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ACE VENTURA
PET DETECTIVE

Written by

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EXT. STREET - DAY

A UPS Man with a big pot belly is walking down the street, whistling and carelessly tossing a package in the air. We hear the sound of broken glass in the box. He passes a professional woman.

UPS MAN

Good morning, UPS!

He tosses the box behind his back like a basketball, then acknowledges another passerby.

UPS MAN

UPS, good to see you!

He takes a couple of steps, then flings the package incredibly high into the air, spins completely around and expertly drops to one knee and catches the box. A Hispanic man passes.

UPS MAN

Buenos dias. Uo Pay
eSsay.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

The UPS Man dodges a couple of black kids as though playing basketball. He runs up the front steps of the building. He reaches out to open the front door and inadvertently flings the package behind him and back down the steps.

He goes back, retrieves the package, then enters the building.

INT. LOBBY - DAY

Several people stand in the elevator. The UPS Man just makes it, but the door closes on the package... REPEATEDLY. He feigns embarrassment.

INT. 3RD FLOOR - DAY

ELEVATOR DOORS OPEN. The UPS Man throws the package out onto the floor and starts kicking it down the hall like a soccer player. With one last big kick the parcel lands in front of APARTMENT 3B. He picks it up and knocks on the door.

We hear a small dog barking.

GRUFF MAN (O.S.)

Shut the hell up, you
stupid mutt!

An angry, burly man pokes his nose hairs out the chained door.

GRUFF MAN

What do you want?

UPS MAN

UPS, sir. And how are
you this afternoon?
Alrighty then!

The man grumpily unchains the door. He's a big guy - 6'5", 250, and 50 of that is chest hair. A small Shiatsu stands beside him.

UPS MAN

I have a package for you.

The UPS guy thrusts the package toward the man. We can clearly hear broken glass inside. The man takes the package.

GRUFF MAN

It sounds broken.

UPS MAN

Most likely sir! I bet it was something nice though! Now... I have an insurance form. If you'll just sign here, here, and here, and initial here, and print your name here, we'll get the rest of the forms out to you as soon as we can.

The man begrudgingly begins to fill out the form. The dog wags his tail and whines. We can see that he likes the UPS guy.

UPS MAN

That's a lovely dog you have. Do you mind if I pet him, sir?

GRUFF MAN

(mumbles)

I don't give a rat's ass.

The UPS Man bends down and talks to the dog in a really sucky pet talk.

UPS MAN

Oo ja boo ba da boo
boo do booo!

GRUFF MAN

(under breath)

Brother.

Before the Gruff Man can finish, the UPS Man stands back up and takes the form again.

UPS MAN

That's fine sir. I can fill out the rest. You just have yourself a good day. Take care, now! 'Bye 'bye, then!

THRASH MUSIC STARTS

INT. HALLWAY -- CONT'D

The UPS Man moves swiftly down the hall and into the stair well.

INT. APARTMENT 3B - CONT'D

The Gruff Man shakes the box, tosses it down and sits in front of the TV.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - CONT'D

The UPS Man bursts from the front door and hustles down the street very quickly. He passes several people.

UPS MAN

(quickly)

UPS, S'cuse me. UPS,
comin' through.

INT. APARTMENT 3B - CONT'D

We see the back of the Shiatsu staring at the crack in the front door. He has not moved an inch. The Gruff Man looks over.

GRUFF MAN

Hey, stupid! Get away
from the door!

The dog doesn't budge and this really pisses him off. He gets up and heads for the dog.

GRUFF MAN

What's the matter with
you, I said GIT!!!

He roughly picks the dog up by the scruff of the neck, but as he turns it around we see that it is a stuffed dog. Around it's neck is a business card that reads, "You have been had by Ace Ventura - Pet Detective." He breathes fire.

GRUFF MAN

Son of a bitch!

He smashes the dog to the ground.

EXT. ALLEY - CONT'D

As the UPS Man/Ace rounds the corner, his shirt opens up at his pot belly and the Shiatsu's head sticks out. Ace is gloating.

ACE

(announcer's
voice)

That was a close one,
ladies and gentlemen.
Unfortunately, in
every contest, there
must be... A LOOSER!

He jumps into an old beat-up Chevy Bel Air, and lets the dog out onto the passenger seat.

ACE (CONT'D)

LOOOHOOOSERRRRHERRR!

He then pulls open the car's ashtray, and to the dog's delight, it's filled with puppy chow.

He tries to start the engine but it won't turn over. The dog shoots him a look.

ACE

(to dog)

No problem, it gets
flooded. We'll just
wait a few seconds.

Ace sits back. SMASH!!!

From Ace's POV we see a Baseball bat shatter the front windshield.

ACE

Or, we could try it now.

Ace frantically tries to start the car. His new friend continues around the car beating the living shit out of it.

ACE

Oooh, boy.

ACE'S POV

We see the creep wailing on the car in Ace's side view mirror.

ACE

Warning! Assholes are closer than they appear!

The dog is barking insanely.

ACE

(to dog)

You think you can do better?!

The baseball bat is now pummeling the trunk.

ACE

Wanna give me a push while you're back there?

BOOM! The back window shatters. Then the car's engine roars to life. Ace rejoices.

ACE

FARFEGNUGENNNNNN!!!

Ace leaves the bad guy in a cloud of dust and gravel, screaming bloody murder.

EXT. MIAMI CITY STREETS - DAY

Ace and his new pal speed away freely.

Close on the happy dog, hanging his head out the car window. PAN across the broken windshield to Ace, also hanging his head out the window to see where he's going.

The car drives by a sign on a telephone pole: "Reward" -- with a picture of the Shiatsu in Ace's seat.

THRASH MUSIC ENDS

INT. HOUSE - DAY

A very sexy woman is hugging and kissing the Shiatsu.

WOMAN

My little baby. You missed mommy didn't you? Did daddy hurt you? I won't let him, no I won't. He may have kept the big screen TV, but he's not gonna keep my baby. No he isn't.

(very sexy to
Ace)

Thank you, Mr.
Ventura. How can I
ever repay you?

She slinks over to Ace and puts her arms
around his neck.

ACE

Well, the reward would
be good, and there was
some damage to my -

She cuts Ace off with a devastating kiss.

WOMAN

Would you like me to
take you pants off
instead?

ACE

Ummmm... Sure.

She pulls him toward the bedroom.

WOMAN

It takes a big man to
stand up to my
husband. He's already
put two of my lovers
in the hospital.

ACE

How did he find out?
Does he have you
followed.

WOMAN

No... I tell him

She plants a kiss on Ace's neck and pulls him
down out of frame onto the bed.

EXT. DOLPHIN STADIUM PLAYING FIELD - DAY

The stands are empty, but there's plenty
happening on the field. The Miami Dolphins are
practicing. Dan Marino is in top form, hitting
pass after pass.

Behind one of the goal posts, the team's
mascot, a rare dolphin (SNOWFLAKE), wearing
#4, is practicing his routine. The Trainer is
dressed like a quarterback.

TRAINER Blue! 42! Blue! 42! Hut! Hut!

Snowflake swims over, snatches a small
football out of the Trainer's hand, and does
an end zone dance on his tail. He then returns
the ball to the trainer.

The Trainer now sets the ball on the dolphin's
tail and snowflake "kicks" a perfect field
goal. The Trainer blows a whistle and raises
both arms.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. DOLPHIN STADIUM PLAYING FIELD - NIGHT

The stadium is now completely empty. Snowflake
peacefully swims around his tank.

Suddenly, the water is illuminated by the
headlights of an n.d. panel truck.

The rear door slides open. Two men jump out in wet suits.

They slip into the water while a third waits outside the tank.

Snowflake surfaces to check out the action. One of the men holds out a fish. Snowflake eagerly takes it, then shudders as a large syringe is stuck into his back. Snowflake thrashes around.

Quick cut of a hand with the blur of a ring slamming against the tank. But the needle has done its job. Snowflake quickly goes limp. Snowflake is loaded into the back of the truck. Move in on Snowflake's face. His excited cackle has turned into a painful whimper.

The truck skids away passing the guard gate. The guard is hog tied and gagged, struggling to free himself.

INT. ADELLE'S FRIENDLY PET SHOP - NEXT DAY
Close up on a dead goldfish laying on a newspaper. We pull back to reveal ADELLE ROSENBERG, the seventy year old owner of a cluttered pet shop. She's handing a live goldfish in a bag to JENNIFER, a very sweet nine year old.

ADELLE

Here you go, honey.

Now remember... this kind of fish doesn't like it in the freezer.

JENNY

But what's gonna happen to Dolly?

ADELLE

Don't worry, I'll make sure she gets a proper burial.

Jennifer exits. Adelle calls to her cat, and tosses it the goldfish. The cat catches it in mid-air.

ADELLE

Rest in peace.

Ace enters the pet shop. It looks like he slept in his clothes.

ADELLE

Well... here comes another dead fish.

ACE

Hi, beautiful. What time do you get off?

ADELLE

Uh oh.

ACE

(suggestively)

I've heard some pretty
great things about
your kibble.

ADELLE

Well, I hope I'm not
getting a reputation.

ACE

(switching to
mock anger)

Just get me the food!

She chuckles at Ace as she loads a couple of
bags with different kinds of pet food.

ADELLE

So... ahh, when can I
expect you to pay your
tab?

ACE

I'm a little bit Sli
Pickins, right now,
I'm a little Tight
Squeeze Louise, a
little Welfare Wolly,
Potless Pissing Pete,
I'm ah -

ADELLE

If you were a horse
I'd shoot ya'. Just
take it.

ACE

Gravy! I'm good for
it, Adelle. I'm on a
very big case right
now.

Ace reaches into his coat pocket and pulls out
a flyer with a picture of a white pigeon.

ACE

See this pigeon? It's
a true albino. Some
rich guy lost it. He's
offering a ten
thousand dollar
reward.

ADELLE

Wow, albino pigeons
are very rare. How are
you going to find him?

ACE

Just keep my eyes
open, and hope to god
it doesn't snow.

Ace grabs his bags and heads for the door.

ADELLE

You're a good boy,
Ace. A good boy.

He holds the door open for an elderly
gentleman who is entering at the same time.
The gentleman is walking a toy poodle on a

leash. The poodle is dragging its butt along the entire length of the floor. Ace and Adelle just stare.

ELDERLY MAN

(in a loud
voice)

Do you have anything
for ringworm?

EXT. SURFSIDE APARTMENT COMPLEX - DAY

Ace enters the courtyard of a two story U-shaped apartment complex carrying his groceries. It's a crappy joint but he calls it home. Inside an open apartment on the ground floor, the landlord, MR. SHICKADANCE, sits watching TV, stuffing his face with cheese doodles. Ace sneaks past the door and up the stairs.

EXT. SECOND FLOOR - DAY

Ace is just putting the key in the door when the landlord steps up behind him. Ace is startled by the dreaded 'Shickadance Rasp' (not unlike Linda Blair in THE EXORCIST).

LANDLORD

Venturaaaaa?

Ace straightens up, but doesn't turn around.

ACE

Yes, Satan?

Now Ace turns around in mock surprise.

ACE

Oh, I'm sorry, sir.
You sounded like
someone else.

LANDLORD

Never mind the wise
cracks Venturaaa. You
owe me rent!

ACE

Mr. Shickadance... I
told you, you're my
first priority! As
soon as I find the
white pigeon, you're
paid!!

LANDLORD

I heard animals in
there Ventura! I heard
'em again this
morning, scratchin'
around.

ACE

I never bring my work
home with me, sir.

The landlord notices the bags of kibble.

LANDLORD

Oh, yeah? What's all
this pet food for?

ACE

(beat)

Fiber.

The landlord isn't buying it.

ACE

You wanna take a look
for yourself? Go head.

Ace rattles his keys in the door. Then he
swings it open and turns on the light. The
house is clear. Ace walks in as the landlord
stands there snooping and sniffing the air.

ACE

Well... are you
satisfied?

LANDLORD

(still
suspicious)

Yeah, but don't ever
let me catch you with
an animal in there,
that's all!

ACE

Okay then. Take care
now. 'Bye 'bye.

The landlord walks away as Ace closes the
door.

ACE

(quietly to
himself)

LLOOSER.

He then turns to the room and gives a distinct
whistle.

CHAOS ENSUES! Animals jump out from every
direction. Lizards crawl out of drawers, birds
fly through the air, all of them gravitating
to Ace.

ACE

(to his flock)

Ooshhooboooboooboodoodoo
!

INT. MIAMI DOLPHIN HEADQUARTERS - LATER THAT DAY
The very imposing office of BOBBY RIDDLE,
owner of the Miami Dolphins. Riddle, 70, is a
take charge, doesn't take crap from anyone
type of guy. He is yelling at ROGER PODACTER,
an ex-linebacker in his early sixties, and
MELISSA ROBINSON, Podacter's attractive
assistant.

RIDDLE

I just want to know
one thing; How the
hell do you lose a 500
pound fish?!

Melissa's about to speak but hesitates.

RIDDLE (CONT.)

What?

MELISSA

It's not a fish, sir.
It's a mammal.

An angry Riddle stands up.

RIDDLE

Oh, thank you very
much, Mrs. Jacques
Cousteau!

PODACTER

Bob, she didn't mean
anything by it.

RIDDLE calms down a little, and sits.

RIDDLE

(calmer)

Listen, personally, I
don't give a good god
damn about a fish.

He looks at Melissa. She doesn't dare say
anything.

RIDDLE (CONT.)

