

The Ringer

Written
by

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Fade In:

EXT. OUTSIDE HOUSE

We see a wide static shot of a mailbox in front of a plain house. An average looking kid sprints on screen from the sidewalk. This is BILLY, he is an unassuming boy of high school age.. The camera remains unmoving as BILLY opens the mailbox and begins to scroll through the mail. He stops on one of the letters.

BILLY

It's here.

Billy starts off to his house in a hurry.

INT. BILLY'S HOUSE

We see a shot of BILLY entering his house from the inside. He throws down his bag and all the mail carelessly, excluding the chosen one. He never removes his eyes from the letter. He walks into his bedroom.

INT. BATHROOM

He sits down on the toilet. We see a shot of the letter, which indicates it contains Billys SAT scores. He exhales deeply.

BILLY

Alrighty.

Music Stops. Billy delicately opens the letter. He licks his lips as he slowly begins to remove the contents. Then, all at once, he opens it up and begins ravenously scanning the page.

INT. BILLY'S BEDROOM

We see a shot of his expressionless face. His eye twitches.

BILLY

It can't be. No. NO!

Billy stands up from the bed and begins frustratedly kicking and punching the air. We hear a knock at the door. It is BILLY'S MOM. Billy freezes and his head snaps towards the door.

BILLY'S MOM (O.S.)

Are you okay in there? You didn't get a paper cut again did you?

We see a shot of the door opening from Billy's mom's view. Billy stands in the door way with an expression of anger and sadness.

BILLY

No, I didn't get a paper cut, Mom.

BILLY'S MOM

Oh good. Last time you cried for 45 minutes.

Billy does not acknowledge this.

BILLY

Look. My math scores.

Billy's mom snatches it while rolling her eyes.

She scans the paper, and gives a slight frown.

BILLY'S MOM (CONT'D)

So what? They're fine.

Billy, who has his head hung low, looks up abruptly.

BILLY

Fine?! Mom, these scores are no where good enough to get into Brown!

Billy's mom rolls her eyes and begins to walk away towards the kitchen. Billy hurries after her to explain himself.

INT. KITCHEN

Billy's mom walks in. Billy's brother DAN, a boy of 15 or 16, is sitting down at a table.

BILLY (O.S.)

And that's where Harriot is goiing!!

Billy enters.

BILLY'S MOM

I am so SICK of hearing about this. If this concerns you so much, why don't you just get tutoring after school like your younger brother?

Billy's mom motions to Dan.

BILLY'S MOM (CONT'D)

The boy who teaches him is absolutely brilliant! The school actually PAYS him to tutor their kids!

BILLY (DAYDREAMING)

A tutor? Ha-ha yeah right, like I need a tutor. I just need to find a creative solution...One that requires...minimal effort.

DAN

You're an idiot.

BILLY

Shut up, Dan! Even if I am an idiot at least I'll be an idiot in Brown. That's something!

DAN

Not really!

BILLY

Whatever.

Billy exits.

DAN

.....Idiot.

INT. ENGLISH WING HALLWAY

Billy is at his locker putting books away. A normal looking girl with a "Brown" shirt walks by. This is HARRIOT.

BILLY

(nervously)

Oh hey, Harriot!

HARRIOT

Hey Billy!

Awkward Silence.

HARRIOT (CONT'D)

Sooo, how did you do on your SATs?

Billy looks nervous and slams the locker.

BILLY
Oh, great! Yeah! I shouldn't have
any problems getting into Brown
with you.

HARRIOT
(surprised)

Great! I'm sure you can!

Billy and Harriot then both react to hearing the warning
bell.

BILLY
Crap, I'm going to be late. I'll
call you tonight, okay?

HARRIOT
(Let down)
(Okay. Bye, Billy!)

BILLY
See ya.

Awkward Hug between the two of them.

INT. LANGUAGE WING HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Billy rushes to a classroom door and opens it.

BILLY
Not again!

INT. STURGES ROOM

MR. STURGES stands at the front of the class. When Billy
enters the entire class looks at him.

STURGES
Late again, Billy! That's going to
be another detention.

BILLY (FRUSTRATED)
I'm sorry, Mr Sturges.

Billy sits down at his seat.

STURGES
So did you do the homework?

