

Adorn in the USA

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. WALPOLE HIGH SCHOOL

A wide shot of Walpole High School as the day begins.

INT. MAIN LOBBY

DAN ADORN enters the school. He is wearing elegant, movie star clothing--slick sports jacket, stiff shirt, and shades.

A roped off throng of PAPARAZZI explodes with flash bulbs and screams of "Adorn!".

Adorn gives them a quick wave of acknowledgement before going around the corner where he meets...

INT. MAIN HALLWAY

...his ASSISTANT, a small obsequious boy.

ADORN

What's the itinerary today?

The assistant whips out his notebook and reads:

ASSISTANT

Well, you start off first hour with Mr. St. Martin, second hour with Ms. Rhodes followed by English with Ms. Gould...

ADORN

(cuts him off)

Hey, I'm not talking about my classes. I don't go to classes. I'm talking about lunch. What do we got?

The assistant turns the page and reads.

ASSISTANT

Buff-Chick with tater tots.

ADORN

Oooh. Sounds good, but I could really go for a burrito.

ASSISTANT

I don't believe we serve burritos at Walpole High, sir.

ADORN

(temper flares)

Just make it happen. I want my burrito! Now, if there is nothing else, I have an important pitch meeting in Mr. Alan's room. Hold all my calls.

The assistant nods and walks away.

INT. PITCH ROOM

We see DAN ADORN enter through the door, sitting atop a throne being wheeled in by two BODY GUARDS.

We now pan along a row of nervous kids, PITCHMAN #1, PITCHMAN #2, PITCHMAN #3, and PITCHMAN #4 who all wipe sweat off their faces with handkerchiefs.

At the podium in the front of the room, Dan Adorn speaks into the mic to address the pitchmen.

ADORN

Ahem, I am Daniel Grady Adorn. Actor, philanthropist, Sexiest Man Alive...whatever you know me by, I'm famous. And today, all of you will be telling me your ideas for my final Dan Adorn movie. Critics called the last one "humongous," "laughable," and, if you read the Spanish press, "bueno," which means "masterpiece" in American. But I always wanted the third movie to be the best. So let the games begin.

The four pitchmen clap as Dan Adorn steps off the podium and takes a seat next to MR. ALAN and JOHN GRIFFIN, who sit in chairs behind a desk opposite the pitchmen.

ALAN

Okay, with that, we'll start the pitches. I just wanna warn you three guys that Adorn expects excellence, so he may be very critical of your ideas.

ADORN

I want my next film to make *The Godfather* look like *Howard The Duck*.

ALAN

And it's important that you don't misinterpret Adorn's constructive criticism for a ruthless personal attack.

ADORN

I don't wanna get my lawyers involved, but I will if necessary.

John Griffin points at Pitchman #1, who takes out a notebook.

GRIFFIN

Alright, we'll start with you. What do you got?

Pitchman #1 takes a deep breath.

PITCHMAN #1

Alright, first off I'd just like to say to Adorn that your two films changed my life. I feel one with the universe on a molecular level because of them.

ADORN

Yeah, yeah, you and everyone else who's ever watched my films. Get on with it.

PITCHMAN #1

Alright, my idea is called "Adorn of the Dead." It starts off with you having the best day of your life...

Adorn puts his hand to his chin and imagines the film, his thoughts appearing on screen as a finished movie.

FADE TO:

TITLE SCREEN - "ADORN OF THE DEAD"

EXT. WALPOLE CENTER

Dan Adorn walks along the sidewalk with John Griffin, chewing a candy bar.

ADORN

It's amazing what luck I've had today, Griffin.

GRIFFIN

Yeah, nobody could have predicted you winning the lottery, discovering you're an Indian Prince, and having a #1 hit rap single all in the same day.

Adorn takes a bite out of his candy bar to discover a golden ticket, a la Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. He waves it in Griffin's face.

ADORN

Whoa! An invitation to Billy Bonker's Licorice Sweatshop?! But only five of these exist in the world! What luck!

GRIFFIN

You're definitely having the best day of your young life, Adorn.

Adorn nods, then looks around at the chirping cartoon birds that fly around his head, laughing happily.

ADORN

You're right, John. Nothing could go wrong!

John smiles at Adorn, absentmindedly wandering into an intersection in the process. Adorn looks to his right, and a car horn blares. Adorn dives at Griffin.

ADORN (CONT'D)

Look out!

SMASH CUT TO BLACK

INT. CLASSROOM

John Griffin shakes his head in his seat, looking quite anxious. His FRIEND comes over.

HOPE

What's wrong, John? You don't look as giddy and playful as usual.