All I care about is
winning this Super
Bowl! I want the
players' head in the
right place. Shit,
Roger, you've been in
this game long enough,
you know how
superstitious players
are. Our quarterback's
been putting his socks
on backwards since
high school. And I got
a lineman who hasn't
washed his jock in two
years because he
thinks flies are
lucky! I want that god
damn fish on the field
Super Bowl Sunday!
FIND THE FISH, OR FIND
NEW JOBS!

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS ACTION

An upset Podacter and Melissa walk through the
hallway.

PODACTER

Why did it have to
happen now? I got
three stinking years
left till retirement.

MELISSA

I've got forty.

PODACTER

I'll tell you who did
it. It was those
goddamn animal rights
nuts! Always out there
with their goddamn

signs, ANIMALS WERE
BORN FREE, STOP
TORTURING SNOWFLAKE!
That goddamn fish
lives better than they
do!

They stop outside Melissa's office by her
secretary's desk.

MELISSA

The police are
checking into the
animal rights people.
(to secretary)

Martha, have the
police called back
about the dolphin yet?

MARTHA

No, but I wanted to
tell you, when I lost
my Cuddles, I hired a
pet detective.

PODACTER

A what?

MARTHA

A pet detective.

MELISSA

Thanks Martha, but
we'd better leave this
to professionals.

MARTHA

Well actually, he was
quite good. Pet
detection is a very
involved, highly
scientific process.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOF OF HOUSE - SAME TIME

CLOSE ON ACE - COOING like a pigeon. Widen to
reveal, Ace precariously perched on the roof
of a two story building. He is four feet away
from "The" pigeon. After a beat, he makes a
mad, spastic, yet scientific, lunge for the
bird.

ACE

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHH
HHH!!!!!!!

The bird makes a clean getaway. Unable to stop
his momentum, Ace flies past the edge of the
building and slides down the side of the roof.

EXT. GROUND - CONTINUOUS ACTION

BAM!!! Ace crashes to the ground. As he lies
face down, in a heap of trash, his beeper goes
off.

EXT. DOLPHIN HEADQUARTERS/BOBBY RIDDLE STADIUM - DAY
Parking lot. Ace's clunker drives by some real
nice cars. Employees stare at him.

INT. SECURITY CHECK POINT - DAY

A stern guard is admitting people into the stadium. He scans each one with a security detection wand.

MAN #1

Art Wheeler. Sporting supplies.

The guard scans him. He goes.

MAN #2

Tom Anderson. Concessions.

The guard scans him. He goes.

ACE

Ace Ventura. Pet detective.

The guard stares at Ace, accusingly.

INT. MELISSA'S OFFICE - DAY

Martha enters.

MARTHA

Ah... Mr. Ventura to see you.

MELISSA

Okay, send him in.

Martha exits, Ace enters.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Hi, I'm Melissa Robinson. Did you have any trouble getting in?

ACE

No, the guy with the rubber glove was surprisingly gentle.

MELISSA

(apologetically)

Super Bowl week. Security's tight. Mr. Ventura, I'll get right to the point...

She slips a tape in the VCR and gestures for Ace to sit.

MELISSA

Our mascot was stolen from his tank last night. Are you familiar with Snowflake?

The tape shows Snowflake doing a trick. The trainer, dressed like a quarterback, shouts out signals.

TRAINER (ON TAPE) Blue! 42! Blue! 42! Hut! Hut!

Snowflake swims over, snatches the small football out of the trainer's hand, swims the length of the pool, does an end zone dance on his tail, then returns the ball to the trainer.

MELISSA (O.S.)

We got Snowflake from
the Miami Seaquarium.
He's a rare Bottle
Nose Dolphin. That's
the new trick he was
going to do during the
half-time show.

While Ace studies the tape, he chews sunflower
seeds in a bird-like fashion, placing the
shells in a neat little pile on her desk.

MELISSA

Would you like an
ashtray?

ACE

No, I don't smoke.

He adds more shells to the pile.
Melissa is already wondering if she has made a
mistake.

MELISSA

To be honest, Mr.
Ventura. I'm pretty
skeptical. Before
today, I didn't even
know there was such a
thing as a pet
detective.

ACE

Well, now that you do,
you'll know who to
call if your Schnauser
ever runs away.

MELISSA

How did you know I
have a Schnauser?

Ace pulls a, invisible-to-the-naked-eye dog
hair off here blouse and presents it to her.

ACE

He's young, about five
pounds, black coat,
white speckles...

(sniffs the
hair)

...likes to chase cars.

MELISSA

Very impressive.

ACE

You should see what I
can do with a good
stool sample.

MELISSA

I can hardly wait.
Look, we've got a
problem. Can you help
me or not?

ACE

(coy)

Well, sea faring
creatures aren't
really my expertise...

MELISSA

We'll give you three
thousand dollars on
delivery.

Ace immediately becomes the narrator of a
nature show.

ACE

The dolphin is a
social creature.
Capable of complex
communication.
Traveling in large
groups or schools...

EXT. PLAYING FIELD - A SHORT TIME LATER
The Dolphin players practice. A crowd of
reporters interview Marino.

MARINO

We just choked in 82.
We had a chance to win
it and we didn't.
Nobody's gonna choke
this time, and if they
do, I'll kill 'em.

Ace and Melissa head for Snowflake's tank.

MELISSA

The police were here
this morning.
Apparently, the
kidnappers used the
back gate.

Ace bends down to look at some tire tracks on
the field.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

They said some kind of
a -

ACE

Four wheel drive van...
loaded from the rear.

Ace sniffs the turf. Podacter enters
nervously.

MELISSA

Oh, hi, Roger. How are
you holding up?

PODACTER

Well if it looks like
I'm walking funny it's
because I have a bunch
on reporters up my
ass. They've been
asking me about
Snowflake all day.
Who's this?

MELISSA

Roger Podacter, meet
 Ace Ventura. Ace is
 our pet detective.
 Podacter shakes his hand.

PODACTER
 Nice to meet you.
 Martha Metz
 recommended you very
 highly.

ACE
 Martha Metz? Martha
 Metz. Oh yeah, the
 bitch.

PODACTER
 What?

ACE
 Pekinese. Hyperactive.
 Lost in Highland Park
 area. She was half
 dead when I found her.
 Is that the tank?

They both follow Ace as he makes a B-line.
 EXT. SNOWFLAKE'S TANK - MOMENTS LATER
 The tank is empty.

ACE
 Cops drain it?

MELISSA
 Yes. This morning.
 Ace hops on the ladder.

ACE
 If I'm not back in
 five minutes... call
 Lloyd Bridges.

INT. DOLPHIN TANK - MOMENTS LATER
 While eating sunflower seeds, Ace meticulously
 examines the tank, including the scratches
 where the hand banged up against the wall when
 Snowflake was stolen. All the while, he is
 singing a bastardized version of the theme
 from, "Flipper."

ACE
 ...Wonderful Flipper...
 glorious Flipper...
 magnificent Flipper...
 The flippiest Flipper...

Podacter and Melissa, watching from the rim,
 look at each other like, "What have we gotten
 ourselves into?" Podacter spots something.

PODACTER
 Oh, great.

A hoard of reporters are headed their way.

PODACTER (CONT)
 I'll try to head them
 off.

MELISSA
 (to Ace)
 Get out of the tank.

ACE

(still singing)

...Can't hear you
Flipper, Flipper...
Lookin' for Flipper,
gotta find Flipper...

MELISSA

I said, get out of the
tank! Now!

The reporters draw closer. Podacter heads them
off.

REPORTER

So where's Snowflake?

PODACTER

Ah... Snowflake is just,
ah, not available
right now.

REPORTER

Come on, I'm supposed
to get a shot of his
new trick for the
evening news.

REPORTER #2

What? Is he sick?

Other reporters chime in.

VARIOUS REPORTERS Did something happen to
Snowflake?! What're you hiding..?!

Melissa and Podacter don't know what to say.

Then, a strange voice is heard.

ACE/HEINZ (O.S.)

(unrecognizable
accent)

How cun I be getting
dis vork dun mit all
da shouting? What for
is dis shouting?

REPORTER

Who the hell is that?

MELISSA

That? That's...

ACE/HEINZ

Heinz Kissvelvet. I am
Trainer of Dolphins.
You vant to talk to ze
dolphin, you talk to
me!

REPORTER

What happened to the
regular trainer?

ACE/HEINZ

Vy do you care about
the dolphin? Do you
know him? Does he call
you at home? Do you
have a dorsal fin?

(beat)

To train ze dolphin,
 you must zink like ze
 dolphin. You must be
 getting oonside ze
 dolphin's head! Just
 yesterday I'm asking
 Snowflake... "ee, eee,
 eee." He said, "Eee,
 eee, eee, eee." Und
 you can quote him.

Ace spits at the reporters' feet. Podacter
 jumps in.

PODACTER

Gentlemen, please,
 Coach Shula's press
 conference is just
 about to begin. Why
 don't I take you over
 there and let, ah,
 Heinz, do his job.

He ushers the press away.

MELISSA

(sotto to Ace)

Are you finished,
 Heinz?

ACE

Not yet.

Ace goes to the filter outside the tank, opens
 it, and pours out its contents - mainly
 leaves, small twigs and gunk. He roots through
 it, notices a very tiny amber stone. He smiles
 to himself.

ACE

Now I'm finished.

EXT. METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT - LATER THAT DAY
 A flurry of activity in the detective
 division. As Ace enters, several cops taunt
 him on sight, led by the obnoxious, SERGEANT
 AGUADO.

AGUADO

Hey, Ventura! Make any
 good collars lately?

ANOTHER COP Or were they leashes?
 They all bust up. Aguado spots a bug on the
 ground.

AGUADO

Uh oh.

(steps on the
 bug)

Homicide, Ventura!

The cops are falling all over themselves
 laughing.

AGUADO

How you gonna solve
 this one?!

Ace walks up to them and looks at the squashed
 bug.

ACE

Good question, Aguado...
first I'd establish a
motive. In this case
the killer saw the
size of the bug's
dick, and became
insanely jealous.

The other cops all react with a big "oooooooo".
Aguado has no comeback. Ace comes face to face
with him.

ACE

Then I'd lose thirty
pounds porking his
wife.

Aguado suddenly loses it and swings at Ace.
With a lightening move, Ace sidesteps the
punch and forces Aguado's face down next to
the dead bug.

ACE

Now kiss and make up.
Ace walks off.

ACE

(to himself)

LLLOOOSER!

Ace walks to the desk of EMILIO ECHAVEZ, a
young energetic member of the homicide
division. Ace has a silly impish look on his
face.

ACE

(playfully)

I miss you.

EMILIO

It's not a good time,
Ace. If Einhorn sees
me talking to you I'm
gonna be history.

ACE

Okay. Just tell me
what you got on
Snowflake. That's all
I need.

EMILIO

...I can't say anything.
My hands are tied.

ACE

(effeminate)

SOUNDS LIKE MY KIND OF A
PARTY.

A cop comes to Emilio's desk.

COP

LOOK ALIVE, EINHORN'S ON HER
WAY DOWN.

EMILIO

Ace, please?!

ACE

Just tell me who's
working the case?

EMILIO

Aguado.

ACE

Aguado?! He's pimple
juice! He's the poster
child for lead paint
chip eaters!

EMILIO

Look, Ace. We're a
little busy with
murderers and drug
dealers. A missing
dolphin isn't exactly
a high priority.

The elevator is getting closer.

EMILIO

Ace, gimme a break
will ya?

Ace nonchalantly sits back in a chair, pops a
sunflower seed into his mouth and cracks it
loudly.

EMILIO

(quickly)

Okay, okay. We checked
all the local animal
rights groups,
taxidermists, and
we're running a check
through DMV on all
recent van rentals. So
far, nada.

ACE

Any unusual bets being
made?

EMILIO

Ace, it's the Super
Bowl, of course
there's bets being
made.

ACE

What'd you find out
about the tank?

EMILIO

Nothing weird. Just
the tire tracks and
the exit route. The
guard didn't see
anything.

ACE

That's it?

EMILIO

That's it. I swear.
Now please go away!

ACE

You know something?

(again impish)

YOU'RE NICE!

Ace gets up and exits the room. Then just as Emilio sighs with relief, Ace pops back in.

ACE

What about crazy

Philly fans?

The elevator bell rings. Out steps police LT.

LOIS EINHORN, mid 30s, with a slender build, a great pair of legs and a bad tude.

ACE

Holy Testicle Tuesday!

EINHORN

(to Emilio)

What the hell is he doing here?

ACE

I came to confess. I was the second gunman on the grassy knoll.

EINHORN

Spare me the routine, Ventura. I know you're working the Snowflake case. May I suggest you yield to the experts on this one? We'll find the porpoise.

ACE

(mock relief)

Whewww... now I feel better!

Ace turns to go.

ACE (CONT)

Of course, that might not do any good. You see, nobody's missing a porpoise. It's a dolphin that's been taken. The common Harbor Porpoise has an abrupt snout, pointed teeth, and a triangular thoracic fin, while the Bottlenose Dolphin, or Tursiops Truncatus, has an elongated beak, round, cone-shaped teeth, and a distinctive serrated dorsal appendage.

(beat) But I'm sure you already knew that.

(beat) That's what turns me on about you.

Hey... maybe I'll give
you a call sometime,
lieutenant. Your
number still 911?
Alrighty then!

Ace exits.

CUT TO:

INT. TEA ROOM - NIGHT

A wild thrasher club. An incredible thrash
band is on stage cranking. Kids jump wildly
into the moshing pit.

Ace enters, sees a burnout at the bar whose
head is circling insanely to the music.

ACE

(shouting)

Excuse me?! Is Greg
here?!

The burnout's head thrashes on. No
acknowledgement of Ace.