Billy pulls out a piece of paper from his bag.

BILLY
Why yes, actually I did like every
other day!

Billy rolls his eyes and Sturges snatches it out of his hands. He scans it over with his eyes.

STURGES

Woow, Billy. This is quite the paper. In fact it may even b-

At this moment Sturges deliberately rips Billy's paper.

STURGES (CONT'D)

Oops! Looks like this ones not gonna count Billy.

BILLY

What? Mr. Sturges you just-

STURGES

I don't want to hear it! Late students don't get to have opinions! Now sit down and do your work.

Billy shakes his head.

INT. LANGUAGE WING HALLWAY

We hear the bell ring as Billy and his friend FLOYD exit classrooms on opposite sides of the hallway, meeting up in the middle. They walk through the hallway towards the lunch room. Floyd is a normal looking kid that is a small amount taller than Billy.

BILLY

Guy is a jerk.

Billy points back towards his classroom.

FLOYD

I don't mind him.

BILLY

Well that's because you don't have him... You take Mandarin! He hates me.

FLOYD

Why?

BILLY

(ashamed)

Some stupid crap. I'll tell you about it another time. Right now I have something else on my mind.

FLOYD
What's up?

BILLY
Not my SAT scores.

FLOYD
Okay.

Billy, stares at Floyd, clearly thinking that Floyd is an idiot while Floyd just looks straight ahead. Billy then flicks Floyd's arm and stares at him, waiting for him to get the joke. A lightbulb goes off in Floyd's noggin.

FLOYD (CONT'D)
OOOOOH How'd you do?

BILLY
Not good enough for Brown.

Floyd rolls his eyes.

FLOYD
Who cares about Brown? Who needs college anyway? I'm gonna be a celebrity one day...(rants about not needing education)

They enter the cafeteria.

INT. CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

FLOYD
(Heated)

(Cont. with Rant)

Billy hits Floyd to get his attention so he can go on a rant of his own.

BILLY
That's where Harriot's going! And I need to be there. If I'm not, she's going to find some super suave, smart, good looking guy miles better than me! I am not going to let that happen. Besides, maybe I'll like Brown.

FLOYD
But is it really where you want to go?

BILLY

That's irrelevant. I need to find a way to get a good score on my SAT Math Test, Floyd. My future with Har....umm acceptance to Brown depends on it! I need some ideas on how to get my grades up.

FLOYD

Tutor?

BILLY

I don't need a tutor! I am SO above that. I just need a creative solution.

FLOYD

You know Billy, it's okay to need help once in a while.

BILLY

I don't need help! I just need help getting into Brown!

FLOYD

Alright, alright! If you want to do this the easy way...the answer is obvious.

BILLY

It is?

FLOYD

Yes. It is. You read MacBeth right?

BILLY

Is that a joke?

They head towards a table.

TABLE - CONTINUOUS

They sit down.

FLOYD

Right. Well when Macbeth knew he had to kill Banquo he didn't want to do it himself. So what did he do? He HIRED someone to do it for him.

BILLY
I'm not trying to kill anybody,
Floyd!

FLOYD
Are you serious...? No! Look, if
you can't do it yourself, HIRE
someone to do it for you.

BILLY
I can't do that! I don't cheat!

FLOYD
Take the test somewhere else. It's
not cheating if its not in our
school! There's one in Medfield
coming up.

He ponders this a moment.

BILLY
Hm-mm. You know? That might just
work. And I think I know just the
guy. Can you meet me after school?

FLOYD
(Seriously)
Uh, yeah I might have some time
before drama.

Billy stifles a laugh and looks down.

FLOYD (CONT'D)
Laugh now, but sooner or later
someone important is going to see
my brilliance. And when I'm
famous, you'll be sorry.

BILLY
Floyd, you've done every
production this school puts on
since freshman year. Yet, the
biggest part you've had is a
cardboard tree.

FLOYD
No! I was Franscico when we put
on "Hamlet".

BILLY
And you completely ruined it.

FLASHBACK-INT. AUDITORIUM STAGE

One ACTOR portraying "Barnardo" stands alone on stage. The

set is lacking and there are few people in the audience. He speaks all Shakespearean-like.

ACTOR
Who's the-?

Floyd enters dramatically with his finger pointed upwards with a skull while delivering his line in a loud, over-done way.

