

Poor Lenny

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. AIRPORT - DAY

Planes take off and land.

EXT. DEPARTURES CONCOURSE - AIRPORT - DAY

Bustling with activity.

Cars and taxi's zip through.

A TAXI veers off to the side and stops.

From the taxi exits a Man. This is Lenny. Lenny, 40's, could have been a clown in a past life. Too bad in this life he's one unlucky clown.

The Taxi Driver removes a large duffel bag from the trunk and sets it down.

Lenny removes a (formal wallet) from inside his jacket.

LENNY

How much?

TAXI DRIVER

(rudely)

That will be eighteen dollars.

Lenny pulls out a crisp ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BILL and hands it to the Taxi Driver.

TAXI DRIVER

A hundred dollar bill? Don't you have anything smaller?

LENNY

Don't worry. Keep the change.

The Taxi Driver transforms into an appreciative state which is reflected in his voice.

TAXI DRIVER

Praise Allah! Praise Allah!

Lenny nods, smiles.

The Taxi Driver looks on with admiration as Lenny makes his way into the airport.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Typical airport chaos.

Off to the side, a Blind Man sits Indian style with a pencil filled cup in hand. He wears sunglasses.

A Mother and Two Young Boys walk by and notice the Blind Man.

MOTHER

(to Sons)

The man is blind. We must always help others who are less fortunate.

The Mother reaches into her purse, pulls out some coins and hands them to each of the Two Young Boys. The Two Young Boys drop the coins in the cup.

BLIND MAN

Thank you kind lady. What wonderful children you have.

The Mother and the Young Boys leave. As they step away, the Mother drops her wallet and bends down to pick it up.

The Blind Man lowers his sunglasses to get a good look at the beautiful sight. One of the Young Boy notices this.

Lenny is not too far away watching everything unfold.

YOUNG BOY #1

(to Mother)

Hey, Mom! That guy isn't blind!
He's a fake!

The Blind Man rushes back into character placing his dark glasses back in position.

MOTHER

(to blind man)

I'm so sorry, sir. I don't know what's come over him.

BLIND MAN

Don't worry. Boys will be boys.

Lenny goes over to the Blind Man and shoves a CRISP ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BILL in the cup and keeps on walking.

The fake Blind Man is overcome with emotion. As the Blind Man looks down he SHOUTS out momentarily freezing everyone in the airport.

BLIND MAN
Holy shit! A hundred dollar bill!

Young Boy #1 kicks the Blind Man in the shin.

YOUNG BOY #2
You crook!

Young Boy #2 kicks the Blind Man in the other shin.

YOUNG BOY #1
That's for looking at my mom's butt.

The Blind Man gets up.

BLIND MAN
Ouch! You little creeps! I ought
to...

Lenny turns around to place his hand on the fake Blind Man's shoulder and pushes him back down.

Lenny removes the hundred dollar bill from the cup.

LENNY
(to the Blind Man)
You thief! How could you?

Lenny hands the hundred dollar bill to the Mother. Lenny taps the Two Young Boys on the head.

LENNY
(to the Mother)
Here Miss. Buy something for yourself
and the boys.

BLIND MAN
(to Lenny)
Hey! That money's mine!

Lenny shakes his head and leaves. Mother and Two Young Boys head the other direction.

BLIND MAN
That's right you little crooks. Run
off with my money! Doesn't anyone
have any morals these days?

INT. LOCKER AREA - AIRPORT - DAY

Lenny cautiously pans the area, shoves an oversized duffel bag into a large, empty locker and locks it.

INT. TICKETING AREA - AIRPORT - DAY

Long lines with frustrated customers.

Unnoticed are Three Men peeking from behind the dense planters that landscape the area. They are dressed in camouflage outfits and are communicating on walkie talkies.

RON, 40s, seems to be in charge though he has blonde moments every now and then.

RICHARD, 40s, a reserved flower-child who can unleash his Republican side at a moments notice.

ED, 40s, a straight laced, no nonsense kind of guy.

RON
(to Richard)
Do you see him yet?

RICHARD
(to Ron)
No, but don't worry. He'll be here soon. Then we'll get him.

Ed looks through binoculars.

ED
(to Ron and Richard)
Quiet! Here he comes.

Ron, Richard and Ed disappear behind the tropical plant display.

Lenny approaches the FIRST CLASS ticket counter and looks around nervously.

The Ticket Agent behind the counter is female and very cheerful.

TICKET AGENT
Good morning, sir. How may I help you?

LENNY
(to the agent)
Two tickets for Lenny James.

The Ticket Agent CLICKS away at the keyboard.

Unnoticed, Ron, Richard and Ed slowly rise from behind the plants.

TICKET AGENT
Here we are, Mister James. One first
class ticket to Acapulco.

LENNY
There must be a mistake. There should
be two tickets!

TICKET AGENT
It says only one on my computer.

Lenny removes a hundred dollar bill from his wallet and places it in the agents hand.

LENNY
Here, take this. Check for the other
ticket under Linda Simmons.

The Ticket Agent refuses the money and hands the bill back.

TICKET AGENT
Thank you sir but I can't accept
your money.

She CLICKS away at the keyboard.

TICKET AGENT
Unfortunately, Mr. James, there is
no such booking.

LENNY
Impossible! She made the reservations
herself.

Lenny holds up a sheet of paper and a credit card.

The Ticket Agent turns her monitor so Lenny can see the screen.

TICKET AGENT
Sorry, Mister James.
(MORE)

TICKET AGENT

My computer shows a man, using that credit card number, made the reservation.

Ron, Richard and Ed sneak up and stalwartly stand behind Lenny.

RON

Well, Lenny old pal. Is that your number?

ED

American Express. Don't leave home without it...old buddy!

RICHARD

So, tell me. Were you going to drop us a line from Mexico...old chum?

Lenny is flushed and makes a break for it.

A fight breaks out between the four men.

Two Police Officers rush over. Police Officer #1 is chubby and has a box of donuts in his hand. Police Officer #2 is a female and is feisty and fit.

OFFICER #1

Oh crap. We're late.

OFFICER #2

It's your fault. I told you we didn't have time to stop for donuts.

Officer #2 jumps into the middle of the fight trying to break it up. She throws the attackers to the side one by one only to have them return to the action.

Seeing the futility, Officer #2 pulls out a TASER and ZAPS one of them men, causing all of them to get shocked.

Lenny, Ron, Ed and Richard lay helpless on the floor.

OFFICER #2

Well, finally I got to use my new biggie size taser.

The four men slowly recover and get to their feet.

OFFICER #2
All right! Get them hands behind
your back!

Ron, Richard and Ed place their hands behind their backs.

Cocky, Lenny starts to leave.

LENNY
Thank you officers. Since you won't
be needing me I'll be going.

OFFICER #2
Not you three...

Ron, Richard and Ed lower their hands.

Officer 2 SNAPS.

OFFICER #2
(to Lenny)
It's you we came for.

Officer #2 cuffs Lenny's hands behind his back.

OFFICER #1
(over his walkie talkie)
Hello, Chief?...That's right. I've
got everything under control. I've
got the suspect in custody.

SCRATCHY and inaudible MUMBLES come from the walkie talkie.

Officer #2 blows the hair out of her face.

OFFICER #2
(mutters)
Oh brother.

Just as Lenny is escorted away by Officer 2, Ron runs up
behind Lenny and bites one of Lenny's thumbs.

Lenny YELPS!

LENNY
Ouch! You bastard! Not my bowling
thumb!

Ron regains his composure.

RON (V.O.)
 My God! How did it get like this?
 For crying out loud, we used to be
 bowling buddies.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Packed with bowlers.

Bowling balls CRASH into pins. CHEERS and CLAPS.

Stationed at one of the lanes are Ron, Richard, Ed and Lenny. They wear traditional bowling shirts. The back of their shirts read "Serial Bowlers". Ron wears a Red Cap.

Competing against the "Serial Bowlers" is a group of men in Blue Shirts. The back of their shirts read "King Pins". The men in blue are huddled.

A Barmaid, Linda, arrives with drinks. LINDA, 30's, wears a skimpy outfit and has a feisty personality to go with her good looks.

Ron, Richard, Ed and Lenny breakout into song.

ALL FOUR
 (singing)
 Bud-dies, bowling bud-dies...

ED
 (singing)
 Always there through stress and
 strife...

ALL FOUR
 (singing)
 Bud-dies, bowling bud-dies...

RON
 (singing)
 Help each other get through life...

ALL FOUR
 (singing)
 Though we may not be champions/ you're
 a winner in my eyes/ bud-dies, bowling
 bud-dies/ we'll be buddies till we
 die...

The group stops singing and go back to their beers.

Linda affectionately greets Ron, Ed and Richard then flirtatiously winks at Lenny.

Linda goes off to tend to other customers.

Lenny remains mesmerized. Richard SNAPS his fingers in front of Lenny's face.

RICHARD
Snap out of Lenny.

ED
Well Lenny, have you asked her out yet?

RON
Come on guys. Give Lenny a break. Let's get down to business. Ya know, we're in great shape for the championship match in two weeks. So let's keep it loose.

Lenny refocuses on the bowling mission

LENNY
We're loose! We're real loose!
Let's go Ron. Get your ball. You're up.

Ron crosses his fingers as a sign of good luck then UN-ZIPS his bowling bag. He pulls out a melon from the bowling bag.

The group breaks out in laughter.

LENNY
I put that in there when I loaded your bag in the trunk of my car. Here's your ball.

Lenny grabs the "Real" bowling ball and hands it over to Ron.

Ron has the melon in one hand and the bowling ball in the other and fake juggles.

One of the members from team "King Pin" goes over to Ron.

KING PIN #1
(to Ron)
For Christ's sake, Ron...are you going to bowl or fondle that melon?

RICHARD
(to Ron)
Go get 'em tiger.

Lenny takes the melon as Ron approaches the lane. Ron readies himself stretching his shoulders and neck. Ron shoots the ball down the lane.

STRIKE!

Ron celebrates with the boys.

Lenny sneaks away while the boys continue to celebrate.

INT. BAR - BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT

Lenny signals to the Bartender behind the counter.

The Bartender reaches under the counter and pulls out a Birthday Cake along with an enlarged, framed photo of a Woman and chubby child.

Lenny lights the candles, takes the cake and photo and walks back to the action.

INT. LANE - BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT

Ron and Richard purposefully distract Ed.

Lenny creeps up behind Ed.

Ed turns around and is pleasantly surprised.

Lenny hands the framed photo to Ed.

ED
Ugh! How in the hell did Lenny get that picture of me? That is over 40 years old.

Richard waves a bowling score sheet to the group.

RICHARD
If you think that's bad, they're attached to everyone's score sheet.

LENNY
Suddenly forty five doesn't seem so bad, does it?

They all LAUGH.

A Pizza Girl arrives with a pie. She too has a skimpy outfit and is easy on the eyes.

PIZZA GIRL
Hot stuff coming through.

The Four Men are in awe of the Pizza Girl.

PIZZA GIRL
Hey Birthday Boy, don't step on your tongue. Well, do you want a piece or not?

Ed gives a trance-like nod.

ED
Yeah. I would like a piece.

RON
Whoa! Now that's what I call a pizza with all the toppings.

Ed also bowls a strike and the foursome celebrate.

RICHARD
(to Lenny)
Hey, you're up!

Lenny grabs the ball and readies himself.

Richard leans over to Ed and Ron.

RICHARD
(whispers)
I bought a rubber finger and placed it in Lenny's ball when he wasn't looking.

Ron CHUCKLES and elbows Ed.

RON
Okay, Lenny. Get a little more finger on your delivery!

Richard winks at Ron and Ed.

Lenny tries to place his fingers in the hole of the ball. Lenny examines the holes and pulls out the rubber finger.

LENNY

What the...Okay! Who's the wise
guy?

RICHARD

That would be me! I finally got you
Mister Comedy Central.

Richard high fives Ed and Ron.

Lenny places the rubber finger on his hand to mimic a middle
finger gesture at Richard.

Lenny bowls.

STRIKE!

Lenny returns to mock Richard.