ACE

Thank you!

Ace heads for the basement stairs.

INT. BASEMENT STAIRS - NIGHT

Ace descends the stairs, stopping at a large
steel door. Ace bangs on it three times. A
voice is heard from inside.

VOICE (O.S.)

Password!

ACE

Tom Vu! I pay for sex!

You can too!

CLICK! The door electronically unlatches and
slides open.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Ace enters. Green Peace "Save the Whales"
posters abound. GREG/WOODSTOCK, a laid back,
ex-hippy with long gray hair, sits at a very
impressive computer set up. Ace and he have
their own distinct banter.

A thud from above. Ace looks up.

ACE'S POV

Part of the ceiling is made of metal grating,
so you can see the bottom of the dance floor.
A guy's face gets smashed into the grate. We
see that it is the burnout from the club.

ACE

(to burnout)

Found him!

WOODSTOCK

Hey! St. Francis!

How's it goin?

ACE

Super, and thank you
for asking. Hope
you're having a nice
day.

WOODSTOCK

Do you?

ACE

Don't I? And what are
you up to?

WOODSTOCK

Just watching the
fishies, man.

There is a BLIP on the computer screen.

WOODSTOCK

Alright, you're just
in time for the party.
You see those blips?

ACE

I certainly do.

ON THE SCREEN

A map with several ships on the ocean.
He quickly taps in some commands and the ships
start sailing in all different directions.

WOODSTOCK

That's a Norwegian
whaling fleet. I'm
sending them new
directional
coordinates... They'll
find Jimmy Hoffa
before they find any
Humpbacks.

ACE

Gravy.

Woodstock moves to a different screen.

WOODSTOCK

Check this out.

More computer graphics come up on the screen.

WOODSTOCK

Just changed the
formula for Purina's
puppy chow.

(turns to Ace)

Too much filler, don't
ya' think?

ACE

(acting turned
on)

I'm very attracted to
you right now.

Woodstock chuckles.

WOODSTOCK

Are you?

ACE

Aren't I? Can you
still tap into all the
aquatic supply store
in the area?

WOODSTOCK

Of course I can. Why?

ACE

I want to trace the
sale of any equipment
for transporting or
housing a dolphin
within the past few
months...

WOODSTOCK

C'mon, Ace. I thought
you might have a
challenge for me...

Woodstock starts hacking away.

ACE

Okay then, try to
remember the sixties.

WOODSTOCK

Wow! God one! Let's
see... Marine winch
sling, feeder fish,
20,000 gallon tank...

He waits. We hear a beep.

WOODSTOCK

That's it. I found the
culprit.

ACE

Who is it?

WOODSTOCK

(dramatically)

...Sea World.

ACE

...bastard.

WOODSTOCK

Hang on, hang on...

(He taps a
couple keys)

Well, what do we have
here? That's a lot of
equipment for a
civilian.

The printer spits out some data. Woodstock
rips off the page and hands it to Ace.

ACE

Ronald Camp? The
billionaire?

WOODSTOCK

Billionaire and rare
fish collector.

ACE

RRREHEHEALLY!

A PICTURE OF CAMP

Comes up on the computer screen.

WOODSTOCK

That, my friend, is
the face of the enemy.

He pages through his file on screen.

WOODSTOCK

...Always tryin' to get
his hands on
endangered species...
Newspaper articles fill the screen. One shows
a picture of Camp and some Dolphin players.

ACE
Hold on, this guy's
connected with the
Dolphins?
Ace leans in.

WOODSTOCK
Camp donated the land
the new stadium's
built on.

(re: article)
Oh, look at this, he's
throwin' another, "I'm
the richest man in the
universe" party.

ACE
(thinking)
Hmmm... I wonder if I
can find myself a
date.

INT. CAMP'S MANSION - NIGHT
It's a magnificent home. There is an extremely
formal party in progress. Twenty to thirty
people having champagne, caviar, and hot air.
We see Dan Marino sitting with an audience
around him.

DAN
We just choked in 82.
We had a chance to win
and we didn't. But
nobody's gonna choke
this time; if they do,
I'll kill 'em!

Everybody laughs.

EXT. CAMP'S MANSION - NIGHT
Ace and Melissa climb an impressive stairway
leading to Camp's mansion.

MELISSA
I'm really going out
on a limb here,
Ventura. Camp's social
events are strictly A-
list.

ACE
(a la Love
Connection)
'Well, Chuck... the date
started off good, but
just before we got to
the party, she seemed
to tense up.'

Melissa rolls her eyes, then taps a huge door
knocker.

MELISSA

I swear, if you do
anything to embarrass
me in front of Camp...

ACE

You mean like this?

Ace starts doing a spastic body convulsion.
Just then a bald-headed butler, who looks a
little like Gavin McCloud, opens the door. Ace
doesn't notice until Melissa hits him with her
purse.

ACE

Owwwwe!!!

He sees the butler.

ACE

Oh, hi Captain
Stubing.

Melissa storms in, already pissed.

INT. CAMP'S MANSION - CONT

Ace and Melissa enter. Camp looks over.

CAMP

Melissa! Glad you
could make it! Oh, and
who is this?

MELISSA

This is my date. He's
a... lawyer.

CAMP

Well, does he have a
name, or should I call
him "Lawyer"?

MELISSA

I'm sorry, it's Ace -
ah, Tom Ace.

Ace is very unimpressed with her lying
ability. He jumps in.

ACE

Tom Ace. Wonderful to
meet you, Mr. Camp,
and congratualtions on
all your success. You
smell terrific.

CAMP

Ah, well, thank you.
Please, come in.

Ace boldly leads the way over to an hors
'oeuvre table. Melissa closely follows.

MELISSA

(sotto)

This is insane.
There's no way that
Camp stole Snowflake.

ACE

(spreading
pate' on a
cracker)

Will you just keep him
occupied, while I work
my magic please.

She crosses the room. He puts the cracker in
his mouth and begins to crunch. A man in a tux
beside Ace spreads pate' on his own cracker.

ACE

(with a
mouthful, to
man)

Smooshy, isn't it?

Off the stuffy man's reaction...

INT. CAMP'S MANSION - SECONDS LATER

Ace approaches Camp.

ACE

Excuse me, Ron, I need
to use the bathroom?

(palms his
stomach,
whispering
loudly)

I think it's the
pate'.

CAMP

Um, it's just over
there.

ACE

Thanks. Stuff probably
looks better on the
way out, huh?

Ace laughs, slaps Camp hard on the back and
heads for the bathroom.

INT. BATHROOM - CONT

Ace wastes no time. He locks the door, turns
on the water faucet, steps onto the toilet
seat, opens and climbs out a window.

EXT. MANSION COURT YARD - CONT

Ace drops to the ground. He follows a pathway,
through a gazebo and into a doorway, all the
time quietly singing the musical score to
'Mission Impossible'.

INT. CAMP'S MANSION - FISH TANKS - CONT

Ace browses through a myriad of dramatically
lit, salt water tanks, still singing. They're
all filled with colorful exotic fish. Very
impressive, but nothing large enough to house
a dolphin. He continues on towards a large
door.

INT. TANK ROOM - SECONDS LATER

A huge above-ground tank is covered with
curtains to discourage onlookers. Ace swings
open the large door and enters.

ACE

Gravy.

Ace climbs a ladder on the side of the tank,
singing more intensely now. The ladder leads
to a narrow catwalk over the center of the

water. Ace grabs a feeder fish from a pail and walks carefully out there.

CLOSE ON ACE. THIS IS IT.

He looks into the dark pool, but sees nothing. Now he stops singing, quietly squats down and dangles the fish over the water.

ACE

(gently)

Snowflake... Here,

Snowflake...

Snoooowflaaaaake...

A GREAT WHITE LUNGES OUT OF THE WATER AND SNAPS ITS JAWS AN INCH FROM ACE'S FACE!!!

NEEDLESS TO SAY, ACE IS A TAD SURPRISED.

He reels back, falling off the catwalk, into the water.

INT. CAMP'S MANSION - SAME TIME

Melissa is admiring some beautiful tropical fish. Camp approaches.

CAMP

Wonderful, aren't they?

MELISSA

(nervously)

Yes. They're incredible.

CAMP

No matter what is going on in my life, I can always watch them swim and be completely at peace.

INT. INDOOR POOL ROOM - SAME TIME

The water is still for a moment. Then, Ace breaks the surface.

ACE

(frantic, to himself)

It's not Snowflake...

It's not Snowflake.

Instantly, Ace's body is thrashed around back and forth through the water, the entire length of the pool.

ACE

(screaming)

IT'S NOT

SNOWFLAAAAAKE!!! IT'S

NOT SNOWFLAAAAA!!!

INT. CAMP'S MANSION - LATER

A line is forming outside the bathroom. Camp and Melissa are seated nearby. He's getting curious.

CAMP

Are you sure he's okay? It's been an awfu;;y long time.

MELISSA

Who, Tom? Oh, I'm sure
he's fine.

Ace suddenly opens the bathroom door and
stands there, completely drenched from head to
toe, with his pants in shreds. Everyone stops.
They all stare at Ace in amazement.

ACE
(loudly to the
entire room)
DO NOT GO IN THERE!
(fanning the
air)

Whewww!!

EXT. CAMP'S MANSION - LATER

Ace and Melissa are exiting. Camp stops in the
doorway.

CAMP
(still
confused)
I'm very sorry, Mr.
Ace. I'll have the
plumbing checked
immediately.

ACE
Be sure that you do.
If I had been drinking
out of that toilet, I
might have been
killed!

Ace shakes Camp's hand and notices his ring.
He holds on to get a better look. It's a very
distinct, commemorative ring.
Camp wants his hand back but Ace won't let go.
Melissa finally drags Ace away.

MELISSA
We'd better go.
Camp looks on and shakes his head.
INT. MELISSA'S CAR - NIGHT
Ace is thinking. Melissa is pissed.

MELISSA
...Y'know, I don't even
want to know why your
pants are missing! I
don't care what
happened! You could
have cost me my job.

ACE
(on his own
wavelength)
I was wrong about
Camp. He's breaking
the law but he's not
our guy.

MELISSA
It's a sure thing!
It's definitely him!

Just get me in there!
 Let me work my magic!
 Ace takes the stone out of his pocket and
 studies it intensely.

ACE
 This is the key. Right
 here!

MELISSA
 Hiring you was the
 biggest mistake I ever
 made!

ACE
 So small! So
 unnoticeable! Yet an
 invaluable piece... of
 our twisted little
 jigsaw puzzle!

Melissa stares at Ace like he's gone crazy.
 There is a flash of headlights and a car horn.
 Melissa swerves back into her own lane. Ace
 drops the stone somewhere on the seat and
 begins to search for it frantically.

ACE
 Damn it!
 (to Melissa)
 Try to keep it on the
 road.

INT. MELISSA'S LIVING ROOM

Melissa enters, followed by Ace.

MELISSA
 So, you found a pebble
 in Snowflake's tank.
 Excuse me while I call
 CNN.

ACE
 I found it in the
 filter. And it's not a
 pebble. It is a rare,
 triangular cut, orange
 amber.

Ace hands Melissa the stone and quickly goes
 to one of her bookcases.

MELISSA
 What are you talking
 about?

ACE
 Tonight I saw the
 exact same stone in
 Camp's ring.

Ace finds a book on the Dolphin team and flips
 through it.

MELISSA
 I thought you said he
 didn't do it.

ACE
 N. Camp's clean. His
 ring wasn't missing a

stone. But whoever was
in that tank had a
ring just like his.

MELISSA

Wait a second. What
ring?

Ace hands her the book. It's open to a photo
of...

ACE

The 1982 Dolphin AFC
Championship ring.

Melissa holds the stone up to the picture.
It's a perfect match.

ACE

I find the ring with
the missing stone, I
find Snowflake.

MELISSA

How are you gonna do
that?

ACE

Simple.

MUSIC UP

CUT TO:

EXT. TRACK - DAY

Ace is wheezing and gasping for air as he
struggles to jog up beside a large man who's
running around the track at a very fast pace.
When he finally catches up, he awkwardly tries
to catch a glimpse of the man's ring and
trips. The man just keeps going.

INT. FOOTLOCKER - DAY

Ace sits waiting with one shoe off. The store
manager, an ex-player for the '82 team, sets
down several shoe boxes. Ace checks out the
ring.

CLOSE ON

A poster of the '82 team. The player we just
saw is being crossed out.

EXT. HOTEL - DAY

Pan a few kids getting autographs from Marino
and other players, ending on Ace dressed up
and looking like a pimply kid. As the players
sign, he checks their rings.

EXT. TRACK - DAY

Ace is again trying to catch the large man on
the track. This time, just as he draws near,
the man leaves him in the dust.

INT. SPORTS BAR - DAY

Two big guys finish arm wrestling. Ace steps
up to challenge. He spends an undue amount of
time preparing his grip, as he checks out the
ring. Ace finally gets set and gives the "go
ahead" nod. He is instantly thrown across the
room.

CLOSE ON

The poster of the '82 team. Another group of players are being crossed out.

EXT. STREET

Ace spots a player driving along side him. He can't see his ring.

Ace deliberately cuts off the player's car and flips him off. The angry player flips Ace off. We see his ring is intact. Ace waves and drives off.

INT. MEN'S ROOM

One huge lineman uses a urinal. Ace, using the urinal next to him, nonchalantly tries to catch a glimpse of the guy's hands. The Lineman has a very angry look on his face, but after a beat it changes to a "come on" smile.

CLOSE ON

The poster of the '82 team. There is only one face that has not been crossed out. Ace circles it.