GRIFFIN

Oh, it's nothing. Just how I saw Dan Adorn get run over by a car.

HOPE

Oh my God. Is he alright?

GRIFFIN

Yeah, well I'm pretty sure he's dead, 0actually. I saw the whole thing.

HOPE

Wow. You sure you should be in school after that?

GRIFFIN

Look, I'm not gonna let anything ruin my GPA. It is really sad though. I'll miss Adorn.

John's OTHER FRIEND overhears, leaning in to talk.

OTHER FRIEND

Hey, I just saw Adorn like ten minutes ago. He was trying to bite me. Had to punch him down a flight of stairs.

GRIFFIN

I don't wanna hear your sick stories, man. Leave the dead alone.

OTHER FRIEND

No, really. He's down the hall a ways. He's a bit green though, and he told a bunch of people he was gonna eat their brains. But yeah, he's not dead.

John Griffin gets out of his seat and walks out, concerned.

INT. HALLWAY

John Griffin turns a corner to find Adorn, lying on the ground. He has turned significantly green in the face, and looks like a zombie.

 GRIFFIN

Hey Adorn! Boy am I glad to see you! I could have sworn I saw you get killed back there. You don't look too good.

 ADORN

Brains.

 GRIFFIN

Now I feel we should have a heart to heart conversation now, seeing as you saved my life.

 ADORN

Must eat brains.

 GRIFFIN

Oh, but you have your senior meeting with guidance today. Here, I'll walk with you.

Griffin helps Adorn up, and they walk off down the hall.

INT. GUIDANCE OFFICE

MR. O'TOOLE stares speechless at the twitching, undead Adorn who sits in his office chair.

 O'TOOLE

So Adorn, do you have any future goals? Interests?

 ADORN

Brains.

 O'TOOLE

Brains, huh. Brain surgeon's a good profession. What do you like about brains?

 ADORN

Taste, smell, consuming brains.

 O'TOOLE

I see. And what schools were you looking into for that?

 ADORN

Rrrrfff, brains!

 O'TOOLE

Well, MIT has a brainy attendance. Big brains, too. The smarter the person, the bigger the brain.

Adorn thinks for a moment, and the camera pushes in on him for a revelation.

INT. GRIFFIN'S ROOM

Adorn kicks open the door, and extends his arms in a zombie-like fashion.

ADORN
Must eat John Griffin's brain!

Griffin looks up from the book he is reading and screams.

GRIFFIN
No!

FADE TO:

INT. PITCH ROOM

Dan Adorn interrupts, holding up both hands. Pitchman #1 waits breathlessly.

ADORN
Whoa whoa whoa! I'm not eating John Griffin's brain. I've never once followed through on a threat to eat someone.

PITCHMAN #1
So you like the idea?

ALAN
I think this might be the one, Adorn.

ADORN
Have you ever heard of a Best Actor award going to a guy whose only line is "Brains?" No. This zombie needs to be real. He has to have heart. Family values. Perhaps he has a soup kitchen for the homeless. Takes in a wounded dog from an animal shelter, then teaches him how to read or something. In fact, let's get rid of the whole zombie idea. I don't like it.

PITCHMAN #1
So what should I do?

ADORN
Go write a movie for Ross Bubby for all I care. Just get the hell out of here.

Pitchman #1 crumples up his notebook and leaves the room.

ALAN

I guess we'll move on to the second idea then.

Pitchman #2 gulps, facing Adorn.

ADORN
This better be good.

PITCHMAN #2
Okay, picture this. Dan Adorn is on a romantic picnic with his girlfriend when his life is changed forever...

Dan Adorn puts his hand to his chin, picturing the movie yet again.

FADE TO:

TITLE SCREEN - "SUPER-ADORN"

EXT. FIELD

The camera comes into ADORN with his girlfriend HOPE having a picnic on a big green-grassed field. While the camera is coming in, we see a ladybug buzzing across the screen. The two are romantically smiling and looking at one another.

HOPE
I can't believe you did all this for me Dan, thats so sweet.

ADORN (CHUCKLING)
Oh it was nothing really, here, have some beef stew.

Adorn takes out an entire pot of beef stew out from behind him. He takes a random bowl and pours HOPE some stew. She awaits excitedly.

HOPE (SMILING)
Mmm smells great, thanks honey.

ADORN
Anything for you darling...

Hope puts her bowl of stew aside and lays down on the blanket. Adorn lays down next her, about two feet apart, both looking up at the sky, which is blue and full of puffy white clouds.

HOPE
Don't you think the sky is beautiful?

ADORN
Not as beautiful as you...