LENNY

Match that wise guy.

Richard nods and goes over to get his ball. Richard bowls.

STRIKE!

Team "Serial Bowler" celebrate while Team "King Pin" sulk.

Richard mocks team "King Pin".

Lenny pulls out a WHOOPIE CUSHION from his bowling bag and
gently sets it on Richard's seat.

LENNY

(to Ron and Ed)

I bought a whoopie cushion for a
special occasion like this.

Richard sits down. A thunderous FART explodes. Richard is
surprised by it.

LENNY

(to Richard)

Smooth move Ex-lax!

Ron waves his hand in front of his face.

RON

Now that's what I call foul!

Team "Serial Bowler" LAUGH and celebrate.

RON (V.O.)

Yeah, we were loose tonight and swept the King Pins, setting us up for the championship. But things were about to change for the worse. Lenny's life was about to be turned upside down changing him from the jokester we loved into a character straight from Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT

SUPER: "TWO WEEKS LATER"

Championship Match atmosphere.

Team "Serial Bowlers" wear the same outfits. They are going up against Team "King Pin" again.

Ron, Richard and Ed wait anxiously.

A lethargic Lenny strolls in. The guys notice him and motion him over. They huddle.

RON

Okay guy, here's the deal. We've been trying to win it all for eight years. Tonight we can do it! All we got to do is win two games out of the four.

ED

Remember...the difference between first and second is a thousand dollars.

Lenny prematurely breaks the huddle.

RICHARD

And let's not forget about next Friday night. After pay out, it's party, party, party! We'll be stuffing those garters at the nude review like never before.

Lenny stares off into space. Ron goes over to Lenny and pats him.

RON

Are you all right Lenny?
(MORE)

RON

You're the one that usually loosens
us up with a joke.

Lenny gives Ron a blank stare. Ron waves his hand in front
of Lenny's face.

RON

Remember the strip-o-gram pizza girl
you hired a couple weeks ago?...Come
on, Lenny. Snap out of it!...We
need you!

Ron goes over to where Ed and Richard are seated.

RICHARD

What's bugging him?

ED

Yeah, old Lenny's been in the dumps
this whole week.

RON

Well, he's been complaining about
his plumbing business. Says it's
gone down the drain. He said he
barely had enough cash for bowling
last week. And soon, his phone and
electric are going to be disconnected.
Poor Lenny. He's broke!

Linda walks up to the guys with a beer filled tray.

LINDA

Your usual gentlemen?

Ron gives Linda a hug.

RON

Hi, Linda. Good to see you.

Ron pays for the beers.

ED & RICHARD

(simultaneous)

Really good to see you...

Lenny blocks Linda's path with his legs and flips a quarter
onto Linda's tray.

LENNY

(to Linda)

Yeah. Good to see you too. But I'd rather see you naked.

SHOCKED by Lenny's behavior, Linda grabs the quarter and chucks it onto Lenny's lap as she straddles Lenny's legs.

LINDA

Save your quarter for the peep show, you pervert!

Linda walks away with an extra wiggle in her step.

Ron, Richard and Ed LAUGH. Not Lenny.

LENNY

(under his breath)

You wench.

The Leader of team "King Pin" is Frank. His bowling shirt reads "Captain" on the pocket.

Team "Serial Bowlers" are seated around the automatic scoring machines.

FRANK

(to team "Serial Bowler")

You boys ready to lose?

RON

(to Frank)

Not even in your wet dreams, Frankie.

Ron goes up to bowl.

STRIKE!

Ron returns to Ed and Richard. They Celebrate. Lenny is still aloof to the celebration. Lenny downs a beer bottle and SLAMS the empty bottle on the table.

LENNY

The economy really sucks you know. Constructions...down! Business stinks! It's impossible to make ends meet. Especially when everything's going up...

Lenny holds up the empty beer bottle.

LENNY
...like this stinking three dollar
beer!

Lenny SLAMS the bottle down again.

Ed and Richard go over to calm Lenny down. Richard pats Lenny on the shoulder.

Ed shows Lenny some breathing techniques.

ED
(to Lenny)
Just breathe in and breathe out.
This always helps me to relax, Lenny.

Ron goes over to the console and presses the SERVICE BUTTON.

Lenny pushes Ed and Richard away.

LENNY
Shit! Even the criminals have it
better than us! They live in air
conditioned cells! They even have
color TV! No work...no taxes.

Lenny GROANS.

LENNY
I've even heard they get to play
golf. One jail even has its own
bowling alley.

Lenny throws up his hands in a fit.

LENNY
Can you imagine? Free bowling!

Lenny notices the FLASHING SERVICE LIGHT.

LENNY
Now where's that wench when you need
her?

Ron tries to keep Lenny from embarrassing himself further.

RON
Take it easy. Linda's probably on
break.

LENNY

Yeah, she probably back with that old bastard she used to date. Heard she met him at a marina. Rumor has it he's got some hard cash and a sail boat.

Lenny looks around and spots Linda in the distance.

ON LINDA

Linda is embracing a 70 year old man, JIM. She passes her fingers through his grey hair.

Jim, wearing a white Captains hat, has a HUGE smile on his face.

Jim returns Linda's affection with a QUICK kiss on the lips.

BACK TO SCENE

Lenny shakes his head in disappointment.

LENNY

Yep, there she is with that old fart. Would you get a load of that?...She's hanging all over that geezer.

ED

Guess he's got something we ain't got.

RON

Wonder what it is?

LENNY

Money, you assholes! He's got a few bucks, that's all. Just some dough and a little dingy and with a body like hers...what a waste.

Richard holds the standing sheet.

RICHARD

Wait! Speaking of money, we almost forgot to play the lotto.

RON

Shit! He's right!

Ron snatches a scoring pencil.

RON
We still got time. Hey, Ed, pick a number!

ED
Fourteen.

Ron looks at Richard.

RICHARD
I'll take four, especially since we're going to win all four games tonight.

Ron scribbles on the scoring sheet.

Lenny looks on as Linda walks by.

RON
Well, Lenny?

Lenny still glances at Linda.

LENNY
Sixty-nine. I'll take sixty-nine.

RON
Stop it, Lenny. You know the numbers end at forty-nine.

LENNY
Okay, thirty-eight. She's about a thirty-eight, ain't she?

Linda overhears Lenny's comment, flips Lenny off and storms away.

RON
Huh? What are you talking about?

Ron scribbles on the sheet. Ron rubs his chin in deep thought.

RON
Hmm...Let's see. How about forty-five and sixteen? Is that okay?

Ed and Richard nod their heads. Lenny GRUNTS in approval.

Ron makes a second copy of the numbers. He gives the copy of the list to Lenny. Ron places the original in his wallet.

Ron, Richard and Ed each hand Lenny a quarter.

RON
It's your turn to place the bet,
Lenny. Don't forget.

RICHARD
You're a witness, Frank.

Frank re-ties his bowling shoes.

FRANK
Yeah, yeah, yeah. If it wins you
split the money. Blah, blah, blah.

ED
If you hurry, Lenny, you can get the
ticket before you're up again.

Lenny takes the quarters and leaves.

INT. LOUNGE - BOWLING ALLEY

Empty.

No one behind the counter.

Linda walks past Lenny. Lenny grabs Linda by the arm almost
spilling the drinks on the tray.

LENNY
What's that old fart got that I ain't
got? Money, honey?

LINDA
He's got class, Ass!

Linda yanks her arm away from Lenny's grip.

LENNY
Get me a ticket for tonight's lotto.

LINDA
No can do, Lenny-pooh. The machine
is down.

Lenny holds in his anger.

LENNY
Just my luck!

INT. LANE - BOWLING ALLEY

Both teams wait.

Lenny comes back from the bar area.

FRANK

Hey, Lenny, we've been waiting for you!

LENNY

(to Frank)

You're a Jackass, Frank.

RON

Did you get the ticket, Lenny?

LENNY

No. The damn machine is broken.
Don't worry. I'll get it at a the 7-
Eleven on the way home.

Lenny searches and finds an un-open beer bottle. Lenny opens it and takes a swig.

LENNY

(to Ed)

How much?

ED

Forget it. I got this round.

Linda inches up to the group.

LINDA

(clears her throat)

Yeah and forget about the tip too,
Lenny. You cheap bastard.

Linda saunters away. Lenny starts to go after her. Ed stops Lenny.

ED

Don't worry about her. Come
on...bowl. You're up.

Lenny grabs the ball and angrily flings it down the lane.

LENNY

(sarcastically)

For you, sweetheart.

Ball CRASHES against the pins. It's a 7-10 split.

Lenny is flushed with anger. He turns, finds Linda and points at her.

LENNY

Damn it! I can't make this, but
some day I'll make you!

All the guys LAUGH. Linda gawks at Lenny and goes back to serving drinks.

RON

Cool it, Lenny. Concentrate on your
game.

Nearby bowlers go back to playing while some stare at Lenny.

Lenny grabs the bowling ball and carelessly chucks it down the lane.

Gutter ball!

RON (V.O.)

Well, we won that first game by the
skin of our teeth. But we got creamed
when the other three made us runner-
ups again!

INT. LOCKER AREA - BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT

Ron, Richard, Ed and Lenny with their embarrassingly small
2nd Place trophy.

Frank and the rest of team "King Pin" approach the "Serial
Bowlers and flaunts their 1st place trophy.

FRANK

(to Ed)
Is that a keeper?

Frank shakes his hand with Ron, Richard and Ed. Frank extends
his hand to Lenny and he refuses to shake it.

FRANK

(to Lenny)
What's the matter, sore loser? Or
is it BORN LOSER?

Lenny explodes in a fit of rage but is contained by Ron and
Richard.

Frank retreats behind his fellow teammate.

RON
Back off Frank. Lenny's got some
big problems.

LENNY
I'm out of here.

Lenny leaves.

RON
(yells out)
Hey, Lenny! Don't forget to get our
lucky ticket on your way home!

LENNY
I won't forget! I'll get it!

Ron, Richard and Ed give a look of pity as Lenny walks away.

ED
Maybe we could help Lenny. What if
we take up a collection?

RICHARD
Great idea!

Ed pulls off his red cap and holds it upside down.

Ed and Richard drop some money into it. Ed holds the hat
out to team King Pin.

RON
How about you guys?

FRANK
No way! You saw how he treated us
tonight. Screw him!

RICHARD
(clears his throat)
I really think it would be in your
best interest to give, Frank.

FRANK
Any why is that?

RICHARD

Are you going home now or to what's
her name's place? Jane, isn't it?
Is Tarzan going over to Jane's for
some monkey business?

Frank doesn't like where this is headed.

RICHARD

Wouldn't it be "See you later,
alligator" if Doris found out?

FRANK

You wouldn't?...or would you?

David, a member of team "King Pin" steps forward.

DAVID

Frank, you dog!

Frank stares daggers at Richard. Frank begrudgingly pulls
out a wad of bills from his pocket, pulls a bill out and
places it in the red cap.

RICHARD

Frankie, Frankie...you can do better
than that!

Frank drops the entire wad of money into the hat.

The rest of team "King Pin" contribute as well.

Ron counts the money.

ED

How did we do?

RON

Two hundred and fifty bucks. Not
bad. That should pay Lenny's electric
bill for the month.

Both teams shake hands.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - DAY

Ron enters the alley and takes a seat.

He reads the morning newspaper.

A waitress approaches Ron. This is Cheryl, 34. Cheryl is Ron's romantic interest. She is petite and cute as a button. After a change of affection, Cheryl takes Ron's order.

CHERYL
Good morning, honey. Your usual?

RON
You got it, baby.

Cheryl leaves.

Ron goes back to reading the newspaper. He flips through the pages, then stops.

RON (V.O.)
Here we go. The lotto section.

Ron struggles to read.

RON (V.O.)
Twenty one. My selection.
Four...Richard's pick.
Fourteen...Ed's number. Thirty-
eight...Lenny's visual assessment of
Linda. Hmm, so far so good.

Unsure, Ron pulls out his wallet and retrieves the slip of paper with the numbers on it. He goes back to comparing numbers several times. He sits in quiet disbelief for a moment.