EXT. TRACK - DAY

Once again we see the large, fast man jogging toward camera. Suddenly Ace runs up behind him, with a desperate look on his face, pouring a bottle of chloroform into a cloth. He leaps onto the man's back, smothering him with the cloth and holding on for dear life. The man slowly gives up the fight and collapses. Ace casually checks the ring, then walks away disappointed.

EXT. MELISSA'S BACKYARD - EARLY EVENING

Ace sits in a lawn chair depressed. Melissa consoles him.

MELISSA

Ace, that stone could
have come from
anywhere. An earring,
a necklace...

ACE

(with murder in
his eyes)
It came from an '82
AFC Championship ring.

MELISSA

Lt. Einhorn thinks it
was an animal rights
group. Have you heard
of FAN?

ACE

Free Animals Now?
Started in 1982 by
Chelsea Gamble,
daughter of the famous
industrialist, Fischer
Gamble? Over half a
million members from
Florida to Finland?

(beat)

No. Who are they?

MELISSA

Did you know that last
year they sent
threatening letters to
127 college teams,
demanding the release
of their mascots? At
last count -

ACE

What do you feed your
dog?

We see Melissa's dog lying near Ace's feet.

MELISSA

Ah... dog food, why?

ACE

He's miserable.

MELISSA

What are you talking
about?

ACE

He's just very
unhappy, I feel sorry
for him. Bad diet,
isolated environment.
It's amazing he's
still alive.

MELISSA

You're just mad
because your stupid
pebble theory didn't
work out and you don't
know how to express
your anger.

ACE

Yeah? And you're ugly.

MELISSA

I'm not even gonna'
talk to you, please
leave.

ACE

What, so you can beat
him? Fatty!

MELISSA

You... are unbelievable.

The phone rings inside the house. Melissa goes
to answer it.

MELISSA

Hiring you was a huge
mistake!

The door slams and Ace is alone with the dog.
After a moment he reaches down to pet it and
we all see that it is one of the happiest dogs
in the world.

ACE

You like her, huh?...
Yeah, she's alright.

Ace, feeling guilty, walks into the house.
 INT. MELISSA'S DEN - CONT
 Ace walks toward Melissa.

ACE

Look, Melissa, I, ah...
 Ace stops when he sees Melissa. She is sitting, holding the phone in her lap with a completely stunned look on her face. Something is very wrong.

EXT. HIGH RISE APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT
 Chaos. Police, lights flashing, paramedics, crowds of people.

Ace and Melissa see Roger Podacter's body taken away in an ambulance.

ACE

You okay?
 Melissa nods bravely. Emilio joins them.

ACE

What'd you find?

EMILIO

Podacter, Roger.
 Routine suicide. He was alone. He'd been drinking. No sign of a struggle. Neighbor heard him scream on the way down. Just your classic fifteen story swan dive.

Melissa shudders. Ace gives Emilio a "way to go" look.

EMILIO

Sorry.

INT. HIGHRISE LOBBY - NIGHT
 The three enter. Emilio pushes the button for the elevator.

MELISSA

It just seems so out of character. He was going to retire in two years.

ACE

Did he leave a note?
 The elevator arrives.

EMILIO

No. That's nothing unusual. Some do, some don't. He didn't.

The elevator doors close.

INT. PODACTER'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER
 Police are everywhere. Emilio, Ace and Melissa enter and are immediately approached by one of the officers.

EMILIO

Miss Robinson, this is officer Carlson.

CARLSON Evening, ma'am. I wonder if you could answer a few questions about the deceased?
 Ace slips away, we follow him as he eavesdrops on conversations.

NEIGHBOR

(to a cop)

I told you, I was
 across the hall in my
 apartment, I heard a
 scream. The door was
 locked, so I called
 the manager...

The Manager reiterates her story to the cop.

The Manager is about 100 years old.

MANAGER

...The place was empty,
 except for the damn
 dog in the other room.
 Then I opened the
 balcony door, looked
 over the railing, and...
 splat, bang, pancake
 time...

Ace, continuing his investigation notices...

PODACTER'S DESK

in perfect order.

Next, he notices police coming in and out of
 the balcony, closing the door behind them,
 shutting out the noise.

INT. PODACTER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A dog is cowering in the corner. Ace tries to
 comfort the little guy.

ACE

Hey, fella, have a bad
 night?

Ace examines its paws.

Ace then gets down and finds scratches in the
 door. TWO FEET interrupt.

Ace stands. He is face to face with Einhorn.

EINHORN

Who let Dr. Doolittle
 in?

Emilio steps in immediately.

EMILIO

Ah, Lieutenant. He
 came with Miss
 Robinson -

EINHORN

This is official
 police business. We'll
 let you know if the
 coroner finds any
 ticks.

Cops snicker.

EMILIO

I just thought since
 Melissa -

ACE

E, forget it. She's right. Besides, I wouldn't want someone tracing my steps and pointing out all the mistakes I made.

Ace crosses to...

EXT. PODACTER'S BALCONY - CONT

Ace examines the area. Einhorn is in hot pursuit.

EINHORN

Oh, so, you don't think this in an obvious suicide, Mr. Pet Detective?

ACE

Well, I wouldn't say that. Lord knows, there is plenty of evidence here to support your theory, except of course that spot of blood on the balcony.

On the railing, sure enough, there is a tiny spot of blood.

Einhorn glares at a couple of nearby cops. They look down.

ACE

May I tell you what I think happened?

Alrighty then!

Ace moves as he talks.

ACE

Roger Podacter went out after work. He had a few drinks, and he came home. But he wasn't alone. Someone was with him in this apartment. There was a struggle, and then Roger Podacter was thrown over that balcony. Roger Podacter didn't commit suicide. He was murdered.

A beat as everyone considers this.

EINHORN

Well, that's a very entertaining story, but real detectives have to worry about that little thing lawyers call evidence.

Ace picks up a lottery ticket on Podacter's desk and becomes a condescending kid show host.

ACE

Let's take a trip to
clue corner, shall we?
Can anyone tell me why
a man buys a lottery
ticket on the day he
is going to commit
suicide? Or why the
family pet, suffering
from acute canine
trauma, clawed at the
bedroom door until his
paws bled? How about
the blood on the
railing? I'll bet if
we put our thinking
caps on we'll see that
it was the result of
the struggle that took
place inside this
apartment while Mr.
Podacter was still
alive!

(singing)

NEXT TIME YOU DON'T
HAVE A CLUE COME ON
BACK TO CLUE CORNER!
BOOP!

Everyone looks to Einhorn.

EINHORN

Not a bad try for a
pet detective, but not
near conclusive enough
for us real
investigators.

(beat)

First, people buy
lottery tickets
everyday. It's a
habit. It doesn't
prove a thing. Second,
the dog wasn't
suffering from canine
trauma, he was
suffering from bladder
trauma. Sergeant
Neilson found a piss
stain as big as Lake
Huron near the bed.
And third, the blood
on the railing.
Simple. He doesn't
jump far enough and
whacks his head. A

fact confirmed by the
paramedics who found
cuts on his scalp,
with traces of a white
chalky substance. i.e.
plaster from the
balcony.

Einhorn shows Ace the paramedics report.
Everyone is impressed with Einhorn.

EINHORN

So much for your
murder, Ventura.

AGUADO

Uh oh, I think I heard
a toilet flush. Maybe
someone lost their
turtle?

Everyone has a laugh. Ace looks beaten.

ACE

Well, maybe I'm just a
little out of my
league, here. Einhorn...

Ace holds out his hand, Einhorn shakes it.

ACE

...good work.

Ace and Melissa head for the door.

ACE

Oh, there is just one
more thing,
Lieutenant.

(re: the
neighbor)

This man is Roger
Podacter's neighbor.
He lives across the
hall. He said he heard
a scream, is that
right, sir?

The neighbor nods. Ace turns to the apartment
manager.

ACE

And you said you had
to open the balcony
door when you keyed
into the room?

MANAGER

That's right.

Ace walks out onto the balcony and turns,
facing them.

ACE

You're certain you had
to open this door?

She nods.

EINHORN

What's the point,
Ventura?

ACE

Only this...

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA...

Ace sustains an incredible Pavorati note, while he repeatedly opens and closes the glass door between them. When the door is closed nothing can be heard.

ACE

(tapping the door)

This is double paned, sound- proofed glass. There's no way this neighbor could have heard Podacter scream on the way down with this door shut. The scream he heard came from inside this apartment, before Podacter was thrown over the railing! And the muderer closed the door before he left!

(celebrates insanely)

Yes! Yesss! I have exorcised the demons!

(a la

Poltergeist)

This house is clear.

INT. ACE'S CAR - A SHORT TIME LATER
Ace drives straight ahead.

MELISSA

What are you thinking?

ACE

I'm thinking this whole thing is connected somehow.

(frustrated)

I'm thinking I want to find that other ring!

MELISSA

You checked all the rings.

ACE

I know, Pessimistress. Could anyone else have gotten a ring that year?

MELISSA

No. Camp was the only honoree. Just players and coaches. Everyone in the photo.

ACE

...Receipts! There must
be receipts! You have
a key to the office.

MELISSA

Ace this has been a
really tough day.
Can't we do this in
the morning?

Ace looks at his watch.

ACE

Absolutely.

EXT. DOLPHIN HEADQUARTERS - 1:00 AM

Ace's car screeches to a stop, in front of the
building. Ace jumps out, followed by Melissa.

INT. DOLPHIN HEADQUARTERS - HALLWAY - NIGHT

It's dark. Team pictures adorn the walls.

MELISSA (O.S.)

These files go back to
seventy- eight.

INT. DOLPHIN OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Ace is flipping through a file cabinet,
looking at receipts. Melissa is starting to
warm to him.

MELISSA

That was pretty
impressive, what you
did back at the
apartment.

ACE

(still looking)

You don't have to tell
me. I was there.

MELISSA

Maybe you should have
joined the police
force... become a real
detective.

ACE

(shaking his
head)

I don't do humans.

Melissa gets a bit closer.

MELISSA

You really love
animals, don't you?

Ace stops searching and looks into her eyes.

ACE

I feel a kinship with
them. I understand
them. Wanna hear
something kinda
spooky?

MELISSA

Sure.

She gets closer still.

ACE

One time, when I was about twelve, I had this dream that I was being followed by a dog with rabies. He had these really bloodshot eyes and foam coming out of his mouth... and just before I got to my front door... he jumped on me and sunk his teeth in. Then I woke up, and felt the back of my neck... check this out.

Ace motions for Melissa to feel the back of his neck, but when she does, he snaps at her hand, barking like a vicious dog.

ACE

ARARAR!!!

Melissa jumps out of her skin.

MELISSA

Ohhh!! You bastard!

ACE

(snickering)

I'm sorry. I couldn't stop myself. Are these all the receipts?

MELISSA

(mildly annoyed)

I don't know.

ACE

There's only a dozen of them here.

Ace turns from the file cabinet with a hopeless look on his face. Melissa begins to clean up his mess.

MELISSA

(pointedly)

Gee... maybe they were misplaced because somebody didn't put the files back when he was...

ACE

Who the hell is that?

MELISSA

What...

Ace crosses to a big picture of the '82 team that hangs on the adjacent wall and points out a player.

ACE

That! Who the hell is that?!

He quickly pulls out his crossed out pictures of the team and begins to compare the two.

MELISSA

Oh, that's Ray Finkle...
the kicker. Don't you
know who Ray Finkle
is?

ACE

No! How come he's not
in this picture?!

Melissa checks Ace's photo.

MELISSA

This was the picture
you were using? This
was taken earlier in
the year. Finkle
wasn't added to the
roster till mid-
season.

She starts to realize what Ace has already
figured out.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

He's the guy that
missed the final field
goal in the Super Bowl
that year. Cost the
Dolphins the game.

ACE

But he got a ring?

MELISSA

Definitely.

INT. STADIUM/PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE - LATER
Ace and Melissa look through Finkle's file on
a microfiche screen. Newspaper articles,
headshots flash before them...

MELISSA

'Replacement Kicker
Having Great Year'...
'Ready For Super Bowl,
Confident Kicker
Boasts'.

ACE

'Field Goal Sails
Wide, Dolphins Lose
Super Bowl'.

MELISSA

The kick heard round
the world. That was
Finkle. The Dolphins
lost by one point.

Another headline hits the screen: FINKLE
CONTRACT NOT RENEWED.

MELISSA

Poor guy.

ACE

Poor guy with a
motive, baby. Where is
he now?

MELISSA

Last I heard, he went
back to his home town,
Collier County. He
used to work in a bar
up there.

ACE
(pondering)
REHEHEALLY.

MELISSA
Can you drop me off
before you go?

ACE
(shaking his
head)
No way. It may not be
safe at your
apartment, and you
shouldn't be left
alone.

MELISSA
What do you suggest?

CUT TO:

INT. ACE'S BEDROOM - LATER

We see a person's butt under a sheet coming up
into frame repeatedly.

SKIN, SWEAT, SHEETS FLY, as Ace and Melissa
roll back and forth on the bed. Ace is taking
no prisoners.

CUT TO:

50 animals at the bottom of the bed, with eyes
as big as silver dollars, watching them
silently. We cut back and forth between
furious lovemaking and shots of staring
animals.

Melissa and Ace simultaneously reach the
pinnacle of pleasure.

MELISSA
(totally amazed
and exhausted)
OH man... oh man! Oh
wow!

ACE
(mock
embarrassment)
I'm sorry... that's
never happened to me
before. I must be
tired.

EXT. HIGHWAY ONE - DAY

Various traveling shots of Ace en route to a
'Deliverance' type town deep in the
Everglades. A sign reads "Gas - Food - 2
Miles" but the word "Food" is crossed out.