Hope looks over to Adorn and giggles. She turns back to look at the sky and we see Hope grab Adorn's hand to hold hands. Holding hands, HOPE takes her other hand to point up at the sky.

HOPE
Look at that cloud, it kinda looks like you?

We see a puffy white cloud in the perfect shape of Adorn, clearly just ADORN'S face in a fake cloud.

ADORN
Really? I don't see it?

As we hear Hope and Adorn discuss the cloud in the background, we see a ladybug crawl onto Adorn's hand. Right before it bites, we see a super close-up of the bug and it's BAKALE, he makes a weird noise and then bites Adorn's hand. Adorn yells and jumps up.

HOPE
Dan are you okay?

ADORN
Yea, yea I'm fine, I'm totally fine.

We see Adorn get very dizzy, maybe a little green, and faints. He is laying down face up. Hope is right above him shaking him trying to wake him up. After a few seconds, Hope's voice turns into GRIFFIN'S voice, they are now in the Nurse's Office.

GRIFFIN
Adorn! Adorn! Wake up Adorn!

Adorn wakes up very confused and looking around the room.

ADORN
What happened?

GRIFFIN
Well, apparently you were on a picnic with Hope and then you just fainted.

ADORN
Ughhh... I'm not feeling to good.

Adorn puts his hands on his face to rub his eyes and GRIFFIN notices the very swollen and red hand of ADORN.

GRIFFIN
Woh! Adorn what happened to your hand!

ADORN
Oh I was just bit by a ladybug...wait, that's it!

GRIFFIN
Wait what?

ADORN
I was bit by a ladybug, therefore, I
must be turning into one!

GRIFFIN
Really? Does the fact that ladybug
teeth can't penetrate human skin change
your mind?

ADORN
No, because this wasn't just any lady-
bug Griffin. It was a Mexican Longhorn
Ladybug from Columbia. They have bigger
teeth.

FLASH BACK:

We see a close up of the ladybug, it is the same shot of Bakale
except he is now wearing a mexican mustache, sombrero, and has
big teeth.

BACK TO SCENE:

Adorn inspects his wound closer, and Griffin shakes his head.

ADORN (CONT'D)
The ladybug must have transferred its
venom into my bloodstream. That's why
my hand is throbbing red.

GRIFFIN
Or maybe its a rash. Ladybugs aren't
venomous.

ADORN
Quiet, Griffin! If I remember cor-
rectly, this ladybug was radioactive
too.

FLASH BACK:

We see another close up, same as before, on BAKALE, now pulsat-
ing in a neon green light.

BACK TO SCENE:

Griffin continues to shake his head, and Adorn is in the middle
of a revelation.

GRIFFIN
I give up, Adorn. Believe what you
will.

Adorn starts to cough.

ADORN

What's this? A chill has overcome me.
The metamorphosis has begun!

Adorn runs from the room in a panic. Griffin sits down in his chair, defeated.

INT. BATHROOM

An INNOCENT CHILD walks into the bathroom, unsuspecting of what is to come. He turns the corner into a stall, and drops his backpack out of pure shock. The camera spins around and we see what he sees.

It is Adorn, in a full body cocoon in the bathroom stall. His head is peeking out. After a few seconds, he starts to break out of it. He is wearing red tights with black polka dots on them, roller skates, a black helmet, and red face paint. His voice is also deeper and more heroic.

ADORN

I am Ladybug Man! What brings you to my lair, citizen?

INNOCENT CHILD

Whelp, this image is burned into my eyes forever.

ADORN

No need to fear young one! Ladybug Man is here!

Adorn runs out of the bathroom, waving his arms if he is flying while the INNOCENT CHILD is still frozen in shock.

MONTAGE: SCHOOL

-Adorn trying to fly in the hallway.

-Adorn walking behind and then resting his head on random people walking to class.

-Adorn buzzing down the halls.

-Adorn nibbling on a fern at lunch.

-Hope looks over oddly at Adorn (while at lunch), who doesn't see her.

-Adorn playing/talking with a ladybug beanie baby.

-Adorn playing/crawling/hiding in mulch of Hahn's Garden. HAHN sees him, becomes angry, grabs him, and takes him inside. Hope sees this all go down and then looks straight ahead epically.

END OF MONTAGE.

INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM

Hope walks in and sits at her desk. She pulls out her laptop and starts to type frantically. On the laptop, she is on Google, Bing, Wikipedia, and more. She trying to find out what Adorn is by typing what Adorn looks like and what she saw him do. This scene will have flashbacks when necessary. Meaning, when "plant eater" is highlighted on the screen, there will be a flashback of ADORN eating the fern. This scene is exactly like the Twilight scene.