FLOYD
NAY! ANSWER ME! STAND AND UNFOLD
YOURSELF!

ACTOR
Long live the ki-

FLOYD
BARNARDO!?

ACTOR
(Whispers)
Dude! Chill out! You're walking
all over my lin-

Floyd then turns towards the audience.

FLOYD
TO BE, OR NOT TO BE! THAT IS THE
QUESTION! WHETHER IT IS NOBLER IN
THE MIND TO SUFFER..

HAMLET ACTOR (O.S)
Hey! Hey, that jerk is doing my
speech!

FLOYD
...THE SLINGS AND ARROWS OF
OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE..

HAMLET ACTOR (O.S)
Knock it off, dude! It isn't even
that scene yet!

FLOYD
...OR TO TAKE ARMS AGAINST A SEA
OF TROUBLE AND BY OPPOSING, END
THEM!

The HAMLET ACTOR then emerges from off stage making a b-line towards Floyd, ripping off his costume.

HAMLET ACTOR

That's it.

Floyd starts off in the other direction, hastily finishing off his lines before the actor playing Hamlet gets to him.

FLOYD

(Hastily)

To die to sleep no more!

The Hamlet actor decks Floyd. The curtains close.

BACK TO PRESENT DAY

Floyd has his hands up to his face and is pensively looking off.

FLOYD

(Depressed)

I will see you after school.

INT. CLASSROOM AFTERSCHOOL

Billy and Floyd peer into a classroom. Sitting at a desk is Dan, along with a few other students and teachers. TAKEO is at the front of the class vigorously writing down a complex math equation that is clearly not taught at any level of high-school math. He is of Asian descent, normal height, and well dressed. He steps back from the board. In slightly broken English he says:

TAKEO

And this, explains the planetary orbits according to their relation to the sun.

All the kids seem in awe of Takeo, save for Dan. Dan raises his hand.

DAN

Uh, yeah that's awesome, but we're just freshman sooo..

Takeo looks confused and everyone else stares in horror at Dan.

TAKEO

But this is basic. I did this when I was in 1st grade! Get out of my sight!

All the kids cheer as they get up and leave, and Dan leaves last in shame. Floyd and Billy still look in from the doorway.

DAN
(noticing the two boys)
Oh so NOW you need a tutor?

BILLY
Umm. NO I'm (muttering excuses)

DAN
Then why are you here?

Both boys look around, as if they are looking for a valid answer.

FLOYD
Dan, why don't just get out of here. This room is now for seniors.

DAN
Yeah, sure. By the way nice job with Hamlet. Idiot.

Floyd starts toward Dan.

FLOYD
You little!

Billy holds him back.

BILLY
Not worth it!

Dan laughs and walks away. Floyd begins to tear slightly.

FLOYD
He's a meanie!

BILLY
Get over it, we have bigger fish to fry.

They both look into the class.

FLOYD
(Sarcastically)
This is the guy? He doesn't seem up to it.

BILLY
(Drooling)
But look at that equation! There's more letters in it than numbers! He's a damn genius!

Billy struts into the classroom.

BILLY (CONT'D)
(coolly)
That's a real shame about that
kid, man.

Takeo looks up, sees who it is, and quickly looks back down. Billy attempts to lean like a cool person against the board, looking at Takeo. But on the other side of Takeo, we see Floyd goofing off and erasing the equation, adding smiley faces.

BILLY (CONT'D)
He just doesn't appreciate someone
with your caliber of intelligence.

Takeo looks up again.

TAKEO
(sarcastically)
Oh! Much thanks!

BILLY
Not a problem! The name's Billy,
by the way. What's yours? Say,
what's someone with your genius
doing teaching impudent children
like Dan after school anyway?

TAKEO
(annoyed)

It's Takeo! I need money for this.

He pulls out a flyer from his folder. It is for a fighting competition. On it is a kid doing a karate kick, with words in flame detail across it that say "FRIDAY NIGHT FIGHT, ENTREE FEE: \$300"

BILLY
Oh, so you're a fighter?

TAKEO
Yes! I have a black belt in three
different forms of martial arts.
Everyone knows that.

BILLY
Right, right. And you need the
money, correct?

TAKEO
Yeah, so?