INT. BILBO'S GAS STATION - DAY

A pitifully sad country song plays on the
radio. FERN BILBO sits at his cluttered desk

with the end of an old shotgun in his mouth.
 He is struggling to reach the trigger.
 Through the glass behind him, we see Ace's car
 pull up to the only gasoline pump.
 DING! The bell rings. Fern begrudgingly takes
 the gun out of his mouth, sets it down and
 walks out.

EXT. BILBO'S GAS STATION - CONT
 Ace gets out of his car.

ACE

Excuse me, sir. Do you
 know where I can find
 the Pigskin Sports
 Bar?

FERN

Do I have a "kick me"
 sign on my back, son?

ACE

I wouldn't know
 anything about that,
 but if you could point
 me toward the bar.

Fern breaks down, sobbing.

FERN

They all left me... all
 of them!

ACE

Well... Hypothetically
 speaking, say they all
 left you and went to
 the Pigskin Sports
 Bar. How would they
 have gotten there from
 here?

FERN

Two miles down and
 take the first left.

ACE

Thanks very much! Take
 care now, 'bye 'bye
 then!

Ace gets into his car and pulls out.

INT. BILBO'S GAS STATION - CONT

Fern enters, sits down at the desk, places the
 end of the shotgun in his mouth, reaches for
 the trigger and...

DING! Another car pulls up to the pump.

Exasperated, he takes the gun out of his
 mouth.

FERN

(murmurs to
 himself as he
 gets up)

Can't get anything
 done around here...

EXT. PIGSKIN SPORTS BAR - DAY

A weathered dive in the middle of a swamp. Ace parks.

INT PIGSKIN SPORTS BAR - DAY

If depression had a home, this is it. Several dejected men, with various degrees of missing teeth, sit around the bar. A couple hapless guys play pool. One throws darts.

Ace enters, pops a sunflower seed in his mouth and addresses the room.

ACE

Excuse me, guy?! My
name is Ace Ventura,
I'm a pet detective.
I'd like to ask you a
few questions if I
could.

No one even looks at him.

ACE

Just a few questions,
that's all.

Still no one reacts.

ACE

(very up)

Who wants gum?!

Again, no reaction. Ace walks over to the bartender and slides a five across the bar.

ACE

I'm looking for a guy
who used to work here.

The bartender takes the money.

BARTENDER

That right?

ACE

He was a kicker for
the Dolphins. Ray
Finkle.

A pool ball flies by Ace's head shattering a mirror behind the bar. All eyes are on Ace.

ACE

(to guy who
threw it)

That would be a
scratch.

TOOTHLESS GIANT

You a friend of
Finkle's?

ACE

(thinks)

...Yes?

CRASH! The giant guy smashes his bottle.

ACE

Sorry, I have "say the
opposite of what you
mean" disease.

Several undesirables surround Ace.

TOOTHLESS GIANT

That bastard ruined
this town.

ACE

Ewww... I hate that!

HICK #2

We bet everything we
had on that Super Bowl
and that son of a
bitch gagged.

ACE

What a diiick!

They all move closer in a threatening manner.

HICK #3

Shanked a goddamn 26
yarder!!!

ACE

Death to Finkle! Death
to Finkle!

The bartender steps in.

BARTENDER

We had a hell of a
thing going here.
Tourists coming to see
Ray Finkle's home
town. He was standing
right over there when
he got the call from
the Dolphins.

The bartender points to a payphone. It has had
the shit beaten out of it. Every expletive you
can think of is graffitied around it.

ACE

Did he come back after
the Super Bowl?

BARTENDER

Yeah... but the boys
here had ways of
letting him know he
wasn't welcome.

HICK #1

Excuse me, I gotta
take a wicked Finkle.

Laughter.

TOOTHLESS GIANT

What's the difference
between Finkle and a
jackass? A jackass can
kick.

More laughter.

HICK #2

Why did Finkle cross
the road?!

ACE

(facetious)

Wait... I know this one.

HICK #2

He didn't! And I've
got the hair on my
bumper to prove it!
Maniacal laughter and chanting ensues.

MOB

FINKLE SUCKS! FINKLE
SUCKS! FINKLE SUCKS!

ACE

It's good you're
dealing with the
anger.

(beat)

I don't suppose
anyone's seen him
lately?

The chanting stops and the guys all look at
Ace.

BARTENDER

No... but we know where
his parents live!
Don't we boys?!

HICK #1

Yeah! We sure do!

They all laugh insanely again.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Ace pulls up outside a two-story stilt house.
The place has been completely desecrated by
graffiti, bullet holes and paint bombs. Toilet
paper is strewn through the trees. Ace walks
up and knocks on the door. A wooden peephole
slides open revealing a suspicious pair of
eyes.

ACE

...Hi, I'm looking for
Ray Finkle.

A gun slides out into Ace's face.

ACE

(with a gulp)

And a clean pair of
shorts.

A deep gruff voice from inside.

VOICE

What do you know about
Ray Finkle?

ACE

Southpaw soccer style
kicker. Graduated from
Collier High in June,
1976. Stetson
University honors
graduate, class of
1980. Holds two NCAA
division one records.
One for most points in
a season, one for
distance. Former
nickname The Mule. The

first and only pro
athlete ever to come
out of Collier County.
And one helluva model
American.

After a beat the peephole closes. The door
slowly creaks open revealing MR. FINKLE, an
unsmiling, taciturn, elderly man holding the
gun.

MR. FINKLE

Are you another one of
them scumbags from
'Hard Copy'?

ACE

No, sir. I'm just a
very big Finkle fan.
This is my Graceland,
sir.

Mrs. Finkle, a sweet, adorable elderly woman
comes over.

MRS. FINKLE

Will you put that gun
down. The boy's a fan
of our son. So nice to
meet you. I'm Ray's
mother, and this is
Ray's father.

INT. FINKLE HOUSE - DAY

ACE

It's a real honor.

MRS. FINKLE

My Ray is so
appreciative of his
fans. He'll be so
pleased you stopped
by.

ACE

Are you expecting Ray
anytime soon?

MRS. FINKLE

Oh, yes. I expect him
home any minute.

Ace is surprised.

MRS. FINKLE

Would you like some
cookies? I just baked
them.

Mrs. Finkle hurries off to the kitchen. Ace
smiles at Mr. Finkle. The guy's a corpse.

ACE

Wow... Ray Finkle's
house! Can't wait to
meet him!

MR. FINKLE

Ray ain't comin' home.

ACE

But your wife said you
expect him home any
minute.

MR. FINKLE

She expects him home
any minute.

He points to his head, and looks toward the
kitchen.

MR. FINKLE

Engines runnin but
there's no one behind
the wheel. Ten years
ago our son escaped
from Shady Acres
Psychiatric Hospital
in Tampa. They're
still buggin' us to
pick up his stuff.

Mrs. Finkle returns with a plate of football
shaped cookies.

MRS. FINKLE

(sweetly)

It was all that Dan
Marino's fault,
everyone knows that.
If he had held the
ball laces out, like
you're supposed to,
Ray would never have
missed that kick. Dan
Marino should die of
Gonorrhea and rot in
Hell. Would you like a
cookie, son?

Ace takes a cookie. Holding it up.

ACE

Hey, what do ya know.
They're little
footballs.

MRS. FINKLE

Laces OUT!

CRASH!! A large stone smashes through the
window. Outside, a pickup truck filled with
drunken patrons from the Pigskin Sports Bar
drives by yelling their Finkle chant.

MOB

FINKLE SUCKS! FINKLE
SUCKS!...

MRS. FINKLE

I told you he had a
lot of fans.

Mrs. Finkle picks up the rock and hurls it out
the broken window. It hits one of the vandals,
knocking him out cold, as the truck peels
away.

MR. FINKLE

(aside to Ace)

She got the arm. The
boy got the leg.

INT. HALLWAY - A SHORT TIME LATER

Mrs. Finkle and Ace are walking down the
hallway to Ray's room.

MRS. FINKLE

When Ray gets back and
starts kicking again,
he'll never even know
he was gone. I kept
his room just the way
he left it.

She opens the door to Ray's room. Ace steps
in.

INT. RAY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

It's a death shrine to Dan Marino. Complete
with lifesize cutouts of Dan Marino, some with
nooses around the neck, other hacked to
pieces. Painted on the walls: "Death to
Marino!", Marino must die!!!, etc.

ACE

...Oooh boy.

MRS. FINKLE

What a sports nut,
huh?

In the center of the room is a movie
projector.

ACE

May I?

MRS. FINKLE

Oh yes. By all means.

Mrs. Finkle shuts the lights off. Ace turns on
the projector.

The film flickers over the "Marino must
die!!!" graffiti. It's the final play of the
Super Bowl. Marino takes the snap, Finkle
kicks and the ball sails wide. The film
repeats itself ad infinitum.

EXT. BILBO'S GAS STATION - DAY

Ace on the payphone. We see the gas station in
the background.

ACE

Melissa, it's Ace.

INT. MELISSA'S OFFICE - DAY

MELISSA

Ace? Where are you?

INTERCUT ACE/MELISSA

ACE

I'm in Psychoville and
Finkle's the Mayor.
Where's Dan Marino?

MELISSA

Marino? Why?

ACE

Because he's about to
join Snowflake. I

gotta know where he
is.

MELISSA

Okay, hold on...

Melissa checks Marino's itinerary. Ace waits,
impatiently.

ACE

(to himself)

Come on. Come on...

In the background, we see two paramedics exit
the gas station office rolling a dead body on
a gurney. The area of the sheet that covers
the face is a giant red spot. We widen to see
them load good old Mr. Bilbo into an ambulance
and drive away, ringing the station bell one
more time. Ace doesn't notice.

MELISSA

Ah, he had practice.
Then... he has a
commercial shoot out
at the Prescott Sound
Stage.

ACE

Where is that?

MELISSA

It's on Route One by
the Six Cut Off.
Thirty minutes outside
of town.

ACE

Okay, that's about
fifteen miles from me.
Call the police. Get
extra security over
there now.

MELISSA

Ace, tell me what's
going on.

(beat)

Ace?...

The payphone dangles off the hook. Ace is...

EXT. HIGHWAY ONE - DAY

...in his car racing out of the swampland, his
head now back out the window so he can see.
He leaves a faded, old, barely legible sign in
his wake: "

WELCOME TO COLLIER COUNTY. HOME OF RAY FINKLE"

The "F" in "FINKLE" has been replaced with
"ST" in spray paint.

INT. PRESCOTT STUDIOS - DAY

Rehearsal for an Isotoner ad in progress.

MARINO

...So I protect the
hands that protect me.
With Isotoners.

Marino gets carted off by FIVE HUGE LINEMEN.

DIRECTOR

Good. Remember, exit
camera right. That's
to your left. Alright,
let's get ready to
shoot this.

FIRST A.D.

(to the
linemen)

Helmets on this time!

The linemen disperse.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Ace runs a red light causing cars to skid in
every direction.

INT. PRESCOTT STUDIO - DAY

Marino is in the make-up chair.

MARINO

(to make-up
girl)

See, in 82 we just
choked. We had a
chance to win it and
we didn't -

DIRECTOR

Dan, are you ready?

MARINO

Ah, sure.

(to girl)

I'll tell you later.

EXT. STUDIO - DAY

The cops race onto the lot.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

Marino takes center stage.

A.D. Quiet on the set... roll... speed...

DIRECTOR

...And action!

MARINO

Hi, I'm Dan Marino. If
anyone knows the value
of protection, it's
me...

We see an old clip of Marino getting sacked.

EXT. STUDIO - DAY

Cops scramble on foot to the sound stage.

INT. STUDIO - DAY

The commercial is winding up. The linemen
ready themselves.

MARINO

...So I protect the
hands that protect me.
With Isotoners.

The five linemen grab Marino and run off
camera.

DIRECTOR

And cut! That was
good. Again from one.
But two of the linemen keep running with
Marino...

DIRECTOR

I said cut!!
...And they keep running.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)

What the hell are they
doing?
...Right out the studio door. Then the cops
arrive and race after them. Two linemen
stumble out of the dressing room holding their
heads.
EXT. SOUND STAGE - DAY
Ace skids around a corner, looking way up
ahead.
He sees Marino being shoved into a black 81
Ford Bronco. They drive off.
The cops come out of the building on foot. Too
late.
Ace in hot pursuit almost runs the cops down.

ACE

(yelling at
cops)
S'cuse meee! Pet
Detective!

EXT. CITY STREETS - DAY

Ace's head is out the driver's window through
the entire chase. As he starts gaining on the
bad guys, they start shooting. Ace wisely puts
his head inside the car.

ACE'S POV

He can't see shit through his broken
windshield.
He pokes his head out again. They shoot again.
Ace swerves off the road into...

EXT. PARK - DAY

Ace's car smashes through benches and tables.
Then it flips over a few times and lands on
its wheels with a horrid SMASH. Ace is still
strapped into the drivers seat, unconscious.
Ace's prized WHITE PIGEON lands on the car
door right beside him. Ace cracks his eyes and
sees the bird. Then, with a sudden quick lunge
he successfully traps it in his hands, and
forgets all about Marino.

ACE

I did it! I did it! I
caught the white
pigeon! I caught the
white pigeon!

Ace jumps out of his car and starts skipping
around the park with the pigeon held high over
his head. He looks insane.

ACE (CONT'D)

(singing)

I caught the white
pigeon, I caught the
white pigeon, I caught
the white...

Ace slows down and begins to look around warily. There are now an unusual number of birds perched on the telephone wires around the park and on the monkey bars, and on the swings.