EXT. SCHOOL

Again, this scene will be exactly like Twilight. HOPE is outside Walpole High after school. She spots ADORN who also spots her. She gives him a look and then walks past him into the Town Forest, ADORN follows her into the woods.

INT. TOWN FOREST

Again, this scene is exactly like the forest scene from Twilight. Hope enters the forest about 15-20 feet in front of Adorn. Once they are both in the forest, Hope begins to speak, she stops walking and Adorn walks up to her from behind.

HOPE

(nervously)

You're all red with black dots. You have wings on your back and antennas on your head. You eat plants. You like hiding in mulch...I know what you are.

Adorn is now standing directly behind Hope. Both looking straight ahead. This will be done shot by shot just like Twilight, especially all the cool funky shots.

ADORN

Say it...out loud.

Hope hesitates.

ADORN

Say it.

HOPE (NERVOUS JUST LIKE BELLA)

Your a ladybug...

ADORN

Are you afraid?...And or creeped out?

Hope turns around and looks directly into ADORN'S eyes and grabs both of his hands with hers.

HOPE

No...

After a couple seconds of Adorn and Hope looking into each others eyes they move in for a kiss. They move in until they are

about one foot away when the screen cuts to black and we hear Adorn's voice from the pitch room, leaving the entire audience on the edge of their seats.

INT. PITCH ROOM

We are back in the pitch room as ADORN shakes his head and waves his arms in outrage.

ADORN
Woh! Woh! No girl says no to Daniel
Grady Adorn!

PITCHMAN #2
But that's the whole point, by saying
no, she's actually saying yes.

ADORN
Wait what? I don't speak Margarine Chi-
nese.

PITCHMAN #2
Margarine?

ADORN
People don't go to my movies to see me
dress up in tights and say a bunch of
ridiculous things. They go for a psy-
chological re-evaluation of their
lives. This is deep stuff we're talking
about.

ALAN
I guess that means he doesn't like it.

GRIFFIN
Next!

Pitchman #2 collects his things and exits the room angrily. We are left with Pitchman #3 and Pitchman #4.

Pitchman #3 clears his throat.

ADORN
This better not be boring.

PITCHMAN #3
(deep breath)
Okay, let me ask you, what is the one
thing that students are not allowed to
do that they should be allowed to do?

MR. ALAN
Drink coffee!

ADORN
Eat burritos in the hallway!

PITCHMAN #3
 (confused pause)
 Well, both good ideas. But I was
 thinking...play poker!

Dan Adorn puts his hand to his chin, picturing the movie yet again.

FADE IN:

EXT. PLIMPTON DOOR — AFTERNOON — POV FROM CONNOR

We see the door is covered with posters denoting a "secret" card game between the reigning champion, Dan ADORN, and the new player, FINKLE the Kid.

INT. PLIMPTON HALLWAY — POV FROM CONNOR

(overlay a heartbeat and/or heavy breathing sound effect over this shot to illustrate the fact that it is first person). We see a crowd has gathered, there are Christmas lights as the lone source of light in the dark hallway.

There are shady looking people sitting at a ticket counter. In first person, MR. CONNOR pushes through the crowd into a dark room (downstairs at Plimpton) where there is a lone light on a poker table in the middle. The view shows Finkle the Kid sit down across from another person who is in darkness.

The other character leans forward into the light and we see that it is Adorn. He smiles, the frame freezes and a title overlays the shot: (Dan Adorn — all-star poker player [this title should be similar to ones used in "In the Red" and "Staples over Wal-pole".]) After the frame unfreezes, ADORN looks right at Finkle.

ADORN
 Are you ready to lose, boy?

The camera cuts to a different shot for the first time, an over the shoulder of Adorn looking directly at Finkle.

FINKLE THE KID
 What makes you so confident I'm going
 to lose?

The camera pans to ADORN, who chuckles, and winks at a girl (or C.J Tempesta) in the crowd who faints.

ADORN
 ADORN always wins, baby.

They proceed to play the game in the form of a montage.

MONTAGE:

-- Several shots of Adorn doing ridiculous maneuvers with cards but always seeming to win every hand that is shown.

-- Adorn looks over to Hope and winks.

-- Hope winks back...Hope is really good at winking.

-- Adorn looks at his cards, and on one of the cards says "call me" and a phone number. Adorn looks up to Hope making the call me gesture, he blows a manly kiss to her. Hope almost faints and crosses her hands over her heart.