BILLY

Well Takeo, I might just have a way for you to forget these stupid kids, get your money, AND do it in an easy way!

Finally Billy has gotten Takeo's full attention, and he turns away from the board to look at Billy.

TAKEO

I'm listening...

Billy smiles as he puts his arm around Takeo, and they walk out of the classroom.

BILLY

Come walk with me.

INT. MATH WING HALLWAY

Billy, Takeo, and Floyd all walk down the math wing. Billy and Takeo walk right next to each other, and Billy's arm is slung around Takeo's shoulders. Floyd trails behind slightly, looking on skeptically.

BILLY

So that's the plan! Take the SAT for me, ace it, and the three hundred bucks is yours!

TAKEO

Wouldn't it be cheating?

FLOYD

It's not cheating if it's in a different school! DUH!

TAKEO

I don't cheat! I don't NEED to cheat!

The boys walk towards the door to go outside, arm in arm, with Floyd trailing behind.

EXT. OUTSIDE WALPOLE HIGH SCHOOL

BILLY

Tak, Tak,...can I call you Tak?

TAKEO

No.

Billy awkwardly removes his arm.

BILLY

Err, right, well forget that! You need this to fight! And what do you think is more honorable, a tiny itty bitty amount of bending the truth, or wasting your intelligence on those plebeians?

TAKEO

I just, I don't think I can do that.

While Takeo looks unwilling to admit he does not want to do it, his friend PENGYOU walks up to Takeo. Pengyou is of Asian decent and looks almost like Takeo's twin.

PENGYOU

(In Korean)

SUPER: Hey dude we have to go if we are gonna catch the Ultimate Fighting Championship on ESPN 2!

TAKEO

(In Korean)

Super: Okay I am just trying to get rid of these losers.

PENGYOU

(In Korean)

SUPER: Yeah why are you talking to them? They look like absolute slobs.

BILLY

Hey what did he just say about me?

Takeo gives Billy a condescending look.

TAKEO

He says he likes your shirt.

Takeo quickly looks away from Billy and continues his conversation with Pengyou.

TAKEO (CONT'D)

(in Korean)

SUPER: I know I don't understand how anyone could dress like that and think they look good.

Harriot enters with a notebook that says Billy on it.

HARRIOT
Oh hey Billy you dropped your
notebook in the hallway!

PENGYOU
(in Korean)

SUPER: Take a look at that girl!

BILLY
(flustered)

Thanks Harriot you're the best!

PENGYOU
(in Korean)

SUPER: How can such a good-looking girl date such a loser.

Takeo seems to agree with Penyou and a look of determination
appears on his face.

HARRIOT
Well I have to go but bye Billy.
Tell me when you hear back from
Brown!

BILLY
Will do!

PENGYOU
(in Korean)

SUPER: Alright dude we have to go or we're gonna miss the
fight.

TAKEO
(in Korean)

SUPER: I think I'm gonna stay behind I have some buisness to
attend to.

As Pengyou exits, Billy turns back towards Takeo to get his
answer.

BILLY
So what do you say?

Takeo looks over at Harriot walking away, and a small smirk
forms on his face.

TAKEO
Fine, fine. I'm in!

BILLY

Great!

They both laugh jubilantly. Floyd approaches Billy laughing fakely.

FLOYD

Aha yeah. Could I talk to you for a minute, Billy? One second, Tak.

TAKEO

Hurry up I have to go!

Floyd pulls Billy aside dramatically.

BILLY

Yeah what's up?

Floyd and Billy walk far enough away so that Takeo would not be able to hear them. They speak in whispers.

FLOYD

This is never going to work.

BILLY

What?! Of course it is! Besides this was your idea!

FLOYD

Well that was before I knew who you'd be using to take the test.

BILLY

Are you joking? Takeo's a genius!

FLOYD

Yep. And he also looks and sounds nothing like a kid named "Billy Smith."

BILLY

What do you mean?

FLOYD

Billy, anyone with half a brain is going to know that that is NOT you. Look at the way he dresses! Clean, bold, cool. You look like a slob next to him.

Billy squints.

BILLY

You don't know what you're talking about.

Billy and Floyd then look over and see Takeo surrounded by people, all of whom are admiring him and his clothes.

