a giant sneaker mascot....)

ISH
(a la Scarface; to Fly)
Say 'ello to my lee-ttle friend!!!

THWUMP! THWUMP! THWUMP!

CHARLIE ROSA
 Ish?!? Ish???

Ish is a mascot possessed. He unleashes a barrage of cotton missiles.... Nailing FLY, which causes him to drop the BOX...

Then... Ish FIRES his cannon - THWUMP! THWUMP! - knocking over pallets of sneaker boxes which cascade down onto Bertha and A-Mase!

The boxes of shoes fall onto the floor on top of Charlie's special sneaker box... Enveloping it... They're all the same box color... Which box has the Holy Grail?

And all hell breaks loose!

Charlie dives one way...

Bertha and A-Mase scramble...

The AIRS are buried somewhere with all the other boxes...

Van and his team of FEDS burst in!!!!...

VAN
 FBI! FREEZE!!!!

And... Fly pulls out a REAL GUN and raises it... At ROSA!!!!

Things slow down...

... Ish leaps and dives in front of Rosa just as...

... BLAM!

... Fly fires...

... And Ish is HIT in the shoulder!!!

... Just as Charlie charges Fly and takes him out with a perfectly executed Hiza Geri - Knee Strike - KARATE KICK! She stands over him holding the moment like Bruce Lee...

... As Van and his men swoop in, hog-tie and arrest Fly, Bertha and A-Mase!!!

... Then... Van picks up a loose PARRA "AMSTERDAMS" BOOST, gives it a whiff, then rips out some stitching and...

VAN (CONT'D)
 Trafficking counterfeit sneakers.
 Take him away!

As Fly is led away... He glares at Charlie.

FLY
You got lucky, girl.

CHARLIE
Hey. If the Foo shits, wear it.

Meanwhile... Rosa holds Ish in her arms.

ROSA
Ish, you damned fool.

ISH
Hello, Rosa. It's good to see you.

He kisses her. She wants to kill him, but instead kisses back. Fifty years melt away... Until...

ROSA
What the hell is wrong with you?

ISH
Nothing you can't fix.

Then, Charlie hurries over to see Ish has been shot.

CHARLIE
Is he okay?

ROSA
No. He's crazy.

ISH
Just misunderstood.

When... Van approaches and hands Charlie the pair of AIR JORDAN 1'S...

VAN
Here. I think these belong to you.

CHARLIE
Thanks.

ISH
So, we can still sell them?

VAN
Sneakerchick can. Ish, you still have some outstanding issues. Sorry... But, you're under A...

Van is about to cuff Ish when... ALL HEADS TURN... As everybody looks up and sees...

MAR BLACKMON walking in accompanied by LACEY.

Yes. THE MARS BLACKMON. Older now... And dripping with success... While, still kicking his unique Brooklyn style.

CHARLIE

Who are you?

MARS BLACKMON

The name is Blackmon... Mars Blackmon.

LACEY

A.K.A. "THE GOAT!" The greatest sneaker collector of all time!

MARS BLACKMON

Please. We all know the GOAT'S a subjective term, but my objective is to sport the dopest shoes, which you have most definitely protected and I most definitely have selected.

Charlie can't find the words. Nobody can... Except Lacey.

LACEY

(to Charlie)

I told you I'd hook you up. Your boy Lacey got you.

Then... Mars Blackmon motions and a matured NOLA DARLING strides in holding a BRIEFCASE, which she opens for only Charlie and Ish to see... And...

NOLA DARLING

He's gotta have it.

A wink and a smile... Charlie hands the 1985 Air Jordan 1's over to Mars Blackmon as we...

FADE TO BACK:

FADE UP:

CHARLIE STARING DIRECTLY AT CAMERA

Like at the very top of our storytelling... And...

CHARLIE

I know what you're thinking. They're just sneakers.

(MORE)

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

What's the big deal? But, trust me, these ain't just sneakers... These works of design and engineering are the canvases that the masters paint on.

SMASH CUT TO:

ISH

Playing chess... Moving his queen... We PULL BACK to reveal that he is now...

INT. PRISON

Ish wears a prison-issue jumpsuit. He's playing against himself again when...

GUARD

Ish, you've got a visitor...

Ish smiles and...

CHARLIE (O.S.)

"I'm talking "Steez" here. Style and ease here. The be-all, end-all that defines you to yourself while separating you from all the other purveyors of urban fashion."

Gets up... We see Ish is sporting a pair of AIR JORDAN 35's... AS we...

CUT TO:

INT. VISITING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Ish now sits across from Rosa, who is rocking her own pair of NIKE X CDG AIR MAX 180's...

CHARLIE (O.S.)

"Life ain't like a bunch of chocolates. It's like a box of deadstocks!"

They hold hands as we...

CUT TO:

EXT. MILO GROGAN - DAY

Pearl, Clyde, Wingo, Ticky all wearing Air Jordan 23 'Trophy Rooms' as ground is broken on the future home of the STONEBREAKER COMMUNITY CENTER...

SMASH CUT TO:

C.U. OF CHARLIE - STARING DIRECTLY INTO CAMERA

CHARLIE

These babies are status. Identity.
Freedom. These deadstocks are what
dreams are made of.

And we PULL BACK to reveal that Charlie is talking to us from inside...

THE SNEAKERCHICK SHOE-SEUM

Her own, cool as shit, stylized, funky fresh sneaker store...
Lacey now by her side... As she opens for business...

THE END

OVER END CREDITS:

Not OUT-TAKES. "SHOUT-OUT" TAKES....

Over funky and chunky beats TBA... We see... Our entire cast and crew showing off their favorite sneakers. **Intercut** with a visual love-letter to the history of cool-ass sneakers...

James Dean... Hunter Thompson... Walt "Clyde" Frazier... Dr. J... Chuck Taylor... The Ramones... Larry & Magic... Run DMC... Kurt Cobain... Tony Hawk... Spike Lee... Kobe... LeBron... And on and on and on... Until lastly... The man himself, Michael Jordan with Mars Blackmon...

MARS BLACKMON

It's gotta be the shoes!