-- The other player is seen biting his nails or other nervous actions multiple times

-- Adorn is shown smiling his confident smile

The montage ends with Adorn clearly victorious. The other player runs off crying as the crowd rushes to congratulate Adorn. As the crowd enters the center of the room, they leave Mr. Connor standing alone. He shakes his head and walks away unnoticed. Adorn is standing around a few people including maybe Griffin, when HOPE, the dealer, comes up from behind him.

INT. MR. CONNOR'S OFFICE

We see Mr. Connor sitting at his desk in his office. We see MR. IMBUSCH walk through the door. He stands over Mr. Connor as he says his next line.

IMBUSCH

(Angrily, in a strong Brogue)

ED! Have ya' heard abou' this kid ADORN?? He's terrorizin' our school with his amazin' poker skills!

CONNOR

(Tentatively)

Yes... Yes I have. Something has to be done about this...

IMBUSCH

You're tellin' me boyo! Get back to me when ya' have a plan!

CONNOR

(Sneering)

Oh, don't worry about that Steve; I'll have a plan...

Mr. Connor puts on a devilish grin as the scene fades to black.

INT. LUNCH ROOM WALL - SIGN

We see a sign on the wall that reads "Detention in progress."

INT. LUNCH ROOM - HOURS ARE BEING SERVED

Adorn is sitting across from an innocent looking freshman. The freshman looks bored as Adorn tells the story of why he's there.

ADORN
You want to know why I'm here kid?

KID
Uh, sure, I guess...

ADORN
I did something bad... REAL bad...

FLASHBACK:

INT. CHEMISTRY CLASS

We see that class is in session but no one is doing anything. The TEACHER is sitting at his/her computer and the class is sitting at their desks looking around at random parts of the room.

We see Adorn in the back of the room stretching. He accidentally knocks his pencil to the floor; the teacher looks up from his/her desk.

TEACHER
(In an apathetic tone)
Hours.

END FLASHBACK:

The freshman looks unimpressed. Just as it appears the freshman is going to react to this story, another boy dressed in slick clothing walks over. This is PETE.

PETE
(Monotone)
The people I work for hear that you're pretty good at playing the tables.

ADORN
What the heck are you talking about??

PETE
Cards ADORN, cards. We hear you're good at poker. We want to invite you to a big tournament that's happening this weekend.

ADORN
Oh!! Give me one second please.

Adorn turns to talk to the freshman.

ADORN
So to finish my story-

The camera turns, and we see that the freshman has disappeared.

PETE

Don't let inferior beings such as he distract you ADORN. This could be the most important event in your life.

ADORN

Alright, you have my undivided attention. (Realize how "Attention" is actually divided. That doesn't mean anything to the screenplay, I was just pointing that out. -Doobs PS: This is not a line or action in the movie)

PETE

Ok ADORN, take this card and follow the instructions if you want to play.

We see a close up of the card. It says "Show up".

ADORN

I'll do it!

INT. PLIMPTON UPSTAIRS-DAY

We see about three card tables (or regular tables with cards and chips on them) set up and the contestants in the tournament walking around freely and chatting amongst themselves.

Suddenly we hear the door open and ADORN walks in. At that moment all chatter ceases and we extreme close up on Adorn's face.

ADORN

It's time to play, baby.

MONTAGE:

-- Adorn battles several memorable opponents in a severe poker battle.

-- Adorn does several impressive card shuffles and deals cards

-- Adorn turns over several great hands, and as his opponents are beaten, they shake Adorn's hand and walk off.

-- Eventually it comes down to Adorn and one last opponent.

END MONTAGE

As Adorn turns over his last two cards to win the tournament, the door busts open and Mr. Connor storms in.

MR. CONNOR

(Confident)

Caught red handed again Mr. ADORN!

ADORN

(Drawn out)

Mr. CONNOR, I thought I smelled rancid
rodeo...

MR. CONNOR
Just take a look around Adorn. This was
my tournament! It was all a setup.

ADORN
(Weakly)
What?! How?! I can't believe this!

As Adorn looks around, we see several shots of teachers pretend-
ing to take off masks as they wear the same clothes as Adorn's
former opponents so as to give the appearance that they were in
disguise the whole time.

CONNOR
Get'im, boys!

We see an over the shoulder shot of two teachers who grab Adorn
by each of his shoulders. They lift him off the ground and begin
walking away. As they cross the screen, cut to black.

INT. MR. CONNOR'S OFFICE-DAY

As the scene fades in, we see that Mr. Connor looks sweaty and
tense, a stark contrast to Adorn's complete confidence and seem-
ing apathy to the situation—his feet are up on the desk, his
hat lying by their side, his eyes nearly closed, despite the
situation he remains cool and collected.