The sky grows darker. He slowly turns and tries to get back to the car. All the birds take flight.

Ace sets the white pigeon free and starts to run, but it's too late. The birds are on him. Pecking, and gouging, and ripping his flesh. Now we see ten birds flying away with a leg. Five birds flying away with an arm. Twenty others are trying to take Ace's left arm off, and half his face is missing...

ACE

AAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH
!!!

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Ace is back in his wrecked car with his arm hanging out the window. A small boy is pulling it.

BOY

Hey mister. Hey mister.

Ace come to suddenly, and looks at the boy with a crazed expression.

BOY (CONT'D)

That was a really neat
crash, mister. Do it
again!

Ace sighs with relief.

EXT. MIAMI - DAY

Various headlines hit the news stands: "MARINO KIDNAPPED" "STAR QB MISSING" "DAN WHERE ARE YOU?"

THE GLOBE HEADLINE: "MARINO ABDUCTED BY ALIEN FRANCHISE!" On the cover, Marino stands with several Space Aliens in football gear.

EXT. POLICE STATION - LATER THAT DAY

A chaotic press conference. Zillions of REPORTERS shout all kinds of questions at Einhorn.

REPORTER

Lieutenant, have there
been any ransom
demands?

EINHORN

There's been no
communication with the

kidnappers at this time.

REPORTER #2

What's going to happen to the Super Bowl? Will it be postponed?

EINHORN

As of now, the game is going on as scheduled.

REPORTER #3

Why wasn't the public told about Snowflake's kidnapping?

EINHORN

Secrecy was essential. We didn't want any public interference.

REPORTER

Are the crimes related? And what about Roger Podacter's murder?

EINHORN

I'm sorry. I can't comment any further. Now if you'll excuse me.

Einhorn pushes her way through the crowd of reporters.

INT. POLICE STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Einhorn is barking out orders to other cops as she heads for her office.

EINHORN

Emilio, get me the autopsy on Podacter! Aguado, send out a memo. No one talks to the press...

INT. EINHORN'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS ACTION

EINHORN

...And somebody get me a cup of coffee!

ACE

(TV announcer's voice)

Tonight on "MIAMI VICE", Crockett gets the boss coffee!

Ace is in her office, popping sunflower seeds, kicking back. Einhorn walks to her private bathroom.

EINHORN

Ventura, when I get out of this bathroom, you better be gone.

ACE

Is it number one or
number two?

Einhorn turns and glares at Ace.

ACE

I just want to know
how much time I have.

Einhorn goes to the sink and begins washing
her hands.

ACE

Oh, by the way, I went
ahead and solved that
pesky,
Snowflake/Podacter/Mar
ino thing.

EINHORN (O.S.)

(humoring him)

Oh yeah?

ACE

yeah, ever hear of a
former Dolphin kicker
named Ray Finkle?

The water shuts off. Einhorn appears around
the corner.

EINHORN

Alright, Ventura. Make
it quick.

ACE

I found a rare stone
at the bottom of
Snowflake's tank. It's
from a Dolphin '82 AFC
Championship ring. It
would have been a
Super Bowl ring, but
Ray Finkle missed the
big kick. Blames the
whole thing on Marino.
We're talking
paranoid, delusional
psychosis. I saw the
guy's room... Cozy, if
you're Hannibal
Lector.

EINHORN

So how does Roger
Podacter fit in?

ACE

My guess is Finkle was
snooping around.
Podacter recognized
him. End of story. As
for Snowflake... they
gave him Finkle's
number, and taught him
how to kick a field
goal. Finkle took it
personally.

Einhorn listens with great interest.

EINHORN

So where is Finkle,
now?

ACE

He broke out of a
metal hospital. Did a
Claude Raines. He's
been planning his
revenge for years.
Waiting for the
perfect time to get
back at the Dolphins.
The time when it would
hurt them the most.
Super Bowl time! Man,
I'm tired of being
right!

Einhorn walks in front and sits on the edge of
the desk. She's totally softened her demeanor.

EINHORN

Congratulations.
You've done some fine
detective work, Ace.

ACE

Ahh, could you talk in
my good ear. I thought
I heard you call me
Ace.

Einhorn gets real close.

EINHORN

Maybe I was wrong
about you. Maybe you
are more than just a
pet dick.

SHE SUDDENLY PLANTS A MAJOR, TONSIL CLEANING,
OPEN MOUTHED KISS ON ACE. Objects are knocked
off the desk as they lean back.

ACE

Your gun's digging
into my hip.

More kissing, the Ace stops.

EINHORN

(still coming
on)

What's wrong, Ace?
Want me to read you
your rights?

ACE

Maybe later.

EINHORN

What is it? That bony
little bitch, Melissa
Robinson?

ACE

(defensive)

No. You just don't do anything for me.
He quickly adjusts his crotch, to conceal the erection. Einhorn withdraws with a coy smile.

EINHORN

I'll be here if you ever want a real woman.

There's a sharp KNOCK at the door.

EINHORN

What is it?

Aguado opens the door.

AGUADO

Everything okay in here? Heard some commotion.

EINHORN

Fine, Sergeant.

AGUADO

You want me to throw him out?

EINHORN

Why don't you throw yourself out.

AGUADO

...Yes, ma'am.

A crestfallen Aguado exits. Ace heads for the door.

EINHORN

Ace, I want you to leave everything to us.

ACE

Can't do that, Lieutenant. I was hired to find Snowflake.

EINHORN

When we find Marino, We'll deliver Snowflake.

ACE

When I find Snowflake, I'll deliver Marino.

He exits.

INT. TEA ROOM - NIGHT

A full on thrash metal band is cranking on stage. Kids leap wildly into the moshing pit. The same Burnout is still thrashing his head wildly to the music.

ACE

(shouting)

Nice to see you again!

The Burnout just keeps thrashing. Ace spots Woodstock watching the band and joins him.

WOODSTOCK

St. Francis, how's it
goin'?

ACE

(kidding)

That's none of your
damn business.

WOODSTOCK

Isn't it?

ACE

Is it?

WOODSTOCK

Anything new on that
dolphin?

ACE

Got his picture on
some tuna cans, but
nothing so far.

A singer ROARS on stage. He sounds like a
garbage disposal full of cutlery.

SINGER Arroohhghhhh! Myrrroohghhhh!

Geroooghghh!

WOODSTOCK

So, what can I do for
you today?

ACE

I need info on a
football flunky named
Ray Finkle.

WOODSTOCK

Sorry, Ace, I can't
help you right now. I
gotta watch this band!
They are the shit!

ACE

Are they?

WOODSTOCK

Aren't they?

ACE

Alright then. Don't
worry about it. I mean
dolphins aren't
exactly an endangered
species. It's not like
the whole food chain's
gonna be affected if
one highly intelligent
mammal dies a slow and
painful death! Hell,
if the band is loud
enough, you won't even
hear its pitiful
whimpering!!

Ace does his best suffering dolphin
impression. Woodstock is no longer enjoying
the band.

CUT TO:

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

Woodstock is at his computer. Ace looks over his shoulder. Finkle's Social Security information appears on the screen.

WOODSTOCK

This guy's last
reported income was
September, 1982.

ACE

Well then. We know
he's incredibly
thrifty.

WOODSTOCK

Is he?

ACE

Isn't he?

Woodstock types in more information. Finkle's TRW flashes on the screen.

WOODSTOCK

Well, I think we can
be pretty sure he's
involved in the
kidnapping of the
dolphin.

ACE

Really? What makes you
say that?

WOODSTOCK

There's two-thousand
dollars worth of
smelts on his VISA
card.

After a beat Ace realizes it was a bad joke.

ACE

Please yank me no
further. I beg of you.

WOODSTOCK

Alright already. The
last time this guy
used his credit card
was June, '84. He
rented a car from
Avis. And... eww... he was
a bad boy. They found
it abandoned two
months later in South
Miami.

ACE

Anything else?

WOODSTOCK

Nope.

ACE

Well... you did all you
could. Thanks for
nothin.

WOODSTOCK

Hey man, according to
this, your friend Ray
Finkle doesn't exist.

ACE

Hmm, I know what
that's like.

WOODSTOCK

Do you?

ACE

Don't I?

INT. TEA ROOM - NIGHT

Ace emerges from the basement. The band is
between songs. Ace strolls by the burnout
whose head has now stopped.

ACE

(to burnout)

Did you get all the
spiders outta there?

Ace heads out, then freezes. The two thugs
that took Marino are standing at the exit.
Then they see Ace and start towards him,
reaching inside their coats.
Suddenly the music starts. The burnout's head
wails again. His manic gyrations interfere
with the thugs long enough for Ace to bolt.
One of the thugs pushes the burnout violently
against the wall as they pursue Ace.

BURNOUT

(calling, as he
gets up)

Thanks, man! You're a
great dancer!

Ace pushes his way through the crowd. The
thugs follow.

Ace nears the stage. It's wild. People are
diving off and getting moshed.

Before the thugs grab him, Ace runs up and
throws himself from the stage. The insane
crowd begins to pass him around over their
heads.

The thugs exchange a look, then dive after
Ace, and a "mosh" chase ensues.

Ace is passed back onto the stage as the song
comes to an end. The singer is lying there
exhausted. Ace sees the crowd starting to put
the thugs down, so he quickly grabs the
microphone off the floor.

ACE

(screams)

ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR,
SPANK ME MOMMY!!!

The audience looks at Ace for a second. Then
the band members exchange a look and go for
it!!

It's a nightmarish little ditty. Ace sings
like one of Satan's minions.

ACE

URGHUUURRAAAW!
 ARGHUURRRREEEW!

The crowd seems to understand. They throw the thugs high in the air again and mosh them away from the stage. The Thugs are shooting stray bullets the whole time.

Ace incites the crowd, even more now, with a punching gesture. The crowd follows their new leader, punching with one hand, moshing with the other.

The thugs get the living crap "moshed" out of them.

When the song ends, Ace raises fists in the air. The cheering crowd violently drops the thugs. They're out cold.

EXT. TEA ROOM - NIGHT

Ace's car PEELS OUT and races by the parked '81 Ford Bronco.

EXT. MELISSA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Ace's car skids to a halt. He hops out.

INT. MELISSA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

There's a loud BANGING at the door. Melissa awakens, looks at the clock: 3:32 a.m. She drags herself to the door.

MELISSA

Who is it?

ACE (O.S.)

Ira.

MELISSA

Ira who?

ACE (O.S.)

I refuse to do a
 'knock knock joke'.

Come on, open up!

Melissa opens the door.

MELISSA

Ace, what are you
 doing? It's the middle
 of the night!

ACE

You have to commit me.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAWN

Ace's clunker speeds down the highway.

ACE (V.O.)

Finkle escaped from
 Shady Acres in Tampa.
 They still have some
 of his stuff.

MELISSA (V.O.)

So you think they're
 going to let us just
 waltz in and look
 around?

EXT. SHADY ACRES - ESTABLISHING - DAY

A state hospital located on acres of green, manicured lawns.

INT. SHADY ACRES - DAY

The reception area. A DOCTOR is before
Melissa.

DOCTOR

Mrs. Robinson? I'm
Doctor Handly. Now who
is it that you'd like
to have us look at?

MELISSA

My brother... Eugene.

ANGLE ON ACE - Looking like the football
player who never wore a helmet.

ACE

I'm ready to go in,
Coach. Just give me a
chance. I know there's
a lot riding on it,
but it's all
psychological. Got to
stay in a positive
frame of mind.
Memorize the play
book. Study the films.

Ace strikes a dramatic pose and freezes, with
a crazed look on his face.

ACE (CON'T)

I'm gonna execute a
button-hook pattern!

He begins to make a play in slow motion.

ACE (CON'T)

Super slo-mo!

CUT TO:

EXT. SHADY ACRES HOSPITAL - DAY

Melissa walks with the Doctor. Patients are
sitting around, doing outdoor therapy, etc.

DOCTOR

You're brother won't
be the first
professional football
player we've treated.

MELISSA

Is that right?

DOCTOR

Yes. We're very
sensitive to the
emotional stress
athletes have to
endure.

Ace runs across the b.g. screaming "I'm open!
I'm open!"

DOCTOR

We'll have to do some
preliminary
evaluations, but I
think your brother
will fit in nicely
here.

MELISSA

That's a relief,
Doctor.

Ace takes a "snap" from a three-foot hedge and dives over it into the end zone. Melissa and the doctor stop to watch him.

DOCTOR
He seems to have some difficulty letting go of the game. Has he had a long history of mental illness?

MELISSA
(truthfully)
As long as I've known him.

Ace does a wild touchdown dance with some of the other patients participating.

INT. SHADY GLADE ACRES - HALLWAY - DAY

The doctor is showing Melissa around. Ace is walking alongside them adjusting his imaginary shoulder pads.

DOCTOR
This is our therapy room... Arts and crafts...

They turn a corner. Ace squats to pick the dirt out of his cleats.

DOCTOR (CON'T)
That's the storage room. This hallway leads to another recreational area -

Ace WHISTLES loudly and gestures like a referee...

ACE
HALFTIIIIIME!!

Ace sticks his head in the water fountain then sits down on the bench outside the storage room.

MELISSA
He'll be fine by himself for the next twenty minutes.

DOCTOR
Well, why don't I show you the dormitories, then?

They leave Ace.

After a beat, Ace gets up and does a quick spin pattern into the storage room door.

INT. STORAGE ROOM - CONTINUOUS ACTION

Cartons everywhere. Ace does a quick search and locates several boxes maked FINKLE.