Ron EXPLODES.

RON
(elated)
Yahoo! Yahoo!!!

Ron dashes over to a nearby pay phone. He goes through his pockets for change. Empty.

Cheryl walks to Ron and stops.

CHERYL
What's up, Ron?

RON
Quick, give me a quarter! I'll
explain later!

Cheryl gives Ron a quarter and goes back to her business.

Ron goes back to the pay phone and finds a Teenage Girl on it. Ron is frustrated to say the least.

Ron gestures a begging motion to use the phone. The Teenage Girl shakes her head no. Ron begs some more.

TEENAGE GIRL

Buzz off, loser.

RON

Loser?...Loser?...

Crestfallen, Ron goes back towards the table. Cheryl notices Ron's demeanor.

CHERYL

Ron, come use the house phone behind the counter.

Ron goes behind the counter, picks up the receiver and dials.

INT. ED'S APARTMENT - DAY

Ed is asleep on a lazyboy chair with a newspaper on his face.

Phone RINGS.

Ed is startled and picks up the receiver.

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION

ED

Hello?

RON

We're rich! We're rich! We won four million bucks!

ED

Nice try buddy, but it's not April Fools yet.

RON

Go outside. Get your paper. I'll hold on.

Ed picks up the paper that was on his face earlier.

ED

I got the paper right here.

Ed fumbles the paper and searches for the right page.

RON
Look in the lotto section! Look in
the lotto section!

ED
Alright, alright. Give me a second.

Ed reaches for his reading glasses that are still on the top
of his head. He skims the page.

ED
Ah...ah here it is. I recognize my
number, but I was too blitzed to
call the others.

RON
I got the list! I got the list!
Get your ass down to the alley pronto!

END PHONE CONVERSATION

BACK TO SCENE

Ron dials again.

INT. BEDROOM - RICHARD'S HOUSE - DAY

Clutter everywhere.

Richard, tangled in the sheets, is in bed asleep.

Phone RINGS a few times.

Richard's hand creeps up to the phone from under the covers.
Richard's hand finds the receiver.

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION

RON
Richard, get to the alley! We won!

Richard is still half asleep as he repeats himself.

RICHARD
(groggily)
Come on, Ron. Come on, Ron. I know
we lost last night...

RON

No, no. Not the bowling! It's pink flamingo time. Wake up! We won the lotto! Hurry! Ed's already on the way.

Richard groans.

RICHARD

Okay, okay. I'll be there in five minutes.

END PHONE CONVERSATION

Richard hangs up the receiver and lays back on the bed.

RICHARD

Yeah. Right!

BACK TO SCENE

Ron dials again. Waits.

COMPUTERIZED FEMALE (V.O.)

We are sorry, the number you have dialed has been disconnected or is no longer in service. Please check the number and try again.

Ron hangs up the receiver.

Cheryl goes up to Ron.

CHERYL

Ron, your food is ready.

RON

Great!

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - MINUTES LATER

Ron drinks coffee. He remains standing impatiently looking from side to side.

Ed and Richard anxiously arrive with newspapers in tow. Richard still has his Pajamas on. After hugs and a celebration, Ed notices Richard's garb and LAUGHS.

RICHARD

I don't care. Now that I'm eccentric it doesn't matter anymore!

Ron, Richard and Ed take a seat. They all study their newspapers in disbelief.

Cheryl approaches the table.

CHERYL

Hey, boys. You're up early. Bring you some coffee?

RICHARD

Coffee? Heck no! Sneak behind the bar and get us a bottle of your finest French champagne.

ED

Champagne? Hell, this place doesn't even have Perrier water.

They all LAUGH.

RON

Cheryl, can you get us four bottles of Bud? Oops, better make it three.

ED

Hey, where's Lenny?

RICHARD

Did you call him? Does he know?

RON

Couldn't get him. His phone has been disconnected. Anyway, he probably went fishing in the Keys, like he does every Sunday.

CHERYL

No way guys. Lenny's not fishing. At least not in the Keys. He came back last night, just before we closed. Sat at this very table.

RICHARD

Great! Then he probably knows.

CHERYL

Well, whatever it is, do it some more. He was kind of like the old Lenny. In fact, he and Linda were almost like this...

Cheryl crosses her fingers.

ED

Lenny and Linda? You got to be kiddin'.

RON

What about the old man? You know...Jim. Did he come for Linda?

CHERYL

Oh, yeah. But Linda told him to get lost. Believe it or not, she actually left with Lenny of all people. Especially after what happened earlier that evening.

Cheryl leaves.

RICHARD

Why that sly dog. Bet he's hammering her right now.

Ron gestures as if mimicking the fondling of boobs in front of his chest.

RON

No wonder he didn't call us. He's probably got his hands full.

Cheryl returns with beers and playfully SLAPS Ron on the back of the head.

CHERYL

That will be nine dollars, boys.

Richard hands her a twenty.

ED

Oh! A twenty dollar bill. No more of those small bills after today.

CHERYL

I'll be right back with your change, Richard.

ED

(to Cheryl)

Keep the change. He can afford it.

Cheryl kisses Richard's forehead.

CHERYL
Thank you Richard.

RICHARD
(to Cheryl)
Kiss Ed. He's the one spending my
money.

Everyone LAUGHS.

Cheryl walks away.

Ron, Richard and Ed lift their beers up.

RON
A toast to...Us!

RICHARD
And of course to Lenny.

ALL THREE
(in unison)
To Lenny.

They all take a swig of beer. Ron raises his drink again.

RON
Hey! To no more Poor Lenny.

They all take another swig of beer.

RON
I'm gonna swing by Lenny's.

INT. LENNY'S HOUSE - DAY

KNOCK at the door.

Linda goes to the front door and opens it. She's only wearing Lenny's bowling shirt.

Ron peers in from the porch.

LINDA
Good morning, Ron. I know it's early,
but can I get you a beer?

RON
No, thanks. I just had one with the
guys. Where's Lenny?

LINDA
He's on the couch. He's not feeling
too good.

Ron excitedly brushes past Linda.

RON
Well he should be feeling great!
Doesn't he know?

LINDA
You better talk to him. He's got
something terrible to tell you.

RON
Terrible?

Ron makes his way into the

LIVING ROOM

Cluttered and unkempt.

Sitting on the sofa is a miserable Lenny in boxers. Beer in
one hand and a remote in the other. Lenny channel surfs.

RON
Hey, Lenny! Did you see the good
news? We're rich! We're rich!

LENNY
Ron, old buddy, I got some terrible,
terrible news. I know our numbers
came in, but I...--I didn't buy the
ticket.

Ron is in complete disbelief.

RON
You didn't do what? Why not?

LENNY
I stopped at the Seven-Eleven on the
way home. I had good intentions. I
popped open a can of Bud and headed
to the counter. When I reached into
my pocket all I had was a dollar
fifty. Just enough to cover the
beer. I meant to go back later, but
I forgot.

(MORE)

LENNY

All I have is the lotto form with
our numbers on it. It's on the desk.

Ron is dumbfounded.

Ron goes over to the desk and notices the LOTTO FORM. Next
to the form is a .45 CALIBER PISTOL. Ron picks up the gun
as if wanting to shoot Lenny, but then he notices A NOTE.
Ron places the gun back on the table and reads the message.

RON

(dismayed)

This is a suicide note.

LENNY

When I heard the numbers on the news
I knew I couldn't face you, so I
wrote that note. I planned to end
it all 'cause I let you guys down.

Lenny slumps further into the sofa.

LENNY

Looking for paper, I found our bowling
sheet. It reminded me of how badly
I treated Linda. I didn't want to
end my life on such a sour note.

Linda sits next to Lenny and consoles him.

LENNY

I went to the bowling alley to
apologize. I told her the whole
story about my business, the lotto
ticket...everything.

Lenny sobs.

LENNY

She's an angel. She forgave me for
being such an idiot. She saved my
life. I'm so sorry, Ron. Somehow,
someday I'll make it up to you guys.
I promise.

RON

Hey, Lenny, don't worry about it.
Everyone makes mistakes. The money
probably would have ruined us anyway.

(MORE)

RON

Please, please don't do anything drastic. Your friendship is worth more than a million bucks to me. I know Ed and Richard will feel the same.

LENNY

I just wasn't thinking straight. I should have known you'd understand. Thank you, dear friend!

Ron starts for the front door. Ron pulls Linda off to the side.

RON

Thanks for your help, Linda. I know he's in good hands.

Linda appreciatively nods.

Ron pokes his head back into the living room.

RON

Cheer up, Lenny! Don't forget, Friday night we get our bowling money. God knows we need to get out and have some fun.

Ron leaves.

INT. LOUNGE - BOWLING ALLEY - AFTERNOON

Ed and Richard watch other customers bowl.

Ron approaches them with beers.

Ed shakes his head in disbelief.

ED

How could Lenny be so stupid?...Or is he?

RON

What are you implying? You know Lenny wouldn't do anything like that on purpose.

RICHARD

Relax. It was an accident.

ED

I'm not so sure he's telling the truth.

Ron hands Ed and Richard the beers.

RON

Well I was there. Those were real tears and besides Lenny has always been there for us, no matter what. Now it's our turn to support him.

ED

But what if...

RON

Stop it Ed. Lenny needs us like never before.

RICHARD

Ron's right. Now is the time to help our fallen leader. We should make a toast to him--not toast him.

All three raise their beers.

ALL THREE

To Lenny!

They take a swig.

ED

I know you're right, but as much as we love Lenny, I still think it was pretty stupid.

RICHARD

Give Lenny a break! He's been under a lot of pressure lately. Besides there's no use for crying over spilt milk. Well, at least Lenny has the two hundred and fifty dollars we collected for him.

Ron slaps his forehead in disgust.

RON

Oh no. How selfish of me. In all the confusion I forgot to give it to Lenny. Do you think I should go back tonight?

ED

Might as well wait till tomorrow.
He can't pay the bills till then.

RICHARD

We'll go with you. Maybe seeing all
three of us will cheer him up some.

As the three men sip on their beers, an Elderly Man approaches their table. This is JIM, the Old Man who was embracing Linda earlier.

JIM

I was hoping to find you here. My
name is Jim. May I sit down?

The three men ignore Jim but BOLDLY he sits down in the lone empty chair.

JIM

Your Lenny and my Linda are birds of
a feather. You know Lenny has the
winning ticket, don't you?

RON

No he doesn't! He forgot to buy the
ticket!

Jim CHUCKLES.

JIM

You guys have been duped big time!
Fooled you, didn't he?

RON

I don't believe you. Not Lenny.
You're lying!

JIM

Well, last night, when I came in,
Lenny and Linda were like this.

Jim crosses his fingers. This gesture catches their attention.

JIM

He must have shown Linda the winning
ticket before I arrived. Let me
tell you, she dropped me like a hot
potato.

(MORE)

JIM

Oh, how I hoped she loved me for who I am. Now I see all she loves is money, and soon Lenny will have more money than all of us put together. The funny thing is most of it is yours! Well, Linda's mom is a real sweetheart. She's a great friend, kind of an amateur psychiatrist to me, I suppose. Her mom told me the whole story.

Jim studies the three men.

JIM

Right now, Lenny and Linda are in Tallahassee waiting to cash in the winning ticket so they can run off with your money.

RON

Impossible. I saw them this morning.

JIM

They went by limo shortly after you left his house.

RON

I can't believe it. Not Lenny.

JIM

Well you better. It's a scam. We've all been had. He and Linda plan to hide out till Wednesday when they leave for Mexico.

Jim pulls out a piece of paper from his pocket and shows it to the guys.

JIM

I've got all the flight information on this paper. Here...take it! Stop them!

Jim tears up in the middle.

JIM

Save my Linda.

ED
I knew it! I never trusted that
bastard!

RICHARD
That two timing S-O-B. That's our
money.

RON
How could he?

Ron takes the wad of \$250 from his shirt pocket and throws
it on the table with disgust.

Jim hands Ron a business card and flips Ron a quarter.