CONNOR
Adorn, you know that I have to suspend
you for breaking the anti-poker laws.

ADORN
If we're talking suspension, we might
as well pull out all of the stops.
Let's do this right.

CONNOR
Adorn, I have absolutely no idea what
you're talking about...

ADORN
Mr. Connor, I take it you're a gambling
man.

CONNOR
How did you know that?

We now see that Connor's office is decorated with various poker
and gambling paraphernalia—pictures of him in casinos, poker
bracelets, and playing cards, etc.

ADORN
That's what I do. I read people.

CONNOR
What are you getting at?

ADORN
Well, if you're like me, then you never
turn down a card game. How about one
for the ultimate stakes?

CONNOR
What do you have in mind?

ADORN
Expulsion.

Adorn lets the word settle, as we hear a light wind and rustle
of tumble weeds.

Connor lets out a whistle.

CONNOR
That is steep.

ADORN
Yup. The whole cheesy gordita crunch!
My freedom on the line for our right to
play poker in the school.

Another pause as the pressure mounts. Finally Connor cracks...

CONNOR
Alright Adorn, you're on! But if you
lose, consider yourself expelled. These
stakes are pretty high, can you handle
it?

ADORN
(Grabbing his hat)
Mr. Connor, I **only** play when the stakes are high.

SMASH CUT

GRAPHIC INTRO TO ESPN-LIKE WSOP TOURNEY

We see poker cards, chips, and various WHS paraphernalia strewn
about the screen as some twangy guitar is played.

INT. WHS/ESPN STUDIO

MR. JEAN and MR. BAKALE are behind the booth, which is decorated
ESPN World Series of Poker style.

JEAN
Hello and thanks for joining us for the
poker battle of the century.

BAKALE

That's right, Jean-o, we have the young broncin' buck, Dan Adorn versus the old timey legend of Fast Eddie Connor.

Jean and Bakale can improvise throughout the match.

INT. MAIN EVENT POKER ROOM

Adorn is dressed in full Doyle Brunson garb and Mr. Connor looks like Steve McQueen in *The Cincinnati Kid*.

The cards are dealt.

Adorn looks down at a 7/2 off suit.

Connor looks down at two Kings.

CONNOR

I raise.

Connor throws some chips in the pot.

Adorn looks at his 7/2 again, a slight smirk on his face.

ADORN

All in.

Adorn pushes all his chips in the middle.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. PITCH ROOM

MR. ALAN

I'm sorry. I hate to cut you off, but...

Mr. Alan motions over to where Adorn sits in his seat in a deep sleep, lightly snoring.

Mr. Alan shakes Adorn awake.

ADORN

(out of it)

What? Is it time for my burrito?

MR. ALAN

No, Dan. You nodded off in the middle of their pitch.

ADORN

That's because I hate those romantic comedies. They make me want to puke.

PITCHMAN #3

But it was a gambling movie where you and Connor are in a battle for...

ADORN
Blah, blah, blah. Beat it, hippie.

Dejected, the Pitchman #3 gathers his stuff and leaves.

MR. ALAN
Only one more, Adorn.

ADORN
(looks at his watch)
Fine. This better be good.

PITCHMAN #4
(more confident than
the rest)
Oh, I think you will like this one. My
idea brings Dan Adorn into a psycho-
logical thriller atmosphere. It starts
with the CIA coming back for their old
agent who they thought was dead...

Adorn's eyes light up with interest, and he puts his hand to his
chin one more time.

FADE TO:

TITLE SCREEN - "THE ADORN IDENTITY"

INT. IMBUSCH'S OFFICE

Two men in suits walk through a door. We do not see their faces,
only their ties and down the length of their arms. One of them
wears an American flag tie and holds a folder in his hand. This
is VAN THURSTON. The other wears a standard black tie. This is
RODRIGUEZ.

The camera pans over to a desk, where MR. IMBUSCH drops the
newspaper he was reading.

Cuts back to the hand of Van Thurston, who slams the folder on
Mr. Imbusch's desk. We pan up to see their sunglasses-clad faces.

VAN THURSTON
Are you aware there is a CIA operative
currently enrolled at this school?

Mr. Imbusch flips open the folder to reveal Dan Adorn, dressed
in an all-black stealth suit with night vision goggles.

MR. IMBUSCH
Dan Adorn...but...but that's not possi-
ble!

RODRIGUEZ
Agent Adorn, code name Dirty Mongoose.
The most dangerous man in the world.
Thirteen purple hearts awarded by the
President. Killed in action last year

by a Soviet battle tank division in France.