Ace looks through the first couple of boxes and finds only clothes. In the third box, he hits the jackpot: He finds sicko arts and crafts dedicated to Marino. Die-Dan potholders, shredded Isotoner gloves. He opens

a little diary. "Laces Out!" is insanely scrawled on every page. Ace finds a newspaper clipping, the headline reads:

SEARCH CALLED OFF FOR MISSING HIKER

ACE

(reading)

A massive search ended today when rescue workers were unable to find the body of Lois Einhorn...

(stunned)

...a camper reported lost since Friday...

(to himself)

Lois Einhorn... holy shit balls.

Ace sits bewildered.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

The phone rings at Emilio's desk. He answers it.

EMILIO

Echavez.

INT. SHADY ACRES - HALLWAY - DAY

Ace is on the phone. A CRAZY GUY is hovering nearby.

ACE

This is Chicken Little. The sky is falling.

EMILIO

What?

BACK TO EMILIO

A beat as he listens to Ace's news.

EMILIO

I don't get it. What's it mean?

INTERCUT ACE/EMILIO

ACE

It means she's involved in this. The article's dated the day before Finkle disappeared.

EMILIO

Before who disappeared?

ACE

Finkle. Ray Finkle... the guy who took the dolphin? The guy you're supposed to be looking for?! Einhorn didn't tell you, did she?

EMILIO

Hey, Ace. I see where
you're goin' with this
and you're goin'
alone.

A Crazy Guy stands next to Ace now and begins
mimicking everything he says.

ACE
Come on, E. I tell her
about Finkle, she
doesn't tell a soul. I
have an article here
that connects her with
Finkle. You gotta'
check her out.

(to Crazy Guy
mimicking)

Do you mind?

The Crazy Guy stops and moves to one of the
phones.

EMILIO
Ace, I like my job. I
get health insurance
and benefits.

CRAZY GUY
(into receiver)
I'm the Lindberg Baby.
Come and get me.

ACE
Emilio, Einhorn is
involved. You're
gonna' have to make a
decision here.

(beat)
Listen, I gotta get
off the phone. I think
I just solved the
Lindberg case.

Melissa and the Doctor return.

DOCTOR
Well, look who's
trying to use the
phone.

Ace covers the phone receiver and whispers to
them in a heartfelt voice.

ACE
Brian Piccalo is dead.
Ace breaks down. Melissa hangs up the phone
and leads him away.

We hear a thrash version of the theme to
"Brian's Song" as they exit the hospital.

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Emilio stands at a window, watching Einhorn
drive off. The coast is clear so he sneaks
into...

INT. EINHORN'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

He rifles through her file cabinet. He tears
through papers. Then he looks in her desk.

Stuffed in the back of the drawer he finds a personal note: We can make out the signature. Roger. He pockets it and walks out.

EXT. MELISSA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Ace and Melissa pull up in the old heap.

ACE

Good job today. You're quite a dirty rotten filthy liar.

MELISSA

(flattered)

Thanks. Are you sure you don't want to stay here with me?

ACE

Naw, I got some thinking to do. Besides, you'd be safer with Salman Rushdie

MELISSA

Okay.

She gets out of the car, then turns and leans in the window.

MELISSA

Listen... I know there isn't much time left. The game is tomorrow. But I know you've done your best. It's just an impossible situation. I don't expect..

ACE

Hey..

Ace leans over and kisses her.

ACE (CONT'D)

...bet on the Dolphins.

INT. ACE'S APARTMENT - LATE NIGHT

CLOSE UP: ANSWERING MACHINE

Wiggles' nose enters frame and hits the play button.

MESSAGE #1

(Shickadance rasp)

Venturaaaa? Your time is up! You're out! You hear me?! No rent... no roof!

We widen to find Ace on the couch listening.

MESSAGE #2

Ace, it's E. Got something you might find interesting. It's a note from Podacter to Einhorn, thanking her for a wonderful

Saturday night. This
is too weird, man?

ACE

Wiggles, rewind.

Wiggles obediently hits another button and
rewinds the phone tape. Ace pops sunflower
seeds, and holds some evidence aloft thinking.
A bird eats seeds out of his naval.

ACE

What the hell does
Lois Einhorn have to
do with Ray Finkle?
Come on, think!

DISSOLVE TO:

Later. Ace is posed like Rodin's "The
Thinker".

ACE

Finkle and Einhorn. In
it together. How? Why?

A small monkey sits in the same position.
Mocking Ace.

DISSOLVE TO:

Later still. Ace pacing, jumping up and down.
Trying to get his intuitive juices flowing.
The monkey is likewise, jumping on the mantle.

ACE

Alright! Here we go!
Answer's right there!
Just gotta get some
blood to the brain!
Finkle and Einhorn!
Finkle and Einhorn!
Finkle and Einhorn!
Finkle and Einhorn!

The animals all watch him like he's crazy.

DISSOLVE TO:

Daybreak. Ace sits staring at a picture of
Finkle on the coffee table. He's totally spent
and on the verge of tears.

ACE

(whimpering)

Finkle and Einhorn.

Einhorn and Finkle.

He turns to see the monkey crashed out in a
heap on a sofa pillow.

ACE

(to sleeping
monkey)

Quitter.

Wiggles jumps up onto the coffee table now.
Ace can't be bothered with him.

ACE

What do you want? Huh?

Wiggles whines at the tone of Ace's voice.

ACE (CONT'D)

What? I got no food
for you. You gotta

have money to buy
 food. I gotta find the
 dolphin to get the
 money. I don't see any
 dolphins around here,
 do you? Face it, it's
 hopeless... your master
 is a LOSER.

Ace buries his face in his hands. His dog
 Wiggles does the same. Then Ace looks up
 again.

ACE

LOO... HOO...

Suddenly he is silenced by something amazing.
 Wiggles' dark haired floppy ears are lying
 around Finkle's picture like a wig. Ace combs
 the hair over the head shot. The "make-over"
 is unmistakable. It's Einhorn!!

ACE

Oh, my god! That's it!
 He jumps up, estatic.

ACE

Einhorn is Finkle!
 Finkle is Einhorn!...
 Einhorn is a man!!!

Ace's expression quickly turns sour.

ACE

OH MY GOD!!! EINHORN
 IS A MAN!!!

MUSIC UP: AEROSMITH'S DUD LOOKS LIKE A LADY...

Ace makes a mad dash into the bathroom.

INT. ACE'S BATHROOM - MORNING - QUICK CUTS

...Ace furiously brushes his teeth.

...Ace rinses with mouthwash, spits it out and
 gags.

...Ace is in the shower. He slowly curls up into
 a ball under the steaming water with an
 expression of horror on his face.

INT. EINHORN'S HOUSE - DAY

CLOSE UP:

A woman's leg being shaved.

Woman sexily putting on nylons.

Woman hands squeezing perfume bulb.

Woman's hand putting on AFC championship ring.

One stone is missing.

EXT. EINHORN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Ace sticks wads of gum in his mouth while he
 watches Einhorn's house from his car.

ACE

(remembering)

You're gun is sticking
 into my hip.

Yeeeekkkk!

Einhorn comes out her front door and gets into
 her car. Ace shudders once more and then
 follows her.

EXT. MIAMI STREET - DAY

The road is jammed in one direction. Going towards the Super Bowl. Einhorn drives in the opposite direction. Out of town. Ace tails her at a safe distance, with his head out the window, of course.

INT. BOBBY RIDDLE STADIUM - DAY

Various shots of crazy fans, piling into the stadium.

INT. STADIUM OWNER'S BOX - DAY

Melissa, BOBBY RIDDLE, and GUESTS all amidst the usual pre-game hobnobbing. Most of the talk centers on the loss of Marino.

Emilio, in full uniform, and a couple cops are providing extra security for the box.

EXT. HIGHWAY ONE - DAY

Einhorn drives south out of town. The area's getting remote. Ace follows.

Einhorn turns down a deserted road and comes to...

EXT. INDUSTRIAL PLANT - DAY

A large, abandoned industrial facility.

Einhorn parks, disappears inside...

A few beats later, Ace kills the engine and exits singing the score to "Mission Impossible".

INT. INDUSTRIAL PLANT - DAY

Immense machines and swimming pool sized cauldrons.

Ace cautiously makes his way through the desolate site, singing quietly now. He stops when he hears a familiar voice.

JOHN MADDEN (O.S.)

I particularly like
the match-ups of the
defense.

Ace sees a weird sight: A HUGE TV PROJECTION SCREEN tuned to the Super Bowl pre-game show. Marino is tied to a football tackling sled. The two thugs take turns running into Dan with their shoulders, driving him back five feet each time.

JOHN MADDEN (ON TV)

...But the real story of
this game is the
absence of Dan Marino.
Him being kidnapped
and all has got to be
a strain on this Miami
team. I really feel
sorry for those guys!
I mean, it's hard
enough enduring the
pressure of the Super
Bowl, without your
star quarterback
gettin' himself
kidnapped. This is the

whole ball of wax,
folks! You wanna' get
kidnapped, you do it
in the off season!...

Marino looks incredulously at the screen. Next to him, Snowflake "watches" from a ground level cistern serving as an ad hoc tank.

Ace sneaks closer.

INT. BOBBY RIDDLE STADIUM - DAY

The crowd quiets as Jon Bon Jovi prepares to sing the National Anthem.

Various shots of fans all standing at attention.

In the owners box, Melissa looks to Emilio.

Nothing's new.

INT. INDUSTRIAL PLANT - DAY

Einhorn is now in front of the big screen TV SINGING the National Anthem along with Bon Jovi. The thugs, VINNIE and ROC, are behind her standing at attention.

The song ends. The crowd cheers.

In a sultry fashion Einhorn circles Marino now.

EINHORN

I just love Super Bowl
Sunday, don't you,
Dan? A magical
afternoon where dreams
are made... or crushed!

DAN

Look lady, if you want
tickets, you're going
about it in the wrong
way.

EINHORN

Do I look familiar to
you, Dan? Does it seem
as if we've met
someplace before?

DAN

I don't know... I get
hit in the head a lot!

On the TV the ref makes an announcement.

REF It's tails. The Eagles will receive.

Dan really struggles now.

EINHORN

Oops. Looks like we're
going to have to kick,
Dan.

Einhorn steps behind a football set up on a tee. And in perfect sync with the kicker on TV, she boots a ball through a window of the warehouse.

Marino doesn't know what to think.

EINHORN

I made some
refreshments, Dan.

Would you like some
refreshments, Dan?
I'll be right back,
Daaaaan!!

She goes. Dan struggles, but to no avail.

MARINO
Look, I don't know how
much psycho woman is
paying you guys, but I
can double it.

VINNIE
Sorry, Danny boy.
Psycho woman keeps us
out of prison.

Vinnie grabs a feeder fish and entices
Snowflake to the surface. Roc raises a
football.

ROC Hey, Marino, check it out. I'm throwin'
passes to a Dolphin!
He chucks the ball and hits Snowflake, hard.
The thugs both laugh hysterically.
Snowflake makes an angry leap and drenches the
thugs. Snowflake laughs now, the thugs are
furious.

VINNIE
Get some more fish!
INT. BEHIND MACHINERY - CONTINUOUS
Roc walks behind a big piece of machinery,
reaches down for the pail of smelts, but sees
nothing.
ROC Where the hell's the smelts?
He stands up straight and we all hear that
familiar "Pop" of a sunflower seed being
cracked open.
Roc's eyes widen. He turns and sees...
Ace coyly smiles at him, blows the sunflower
seed shells into his face and CLANG! He whacks
Roc in the head with a pail full of fish.

ACE
(doing Brando)
He sleeps with the
fishes.

INT. INDUSTRIAL PLANT - CONTINUOUS

VINNIE
Hey Roc, what the hell
was that?

Vinnie cocks his gun and goes to check out the
sound.

INT. BEHIND MACHINERY - CONTINUOUS
Vinnie rounds the corner and sees nothing. He
walks a little further and notices a trail of
smelts lined up on the ground.
He follows the trail around a corner and we
see Roc, unconscious but moaning. He is
sitting against the ground, with his legs
spread apart and the pail over his head. The
trail of smelts leads to his crotch. There is

one halfway into his zipper, with its tail flipping.
 Vinnie takes in this sight, then rushes over to Roc and stands him up.

VINNIE

Hey man! What happened? What's goin on...?

We see Ace at the top of a giant machine. He is aiming a 200 pound steel hook, that hangs on a chain from the ceiling.

ACE

Guess what, boys, it's nap time.

Ace gently releases the hook. Just as Vinnie and Roc turn to look, the iron hook shears both of their heads clean off.
 Two headless bodies fall to the ground in slow motion with blood gushing from their necks.
 CLOSE ON ACE - HORRIFIED

ACE

Hoooooly Shiiit! Oh my god! I didn't mean to - Oh man!!!

Ace holds his head and dances around, completely freaking out what he had done.

ACE

(looking to God)

Lord, I swear! I just wanted to knock them out!

Ace abruptly stops to think.

ACE

Is that murder? I don't know. They were gonna kill me. But they didn't... But they tried. That's self defense. That's it!! I have nothing to worry about!!

CUT TO:

Ace nervously whistling as he wipes his fingerprints off the hook.

INT. IRONWORKS FACTORY - FACTORY

Ace checks on Snowflake then goes to Marino. He signals for Dan to keep quiet, then starts to untie him.

MARINO

(whispers)

Who are you?

ACE

(whispers)

Ace Ventura. Pet detective. I've been

sent in with a special
play.

(whispers)

Quarterback sneak.

WE HEAR THE CLICK OF A GUN.

EINHORN (O.S.)

Penalty. Too many men
on the field.