JIM
Here. Call him. He's the best lawyer
money can buy. I told him the whole
story. He's expecting to hear from
you. If anyone can stop Lenny and
get your money back, he can.

For a few seconds, all three men look at the business card.
They jump out of their seats and bolt to the pay phone,
leaving Jim alone.

Jim looks at the wad of money on the table. Jim checks
around. Not seeing anyone looking his way, he shrugs his
shoulders and grabs the money.

Jim tuck the money into his pocket.

JIM
What the hell.

INT. PAY PHONE AREA - BOWLING ALLEY

A Teenage Girl is using the phone. This is the same girl
from before.

The guys go up to the phone and gesture for the Teenage Girl
to get off the phone.

Looking directly at Ron then the others.

TEENAGE GIRL
You again? Why don't you and your
friends get lost?

Ron snatches the receiver from the Teenage Girl. Richard ends the call.

TEENAGE GIRL

That was my boyfriend! He just pulled in the parking lot. You guys are in deep shit!

ED

Nice vocabulary. Your mother would be proud of you.

Ron reaches into his pocket, pulls out a five dollar bill and gives it to the Teenage Girl.

The Teenage Girl grabs the bill then flips them the bird as she walks away in a huff.

ED

(mockingly)
Bye, bye.

Ron looks at the business card and dials.

RON

(into receiver)
Hello, Mr. Smith? Mr. Alan Smith?
My name is Ron...Jim gave me your
card, said you would be expecting my
call...uh huh...

Ron listens intently.

RON

(into receiver)
Okay...okay...

Ron hangs up the receiver.

ED

Well...what did he say?

RON

It's encouraging. But first, let's
get back to our table.

On the way to the table, Ron notices the Teenage Girl coming back with a muscular Young Man. This is her Boyfriend.

The twosome approach Ron, Richard and Ed.

TEENAGE GIRL

That's them. That guy and those other two jerks.

Boyfriend Pokes Ron in the chest with his finger.

BOYFRIEND

Just who the hell do you think you are?

RON

Sorry, we meant no harm...

BOYFRIEND

How dare you idiots hang up on me when I'm talking to my girl?

ED

Listen, we had an emergency and needed a phone...

BOYFRIEND

Then you dip sticks should get a cell phone...

Richard loses his temper and confronts the BOYFRIEND

RICHARD

Well, maybe you should join the twenty-first century yourself and buy Miss Gabby one...

Ed tries to calm the situation.

ED

Look Mack, I left my Blackberry at home. We don't want any trouble.

BOYFRIEND

The name's Lenny, asshole!

Richard goes BALLISTIC when he hears the name Lenny.

RICHARD

For some reason I hate that name!
(to Ron and Ed)
Don't you guys?

Richard slams his knee into the Boyfriend's groin and drops to the floor. The Boyfriend is in writhing pain.

Richard motions as if dusting off his hands.

RICHARD

Well gentlemen, that should hold old
numb nuts for awhile.

Ron, Richard and Ed go back to their table.

INT. LOUNGE - BOWLING ALLEY - DAY

Ron, Richard and Ed go back to their table.

RON

Listen guys, Mr. Smith said, with an
injunction, he could stop Lenny from
leaving the country. With the flight
information, the police will be
waiting for him at the airport. He
suggests we stay away.

ED

I don't know about you guys, I want
to be there to see Lenny's face when
the police nab...Poor Lenny!

RICHARD

I'll go you one better. I want to
get Lenny before the cops do. What
do you say to that?

RON

Yeah, he'll be Poor Lenny all right.
Especially when we get through with
him.

They all raise their beers as a symbol of their pledge.

END FLASHBACK

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Ron shakes his head while Lenny is taken away by the police.

RON

How did it get like this?

Ron shakes his fist at Lenny.

RON

That's how it got like this.

Ron, Richard and Ed follow the officers.

INT. LOCKER AREA - AIRPORT

Police Officer #2 approaches the locker area with Lenny.
Officer #1 chomps on the last of the doughnut.

The LOCKER Lenny stored the duffel bag in is open.

Lenny goes ballistic.

LENNY

Oh, no! She set me up. She stole
my money. It was there! It was
there!

Officer #2 restrains Lenny and takes him away.

Officer #1 looks around, checks the open locker and discards
the empty donut box in it. Officer #1 catches up to Officer
#2 and Lenny.

Each person checks the empty locker as they go by. Empty!

Ron, Richard and Ed suspiciously look at the locker.

RICHARD

What the hell was that all about.

RON

Lenny probably stashed our money in
that locker...now it's gone. Somebody
must have stolen it.

ED

Ron, you get sucked in by Lenny too
easy. I'm not so sure the money was
there in the first place. I bet
Lenny buried it in his yard. That's
where I'm going tonight!

RICHARD

I'm with you Ed. Let's get some
digging gear.

Ron, Richard and Ed head towards the door.

After all is clear, Jim and Linda appear from behind the
lockers.

Jim clutches the oversized duffel bag.

JIM
(out of breath)
Whew! That was a close one. My
ticker can't take too many more like
that.

LINDA
Sure was. Your skills as a locksmith
sure came in handy. Now let's give
a little hustle baby. Our private
jet is waiting for us.

JIM
Take it easy, hon. Four million bucks
is heavy. I bet that jerk Lenny got
it all in twenty dollar bills.

Linda and Jim head out.

EXT. PRIVATE JET - DAY

Linda and Jim arrive at the stairs to a private jet.

INT. PRIVATE JET - DAY

Jim struggles with the heavy, bulky bag and he boards the
jet.

A Flight Attendant notices Jim sweating profusely.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Need some help with that sir?

Jim clutches the bag tightly and yanks it away from the Flight
Attendant. Jim proceeds to the seats.

LINDA
Sorry! He never lets that bag out
of his sight. His emergency breathing
machine is in it.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
No apology necessary. I understand.
For a moment I thought it might be
filled with money the way he acted.

LINDA
I wish it was.

Linda takes a window seat facing the terminal. From there she sees Lenny being loaded in the back seat of an awaiting police car.

Linda tears up.

LINDA

Jim, I don't think I can go through with this. I can't do this to Lenny.

JIM

(taps on the bag)

Take it easy baby. I know it's breaking your heart. But with time and this stash you'll get over it.

EXT. RUNWAY - AIRPORT - DAY

From the squad car, Lenny watches the private jet take off.

EXT. LENNY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A black van careens down the street. The headlights turn off as it slows and parks across the street from the house.

INT. BLACK VAN - NIGHT

Richard is in the driver's seat, Ron in the passenger's seat and Ed in the back.

RON

I don't think the money is here.

ED

You know Lenny is a pretty good actor. I think his whole airport scene was another set up. I'm sure it's here. What do you think Richard?

RICHARD

I don't think we can take a chance.

EXT. BLACK VAN - NIGHT

They exit the van in camouflage outfits, miner hats and shovels.

They sneakily cross the street toward Lenny's House.

EXT. BACKYARD - LENNY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ron, Richard and Ed survey the yard.

ED
So, where do we start?

RON
Just dig.

The three spread out and commence shoveling.

EXT. LENNY'S HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

The yard is filled with a plethora of dug up holes.

Ron, Richard and Ed are exhausted.

ED
Well, scratch that idea.

RICHARD
I'm too tired to scratch anything.

ED
Let's go to the alley. I need a
beer.

RON
The hell with that. I'm going home.

RICHARD
I'll second that. One of you guys
drive. I'm half asleep.

EXT. COURT HOUSE - DAY

A crowd of citizens and reporters on the front steps.

Off to the side is a Female Reporter, ANGELICA, who is getting ready to go on the air. Angelica, late 20's, is perky and wears business attire. She holds a wireless microphone. The Camera Man in front of her gives her the thumbs up.

ANGELICA
(to the camera man)
Ready?

Angelica takes a deep breath and goes into reporter mode.

ANGELICA

This is Angelica Rodriguez live on the steps of the downtown courthouse. Today is the first day of the Lenny James trial. Mr. James stands accused of cheating his friends out of their share of last month's four million dollar lotto jackpot. This case is expected to lead to major lottery reforms, not only in Florida, but throughout the nation.

Angelica pauses and presses against her ear.

ANGELICA

I've just been informed that the trial is about to begin. I'm Angelica Rodriguez...back to you Victoria and Terrance.

Angelica and Camera Man go back to non-reporting mode and rush up the steps.

INT. COURT ROOM - DAY

The room is full of recognizable faces from the bowling alley.

Frank and the members of King Pins are nearby.

Seated at the Prosecution Table are Ron, Richard and Ed who anxiously wait for the trial to start.

At the Defendants Table is Lenny in prison garb. Lenny avoids eye contact with his ex-teammates.

ALAN SMITH, the Prosecutor, enters the courtroom from the left. ALAN SMITH, 50's has a salt and pepper look that reads he's been around the block before.

ELWIN RUDY, 50s, dressed in business attire and a signature Red Bow Tie with suspenders. He enters from the opposite side of Alan Smith.

The two lawyers converge in the center and reluctantly shake hands.

Both Lawyers retreat to their respective tables.

Elwin Rudy rummages through his briefcase.

The Bailiff, the Boyfriend from the bowling alley, stands behind a wall and talks to Judge Davies. They are not in plain view of the gallery.

BAILIFF

(aggravated)

See, the one sitting in the middle at the prosecution table? He's the one that kneed me in the bowling alley.

Judge Davies restrains the Bailiff.

JUDGE DAVIES

Calm Down! Don't do anything stupid. I won't be able to protect you.

The Bailiff collects himself and enters the gallery.

Bailiff shoots daggers at Richard.

Richard hide his face in his hands.

RICHARD

Oh no! Anyone but him.

RON

I think you're safe in here, too many witnesses. But watch my back after the trial.

Ed chuckles.

ED

I think Richard needs to worry about his front, not his back.

RON

Don't listen to Ed, just take it easy everything will be....

BAILIFF

All rise for the honorable Judge Marilyn Davies...

Everyone in the room rises.

A Female Judge enters the court room. This is Judge Davies, 40s, has a no nonsense look to her and blows the hair out of her face.

JUDGE DAVIES

Be seated.

Judge Davies takes a seat at the bench.

Everyone in the room sits.

BAILIFF

Docket number 2-5-8-2-9-9. Wick,
Jennings and Braddock versus Lenny
James. Court is now in session.

The Bailiff positions himself on one side of the room. He points at Richard and gestures a slitting throat motion.

Richard is nervous.

JUDGE DAVIES

Mr. James, are you representing
yourself?

Elwin Rudy jumps to his feet.

ELWIN RUDY

Actually, your honor...I'm his
attorney--Elwin Rudy.

JUDGE DAVIES

Mr. Rudy, I hope you will not be up
to your usual antics.

ELWIN RUDY

Of course not, your honor.

JUDGE DAVIES

Mr. James, please rise.

Lenny stands up.

JUDGE DAVIES

Mr. James, you stand accused of fraud
and grand theft. Do you understand
that if found guilty you'll serve
between three to five years in prison?

LENNY

I do, your honor.

JUDGE DAVIES

Well, Mister James...How do you plea?

ELWIN RUDY

Ya honor, my client pleads innocent.
Innocent of all charges due to
temporary financial insanity.

Judge Davies chortles.

JUDGE DAVIES

Elwin, Elwin, Elwin...I'm warning
you. Don't try to make a circus out
of my courtroom.

ELWIN RUDY

Ya honor?

Everyone in the courtroom LAUGHS, except for Judge Davies.

Judge Davies BANGS the gavel.

JUDGE DAVIES

Okay, gentlemen...let's get started.

Alan Smith rises and approaches the jury box.

ALAN SMITH

Ladies and Gentlemen of the
jury...when we are done I will show
you that Mister Lenny James, in his
selfish greed, chose to intentionally
cheat his closest friends out of
their share of lottery winnings. In
so doing, Mister James committed
fraud, grand theft and he attempted
to flee the country to avoid
prosecution.

Alan Smith focuses in on the Jury Foreman, a female.

ALAN SMITH

What a pity...

The Jury Foreman sneezes. Alan Smith reaches in his pocket
for a handkerchief presenting it to the Jury Foreman.