VAN THURSTON
Or so we thought...

RODRIGUEZ
We think Adorn knows something. Something big. Something the CIA wants to remain a secret.

MR. IMBUSCH
What the hell do you gentlemen want from me?

VAN THURSTON
Where's Adorn?

INT. CLASSROOM

The camera pans along a row of STUDENTS who take a test. We stop on Dan Adorn, who is writing on his paper, but looks up when the door opens.

At the door, Van Thurston and Rodriguez spot Adorn and freeze.

The TEACHER walks over to them.

TEACHER
Can I help you gentlemen?

RODRIGUEZ
Agent Adorn comes with us.

At his desk, Adorn puts down his pencil, looking at the two men.

Rodriguez and Van Thurston take Adorn's arms and escort him from the room.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Adorn struggles with Van Thurston and Rodriguez, who have him by the arms.

VAN THURSTON
Thought you could escape with government secrets, Adorn?

RODRIGUEZ
Probably planning on selling information to the Ruskies.

ADORN
Unhand me!

Adorn manages to stop Van Thurston and Rodriguez, who grapple with him for control. Suddenly, Adorn's eyes dilate and we zoom

in close on his face. His eyes flutter open and shut as we see visions of his past flash by on the screen.

FLASH BACK:

We see Adorn in his stealth suit, fighting off legions of Soviet troops. He disarms several, then uses his Jiu Jitsu to send another flying across the screen.

BACK TO SCENE:

The camera backs off from Adorn's eyes, and he is empowered by his vision.

He moves his arms in a gyroscopic motion, flipping both Van Thurston and Rodriguez into lockers, knocking them both unconscious. Adorn stops, looking down at both of them.

ADORN

They don't call me Dirty Mongoose for nothing.

Van Thurston massages his eyes, shaking his head and trying to regain consciousness. Adorn runs off down the hall.

Rodriguez opens his eyes in time to see Adorn run off down the hall.

RODRIGUEZ

Dammit! He's getting away. Call reinforcements!

Van Thurston grabs for his walkie talkie, pushing down on the button.

VAN THURSTON

(on Walkie Talkie)

HQ! Adorn's making a break for it! Send everyone!

Van Thurston tries to get up, but grabs both of his legs in pain.

VAN THURSTON (CONT'D)

Ahhh! My legs are broken!

RODRIGUEZ

You're lucky to still be alive!

INT. DIFFERENT HALLWAY

Adorn runs at full speed, knocking PEOPLE out of his way at every turn.

SPLIT SCREEN

ADORN:

REINFORCEMENTS:

Adorn turns the corner, then stops and stares. SWAT TEAMS armed with batons and riot shields move in on Adorn.

The camera zooms in close on Adorn's face. The CLOSEST COP swings his baton at Adorn from behind his riot shield.

The camera backs away as Adorn grabs the baton with one hand and chops the arm of the Cop with his other arm. The Cop is disarmed and then struck by Adorn. He sinks to the floor in intense pain.

SPLIT SCREEN ENDS as...

Adorn barrels through the line of Swat Cops, and they all fall to the floor. Adorn continues to run, he turns the corner into another wing. He sees HOPE at her locker and runs to her.

INT. HALLWAY (HOPE'S LOCKER)

Adorn runs to HOPE who is shocked to see him.

ADORN
Hope! I'm so glad I found you!

HOPE
Why what's up?

ADORN
They're after me! They're all after me!

HOPE
Dan what are you talking about? Here, come in.

HOPE walks into the nearby classroom. ADORN follows her nervously, looking around and behind to see if he is being followed. HOPE walks over to the teacher's desk to grab an item (not yet determined). ADORN stands behind her talking lightly to himself.

ADORN
After all these years...how did they find me? I covered my tracks.

As soon as he finishes this line, HOPE grabs the item, and in one swift motion, hits ADORN with it. ADORN falls to the ground and HOPE leans over him. ADORN is grabbing his head in pain.

HOPE
I'm sorry Dan, you just have no idea who you really are.

HOPE stands up, pulls out her walkie-talkie, and looks away for just a moment.

HOPE
I got Agent Adorn in Room 113-niner. I repeat 113-niner. Over.

VAN THURSTON (ON WALKIE)
Were on our way.

HOPE looks back at where ADORN should be, but he has vanished, almost as if out of thin air.

HOPE
Shoot!

INT. STAIRWELL

Adorn runs down the stairs to the base of the floor, then looks around frantically. He looks up, hearing the rustling of more Swat forces on their way. He dives under the hollow of the stairwell.