Ace turns. Einhorn's holding a gun on them
from the other side of Snowflake's tank.

EINHORN (CON'T)

I warned you, Ventura.

ACE

What happened to
"Ace"?

EINHORN

Good question.

She pulls out a cellular phone and dials.

ACE

Be careful with that
phone, lieutenant. I
wouldn't want you to
get a tumor.

EINHORN

(into phone)

Sergeant Aguado, it's
Lt. Einhorn. Get some
men over to the old
ironworks factory on
Victoria Road. I've
got the kidnapper
trapped in the
warehouse. It's Ace
Ventura. He's killed
Marino and Snowflake.

Einhorn smiles as she puts the phone away.

EINHORN

Vinnie! Roc! Get in
here!

Ace gets a very guilty look.

ACE

What? Who are they?
You mean there's other
people here?

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

A battalion of cop cars screech away as we
hear...

RADIO DISPATCHER

(V.O.)

Attention all units.
Code 11 in progress at
343 Victorville Road.
Officer needs back-up...

INT. BOBBY RIDDLE STADIUM OWNER'S BOX - DAY

The cops and Emilio listen to their ear
pieces...

RADIO DISPATCHER

(V.O.)

...Suspect's name: Ace
Ventura, male
Caucasian, he is armed
and dangerous...

Emilio nudges Melissa.

EMILIO

It's Ace. Let's go.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Emilio high tails it out of there. Dodging
concession stand patrons, bathroom lines, etc...
Melissa runs behind, trying to catch up.

MELISSA

Emilio, is he in
trouble?

EMILIO

Don't worry, there's
nothing Ace can't
handle!

INT. IRONWORKS FACTORY - DAY

Einhorn cocks her gun. Ace's face is
glistening with tears. He's a complete wreck.

ACE

Don't kill meeee!!
Pleeheehheehheehheeezzz!
!! I'll never tell
anyone! I swear!

(indicating

Marino)

He's the one you
want!! Kill him!!

MARINO

(indicating

Ace)

No... kill him!

The two argue. Einhorn fires a shot in the air
to stop them.

EINHORN

No, I'm gonna kill the
dolphin first.

(to Ace)

I wouldn't want you to
miss that.

Einhorn walks to the edge of the tank. She
aims the gun at Snowflake and FIRES!
We see the bullet miss Snowflake under water.
Snowflake swims wildly. She FIRES again!
Misses again. Suddenly, Ace HOLLERS!

ACE

Blue forty-two!!

Einhorn turns to Ace.

EINHORN

SHUT UP!!

ACE

BLUE FORTY-TWO!

Einhorn shoots at Ace! He dives out of the
way.

ACE

HUT! HUT!

Suddenly, Snowflake leaps out of the water and takes the gun out of Einhorn's hand, like the trick we saw earlier. Snowflake swims around the pool with the gun in his mouth.

ACE

(smug)

Yes. The highly trained dolphin. Perhaps the smartest mammal in the animal kingdom. See how he knew exactly what I wanted him to do, as if our minds were somehow in complete synchronization. They have been know to save men at sea you know. They have their own language.

(to Snowflake)

Snowflake. Come here, Snowflake! Bring me the gun!

(makes dolphin sounds)

EEEEEEE! EEEEE!
EEEEEEE!

Just like the trick in his routine, however, Snowflake swims around the tank, passes Ace, then hands the gun back to Einhorn. He finishes with a tail walk.

ACE

(under his breath)

Stupid fish.

ON TV: Miami's kicker boots a perfect field goal from fifty yards.

JOHN MADDEN

He got all of his leg into that one!

The field goal kicker is hugged by his teammates.

ACE

Good to see someone who doesn't buckle under the pressure?

MARINO

Yeah, not like in 82 when we choked...

Einhorn walks to Ace and puts the gun against his head.

EINHORN

What would you know about pressure?

ACE

Well, I've kissed a
man.

JOHN MADDEN (ON TV)

Of course, there's
never been a more
crucial kick than the
famous Kick heard
'round the world...

The famous footage airs on TV. They all turn
to watch.

JOHN MADDEN

...I mean, it's clear to
me that it was a good
hold. Finkle just
booted it.

EINHORN

The laces weren't out.
THE LACES WEREN'T
OUT!!

Einhorn takes a shot at the screen, creating a
hole in Madden's forehead. Ace uses the moment
to smack the gun out of her hand.

A HUGE, NO-HOLDS-BARRED FIGHT ensues. Ace and
Einhorn punch each other about the face and
stomach.

Einhorn throws a punch at Ace. Ace goes down.
Einhorn goes for the loose gun. Ace leaps and
tackles her.

They both crash into old rusty equipment,
raising a mountain of dust. Marino struggles
all the while trying to get free.

Einhorn kicks Ace. He flies into Marino.

MARINO

Having a little
trouble with the lady,
Ace?

ACE

(out of breath)

You don't understand,
she's a -

Einhorn grabs Ace, throws him into a head lock
and begins wailing on his face.

Meanwhile, cops start arriving, SWAT team
members disperse onto the catwalk as the fight
continues. They try but can't get a bead on
Ace as the two roll around on the floor.

More punches. They fight up a flight of
stairs, then back down. To the amazement of
the SWAT team, Ace and Einhorn slug it out as
equals.

AGUADO

(caught up)

Get him, Lois!

Now they crash through a plate glass window
together. Ace gets to his knees first and

wobbles toward the gun. It's the first clear shot the SWAT team has had.

EINHORN

(screaming)

Shoot him! Shoot him!

We all hear the guns cocked. We see Ace in the rifle sights. We see fingers twitch on triggers.

A loud voice comes from off camera.

EMILIO

DON'T SHOOT! HOLD YOUR
FIRE!

Melissa is holding Emilio's gun under his chin.

MELISSA

Put down your guns or
this cop gets it!

The SWAT team hesitates.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

I mean it!!

Much to Emilio's surprise, she cocks the gun.

EMILIO

(whispers to
Melissa)

Ah... Melissa? That's a
hair trigger.

(loud to cops)

She's not joking!

The SWAT team leader signals his men. They lower their guns. Einhorn gets back to her feet.

EINHORN

He kidnapped
Snowflake. He killed
Roger Podacter, and he
was about to kill Dan
Marino and me!

ACE

Ho, ho! Fiction can be
fun! But I find the
reference section much
more enlightening.

(doing his best

Clarence

Darrow)

For instance, if you
were to look up
'professional
football's all time
bonehead plays', you
might read about a
Miami Dolphin kicker
named Ray Finkle, who
missed a twenty-six
yard field goal in the
closing seconds of
Super Bowl Seventeen.

(in one breath)
 What you wouldn't read
 about is how Ray
 Finkle lost his mind,
 and was committed to a
 mental institute, only
 to escape and join the
 police force under the
 assumed identity of a
 missing hker, seducing
 her way to the top, in
 a diabolical plan to
 get even with Dan
 Marino whom he blamed
 for the entire
 thing!!!

Ace gasps for air. Everyone is totally
 confused.

AGUADO
 What the hell are you
 trying to say?

ACE
 She's not Lois
 Einhorn! She's Ray
 Finkle! She's a man!

EINHORN
 He's lying! Shoot him!
 Ace walks over to her.

ACE
 Let's just see who's
 lying. Would a real
 woman have to wear one
 of these?

Ace dramatically pulls at Einhorn's hair,
 thinking it's a wig. Einhorn's head flies
 back. The hair is real. Ace keeps tugging it.
 The SWAT team ready themselves.

ACE (CONT'D)
 Boy, that's really on
 there! But tell me
 this: Would a real
 woman be missing
 these?!

Ace rips open Einhorn's blouse, and reveals
 two beautiful feminine breasts.
 The sharp shooters are tensing. Ace is
 laughing nervously now.

ACE
 Ha, ha, ha! That kind
 of surgery can be done
 over the weekend! But
 I doubt if she could
 find the time during
 her busy schedule to
 get rid of Mr. Knish!!

Ace rips off Einhorn's skirt. Einhorn now stands there fully nude. She appears to be the perfect figure of a woman.

ACE

Oooh boy.

Ace looks at Melissa and Emilio and shrugs his shoulders. Then, just when it seems all is lost, Dan Marino who is back behind Einhorn, motions for Ace to come over.

MARINO

Psst... Ace. Come here.

ACE

(to everyone)

Could you excuse me
just a second.

Ace goes to Dan. Melissa still holds Emilio hostage.

EINHORN

Shoot him. Shoot him,
now!!

MELISSA

(to cops)

Don't anybody make a
move!

Marino whispers something in his ear. Ace looks confident again. He once more addresses the crowd.

ACE

Ladies and gentlemen,
my esteemed colleague
Mr. Marino, has just
brought some new
evidence to my
attention. Now,
history has certainly
shown that even the
most intuitive
criminal minds can be
wrong, from time to
time. But, if I have
been mistaken... if the
lieutenant is indeed a
woman... then my
friends, she is
suffering from the
worst case of
hemorrhoids I have
ever seen!!!

Ace spins Einhorn around now, exposing to the world, the healthy set of male genitalia that Finkle has learned to keep tucked between his legs. (And if we have any balls, we'll actually show it.)

Everyone gasps. CLOSE UP ON EINHORN/FINKLE. He finally drops the facade.

FINKLE

(deepest voice
possible)

It was Marino's fault.
The laces were in.

(breaking down
now)

They were IN!!!

Quick cuts of all the cops spitting with
disgust. Then Emilio spits.

Then CLOSE ON Marino spitting. They all have
kissed her/him/it. Even Snowflake blows his
spout.

Ace confidently cracks a sunflower seed.

ACE

Somebody read it its
rights.

Suddenly, Finkle picks up a shard of broken
glass and lunges at Ace.

FINKLE

DIE ANIMAL BOYYYYYY!!!

Thinking fast Ace sidesteps Finkle and sends
him head first into Snowflake's makeshift
tank. After a few seconds Finkle fights his
way to the surface and thrashes around,
helplessly.

FINKLE

(gasping for
air)

Help I can't swim!!!

Finkle goes under again. We see him under
water sinking down.

Snowflake swims to him now, allowing him to
grab onto his fin and pulls Finkle gently to
the side of the pool. Finkle lies there
exhausted.

Ace reaches down into frame, removing the '82
AFC Championship ring from Finkle's finger. We
see that it's the ring with the missing stone.
Ace replaces it with the stone in his pocket.
It's a perfect fit.

ACE

LLLOOOSER! LLOO HOO

SERR HERR HERR!!!

Melissa is still holding the gun on Emilio.

EMILIO

Melissa... you can give
me back my gun now.

Melissa has forgotten she even had the gun.
She hands it to Emilio and faints in his arms.
Now Aguado appears beside Ace.

AGUADO

I don't know how you
did it, Ventura... but
that was damn good
police work. Alright
guys, let's wrap this
up!

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Twenty or more police cars in single file provide more than ample escort for...
...Ace and Marino in Ace's Chevy Bel-Aire with the cracked windshield. Both of them have their heads sticking out so that they can see. Marino has a wad of gum in his mouth.

HIGH ANGLE

The long line of flashing lights and cop cars drives at top speed up Route One. Ace's Bel-Aire right in the middle.

MARINO (O.S.)

hey Ace?

ACE (O.S.)

Yeah, Dan?

MARINO (O.S.)

Got any more gum?

CUT TO:

INT. STADIUM - DAY

The Super Bowl Halftime Show is in progress. Marino is in uniform warming up. Emilio is drooling at the cheerleaders. Ace and Melissa are standing near the fifty yard line taking in the awesome spectacle.

Some fireworks go off around the tank. A marching band plays a triumphant tune. We see a helicopter come up over the side of the stadium carrying Snowflake.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

Ladies and gentlemen,
the Miami Dolphins are
proud to welcome back
to BOBBY RIDDLE
Stadium, our beloved
mascot and star of the
halftime show...

ANGLE ON

The helicopter lowering Snowflake into his tank.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

Snowflake!!

As the crowd roars, Melissa turns to Ace, and with Snowflake in the background performing spectacular flips, they kiss.

ANOTHER ANGLE

As Melissa and Ace kiss, the prized 'White Pigeon' lands on a Gatorade dispenser in the foreground. Ace spots it and starts to make a move.

Just as he closes in for the grab, the Philadelphia Eagles mascot eagle walks up to get a drink and shoos the pigeon away. Ace is furious.

ACE

You idiot! Do you know
what you've done?!

The giant eagle head looks up at Ace.

MASCOT

Huh?

Ace grabs him.

ACE

You just cost me ten
thousand bucks, Polly!

MASCOT

Yeah Blow me.

ACE

REE HEE HEE

HEELYYY?!!!

PULL BACK to find Eagle's mascot and Ace
arguing. We can't hear what's said, but
there's a lot of finger pointing.

Emilio stops his leering to check out what's
going on.

The ANNOUNCER up in the booth reads a release.

ANNOUNCER

The National Football
League would now like
to offer a special
thank you to the man
who rescued Dan Marino
and our beloved
Snowflake...

On the field the mascot shoves Ace. Ace shoves
back.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

A great humanitarian,
and lover of all
animals... Mr. Ace
Ventura!

Ace is straddling the eagle, pounding the shit
out of giant head.

The image is flashed on the big stadium
screen. We freeze frame on this huge picture
of Ace, as he looks into camera with his fist
raised.

MUSIC UP: THRASH METAL

ROLL CREDITS

THE END

(LOKI NOTE: My copy of this script has the
bloody end of Vinnie and Roc physically
crossed out by three black marker lines,
presumably by the authors. Fortunately, they
were crossed out diagonally, so I could still
type the scene out for all to enjoy.)