FLOYD

Just look at that! Everyone thinks he's the cat's pyjamas. I just don't think he lives and dies by everything Boston-related like you do...

BILLY

So what? Listen, this isn't a problem. You said he isn't enough like me. We'll TEACH him to be like me!

FLOYD

What!? Billy, this is insane! Why don't you just find someone else to take the test?

BILLY

Absolutely not. He is the only one I want to take it. Are you going to help me or not?

Floyd looks skeptical.

FLOYD

Fine.

BILLY

Fine! Takeo, are you busy tomorrow? We have work to do.

TAKEO

Well yeah actually I-

CUT TO BLACK

INT. BILLY'S HOUSE

Billy, Floyd, and Takeo sit in Billy's room. Takeo is on the bed clearly not happy to be there, while Billy and Floyd stand across from him.

BILLY

Okay! Takeo, to take this test for me, you must become me.

Takeo looks slightly confused.

TAKEO
I don't understand...

BILLY
Look, obviously what we're doing is...risky. If they find out what we're doing, there could be an issue. Surely someone like you would understand. You have to sound and act like me.

TAKEO
I am not sure I..

BILLY
Just do what I say!

Takeo recoils.

TAKEO
Okay!

BILLY
Great! First lesson:

Billy pulls from behind him a white board.

BILLY (CONT'D)
Saying "Hello."

TAKEO
That's easy. Hi, I'm Billy Smith.

BILLY
See, I would never say that! How about...Sup Dawg, how 'bout them Red Sox?

TAKEO
I'm not saying that! Aren't they terrible?

Billy recoils in dismay and gets visibly angry. Floyd tries to hold him back.

BILLY
(yelling)
Why you little....it's because of the curse...and they all get hurt....GAH.

FLOYD
(Whispering to Takeo)

Eksnae On the Red Soxae!

TAKEO
Are you trying to speak Latin?

A QUICK CUT TO BLACK.

INT. BILLY'S HOUSE NIGHT

All three boys are in the same places as in the previous scene, except Billy and Floyd are disheveled with all of their clothes and hair messed up. They contrast with Takeo, who still is perfect. Takeo looks at the clock, realizing the time.

TAKEO
I have to go tutor someone in AP Spanish. Adios!

FLOYD
You tutor other people?

TAKEO
I'm all around this school.

BILLY
What?! I've never seen you before in my life!

MONTAGE: TAKEO'S TRAINING

--Takeo is at a whiteboard finishing off a complicated AP Bio diagram while Billy and Floyd sit in the back of the classroom cutting paper snowflakes not noticing that Takeo is there.

--Takeo is teaching Mr. St. Martin how to shoot a three-pointer in the gym as Billy and Floyd walk by.

--Takeo moves aside from an easel, showing him putting the finishing touches on a perfect copy of the Mona Lisa. Floyd stands next to him painting a fourth grade level picture of a house.

--Takeo is playing violin for Mr. Falker, as Billy walks in with a boombox, singing along to the song "Sweet Caroline".

--As Takeo is putting the finishing garnish on a fancy dish for the lunch ladies who are nodding and taking notes, Billy runs and starts eating the meal Takeo has prepared.

END MONTAGE

BACK TO SCENE

Floyd and Billy stare off into space and begin to nod.

FLOYD

Nope, I have no idea what you're talking about.

BILLY

Yeah Takeo I think you're lying, I've never seen you before.

Takeo shrugs them off and starts to leave. Billy throws a bag of clothes at Takeo and gives him a wink and a thumbs up.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Can't wait to see you tomorrow. You're gonna be looking good.

Takeo looks at the clothes disgustedly and leaves.

EXT. OUTSIDE MEDFIELD SCHOOL

Billy, Floyd, and Takeo stand outside a school building. Takeo is dressed up, the only thing Bostonian is the Boston Red Sox hat he is wearing.

FLOYD

That's actually pathetic.

BILLY

Yeah I kinda agree. What happened to all the clothes we bought you?

TAKEO

I would never leave my house without designer clothes on.

BILLY

Okay, whatever, they don't know me here. So just once more: "How 'bout them Red Sox?"

TAKEO

This makes me feel like an idiot...How 'bout them Red Sox!

BILLY
Perfect! Okay, we've got this.