The Jury Foreman nods, then uninhibitedly blows her nose in
the handkerchief.

The Jury Foreman holds out the soiled handkerchief to Alan
Smith.

Alan Smith is taken back and politely refuses with a hand gesture but doesn't miss a beat as he continues.

ALAN SMITH

As I was saying...what a pity.

Alan Smith crosses over and gets extremely close to Lenny, almost in his face.

ALAN SMITH

His share equaling one million dollars wasn't enough. He had to steal his best friends share as well.

Alan Smith goes back to the jury box.

ALAN SMITH

And now Mister James concocted this absurd story of an accomplice who not only conspired with him but has now duped him out of all the money leaving him penniless.

Alan Smith moves in front of Lenny.

ALAN SMITH

Is this some sort of a joke? A thief being robbed!

Lenny leaps from his seat and reaches toward Alan Smith.

LENNY

It's true! It's true! She ran off with every damn nickel.

Everyone in the courtroom BUZZ with chatter.

Judge Davies BANGS the gavel repeatedly.

JUDGE DAVIES

Order! Order!

Elwin Rudy grabs a hold of Lenny and pulls him back into the chair. Lenny sobs.

JUDGE DAVIES

Mister James, one more outburst like that and I'll hold you in contempt.

ALAN SMITH

Good job, Mister James. Must have used some of my client's money for acting lessons.

Everyone in the courtroom LAUGHS.

Elwin Rudy, pouts and jumps up from his seat.

ELWIN RUDY

Your Honor, I object! Mister Smith is tainting his argument with objectionable comments...your Honor...

Judge Davies pounds the gavel again.

JUDGE DAVIES

Mister Rudy, Mister Rudy...calm down! And you, Mister Smith, keep your arguments related to the charges you intend to prove.

ALAN SMITH

Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, regardless of whatever defense is presented here, it will remain clear...Mister James stole three million dollars of my clients money and for whatever reason refuses to return it...

(turns to Elwin Rudy)

...and you Mister Rudy, with your high profile in the legal field, I'm sure you expect to get your fee out of the supposed missing money.

Elwin Rudy jumps out of his seat.

ELWIN RUDY

Your Honor...Again, I object to Mister Smith's insinuations.

JUDGE DAVIES

Mister Smith, once again I ask you to keep to the charges and eliminate your personal differences with Mister Rudy.

Alan Smith shrugs and as he returns towards his seat.

ALAN SMITH

That's all your Honor. I now turn it over to my flamboyant friend, Mister Rudy.

Elwin Rudy approaches the jury box.

ELWIN RUDY

This case is not cut and dry. There are many different angles that must be considered. First, Mister James was under extreme financial pressure. Secondly, due to extreme financial pressure, Mister James was drinking heavily. Therefore, he was not in complete control of his senses. We do not deny that Mister James did purchase the winning lottery ticket.-- And that he cashed it in...

Everyone in the courtroom BUZZES.

Judge Davies BANGS the gavel.

JUDGE DAVIES

Order in the court! Order in the court! I will not tolerate any disturbances like this. One more outburst and I'll empty the courtroom!

Everyone in the room goes silent.

ELWIN RUDY

Thirdly, in his frail mental state, Lenny was manipulated by a beautiful woman who feigned tenderness to this lost soul only to abscond with all the money...including Lenny's.

Elwin Rudy goes over to console a melancholic Lenny.

ELWIN RUDY

So you see, this wretch of a man has less than he had before. He has no money. He has no friends. And he has no significant other to share his torment.

Rudy pauses for a moment.

ELWIN RUDY

Poor Lenny! I ask you, the jury...
isn't this punishment enough? At
the time of the crime, Mister James
was insane...financially insane...

Elwin approaches the Judge and makes eye contact with her.

ELWIN RUDY

...coupled with insanity caused by
loneliness.

Judge Davies smiles and winks at Mr. Rudy.

After a pause, Elwin Rudy resets his eyes on the Jury Foreman.

ELWIN RUDY

Now that he has recovered from his
moment of illness, he knows he did
wrong and he's sorry. -- But he was
not responsible for his actions. I
ask you to find him innocent on the
grounds of...

(pounds fist with
each word)

...temporary - financial - insanity.

Lenny motions for Elwin Rudy.

Elwin Rudy approaches Lenny and leans in. Lenny WHISPERS in
Elwin Rudy's ear. Elwin Rudy disapprovingly shakes his head
as he remarks to Lenny.

ELWIN RUDY

(whispers)

No, No, No. We have this thing.

Lenny insists as a frustrated Elwin Rudy addresses the Judge.

ELWIN RUDY

Your Honor...My client asks me to
readdress the court. May I do so?

JUDGE DAVIES

(to Alan Smith)

Any objection?

ALAN SMITH

No objections, your Honor.

JUDGE DAVIES

Mr. Rudy, go ahead.

ELWIN RUDY

In a total surprise move to me, Mister James insists on entering a plea of...

(begrudgingly)

...guilty on all charges.

Everyone in the courtroom is surprised by the turn of events.

JUDGE DAVIES

(confused)

Order?

ALAN SMITH

Yes, yes, yes!

(to Ron, Richard and Ed)

It's over. You've won!

ELWIN RUDY

And further more, your Honor, I quit! Forget Lenny and the money. Now I believe he's dumb enough to lose the money. Hell, I don't even want my fee.

Rudy storms out of the courtroom with his briefcase.

After a pause, order is restored.

JUDGE DAVIES

Mister James, you do know what you're doing? With your plea of guilty? You are going to jail.

LENNY

I know, your Honor. But I have no home, no business, no money and I'm guilty of one of the worst crimes a man can commit. -- I deceived...no-- I cheated the most important people in my life. I have nothing. I deserve nothing but the sentence you give me.

Ron, Richard and Ed become emotional from the turn of events.

RON
(Whispering)
I thought I'd be overjoyed, but I'm
not.

ED
(whispering)
Do you think she'll send Lenny to
prison?

From his shirt pocket, Richard removes the rubber finger he had placed in Lenny's bowling ball earlier.

Richard looks down at the finger with emotion then drops it on the table.

RICHARD
(whispering)
I wish this whole thing had never
happened.

EXT. COURT HOUSE - DAY

A crowd trickles out.

On the steps is Angelica Rodriguez ready to give the news. The Camera Man has the camera pointed at her and gives the thumbs up.

ANGELICA
In a surprise move, Lenny James pleaded guilty to all charges and received a harsh five year sentence by Judge Davies. Monday, Mister James will be taken to a minimum security facility not far from here. This is the same jail that houses our local banker who embezzled millions from depositors. Our investigative team found out that this so called white collar prison has its own golf course and bowling alley. Kind of a home away from home for rich criminals, and we know that Mr. James is allegedly loaded.

Angelica pauses and presses against her ear.

ANGELICA

I've just been informed that Mister James is being led away through the side exit.

Angelica, followed by the cameraman bolt towards the exit.

Lenny is escorted down the steps by the same Two Police Officers who arrested him. Officer #1 is eating donuts while Officer #2 leads Lenny through a mob of reporters.

Ron, Richard and Ed watch the commotion.

Angelica fights through the mob to get to Lenny. Angelica practically shoves her microphone in Lenny's face.

ANGELICA

Mister James! Mister James! Do you have any comments?

LENNY

I'm sorry for what I did. If I had any of the money I'd give it all to them. Even my share. I wish this whole thing never happened. I wish that someday Ron, Ed and Richard might open their hearts and forgive me.

Lenny is placed in a squad car.

Ron, Ed and Richard exchange glances with Lenny as the squad car drives off.

ED

That damn Lotto. It's a curse.

RICHARD

It sure ruined our friendship.

RON

I don't know about you guys but whoever has my share can keep it.

RICHARD

I won't go quite that far yet but for now, let's go bowling.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT

SUPER: 6 MONTHS LATER

A championship is going on.

Ron, Richard and Ed, wear new "Serial Bowlers" shirts, celebrate victory with the newest member of the team - Frank. Frank carries a large trophy.

RON

Great bowling, Frank. How about joining us for a beer?

FRANK

Not tonight, amigos. Got a hot date with you know who.

The new "Serial Bowlers" shake hands.

Frank starts to walk away with the trophy, then Richard playfully grabs the trophy and plays tug-o-war with Frank. Frank lets go and Richard takes it.

All CHUCKLE.

Richard sets the trophy on the table.

RICHARD

Well! Finally, we won it all!

ED

I may be nuts, but the victory wasn't as sweet as I thought it would be.

RON

Yeah. Even though Frank bowled great, I hate to admit it...I miss Lenny.

ED

You're right. Lenny made bowling fun.

RICHARD

It's not the same. I'm not sure I want to bowl next season.

EXT. STREET FIESTA - TASCO - MEXICO - EVENING

Traditional Mexican block party.

Jim and Linda celebrate leading a parade down the street.

Linda and Jim shout over the LOUD MUSIC.

LINDA

I never imagined how great Mexico would be!

JIM

I told you so! You just needed some time!

LINDA

The people of Tasco have been wonderful to us!

JIM

Hell, why shouldn't they be? We're making them a fortune buying and selling their silver jewelry plus we haven't done bad for ourselves!

LINDA

You're a great businessman, Jim!

JIM

It doesn't take a genius to make money when you have a bankroll like ours!

Linda and Jim break out of the parade. A Man in a tattered suit approaches them. This is the MAYOR.

MAYOR

Señor, Jim. Donde vas?

Jim waves his hand as a friendly gesture then jokingly taps his chest over his heart.

JIM

No mas for el ticker.

The Mayor smiles and waves back. The parade passes Jim and Linda.

MAYOR

Okie dokie, mi amigo!

Jim and Linda walk down the street. Linda has her arm locked with Jim's.

INT. RESTAURANT - DINING AREA - EVENING

Quiet and romantic.

Jim and Linda share a bottle of wine.

Linda's mood is more subdued. Jim notices.

JIM

I thought you would be over him by now.

LINDA

I'm sorry, Jim. Is it that obvious?

JIM

Well, I guess I expected it. In reality I didn't think you'd last this long.

LINDA

Jim, you've been great to me these last six months, but I've got to go back. My heart can't be in two places at the same time. It's not right to leave Lenny alone any longer. It's not right to let him be the fall guy especially after he trusted me like a little child.

JIM

Then go to him and tell your Lenny I said he's a lucky man.

LINDA

I'm afraid he'll reject me after what I did to him.

JIM

You're a fool if you don't try. If you stay here you'll never know...you'll never be satisfied.

LINDA

And you Jim? Will you come with me?

JIM

Me? Where would I fit in? No, I'm staying right here, where they think I'm a God. So, when do you plan to leave?

LINDA

I hope to leave tomorrow afternoon.

(MORE)

LINDA

I plan to take half the money back
with me if that's okay with you.

JIM

Take all four million with you.
We've made so much profit that I can
live off it for the rest of my life.

LINDA

Jim, I want to leave you with the
most memorable night of your life.
Let's get back to our room.

Jim smiles and removes a small bottle of pills from his coat
pocket.

Linda turns for a moment to catch the attention of the waiter
to get the check. While looking away, Jim pops most of the
pills in his mouth and swallows.

Jim holds up the bottle to make a toast.

JIM

Lucky for me. I just picked up a
new bottle of Viagra.

LINDA

A new bottle? It looks half empty
to me.

Jim breaks out with a big grin.

INT. BEDROOM - HOTEL - NIGHT

Dimly lit.

Jim is in bed waiting for Linda.

Linda slides under the covers and embraces with Jim.

LINDA

Wow! How many of those pills did
you take.

JIM

Enough for that everlasting memory.

INT. BEDROOM - HOTEL - MORNING

Sunlight beams into the room.

Linda slowly wakes. After a good long stretch she gets up.

Linda opens the curtains.

LINDA

Jim, wake up. It's another beautiful day in Paradise.

Jim doesn't respond. Linda lovingly nudges Jim.

LINDA

Come on Jim get up...Jim...Jim.

Linda shakes Jim. Jim remains motionless.