From beneath the stairwell, Adorn watches as dozens of Swat forces run past. Suddenly, Adorn's cell phone rings, and he picks it up and answers. The VOICE that speaks to him is using a deep voice-changer.

ADORN (CONT'D)
(on Phone)
Hello?

VOICE (V.O.)
There is no escape, Adorn.

ADORN
(on Phone)
Who is this?! How did you get my number?

VOICE (V.O.)
It's okay, I'm on your side. But you must follow my every instruction if you want to see your wife and child again.

ADORN
(on Phone)
They have my wife and child?!

VOICE (V.O.)
And your grandkids too! Now look to your right. You will see a door.

ADORN
(on Phone)
My right or your right. Wait, left?

VOICE (V.O.)
Just go through the door!

ADORN
(on Phone)
How do you know we're talking about the same door? There are many doors.

VOICE (V.O.)

Go! Now!

Adorn runs through the door and outside, just in time to evade a few more SWAT men.

EXT. OUTSIDE

Adorn stops, diving behind a wooden box.

ADORN

(on Phone)

Alright, I'm out. Now what?

VOICE (V.O.)

There is a dumpster a few feet to your right.

Adorn looks to his right to see a dumpster.

VOICE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Get inside it. NOW!

Adorn makes a break for the dumpster, and jumps inside, closing the door behind him.

INT. DUMPSTER

Adorn peers out the dumpster at the maimed Van Thurtson and Rodriguez outside, looking around for Adorn. He shuts it and catches his breath.

Behind him, a lantern turns on, and the face of John Griffin is revealed.

GRIFFIN

Adorn. Thanks for following my directions.

Adorn turns and screams.

ADORN

John! You scared me half to death! Why were you using a voice changer?!

GRIFFIN

I wasn't...

Griffin looks at Adorn confused.

ADORN

And what was all that about my wife and grandchildren?

GRIFFIN

That was just to motivate you. But for now, why don't you have a cup of tea?

Griffin holds up a tea cup with a syringe stuck in it. He quickly removes the syringe, and hands it to Adorn, smiling.

Adorn takes a sip.

ADORN
Mmm, tastes good. Do you run a tea shop in here? It's a bit drab--uh...

Adorn's head starts to spin, and he looks at Griffin, who smiles, taking a walkie talkie to his mouth.

GRIFFIN
(on Walkie Talkie)
He's in the dumpster, boys. I want the reward money wired to my Swiss bank account.

Adorn looks confused, and suddenly a flood of light enters the dumpster. Adorn looks up at two SOVIET TROOPS that grab him by the arms and lift him out.

SOVIET TROOPS
There is no escape this time, Agent Adorn!

ADORN
Ahhh...Ugh...

Adorn's eyes close.

FADE TO:

INT. PITCH ROOM

Adorn waves his arms in the air, pointing at Griffin, who stands next to him as before.

ADORN
Griffin betrayed me!

GRIFFIN
It was only a story! It didn't really happen!

ADORN
You're a liar, John! Get him outta my sight.

Adorn's Bodyguards grab Griffin and take him out of the room. Adorn crosses his arms, and looks back at Pitchman #4.

PITCHMAN #4
So...what do you think?

ALAN

I think I speak for Adorn when I say that's the one. That's the next Adorn movie--

ADORN

No, no, no! That was horrible. How many movies did that plagiarize, anyway?

ALAN

So you didn't like any of the movies?

ADORN

Nope. I never pictured myself acting again anyway. I wanna direct.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM

Two RUSSIAN INTERROGATORS hold down their captive, who has a bag on his head.

RUSSIAN INTERROGATOR

Now you will answer our questions, Agent Adorn, or your wife and child will be imprisoned in Stalingrad!

The camera spins around, and the captive rips his handcuffs off, and spits the bag right in half with his free hand. He then karate chops the two Russians, and they fall to the ground.

The camera centers on his face. It is not Adorn, but rather, ROSS BUBLY.

BUBLY

That's why Adorn is mightier than the sword!

From offscreen, we hear the real Dan Adorn scream.

ADORN (O.S.)

Cut!

Bubly stops, shrugging. Adorn walks over wearing a beret.

BUBLY

What's wrong? That was perfect!

Adorn sits on top of a director's chair in the hallway next to a camera crew. He is holding a half-eaten burrito.

ADORN

That's not how I'd say the line. It's all wrong.

BUBLY

Well then why don't you act?!

Adorn hands his burrito to a lowly assistant, and gets out of the chair brushing himself off.

ADORN
(heroic)
Maybe I will...

Adorn turns around and looks directly into the camera with a smirk.

FADE OUT.