Floyd is looking off towards the school.

FLOYD
Maybe not...

Billy's head snaps towards the direction Floyd is looking.

BILLY
(panicked)
What?! What?! What do you mean?!

Floyd points.

FLOYD
Look.

Floyd points towards a sign in front of the school that says "Medfield SAT testing moved to Walpole High School."

BILLY
(whispers)
No. NO!!

FLOYD
How didn't you hear about this?
They send out emails about this
kinda stuff, you know.

Billy looks off in the distance.

FLASHBACK- INT. BILLYS ROOM

Billy is looking at his computer.

INSERT

The computer screen shows numerous emails, saying things like "URGENT: TESTING SITE FOR SAT MOVED"

FLASHBACK INT. BILLYS ROOM

BILLY
Pfff, boring.

BACK TO PRESENT DAY

BILLY
I, uh, must have never gotten it.
Ha-ha.

Billy smiles weakly. Floyd looks at him skeptically.

TAKEO

What's wrong?

FLOYD

The testing site got moved to our school.

TAKEO

What does that mean for our plan, then?

FLOYD

Well, it means this isn-

BILLY

It means: we are going to have to get a little more creative.

The camera zooms in on Billy as he rubs his hands together maniacally.

EXT. WALPOLE HIGH SCHOOL

We see Floyd's car pull into a spot. Floyd is driving and turns around to look at the backseat.

FLOYD

This. Is. Brilliant.

The boys exit and start walking up the ramp in slow motion. Takeo and Billy have switched clothes, with both boys looking absolutely ridiculous. They begin towards the highschool.

TAKEO

Billy, what if a teacher recognizes you?

BILLY

None of our teachers should be here. Afterall, it was supposed to be at Medfield.

TAKEO

There is still a chance.

BILLY

We'll cross that bridge when we come to get it.

They enter the highschool.

INT. WALPOLE HIGH LOBBY

We see a line of about 20 kids in front of a small table. There is a WOMAN there, taking down info.

BILLY

Okay, see? She doesn't even work here. No Walpole teachers are here.

FLOYD

(panicked whisper)

Sturges!

Sturges walks down from the science wing stairwell. Before they catch his attention, the boys collectively hide behind one large kid. The large kid does not even notice. Sturges continues towards the woman at the table.

STURGES

How does it look?

WOMAN

Well, this is going to be the last of the kids.

STURGES

Alright well, all the Medfield teachers classrooms are full so just send these kids to my classroom. I will be their proctor.

WOMAN

Okay.

She finishes up with the kid she is on.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

NEXT!

Sturges walks towards the math wing. The boys lean against the large kid, looking hopeless.

BILLY

This can't be happening.

TAKEO

What is wrong?

FLOYD

That teacher knows Billy.

BILLY
And he hates me.

TAKEO
But why?

BILLY
I was late to his class a few
times.

FLOYD
And he hates you just for that?

BILLY
Well, I might have pushed it once
or twice..

INT. STURGES' CLASSROOM - FLASHBACK

All the kids in Mr. Sturges' room are sitting down. The bell rings and Mr. Sturges enters with a plate.

STURGES
Kids as a special little treat,
I've baked you all cookies!

The kids react happily and cheer. Maybe one kid says loudly
"YEAH COOKIES"

Sturges then proceeds to hand out his cookies. He hands one to Billy and keeps going. We see Billy take a bite.

BILLY
Yuck! I hate oatmeal!

Sturges snaps his head back at him with a death stare. It is clear they will be mortal enemies from here on out.

INT. WALPOLE HIGH LOBBY- BACK TO PRESENT DAY

BILLY
Then after that he just...

MONTAGE- STURGES BEING MEAN TO BILLY-FLASHBACKS

TCHAIKOVSKYS "1812 OVERTURE" PLAYS

--Billy sits in class taking a test. Sturges hums a ball of paper violently at Billy, and it hits him in the head. He looks up to see Sturges glaring at him. He opens the note which reads in crude hand writing "U R Dumb." Billy frowns.

--Sturges is passing out tests. He says "Now all of you did exceptinally well, all excluding BILLY that is, who failed MISERABLY." The class laughs. Sturges says "Thats right

class, laugh. LAUGH." He leans in towards Billy squints at him, and whispers: "Laugh."