Linda remains fairly composed as she notices the huge smile on Jim's face. For a moment she grins back then picks up the phone receiver and dials.

LINDA

Front desk?

FRONT DESK (V.O.)

Buenos dia, Miss Linda. How can I help you?

LINDA

Can you get me the Police Captain? Señor Jim has passed away.

FRONT DESK (V.O.)

Si, Miss Linda. Pronto!

Linda hangs up the receiver.

She opens the door to the hallway and sits on the bed next to Jim.

Within moments the Police Captain arrives with the Housekeeper and several assistants.

The Police Captain tips his hat to Linda.

POLICE CAPTAIN

Miss Linda.

Looking up at the Police Captain, Linda runs her fingers through Jim's hair.

LINDA

Señor Jim always liked this.

The Police Captain looks towards Jim's body.

POLICE CAPTAIN
Oh Señor Jim. How I will miss you.

The Police Chief approaches the body.

POLICE CAPTAIN
The body is very stiff. How long
has Señor Jim been dead?

Linda points to the empty bottle of Viagra.

POLICE CAPTAIN
Oh señorita, that explains the smile
as well.

The Assistants wrap Jim's body is taken out of the room.

Linda lays on the bed and weeps.

EXT. CEMETERY - RAINY DAY

Many members from the town follow the procession down the muddy road that is still strewn with decorations from the previous nights fiesta.

The Police Captain and the Mayor are the front pall bearers. They are in full uniform.

Directly behind the silver plated coffin walks Linda. There is open mourning sounds as they reach the grave site.

Linda is dressed in a long black gown. She wears a black hat and veil.

Linda clutches the large duffel bag with both hands.

A Priest gives his final Blessings.

As the body is lowered in the ground the crowd leaves and Linda is left alone at the grave site.

Linda is in tears as she prays.

LINDA
Oh Lord. He was a good man who wanted
to do what was right in the end.
(MORE)

LINDA

I promise to return all the money in
Jim's memory even if I go to jail
for the rest of my life.

(to the coffin)

Jim, I always loved you in our own
special way.

Linda drops a rose on the casket and leaves.

INT. LOUNGE - BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT

Ron, Richard and Ed are moping as they drink beer.

Cheryl approaches the guys.

CHERYL

(scolding)

That's it guys! I'm tired of seeing
you sitting here night after night,
getting soused and moping around
like three sick puppies. Hell, if
you miss Lenny so damn much, why
don't you puss faces get off your
asses and go visit him?

Ron is taken aback by Cheryl's rant.

RON

Whoa, baby!

RICHARD

Are you crazy, Cheryl? I might
have overlooked him taking the money,
but his refusal to return our part,
with that crazy ass story about Linda,
is unforgivable.

Cheryl reaches into her apron pocket, pulls out a post card
and hands it to Ron.

CHERYL

Crazy ass story? Ha! Perhaps you
might reconsider if you read this.

INSERT - POST CARD

Images of Mexico on the front. Writing on the back.

BACK TO SCENE

Ron reads the back of the post card.

RON

Cheryl, I know I've done wrong.
Tell Lenny and the boys I'm coming
home soon with all of their money.

RICHARD

So, Linda's bringing back the money?
Then Lenny's bullshit story was true?
Linda and Jim suckered us all and
left Lenny taking the rap?

CHERYL

There's more. Linda called me last
night. She's arriving in Miami,
Monday morning. You know she's a
brave girl returning home not knowing
if she's going to jail.

RON

Cheryl, I need to talk to Ed and
Richard alone for a few minutes.
Okay, dear?

CHERYL

Sure, honey!

RON

See you later, darling.

With a quick kiss from Cheryl, Ron settles down to business.

RON

Then it's settled. We'll stick to
this plan.

They stack their hands alternating one on top of the other.

INT. GATE 17 - AIRPORT - MORNING

Empty.

A plane has arrived.

Ron, Richard and Ed wait.

Passengers disembark.

RON
Do you see her yet?

RICHARD
No, but don't worry. She'll be here soon.

Linda appears in the crowd. She is carrying the duffel bag.
The guys greet Linda.

RON
Let's get downstairs and get your luggage.

LINDA
Let's get there fast. I checked the money in a suitcase...I hope they didn't lose it.

Ed, Ron and Richard are caught off guard.

ED, RON & RICHARD
You what!!!

LINDA
Just joking boys. I have no luggage. The money is all in here, and there's a substantial profit with it. Before his fatal heart attack, Jim and I were making money hand over fist...buying and selling silver in Tasco.

Linda hands the bag to Ron who can barely hold it.

RON
How about a little help guys.

Both Ed and Richard try to grab the bag from Ron

RICHARD
I got it.

ED
No, I got it.

They look at each other and LAUGH. Each takes a handle as they split the load.

LINDA

Well, am I riding in a police car or what?

ALL THREE MEN

No police car. You're riding with us.

INT. ELWIN RUDY'S OFFICE - DAY

High end decor. Various diplomas sprawled across the wall. Book shelves with law books line the shelves.

Elwin fills out documents at his desk.

KNOCK at the door.

ELWIN RUDY

Come in!

The door opens.

A Female Secretary ushers in Ron, Richard, Ed and Linda.

Elwin gets up to greet everyone. He shakes hands with Ed and Richard. Ron extends out his hand, but before Rudy reaches him Rudy eyes Linda.

ELWIN RUDY

Well, well, boys. What a surprise. And who's this lovely lady?

Ron replies without getting a handshake.

RON

First of all, this is Linda.

(to Linda)

Linda, meet your new attorney, Elwin Rudy.

Elwin gently takes Linda's hand and kisses it.

ELWIN RUDY

So, this is the elusive Linda. Good morning. Very charming.

Ron zeroes in on a framed sign.

RON

No defense is too ridiculous to handle.

ELWIN RUDY

That's right. No defense is too ridiculous to handle. That's our motto. But, I have to admit, Lenny's defense stretched it to the limits.

(a beat)

I'm sure this is not a social visit. So, what can I do for you?

RON

Linda returned the money. We want you to make an agreement giving her immunity from prosecution.

RICHARD

We want you to include a clause saying she can keep the profit she has made on the money.

ED

Can it be done and for how much?

Elwin grins and lets out a CHUCKLE.

ELWIN RUDY

Boys, boys, boys. Believe it or not, I was going to contact you on a business deal. This case was so bizarre that I wrote a screenplay about it. I've already got a producer who is interested in optioning it. All that's missing is the ending. I'll do the paperwork for free and even forget about Lenny's fees, if you all sign a release giving me complete rights to the story. Is it a deal?

ALL THREE MEN

You got a deal, Mr. Rudy! You got a deal!

ELWIN RUDY

Is there something else on your minds?

RON

We want to visit Lenny. Can you arrange it?

ELWIN RUDY

How about Wednesday? Is Wednesday okay?

RON

Wednesday is great.

ELWIN RUDY

It's as good as done, but only if I can go with you. I need that good ending for my script.

RON

Fine. Call us when you get a time.

The guys and Linda start to make their way out.

RON

(whispers to the group)
Heck, he's not such a prick after all.

ELWIN RUDY

I heard you, son! Don't go around spreading that rumor. You'll ruin my reputation.

INT. PRISON - DAY

Atypical. More like a resort than a prison. Glass panels allow for others to view different rooms. - i.e.: Cafeteria, Rec Room, etc.

Paintings adorn the walls.

A Prison Guard, who looks more like a butler, escorts Ron, Richard, Ed, Linda and Elwin down a corridor.

ELWIN RUDY

Hell! Take a look at this place. It must have been decorated by Martha Stewart.

RON

You're not kidding. This place is like a country club.

RICHARD

Man-oh-man! Look at the food in the buffet line. It must have been prepared by Emeril. BAM!

ED

Do you think we can get in line and get something to eat?

ELWIN RUDY

Hold on boys. If you get yourselves in trouble in here, I'll have to charge you extra to get you out.

The group walks past a game room area with well dressed residents dressed in fancy robes. Some play pool, while others ping-pong. At a card table, there is a foursome playing poker with piles of real money.

ED

Hey. Isn't that Mr. Reyes from our AIG office playing poker?

RICHARD

You might be right. That guy next to him is that movie actor. I can't remember his name, but he was in that film they made here last year.

RON

Yeah, that's him. Didn't he get nominated for an Oscar?

RICHARD

That's right. But I think he got busted for D-U-I after the awards banquet.

RON

Well! Lenny's got some good company in here.

ED

And lets not forget the food back there.

RICHARD

I think I'll commit a crime just to get in this place.

ELWIN RUDY

Better be careful what kind of crime you commit. You need money and connections to get in here.

They arrive at a door with a gold plate that reads "Meeting Room #1".

PRISON GUARD

Here we are gentlemen. Meeting room number one. Mister James is resting inside.

ELWIN RUDY

Pardon me boys, and Linda, but I think I should go in first to prepare Lenny.

INT. MEETING ROOM #1 - PRISON - DAY

Elwin enters.

Lenny is in a recliner sipping a bottle of Perrier water and smoking a fine cigar.

ELWIN RUDY

Well, well, well, Lenny. Looks like you've done well for yourself.

LENNY

Mister Rudy, what brings you here? Are my five years up already?

Both share a CHUCKLE.

ELWIN RUDY

No, Lenny. You still have another four and a half years to go.

ELWIN RUDY sniffs the air.

ELWIN RUDY

Is that a Cohiba your smoking?

LENNY

That's right, Rudy. Nothing but the finest.

ELWIN RUDY

I'm jealous.

Lenny takes another puff and blows the smoke towards Elwin.

LENNY
(sarcastically)
Did you bring me another box of these
beauties, just put them in my humidor.

ELWIN RUDY
No, sir. I can't afford them for
myself. But I did bring you a
surprise.

Elwin Rudy motions toward the door.

ELWIN RUDY
Lenny, I brought you some visitors.

Elwin opens the door. He waves in Ron, Richard and Ed.

The three make their way in.

LENNY
What do you guys want? I told you I
don't have the money. I told you if
I did I'd even give you my share.
Leave me alone! At least in here I
have peace and a roof over my head.

Lenny tears up.

LENNY
Please, just leave me alone.

Elwin Rudy frantically takes notes.

RON
Lenny, we know you don't have the
money.

RICHARD
Yeah, we finally know that Jim and
Linda stiffed you and ran off with
the loot.

RON
We just came here to let you know we
miss you and we forgive you.

Lenny sobs after hearing them.

Apprehensively, Lenny gets up to embrace Ron, Richard and
Ed.

LENNY

You miss me? You forgive me? My God! I love you guys. How could I ever have...No, I don't deserve...

ED

Stop it, Lenny. Hey, quit beating yourself up about it. We forgive you. Now let's forget the whole thing ever happened.

The four of them hug each other.

RON

Now some more news, Lenny. We've had your conviction overturned. By Monday you'll be a free man.

Lenny's mood shifts.

LENNY

No! No! How could you do this to me?...

RON

Lenny?...

LENNY

I can't go back out there! I have no home. I have no money. I have no job...

RON

Lenny!...

LENNY

At least in here I'm taken care of. Shelter, clothing, damn good food. Plus, I'm captain of the Pen Busters bowling team. And it's all free! Everyday!

Lenny spins around to display the back of his designer bowling shirt that has the team name embroidered on it.

Ron grabs Lenny by the shoulders and shakes him.

RON

Lenny!...Lenny! Get a hold of yourself!

LENNY

Is this your way of getting even with me? Putting me back on the street? Homeless? Well, I guess I deserve it...

RON

Hold on, Lenny. There's more...

LENNY

More? More?! How much more can there be? How much more do you think I can take?

RON

It's good news, Lenny. We have the money. Every penny of it.

LENNY

Oh, thank God you got your money. But, I don't want to go out there. I have nothing and I deserve nothing.

RON

Lenny, you missed the point for the reason we're here. We have your share too. But under the circumstances we spent part of it.

RICHARD

First, we paid off your mortgage and liens on your house. Then we had all the holes in your yard filled.

LENNY

Holes? What holes?

RICHARD

Oops. Forget about the holes.

ED

Then we had the dump fixed up. We even hired a plumber to fix your leaky faucets.