--Billy raises his hand in class, and says "Can I go to the bathroom?" Abruptly Sturges fires back, "NO."

--Billy walks by Sturges and knocks Billy's books out of his hands. All the teachers around laugh and point.

--Billy raises his hand again, Sturges, again, abruptly says "NO"

--Billy walks into the classroom happily with an innocent looking balloon. Sturges snatches it out of his hands and, using scissors, pops it. Billy frowns as Sturges laughs.

--Sturges stands in front of the classroom. He says, "Okay, now, just to change things up in class, we are going to play kill the carrier. And you will be graded....BILLY'S IT!!" He throws billy a ball, and Billy fumbles, but catches it. We see the students start to advance on him.

END (Music ends abruptly as well.)

INT. WALPOLE HIGH LOBBY- BACK TO PRESENT DAY

Billys eye twitches as he stares off into space away from Takeo and Floyd.

FLOYD

All that just because you didn't like his cookies?

BILLY

Not even that! I just don't like oatmeal..

FLOYD

Well, why didn't you just tell administration about the harrasment?

Billy turns abruptly back to Takeo and Floyd.

BILLY

Because telling administration would be letting him win! And I was not about to let that guy win. Not after the balloon incident.

Billy's eyes tear slightly.

FLOYD

Well, what're we going to do?

Billy shrugs.

BILLY

I dunno. I guess that's it. C'mon guys.

Billy and Floyd turn and start to walk away.

TAKEO

Billy, wait! You've made it so far! We can't give up now. Did the Red Sox give up after losing year, after year, after year after-

BILLY

Yeah, yeah I get it Takeo.

TAKEO

I've got to do it for Harr- I mean, YOU"VE got to do this for Harriot!

BILLY

You're right! Okay!
Actually...I've got an idea!
Floyd!

Floyd looks at Billy skeptically.

FLOYD

..What?

BILLY

You can distract Sturges while Takeo takes the test!

FLOYD

I can?

BILLY

Yes! You are an actor afterall.
This is your big chance to prove how good you are! Think of it: if you'll pull this off, you can pull off any part!

Floyd thinks for a moment and smiles.

FLOYD

It shall be my greatest role!

BILLY

Sweet! I'll sign Takeo in. You get in position to distract Sturges. As long as Sturges is distracted when he calls out Billy Smith for attendance we're golden.

Floyd and Billy nod to each other.

BILLY (CONT'D)

C'mon Takeo.

EXT. WALPOLE HIGH SCHOOL

Billy exits the building beaming and clearly confident of his plan. Inspirational music is playing as he walks down the pathway to the parking lot. Abruptly it stops. Billy's phone is ringing. He answers.

BILLY

Hello?

BILLY'S MOM (ON PHONE)

Billy! Great news! Brown is going to take you!

Billy gazes out looking horrified.

BILLYS MOM (ON PHONE)

I submitted your application for you, and despite your math scores, they are going to take you. As long as there is no more issues with your conduct!

BILLY

Conduct?

BILLY'S MOM (ON PHONE)

Yes. Apparently one of your teachers, Mr. Sturges, has submitted quite a number of conduct violations on you. Listen, I know you're not a bad kid, but I would just try and stay off his radar for a while.

Billy, gaze undying, says nothing

BILLY'S MOM (ON PHONE) (CONT'D)

Billy? Hello?

He hangs up. Still gazing out.

BILLY
(Whispers)
Noooo.

Billy snaps out of it.

BILLY (CONT'D)
I've got to stop this.

Billy runs towards the school.

INT. TESTING CLASSROOM

Mr. Sturges stands in front of the classroom. We see a shot of his attendance sheet. His pencil moves down the list as he calls off the names. "Billy Smith" is close to being called.

MR. STURGES
Charles Bernstein?

Off screen we hear a kid say "Here".

MR. STURGES (CONT'D)
Amy Calston?

Off screen we hear a kid say "here".

INT. WALPOLE HIGH LOBBY/ RAMP AREA

Billy is running towards Sturges' room.

INT. TESTING CLASSROOM

MR. STURGES
Billy Smith?

Takeo raises his hand.

TAKEO
Hello, I'm Billy Smith!

Mr. Sturges looks at him.