RON

Finally, we took the liberty of investing some of your money plus some of ours in a business.

(MORE)

RON

How does Lucky Lenny's Lanes sound, partner? The four of us bought the bowling alley and we're equal partners.

Lenny is dumfounded from the turn of events.

LENNY

I...I don't know what to say. I have one question though. How the hell did you get the money back?

RON

We hoped you'd ask.

ED

Yeah, that's the best part of all.

RICHARD

Go ahead, Ron. Tell him.

RON

Lenny, there's someone here who can explain it much better than I can...if you just give her a chance.

Ron opens the door.

Linda enters.

Lenny COLLAPSES into the recliner. He is speechless.

RON

That's right, Lenny. Linda brought the money back of her own free will.

LINDA

Hi, Lenny. I had to come here to tell you how sorry I am for what happened. I had to see you for myself and try to explain. It's true, Jim and I flew away together, but the entire time in Mexico I could only think of you. Our whole stay in Mexico was a guilt trip, well most of it. Just before I came home, Jim died of a heart attack.

LENNY

Figures.

LINDA

But before he died, we agreed that the money had to be returned. I chose to bring it personally. I wanted to let you know I missed you. I'm sorry this ever happened. I wish we could start over. I wish you could forgive me and give me another chance.

Lenny is in a daze and at a loss for words.

Linda finds it difficult to gauge Lenny's reaction. She heads for the exit.

Lenny leaps from his seat and stops Linda from leaving.

LENNY

Linda, how could I not forgive you? How can I not give you a second chance? Hell, you didn't do anything worse than I did and look how my buddies forgave me. And besides...I...I...Linda, I love you.

Lenny and Linda embrace and kiss for an extended period of time.

Ron looks at his watch and counts the seconds.

Finally the kiss ends.

RON

Holy mackerel ten seconds. Now that was a kiss.

Elwin Rudy feverishly jots down notes while containing his emotions.

ELWIN RUDY

I just love happy endings.

INT. WARDEN'S OFFICE - PRISON - DAY

Ornately decorated and neatly organized. A walnut desk and cabinets fill the space.

Behind the desk is THE WARDEN, a warm, jovial guy and sucks on a lollipop.

KNOCK on the door.

WARDEN

Come in!

Elwin Rudy enters and shakes the Warden's hand.

WARDEN

So Elwin, you're coming to take our Lenny home?

ELWIN RUDY

For awhile there I thought he wanted to stay and why not? Look at this place.

WARDEN

Well! We are going to miss him. That clown can make a joke out of everything, he keeps us all laughing. Just let me sign these papers and he'll be out of here before lunch.

The Warden signs a form.

A voice is heard from Ed outside the door.

ED (O.S.)

Elwin, tell him not to hurry. We can stay for lunch.

WARDEN

Who the hell is that, Elwin?

ELWIN RUDY

Oh, that is one of Lenny's bowling buddies. Lenny's old team and his girlfriend are in the hall.

WARDEN

Well hell, Elwin! Where are your manners? Let them in.

Immediately, Ron, Richard and Ed open the door and stumble in.

WARDEN

Gentlemen. So you want to have lunch with Lenny and some of his acquaintances?

Linda enters.

WARDEN

And this must be...?

ELWIN RUDY

This is Linda Simmons. Lenny's prettier half. Those guys are Ron, Richard and Ed.

Ron, Richard and Ed shake hands with the Warden.

WARDEN

Well in honor of Lenny I think lunch can be arranged.

Ron, Richard and Ed are ecstatic.

The Warden pushes the button on his intercom.

WARDEN

(into intercom)

William, will you please come to the office?

Moments pass, a guard enters.

WARDEN

William, take these three gentlemen to the formal dining room. Elwin, you and Ms. Simmons go get Lenny and join them. I think Lenny is playing poker in the game room.

INT. GAME ROOM - PRISON - DAY

Lenny and three others are playing poker. Mr. Rudy and the Linda arrive for Lenny.

A stash of real currency in front of Lenny. A large pot of \$10's and \$20's is in the middle of the table.

Rudy and Linda enter.

Rudy rushes to Lenny with the release form in his hand.

ELWIN RUDY

I got it Lenny. Let's go!

Lenny remains POKER FACED.

LENNY

Take it easy, Elwin. I'm about to teach these boys a final lesson.

PLAYER #1 is seated across Lenny and lays down full house. He starts to "rake" in the pot.

PLAYER #1

(to Lenny)

That's what you think sucker, I finally got you..

Lenny lays down a Royal Flush.

LENNY

Not so fast Commissioner. You lose again!

As Lenny stuffs all his earnings in his pockets.

PLAYER #2

Lenny, you're so damn good. How in the hell did you get caught with your hand in the cookie jar?

PLAYER #3

I bet there was a woman involved.

LENNY

(to Player #3)

Now that's a bet you would have won, Mr. Mayor.

(to Linda)

...but she was worth it.

The Players all rise and bid farewell to Lenny.

PLAYER #1

You know, Lenny, with all the contacts you made in here you should run for political office. Now, with a record, you're a perfect candidate...

RUDY

He's as qualified as those two crooks running for Governor.

PLAYER #2

Yes sir.

(MORE)

PLAYER #2

But Lenny's got more personality
than the both of them put together.
He sure has entertained us all!

INT. CAFETERIA - PRISON - LATER

Ron, Richard and Ed fill their plates as they make their way
down the buffet line.

Lenny, Linda and Elwin Rudy enter followed by the Warden.

WARDEN

Lunch is informal in here. You'll
have to get your own food in the
buffet line...like these guys already
have.

Ron, Ed and Richard return with a mountain of food on their
plates.

WARDEN

Lucky for me they are on the
outside...I couldn't afford to feed
those three.

William, the Guard, brings and pours wine for everyone.

The Warden toasts Lenny.

EXT. PRISON - DAY

Friends and acquaintances from the bowling alley gather outside
the fancy wrought iron gates. In front of the group of
supporters stands Angelica Rodriguez.

A dark stretched limo waits.

Lenny emerges arm in arm with Linda. The rest of the Bowling
Buddies follow with Elwin Rudy.

The supporters ROAR and APPLAUD.

ANGELICA

Here we are again with Lenny James,
but on a happier note as he is
reunited with his friends.

Lenny smiles and waves at his supporters. Lenny's group
enters the Limo. Their private Chauffeur is the Taxi Driver
from earlier.

Lenny turns to the supporters and throws a series of kisses. Angelica approaches Lenny for a final word.

ANGELICA

Lenny, where do you plan to go first?
To a fine restaurant or a show?

LENNY

Neither. I had the best of everything
inside those walls so I would only
be disappointed. I missed only one
place.

ANGELICA

And where would that be, Lenny?

Lenny turns to the driver without an answer.

Lenny enters the limo.

LENNY

(to driver)
Hey haven't we met before?

Lenny hands the Driver a generous tip.

The Driver nods affirmatively and looks to the sky in thanks.

LENNY

(to driver)
Take us to Lucky Lenny's Lanes, my
friend!

The driver closes the door.

The limo drives off into a cloud of dust.

EXT. BOWLING ALLEY - LATER

Limo arrives.

Driver gets out and rushes to open the passenger door.

Lenny exits rushes to the front step and drops to his knees
to kiss the cement.

INT. LOUNGE - BOWLING ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

The group is seated, with extra chairs, around their usual
table.

Cheryl greets the group. She is invited to join the celebration.

Linda's replacement, JOAN serves beverages.

Lenny sips on a cold beer.

LENNY

Ah! I haven't had one of these babies in six months.

RON

You mean, with all that stuff you got in prison they didn't have beer?

LENNY

Yeah, they had beer but only that imported crap.

Lenny looks around.

LENNY

Ain't she beautiful.

Ron puts his arm around Cheryl.

RON

Yes, Linda is good looking but so is my Cheryl.

LENNY

No, I meant the bowling alley.

Linda and Cheryl lovingly shoot daggers at Lenny.

LENNY

Of course our women are knockouts. That's a known fact.

RICHARD

Nice recovery, Lenny.

They all share a CHUCKLE.

LENNY

You know, we need to redecorate this place. Fix it up.

ED

For what? Its just perfect.

LENNY

For a wedding.

ED

Whose wedding?

RICHARD

What a great idea. We can rent the alley as a banquet hall.

LENNY

No! No! I was talking about holding my own wedding right here.

Lenny removes the silk flower from the centerpiece and places it in his teeth. He turns to Linda, drops to one knee and MUMBLES.

LENNY

What do you say, Linda? Let's get hitched.

LINDA

Let me think about it...

Lenny is taken aback.

LINDA

Yes!...Yes!

RICHARD

WELL, well, well. After all these years, someone finally got the upper hand on Lenny.

ED

Looks like Lenny has met someone that can match him strike for strike.

Linda elbows Ron.

LINDA

Hey, that will make me in charge of all the other servers doesn't it, Ron? Unless..

RON

Hey, wait a minute. I can't let that happen to Cheryl? Cheryl, you know I love you. Let's make it official...will you marry me?

CHERYL
(tears of joy)
You know I will.

RICHARD
Well it's about damn time!

ED
Hold it! Hold it! I object. This means we are about to lose our best waitress and barmaid?

LINDA
No it doesn't. It means we can all work together as one big happy family.

RICHARD
It probably means you'll have to make your own breakfast from now on, Ron.

ED
So, when's the big day? So I can mark it in my busy schedule.

RICHARD
He really means give him twenty-four hour notice so he can sober up and shave.

ED
You should talk, Mister prim and proper.

LENNY
Two weeks. No more than two weeks or Ron might get cold feet and change his mind.

Joan arrives drinks.

RICHARD
Before I propose a toast, I would like to make my first management decision. I suggest that Lucky Lenny's Lanes start stocking Champagne for special occasions like this...

ED
And Perrier water as well!

LENNY

Why water, Ed? I never seen you
drink anything but beer.

RICHARD

Now as I was saying, before I was
rudely interrupted, I would like to
propose a toast to friendship, love
and continued blessings to all of
us! And in the future, many little
league bowlers to our two couples.

All Raise their drinks.

INT. BAR - BOWLING ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

Linda and Cheryl sit across from Lenny and Ron.

They engage in split conversations but listen in on each
other.

CHERYL

I always dreamt of a formal wedding
in a big church with ringing bells.

LINDA

My dream is a flowing white gown and
a large reception...

CHERYL

With a big orchestra.

LENNY

I think this place is just perfect
for our weddings.

RON

It's definitely us!

LENNY

And let's not make it too formal
with all those silly frillies.

RON

I agree one-hundred percent.

Linda and Cheryl join Lenny and Ron.

LENNY

Hold it! Hold it! We're starting
out on the wrong foot.

LINDA

He's right! We all need to give and take.

LENNY

You mean you give and we take?

LINDA

You know what I mean, Lenny!

CHERYL

She means compromise.

RON

How is it going to work?

LENNY

It's kinda like a trade. We'll give you Park Place for Pacific Avenue and a thousand dollars.

RON

Are we going to play Monopoly?

LENNY

No, dummy. We're going to work this out in a civil way. Linda and Cheryl will get to pick first.

(to Linda and Cheryl)

So, pick the most important thing you expect at the wedding?

RON

Then it will be our turn?

LENNY

Now you're cooking, Ronnie boy.

INT. DRESSING ROOM AREA - TUXEDO STORE - DAY

Lenny and Ron are trying on tuxedos and have formed a "NO" pile of tuxedos in front of them.

LENNY

It was great that the girls agreed to have the wedding at the bowling alley.

RON

Sure was and it didn't cost us our number one draft pick.

Lenny and Ron look out of character in the variety of outfits as does Ron.

LENNY

That's it. I've had enough.

RON

Me too! What's the plan?

LENNY

Well, the girls chose to go formal. So this will be our first choice. Let's get the hell out of here. We're wearing our bowling shirt and jeans at the wedding.

RON

What a great idea! Let's be as comfortable as possible in an uncomfortable situation. Do you think the girls will let us?

LENNY

They have to. That's our choice. And besides, it's their day to shine. Let them be the beauties.