MR. STURGES
Theres something...different about
you, Billy....

At this moment, we here a noise from the hallway.

STURGES
Who's there?

FLOYD
NAY! ANSWER ME! STAND AND UNFOLD
YOURSELF!

INT. LANGUAGE WING HALLWAY

Billy is running toward the classroom.

BILLY
No, no, no, no....

INT. TESTING CLASSROOM

STURGES
What?

At this moment, Floyd enters the classroom.

FLOYD
To be, or not to be..that is the
question.

We see the Hamlet actor from before in the classroom.

HAMLET ACTOR
Not this guy again!

STURGES
Just what is this?

FLOYD
WHETHER IT IS NOBLER IN THE MIND
TO SUFFER THE SLINGS AND..

STURGES
You better quit it, kid! You're
going to be in a lot of trouble!

INT. LANGUAGE WING HALLWAY

Billy is still running towards the classroom.

BILLY
Why is this taking so long!?

INT. TESTING CLASSROOM

FLOYD
ARROW OF OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE OR..

HAMLET ACTOR
SHUT UP!....PLEASE!

Billy attempts to sneak in the classroom while everyone's attention is on Floyd. He fails as Sturges takes notice.

STURGES

Billy, you little snot! What are you doing here? I thought..

Sturges looks at Takeo.

STURGES (CONT'D)

I thought that wasn't you! What in the name of my mother's bunyan is going on here?!

BILLY

There has been a misunderstanding me and my...uh..friend have to go now.

STURGES

Oh no you don't, Billy! You're going down for this. Prepare yourself for a life in in-house. But don't worry you won't be alone I'll make sure that little accomplice of yours Harriot suffers too!

As Sturges maniacally starts laughing, the camera cuts to Takeo who, at the sound of Harriot's name, slowly turns around to face Sturges.

TAKEO

My friend Har... I mean Billy did nothing wrong.

The camera cuts to Billy nodding happily that Takeo is backing him up.

STURGES

Oh yes he did! He ruined my life and I'm gonna ruin his!

Takeo goes into a fighting stance. Sturges suddenly regrets his decision and looks frantically around for a weapon. He sees his spongebob ball and throws it at Takeo. The ball hits Takeo but he remains unphased as he slowly moves towards Sturges. The camera cuts to black as you hear Sturges screaming like a little girl along with fighting noises.

INT. LANGUAGE WING HALLWAY

BLACK SCREEN:

SUPER: 3 DAYS LATER

Billy and Floyd walk down the hallway towards Sturges room.

FLOYD

Dude I can't believe we made it
out of there alive.

BILLY

Yeah I know. I really need to pick
up Kung Fu.....

Sturges waves at them with a bandage on his head and a great
big smile on his face. Billy and Floyd wave back; Billy
confusedly and Floyd enthusiastically.

BILLY (CONT'D)

(aside to Floyd)

This is freaking me out. He is
supposed to hate me!

FLOYD

(aside to Billy)

Not anymore Takeo's karate chop
made him forget everything.
You've got a blank slate man.

Takeo and Harriot are then seen walking towards Billy and
Floyd, holding hands and laughing. Billy is shocked and
stands with his mouth open.

HARRIOT

Hey guys! Takeo told me what he
did for you guys and I'm really
happy it worked out!

Harriot looks towards Billy and Floyd, expecting an answer,
but Billy is catatonic. Floyd feels awkward and tries to
nudge Billy, but to no avail.

FLOYD

Umm thanks!...From the BOTH of us.

HARRIOT

Well, Takeo and I can't wait to go
to Brown with you, Billy! We have
to go- Takeo is teaching me how to
Tango!

Harriot walks on ahead, while Takeo holds back. He slaps
Billy on the back.

TAKEO

Thanks man, without you I would
have never been able to teach
Harriot what a great boyfriend
truly is.

Takeo winks at Billy and walks away, catching up with
Harriot. Billy finally snaps out of his catatonic state.

BILLY

(whispers)

What?

FLOYD

Yeaaaa, I meant to tell you about
them.

BILLY

OH DID YOU? Come on I can't
believe I didn't get the girl!

FLOYD

Well you've always got me!

They get up and begin to exit the school. Billy facepalms.

BILLY

Ugh I guess I do.

FADE OUT