INT. DRESSING ROOM AREA - WEDDING STORE - AFTERNOON

Plush decor with a HUGE selection.

Linda and Cheryl enter.

CHERYL

Oh my God! We could be here all day if we didn't have to be back at the alley for work in a couple of hours.

LINDA

Relax! We're marrying the bosses.

Cheryl CHUCKLES.

CHERYL

Pretty soon we'll be the bosses!

LINDA

Hey Cheryl, that's pretty good. Don't let Ron hear that before he says I do.

They are greeted by two friendly Sales Ladies.

SALES PERSON #1
Hello. I'm Connie and this is Erika.

LINDA
I'm Linda and my friend is Cheryl.

CHERYL
Nice to meet you Connie and Erika.
Linda and I are here because we're
getting married...Oops! Not to each
other of course.

All CHUCKLE.

SALES PERSON #1
Are you getting married in a church?

CHERYL
Not exactly.

SALES PERSON #1
Well, what hotel is the reception
going to be held?

CHERYL
It isn't.

LINDA
You see our husbands to be, my Lenny
and her Ron, are free spirits and
they want a relaxed atmosphere.
Since they are part owners in the
bowling alley down the street...Its
happening at the bowling alley.

SALES PERSON#2
You mean you're getting married in
Lucky Lenny's Lanes? What a great
idea. My kids bowl there every
Saturday morning.

LINDA
You got it. Now get this picture.
The guys insist on wearing jeans and
their bowling shirts.

CHERYL
And we want something very formal.

SALES PERSON #1
How creative. It sounds exciting.
We can work with it. I'll help you
Linda.

SALES PERSON #2
And I'll work with Cheryl. So, lets
get started.

The Sales Ladies run stacks of dresses back to the dressing
room to their prospective customers.

Linda and Cheryl try on all that is brought.

Linda and Cheryl each stack the dresses as Rejects or
Possibilities.

CHERYL
No. That one looks too stuffy on
you.

LINDA
You got to be kidding. That's
something the Pilgrims would wear.

Girls re enter their dressing room with more choices, then
reappear.

LINDA
How about this one?

CHERYL
It would be fine if you were marrying
Richard...he's a flower child in
disguise. How about mine?

Linda pauses

LINDA
Hmm...it's got possibilities. Put
in the maybe pile.

Sales persons enters with other stacks.

SALES PERSON #1
Linda. Here's some of your other
choices.

SALES PERSON#2
And a couple more for you, Cheryl.

The sales personnel continue to enter and exit with stacks of additional dresses.

Linda and Cheryl continue to go in and out of the dressing rooms with new outfits. Some are placed in the "Possible Pile" while others in with the rejects.

In the dressing room are huge piles of rejects.

The possible piles are much smaller.

LINDA

Phew! I finally narrowed mine down to five.

CHERYL

I'm down to three.

Linda and Cheryl take their small stack of selected dresses into the dressing rooms. They both emerge at the same time.

LINDA

I've got it! This is the one! Cheryl you look stunning.

Looking in the mirror.

CHERYL

You're right. This is it.

The Two Sales People are pleased to hear that a decision has been made and smile.

LINDA

Now the head pieces.

The Sales People's jaws drop for a second then they kick off their shoes.

SALES PERSON #1

I hope you don't mind? Our feet are killing us.

CHERYL

Oh great! You just reminded me. Shoes are next!

LINDA

And let's not forget our outfits after the wedding.

CHERYL

Oh. This could take forever. What time do you close?

Finally, Linda and Cheryl are at the cash register charging their purchases.

The racks in the front of the store are almost empty. Only a couple of dresses are left on hangers.

The STORE MANAGER, comes out to handle the final sale.

The Two Sales People slouch exhausted in the sitting area.

STORE MANAGER

(to his employees)

Girls! Girls! That's not very professional.

Linda looks at the manager's name tag.

LINDA

Give them a break, Harry. They had a workout.

Harry tries to soften the direction of the conversation.

HARRY

So, where is this elegant wedding taking place?

LINDA

At the Bowling Alley.

Harry breaks out LAUGHING.

HARRY

Good one, ladies.

CHERYL

No, Harry. She's not kidding! We're getting married at Lucky Lenny's Lanes.

EXT. WEDDING STORE - EVENING

Linda and Cheryl struggle with the bags.

LINDA

That was fun. We'll have to do it again!

CHERYL

No, Linda. I plan to stay married
to Ron for the rest of my life!

LINDA

I meant shopping. Shopping doesn't
mean only for a wedding, silly.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY - MORNING

SUPER: TWO WEEKS LATER

A group of people are decorating the bowling alley for the
wedding.

Members included are from the jury and other bowling patrons.

Balloons and flowers are placed everywhere.

A D.J. is setting up his equipment near the lounge.

INT. LUCKY LENNY LANES - DAY

Modern and edgy furnishings.

All preparations have been completed.

Everyone is in attendance.

The wedding is being covered by the press.

Angelica Rodriguez is present. She interviews Lenny.

ANGELICA

Here we are again with Lenny James
and his friends at the new and
improved Lucky Lenny's Lanes, the
hottest social spot in town. Tell
us Lenny, what made you choose the
Bowling Alley for your wedding?

LENNY

First of all, I want to know, are
you stalking me, Angelica? You seem
to be everywhere I go. I hope you
don't plan to cover my honeymoon.

ANGELICA

Not likely, Lenny. Remember, we run
a family channel.

LENNY

Very Good, Angelica. Well, Ron and I picked this fine establishment, with the approval of our wives to be, because we all can say we got married in an alley...and besides its free since we own it. Seriously, this place was chosen because we spent so much of our time here...some of the best moments of our lives.

ANGELICA

Well thank you, Lenny. I know you need to get "the ball rolling." Mind if the crew and I hang around for awhile?

LENNY

Listen. You guys are guests. Have a glass of Champagne...you know, now we serve some of the finest Champagne in town.

ED

And Perrier Water too?

RICHARD

You and that water. You'd think you were a fish...well, you drink like one, but not water.

Lenny grabs the D.J.'s microphone. He taps on the end.

POOM, POOM, POOM.

LENNY

(into microphone)

Hey! Is this thing on? Yes? Hello everyone. I want to thank everyone for coming. We only have two house rules today. Number one, have a great time and number two, everyone has to remove their shoes so you don't scratch the wood when you're dancing on the lanes.

ANGELICA

(to her cameramen)

Turn that damn thing off. Let's party!

Cameraman clicks off the camera.

CAMERAMAN

Watch it Angelica. That just went on the air.

ANGELICA

Is the camera off now...Yes?

Cameraman gives an affirmative sign.

ANGELICA

Oh, shit!

Lenny, Ed and Richard join Ron and Elwin Rudy in front of a scoring machine decorated as an alter.

Elwin Rudy wears his signature bow tie. The four Serial Bowlers wear their bowling attire.

White runners cover two adjoining lanes in front of the alter.

ELWIN RUDY

Well, boys...are you ready for the grand finale?...

(at Lenny)

Hey, Lenny, if you think jail was confining, just wait till you tie the knot.

(at Ron)

And you Ron, are you ready to try it again? Ah, heck...don't worry. I've done it four times before and last month I took number five.

RON

And who's the lucky lady?

Judge Davies enters and with an entourage which includes Officer #1 and #2, plus the Bailiff and the Teenage Girl.

RICHARD

Hey, isn't that Judge Davies?

RON

Sure looks like her.

RICHARD

It is her. Here comes the Judge. Here comes the Judge.

JUDGE DAVIES

Good evening, gentlemen.

(to Lenny)

And you, Mister James. You're looking well I see.

Introducing her group starting with the Police Officers.

JUDGE DAVIES

I believe everyone has met but under different circumstances. This is my sister Wendy and her escort Robert whom we affectionately call Mister Donut. And that's my daughter Trudy and her boyfriend Lenny.

The guests move along the line shaking hands with Elwin and the Bowling Buddies.

Richard cringes as the Bailiff approaches. Richard meekly extends his hand.

The Bailiff lifts his knee in a joking manner. Richard falls for the prank moving his leg for protection. Then the Bailiff extends his hand.

RICHARD

Why am I always the brunt of everyone's joke?

LENNY

Because you're easy.

Judge Davies is still standing next to Elwin.

When all finish shaking hands, Judge Davies plants a kiss on Elwin's cheek.

ELWIN RUDY

And boys, stay away from this fine young lady. She's all mine.

Judge Davies holds up her left hand and displays a HUGE diamond.

RON

Gee Elwin, maybe we should write a book about you. Give me the name of your publisher.

ELWIN RUDY

No! You guys got me beat by a mile.
I must say that this is the first
wedding I've performed in a bowling
alley...and a double one at that.
Mister James, you and your friends
are as unique as they come. Now,
just where are your lovely ladies?
I hope they didn't get cold feet.
Come on girls, let's bring this grand
finale to an end. And who is the
best man?

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

Here I am...

Alan Smith wriggles his way through the crowd.

ALAN SMITH

They couldn't decide on the best man
because they're all such good friends.
So, guess what? I got the part!

The two Lawyers shake hands and smile

LAUGHTER.

Wedding music starts.

The double wedding ceremonies commence.

Linda and Cheryl enter the alley from the end of the alley
near the pins.

Side by side, in wedding garb, the girls walk down the white
satin runner.

CLAPS and WHISTLES.

Lenny reaches for Cheryl, Ron for Linda.

LIGHTLY, the couples embrace.

Elwin is dumfounded.

Everyone LAUGHS as Linda and Cheryl go to their correct
partners.

LENNY

Got ya Elwin...didn't we?

ELWIN RUDY
 You sure did. But you never
 know...anything is possible with you
 and your friends.

Everyone takes their places at the alter in front of Elwin Rudy.

Judge Davies walks to Elwin's side.

ALAN SMITH
 (to Elwin)
 Counselor, I think their ready.

ELWIN RUDY
 (to Alan Smith)
 Very well my good man. Let the
 ceremony begin.
 (to the two couples)
 I am going to make this brief and
 binding.
 (to all)
 We are gathered here today to unite
 two couples. Lenny James and Linda
 Simmons do you take each other in
 holy matrimony to be lawfully wedded
 as husband and wife.

LENNY AND LINDA
 We do.

ELWIN RUDY
 And do you Ron Wick and Cheryl Alcott
 likewise do the same?

RON AND CHERYL
 We do!

ELWIN RUDY
 Then by the power invested in me by
 the State of Florida I pronounce you
 as married couples.

JUDGE DAVIES
 Elwin, Elwin, Elwin! You forgot the
 rings.

ELWIN RUDY
 She's always right. Where are the
 ring boys?

Ed and Richard come forward and pull the rings from their bowling shirt pockets.

Ed hands rings to Lenny and Linda.

Richard gives the rings to Ron and Cheryl.

ELWIN RUDY

Now you may exchange rings.

LENNY

Will you hurry up, Elwin? I want to kiss my bride.

ELWIN RUDY

Patience, Lenny. This is my big moment.

(to guests)

And now I pronounce our two couples as husbands and wives. Please welcome Mister and Misses Lenny James and Mister and Misses Ron Wick. Now, you may kiss your brides.

The newly weds kiss.

Richard looks at his watch and counts the seconds.

When the kissing stops.

RICHARD

Hey Ron, you broke Lenny's record!

Both couples face Elwin Rudy and exchange embraces with him and Judge Davies.

Lenny turns to the guests.

LENNY (V.O.)

You know, I'm the luckiest guy in the world. I got my friends back, I got the girl of my dreams and I own part of this here bowling alley...where I get to bowl for free. And best of all, I don't have to pay three dollars for a stinking beer anymore! It sure feels good knowing I'm no longer...Poor Lenny.

Lenny turns forward.

With their backs to the guest, Linda and Cheryl throw their bouquets towards the guests.

INT. BAR - BOWLING ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

The bar is empty.

A GLIMMERING silhouette of Jim appears. He's all dressed in white and with his Captains hat. He also has a drink in hand. He raises it and toasts the newly weds with an approving smile.

FADE OUT:

The End